

VME 155

94
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Report #144

IC(21)

6

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

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(a) Unit Reporting VP-155 (b) Based on or at Injuro Atoll (c) Report No. 144
 (d) Take off: Date 23 June 1945 Time (LZT) 1135 H (Zone); Lat. 07-05-35N Long. 171-22-40E
 (e) Mission Base Ain, Gifu, Isumori, and Nanakko Islands, Mille Atoll. (f) Time of Return 1325 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>DA-10</u>	<u>VP-155</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1x1000 Napalm 2x1000 Incendiary Clusters.</u>	<u>Nose: One Instantaneous Gren. Midships: None. Tail: Two Instantaneous Gren. Tail: Instantaneous.</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>DA-10</u>	<u>VP-5</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Injuro Atoll (Dumbo)</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>			(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 _____ (k) Visibility _____ (MILES)
 (j) of Sun or Moon _____ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON, DAY, OVERCAST, ETC.)

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	
441-10	58	58	2	237	110	—	2300	—	—	4

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

TURNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

No opportunity to compare.

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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, Garu, Lukunor, and Naamakke Islands, Mille Atoll (b) Time Over Target(s) 1200 H (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 3/10 - 1000 Feet. (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 10 Miles (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Level Bomb Sight Used Gun sight (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 1 Spacing - - - - 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 Garu Island	1600'	1 VMF-155	1x1400# Napalm 2x100# Incendiary Clusters	1 2	Destroyed 1 hut and garden.
3 Naamakke Island	1600'	1 VMF-155	1x1400# Napalm 2x100# Incendiary Clusters.	1 2	Started fires and burned 2 huts.
5 Alu Island	1600'	1 VMF-155	1x1400# Napalm 2x100# Incendiary Clusters.	1 2	Destroyed 2 huts, started fires.
7 Lukunor Island	1600'	1 VMF-155	1x1400# Napalm 2x100# Incendiary Clusters.	1 2	Started fires.

(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.)

Five huts were destroyed and one garden damaged by fire bombs.

