

V MB-613

174
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Report # 39

ITC(15)

5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

12785

RESTRICTED
Reclassification
filled out

16587

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB-613 (b) Based on or at Maljebo Atoll (c) Report No 37
 (d) Take off: Date 30 May, 1945 Time (LZT) 1917 H (Zone); Lat. 07-05-35N Long 171-22-40E
31 May, 1945 Time (LZT) 0018 H (Zone); Lat. 07-05-35N Long 171-22-40E
 (e) Mission Hunter-Killer and Harassment Three Island, Maljebo Atoll (f) Time of Return 2342 H (Zone)
0426 H (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>TBT</u>	<u>VMB-613</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3x250 GP</u> <u>8x5 Inch AR</u>	<u>None: Inst.</u> <u>Tail: None</u> <u>None: Inst.</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>None</u>							

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
<u>None</u>			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			

(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:			GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			
<u>None</u>						

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 37

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Area of Elbow Pier, Taroa Island, Maloelap Atoll. (b) Time Over Target(s) 2230 H (Zone) 0300 H
- (c) Clouds Over Target 1500, cumulus 4/10 (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Hazy (e) Visibility 10 miles (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type 0114a (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used None (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run Two (2) (NUMBER) Spacing 50 (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release 3000 (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 Area of Elbow Pier, Taroa Is.	1400' x 800'	2 VMF-613	16x5 inch AR 5x350 Depth Bombs 18 - 75MM 400 rounds .50cal	16 5	Unobserved
2 Maloelap Atoll.				400	
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).

Definite results were unobserved due to the fact that the action conducted by both planes took place at night and an altitude in excess of 3000 feet was flown.

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

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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SECRET
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REPORT No 37

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

After making a search of Netje, Jaluit and Mille Atolls, each plane proceeded to Tarca Island, Malceap Atoll, for the purpose of harassing the garrison. The first PJ over the target made a total of eleven runs from west to east, either strafing, bombing, or firing rockets on each run. The second PJ made sixteen runs in the same manner. Each plane remained over the target area approximately 50 minutes, expending a total of 16 rockets, 5 depth bombs, 18 - 75mm and 400 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition.

Due to darkness and altitude, results were unobserved.

Pilots participating in this action were:

RIBLET, J.R.	1stLt.	USMC
NEWTON, R.D.	1stLt.	USMC

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
SECRET
REPORT No. 37

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

W.O. Carlton

SIGNATURE

W.O. CARLTON

Capt. USMCR
Intell.O.

APPROVED BY:

G.L.F. ALLEN, 1st Lt., USMCR, SNAP

G.W. NEVILS, Lt. Col., USMC

Commanding

SIGNATURE

NAME AND DUTY

31 May, 1945 DATE