

UMB-611

151  
⑫

Report # 78

IC(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, PI. (c) Report No. 78  
 (d) Take off: Date 22 April 1945 Time (LZT) Varied (Zone); Lat. 6° 55' N Long 122° 04' E  
 (e) Mission Kabacan Road Sweeps (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)		
<b>FBJ</b>	<b>VMB 611</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8x5" Rockets</b>	
<b>FBJ</b>	<b>VMB 611</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8x5" Rockets</b>	
					<b>8x250 GP</b>	<b>M 112 4-5 sec. delay</b>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<b>None</b>							

## 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
<b>None</b>						
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Did Any Part of \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 (YES OR NO)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance \_\_\_\_\_  
 (j) of Sun or Moon \_\_\_\_\_ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON, DAY, OVERCAST, ETC.) (k) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_ (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		
<b>None</b>						

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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 <b>FBJ</b>	<b>VMB 611</b>	<b>Rockets Burst</b>	<b>Bombardier's Compartment</b>	<b>Small holes- slight damage</b>
2			<b>Landing light-leading</b>	<b>Small holes- slight</b>
3			<b>edge of starboard wing</b>	
4			<b>between nacelle and</b>	
5			<b>fuselage.</b>	
6 <b>FBJ</b>	<b>VMB 611</b>	<b>Possible enemy 12.7</b>	<b>In below and 3' behind</b>	<b>Small holes- slight damage</b>
7		<b>AA shell</b>	<b>starboard waist gun and</b>	
8			<b>came out above port waist</b>	
9			<b>gun window.</b>	
10 <b>FBJ</b>	<b>VMB 611</b>	<b>Possible enemy 12.7</b>	<b>7th ailerons.</b>	<b>Punctured - repairable</b>
11		<b>AA shell</b>	<b>Both landing lights.</b>	<b>Broken out- Unsalvageable</b>
12			<b>Stbd. elevator</b>	<b>Ripped- Damage slight</b>
13			<b>Stbd. Horiz. Stabilizer</b>	<b>Small hole- repairable</b>
14			<b>Left wing tip</b>	<b>Warped - 50% salvage</b>
			<b>Bomb. Comp. Plexiglass</b>	<b>5 holes in Plex. Nose</b>

## 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
	<b>None</b>			

## 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	
<b>FBJ</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>974</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>25000</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>11</b>

## 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				<b>X</b>

## 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 a/c encountered.**

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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) **Roads N. and E. of Habacan** (b) Time Over Target(s) **Varied** (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target **Scat. CU, Base 3000' - 5000', 3 Cover**  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target **Clear** (e) Visibility **Unlimited 'til darkness**  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Level** Bomb Sight Used **Mk 8 Gunner's Sight**  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run **Varied** Spacing **Varied** Altitude of Bomb Release **Min. - 5000'**  
(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 <b>Road Patrol on</b>	-	<b>10 VMB 611</b>	<b>6x250 GP</b>	<b>Unobs.</b>	<b>Unobserved</b>
2 <b>Highways N. and</b>			<b>5x5" Rockets</b>		
3 <b>E. of Habacan.</b>			<b>20000 rds. .50 cal.</b>		
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.)

**Unobserved**

(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
- Defensive 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

**CALL: SEAHORSE RED**

A/C NO.	PILOT	TO	TOE	TCR
MB-3	Peterson	0645	0820	1045
MB-4	Davis, S.	"	"	"

Seahorse Red "4" proceeded east to Kabacan and then turned north to patrol the Sayre Highway between Kabacan and Del Monte. One house and one truck were destroyed by rocket bursts. After strafing buildings along the road, Seahorse Red "4" returned to the base. Seahorse Red "3" flew east to Kabacan and then began to patrol the road that runs southeast from Kabacan to Digos. This plane definitely destroyed one truck and one house, and probably destroyed two more trucks. All eight of its rockets were used to good advantage. No bombs were carried by either plane.

**CALL: SEAHORSE WHITE**

MB-7	Samuels	0830	0940	1210
MB-0	Schmillen	"	"	"

Seahorse White "7" proceeded east to Kabacan and thence north towards Malaybalay. Branching off to the west ten miles south of Valencia, this plane found 15-20 houses. These were strafed and a rocket was fired into a two-story building. Six other houses were shot up. Coming back to the highway, "7" continued on to Valencia and strafed the A/D. Returning south to Kabacan, one truck was seen, but it could not be fired upon due to terrain and trees. Seahorse White "0" flew to Kabacan and began to patrol the highway between Kabacan and Davao. Two trucks, two touring cars, and one bus, all new, were seen just outside of Guianga. They were strafed and were still to be seen there upon leaving. Guianga can be identified by a large Red Cross on a building in the center of town. Numerous personnel were seen in this area. "0" returned to the base via Kabacan. Rocket and strafing coverage was good.

**CALL: SEAHORSE BLUE**

MB-8	Chapman	1030	1130	1430
MB-14	Bennett	"	"	"

This two plane section proceeded to Kabacan where they separated, one going north to Cagayan, the other going to Digos. The latter ship after reaching Digos turned south to Padada where it hit gun positions on the coast with rockets. An unidentified plane in a revetment was still smoking. Dugout and gun positions just off the Padada strip were put under a rocket attack. Towns along the coastal road were also strafed. Upon reaching Manoboan the a/c made ten strafing runs on barracks and buildings. In the meantime, the other a/c strafed unrestricted towns north of Kabacan. Four rockets were fired causing a house at Del Monte to break out in flames. Wrecked cars and trucks were also observed.

**CALL: SEAHORSE GREEN**

MB-15	Maulsby	1330	1420	1730
MB-1	Mason	"	"	"

Both planes flew to Kabacan in section. Here they split up, one going north, the other heading east. The a/c going towards Del Monte sighted a camouflaged vehicle 20 miles north of Kabacan, but because of the hightrees and terrain it could not get to target. Thirty miles north, a road branched west off the main highway. This road led to a camouflaged garage which was strafed and partially destroyed by two rockets. Light machine-gun and small arms fire were received from this

(CONTINUED)

