

VMF-114

IGS
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Report # 32-45

JIC(17)

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Confidential RESTRICTED
Reclassify when appropriate

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. **32-45**

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) **Mortar positions on Urukthapel.** (b) Time Over Target(s) **1050-1100** (Zone) **King**

(c) Clouds Over Target **Ceiling and visibility unlimited.**

(d) Visibility of Target **Clear.** (e) Visibility **Unlimited**

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type **15° glide.** Bomb Sight Used **None**

Bombs Dropped per Run **1** Spacing _____ Altitude of Bomb Release **25'**

(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 Mortars on Urukthapel Is.		4 VMP 114	4 Napalm fire bombs (belly tanks)	0	Serious
2 (TX 44.8-67.0) Air target and Gunnery Map, Palau Islands).		4 VMP 121	4 Napalm fire bombs (belly tanks)	0	Serious
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.)

VMP 114: 1 dud later ignited by strafing; 3 good fires.

VMP 121: All four bombs set good fires.

All eight bombs in target area, reported mortar positions in the vicinity of TX 44.8-67.0, Urukthapel Island.

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

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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

Major Robert TUCKER led four aircraft of VMF 114 and four from VMF 121 in a Napalm fire bombing of enemy mortar positions, Urukthapel Island. The mortars had been reported shelling our patrolling LCI's. Taking off at 1030 King, 16 April 1945, the fighters joined up over Peleliu Field at 1500 feet and proceeded in two four-plane flights to the vicinity of the target. VMF 114's pilots made the first bombing runs which were in column from west to east. All bombs were dropped from a shallow glide at 25 feet in the target area, the aiming point being at TX 44.8-67.0. One bomb was a dud but was ignited later by strafing. All eight bombs produced good fires and the entire area was well burned. Immediately upon the completion of their runs, the fighters formed a lullbery circle and strafed the target area with unobserved results. Retirement was made to east and south and all planes landed safely at Peleliu by 1140. It is considered that serious damage was inflicted on the enemy gun positions.

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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:

APPROVED BY:

S. B. HIBBARD, 1st Lt., ACIO.

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

M. E. W. OELRICH, Major, (C.O.)

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

17Apr45

DATE

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