

VMB-611

181
⑫

Report # 16

IC(12)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)
3951
09981

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VM-611 (b) Based on or at Enirua Island (c) Report No. 16
 (d) Take off: Date 14 February, 1945 Time (LZT) 0845 L (Zone); Lat. 1°36' S. Long. 150° E.
 (e) Mission Minimum altitude strafing attack, Pangalat Pt., New Ireland. (f) Time of Return 1115 (Zone)
No Lamernewi Pt., New Ireland.

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)		
FM-1B	VM611	4	None	4	50 cal only	None

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 _____ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 (YES OR NO)
 Time of Day and Brilliance _____ (k) Visibility _____ (MILES)
 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:			GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			
None						

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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) **18 mi strip of coastline from Patlangat to Lamernevi on the SW coast of N. I.** (b) Time Over Target(s) **0945-1015L** (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target **CAVU** (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target **clear** (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (e) Visibility **unlimited** (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type _____ Bomb Sight Used _____ (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run _____ Spacing _____ Altitude of Bomb Release _____ (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, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 Targets of Opportunity		4 VMB-611	16,800 rds .50 cal.	see "o"	
2					
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.)

Unobserved.

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

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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

CALL	PILOT	TTO	TOT	TOR
242B21	Maulsby	0845	0945 - 1015	1115
243B21	Good	0845	0945 - 1015	1115
244B21	Padgett	0845	0945 - 1015	1115
245B21	LeMasters	0845	0945 - 1015	1115

Maj Maulsby led the first strafing run this squadron has made over New Ireland. Four planes took off on this mission for which they were assigned targets of opportunity from Patlangat Plantation South along the coast of New Ireland to Point Lamernewi, a distance of eighteen miles (nautical). Immediately after take-off, PBJ 35164, pilot Lt LeMasters, returned to base as his landing gear would not retract. He took off again in the standby plane, PBJ 35172. The first three a/c went in over the area in column with three thousand feet interval between planes and as much stagger as the area would permit. Targets were few and far between. Most of the huts seen had already been bombed or burned flat, and there was no truck or other vehicle traffic along the unimproved road that lies in this sector. However all possible personnel areas were sprayed thoroughly with .50 caliber from the fixed and flexible guns. As the three planes were finishing their run, Lt. Le Masters arrived over the area and commenced his run as the other planes withdrew. No AA was encountered and nothing of value or interest was sighted. The planes returned to base and entered the traffic circle. While Maj Maulsby was in the traffic circle Ordnance Gunner SSgt. Judd began to unload his .38 caliber revolver. In attempting to force the cylinder, the piece was accidentally discharged and the bullet passed through the left thigh of Radioman Sgt. G. A. Deinst and creased his right upper thigh. Sgt Frank Dyer, Mechanic, immediately slit up SSgt Diest trousers and exposed the wound which he sprinkled with sulpha crystals. He also applied a tourniquet to the thigh and offered the radioman morphine which was declined. The wounded man was taken off the plane at the end of its landing run by an Acorn Seven ambulance and transferred to the hospital, where he is now well on the road to recovery.

A. S. BODRERO,
1stLt., USMC,
Intelligence Officer.

G. A. SAFLIS,
LtCol., USMC
Commanding Officer.

REPORT PREPARED BY: _____

APPROVED BY _____

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE