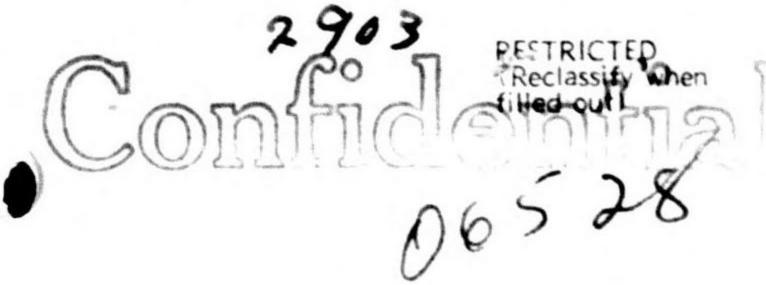
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OPNAV-16-223 Form ACA-1 Sheet 1 of 5		AIRCRAFT ACTION REP	ORT PESTRICTED Reclassity
I. GENERAL			0652
(a) Unit Reporting	VMF-114	(b) Based on or at Peleliu	(c) Report No. 16-45

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT. TYPE SQUADRON TAKING OFF (c) (d) ATTACKING TARGET (f) (f) (g) TOWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT. SQUADRON TAKING ENGAGING ATTACKING TARGET (f) (g)	Mission	Urnkth	Bobming apel Is	land. P	alau Is	lands			(f) Time of	Return 154	40 King
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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT



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VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only). (e)

EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE,

(Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed) WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit) CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C,
TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE (b) SQUADRON TYPE OWN A/C Minor Windshield-(Major Meyer (VMF 121). a glancing blow. matte fire from hill top. 10

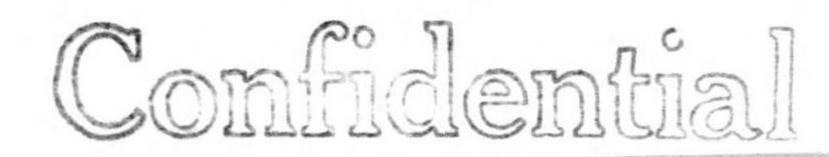
)	(b) UADRON	NEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed (c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	CONDITION OR STATUS
-				
			•	
-				
-				

			(d)	(e)	A FOR PLAN	(() TOTAL AMMU	VITION EXPEN	NDED	NO OF PLANE
TYPE A/C	MILES OUT	MILES RETURN	AV. HOURS	LOADED	AV. FUEL CONSUMED	.30	.50	20MM	MM	RETURNING
N/C		-		744	07		10390			28
FG-1	20	20	1.2	033						

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Che	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
CALIBER				
EAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over			-	
EDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm		X		
IGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm		Y		

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

SPEED, CLIMB, at various altitudes TURNS DIVES CEILINGS RANGE PROTECTION ARMAMENT



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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT



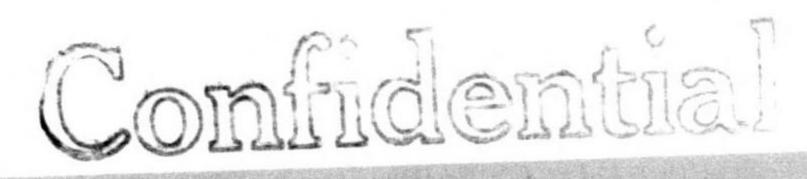
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REPORT No. 16-45

