

MG-61

145
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Report #62

IC(4)

9

CONFIDENTIAL

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Form ACA-1
Sheet 1 of 5

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting MAC-62 (b) Based on or at _____ (c) Report No. 62

(d) Take off: Date _____ Time _____; Lat _____ Long _____

(e) Mission _____ (f) Time of Return _____

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT

TYPE	SQD	NUMBER	TAKING OFF	ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	ATTACKING TARGET	BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (per plane)	FUSE, SETTING
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
PRI-1	VMB443	9	None	9	1 x 2000 GP Mk. 66	Nose: AN-M-103 Inst Tail: AN-M-102-A2	
PRI-1	VMB611	8	None	8	3 x 700 D/B's	Mk 219 Inst Nose	

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

TYPE	SQD	No.	BASE	TYPE	SQD	No.	BASE

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 CARRIED; GUNS	(g) CAMOUFLAGE; MARKINGS
None			(zone)			
			(zone)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____
 Did Any Part of Encounter(s) _____
 (i) Occur in Clouds? _____ If so, Describe Clouds _____
 Time of Day and (Yes or no) _____ (base in feet, type, tenths cover)
 (j) Brilliance of Sun or Moon _____ (k) Visibility _____
 (night, Bright moon; Day, overcast; etc.) (miles)

V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II)

(a) TYPE A/C	(b) Destroyed or Damaged By: Type A/C; SQD	(c) Pilot or gunner	(d) Guns used	(e) Where hit angle	(f) Damage Claimed
None					

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Reclassify when
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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No _____

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Kavieng, New Ireland (b) Time Over Target(s) 0943-0950L (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 4/10 scattered cumulus 4000-15,000'
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Partially obscured by clouds (e) Visibility 10
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type level Bomb Sight Used Mk 15 mod 7
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run all Spacing varied Altitude of Bomb Release 10,500-13,000'
(NUMBER) (FEET) (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 <u>Kavieng Strip</u>		8 <u>VMB-413</u>	6 x 2000 GP 4 x 650 D/C		
2 <u>same</u>		9 <u>VMB-433</u>	9 x 2000 GP		See "a"
3 <u>same</u>		9 <u>VMB-443</u>	9 x 2000 GP		
4 <u>Kavieng Town</u>		8 <u>VMB-611</u>	24 x 700 D/C		
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.)

Unable to reach New Britain for the second time in a row bombs were dropped on the secondary through clouds also for the second time in a row 4 x 650 D/C's and 6 x 2000 GP's cleared out a wooded area fifteen hundred feet east of the aiming point - the strip. Gun fire was observed coming from this area, but as the bombs exploded the fire quickly ceased. 9 x 2000 GP's fell just short of three known gun positions, one thousand feet south of the western end of the strip. 24 x 700 D/C aimed at Kavieng Town b planes of VMB-611 landed in the "C" in town" section. The remainder of the bomb load - 9 x 2000 GP's - were unobserved. After strike photographs were spoiled by clouds.

(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

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CALL	PILOT
254B21	Bronlewe
255B21	Brueggstrass
256B21	Oslund
257B21	Bouscaren
258B21	Carlson
259B21	Ingberg
260B21	Muehleisen
261B21	Nevins

443

CALL	PILOT
279B21	Guillotte
280B21	Hudson
281B21	Schreier
282B21	McConnell
283B21	Burt
284B21	Mueller
285B21	Hammond
286B21	McGuire
287B21	Hartman

433

CALL	PILOT
266B21	Killer
267B21	Percy
268B21	Smith
269B21	Johnston
270B21	Carr
271B21	Loughran
272B21	Benjamin
273B21	Fischer
274B21	Klein

611

CALL	PILOT
242B21	Sarles
243B21	Fish
244B21	Schmillen
245B21	Kronick
246B21	Peterson
247B21	Barnett
248B21	McRobert
249B21	Pollan

Poor weather spoiled a scheduled co-ordinated strike by planes of the seven bombing squadrons stationed at Emirau and Green Island. Conditions at Green prevented the two squadrons based there from taking off. Weather at Emirau was satisfactory but on the strength of reports received on condition over Rabaul the flight leader decided to attack the secondary target, Kavieng air strip and Town.

After four squadrons of PBJ's and 3 New Zealand IV's were airborne the formation of a vee of squadrons javelined down proceeded to Selapiu Island. There a wide turn to the left was made leading into the bomb runs on a heading of an average of 030°. One squadron carrying depth charges took Kavieng Town as an aiming point. The others pin pointed different parts of the strip. The bomb run was at a speed of 160 kts and at altitudes from 13,000 ft. down to 10,500. Breaking left over the water the squadrons did not rally but returned directly to base and landed in order.

D. F. HATCH,
Capt., USMCR,
Group Intelligence Officer.

P. K. SMITH,
Col., USMC,
Group Commander.