

VMF-114

165
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Report # 17-14

JIC(17)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)
Confidential

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No **17-45**

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Yap Island (b) Time Over Target(s) 1100-1120 (Zone) King
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target .4 coverage--2000 ft. base
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 15 miles
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Dive Bomb Sight Used _____
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run One Spacing _____ Altitude of Bomb Release 1000 feet.
(NUMBER) (FEET) (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 Causeway (XU 41.3-95.0)		3 VMF-114	3 x 1 x 500 lb G.P.	2	Causeway breached
2 Causeway (XU 41.2-95.8)		1 VMF-114	1 x 1 x 500 lb G.P.	0	None
3 Yap Town		3 VMF-114	3 x 1 x 500 lb G.P.	3	Destroyed two buildings.
4 Road (XU 02.1-44.4)		1 VMF-114	1 x 1 x 500 lb G.P.	1	Hole in road.
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.)

(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

At 0920 Captain PEEBLES and Captain PORTER (division leaders) took off from the Peleliu airstrip to bomb targets of opportunity on Yap Island.

The planes arrived over the target area at 1100. Captain PEEBLES, Lieutenant REED and Lieutenant GILCHRIST attacked the causeway to the east of Yap Town (XU 95.0 - 41.3). Two damaging hits were scored and the remaining bomb was a near miss. Lieutenant SONNENBERG scored a near miss on the other causeway south of Yap Town (XU 95.8 - 41.2). Captain PORTER, Lieutenant MANTEL and Lieutenant MARTENS attacked Yap Town itself and placed all three bombs in the target area. The eighth and last bomb was dropped by Lieutenant VIRGETS on the road at (XU 02.1 -44.4).

During the attack the anti-aircraft fire from known positions south of Yap Town (light, medium and heavy) was intense. Captain PEEBLES was hit by medium AA in the left flap but returned to base with a minimum of difficulty.

After releasing their bombs, the two divisions made a sweep of Yap Island. Lieutenant MANTEL strafed and burned a truck at (XU 89.4 - 36.3). The rest of the sweep was negative.

All planes returned safely to the Peleliu airstrip and landed at 1245.

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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:

APPROVED BY:

W. L. SONNENBERG, 1st Lt., ACIO
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

R. F. STOUT, Major, (C. O.)
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

14 Feb 1945
DATE

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