\*

A.

# c(10)

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

I. GEN	ERAL								CONFIDENT	IAL
a) Unit Rep	porting	IB-433	( <b>b</b> ) Ba	ised on or	at	irau l	sland	(	) Report No	161
d) Take of	f: Date <b>23</b>	April, 1	945 Ti	me (LZT	143	o L	_(Zone);	Lat. 01 3	6º S Long	150 00
e) Mission	MAB Na	matanai A	rea, New I	reland				(f) Time of	Return 1710	L (Zone)
	article in Manchale		ALLY COVERE		HIS REPO	ORT.			3	
TYPE	SQUADRON	TAKING	NUMBER	TTACKING		BOMBS /	AND TORPEDO		FUZE, S	ETTING
(a)	(ь)	OFF (c)	ENEMY A/C	TARGET (e)		CARRIED (PER PLANE)  (f)		=)	(g)	
PRI-1	VMB-433	3	N13	3	12 ×	100 De	m. Mi		Mk-19-3	Inst. Fu
						****				
		05 411150		LANI OVER	N INI TU	IC ODED	ATION			
TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	AIRCRAFT E	ASE	חו או כ	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	ВА	SE
Nal										
•										
IV FN	JEMY AIRC	RAFT OBSE	RVED OR EN	GAGED (	By Own A	Aircraft	Listed in 1	I Only).		
(a) TYPE	T	(c) NO. ENGAGING OWN A/C			(e) TION OF OUNTER			(f) PEDOES CARRIED OBSERVED	; CAMO	(g) DUFLAGE AND WARKING
	OBSERVED	OWN A/C	ENCOUNTERED	EINC				Objektie		
Nil	-		(ZONE)							
			(ZONE)							•
			(ZONE)							
		4			M 0 %					
	ent Enemy M y Part of	Aission (s)			11					
(i) Encour	iter(s) Occu		(YES OR NO)	f so, Desc	cribe Clou	ids	(BASE	IN FEET, TYPE	AND TENTHS OF CO	OVER)
(j) of Sun	f Day and Br or Moon —		(NIGHT, BRIGHT	MOON: DAY	, OVERCAST	r; ETC.)		( <b>k</b> ) Visi	bility	(MILES)
V. EN	IEMY AIRC	RAFT DEST	ROYED OR DA				Aircraft I	isted in 11 C	nly).	
(a) TYPE ENEMY A/C		OYED OR DAMA		OR GUNNER		GUNS	USED	WHERE	(c) HIT, ANGLE	DAMAGE CLAIMED
N47		JQUADIOI								
	-									
<del>;</del>										
	-									
*										

ALLSET - MFD. BY THE EGRY REGISTER CO., PATENTED

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		- / -
REPORT	No.	161

VI 109	S OR DAM	AGE, COM	BAT OR OPE	RATIONAL	L, OF OWN A	IRCRAFT	(of those	istea in ti	(e)	AMAGE
(a) OWN A/C	(b)	CAUSI TYPE GUN	(c) E: TYPE ENEMY A OR OPERATIONA	CAUSE	WHERE HIT, A self-sealing tan	NGLE (List a ks, equipment	t hit)	Give Bureau se	rial number of pl	AMAGE, anes destroyed)
	500									
MIL		•								
	-	1								
	:	2 1 2 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2								
		-								
9 46										
					L		1			•
				aff listed i	n II only: ide	ntify with	planes liste	d in VI by	Nos. at le	ft).
VII. F	ERSONNEL	CASUAL	IES (in aircr	art listed .	n II only; ide	1)		CC	(e) NDITION OR S	TATUS
(b) SQUADR		(	COR RATING			USE			MENTION ON S	
WT 9 99		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·								
MIT	-									
					OD DIA	IEC DETI	IRNING			
VIII	RANGE,	FUEL, AN	D AMMUNI	TION DA	TA FOR PLA	YES KLIC	TOTAL AMM	UNITION EXP	ENDED	NO OF PLAT
(a) TYPE	(b)	(c) MILES	AV HOURS	AV FUEL	AV. FUEL CONSUMED	.30	.50	20MM	MM	RETURNIN
TYPE A/C	MILES	RETURN	IN AIR	LOADED		Nil	N11	N11	Nil	3
PRI	171	169	2hr. 40	974	447					
			DAET ENCOL	INTERED	Check one b	ock on ea	ch line).			INTENSE
IX.	ENEMY A	NTI-AIRC	RAFI ENCOC	)   I L I L I L I L I L I L I L I L I L I	N	ONE	MEAGER	^	MODERATE	INTENSE
		CALI			4	7				-
HEAVY -	Time-fused sh	ells, /omm ar	om-50mm							
	— Impact-fuse	villate 65mm	1-13.2mm			2				
LIGHT -	Machine gun b	Juliets, O.Jim			A	IDCD AFT	(use check	c list at le	eft).	
X	COMPARA	TIVE PER	FORMANCE,	OWN AN	D ENEMY A	INCKALI				
SPEED, CI			N11							
at vario	us altitudes		** **							
TURNS										
DIVES										
CEILING	S.									
RANGE										
PROTEC	TION		·							
ARMAM	ENT									

