

VMB-611

ISI
⑫

Report 86

II(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. 86
 (d) Take off: Date 28 April 1945 Time (LZT) Varied (Zone); Lat. 6° 55' N Long 122° 04' E
 (e) Mission PT - Combat Air Patrol - Davao 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	2	None	2	6x500 GP	M 115 8-11 sec. Delay
					8x5" Rockets	
PBJ	VMB 611	4	None	5	6x500 GP	AN-M 103 Inst. AN-M 101 .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 _____ (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	
FBJ	290	290	4.9	974	820	X	7650	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				
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

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) Davao Gulf Area (b) Time Over Target(s) Varied (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target CU Heavy 0' Cast Base 500' - 3000' .9 Cover
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Partially obscured by clouds (e) Visibility 8-12 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 Min. - 3000'
(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 As directed by	•	5	30x500 GP	Unobs.	Unobserved
2 PT boats in Davao		VMB 611	16x5" Rockets		
3 Gulf.			7650 rds. .50 cal.		
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? 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
- " " 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

<u>A/C NO.</u>	<u>PILOT</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>TOT</u>	<u>TOR</u>
CALL: SEAHORSE RED MB-14	Fish	1330	1500	1800
This plane flew via Coto bato and contacted Accident. It was told to continue on toward Digos and was instructed to attack the town of Bayabas as some Japs were concentrated there. This concentration was hit with good results. Eight rockets and six bombs hit the town, the bombs completely destroying two buildings and the eight rockets entering another building. The woods 1/2 mile east of the town were thoroughly strafed. This a/c was unable to contact the PT boats.				
CALL: SEAHORSE WHITE MB-7	Peterson	1515	1645	1735
This a/c made contact with Accident and was instructed to take any target around Davao. Toddy Leader (PT) was contacted and instructions were given to strike Lamitan village. There were three objectives, a pillbox on a hill by the river, a house thought to be a radio station, and the personnel area. Six rockets and four bombs were placed in the pillbox, two rockets were put in the personnel area. Three hundred rounds of .50 caliber were fired into the radio station and the bivouac area was also strafed. The PT boats were also strafing the area from offshore. Photos were taken of the area. While the plane was returning to the base, it was unable to contact Accident.				
CALL: SEAHORSE BLACK MB-2	Fagan	1820	2000	2355
This plane flew the southern route to Davao, where it contacted Toddy leader and Dancer on Channel Baker 3115. Reconnaissance was flown over Reference Points 1, 2, 3, and 4. No further instructions were given by Toddy leader, who granted permission to bomb Lincanan A/D at Davao. Six bombs were observed hitting the east strip. The a/c then returned to the base.				
CALL: SEAHORSE BROWN MB-8	Hamilton	2015	2200	0140
This plane arrived on station and contacted Tango at Point Peggy, after spending two hours trying to contact Dancer, Accident and Toddy leader without success. Peacock was contacted, but no targets were available. The a/c being low on gas after flying cover for two PT's headed north past Samal Island, the pilot decided to jettison bombs and return to the base, which he did.				
CALL: SEAHORSE GREEN MB-15	Lellasters	0030 (29Apr45)	0200	0500
Upon arriving on target, this a/c spent 1 hour and 40 minutes trying to raise Peacock, Toddy, Dancer and Accident, but to no avail. Bombs were salvaged over the gulf. An unidentified a/c was observed with running lights on just south of Davao at 0505. It was presumed to be friendly. The a/c then returned to the base.				

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

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