

VMB-611

121
⑫

Report #25

#C(12)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB-611 (b) Based on or at Enirau Island (c) Report No. 25
 (d) Take off: Date 22 Feb 45 Time (LZT) 1145L (Zone); Lat. 1° 36' S. Long 150° E.
 (e) Mission LAB attack on Island between New Ireland and New Hanover (f) Time of Return 1325 (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)		
<u>PB-1</u>	<u>VMB611</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2 x 1000 SAP's</u>	<u>Mk 114 nose 8-11 sec delay</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>None</u>							

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
<u>None</u>			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____
 (i) Did Any Part of Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? _____ If so, Describe Clouds _____
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 (j) Time of Day and Brilliance of Sun or Moon _____ (k) Visibility _____
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON, DAY, OVERCAST, ETC.) (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	GUNS USED		
<u>None</u>						

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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	
FBI-1B	90	90	1.6	974	260	None	16,800	None	None	4

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

- | | |
|--|------|
| SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

TURNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT | None |
|--|------|

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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) Islands East of Steffen Strait (b) Time Over Target(s) 1235Z (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target Broken ca 3000' 3/10 cover
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target clear (e) Visibility unlimited
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type level Bomb Sight Used M 15 mod 7
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing _____ Altitude of Bomb Release varied
(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 Islands East of Steffen Strait.		4 VMF-611	16,800 rds .50 cal. 8 x 2000 SAP's	see ref	
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.)

Unobserved

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

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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

242B21	Davis, R. R.	1145	1235	1325
243B21	Davis, S.	1145	1235	1325
244B21	Hurley	1145	1235	1325
245B21	Griffith	1145	1235	1325

The minimum alt. attacks this day were made against the islands which lie in the area between Silber Sound, East of New Hanover, and the shore of the Kavieng Peninsula. These islands, some of which had been refuge points for downed flyers, had been overrun by Japanese patrols, and the purpose of the flight was to make the islands untenable and to drive the Nips back into the Kavieng area. The planes, in two plane sections made their approaches up the west coast of New Ireland and headed in over Mane Is. One plane went in at the North and one at the South end of the Island. They began to strafe targets of opportunity there and continued on sweeping to the North to cover Ugan Island with 50 caliber fire. At treetop level the a.c swept over Nusalemon which had been selected for the greatest weight of bombs. Again one plane made a release at the southern tip and one at the northern tip of the island. All four bombs struck the island and from the succeeding planes dirt and coral could be seen blown to a height of approximately 100'. The following two planes went in individually, one making a pass over the middle of Mane and dropping immediately upon reaching the beach edge into a small group of huts, then continued on turning right to strafe Kabather Island and on to Nusalemon where the other 1000 pounder was dropped over into the water. The last plane approached Mane at the North end and dropped one bomb on each small projecting point at the end of the island then turned right to make a strafing run over Nusalemon. The planes met with no AA except for one plane which saw a few tracers high and wide believed to have come from a LMG position on Ugan Island. Careful searching of the target islands failed to locate anything that looked like a possible military installation with the exception of a few caves on the North shore of Nusalemon Island. After making a rendezvous North of the Islands the planes returned to base.

A. S. BODSRO,
1stLt., USMC,
Intelligence Officer.

G. A. SARLES,
LtCol., USMC,
Commanding Officer.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE