VMF-114

145 (M) Meport # 19-415

#C(17)

mindemtial

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT 4316 06935 RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

|) Mission_ | Napalm Area, | February Bombing Babelthu | of Bar | nd, Pa | lau I | Man | toreg | ;e | f) Time of | Return 150 | O (Zon |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|---|------------------|--|---------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| TYPE | SQUADRON | TAKING | NUMBER | ATTACKING | 113 KEP | вом | S AND TO | | 5 | FUZE, SE | TTING |
| (a) | (b) | OFF (c) | ENEMY A/C | TARGET (e) | | CAR | RIED (PER (f) | PLANE | | (g) | |
| FG-1 | VMF 114 | 12 | | 12 | 12 x | 1 % | - A. | | Filled ank. | Instanta Fuze. | neous |
| III. OT | HER U. S. | OR ALLIED | AIRCRAFT | EMPLOYE | D IN TH | IIS OP | ERATIO | N. | | | |
| TYPE | SQUADRON | NUMBER | | BASE | | TYPE | | ADRON | NUMBER | BAS | SE . |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| IV. EN | | RAFT OBSE | | | | Aircra | THE STATE OF THE S | | | | 1-1 |
| (a) TYPE | (b) NO. OBSERVED | NO ENGAGING OWN A/C | TIME LOCA ENCOUNTERED ENC | | (e) ATION OF BOMBS, TORPEDOES CARRIED; OUNTER GUNS OBSERVED | | CAMOUFLAGE AND MARKING | | | | |
| | | | (ZONE | | | | | | | | |
| | | | (20.12 | | | | | | | | |
| | | | (ZONE | E) | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | 1 | (ZONE | D) | | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| Did Any Encount Time of of Sun | Day and Br or Moon — | ur in Clouds?. | (NIGHT, BRIGH | HT MOON: DAY | , OVERCAS | T; ETC. | | | (k) Visil | , | VER) |
| Did Any Encount Time of Sun V. EN | Part of ter(s) Occuber (s) Occuber Moon — EMY AIRC (b) DESTRE | r in Clouds?. filliance RAFT DESTR | OYED OR D | AMAGED | N AIR | т; етс. (Ву О | | | (k) Visib | oility | |
| Did Any Encount Time of Sun V. EN | Part of ter(s) Occur Day and Bror Moon — | r in Clouds?. filliance RAFT DESTR | OYED OR D | HT MOON: DAY | N AIR | т; етс. (Ву О | wn Airc | | (k) Visib | nly). | MILES) (d) DAMA |
| Did Any Encount Time of Sun V. EN | Part of ter(s) Occuber (s) Occuber Moon — EMY AIRC (b) DESTRE | r in Clouds?. filliance RAFT DESTR | OYED OR D | AMAGED OR GUNNER | N AIR | (By O | wn Airc | raft Li | (k) Visib | nly). (c) HIT, ANGLE | MILES) (d) DAMA |
| Did Any Encount Time of Sun V. EN | Part of ter(s) Occuber (s) Occuber Moon — EMY AIRC (b) DESTRE | r in Clouds?. filliance RAFT DESTR | OYED OR D | AMAGED OR GUNNER | IN AIR | (By O | wn Airc | raft Li | (k) Visil | nly). (c) HIT, ANGLE | MILES) (d) DAMA |
| Did Any Encount Time of Sun V. EN | Part of ter(s) Occuber (s) Occuber Moon — EMY AIRC (b) DESTRE | r in Clouds?. filliance RAFT DESTR | OYED OR D | AMAGED OR GUNNER | IN AIR | (By O | wn Airc | raft Li | (k) Visil | nly). (c) HIT, ANGLE | MILES) (d) DAMA |
| Did Any Encount Time of j) of Sun V. EN | Part of ter(s) Occuber (s) Occuber Moon — EMY AIRC (b) DESTRE | r in Clouds?. filliance RAFT DESTR | OYED OR D | AMAGED OR GUNNER | IN AIR | (By O | wn Airc | raft Li | (k) Visil | nly). (c) HIT, ANGLE | |
| Did Any Encount Time of Sun V. EN | Part of ter(s) Occuber (s) Occuber Moon — EMY AIRC (b) DESTRE | r in Clouds?. filliance RAFT DESTR | OYED OR D | AMAGED OR GUNNER | N AIR | GL | wn Airc | raft Li | (k) Visil | nly). (c) HIT, ANGLE | MILES) |
| Did Any Encount Time of of Sun V. EN | Part of ter(s) Occuber (s) Occuber Moon — EMY AIRC (b) DESTRE | r in Clouds?. filliance RAFT DESTR | OYED OR D | AMAGED OR GUNNER | IN AIR | GL | wn Airc | raft Li | (k) Visil | nly). (c) HIT, ANGLE | MILES) (d |

