

VMF 122

167

(20)

Report # 57

LIC(20)

5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

052093

I. GENERAL

"CONFIDENTIAL"

(a) Unit Reporting VVF 122 (b) Based on or at PELELIU ISLAND (c) Report No. 57
 (d) Take off: Date 10 APRIL 1945 Time (LZT) 0830 -10 (Zone); Lat. 7 DEG. N. Long 134 DEG. E.
 (e) Mission BOMB HARBOR INSTALLATIONS-YAP (f) Time of Return 1220 -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)		
F4U-1D	VVF 122	4	0	4	2-500 LB. G.P.'S.	INSTANTANEOUS NOSE .025 TAIL

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
PBY-5A	RESORON	1	PELELIU ISLAND				
	4						

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	GUNS USED		

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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		NONE		
3				
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		

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	
F4U-10	270	270	2.9	402	275		0			4

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	X			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	X			
LIGHT — 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

URNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

NOTE: THE BELLY TANKS WERE JETTISONED ON ARRIVING AT YAP. THE FIGURE UNDER VIII (F) INCLUDES WHAT GASOLINE WAS JETTISONED WITH THE TANKS.

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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) DUGOR INLET-YAP (b) Time Over Target(s) 1103 -10 (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 7/10 CUMULUS AT 3500'
(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 1000' 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 UNCRATERED PORTION OF DUGOR INLET	---	4 VMF 122	8-50 LB. G.P'S.	8	UNDETERMINED.
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).

(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

MEMBERS OF THIS STRIKE WERE BRIEFED TO RELEASE OVER THE UNCRATERED SECTIONS OF DUGOR INLET WHICH IS THE FIRST INLET NORTH OF YAP TOWN OFF TOMIL HARBOR. THERE ARE THREE SLIPS RUNNING OFF THIS INLET AND SEVERAL BUILDINGS. THE BUILDINGS STRUCK ON PREVIOUS BOMBING MISSIONS, GIVE NO EVIDENCE OF USE OR OF REPAIR. ON THE THEORY THAT THE DENSE FOLIAGE SURROUNDING THE INLET MIGHT CONCEAL FACILITIES FOR THE SERVICING OF MIDGET SUBMARINES, IT WAS DECIDED TO STRIKE THE UNCRATERED PORTIONS.

BELOW ARE THE TABULATED BOMBING RESULTS:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RELEASE PT.</u>	<u>CONTACT PT.</u>
LT. JEWELL	1000'	BOTH BOMBS ON SOUTH SIDE OF ROAD. IN GENERAL TARGET AREA.
LT. LOGEE	1000'	BOTH BOMBS IN UNCRATERED SECTION.
LT. LAGONI	1000'	BOTH BOMBS IN AREA BETWEEN NORTHERNMOST SLIPS.
LT. GOODSON	1000'	INLAND END OF SOUTH SLIP.

THE PILOTS REPORT THAT IT IS EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL WHETHER ANY ENEMY ACTIVITY IS BEING CARRIED ON IN THIS TARGET AREA. NO ENEMY ACTIVITY WAS OBSERVED NOR WAS THERE ANY AM FIRE ON THIS DATE.

LT. GOODSON, IN LOOKING OVER THE YAP AIRSTRIP, GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT ONE OF THE TAXIWAYS HAD BEEN LENGTHENED TO ABOUT 1500' AND MIGHT BE OPERATIONAL. THIS WAS JUST AN IMPRESSION BUT IT MIGHT BE WELL TO CHECK AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF THIS DISTRICT FOR A POSSIBLE CHANGE.

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.
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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:

J. R. FLETCHER

**CAPT., USNCR
ACIO, VAF 122**

I. E. BONISKE

**MAJOR, USMC
COMD'G, VAF 122**

16 APRIL 45

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

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DATE

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