

VMB-413

174
①4

Report #56

#c(19)

5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

14510

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

057900

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB 613 (b) Based on or at Majuro Atoll (c) Report No. 56
 (d) Take off: Date 24 June, 1945. Time (LZT) 1927H. (Zone); Lat 07-06-35N. Long 171-22-40E.
 (e) Mission Night Harassment, Hille Atoll. (f) Time of Return 2256H. (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>PBJ-1A</u>	<u>VMB 613</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>none</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3 X 250# G.P.</u> <u>8 X 6" A.R.</u>	<u>Nose instantaneous</u> <u>Tail-none</u> <u>Nose instantaneous</u> <u>Tail instantaneous</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). None

(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). None

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location (Nille Is., Arber Is., (Nille/Arber) Atoll) (b) Time Over Target(s) 1952N. to 2251N. (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 7/10 cumulus 1000 feet base. (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Obscured by clouds (e) Visibility 2 (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used None
- Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing - Altitude of Bomb Release 2000
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed None Probably Destroyed None Damaged None

(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 Nille Is.	-	1 PBJ-1H VNB-613	2 X 5" A.R. 1 X 250# G.P.	2 1	Not observed
2 Arber Is.	-		2 X 5" A.R. 1 X 250# G.P.	2 1	Not observed
3 All Islands on south and west side of Nille Atoll.			Total of 1800 rds of .50 cal.	1800	Not observed
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).

Damage not observed due to darkness, altitude of flight, and low cloud layer.

(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
- Defense 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

One F4J of VNB 613 harassed Mille Atoll. The plane was over target from 1952N to 2231N. Four rockets (5" A.R.) two on Mille and two on Arbar. Two 250# G.P., one on Mille, one on Arbar. Strafing with 1800 ruds. of .50 cal. expended on all islands on South and West side of Mille Atoll. Four rockets and one 250# G.P. were salvaged due to mechanical malfunction. The 75MM failed to function. Approximately twenty runs were made in all directions being initiated at 2500 feet with releases at 1500-2000 feet.

Damage unobserved due to darkness, altitude of flight and low cloud coverage. Light, meagre, inaccurate A/A from Arbar Is. Weather over target 7/10 cumulus, base at 1000 feet, heavy fronts and rain squalls.

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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

Four rockets, one bomb salvaged due mechanical malfunction. 75mm failed to operate due to burned out actuator.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

D. C. Mc Cune
SIGNATURE **D. C. MC CUNE, 1stLt., S-2.** RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:
for

SIGNATURE

R. E. Love
R. E. LOVE, 1stLt., USNCR, SNAP.
G. V. NEVILS, LtCol., USMC,
Commanding. **25 June, 1946**
RANK AND DUTY DATE