

VMF 155

93  
②

Report # 120

tic(2)

6



# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

4735

8484

RESTRICTED  
Reclassify when  
filled out

**SECRET**

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VNF-155 (b) Based on or at Majuro Atoll (c) Report No. 120  
 (d) Take off: Date 23 March 1945 Time (LZT) 1240 N. (Zone); Lat. 07-05-35N. Long. 171-22-40E  
 (e) Mission Bomb Command Post, Enidj Is., Jaluit Atoll. (f) Time of Return 1515N. (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-155	6	0	6	Six planes: 2-500# SAP Bombs	.1 delay tail only

## III. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
F4U-1D	VNF-113	6	Majuro Atoll	PBY-5A	VFB-24	1	Majuro Atoll
SB2-C	HQMAG-13	1	Majuro Atoll (Observer)				(Nunbo)
CB2-C	HQMAG-13	1	Majuro Atoll (Photo)				

## 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? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_  
(YES OR NO) (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		
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	<del>None</del>			
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
		<del>None</del>		

## 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	
F4U-1D	120	120	2.5	237	197	0	0	0	0	6

## 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

TURNS

DIVES

CEILINGS

RANGE

PROTECTION

ARMAMENT

**No enemy aircraft encountered.**



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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

**SECRET**

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Command Post (A-13) N. central section  
Emidj Is., Jaluit Atoll (b) Time Over Target(s) 1355 H. (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 2000, Towering Cumulus 10/10  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Obscured by clouds (e) Visibility Under 10 miles  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Dive Bomb Sight Used AN-2K-8  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 6 planes/2 bombs Spacing - Altitude of Bomb Release 2500  
(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 Command Post (A-13) N. cent.	20'x 30'	6 F4U-1D VMF-155	Six planes: 12-500# SAP Bombs	Two	possible slight
2 part Emidj Is.					
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).

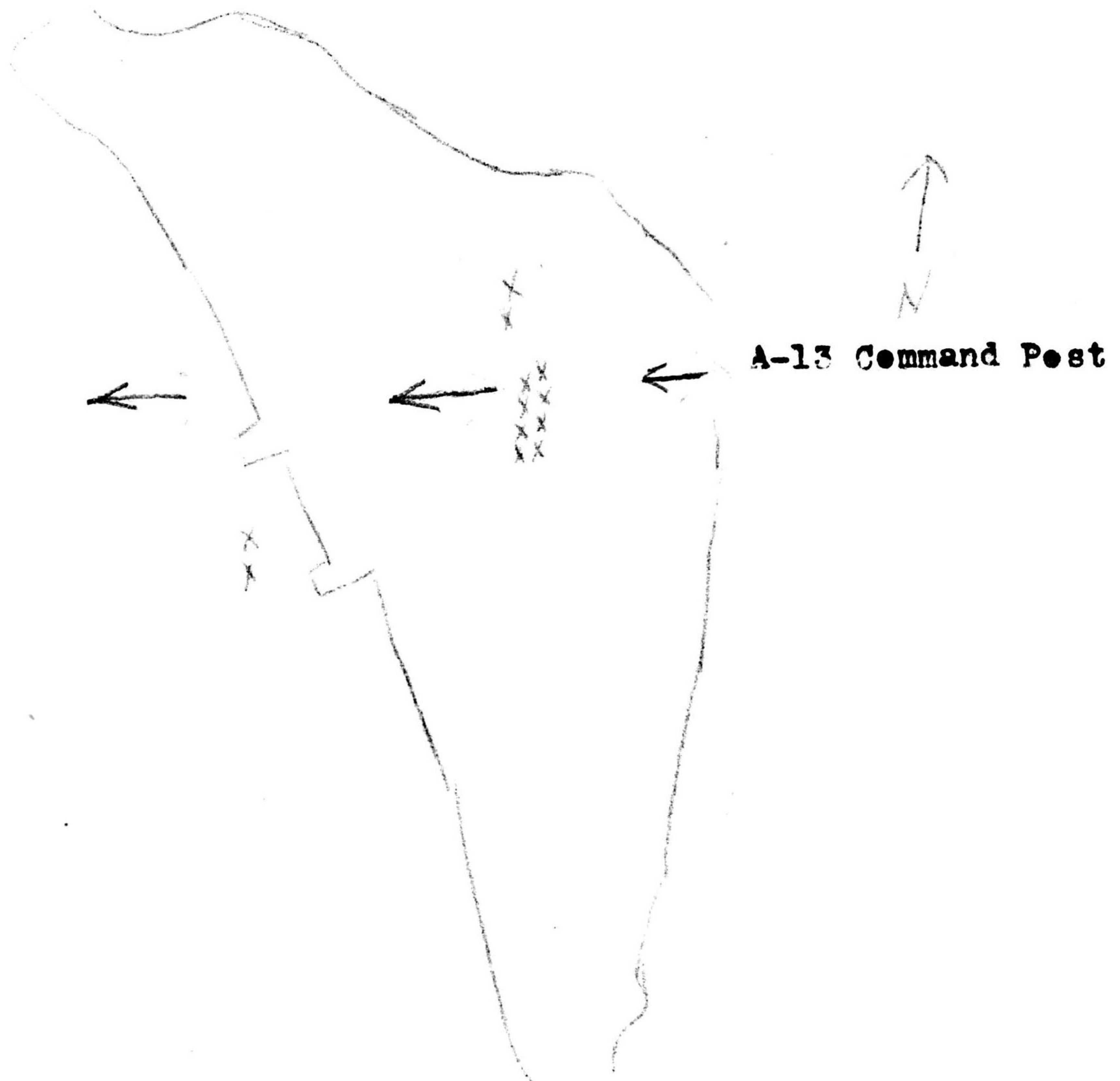
1. Command Post, Emidj Island: Eight of the twelve bombs hit within 100 feet of the target with two possible direct hits. Two bombs hit 200 feet north and west of the target. Two bombs hit in the lagoon. The pilot knew he had a bad run but his plane acted as if it wanted to cut out so he thought it inadvisable to make a second run. Even with two possible direct hits the damage is estimated as slight due to the heavily buttressed nature of the target.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.  
Delivered to Com. Majuro Air Group for forwarding.



SECRET

EMIDJ ISLAND  
JALUIT ATOLL



X Indicates where bombs hit.

Arrows indicate direction of bombing run.



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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

Six fighters of this command followed six F4U-1Ds of VMP-113 from the deck at 1240M. for a strike at Midj Island, Jaluit Atoll. A normal rendezvous was quickly effected and the planes headed on direct course for the target island. After 6000 feet of altitude had been gained near the base, it was necessary to go back down to 1500 feet in order to avoid the strato-cumulus clouds which were encountered. Scattered rain squalls were encountered all the way to the target. Power settings of 2050 RPMs and 33 inches were used to maintain an average IAS of 170 knots while enroute.

When the target was reached the planes gained altitude to 10000 feet, however it was necessary to circle the target area for approximately 35 minutes, waiting for an opening in the towering cumulus clouds which had the island completely covered and extended from a base of 2000 feet with tops up to 10000 feet. At 1350M. the planes of VMP-113 went in and our squadron followed immediately. Dives were from a right hand turn coming from the north at 10000 feet with releases at 2500 feet and pullouts over the lagoon at about 1500 feet.

A rendezvous was effected over the Northeast Pass below the clouds at 1800 feet and the planes made the trip home at that altitude because of the weather. One fighter of VMP-113 joined up on us and returned to the base with our planes.

Pilots participating in the strike were:

LYNCH, J.P., Capt., USMCR  
SVOBODA, F.R., 2nd Lt., USMCR  
ANDERSON, K.A., 1st Lt., USMCR  
PHILLIPS, B.R., 1st Lt., USMCR  
FISHER, A.D., 1st Lt., USMCR  
DUTIN, A., 1st Lt., USMCR



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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**

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. Mohrman*

SIGNATURE

**R.L. MOHRMAN**

*1st Lt. Intello*

RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

*J.P. Lynch*

SIGNATURE

**J.P. LYNCH.**

*Capt., S.B.A.P.*

RANK AND DUTY

*24 Mar 45*

DATE