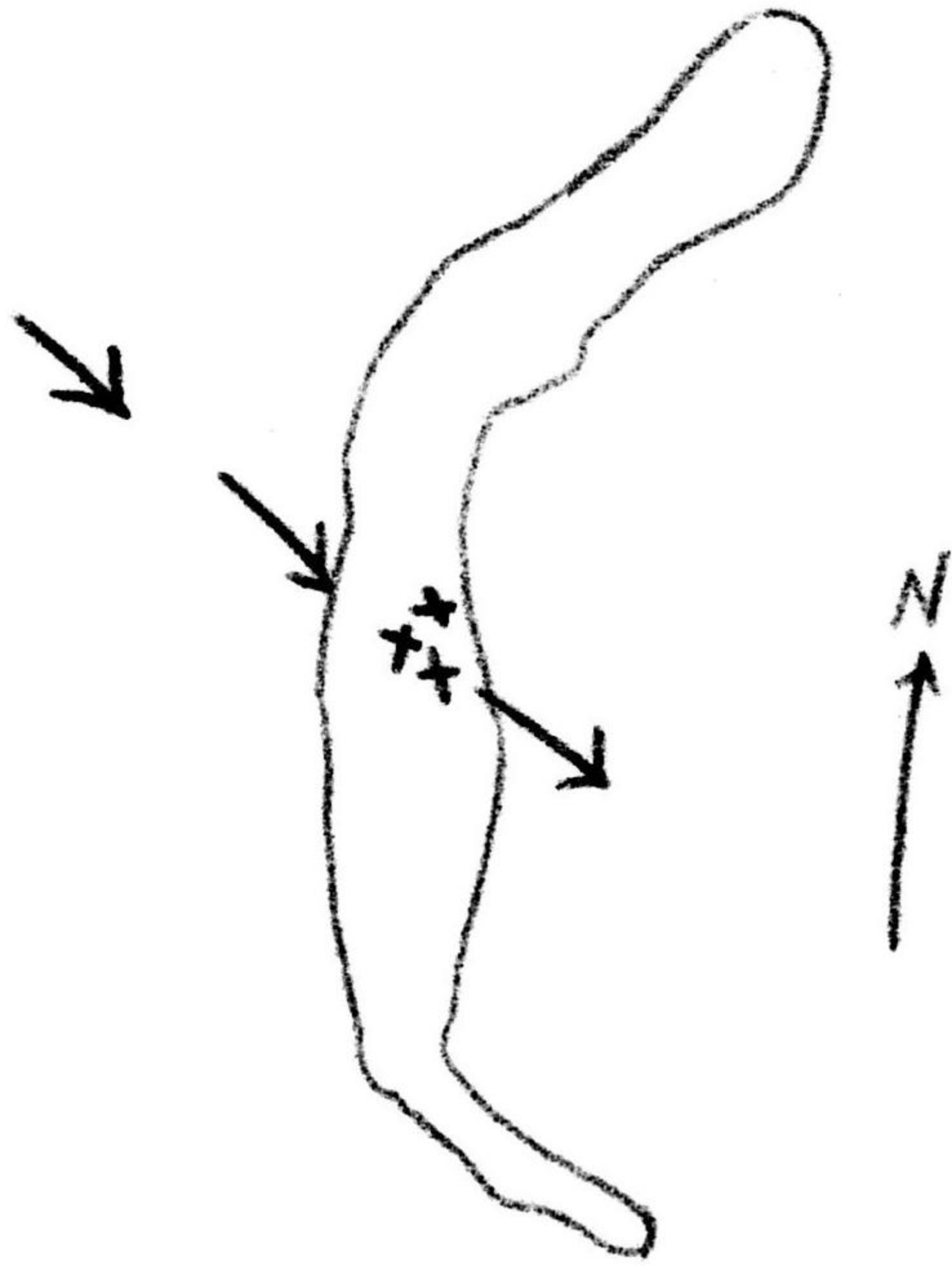
Newly constructed hut on Alu Island, oblong shaped, was strafed with 1200 rounds 50 cal. ammunition, but it did not burn as it was constructed of green material. It is believed that the hut was severely damaged.

All four islands were strafed, but no fires were started by the reason of the strafings.

