

VMF 155

94
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Report # 43

HC(21)

5

CONFIDENTIAL AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMF-155 (b) Based on or at Majuro Atoll (c) Report No. 143
 (d) Take off: Date 28 June 1945 Time (LZT) 0830 H (Zone); Lat. 07-05-35N Long. 171-22-40E
 (e) Mission Fire Bomb Ala, Chirubon, Inoua, and Arber Islands, Mille Atoll. (f) Time of Return 1035 H (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)		
<u>B-24-D</u>	<u>VMF-155</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>- -</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1x1400 High Incendiary Clusters.</u>	<u>Nose: One Instantaneous Cron. Midships: None. Tail: Two Instantaneous Cron. Tail: Instantaneous.</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>B-24</u>	<u>VM-5</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Majuro Atoll (Dumbo)</u>				
<u>B-24</u>	<u>VMF-13</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Majuro Atoll (Photo)</u>				

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
<u>None</u>			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			

(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		
<u>None</u>						

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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		None		
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

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
		None		

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	
<u>P4U-13</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>237</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>4</u>

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	X			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	X			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	X			

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

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

No opportunity to compare.

URNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

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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) Alu, Chirubon, Inawa, and Arbar Islands, Kille Atoll. (b) Time Over Target(s) 0900 H (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target 4/10 - base 2000' tops 6000'
(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 Level Bomb Sight Used Gun sight
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing Salvo Altitude of Bomb Release 50'
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed ----- Probably Destroyed ----- Damaged -----

(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 Alu Island	3200'	2 VMF-155	2x1400' Napalm 4x100' Incendiary Clusters.	2	Fires started.
2				4	
3 Arbar Island	100 Rounds	1 VMF-155			
4 Arbar Island	200'	1 VMF-155	2x100' Incendiary Clusters.	2	Destroyed but and started fire.
5 Inawa Island	1400'	1 VMF-155	1x1400' Napalm	1	Destroyed but and started fire.
6 Inawa Island	200'	1 VMF-155	2x100' Incendiary Clusters.	2	Started fires.
7 Chirubon Island	1400'	1 VMF-155	1x1400' Napalm	1	Started fires.
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).

All four Napalms and eight incendiaries landed on the target islands and started fires. Two hits were definitely destroyed.

