

VMB-423

158
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Report # 212

Ltc (9)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES

- (a) Target: Maiki, target A-57, Bougainville. (b) Time over Target: 0957
 (c) Clouds over Target: CAVU
 (d) Visibility of Target: Hazy (e) Visibility: 20 miles
 (f) Bombing Tactics: Type: Level Bomb Sight Used: Mark 15
 Bombs Dropped per Run: 2 Spacing: 170 feet Altitude of Release:
 10,500 feet
 (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed: None
 Probably Destroyed: None Damaged: None

AIMING POINT	: NO A/C	: Bombs expended	: No hits
	: Squadron		
Maiki, target A-57	: 1 : VNB-423	: 2 X 1000 GP	: See (c)
	: :	: :	: :
	: :	: :	: :
	: :	: :	: :
	: :	: :	: :
	: :	: :	: :

(o) RESULTS:

All bombs fell in the water south of the target.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)
CONFIDENTIAL
REPORT NO. **212**

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
- Defensive 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	PILOT	T/O GREEN	T/O/T	P/C GREEN
301B21	IVERSON	0830	0957	1057

Captain IVERSON led eight PVs of NZ-2 on a medium altitude bombing raid on Maiki, target A-57, Bougainville. The formation was composed of three, three plane sections javelin down. Captain IVERSON served as flight leader so that he could do the sighting for the PVs which do not carry a bombsight.

The flight was airborne by 0835 and joined up as described above and proceeded on a course of 129 degrees magnetic to Oema Island for rendezvous with two Corsair planes from Piva. After the rendezvous, the Corsairs proceeded ahead of the formation to mark the target with smoke bombs. The bombers approached the target from Oema Island on a heading of 256 degrees magnetic, however as the Corsairs had dropped the smoke bombs in the wrong area five or six miles from the target, bombs were not released on this run. The bombers made a 360 degree turn to make another bomb run, which was made on a heading of 260 degrees magnetic. At 0957 bombs were released from 10,500 feet at 155 knots indicated.

Meagre, inaccurate, heavy anti-aircraft fire was encountered from unknown positions.

In view of the 360 degree turn for the second run, the time was not sufficient to properly line up on the target and all bombs fell in the water south of the target.

(All times in this narrative are local).

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Intelligence Officer

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Acting