

VMB-44B

150

(11)

Report #100

C (11)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No **100**

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) DALLUM BRIDGE, NEW IRELAND. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1413-1500 (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 6-8 TENTHS CUMULUS AT 5000', VISIBILITY RESTRICTED BY CLOUDS.
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS. (e) Visibility RESTRICTED BY CLOUDS.
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type MEDIUM LEVEL. Bomb Sight Used MR. 15, MOD. 7
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run ALL Spacing NONE Altitude of Bomb Release 5,500'
(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 DALLUM BRIDGE.		6 PRJS. VMB 443	6 X 2000# GRS.	0	NONE
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).

SEE NARRATIVE.

(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>CALL</u>	<u>PILOT</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>TOT</u>	<u>PAN</u>
279B21	WHITNEY	1315	1413-1500	1615
280B21	LORD	1315	1413-1500	1615
281B21	DEE	1316	1413-1500	1616
282B21	WHITTEMORE	1316	1413-1500	1616
283B21	LARSON	1317	1413-1500	1617
284B21	BURTT	1317	1413-1500	1617

CONTINUING THE AFTERNOON STRIKES AT JAPANESE COMMUNICATION AND SUPPLY LINES. MAJOR WHITNEY LED SIX VMB 443 PLANES ON A BRIDGE BUSTING TRY AT DALLUM PLTN. BRIDGE, NORTH EAST COAST OF NEW IRELAND. 3 DEG 14' SOUTH.

TAKE OFF TIME WAS 1315. IN TWO THREE-PLANE SECTIONS, JAVELIN DOWN FORMATION, THE PLANES PROCEEDED ON A COURSE OF 120 DEG MAG., FOR 155 MILES TO THE TARGET, DODGING BAD WEATHER ENROUTE.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE NIPS HAD THEIR CLOUD COVER WORKING WELL; 6-8 TENTHS STRATO-CUMULUS AT 5000'. AFTER HUNTING VAINLY FOR A HOLE, THE SQUADRON WENT DOWN FROM 10,000' TO CLOUD LEVEL AND BOMBED THE BARELY VISIBLE TARGET.

BOMBS WERE AWAY AT 1445 ON A BOMBING RUN OF 210 DEG MAG., AT AN ALTITUDE OF 5500' AND 150 KNOTS IAS. DIFFICULTY IN FINDING AND HOLDING AN AIMING POINT RESULTED IN A MISS, THE BOMBS HITTING TO THE RIGHT OF TARGET ON THE MAIN COASTAL ROAD.

RESULTS:

6 X 2000# GP'S HIT 1000' WEST OF TARGET, MISSING BRIDGE BUT DAMAGING ROAD.

AFTER A ROUTINE FLIGHT BACK TO BASE THE SQUADRON PANCAKED AT 1615.

SUBMITTED BY:

G.W. MC CORMICK
CAPT. USNCR
ACIO

APPROVED BY:

A.D. GOULD
LT. COL. USMC
COMMANDING