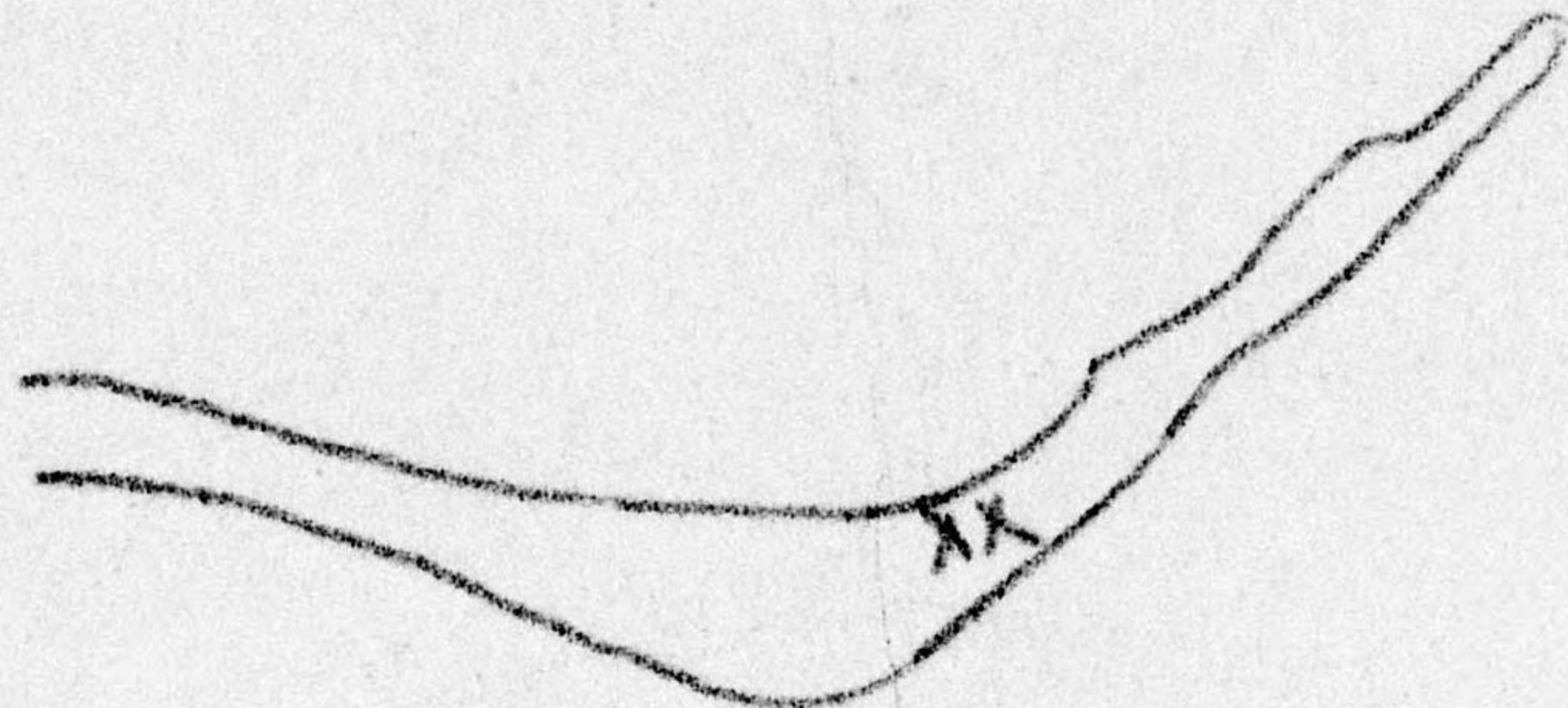
(p) Were Photographs Taken? No. Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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ALU ISLAND
MILLE ATOLL



