

VMF 122

167
20

Report #66

HC(20)

5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 66

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) BIVOUC AREA-BABELTHUAP (b) Time Over Target(s) 1400 -10 (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 7/10 HEAVY CUMULUS AT 8500'
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target CLEAR (e) Visibility 10 MILES
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type 60 DEGREE DIVE Bomb Sight Used NONE
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 2 Spacing APPROX 1000' Altitude of Bomb Release 1ST-6000'
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed 0 Probably Destroyed 0 Damaged 0

(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 WOODED BIVOUC AREA	1000 YDS X 200 YDS	16 VMF 122	32-500 LB. G.P.'S.	32	UNDETERMINED
2					
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).

(p) Were Photographs Taken? _____ 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

A KNOWN ENEMY BIVOUAC AREA LOCATED 2 MILES NORTH OF THE AIRSTRIP ON BABELTHUAP WAS THE TARGET OF THIS 16 PLANE STRIKE. AN ESTIMATED 2000 TROOPS ARE QUARTERED IN THIS DISTRICT. DENSELY WOODED, AN ACCURATE APPRAISAL OF THE DAMAGE WAS NOT POSSIBLE BUT WITH THE NEW TYPE VT NOSE FUSE IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE DAMAGE WAS SUBSTANTIAL.

DIVE BOMBING TACTICS WERE EMPLOYED, THE APPROACH BEING MADE AT 10,000 FEET. ENEMY AA CAPABILITIES IN THIS AREA ARE FORMIDABLE. FOR THIS REASON IT WAS DECIDED TO MAKE ONLY ONE BOMBING RUN AND TO RELEASE EACH BOMB INDIVIDUALLY. THE LENGTH (1000 YDS.) AND BREADTH (200 YDS.) OF THE DESIGNATED TARGET AREA MADE THIS POSSIBLE. A SIMULTANEOUS RELEASE WAS DECIDED AGAINST ON THE THEORY THAT AFTER ARMING, THE BOMBS MIGHT STILL BE SUFFICIENTLY CLOSE TO CAUSE "SYMPATHETIC DETONATIONS."

ALL 32 BOMBS ARE REPORTED TO HAVE STRUCK THE TARGET AREA. THERE WERE NO DUDS BUT AN ESTIMATED 3 TO 5 ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN EXPLODED BY THE TAIL FUSE AFTER IMPACT. THE OTHERS, EXPLODING AT TREE TOP LEVEL ARE REPORTED TO GIVE OFF A LARGE DISTINCTIVE FLASH WHICH IS NOT THE CASE WITH IMPACT FUSED BOMBS.

THE EXTENT OF THE DAMAGE IS UNDETERMINED.

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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

Aarmor; 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

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26 JUNE 45
DATE