

VMP-113

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Report # 95

DC(16)

-CONFIDENTIAL-

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

16194

RECEIVED
17 JUL 1945
145
RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)
05565

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting **VNF-113** (b) Based on or at **Charlie Airstrip, Ie Shima** (c) Report No. **95**
 (d) Take off: Date **6 July, 1945** Time (LZT) **1616 (I)** (Zone); Lat. **26° 43' N** Long. **127° 47' E**
 (e) Mission **Dive-bombing and Strafing Mission to Tokuno Airfield** (f) Time of Return **1835 (I)** (Zone)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

TYPE (a)	SQUADRON (b)	NUMBER			BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE) (f)	FUZE, SETTING (g)
		TAKING OFF (c)	ENGAGING ENEMY A/C (d)	ATTACKING TARGET (e)		
F4U	VNF-113	5	0	4	2 500 G.P. nose Inst; tail lsec Delay	
FG-1D	VNF-113	11	0	8	2 500 G.P. nose Inst; tail lsec Delay	

III. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
F2A (Dumbo)	OTG 31.10	1	Kerama Retto	F4U-1D	VNF-314	12	Ie Shima
F4U-1D	VNF-422	9	Ie Shima				
FG-1D	VNF-422	3	Ie Shima				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

(a) TYPE	(b) NO OBSERVED	(c) NO ENGAGING OWN A/C	(d) TIME ENCOUNTERED	(e) LOCATION OF ENCOUNTER	(f) BOMBS, TORPEDOES CARRIED; GUNS OBSERVED	(g) CAMOUFLAGE AND MARKING
None	None	None	None (ZONE)	None	None	None
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) **None**
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? **No** If so, Describe Clouds _____ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance
 (j) of Sun or Moon **1715, Bright** (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (k) Visibility **15** (MILES)

V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

(a) TYPE ENEMY A/C	(b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:			(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER		
None	None	None	None	None	None

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VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only).

(a) TYPE OWN A/C	(b) SQUADRON	(c) CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	(d) WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
1 None	None	None	None	None
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only; identify with planes listed in VI by Nos. at left).

(a) NO.	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS
None	None	None	None	None

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING

(a) TYPE A/C	(b) MILES OUT	(c) MILES RETURN	(d) AV. HOURS IN AIR	(e) AV. FUEL LOADED	(f) AV. FUEL CONSUMED	(g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED				(h) NO. OF PLANES RETURNING
						.30	50	20MM	MM	
F4U	100	100	2.5	395	200	0	2650	0	0	5
F6-13	100	100	2.5	395	200	0	5350	0	0	11

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over		X		
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm			X	
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	0			

X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

URNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

No enemy aircraft were encountered.

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Tokuna Airfield, Tokuna Ship (b) Time Over Target(s) 1730 (1) (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL 10 AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target Bottom layer 2000 feet, Top layer 5000 feet, 6/10
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Partially obscured by clouds (e) Visibility 15
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCUED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Dive Bomb Sight Used AE-MK 8 Mod. 6
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 2 Spacing 0 Altitude of Bomb Release 2500
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 0

(h) AIMING POINT	(i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
(1) ¹ Revetment concentration, north of runway.		4 VMF-113	8 500lb. GP	8	Undetermined
(2) ² Revetment concentration, southeast of runway.		8 VMF-113	14 500lb. GP	14	Undetermined
(3) ³ Barracks southern part of the island.		12 VMF-113	8000 rounds .50 cal		Undetermined
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

(o) RESULTS: (For all hits claimed on ship targets and for land targets of special interest, draw diagram, top or side view or both, as appropriate, showing type and location of hits. For all targets give location and effect of hits, and identify by numbers above. Use additional sheets if necessary).

THOUGHT

Dive-bombing and strafing runs were very effective, although the results could not be determined.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA. (Narrative and comment. Describe action fully and comment freely following applicable items in check list at left. Use additional sheets if necessary.)

ENGAGEMENT WITH ENEMY

OWN AIRCRAFT

Disposition
Altitudes
Speeds
Approach Tactics
Use of Cover, Deception
Angles of Attack and
Their Effectiveness
Distance of Opening Fire
Defense Tactics and
Their Effectiveness

ENEMY AIRCRAFT

Method of Locating, Distance
Disposition
Altitudes
Speeds
Approach Tactics
Use of Cover, Deception
Angles of Attack
Distance of Opening Fire
Defensive Tactics

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Own Weaknesses
Enemy Weaknesses
Offensive Tactics, Own
" " " " Enemy
Defensive Tactics, Own
" " " " Enemy
Flexible Gunnery, Own
Escort Tactics
Fighter Direction
Use of Radar
Night Fighting
Recognition, Aircraft