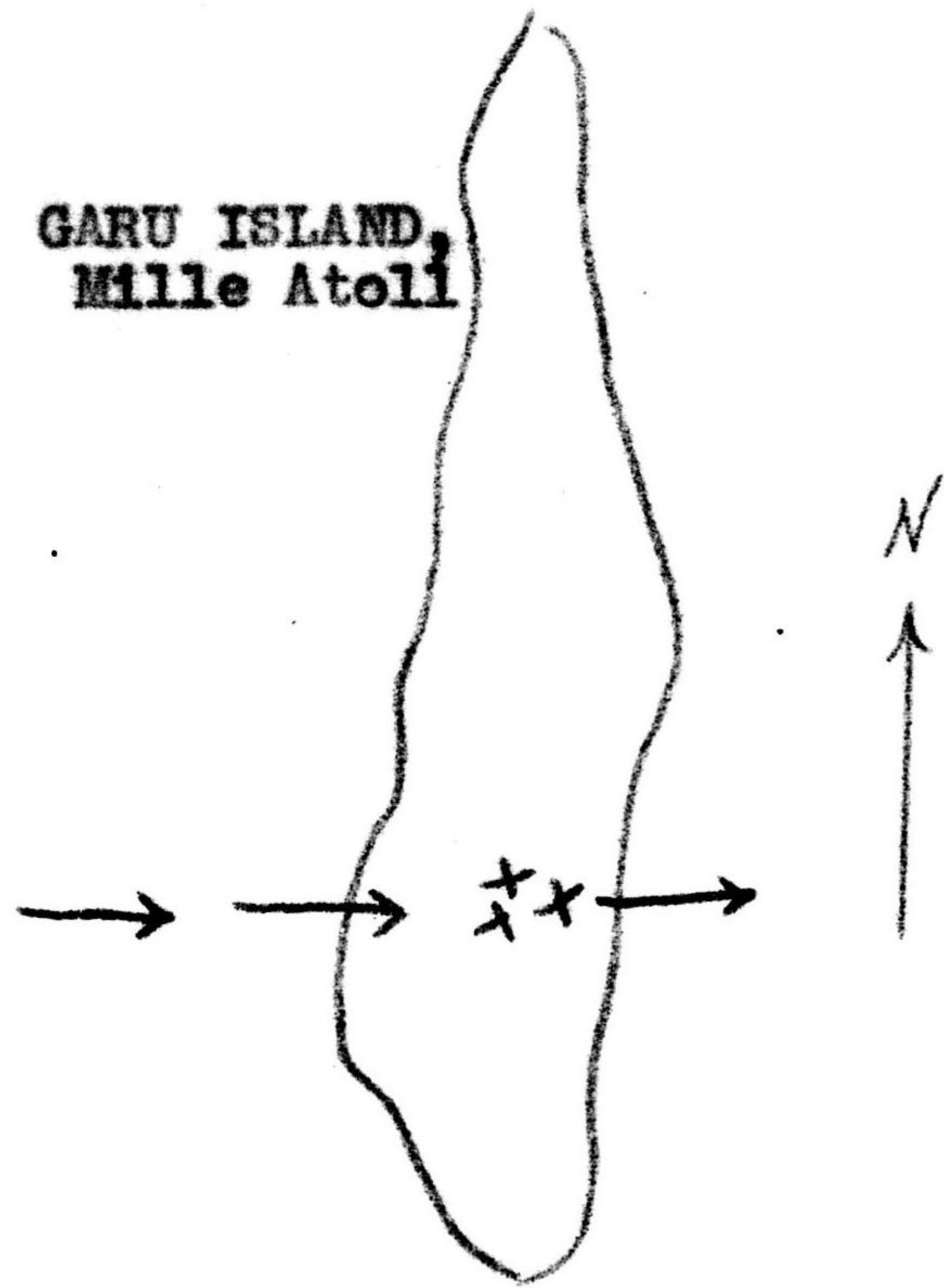
(p) Were Photographs Taken? No. Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