

MG-41

149
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Report # 124

IIc(4)

8

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No 124

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Vanakansu #16, Tobera #31, Rabaul #59 & Kavieng A/A (b) Time Over Target(s) 0911L, 0947L, 0956L, 1030L - Sugar 2 (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target Low broken clouds at all targets with bases at 2000' (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Partially obscured at Rabaul clear at others. (e) Visibility Rabaul 5, others 10 (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Level (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used Mk. 15, Mod 7
- Bombs Dropped per Run All (NUMBER) Spacing 20' (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release 11,700', 10,500', 10,500', 10,600' - Sugar 2.
- (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 Vanakansu #16 | | 4 VMB-443 | 48 x 100 GPs | | |
| 2 Tobera #31 | | 6 VMB-433 | 48 x 100 GPs | | See "c" |
| 3 Rabaul #59 | | 4 VMB-413 | 12 x 1000 GPs | | |
| 4 Kavieng A/A Positions, N. I. | | 1 VMB-413 | 3 x 1000 GPs | | |
| 5 Kavieng A/A Positions, N. I. | | 1 VMB-413 | 3 x 1000 GPs | | |
| 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).

- 3 x 1000 GPs cratered the road south of the target.
45 x 1000 GPs landed in a gully in southern section of the target. Post-strike photographs show six hats destroyed and others probably damaged. Several large gardens in the area suffered damage also.
- 48 x 250 GPs landed from the western edge of the target to 500' west of the target in a pattern approximately 500' square. The bombs fell in a wooded area but post-strike photographs reveal no apparent damage.
- 3 x 1000 GPs landed in the southern part of Rabaul #59 in an open area.
9 x 1000 GPs landed 200' to 500' southwest of the target destroying two small buildings but otherwise no damage was apparent.
- 3 x 1000 GPs landed near Kavieng town A/A Positions for unobserved results.
- 3 x 1000 GPs landed near Kavieng A/A north of the strip for unobserved results.

Photographs attached:

- (1) (VMB-433) (146) (0) (20") (10,500') (0947L) (11 June 45) (Tobera)
- (1) (VMB-413) (712) (0) (20") (10,000') (0956L) (11 June 45) (New Rabaul #59)
- (1) (VMB-443) (238) (0) (20") (11,100') (0911L) (11 June 45) (Vanakansu #16, N.I.)

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes. 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

| 413 | | 433 | | 443 | |
|--------|-----------|--------|------------|--------|------------|
| CALL | PILOT | CALL | PILOT | CALL | PILOT |
| 254B21 | Nickerson | 266B21 | Smith | 279B21 | Gould |
| 255B21 | Roome | 267B21 | Guykendall | 288B21 | Gronquist |
| 256B21 | Thomas | 268B21 | Wenion | 281B21 | Livingston |
| 257B21 | Hines | 269B21 | Bethier | 282B21 | England |
| 258B21 | Gourhart | 270B21 | Prasuskas | | |
| 259B21 | Ballette | 271B21 | Beckin | | |

Coordinated strikes were participated in by the three squadrons, making medium altitude runs on New Britain Targets.

VNR-443 struck the large hut area at Vunakmanu #16, a difficult target, just west of Vulcan Crater. Forty-five x 100 GPs were in the target, bursting in the gully end on the plateau destroying 6 huts and probably damaging others. Three bombs fell short cratering the road. Only 4 planes were over the target.

The revetted buildings at Tobera #31 was the target of 6 RBJs from VNR-433. All 48 x 250G GPs landed from the western edge of the target to 500' further west, the bombs forming a pattern about 500' square. After-strike photographs failed to reveal any apparent damage.

Only 4 RBJs out of VNR-413's 6 planes dropped on their target, New Rabaul #59. Three half tonners landed in the cleared area in the southern part of the target while 9 fell from 200' to 500' southwest of the target destroying 2 small buildings. The other two planes released 3 x 1000G GPs each on A/A positions near Kavieng.

LtCol Gould led VNR-443 off the base at 0744 on a course for Cape Ramroda using a diamond formation. Off North Cape they changed to a scouting line in loose left echelon so as to search for trace of a missing PV. The search brought no results and the diamond formation was resumed as the flight turned west to cross New Ireland. Taking a course for the Mother Crater the formation crossed to the Rabaul Area and turned abeam of Natupl Island for the run on 223° magnetic, altitude 11,700' at 153 knots IAS. A column of light colored smoke arose immediately to 500' and was still rising when the target passed from sight. The return route was up the west coast of New Ireland to Saieva with landing made at 1022. Three barges approximately 40' long and in good condition were seen in Kallepine Harbor, Njaul Island.

Major Smith led the VNR-433 formation down the northeast coast of New Ireland to Hanatanai Bay, thence to the northwest corner of the Duke of York Group, then to Timber Wharf, to the target. Using a vee of sections stepped down the run was made at 165 knots from 10,500' on a magnetic heading of 190°. The return was up the southeast side of New Ireland to land at 1102.

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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

At 0817 Major Nickerson took his formation of VMR-413 from the base along the northeast coast of New Ireland, searching for the missing PV enroute. About the middle of New Ireland a Jap Rufe was sighted flying to the south-west at 2,000'. It was lost in the clouds but was definitely identified as greyish-white with one float under each wing and a pontoon under the fuselage. The squadron proceeded to the target, making the run on 295° magnetic from 10,800' at 160 knots. The return trip was the same as the two preceding squadrons and completed without incident. A safe landing was made at 1132.

R. R. CRUISE,
Capt., USMC,
Group Intelligence Officer.

H. P. BECKER,
Col., USMC,
Group Commander.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE



(VMB 413-712)(0)(20')(10,000')(0956L)(11 JUN 45)(NEW PAVIL #59)



(UMB-433)(146)(0)(20)(10,500)(0947L)(11Junct5)(Tobera)



XVMB443X239X20X4100X09112X11JUN45XVUNAKANAU46.381