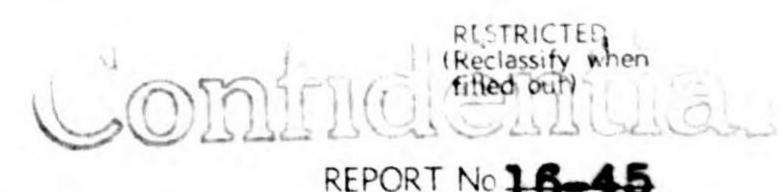
			O -6000 PENTHS OF COVER	180	00'10 miles.
Visibility of Target	Clear HAZY	. PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY	CLOUDS, ETC.)		
Bombing Tactics: Type	Gli	Spacing	Bomb Sight Use Altitude o	100°-2 of Bomb Rele	50 Type bove hill
Bombs Dropped per Rui Number of Enemy Air			Probably Destro, ed_		_ Dalifaged
(h) AIMING POINT	(i)	(i) NO A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED EACH AIMING POINT	NO HITS On A ming Point	DAMAGE (None of his serious destroyed or sink)
AA positions and coastal		VMF-114 (4) VMF-121 (4)	Covered entire a	rea with	, 50 cal. fir
gun batteries. Lighthouse	200 -3-	7.6	16 x l x Napalm	13	Serious.
positions as above		VMF-121 (8)	Bomb		
Bivouac Area.	square.	VMF=114	3 x 1 x Napalm Bomb	3	Serious.

(O) RESULTS: For all hits claimed on ship targets and for land targets of special anterest, 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).





AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT



Major Meyer

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.)

Lt. Rash

ENGAGEMENT WITH ENEMY OWN AIRCRAFT

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

Method of Locating Target
Approach to Target
Altitudes, Speeds
Approach
Dive
Pull-Out
Dive Angle
Strafing
Retirement
Defensive Tactics

DEFENSE, ENEMY

Use of Jamming

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

This 28 plane strike took off from Peleliu at 1430 for the Urukthapel Island east coast and 155 m.m. shelling ceased at 1500. Lieutenant Sorlie (VMF-114) had hydraulic trouble and returned to base after jettisoning his Napalm bomb. This left the flight composition as follows:

VMF

114 Strafers	Lt. Reilly Lt. Wallace, Lt. Wallace,	 121 Strafers	Lt. Sledge Lt. Cooley Lt. Thomas
VMF 121 Napalm Bombers	Lt. Watson Lt. Bates Lt. Keller Lt. Buchman		Lt. Fornonzine Lt. Hoover Lt. Canan Lt. McVay
VMF 114 Napalm Bombers	Major Tucker Lt. Johnson Lt. Stone	Weber Heinley Greenfield Reed	Lt. Mosca Lt. Zabel Lt. Sullivan T. M. Lt. David

As soon as phosphorous shells were fired by the coast artillery (the signal for an attack) Major Meyer led four strafing planes in on the gun position area, followed by Lieutenant Rash's flight. At high speed and low level they made three runs on the Lighthouse area and covered the target positions effectively. Their runs were west to east and then reversing direction. Captain Weber led four bombers in S.W. to N.E. as soon as the strafers retired and moderate but inaccurate 20 m.m. fire from very near the lighthouse was observed. Their runs were in column from 1500 feet gliding into target with 10° flaps at 140 knots and releasing at 100 feet above the hilltop (which is 60 feet above sea level). One bomb was a dud as were two on the next run (Lieutenant Mosca's flight) but all three were detonated by strafing or by succeeding bombs hitting on this ridge. One bomb probably hit an ammunition storage dump near the coastal gun revetment to the eastward as intermittent blazes were observed. Major Tucker's three bombers hit the bivouac area to the south of the primary target, but no buildings or evidence of barracks could be seen in this thickly wooded area. Good hits in the area.

The final eight bombers led by Lieutenants Watson and Fornonzine ran the gun positions again and from 3500 feet approached south to north, scoring good hits on the ridge. Of a total of 19 Napalm bombs, 3 hit in the sea and the balance were in the designated areas.

Exact evaluation of the condition of the coastal guns and the medium AA guns will have to await photographs.

Major Meyer was hit a glancing blow in the windshield probably by 7.7 fire. No other planes were hit.

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT



REPORT No. 16-45

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

MERGENCY 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:

WEIGHTENBERG, 18t LINKANDACTO

BANATURE STOUT, Major, (GANKARD DUTY 13 Feb 1945



