

VMB 413

148
⑧

Report # 232

IC (8)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

CONFIDENTIAL
REPORT No. 232

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

VMB 413

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Various, see (o) (FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK) (b) Time Over Target(s) ref. narrative (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target 4/10 (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Partially obscured (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (e) Visibility 20 (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Medium (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used IR. 10 Mod. 7 (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run Varied (NUMBER) Spacing Varied (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release 10,000-11,000 (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 unknown	6	34	see(o)	see (o)
2		VMB - 413			
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).

16 x 500 inc. between Panapai and Kavieng strip
6 x 500 inc. on Kavieng town
6 x 500 inc. in woods north west of strip
3 x 500 inc. west of air strip
3 x 500 inc. in woods east of air strip

Four fires were started. Two still burning at 0045.
Two fires north west of strip in wooded area.
One large fire east of strip, one mile.

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

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)
CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. 232
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	PILOT	TO	TOF	TOR
254B21	BRONKOWE	1939	2030-2100	2155
255B21	BOUSCAREN	1939	2100-2130	2155
256B21	SMITH	2050	2130-2200	2259
257B21	COBANT	2050	2200-2230	2259
258B21	OSLUND	2326	2345-0015	0115
259B21	HELLING	2326	0015-0045	0115

Six Mitchells heckled Kavieng, New Ireland from 2030 to 2230 and from 2345 to 0045. The first two planes took off at 1939 and were on station from 2030 to 2130. The second two took off at 2050 and were on station from 2130 to 2230. The third two planes took off at 2326 and were on station from 2345 to 0045.

The area was well covered with a total of 23 runs being made. The runs were varied on courses between 180 magnetic and 350 magnetic. The altitudes varied from 10,000 to 11,500 feet.

The bombs were observed to hit as follows: 16 x 500 pound incendiary clusters were dropped in the wooded area between Panapai and Kavieng Strip. Six 500 pound incendiary clusters exploded in the woods, north east of the north end of the strip. Six 500 pound incendiary cluster hit Kavieng town. Three 500 pound incendiary clusters landed west of the strip. Three 500 pound incendiary clusters descended in the woods east of the strip.

Two large fires were started, one about two miles east of the south end of the Kavieng strip. One fire was seen in the wooded area north west of the strip. These fires were still burning when the last plane retired. Five small fires between Panapai and Kavieng went out shortly after the explosions.

No search light or A/A were encountered during the entire night.

The last two planes were on the deck at 0115.

(All times in narrative are local)

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

EDWARD W. KRAUSE
1stLt. USNCR.
ASS'T INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

ROBERT H. COX
Lt. Col. USNCR.
COMMANDING OFFICER