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ADE)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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						REPORT No
				IVES (By Own Aircraft Listed		
(a) Targ	get(s) and Locat	tion(s) (FOR SHI	PS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA	UNDER ATTACK) (b) Time Ov	er Target(s)	1538-1602
(c) Clou	ids Over Target	.35 cu	bases 2000	tops 5000 Trype and tenths of cover)		
(d) Visit	oility of Target_	CLEAR, HA	ZY. PARTIALLY OBSCURED	BY CLOUDS. ETC.)	Visibility	15-20
				Bomb Sight U		
				100 Altitude		
			ound: Destroyed		77 a m	Damaged
Α	(h) IMING POINT	DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(i) NO A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED EACH AIMING POINT		DAMASE None such
Namet	tanai Bridge	75° x 15°	3 VMB-433	12 x 100 Des.		See Below
2		75° x 15°	7MB-433	12 x 100 Dem.		<b>68 65</b>
3	Jetty	85° x 12°	7 VMB-433	12 x 100 Dem.		<b>88</b>
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						

Three runs were made by the PBJ's, two on the bridge and one on the jetty. All bombs aimed at the bridge hit approximately 150 yards south with unobserved results. The twelve bombs aimed at the jetty hit approximately 100 yards south starting a fire 25 in diameter which was still burning when the planes left station.

<sup>(</sup>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?

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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.)

Disposition Altitudes	CALL	PILOT	TO MIRAU	TOT	TOR EMIRAU
Approach Tactics Use of Cover, Deception Angles of Attack and Their Effectiveness Distance of Opening Fire	266B21 267B21 268B21	Lattner Green Leachman	1430	1538-1602 1538-1602 1538-1603	1710 1710 1711

Three PBJ's from the squadron led by Capt. W. T. Lettner took off Emirau on a medium altitude bombing attack upon the Namatanai Area, New Ireland. Following the joinup over base, the three plane section proceeded on course, southeast down the northern coast of New Ireland to the target. The formation was a three plane wee to and over the target. Three bombing runs were made by the Mitchells, each dropping four bombs per rum. The first two rums were made on the bridge located southwest of the strip at an altitude of 10,000', speed of 160 knots, while on magneticheadings of 185° and 205° respectively. The third run was made on the jetty located north of the strip at a speed of 160 knots. altitude of 10,000°, while on a magnetic heading of 175°.

The twenty four bombs dropped at the bridge hit approximately 150 yards south with unobserved results. The twelve bombs aimed at the jety hit approximately 100 yards south, starting a fire 25' in diameter which was still burning when the planes left station.

No A/A and no enemy interception were encountered and all Mitchells returned safely to base by 1711 L.

# ENGAGEMENT WITH ENEMY

Defense Tactics and Their Effectiveness

#### ENEMY AIRCRAFT

Method of Locating, Distance Disposition Altitudes Speeds Approach Tactics Use of Cover, Deception Anales of Attack Distance of Opening Fire Defensive Tactics

#### COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Own Weaknesses Enemy Weaknesses Offensive Tactics, Own , Enemy Defensive Tactics, Own 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

#### DEFENSE, ENEMY

Use of Jamming

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

J. V. A. Fine Capt., USMCR Intelligence Officer

John G. Adams Lt.Col., USMCR Commanding Officer