

VMF 155

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Report #151

HC(1)

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

18432

I. GENERAL

CONFIDENTIAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMF-155 (b) Based on or at Majuro Atoll (c) Report No. 151
 (d) Take off: Date 22 July, 1945 Time (LZT) 1405 M (Zone); Lat 01-26-00N Long 172-58-00E
 (e) Mission Strike Nauru Island (Shipping) (f) Time of Return 1920 M (Zone) /
From Tarawa Island To Tarawa Island

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-1D	VMF-155	6	0	6	1x500# GP	Nose: Inst. Tail: Non-delay.

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
PBJ	VMB-613	4	Kwajalein (Support)				
PBM-38	VH-5	1	Majuro Atoll (Dumbo)				

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			(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 --- (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		
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)
140-10	VP-155	Heavy AA	Leading edge of left wing 1" outboard oil cooler.	minor. Hole repaired locally by patching.
2				
3				
4				
540-10	VP-155	Light AA	Leading edge right wing beside oil cooler.	minor. Repaired by patching.
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

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	
140-10	377	377	5.25	397	397	0	3000	0	0	0

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				
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) Boat Basin, Nauru Island (b) Time Over Target(s) 1617 (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 7000, cumulus 1/10 (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target clear (e) Visibility 20 miles (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Dive (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used HS-8 (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run One (1) (NUMBER) Spacing --- (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release 2000 (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed --- Probably Destroyed --- Damaged ---

(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 Boat Basin, Nauru Island.	600' x 800'	6 VMF-155	6x500# GP	3	Unobserved
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).

Three of the total of six bombs dropped were in the target area. One, a dud, was out of the target area. Estimates of definite damage could not be made because of the altitude and speed flown over the target.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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MULTI-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.)

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

The six Corsairs of this squadron took off from Tarawa with four PB4's of VB-513 at 1405 H. Flying a regular fighter formation, the planes arrived over the target at 1517 H at 12,000 feet. Dive bombing runs were made from northeast to southwest and vice versa. Five planes dropped on the first run and one dropped on the second. Rendezvous immediately afterwards was made 20 miles southwest of the target island at 6000 feet. Engine settings were 2300 rpm's and 35 inches of mercury. Landing was made at Tarawa at 1920 H.

Bombs were dropped from 2000 feet at an average speed of 320 knots.

Two planes were struck by anti-aircraft fire, suffering minor damage. Damage inflicted to the enemy was unobserved.

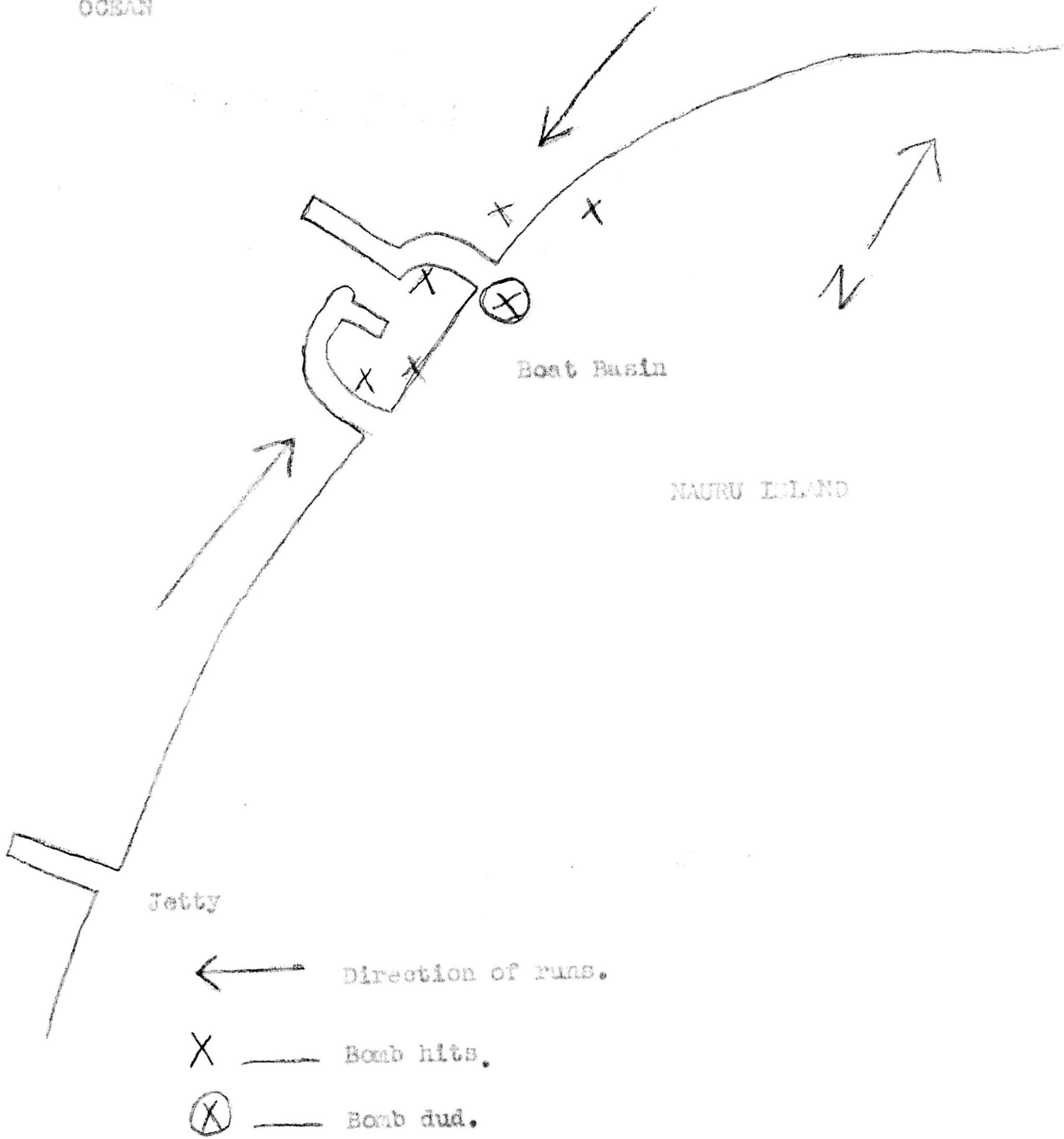
Pilots participating in this attack were:

O'NEAL, W.T.	Capt.	USMC
HAUSE, J.T.	1stLt.	USMC
WARR, G.M.	2ndLt.	USMC
SEAMAN, J.B.	1stLt.	USMC
WULF, B.J.	2ndLt.	USMC
WHIPPLE, C.C.	1stLt.	USMC

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

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All material functioned satisfactorily.

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:

W.O. Carlton
SIGNATURE **W.O. CARLTON**

CHIEF, ENGINEER
RANK AND DUTY
IN-111.0.

APPROVED BY:

W.T. O'Neal
SIGNATURE **W.T. O'NEAL**

CHIEF, ENGINEER 23 July 1945
RANK AND DUTY **IN-155** DATE

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