

VMF 155

93
②

Report #108

HC(21)

5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

8106
SECRET

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMP-155 (b) Based on or at Mauro Atoll (c) Report No. 108
 (d) Take off: Date 14 March 1945 Time (LZT) 0859 H. (Zone); Lat. 07-05-35N. Long. 171-22-40E.
 (e) Mission Search Wotje and Maloelap Atolls (f) Time of Return 1159 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>F4U-1D</u>	<u>VMP-155</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Two planes 2-325# Depth Bombs</u>	<u>Nose: Inst. Mid-ships: 25 feet hydrostatic Tail: None</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 — (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		
<u>None</u>						

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
RECLASSIFY when
filled out

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 108

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Whaleboat on NW tip of Ketchautsu Island. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1045 H. (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 2000, Cumulus 5/10 (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility Unlimited (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Glide Bomb Sight Used AN-Mk-8
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing - Altitude of Bomb Release 1000
(NUMBER) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed - Probably Destroyed - Damaged -

(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. Whaleboat NW tip of beach, Kechautsu Is., Wotje Atoll	20'x8'	2 F4U-1D VMF-155	2 planes 1-325# Depth Bomb 1200 rds .50 cal. ammunition	Numerous	Boat destroyed
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

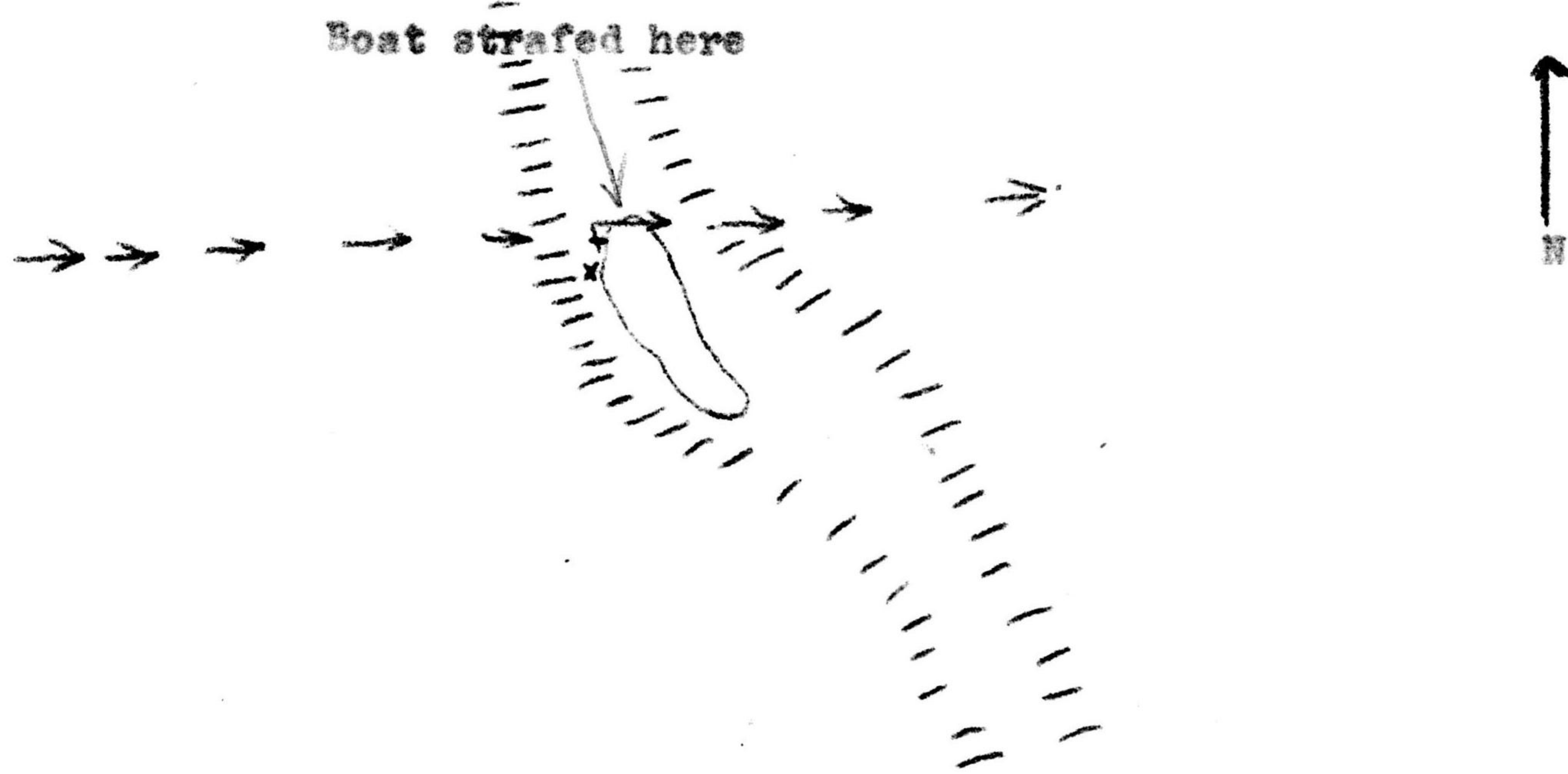
(o) RESULTS: (For all hits claimed on ship targets and for land targets of special interest, draw diagram, top or side view or both, as appropriate, showing type and location of hits. For all targets give location and effect of hits, and identify by numbers above. Use additional sheets if necessary).

1. Morning search planes (21 and 24 V 311) strafed and depth bombed a 20 foot whaleboat on edge of beach, NW end of Kechautsu Island, Wotje Atoll. One depth bomb was dropped, it fell near target and on edge of beach to the south. The boat was left on beach with numerous holes in its sides and bottom.

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

SECRET

MOTJE ATOLL
KECHAUTSU ISLAND



Dotted line indicates direction of strafing runs
and depth bombing run.
X Indicates one depth bomb hit.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

SECRET RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

REPORT No. 108

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

Morning search planes (21 and 24 V 311) were engaged in a perimeter search of Wotje Atoll when they observed a 20 foot wooden whaleboat on edge of beach on northwest end of Kechautsu Island, Wotje Atoll. Twelve strafing runs were made and Capt. J.P. LYNCH dropped one 325# depth bomb. Glide bombing tactics were used. The glide was started downwind at 2000 feet with release at 1000 feet. Bomb landed and exploded on beach near and south of target. 1200 rounds of .50 cal. ammunition were expended in 12 strafing runs. The boat was left on the beach destroyed by many large holes which were observed in its bottom and sides.

The following pilots participated in the search:

LYNCH, J.P., Capt., USMCR
ERICKSON, E.W., 1stLt., USMCR

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

~~SECRET~~ RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

REPORT No. AS

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:

A. H. Mohr Lt. Intello.

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

J. P. Lynch Capt., S.N.A.P. 18Mar45

SIGNATURE

J. P. LYNCH

RANK AND DUTY

DATE