

VMB-413

148  
⑧

Report # 254

HC (8)

4

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

**I. GENERAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

254

(a) Unit Reporting **VMB - 413** (b) Based on or at **Enirau, St. Matthias** (c) Report No. **Two hundred-fifty-four**  
 (d) Take off: Date **13 April, 1945** Time (LZT) **1947-2043L** (Zone); Lat. **01° 36' S** Long **150° E**  
 (e) Mission **Hackle Kavieng Area, New Ireland** (f) Time of Return **2219-2244Z** (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)		
<b>PBJ-1</b>	<b>VMB413</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12 x 100 incendiaries</b>	<b>No Fuse</b>
<b>PBJ-1</b>	<b>VMB413</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3 x 1000 SAP inst.</b>	<b>AN-M-103 nose</b> <b>AN-M-102A2 tail</b>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<b>None</b>							

**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
<b>None</b>						
(ZONE)						
(ZONE)						
(ZONE)						

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 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 \_\_\_\_\_ (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		
<b>None</b>						

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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>None</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>None</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>PBJ-1</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>2hr16'</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</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	<b>X</b>			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	<b>X</b>			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 65mm-13.2mm	<b>X</b>			

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

SPEED, CLIMB,  
at various altitudes

TURN  
DIVES  
CEILINGS  
RANGE  
PROTECTION  
ARMAMENT

**No enemy aircraft encountered.**

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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, New Ireland (b) Time Over Target(s) 2030-2220L (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  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (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 to 11,000  
(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 <b>Area</b>	<b>Kavieng Town to</b>	<b>4</b> <b>VMB 413</b>	<b>3 x 1000 SAP inst.</b> <b>36 x 100 incendiary</b>		<b>see(o)</b>
2	<b>Panapai Strip.</b>		<b>clusters.</b>		
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.)

- 1 x 1000 woods north west of Kavieng strip.
- 1 x 1000 in north Kavieng Town.
- 1 x 1000 woods south of Panapai strip.
- 12 x 100 north of Kavieng strip.
- 8 x 100 woods south east of Panapai strip.
- 2 x 100 woods south east of Kavieng strip.
- 6 x 100 woods east of Kavieng strip.
- 8 x 100 in Kavieng Town.

Good heckling from Kavieng town to Panapai strip.  
Small fires started south east of Panapai strip, 2000 feet.  
Small fires started north of Kavieng strip in woods.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

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**XIII. MATERIAL DATA.** (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.  
Use additional sheets if necessary).

**ARMAMENT**

- Guns, Gunsights
- Turrets
- Ammunition
- Bombs, Torpedoes
- Bomb Sights
- Bomb Releases

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- Radio, Radar
- Homing Devices
- Visual Signals
- Codes, Ciphers

**RECOGNITION**

- IFF
- Signals
- Battle Lights
- Procedures

**PROTECTION**

- Armor; Points and Angles  
of Fire Needing Further  
Protection
- Leak Proofing

**EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT**

- Parachutes
- Life Belts, Life Rafts
- Safety Belts
- Emergency Kits
- Rations, First Aid

**NAVIGATIONAL EQUIPMENT**

- Compasses
- Driftsights
- Octants
- Automatic Pilots
- Charts
- Field Lighting

**INSTRUMENTS**

- Flight
- Power Plant

**OXYGEN SYSTEM**

**CAMOUFLAGE AND  
DECEPTION DEVICES**

**STRUCTURE**

- Airframe
- Control Surfaces
- Control System
- Dive Flaps
- Landing Gear
- Heating System
- Flight Characteristics  
At Various Loadings

**POWER PLANT**

- Engines
- Engine Accessories
- Propellers
- Lubricating System
- Starters
- Exhaust Dampers

**HYDRAULIC SYSTEM**

**ELECTRICAL SYSTEM**

- Auxiliary Plant
- Lights

**FUEL SYSTEM**

**FLIGHT CLOTHING**

**MAINTENANCE**

**BASE FACILITIES**

- Plane Servicing Equipment
- Personnel Facilities

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

CALL  
254B21  
255B21  
256B21  
257B21

PILOT  
BOUSCAREN  
OSLUND  
HELMKE  
INGBERG

Four planes from this squadron heckled the Kavieng Area from 2030 to 2220.

The first two planes took off at 1946 and the second flight taking off at 2219, with the last plane hitting the deck at 2244. The last two planes scheduled to take off were cancelled, due to weather conditions en-route and over the target.

The usual procedure was followed by the heckle planes, one plane heckled while the other acted cover. The altitudes varied from 10,000 to 11,000 feet. Speed varied from 155 knots to 165 and the courses of the bombing runs changed on each run. A total of thirteen runs were made on the target.

A total of 36 x 100 incendiary clusters and 3 x 1000 SAP instantaneous bombs covered an area from Kavieng Town to Panapai Strip. Small fires were started north east of the Panapai Strip and north of the Kavieng Strip.

No A/A was encountered during the whole period with all planes returning and hitting the deck safely and undamaged.

(All times in narrative are love)

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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ASS'T INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

ROBERT B. COX  
Lt.Col. USMCR  
COMMANDING OFFICER

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE