

VMB-44B

150

(11)

Report # 73

II C (11)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No 73.

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) See narrative for positions --
Malus to Leneric; Kant to Koka (b) Time Over Target(s) 1400-1445 (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 3/10 Cumulus at 2,000' to 6,000'
(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 Low Level Bomb Sight Used None
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run All Spacing See Narrative Altitude of Bomb Release 350'
(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 (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 <u>Malus to Leneric</u>		<u>2-PBV-1</u> <u>7AB-443</u>	<u>6x100 White Phos.</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>See Narrative</u>
2 <u>Kant to Koka</u>		<u>2-PBV-1</u> <u>7AB-443</u>	<u>6x100 White Phos.</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>See Narrative</u>
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)

(p) Were Photographs Taken? None 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

<u>CALL</u>	<u>PILOT</u>	<u>T.O.</u>	<u>T.O.T.</u>	<u>PARADE</u>
279B21	Guillotte	1315	1400-1448	1529
280B21	Schreier	1315	1400-1448	1529
281B21	Gorman	1316	1400-1448	1530
282B21	Wilson	1316	1400-1448	1530

ENEMY AIRCRAFT

- Method of Locating, Distance
- Disposition
- Altitudes
- Speeds
- Approach Tactics
- Use of Cover, Deception
- Angles of Attack
- Distance of Opening Fire
- Defensive Tactics

In the hopes of finding an incautious Jap or two, a program of strafing runs along the coasts of New Ireland was initiated.

Lt. Colonel Guillotte and Lt. Schreier took the south coast from Kant Bay to Kaka Plantation, taking off at 1315 to fly a course of 165° Mag. to N.E. New Hanover and hence along the island's coast and the south shore of the Rabien Peninsula to the initial point.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Own Weaknesses
- Enemy Weaknesses
- Offensive Tactics, Own
- Defensive Tactics, Own
- Flexible Gunnery, Own
- Escort Tactics
- Fighter Direction
- Use of Radar
- Night Fighting
- Recognition, Aircraft

Cutting in over the southern target at 1400, Lt. Colonel Guillotte's element searched and strafed the trails, gardens, and huts until 1448. No Hips; so hence back to base on 324° Mag., for a landing at 1529.

Captain Gorman and Lt. Wilson left the base at the same time to take a course of 126° Mag. and arrived 5 miles off their initial point, Balus Plantation, at 1358. The two planes wove back and forth down the coast, strafing intermittently as possible targets flashed by in their tree-top runs. No signs of life except for a few futile rounds from a well-hidden machine gunner at Mongai Bay. Cape Lenoris was the southern limit and the flight repeated its irregular pattern back to the initial point and pulled out to sea at 1446. An easy flight on 302° Mag. brought the pair in at 1529.

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

Owing to a bomb shortage, an experiment with the 100 lb. Mk. 47-A1 white phosphorus bomb was tried, hoping that their incendiary qualities would start fires among the huts. Only a third ignited however, for the impact was seldom sufficient to rupture the cases. These bombs contained no detonators or bursting charges and consequently have no incendiary value when dropped at low altitude and at speeds of 180 knots or less. *NO FUSES?*

The reports of these flights confirm the previous observation that there is very little enemy activity in these areas during the daylight hours.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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Captain, USMC.,
ACIO.

D. M. GUILLOTTE,
Lt. Colonel, USMC.,
Commanding VHB-443.

OPERATIONAL

- Navigation
- Homing
- Rendezvous
- Recognition, Ships
- Communications
- Flight Operations
- Search and Tracking
- Base Operations
- Maintenance