

VMB-433

149  
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Report 201

11/10

4



# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

## I. GENERAL

CONFIDENTIAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB-433 (b) Based on or at Esirua Island (c) Report No. 201  
 (d) Take off: Date 6 June, 1945 Time (LZT) 2000-2330 L (Zone); Lat. 01 36' S Long. 150 00' E  
Medium Altitude Night Heckling of the Kavieng Peninsula  
 (e) Mission \_\_\_\_\_ (f) Time of Return 2230-0200 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>PB-1</u>	<u>VMB-433</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>H11</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>12 x 100 Frag. clusters</u> <u>B-41</u>	

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>H11</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>H11</u>			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) H11  
 Did Any Part of \_\_\_\_\_  
 (i) Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_  
(YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance \_\_\_\_\_  
 (j) 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 Only).

(a) TYPE ENEMY A/C	(b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:				(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER	GUNS USED		
<u>H11</u>						







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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)

2045-2145

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Ka vieng Peninsula, New Ireland (b) Time Over Target(s) 0015-0115 L (Zone)

(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target .2-.3 cu bases 2000' tops 3500'

(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 N11

(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE)

(TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 1-12 Spacing 100' Altitude of Bomb Release 10,600' (mean)

(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 Panapai Bivouac		3 VNB-433	20 x 100 Frag. cl.		See Below
2 Ka vieng Revetment		2 VNB-433	9 x 100 Frag. cl.		" "
3 Kavieng Airstrip		3 VNB-433	6 x 100 Frag. cl.		" "
4 Kavieng Town		1 VNB-433	1 x 100 Frag. Cl.		" "
5 Kavieng A/A positions		1 VNB-433	12 x 100 Frag. cl.		" "
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).

**Bomb flashes observed however results were unobserved.**

(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	TOR ENIRAU
266B21	Major Whitney	2000	2045-2145	2230
267B21	Maier	2000	2045-2145	2230
270B21	Major Smith	2330	0015-0115	0200
271B21	Brassuskas	2330	0015-0115	0200

Four Mitchells from the squadron carried on night heckling of the Kavieng peninsula from Kavieng town to the Panapai Bivouac Area. Each Mitchell carried twelve one-hundred pound fragmentation clusters which were dropped on numerous targets on varied runs. Following takeoff, the Mitchells proceeded southeast over New Hanover to Kavieng in two plane sections. Over Kavieng, one Mitchell would act as a cover plane while the other carried on the heckling. As soon as the heckler had expended his bombs, the reverse procedure would take effect; ie the original heckler would act as cover for the original cover plane. The average bombing run was made at a speed of 155 knots I.A.S., altitude of 10,500', while on varied headings.

266B21 made one run, dropping all 12 of his bombs on A/A positions located north of Kavieng airstrip. Specific results were unobserved.

267B21 made three runs, one on Panapai bivouac area, one on Kavieng strip, and one on Kavieng town. Four bombs were released on each run with unobserved results.

270B21 made three runs dropping three, four, and five bombs respectively on Panapai bivouac area and Kavieng revetment area. Specific results were unobserved.

271B21 made four runs dropping two, five, four, and one bomb respectively on Kavieng strip, Panapai bivouac area, Kavieng revetment area and Kavieng town. No results observed.

No A/A and no enemy interception were encountered and all Mitchells were safely on the deck by 0200 L.

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

Boyd O. Whitney  
Major, USMC  
Commanding Officer