

VMF-115

80
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Report # 16

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMF-115 (b) Based on or at ZAMBOANGA, P. I. (c) Report No. 16
 (d) Take off: Date 30 July 1945 Time (LZT) 0740 (Zone); Lat. 6°55'N Long 123°01'E
 (e) Mission Napalm UPIAH (f) Time of Return 1055 (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)		
Corsairs	VMF-115	20	None	19	10 planes--1 Napalm bomb 10 planes--1-1,000 lb bomb	Instantaneous

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE

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
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)	NO ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED		
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) NO ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED
 Did Any Part of
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? If so, Describe Clouds
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance
 (j) of Sun or Moon (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON, DAY, OVERCAST, ETC.) (k) Visibility (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	GUNS USED		
				NO ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED		

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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				
2				
3		NO LOSSES OR DAMAGES SUSTAINED BY OWN AIRCRAFT.		
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.

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	
Corsairs.	190	190	3.5	230	210		2300			20

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

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

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 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) Napala UPIAN. (b) Time Over Target(s) 0900-0930. (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target See Log. (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target See Log. (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (e) Visibility See Log. (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type See Log. (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used None. (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run _____ (NUMBER) Spacing _____ (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release _____ (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed None. Probably Destroyed None. Damaged None.

(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 <u>Napala UPIAN.</u>		<u>19 Planes. VMF-116.</u>	<u>10-1000 lb. bombs. 9 Napala bombs. 3500 lbs.</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>Destroyed.</u>
2					
3					
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.)

NO ENEMY SHIPPING ENCOUNTERED.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? NO. 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

MISSION LOG REPORT REPORT NO.16

30 July 1945.

MISSION: Napalm UPIAN.

FLIGHT COMPOSITION: Payne, Chellson, Benson, Butts, Deke, Kramer, Jackson, Wells, Wildman, Massey, Watts, Eastman, Bradley, Breckenridge, Chambers, Colbert, McNeill, Byrd, Black, Weatherwax.

TIME: TIC:0740. ATA:1055.

WEATHER: Squalls over the Moro Gulf about 60 miles out.

COMMENTS: The target assigned VMF-115 was the eastern slope of the first ridge about 500 yards east of the junction of the Upiang, and Davao Rivers. Wildman had an oil leak and returned early, jettisoning his bomb. Chambers right brake went out on landing and the plane eased off the runway; but Chambers was unhurt and his plane only slightly damaged. Of 10 bombs, eight were dropped on the target, one hung and was jettisoned, and one (Wildman's) was jettisoned. Of 10 napalms, nine were hits and one was brought back to base. Scattered shacks were hit and destroyed. Five pilots strafed on the bomb run. Three refueled at Malabang.

PATRICK M. MC GADY
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