

VMB-433

149  
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Report # 212

II G (10)

L1

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VNB-433 (b) Based on or at Baireu Island (c) Report No. 212  
 (d) Take off: Date 17 June, 1945 Time (LZT) 2040-2235 L (Zone); Lat. 01 36' S Long. 150 00' E  
Medium Altitude Night Heckling of the Kavieng Peninsula  
 (e) Mission \_\_\_\_\_ (f) Time of Return 2230-0010 (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)		
<u>PBI-1</u>	<u>VNB-433</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>H41</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>12 x 100 Frag. cl. M-41</u>	

## III. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION.

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>H41</u>							

## 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
<u>H41</u>			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) H41  
 Did Any Part of  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 (YES OR NO)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance \_\_\_\_\_ (k) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_ (MILES)  
 of Sun or Moon \_\_\_\_\_ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.)

## 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			
<u>H41</u>						

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## 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	<b>H11</b>			
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
	<b>H11</b>			

## 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	
<b>FB1-1</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>2hr. 30<sup>s</sup></b>	<b>974</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>H11</b>	<b>H11</b>	<b>H11</b>	<b>H11</b>	<b>4</b>

## IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

## X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

SPEED, CLIMB,  
at various altitudes

**H11**

TURNS

DIVES

CEILINGS

RANGE

PROTECTION

ARMAMENT

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Kavieng Peninsula, New Ireland (b) Time Over Target(s) 2110-2200  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK) (Zone) 2305-2345
- (c) Clouds Over Target .3-.5 cu bases 2500' tops 4500'  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Heavy (e) Visibility 5-10  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Level Bomb Sight Used D-6  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 1-7 Spacing 50' Altitude of Bomb Release 10,500' (mean)  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed U/O Probably Destroyed U/O Damaged U/O

(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 Panapai Bivouac		4 VMB-433	21 x 100 Frag. cl.		See Below
2 Panapai Strip		2 VMB-433	4 x 100 Frag. cl.		See Below
3 Kavieng Town		3 VMB-433	10 x 100 Frag. cl.		See Below
4 Kavieng Strip		2 VMB-433	3 x 100 Frag. cl.		See Below
5 Balgai Strip		1 VMB-433	3 x 100 Frag. cl.		See Below
6 Balgai Hut Area		2 VMB-433	7 x 100 Frag. cl.		See Below
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).

**Bomb flashes observed in bombed areas but no specific results observed.**

(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	PILOT	TO ENIRAU	TOT	TCR ENIRAU
266B21	Casms	2040	2110-2200	2230
267B21	Dethier	2040	2110-2200	2230
268B21	Tougas	2235	2305-2345	0010
269B21	Butler	2235	2305-2345	0010

Four Mitchells from the squadron carried on a night heckling of the Kavieng Peninsula at medium altitude. The Mitchells were in two two-plane sections taking off two hours apart, each equipped with 12 x 100 fragmentation clusters. Following take off the Mitchells proceeded south around the western tip of New Hanover, east to the Stephen Straits, thence to the Kavieng Peninsula. Upon arriving on station one Mitchell would heckle while the other acted as cover. The procedure would be reversed as soon as the heckler expended his bombs, ie; the original heckler would assume the cover position for the original cover plane. The average bombing run was made at a speed of 155 knots, altitude of 10,500', while on varied courses.

The clusters were dropped on numerous targets as listed in section XI. Flashes from the bombs were observed on the deck, however, specific results could not be determined due to the hazy atmosphere over the Kavieng Peninsula.

Meager, medium and light inaccurate A/A was encountered from unknown positions. No damage was inflicted and all Mitchells were safely on the deck by 0010 L.

R. S. Hackett  
1stLt., USMC  
Ass't. Intelligence Officer

Boyd O. Whitney  
Major, USMC  
Commanding Officer