

VMB-413

148
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Report # 262

Hc (8)

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

GENERAL

CONFIDENTIAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB - 413 (b) Based on or at Enirau, St. Matthias (c) Report No. 262
 (d) Take off: Date 17 April, 1945 Time (LZT) 1354 L (Zone); Lat. 01° 36' S Long. 150° E
 (e) Mission Low level bombing and strafing of Lemakot, New Ireland (f) Time of Return 1548 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>PBI-1</u>	<u>VMB413</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8 x 250 GP</u>	<u>4 to 5 seconds delay</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
	<u>None</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>None</u>		<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			
			<u>(ZONE)</u>			

(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		
<u>None</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).

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Lamakot, New Ireland (b) Time Over Target(s) 1450 L (Zone)
(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 OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type Low level Bomb Sight Used None used
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 24x250GP 4' to 5' delay 40 Altitude of Bomb Release 50 to 100
(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 <u>Elvouno Area</u>		<u>3</u> <u>VIB - 413</u>	<u>3550 rounds 50 cal.</u> <u>24 x 250 4' to 5' see (C)</u>		<u>see (C)</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.)

8 x 250 GP 4' to 5' In target.
16 x 250 GP 4' to 5' 300 yards southeast of target in coconut grove.

(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
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PILOT
BOUSCAREN
MUNHEISEN
GILBERT

Three Mitchells were off the deck at 1354 for a low level bombing and strafing attack against a Nip Bivouac Area of Lemakot, target number two, New Ireland.

From base, the three plane formation took a course of 145 degrees magnetic to the southwest tip of New Hanover where the formation swung left and followed the south western coast of New Ireland to Doi Island, here the planes formed a line abreast, with sufficient distance between planes to permit maneuvering and made the bombing run on a course of 009 degrees magnetic.

Bombs were away at 1450 with eight in the target and sixteen hitting 300 yards southeast of target in a coconut grove, all 250 GP 4 to 5 second delay.

After the rally five miles off northeast of New Ireland, the planes proceeded home on a course of 310 degrees magnetic. Enroute to base, it was noted that there was a hole about four inches in diameter in the forward part of the top turret of plane bureau number 36209. No one was in the turret at the time hole was made, therefore cause unknown as none of the crew members observed any firing from the ground.

The planes were recorded as pancaking at 1548.

(All times in narrative are love)

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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LtCol. USMC.
COMMANDING OFFICER

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE