

VMF-115

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Report # 9-10

C(18)

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

9-10

(a) Unit Reporting VMP-115 (b) Based on or at ZAMBOANGA, P. I. (c) Report No. _____
 (d) Take off: Date 22 July 1945 Time (LZT) See Log (Zone); Lat. 6°55'N Long 122°01'E
 (e) Mission Hopalm SARANGANI BAY AREA (f) Time of Return 1245 (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>Corsairs</u>	<u>VMP-115</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>1 Hopalm tank</u>	<u>Instantaneous</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE

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
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)	NO ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED		
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) NO ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED
 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 _____ (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		

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REPORT No 9-10

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				
2				
3				
4		NO LOSSES OR DAMAGED SUSTAINED BY OWN AIRCRAFT		
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		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	
<u>Corsairs</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>4.0</u>	<u>230</u>	<u>200</u>		<u>12,000</u>			<u>16</u>

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over				
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	<u>None</u>			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm				

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

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

URNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

NO ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No 8-10

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) SARANGANI AREA (b) Time Over Target(s) See Log (Zone)

(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target See Log (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target See Log (e) Visibility See Log (MILES)

(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type See Log Bomb Sight Used None (TYPE)

(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE)

Bombs Dropped per Run _____ Spacing _____ Altitude of Bomb Release _____ (FEET)

(NUMBER)

(FEET)

(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	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
		(k) SQUADRON			
1 SARANGANI AREA		8 planes VMF-115	8 Napalm bombs 4,000 rds	6	Unobserved
2 SARANGANI AREA		8 planes VMF-115	8 Napalm bombs 8,000 rds	8	Unobserved
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).

NO ENEMY SHIPPING ENCOUNTERED

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

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

REPORT No. 9-10

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

MISSION LOG REPORT
REPORT NO. 9

22 July 1945.

MISSION: Napalm SARANGANI AREA.

FLIGHT COMPOSITION: Segal, Colbert, Bradley, Breckenridge, Stith, Kramer, Watts, Eastman, Major Rogers.

TIME: TFO:1250. ATA:1550.

WEATHER: 3000 foot ceiling, about 1500 feet over land.

COMMENTS: Segal had hydraulic trouble and returned early. Stith had the flight. All eight napalms landed on the target, about 3000 yards south of Bald Dome Peak, and all exploded, causing large fires which continued to burn when the flight left the target. The flight strafed on the bomb run and on an extra strafing run.

REPORT NO. 10

22 July 1945.

MISSION: Napalm SARANGANI AREA.

FLIGHT COMPOSITION: Coles, Chelmon, Benson, Butts, Jackson, Wells, McDonald, Massey.

TIME: TFO:0645. ATA:1245.

WEATHER: Ceiling about 800 feet over land at the target, 1000 ft. over water.

COMMENTS: Benson and Butts landed at Malabang to refuel.

The target, indicated by the fighter director, was a wooded ravine about 3 miles South and slightly East of Bald Dome Peak.

Six napalms fell and exploded on the target; a seventh dropped near the Clinon River about 3000 yards West of the River. This bomb released improperly. The eighth hung and was jettisoned in the clear in Sarangani Bay. It did not go off. Pilots made one strafing run. Many fires were set. The fighter director later told the flight that they had destroyed an ammunition dump.

PATRICK M. MC GRADY
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