

NMB-413

148  
⑧

report #352

Itq(8)

4

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

19150

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

077736  
CONFIDENTIAL

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB-413 (b) Based on or at EMIRAU, ST. MATTHIAS (c) Report No. 352  
 (d) Take off: Date 26 JULY, 1945 Time (LZT) 1959L (Zone); Lat. 01°36'S Long 150°E  
 (e) Mission MEDIUM LEVEL HECKLE OF KAVIENG, NEW IRELAND (f) Time of Return 2159L (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)		
PBJ	VMB413	2	NONE	2	12 X 100 OIL INCENDIARY AN-M-69	

## 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)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance \_\_\_\_\_ (j) of Sun or Moon \_\_\_\_\_ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (k) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_ (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:			GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			
	NONE					

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REPORT No 352

## 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	
PBJ	74	74	2HRS	974	310	N	0	N	E	2

## 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

URNS

DIVES

CEILINGS

RANGE

PROTECTION

ARMAMENT

NO ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED.

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

CONFIDENTIAL

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

## 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) 2030 TO (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 4/10  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target PARTIALLY OBSCURED (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 TO 10,400  
(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, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 AREA		2 VMB - 413	24 X 100 OIL INCENDIARIES	SEE	(0)
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).

12 X 100 HIT BETWEEN THE WEST END OF AIRSTRIP AND THE CENTER GUN POSITION IN KAVIENG TOWN.  
4 X 100 HIT APPROXIMATELY 350 YARDS NORTH EAST OF THE EAST END OF AIRSTRIP IN A POSSIBLE JAP HUT AREA.  
8 X 100 WERE UNOBSERVED

(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

CALL  
254821  
255821

PILOT  
OXSEN  
RADIN

ONLY TWO PLANES TOOK OFF TO HECKLE THE KAVIENG AREA, THE SECOND PAIR BEING GROUNDED BECAUSE OF AN ELECTRICAL FAILURE. TAKING OFF AT 1950, THE PLANES WERE ON STATION BETWEEN 2030 AND 2125. ONE PLANE ACTED AS COVER 1000 FEET ABOVE THE HECKLER. SIX RUNS WERE MADE FROM ALTITUDES OF 10,000 TO 10,400 FEET AND ON COURSES OF 005° TO 340° MAGNETIC.

TWENTY-FOUR 100 POUND OIL INCENDIARIES WERE DROPPED, FOUR ON EACH RUN. TWELVE HIT BETWEEN THE WEST END OF THE AIRSTRIP AND THE CENTER GUN POSITION IN KAVIENG TOWN. FOUR HIT APPROXIMATELY 350 YARDS NORTH EAST OF THE EAST END OF THE AIRSTRIP IN A POSSIBLE JAP HUT AREA. TWO RUNS, OR EIGHT BOMBS, WERE UNOBSERVED.

BOTH PLANES WERE ON THE DECK AT 2159. THE SECOND HECKLERS WERE HELD ON THE DECK WHEN ONE OF THE PLANES DEVELOPED AN ELECTRICAL FAILURE.

(ALL TIMES IN NARRATIVE ARE LOCAL)

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