

VMB-611

152
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Report # 98

ITC(12)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB 611 (b) Based on or at Moret Field, Zamboanga, P.I. (c) Report No. 98
 (d) Take off: Date 8 May 1945 Time (LZT) Varied (Zone); Lat. 6° 55' N Long 122° 04' E
 (e) Mission Night Hackle - Del Monte Area (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	4	None	3	6x500 GP	AN-M 103 Inst. AN-M 101A1 .025 sec.

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 _____
(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		
None					

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No 98

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Del Monte Area (b) Time Over Target(s) Varied (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target Heavy CU, Base 2000'-5000' (d) Visibility Limited by darkness.

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Level Bomb Sight Used Mk 15 Mod 7

Bombs Dropped per Run Varied Spacing Varied Altitude of Bomb Release 5000'-11000'

(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 <u>Night Heckle-</u>	-	3 <u>VMB 611</u>	<u>18x500 GP</u>	<u>Unobs.</u>	<u>Unobserved</u>
2 <u>Del Monte Area.</u>					
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.)

Unobserved.

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

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REPORT No 96

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

A/C NO.	PILOT	TO	TAI	TR
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CALL: SEAHORSE BLACK

MB-14	Hoadley	1830	1940	2255
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The a/c was unable to contact Accident or Uncle 10, so made a heading for Del Monte town and dropped on timing. After circling and having dropped two bombs, lights were seen in the general area of the bursts. The next run was made on the lights, dropping two bombs and a flare. The flare illuminated the whole town. Two more runs were made, dropping one bomb on each run. The flare started a small grass fire which lit up the area and the a/c circled the town for the rest of the period. All lights were seen to go out when the a/c left the station and returned to base.

CALL: SEAHORSE BROWN

MB-10	Series	2100	2230	0130
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Radar runs were made over the Del Monte strips. The weather was too bad to permit observation of hits, but all bombs were believed to have landed in the target area. Three runs were made from 5000' to 8000' on a heading of 125°. The weather improved enroute to base.

CALL: SEAHORSE PURPLE

MB-7	Kronick	2310	0030	0330
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This plane made three runs on a heading of 130° on the Del Monte strips. Buildups prevented good target observation, but all bombs were dropped and lit the entire area. Scattered storm centers were encountered enroute to base.

CALL: SEAHORSE GREEN

MB-9	Peterson	0125	0320	0615
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(9 May 45)

The last plane on station during this night's heckle found the weather so bad that the radar would not pick up the horizon. Attempts were made to locate the target, but buildups and thunderheads prevented. Enroute to the base, Betty was contacted and gave the a/c a heading of 235 for 150 miles to Lettuce. With only 190 gallons of fuel left, the pilot jettisoned the bomb load when radar showed them to be over water.

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

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