

VMB-611

152
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Report # 91

LIC (12)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB 611 (b) Based on or at Moret Field, Zamboanga, P.I. (c) Report No. 91
 (d) Take off: Date 2 May 1945 Time (LZT) Varied (Zone); Lat. 6° 55' N Long 122° 04' E
 (e) Mission Medium Altitude Bombing - Del Monte Area (f) Time of Return Varied (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) | | |
| FBJ | VMB 611 | 6 | None | 6 | 3x1000 GP 8x5" Rockets | M 114 4-6 sec. delay |

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

| TYPE | SQUADRON | NUMBER | BASE | TYPE | SQUADRON | NUMBER | BASE |
|-------------|----------|--------|------|------|----------|--------|------|
| None | | | | | | | |

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 |
|-------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| None | | | (ZONE) | | | |
| | | | (ZONE) | | | |
| | | | (ZONE) | | | |

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____
 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 | | |
| None | | | | | | |
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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 PDJ | VSB 611 | Enemy Anti-Aircraft Fire. Type unknown. | Not ascertainable. | Complete loss. Bureau No. 35200 |
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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 |
|-----------|-----------------|---|------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. | VSB 611 | MASON, Robert B., 1st Lt., USMCR, (025863) | Result of crash. | Killed. |
| 1. | VSB 611 | FRANK, Paul A., 1st Lt., USMCR, (026638) | Result of crash. | Killed. |
| 1. | VSB 611 | SEVIDJON, Ernest L., Tech- nical Sergeant, USMCR (518360) | Result of crash. | Killed. |
| 1. | VSB 611 | JOHNSON, Harold G., Staff Sergeant, USMCR, (493338) | Result of crash. | Killed. |
| 1. | VSB 611 | YANULVICUS, Ediberto, Staff Sergeant, USMCR, (490691) | Result of crash. | Killed. |

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 | |
| PDJ | 180 | 180 | 3.6 | 974 | 800 | x | 775 | x | x | 5 |

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 | | | | |
| LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm | | | | Probable |

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

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

SPEED
 CLIMB
 TURNS
 DIVES
 CEILINGS
 RANGE
 PROTECTION
 ARMAMENT

No enemy a/c encountered.

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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) |
|----------------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
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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 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------|----------------------------|
| (CONTINUED FROM PRECEDING PAGE) | | | | |
| 1. | VSB 611 | MC ENIGHE, Richard W., Sergeant, USMC, (467193) | Result of crash. | Killed. |
| 1. | VSB 611 | BURNEY, Harlan L., Ser- geant, USMC, (516932) | Result of crash. | Killed. |
| 1. | VSB 611 | BYRNE, Edward J., Sergeant, USMC, (467926) | Result of crash. | Killed. |
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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 | |
| (SEE PRECEDING PAGE) | | | | | | | | | | |
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IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

| CALIBER | NONE | MEAGER | MODERATE | INTENSE |
|---|----------------------|--------|----------|---------|
| HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over | (SEE PRECEDING PAGE) | | | |
| MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm | | | | |
| 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

(SEE PRECEDING PAGE)

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Del Monte A/D Area (b) Time Over Target(s) Varied (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target Cu Buildups, Base 4000' - 10000', .3 to .4 Cover
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Hazy (e) Visibility 10 miles
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Level Bomb Sight Used Mk 15 Mod 7
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run Varied Spacing Varied Altitude of Bomb Release 7000' - 9000'
(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 HIT On Aiming Point | (n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed, or sunk) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 <u>Underground inst-</u> | • | <u>6</u> <u>VMS 611</u> | <u>15x1000 GP (known)</u> | <u>Unobs.</u> | <u>Unobserved</u> |
| 2 <u>allations, ware-</u> | | | <u>32x5" Rockets (known)</u> | | |
| 3 <u>houses and supp-</u> | | | <u>775 rds., 50 cal. (known)</u> | | |
| 4 <u>ly dumps.</u> | | | | | |
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(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? Yes 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
- Defense Tactics and Their Effectiveness

ENEMY AIRCRAFT

- Method of Locating, Distance
- Disposition
- Altitudes
- Speeds
- Approach Tactics
- Use of Cover, Deception
- Angles of Attack
- Defense Tactics and Their Effectiveness

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

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 Fighting 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

| A/C NO. | PILOT | TO | TOT | TOR |
|-----------------------------|-----------|------|------|------|
| CALL: SEAHORSE WHITE | | | | |
| MB-155 | Davis, R. | 1520 | 1500 | 1700 |
| MB-9 | Davis, S. | " | " | " |

This two plane section hit the underground installations, warehouses and supply dumps just off the end of the strip. The target area was burned over and indistinct and partially obscured. Eight rockets and three one thousand pounders hit in the target area. The three one thousand pounders of the other ship were released over a secondary target three miles to the west of the main target. One strafing run of the area was made and photos were taken. Individual fires in the area were observed as the planes began their return to the base.

| A/C NO. | PILOT | TO | TOT | TOR |
|----------------------------|----------|------|------|------|
| CALL: SEAHORSE BLUE | | | | |
| MB-0 | Griffith | 1400 | 1530 | 1700 |
| MB-3 | Samuels | " | " | " |

Upon arriving at the target area, this two plane section made their bombing runs from 9000'. The target, underground installations, warehouses and supply dumps at the end of the strip, was hit with six one thousand pounders. Rocket runs were then made, firing a total of sixteen rockets. The area was left burning and obscured by clouds and smoke. One strafing run was made on a grove of trees on the eastern side of the hill.

| A/C NO. | PILOT | TO | TOT | TOR |
|---------------------------|---------|------|------|------|
| CALL: SEAHORSE RED | | | | |
| MB-8 | Mason | 1445 | 1545 | - |
| MB-2 | Bennett | " | " | 1815 |

This two plane section flew to the Del Monte area, where their target was an underground storage in a clump of trees, just off the south end of Diklan #1. The two planes made individual runs over the target. S/H Red "2" made two bombing runs, dropping one bomb on the first run and two on the next. Hit s were scored in one corner of the clump of trees by two of the bombs and the other bomb hit was about 100 yards long. A rocket and strafing run was made with eight rockets hitting in the area. The target was surrounded by a grass field which was burning when the planes arrived. S/H Red "2" started for the rendezvous point, calling S/H Red "3" and telling him that they were headed for the point. S/H Red "3" replied that he was going to make one more run before joining at the rendezvous. On the way S/H Red "2" noticed oil coming from both engines, and called the other plane to notify him that they were returning to the base immediately. No answer was received to this or subsequent calls. S/H Red "2" then returned to the base without further incident nor contact with S/H Red "3". No information had been received of this plane up until the wreckage was sighted on subsequent flights.

A.S. BODRERO
1st. Lt.-USMC
Squadron Int. Officer

R.R. DAVIS
Major-USMC
Acting