ATTACK

OWN TACTICS

Method of Locating Target
Approach to Target
Altitudes, Speeds
Approach
Dive
Pull-Out
Dive Angle
Strafing
Retirement
Defensive Tactics
Use of Jamming

DEFENSE, ENEMY

Evasive Tactics, Ships
Concealment
Searchlights
Night Fighter Tactics
Use of Jamming

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Bombing Tactics
Torpedo Tactics
Effectiveness of
Bombs, Torpedoes
Selection of Targets
Fuzing
Strafing Tactics
Defensive Tactics
Use of Radar
Reconnaissance
Photography
Briefing

OPERATIONAL

Navigation
Homing
Rendezvous
Recognition, Ships
Communications
Flight Operations
Search and Tracking
Base Operations
Maintenance

(6 July, 1945) Sixteen (16) planes from this squadron took off from Charlie Airstrip, Ie Shima at 1616 Item this date, as part of a combined dive-bombing and strafing mission against Tokuno Airfield, Tokuno Shima, Amari Gunto. Twelve (12) of these planes were armed with 500 pound G. R. bombs (2 per plane) and four (4) acted as escort for the accompanying Dumbo.

The targets assigned to the squadrons fighter-bombers were dispersal areas in the vicinity of the airstrip. Two general areas were selected. One division dropped its bombs in a revetment concentration near the waters edge, north of and in direct line with the runway. The other two divisions bombed a similar area, centered around the southeast corner of the strip. Approach to the target was from the west on a course of 100 degrees, the planes passing over and reversing course to dive from 10,000 feet, releasing at 2,500 feet and pulling out at 1,500 feet, to recover over the water. Results of the bombing were not definitely observed, partly due to the high speed (350 knots).

After joining up, the planes strafed barracks on the southern part of the island. No fires were observed.

A few bursts which appeared to be 40MM A/A, and one large burst from a heavy weapon were seen. Accuracy was very poor.

Two (2) bombs failed to release and were brought back to base.

All planes returned safely, arriving at 1845 Item.

The following VMF-113 pilots participated:

Maj. G. H. RAMLO - Division Leader
2nd Lt. W. H. SAULTER - Wingman
2nd Lt. J. W. SMITH - Section Leader
2nd Lt. M. W. HARKE - Wingman

1st Lt. E. G. DICK - Division Leader
1st Lt. J. J. KISSEL - Wingman
2nd Lt. O. H. JONES - Section Leader
1st Lt. S. L. SCHARF - Wingman

1st Lt. J. D. JOHNSON - Division Leader
1st Lt. J. M. BABB - Wingman
1st Lt. A. G. FRAZER - Section Leader
2nd Lt. E. E. ZANDT - Wingman

Dumbo Escort

Capt. G. H. HERLIHY - Division Leader
1st Lt. S. O. MINARD - Wingman
1st Lt. A. D. ANTON - Section Leader
2nd Lt. T. J. WHITE - Wingman

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.
Use additional sheets if necessary).

ARMAMENT

- Guns, Gunsights
- Turrets
- Ammunition
- Bombs, Torpedoes
- Bomb Sights
- Bomb Releases

COMMUNICATIONS

- Radio, Radar
- Homing Devices
- Visual Signals
- Codes, Ciphers

RECOGNITION

- IFF
- Signals
- Battle Lights
- Procedures

PROTECTION

- Armor; Points and Angles
of Fire Needing Further
Protection
- Leak Proofing

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

- Parachutes
- Life Belts, Life Rafts
- Safety Belts
- Emergency Kits
- Rations, First Aid

NAVIGATIONAL EQUIPMENT

- Compasses
- Driftsights
- Octants
- Automatic Pilots
- Charts
- Field Lighting

INSTRUMENTS

- Flight
- Power Plant

OXYGEN SYSTEM

**CAMOUFLAGE AND
DECEPTION DEVICES**

STRUCTURE

- Airframe
- Control Surfaces
- Control System
- Dive Flaps
- Landing Gear
- Heating System
- Flight Characteristics
At Various Loadings

POWER PLANT

- Engines
- Engine Accessories
- Propellers
- Lubricating System
- Starters
- Exhaust Dampers

HYDRAULIC SYSTEM

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

- Auxiliary Plant
- Lights

FUEL SYSTEM

FLIGHT CLOTHING

MAINTENANCE

BASE FACILITIES

- Plane Servicing Equipment
- Personnel Facilities

**Two (2) bombs were abortive due to a short in the wiring,
they were brought back to the base.**

**All other material and equipment performed in a satisfactory
manner.**

REPORT PREPARED BY

W. H. Jordan
SIGNATURE **W. H. JORDAN** RANK AND DUTY **CAPT. USN**

APPROVED BY

Hensley Williams
SIGNATURE **HENSLEY WILLIAMS** RANK AND DUTY **MAJ. USN** DATE **7 July, 1945**

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