VMB-W3

14

Theport #40

#C(15)

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CONFIDENTIAL AFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

REPORT No ... VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only). None. CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C,
TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE (e)
EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE,
(Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed) WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit) (b) (a) TYPE OWN A/C SQUADRON 12 13 14 VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only; identify with planes listed in VI by Nos. at left). Mone-(d) (c) (b) (a) CONDITION OR STATUS CAUSE NAME, RANK OR RATING SQUADRON VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING NO OF PLANES (g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED AV. FUEL AV. HOURS (b) MILES (c) MILES (e) (a) AV. FUEL TYPE 20MM MM RETURNING .30 .50 CONSUMED OUT RETURN IN AIR LOADED A/C IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line). INTENSE MEAGER MODERATE NONE CALIBER HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

Hone observed.

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

TURNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

-60		
4	DA.	
7	250	
	200	
115	97	

		TOMAT THIS SHEET I	THE ATTACK WAS MADE!		REPORT No 60
XI. ATTACK ON	ENEMY SHIPS OF	R GROUND OBJEC	TIVES (By Own Aircraft Lis	ted in II Only	
(a) Target(s) and Locat	tion(s) Various	Islands M	aloelan Atold), Time	Over Target(s)	0810-0840M(Zone)
(c) Clouds Over Target	10/10 cumu	lus from 200	DO TENTHS OF COVER)		
(d) Visibility of Target_	(CLEAR, HA	ZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURE	D BY CLOUDS, ETC.)) Visibility	10 (MILES)
(f) Bombing Tactics: Ty	pe Leve	(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIV	Bomb Sight	UsedNon	(TYPE)
Bombs Dropped per F	Run (NUMBE	Spacing_	90 Altitu	de of Bomb Rel	ease 1100
(g) Number of Enemy A	Aircraft Hit on Gro	ound: Destroyed	Probably Destroye	ed none	_ Damaged none
(h) AIMING POINT	DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(i) NO A/C ATTACKING	BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POIN	NO HITS On Aiming Point	DAMAGE (None slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1		3 PBJ-1H			
Pigesyatto Is.	. Undetermin	1 PBJ-1H	10X250# G.P. BX5"AR.	6	Serious.
Kaven Is.	12	VMB-613	1000 rnds. of .5	0eel . 750	Serious.
3		1 PBJ-1H	2X5"AR.	2	
Loa Is.	87	VIMB-613	400 rads. of .50	cal. 300	Serious.
4	-	1 PBJ-IH	4X5"AR.	1	
Enibîn Is.		VMB-013	400 rnds. of .50		Serious.
Airik Is.	99	2 PBJ-1H VMB-613	2X250#G.P.8X5"AR	2-8	Gamé ana
6		1 PBJ-1H	2000 rnds. of .5	AGET TOOO	Serious.
Makaru Is.	52	VMB-613	400 rnds of 50	cal. 300	Slight.
7					
8					

See overlay next page for bomb hits on Pigeeyatto Island, one 250#G.P. direct hit on radio station building.

Targets on other islands were Jap gardens and living areas determined to exist as a result of POW interrogation. Nature of the targets prevented precise damage assessment, however serious damage was assumed to have resulted when bombs and rockets and strafing were seen to strike the islands.

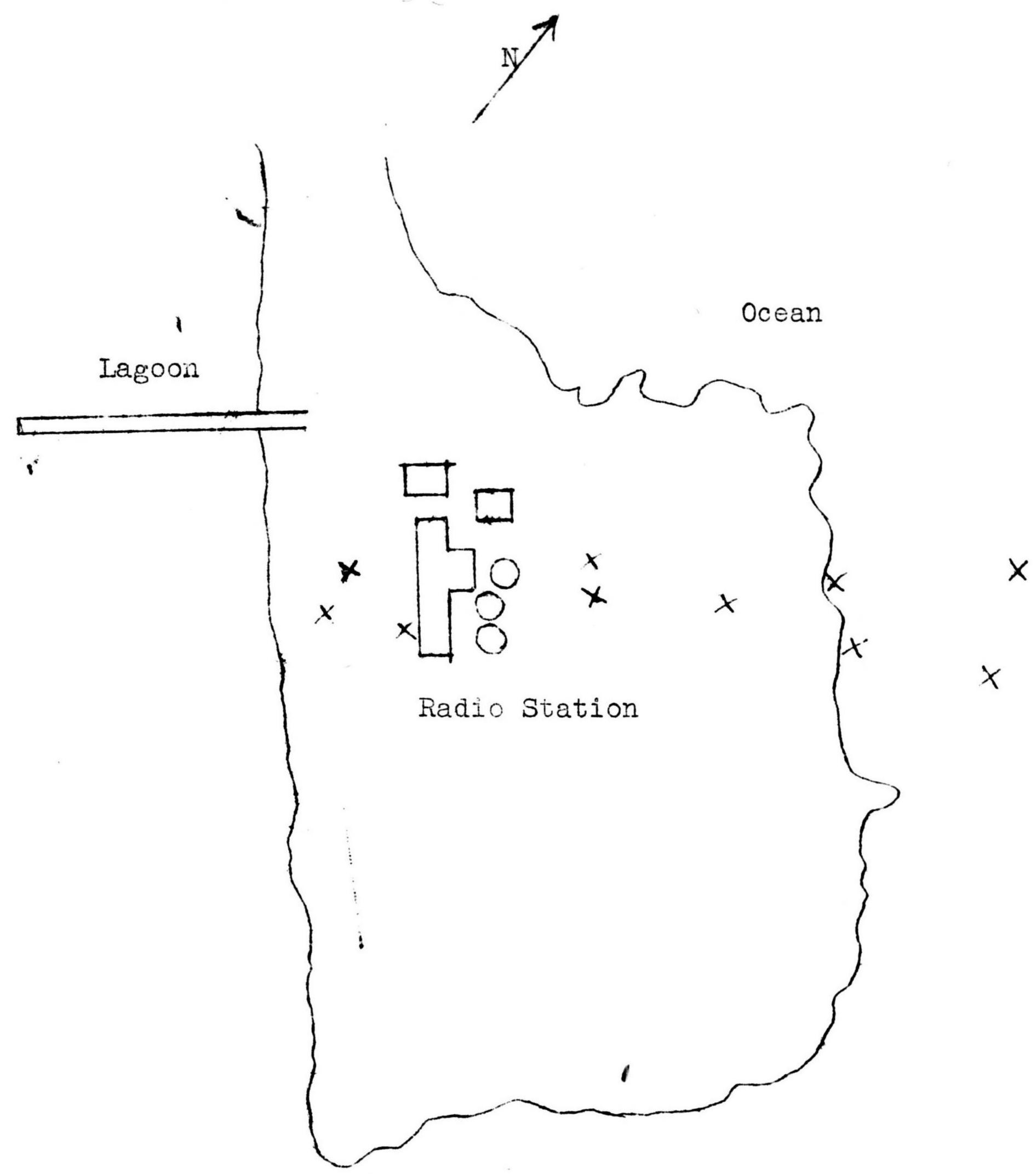
(p) Were Photographs Taken? _____Photographs of Damage, WhenTaken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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⁽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).

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South half of Pigeeyatto Island.

X Indicates bomb hits.

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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)

assigned targets on Taroa Island.

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 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

DEFENSE, ENEMY

Use of Jamming

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

Three PBJ's of this squadron took off following twenty Helldivers and eight Corsairs and proceeded to Maloelap Atoll. Arriving at the target, the flight leader checked in with the air coordinator and upon receiving the go-ahead signal proceeded to attack the first target, Pigeeyatto Island. Two planes made runs from the ocean toward the lagoon initiating the runs at 1500-1800 feet and pulling out at 1100 feet at about 225 knots. One plane made its run in the opposite direction using the same altitude and speed. Two bombs did not release from one plane and were later dropped on Airik Island. During and after the time that the Mitchells were attacking

Pigeeyatto Island the Helldivers and Corsairs were attacking

After completing the Pigeeyatto attack the three PBJ's proceeded to harrass the atoll firing 5" rockets and .50 caliber shells at various islands, principally Kaven, Loa, Enibin, and Airik. Medium meager inaccurate antiaircraft fire was observed from the north tip of Taroa Island and light meager inaccurate fire from the lagoon side of Airik. The planes rendezvoused at 1500 feet altitude off the south tip of the atoll and proceeded back to base without incident landing at 0917M. Following the Mitchell harrassment, the dive bombers and fighters also harrassed assigned sections of the atoll.

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REPORT No.

XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left. Use additional sheets if necessary).

> Two bombs hung up in one plane on its first run but were released in a later run.

All other materiel functioned satisfactorily.

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

SIGNATURE

BASE FACILITIES

Plane Servicing Equipment Personnel Facilities

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY C. R. MOCINE, CAPT., S-2.

ALLSET MFD. BY THE EGRY REGISTER CO., PATENTED TON, 1stlt., SHAP.

30 July 1945.

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