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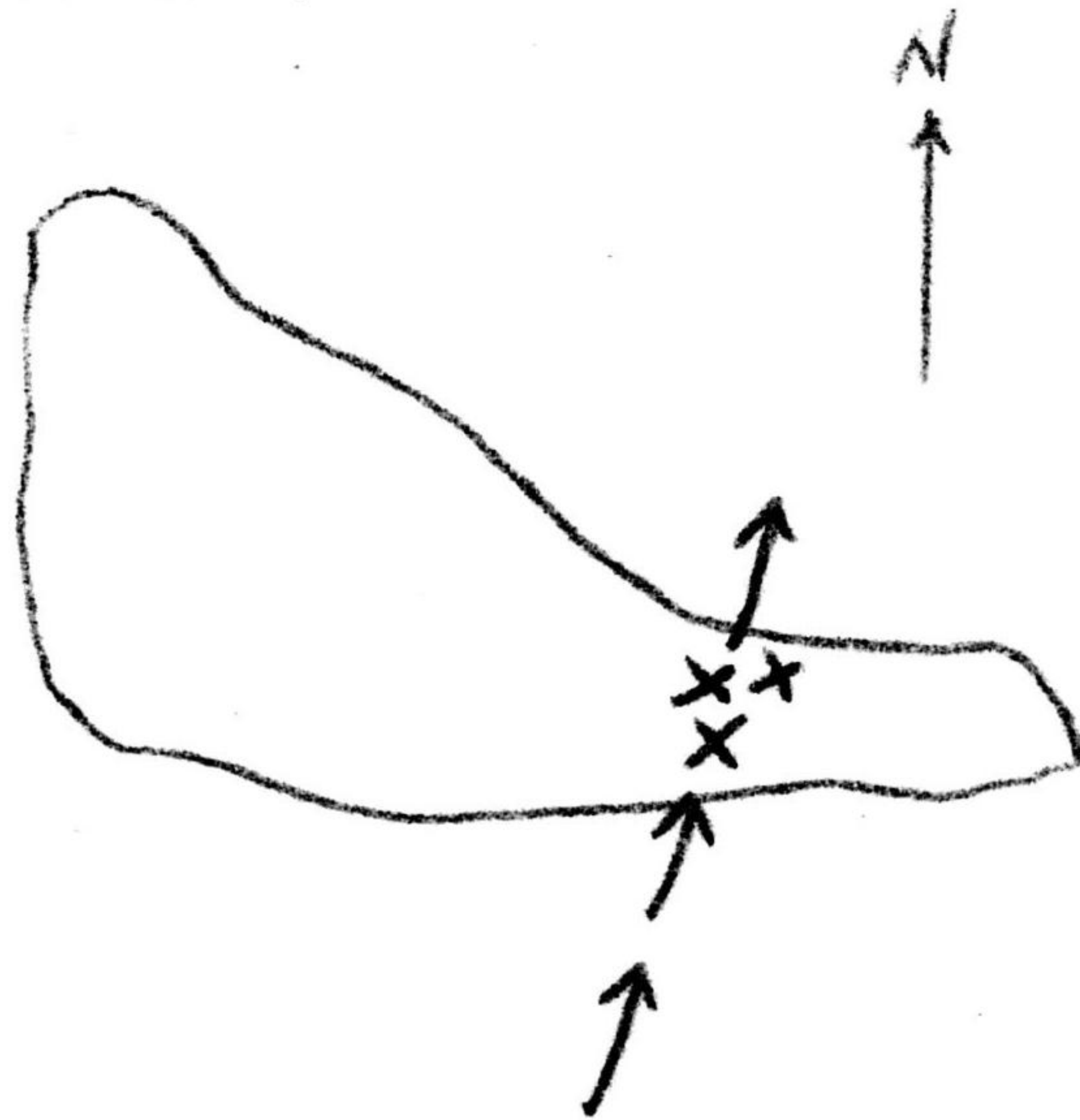
ALU ISLAND, Mille Atoll.



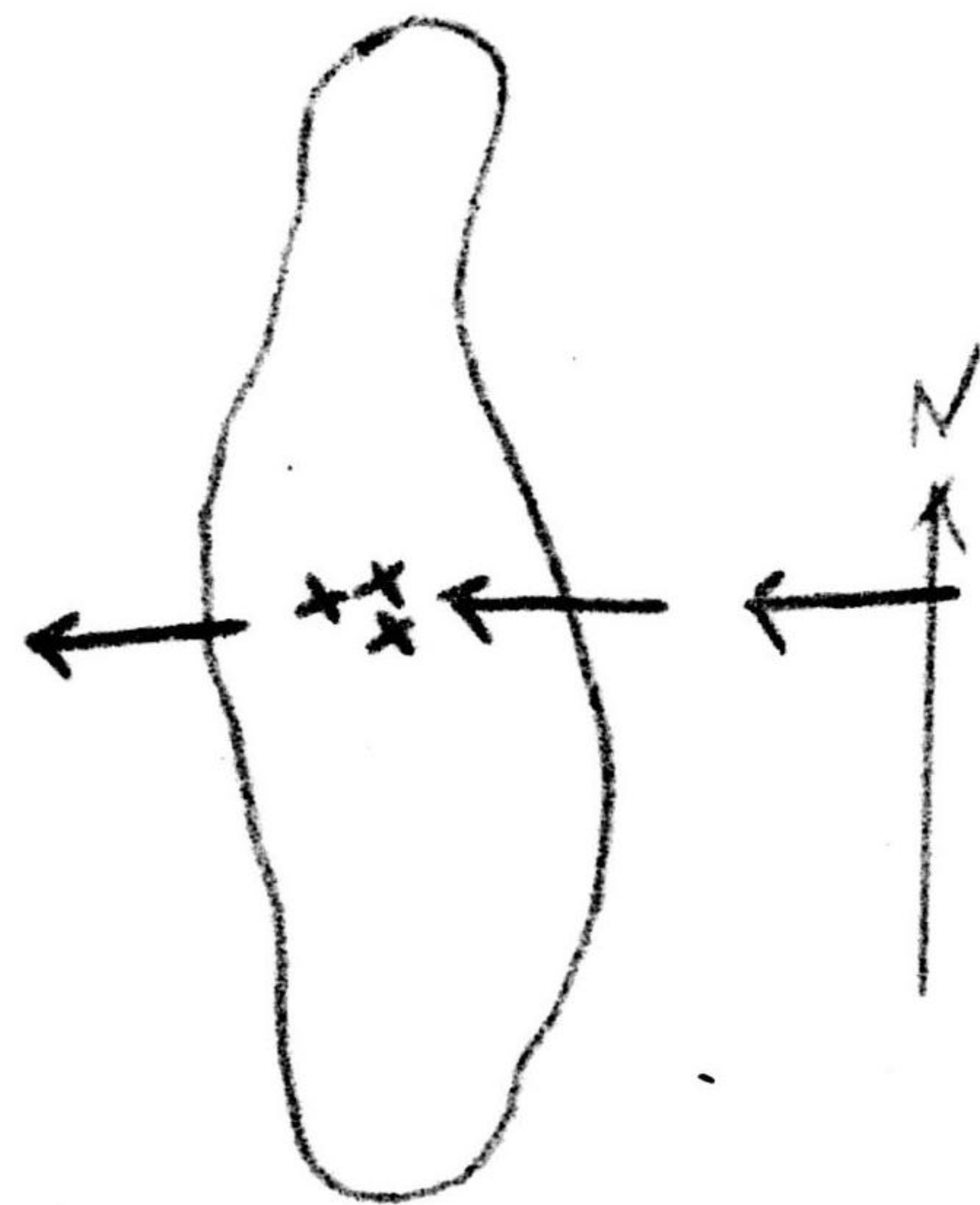
GARU ISLAND, Mille Atoll



LUKUNOR ISLAND



NAAMAKKE ISLANE, Mille Atoll



← Direction of runs
x Bomb hits.

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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 at 1135 H, 28 June 1945, from Majuro Atoll, each plane being loaded with one 1400# Napalm and two 100# incendiary clusters for the purpose of bombing Aiu, Garu, Lukunor, and Nannakke Islands, Mille Atoll.

The four A/C from VMF-155 arrived over target at 1200 H. One A/C attacked each island with fire bombs, to wit:

Garu Island - Three runs were made dropping one bomb each time from 50 feet. The Napalm destroyed one hut. Some damage was inflicted on a garden. Fires were started. The island was strafed with 150 rounds 50 cal. ammunition.

Nannakke Island - Three bombing runs were made dropping one bomb each time from 50 feet. The Napalm destroyed two huts. Strafing with 600 rounds 50 cal. on this island and a hut on the little island just west of Nannakke Island.

Aiu Island - Three bombing runs were made dropping one bomb on each run from 50 feet. The Napalm destroyed ~~one~~ ^{two} hut, and minor damage was done to three others by the incendiaries. A newly constructed large oblong hut on the lagoon side was strafed with 1200 rounds 50 cal ammunition.

Lukunor Island - Three bombing runs were made with one bomb dropped on each run from 50 feet. The bombs were dropped east of the middle of the island. No huts were seen, but some square-appearing dugouts were observed. The bombs started fires. The island was then strafed with 400 rounds 50 cal ammunition.

The DE Bolshevik was observed about a mile southeast of Lukunor Island, Mille.

The 4 A/C of VMF-155 returned to Majuro without incident, landing at 1325 H.

The pilots from this squadron participating in the strike:

DIFFENBACH, K.H.	Capt.	USMC
HENRICK, F.H.	1stLt.	USMC
ALHAUSER, C.S.	1stLt.	USMC
HARRISON, J.L.	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

Airframe; 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:

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1st Lt. USMC
BANK AND DUTY
Intell. Off.

W.M. Cargill
SIGNATURE **W.M. CARGILL**
Major USMC
BANK AND DUTY
Commanding Off. **28 June 1945**
DATE