

VMF- 122

167
20

Report # 19

#C(20)

5

Confidential

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

1801

05920

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMF 122 (b) Based on or at PELELIU ISLAND (c) Report No. 19
 (d) Take off: Date 9 FEBRUARY 1945 Time (LZT) 1100 -10 (Zone); Lat. 7 DEG. N. Long. 134 DEG. E.
 (e) Mission BOMB TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY-YAP GROUP (f) Time of Return 1340 -10 (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)		
<u>F4U-1D</u>	<u>VMF 122</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>2-250 LB. G.P.'S.</u>	<u>.1 NOSL .025 TAIL</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>F5-D</u>	<u>25TH PHOTO-RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON</u>		<u>PELELIU</u>				

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)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____
 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 _____ (k) Visibility _____
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON, DAY, OVERCAST, ETC.) (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		

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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) **TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY-YAP** (b) Time Over Target(s) **1230 -10** (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target **4/10 CUMULUS COVER BETWEEN 2000'-7000'**
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target **CLEAR** (e) Visibility **30 MILES**
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **GLIDE** Bomb Sight Used **NONE**
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run **2** Spacing **-** Altitude of Bomb Release **900' AV.**
(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 PIER AND DOCK SOUTH OF POWER PLANT	50' X 75'	2 VNF 122	4-250 LB. G.P'S.	2	SERIOUS
2 PIER AND HOUSES AT TA 223 KING	100' X 100'	2 VNF 122	4-250 LB. G.P'S.	3	UNOBSERVED
3 PIER AT TA 174 JIG	40' X 40'	1 VNF 122	2-250 LB. G.P'S.	0	NONE
4 CAUSEWAY AT TA 273 NAN	-	1 VNF 122	2-250 LB. G.P'S.	0	NONE
5 PIER AND DOCK AT TA 233 BAKER	50' X 50'	2 VNF 122	4-250 LB. G.P'S.	0	NONE
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.)

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

PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY 28TH PHOTO-RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON AT THE REQUEST OF MAG 11. NOT AVAILABLE FOR ENCLOSURE.

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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
- Defensive Tactics, Own
- 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

CONTINUING WITH THE DAILY HARASSMENT OF THE ISLANDS IN THE YAP GROUP, THIS EIGHT PLANE STRIKE WAS EQUIPPED WITH 2-250 LB. G.P.'S. AND INSTRUCTED TO RELEASE THEM OVER ANY SUITABLE TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY. THEY WERE FURTHER INSTRUCTED TO AVOID KNOWN A/A POSITIONS.

THE TABULATED BOMBING RESULTS FOR THE TARGETS LISTED UNDER XI (H) ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NAME	TARGET	RELEASE PT.	CONTACT PT.
LT. GOODSON	1	1000'	STRUCK END OF PIER-SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE.
LT. LAGONI	1	1500'	UNOBSERVED
CAPT. COOK	2	1100'	BOTH BOMBS IN AREA-DAMAGE NOT OBSERVED.
LT. BURNS	2	800'	ONE BOMB ON EDGE OF AREA-ONE IN WATER.
LT. ROSS	3	800'	BOTH BOMBS IN WATER-NO DAMAGE.
LT. BERG	4	1000'	ONE DUD BOMB-OTHER TO LEFT OF CAUSEWAY IN WATER.
LT. THOMPSON	5	1000'	BOTH MISSED TARGET.
LT. JEWELL	5	500'	ONE ON SHORE-ONE IN WATER. NO DAMAGE CLAIMED.

NO A/A WAS OBSERVED ON THIS DATE. FOLLOWING THE BOMBING LT. JEWELL REPORTS THE STRAFING AND BURNING OF ONE BUILDING ALONG THE SOUTHWEST SHORELINE. NO ACTIVITY OF A MILITARY NATURE WAS NOTED.

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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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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