





# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 10

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Bomb Yap Airfield  
Large Sweeps. (FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK) (b) Time Over Target(s) 0945 'I' (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target Scattered cumulus clouds with 4000 ft. base and .1 cover.  
(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 Dive (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used Mark 8 (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 12 (NUMBER) Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release 2,000 (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	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO. HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
		(k) SQUADRON			
1 Yap Airfield	3500x200	12 FG-1A VMF-121	12 x 500 lb. G.P.	7	Serious
2 Targets of opportunity on		12 FG-1A VMF-121	2600 caliber 50		Unobserved
3 large sweeps.					
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).

**Two bombs hit just north of the center of the strip in the revetment area. No visible results.**

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(p) Were Photographs Taken? \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

**None available.**

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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

## NARRATIVE:

Major Nelson, leading a flight of twelve planes with 500 lb. C.P. bombs fused .1 nose -.025 tail, approached the target (Yap Airfield) from over the water to the south. The formation on heading of about 20° at 12,000 feet turned into the target lengthwise NE to SW of the strip peeled off in a 70° dive released at 2,000 feet at approximately 330 miles per hour. Recovery and rendezvous was made over the water approximately three miles west of the island at about 1500 feet. Seven confirmed hits were made on the strip, two were near misses in the revetment area north of the field, and three were unobserved. The field was left unservicable but no additional planes were destroyed.

On the barge sweep, Major Nelson circled the island in a counter-clockwise direction and Lt. Hill in a clockwise direction. Major Clay took a northeasterly course over the airfield taking him west of Yap Town and Southwest of Map Island. No servicable planes were observed. Circling Map Island, his wingman observed small craft just off the beach 248 (Yap map).

Major Clay turned the lead over to his wingman as he was the one who had observed the boats. They made an approach to the SE, passing to the left of the target and then made a right turn of approximately 180° in order to recover over the water. Major Clay's wingman, Lt. Fisher, looked back after completing his run and observed a large splash and immediately turned back and circled the spot but observed nothing but an oil slick.

Lt. Deen, who was the leader of the second section observed the planes throughout the strafing attack and definitely saw Major Clay's plane, #14323, hit very close to shore and explode. Lt. Deen then turned so as to pass directly over the spot but although he circled the spot he observed nothing but an oil slick. Lt. Deen saw no one bail out. Lt. Oden, Deen's wingman, observed the same.

The planes remained over the scene of the crash for five to eight minutes.

No AA was observed either during the bombing or strafing runs.

The weather was clear throughout with less than .1 cover over the target.

Eleven planes returned to Peleliu undamaged at 1140.

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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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:  
Captain, USMC  
Intelligence O.

Major, USMC  
Commanding

21 Nov 44.

SIGNATURE

W. W. GANWELL

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

W. J. MEYER

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

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