

VMB-413

148
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Report # 257

#c(8)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. **257**
VMB-413

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) **2000-2100L** Zone) (FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target **4/10** (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target **Partially Obscured** (e) Visibility **20** (MILES)
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Medium Level** Bomb Sight Used **Mk. 15 Mod. 7**
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run **Varied** Spacing **Varied** Altitude of Bomb Release **10,500 to 10,800**
(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 Area	From Kavieng Town to Panapai Strip	2 VMB - 413	24x100 incendiary clusters	see(0)	see (0)
2					
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.)

24 x 100 incendiaries dropped between Kavieng Town and Panapai Strip.

Saw explosion about 1/2 mile south of Kavieng Strip and was still burning when planes left target.

(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

CALL
254B21
255B21

PILOT
FEY
ROOME

Two PBJ's from this squadron heckled the Kavieng Area from 2000 to 2100.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT

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

Taking off at 1935 the two plane section headed directly for Kavieng, reaching the target at 1955. At this time one plane proceeded to make its runs as the other remained 1000 feet above as a cover. The first plane made four runs at varied altitudes and courses. Twelve 100 pound incendiary clusters were dropped between Kavieng Town and the Panapai Air Field. A large explosion and a fire were caused at 2022 1/2 mile south of the Kavieng Air Strip.

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

The second plane took over the heckling position at 2035 and remained on station until 2100. Making four runs this plane dropped 12 x 100 pound incendiary clusters between the Kavieng Air Strip and Balgai. Small fires were started in the woods south of Balgai. At 2100 this plane went off station and headed for the base with the cover plane.

Both planes landed safely at 2159.

(All times in narrative are love)

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

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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