

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

## I. GENERAL

4 0755

(a) Unit Reporting VMF-251 (b) Based on or at SAWAR, PHILIPPINE IS. (c) Report No. 91  
 (d) Take off: Date 7 March, 1945 Time (LZT) 1. 0710 I (Zone); Lat. 11°2'N Long. 125°44'E  
 (e) Mission Bomb and strafe MALIBANG, MINDANAO (f) Time of Return 1. 1000 I  
2. 1535 I (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)		
1. <u>FW-19</u>	<u>VMF 251</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>1x1000 lb. GP</u>	<u>Inst.</u>
2. <u>"</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>8-10 sec. delay</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>None</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 \_\_\_\_\_  
(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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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

91

REPORT No. \_\_\_\_\_

**XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only)** **1. 0820-35 I**

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) MALABANG, MINDANAO (b) Time Over Target(s) **2. 1605-20 I**  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)  
 1. None  
 (c) Clouds Over Target **2. Ceiling 3000 ft.**  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 1. Clear  
 (d) Visibility of Target **2. 7 to 8 miles.** (e) Visibility **8 miles.**  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)  
 1. Pushover: 12,000 ft.  
 (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **2. " 5,000 ft.** Bomb Sight Used **Gunsight.**  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)  
**30° dive. Released level.** **1. 2200**  
 Bombs Dropped per Run **One.** Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ Altitude of Bomb Release **2. 100**  
(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 Fort located at fork of river.		8 VMF-251	8x1000 lb.	1	None observed.
2 Radio station near VILLAGE		8 VMF-251	"	7	Serious.
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).

1. NO observed results from bombing or from two strafing runs.
2. Two direct hits on fort, completely demolished the fort 50x100 ft. It was only a pile of debris and stones, after the attack.

Two direct hits on mansion destroying the entire center. Only two wings left standing and they have the walls blown out. Strafing smoked two buildings.

(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  
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

As demonstrated by the attacks on the same target, described in this report, the delayed action bomb dropped from extreme low level is the more effective method of attacking pin-pointed targets such as buildings.

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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

No comment.

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MISSION ONE

FURLOW	Damaging hit.
SCOVILLE	Undershot.
FRANK	No results observed.
POOR	" " "

HENLEY	No results observed.
BARTON	" " "
WARD	" " "
SCOTT	" " "

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MISSION TWO

FURLOW	Direct hit.
SCOVILLE	Damaging hit.
FRANK	" "
POOR	Direct hit.

INGLEHART	Direct hit.
SCOTT	" "
HENLEY	Miss.
BARTON	Damaging hit.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

W. B. WELCH, 1st Lt., A.C.I.O.  
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

W. L. BACHELER, Major, 7 March, 1945.  
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY DATE