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| OPNA. | 1-16-V | -#S37 |
|--------|----------------|-------|
| Form / | V-16-V CA-1 | - |
| Sheet | 2 of 5 | |



REPORT No. 19-45

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

| (a) TYPE OWN A/C | (b) SQUADRON | CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE | (d) WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit) | (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|--|--|
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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 | CONDITION OR STATUS |
|------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
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| VIII | RANGE | FUEL. AN | D AMMUNI | TION DATA | A FOR PLAN | IES RET | URNING | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|-------------------------------|--------|------|----|--------------|
| | | | (d) | (d) (e) | (f) | (g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED | | | | NO OF PLANES |
| (a) TYPE A/C | MILES OUT | MILES RETURN | AV. HOURS | LOADED | AV. FUEL CONSUMED | .30 | .50 | 20MM | MM | RETURNING |
| FG-1 | 40 | 40 | 1.4 | 344 | 114 | | 4326 | | | 12 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

| IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Che | NONE | MEAGER | MODERATE | INTENSE |
|--|--------|--------|----------|---------|
| CALIBER | 110112 | | | |
| IEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over | | | X | |
| NEDIUM Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm | X | | | |
| IGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm | | X | | |

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

SPEED, CLIMB, at various altitudes

TURNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

Confidential

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

| XI. ATTACK ON EN | Barge I | GROUND OBJECT anding or St | IVES (By Own Aircraft Listed Pea, Orage Area, (b) Time Ove | in II Only). er Target(s) | King 1405-1420 (Zone |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---|
| (c) Clouds Over Target | .l coverag | e, ceiling t | TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER) | | |
| (d) Visibility of Target | Clear, HAZ | ZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED | BY CLOUDS, ETC.) | 'isibility | 10 miles |
| (f) Bombing Tactics: Type | Level | (LEVEL. GLIDE OR DIVE) | Bomb Sight Us | ed | (TYPE) |
| Bombs Dropped per Rur | 1 (NUMBER | Spacing | (FEET) Altitude | of Bomb Rele | ease 200 feet. |
| (g) Number of Enemy Airc | craft Hit on Gro | ound: Destroyed | Probably Destroyed_ | | _ Damaged |
| (h) AIMING POINT | (i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE | (j) NO. A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON | BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT | (m) NO. HITS On Aiming Point | (n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk) |
| Camouflaged Barge Landing | | 12 VMF 114 | 12 x 1 x Napalm Filled Belly Tank | 11 | Serious. |
| 2 or Storage Area | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | |
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| 8 | • | | | | |
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(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).

There were eleven hits on target area. One tank did not detonate but was later fired by strafing, one had to be jettisoned elsewhere, together with the bomb rack. Eleven explosions were observed and the whole area was left burning and smoking. At least six houses were seen to be destroyed. The area was strafed after bombing.

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





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

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
Recogn:tion, Ships
Communications
Flight Operations
Search and Tracking
Base Operations
Maintenance

Major Tucker led three divisions to Napalm-bomb a previously attacked barge landing or storage area on Babelthuap (TW 65.0 - 00.1). One plane could not take-off with the others, but joined the formation over the target. Eleven planes bombed the target area in divisions, from approximately 200 feet. The twelfth plane could not release belly tank and was forced to jettison both tank and bomb rack elsewhere. Of the eleven belly tanks dropped all were in the area. Ten detonated, one was a dud later fired by strafing. At least six houses were burned to the ground, and the area was strafed following the bombing.

from Ngatpang were encountered, coming close to out aircraft but inflicting no damage. Najor Tucker's plane was hit by 7.7 fire from an undetermined location. Damage was slight.

It was observed that target area was virtually burned out from previous strikes. All planes returned to base safely at 1500.

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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

Jomindeminal

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

W. L. SONNENBERG, 1st Lt., ACTO SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY R. F. STOUT, Major, (C. O.)

18 Feb 194

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