

VMB-4B

148  
⑧

Report 307

#9(8)

4

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

12977

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

019714  
CONFIDENTIAL  
307

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB - 413 (b) Based on or at Enirau, St. Matthias (c) Report No. Three hundred seven  
 (d) Take off: Date 1 June, 1945 Time (LZT) 1417 Love (Zone); Lat. 01° 36' S Long. 150° E  
 (e) Mission Medium level bombing of Doi Island, New Ireland Time of Return 1654 L (Zone)

## II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) TYPE	(b) SQUADRON	NUMBER			(f) BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE)	(g) FUZE, SETTING
		(c) TAKING OFF	(d) ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	(e) ATTACKING TARGET		
PBJ-1	VMB413	2	None	2	12 x 100 GP AN-M-30	AN-M-103 nose inst AN-M-100A2 T--inst

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
None							

## 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
None			(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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (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		
None						

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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>150</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>2hr37'</b>	<b>974</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>2</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, 6.5mm-13.2mm	<b>X</b>			

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,  
at various altitudes

TURNS

DIVES

CEILINGS

RANGE

PROTECTION

ARMAMENT.

**No enemy aircraft encountered.**

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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) Pinikindu Point, New Ireland (b) Time Over Target(s) 1520 to 1600  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target Clear  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility 20  
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSERVED 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>Point of land</b>		<b>VMB - 413</b>	<b>24 x 100 GP's with inst. fusing</b>	<b>See</b>	<b>(o)</b>
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.)

**10 x 100 Dropped in the target area. (northwest shore)**  
**11 x 100 Dropped in the target area. (center of the point)**  
**3 x 100 Dropped in water.**

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes 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

CALL  
254B21  
255B21

PILOT  
NICKERSON  
MAC LEAN

### COMMUNICATIONS

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

Two planes were assigned to do medium level bombing of Doi Island with Pinikindu Point, New Ireland, as the secondary.

### RECOGNITION

- IFF
- Signals
- Battle Lights
- Procedures

Loaded with 12 x 250 GP instantaneous each, Major Norman R. Nickerson and Captain Mac Lean took off at 1417.

### PROTECTION

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

Flying direct to Doi Island, it was discovered that the clouds had priority over the target. A left turn was made to cross New Ireland and skirt down the northeast coast for Pinikindu Point.

### EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

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

A total of six runs were made over the target from altitudes 10,000 to 11,000 feet and speed varied from 145 to 170 knots.

### NAVIGATIONAL EQUIPMENT

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

Ten centuries exploded along the northwest coast of the point in a group of huts. Eleven of the same type went off in the center of the point and three landed in the water.

### INSTRUMENTS

- Flight
- Power Plant

No A/A was encountered. The planes were on target from 1520 to 1600.

### OXYGEN SYSTEM

### CAMOUFLAGE AND DECEPTION DEVICES

Returning directly to base the planes landed safely at 1654.

### STRUCTURE

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

(All times in narrative are love)

### POWER PLANT

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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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ACTING

### HYDRAULIC SYSTEM

### ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

- Auxiliary Plant
- Lights

### FUEL SYSTEM

### FLIGHT CLOTHING

### MAINTENANCE

### BASE FACILITIES

- Plane Servicing Equipment
- Personnel Facilities

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE