

VMB-413

148  
⑧

Report 267

IC(8)

4











# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

REPORT No 267

VMB-413

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Kavieng, New Ireland (b) Time Over Target(s) 2040-2315L (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target Clear  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 20  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Medium level Bomb Sight Used Mk. 15 Mod. 7  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run Varied Spacing Varied Altitude of Bomb Release 10,000 to 11,000  
(NUMBER) (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, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 <u>Area</u>	<u>From Kavieng</u>	<u>4 VMB - 413</u>	<u>24 x 500 GP inst.</u>	<u>see(0)</u>	<u>see (0)</u>
2	<u>Town to</u>				
3	<u>Panapai</u>				
4	<u>Strip</u>				
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)

**24 x 500 GP inst. Between Kavieng Town and Panapai Strip.**

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



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101-413

**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

CALL  
254B21  
255B21  
256B21  
257B21

PILOT  
TREACK  
OSLUND  
GILBERT  
HELMKE

Four planes in two plane sections heckled Kavieng from 2040 to 2315. The first section was off the deck at 2008.

Each plane carried 6 x 500 GP instantaneous bombs. The area was well covered, bomb hits being observed in Kavieng Town, the bivouac area north of Kavieng Strip, a near miss on the dual-purpose coastal defense guns on North Cape and Panapai Bivouac Area.

At 2113 the tail gunner of 255B21 sighted an unidentified aircraft circling over Nusa Island at an approximate altitude of 5000 feet. The unidentified aircraft was again sighted at 2125 west of Kavieng, very low, proceeding down the New Ireland coast.

The route to target was 145° magnetic to the south west corner of New Hanover, then along the south west coast to the target. Returning to the base the pilots flew direct. The last plane landed at 2338.

(All times in narrative are love)

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