

VMF 155

93  
21

Report # 119

LIC(21)

6



# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

**SECRET**

## I. GENERAL

- (a) Unit Reporting VNF-156 (b) Based on or at Majuro Atoll (c) Report No. 119  
 (d) Take off: Date 21 March 1946 Time (LZT) 0920 N. (Zone); Lat. 07-05-35N Long. 171-22-40E  
 (e) Mission Search Malcelap and Motje Atolle (f) Time of Return 1310 N. (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)		
F4U-1D	VNF-156	2	0	2	Two planes: 2-325# Depth Bombs	Nose: Inst. Mid-ships: 25 foot hydrostatic Tail: None

## 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? (YES OR NO) \_\_\_\_\_ If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance \_\_\_\_\_ (k) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_ (MILES)  
 (j) of Sun or Moon \_\_\_\_\_ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.)

## 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		
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	
P4U-1D	180	180	4	412	310	0	4400	0	0	2

## IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	X			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	X			
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

TURNES

DIVES

CEILINGS

RANGE

PROTECTION

ARMAMENT

**No enemy aircraft encountered.**



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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. \_\_\_\_\_

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Two outriggers, one rowboat on Maloelap Atoll 1015M.  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK) (b) Time Over Target(s) 1130M. (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target 1500, Cumulus 1/10  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility Over 30 miles  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type \_\_\_\_\_ Bomb Sight Used \_\_\_\_\_  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run \_\_\_\_\_ Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ Altitude of Bomb Release \_\_\_\_\_  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (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 Outrigger, lagoon beach, Tjan Is.,	20'	2 F4U-1D VMF-155	Two planes: 1600 rds .50 cal. ammunition	Numerous	Serious
2 Maloelap Atoll,					
3 Outrigger, lagoon beach, Bebi Is.,	20'	2 F4U-1D VMF-155	Two planes: 800 rds .50 cal. ammunition	Numerous	Serious
4 Maloelap Atoll					
5 Rowboat, ocean beach, Bogenagak Is., Maloelap Atoll	12'	2 F4U-1D VMF-155	Two planes: 800 rds .50 cal. ammunition	Numerous	Serious
7 Outrigger, lagoon beach, Niibunku Is.,	20'	2 F4U-1D VMF-155	Two planes: 1200 rds .50 cal ammunition	Numerous	Serious
8 Wotje Atoll.					

(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 24V311) strafed a 20 foot outrigger found beached on Tjan Island, Maloelap Atoll with 1600 rounds. Numerous hits were scored and boat left inoperational.
2. Same planes strafed 20 foot outrigger found beached on Bebi Island, Maloelap Atoll with 800 rounds. Numerous hits were scored and boat left inoperational.
3. Same planes strafed 12 foot rowboat found beached on Bogenagak Island, Maloelap Atoll with 800 rounds. Numerous hits were scored and boat left inoperational.
4. Same planes strafed 20 foot outrigger found beached on Niibunku Island, Wotje Atoll with 1200 rounds. Numerous hits were scored and boat left inoperational.

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



SECRET



Tjan Island,  
Malcelap Atoll



Bebi Island,  
Malcelap Atoll



Bogenagek Island,  
Malcelap Atoll



Niibunku Island,  
Wotje Atoll

X Indicates where boat was strafed and left inoperational.  
All strafing runs were parallel to beach.



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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

Morning search planes (21 and 24 V311), while engaged in perimeter search of Maloelap Atoll, found two outriggers and one rowboat beached, respectively, on the lagoon shores of Tjau and Bebi Islands, and the ocean shore of Bogenagak Island. It is known that the outrigger was left on Bebi Island by the natives who were recently evacuated from there. It is believed that the outrigger on Tjau Island may have been used by Japanese to inspect the wreckage of power boat destroyed there several days ago. All targets were strafed and left inoperational. Strafing runs were made parallel to the beach.

An outrigger was found beached on the lagoon shore of Niibunku Island, Motje Atoll, which was also strafed and left inoperational.

Pilots participating in the search were:

Dunlop, J. D., 2dLt., USNCR  
Ross, A. V., 1stLt., USNCR



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

**In all respects all material 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**
- BASE FACILITIES**
  - Plane Servicing Equipment
  - Personnel Facilities

REPORT PREPARED BY:

*R. L. ...*

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

1st Lt. Intello.

APPROVED BY:

*J. P. Lynch*

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

Capt., S.N.A.P.

22 Mar 45

DATE