

VMB-433

149  
(10)

Report # 169

ILC(10)

4

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

*fovor*  
**CONFIDENTIAL** 016437

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB-433 (b) Based on or at Esiren Island (c) Report No. 169  
 (d) Take off: Date 30 April, 1945 Time (LZT) 1350 L (Zone); Lat. 01 36' S Long 150 00' E  
 (e) Mission MAB Kavieng Radio Station, New Ireland (f) Time of Return 1510 L (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>PB1-1</u>	<u>VMB-433</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>N11</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8 x 300 GP M31</u>	<u>Nose: AN-M103 Tail: AN-M101A-2</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>N11</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>N11</u>			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) N11  
 Did Any Part of  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds?   If so, Describe Clouds   (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance  
 (j) of Sun or Moon   (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST, ETC.) (k) Visibility   (MILES)

## 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			
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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	N11			
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
	N11			

## 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	
PBJ-1	78	78	1hr. 20 <sup>0</sup>	974	265	N11	N11	N11	N11	6

## 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
  - TURNES
  - 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 Radio Station (b) Time Over Target(s) 1440 L (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 3-5 cu bases 1500' tops 5000'  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target clear (e) Visibility 15  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type level Bomb Sight Used N15  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run all Spacing 100' Altitude of Bomb Release 11,000'  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed N11 Probably Destroyed N11 Damaged N11

(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 Radio Sta.</u>	<u>60' x 50'</u>	<u>6</u> <u>VMB-433</u>	<u>48 x 300 GP</u>		<u>See Below</u>
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.)

**Excellent bombing results. It is believed that the radio station was demolished by the attack.**

(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

CALL	PILOT	TOEMIARU	TOT	TCR EMIRAU
266B21	Major Long	1350	1440	1510
267B21	Pittner	1350	1440	1510
268B21	Percy	1351	1440	1511
269B21	Woten	1351	1440	1511
270B21	Carr	1352	1440	1512
271B21	Johnston	1352	1440	1512

Six PBV's led by Major Long took off from Emirau on a medium altitude bombing attack upon the radio station located approximately 3/4 of a mile west of the northwestern end of Kavieng airstrip. Following the six plane joinup over Emirau, the flight proceeded southeast to Nusalik Island in the Nusa Archipelago, thence to the target. The formation employed to and over the target was a vee of sections in column. The bombing run was made at a speed of 160 knots, altitude of 11,000', while on a magnetic heading of 020°.

Excellent results were obtained from the strike. It is believed by all participating pilots that the radio station was demolished. All bombs hit on and around the designated target.

No A/A and no enemy interception were encountered and all Mitchells returned safely to base by 1512 L.

**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

**J. V. A. Fine**  
Capt., USMCR  
Intelligence Officer

**W. H. Miller**  
Lt. Col., USMC  
Commanding Officer