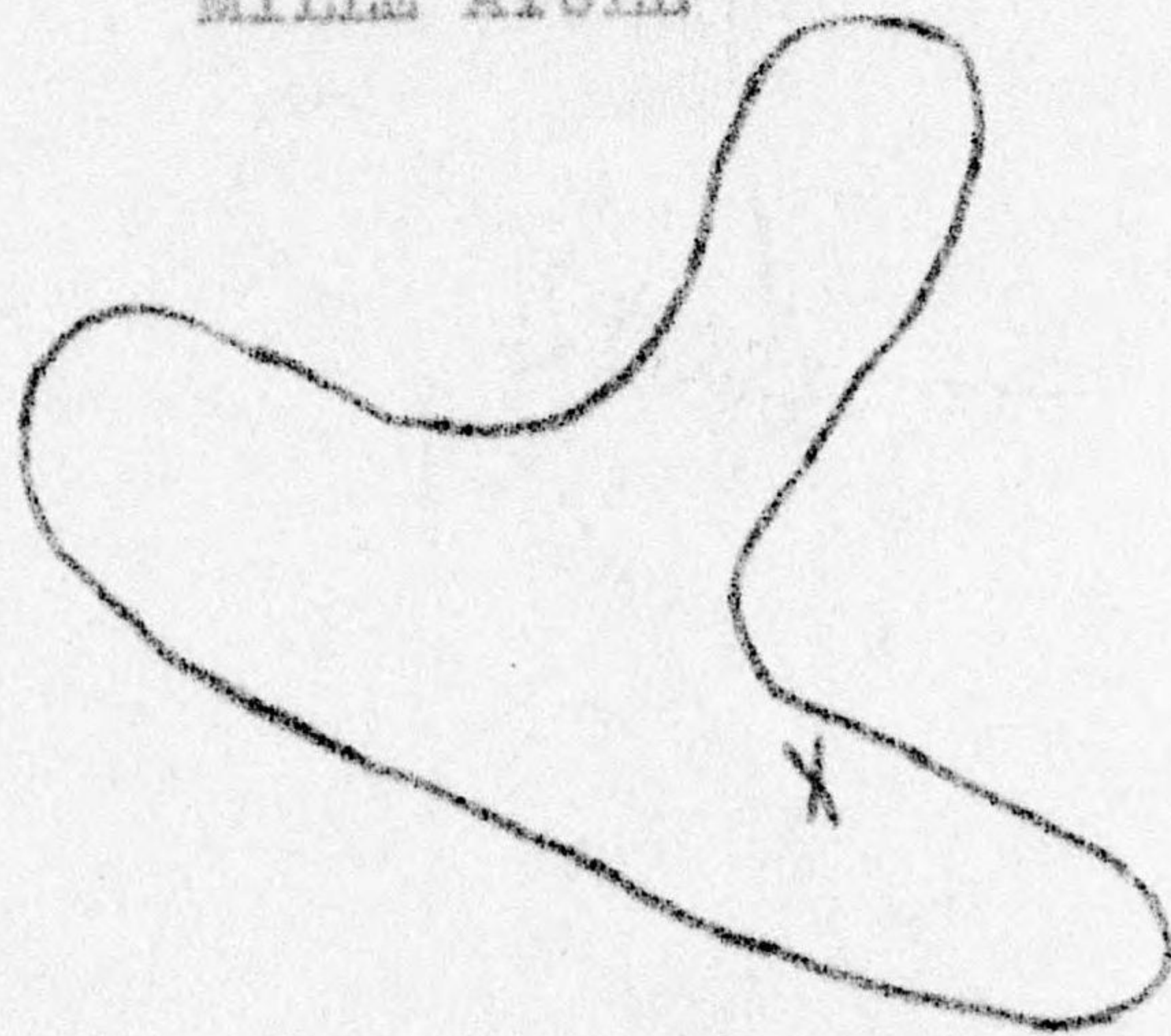
ARBAR ISLAND
MILLE ATOLL



INEWA ISLAND
MILLE ATOLL



CHIRUBON ISLAND
MILLE ATOLL



X = BOMB HITS

→ DIRECTION OF RUNS.

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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

Four Corsair type A/C from VMF-155 took off from Majuro Atoll at 0830 H, 28 June 1945, loaded with one 1400# Napalm bomb and two 100# incendiary clusters on each plane for the purpose of striking Alu, Chirubon, Inewa, and Arber Islands, Mille Atoll.

The four A/C from VMF-155 were over the target at 0900 H. The first drop was at 0910 H of 1 A/C salvo on Alu Island. The second drop by 1 A/C salvo was made at 0915 H on Alu Island. As a result of the bomb drops, fires were observed. The drop on Alu was made from 50 feet on a run from northeast to southwest from ocean to ocean.

The second division made drops on the following Islands: two 100# incendiary clusters on Arber Island, destroying one grass hut; one 1400# Napalm and two 100# incendiary clusters on Inewa Island, destroying one grass hut and starting fires; one 1400# Napalm on Chirubon Island, starting a fire.

A total of 300 rounds of 50 cal. ammunition was expended on the four islands.

The following friendly forces were observed:
DE - Bolshevik at 0930 H, 5 miles south of Enajet Island, Mille.
LCI - Penrod at 0930 H, 5 miles south of Enajet Island, Mille.

All four A/C landed at Majuro without incident at 1035 H.

The four pilots from this squadron participating in the strike were:

CARRILL, W.H.	Major	USMC
ANDERSON, E.A.	1stLt.	USMC
FOUST, H.L.	1stLt.	USMC
SVABODA, F.R.	1stLt.	USMC

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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

All material and equipment functioned satisfactorily.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Cdr B. Aronow

1st Lt. USMC

W. M. Gargill

Major USMC

28 June 1945

SIGNATURE
Cdr B. ARONOW

RANK AND DUTY
Intell Off.

SIGNATURE
W. M. GARGILL

RANK AND DUTY
Commanding Officer

DATE

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