

VMB-Cell

152
⑫

Report# 117

IG (12)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VM^B 611 (b) Based on or at Moret/Field, Zamboanga, P.I. (c) Report No. 117
 (d) Take off: Date 16 May 1945 Time (LZT) Varied (Zone); Lat. 6° 55' N Long 122° 04' E
 (e) Mission Kibawe - Toluna Trail (f) Time of Return Varied (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)		
PBJ	VMB 611	2	None	2	8x250 GP	AN-M 112 4-5 sec.delay
PBJ	VMB 611	1	None	1	12x250 GP 8x5" Rockets	AN-M 112 4-5 sec.delay
PBJ	VMB 611	3	None	3	8x250 Gp	AN-M 112 4-5 sec.delay

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
None							

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 _____ (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)
1 None				
2				
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	
PBJ	200	200	4.0	974	700	X	8600	X	X	6

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	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

TURNS

DIVES

CEILINGS

RANGE

PROTECTION

ARMAMENT

No enemy a/c 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) Kibawe - Tolima Trail (b) Time Over Target(s) Varied (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target Towering CU, Base zero, .10 cover
(BASE IN FEET TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Partially obscured by clouds (e) Visibility 5 - 15 miles
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Level Bomb Sight Used Mk 8 Gunner's Sight
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run Varied Spacing Varied Altitude of Bomb Release Minimum
(NUMBER) (FEET)
- (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	-	6			
Ravines, houses,		VMB 611	36x250 GP	Unobserved	Unobserved
2					
roads and storage			18x5" Rockets		
3					
4			8600 rds .50 cal.		
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).

Unobserved

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes 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
- 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
- Recognition, Ships
- Communications
- Flight Operations
- Search and Tracking
- Base Operations
- Maintenance

A/C NO.	PILOT	TO	TOY	TOR
CALL: SEAHORSE YELLOW				
MB-15	Fagan	1320	1530	1725
MB- 9	Chapman	"	"	"

This two plane section arrived over the designated target area only to find it completely overcast. Weather enroute was very bad and only occasional glimpses of the ground were possible. Both planes dropped their bombs and fired their rockets on the plateau to the east of the ravine bombed this morning. Results were unobserved except for one shack on the slope which was flamed by S/H Yellow "9's" .50 caliber fire. Extremely heavy weather was encountered on the return to the base.

A/C NO.	PILOT	TO	TOY	TOR
CALL: SEAHORSE ORANGE				
MB- 5	Hamilton	1400	1550	1800
MB-11	Davis, S.	"	"	"

S/H Orange "5" strafed the plateau and an armored car on five successive passes, also hitting gun positions. Four bombs were dropped on the road leading down from the plateau, while three bombs hit a storage area below the plateau. The last bomb was also dropped on the road. S/H Orange "11" dropped no bombs, but strafed trucks seen on the trail, also strafing a water tower, which was knocked over. The two a/c then returned to the base.

A/C NO.	PILOT	TO	TOY	TOR
CALL: SEAHORSE PURPLE				
MB- 1	Padgett	1430	1550	1830
MB- 3	Hoadley	"	"	"

This two plane section proceeded to the same area as the other Seahorses did this date, which was along the Kibawe Trail. The primary targets were obscured by clouds and targets along the trail consisting of houses and storage areas were bombed and strafed. S/H Purple "1" hit two storehouses that were located just off the trail and destroyed them, using two bombs for each one. Three miles southeast of the point at which the trail becomes a footpath, 15 or 20 houses were hit by eight bombs with a 20' intervalometer setting. At least six were totally destroyed. Groups of houses, as well as individual huts were strafed. S/H Purple "3" did not see any installations left visible that seemed to be of any value, except for one large house near the trail. A near miss was registered with four rockets. Houses were strafed, but the overall results, due to the heavy weather, were poor. This two plane section rendezvoused over Davao and returned to the base.

R.H. DAVIS
Major-USMC
Acting

A.S. BODIERO
1st Lt.-USMC
Squadron Int. Officer

G.A. SARLES
Lt. Col.-USMC
Commanding Officer