

MG-61

146
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Report # 107

IIc(4)

5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Form ACA-1
Sheet 1 of 5

Ref: VAB-413 293
433 152
413 152

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VAB-61 (b) Based on or at Enison Island (c) Report No. 107
 (d) Take off: Date 16 Nov, 1945 Time 0915 Lat 01° 36' S. Long 150° S.
 (e) Mission Coordinated medium altitude bombing of New Hebrides 439, New Britain. (f) Time of Return 1225

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT

TYPE	SQD	NUMBER	TAKING OFF	ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	ATTACKING TARGET	BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (per plane)	FUSE SETTING
(a)	(b)	(d)	(c)	(e)	(f)	(g)	
PAL-1	VAB-413	9	None	7	3 x 500 GP M. 61.	None: AN M. 103 inst. Tail: AN M. 103A2 .10	
					3 x 500 GP M. 61.	None: AN M. 103 .10 sec Tail: AN M. 103A2 .01s	
PAL-1	VAB-413	9	None	9	3 x 500 GP M. 61.	None: AN M. 103 inst. Tail: AN M. 103A2 .10s	

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

TYPE	SQD	NO.	BASE	TYPE	SQD	NO.	BASE
PAL-5A	VAB-413	1	Enison Island				
PAL-5B	VAB-413	2	Enison Island				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only)

(a) TYPE	(b) NO.	(c) No. Engaged	(d) Time Encountered	(e) LOCATION OF ENCOUNTER	(f) BOMBS CARRIED, GUNS	(g) CAMOUFLAGE MARKINGS
None			(zone)			
			(zone)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____
 Did Any Part of Encounter(s) _____
 (i) Occur in Clouds? _____ If so, Describe Clouds _____
 Time of Day and (Yes or No) _____ (base in feet, type, tenths cover)
 (j) Brilliance 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)

(a) TYPE A/C	(b) Destroyed or Damaged By: Type A/C: SQD	(c) Pilot or Gunner	(d) Guns used: Where hit angle: Claimed
None			

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

Form ACA-1
Sheet 1 of 5

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting 442 61 (b) Based on or at Eniwetok Island (c) Report No. 107
 (d) Take off: Date _____ Time _____ Lat _____ Long _____
 (e) Mission _____ (f) Time of Return _____

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT

TYPE	SQD	NUMBER	TAKING OFF	ENGAGING	ATTACKING	BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (per plane)	FUSE SETTING
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
P-40	442 61	1				3 x 500 GP Mk. 61	Hose: AN M. 103.10sec Fall: AN M. 101A2.01sec
P-40	442 61	1				3 x 500 GP Mk. 61	Hose: AN M. 103.10sec Fall: AN M. 101A2.01sec

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

TYPE	SQD	NO.	BASE	TYPE	SQD	NO.	BASE

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only)

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
TYPE	NO. OBSERVED	NO. ENGAGED	Time Encountered	LOCATION OF ENCOUNTER	BOMBS CARRIED, GUNS	CAMOUFLAGE MARKINGS
			(zone)			
			(zone)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____
 Did Any Part of Encounter(s) _____
 (i) Occur in Clouds? _____ If so, Describe Clouds _____
 Time of Day and (Yes or No) _____ (base in feet, type, tenths cov)
 (j) Brilliance 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)

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
TYPE A/C	Type A/C: SQD	Destroyed or Damaged By: Pilot or Gunner	Damage: Guns used: Where hit angle: Claimed

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No 107

XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only)

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Rabaul #39, N.B. & Panapai, N.I. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1106L Rabaul
1605L Panapai (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target clear
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target clear (e) Visibility 10
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type level Bomb Sight Used Mk.15 Mod.7
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (FEET)
Bombs Dropped per Run All Spacing 50' Altitude of Bomb Release 11,000'-11,800'
(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 New Rabaul #39	500' x 800'	7 VMB-413	42 x 500 GP's		
2 Panapai Bivouac	1000' x 1600'	1 VMB-413	6 x 500 GP's		See "o"
3 New Rabaul #39	500' x 800'	9 VMB-433	54 x 500 GP's		
4 New Rabaul #39	500' x 800'	8 VMB-443	48 x 500 GP's		
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.- 42 x 500# GP's strung from 600 yards to 900 yards north of the target.
- 2.- 6 x 500 GP's hit just west of target.
- 3.- 6 x 500# GP's landed astride a tank ditch 500 yards south of Sulphur Creek.
6 x 500# GP's landed in north bank of Sulphur Creek or 200 yards east of target.
18 x 500# GP's landed between 300 and 600 yards north of the target in the vicinity of old anti-aircraft positions.
24 x 500# GP's strung, one by one, from 200 yards to 1200 yards northnorthwest of the target landing in open areas.
- 4.- 10 x 500# GP's fell in the western section of the target. Two bombs fell within 25 feet of two revetted huts but no damage was visible to the buildings.
32 x 500# GP's strung from northern edge of the target to a point 700 yards north-northwest.
6 x 500# GP's fell close to shore in the water 500 to 700 yards northnorthwest of target.

Photographs attached:

(4) (130) (VMB-433) (0) (11,000') (1106L) (16May45) (Rabaul # 39)

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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

413		433		443	
CALL	PILOT	CALL	PILOT	CALL	PILOT
254B21	Mendenhall	266B21	Long	279B21	Gould
255B21	Leggie	267B21	Hadden	280B21	Ballou
256B21	Smith	268B21	Beavers	281B21	Schreier
257B21	Arsenault	269B21	Klein	282B21	Booth
258B21	Fischburg	270B21	Evans	283B21	Gorman
259B21	Conant	271B21	McMurtrie	284B21	Palmer
260B21	Brueggstrass	272B21	Wilson	285B21	Garton
261B21	Oxsen	273B21	Giberson	286B21	Burt
262B21	Thomas	274B21	Tengas		

Lt. Col. Gould led three squadrons of PBJs on a medium level bombing attack of New Rabaul #39, located at Sulphur Creek, New Britain, containing revetted buildings and concrete tunnel entrances.

144 x 500 GPs were dropped on the target area, scattering around and in the target. Two revetted huts, old anti-aircraft positions and a tank trap were possibly damaged.

Lt. Col. Gould, leading VMB-443, took off at 0915, followed by VMB-433 at 0910 and VMB-413 at 0924. Each squadron after becoming airborne, headed for Djaul Island where the rendezvous for the group was held at 10,000 feet. From this point the flight in a vee formation took a course direct for the Duke of York Islands at which the squadrons were ordered to change to a left echelon, squadrons javelin down. Making a wide sweep to Cape Gazelle and continued along the curve of the shore the formation turned off Baluana Point for a bombing run of 321° magnetic. Time over target was 1106, as the squadrons were spaced 400 feet below one another, the lead squadron being at 11,800 feet.

Breaking to starboard, short of the Mother Volcano, the formation rallied 10 miles west of the Duke of Yorks to take a course for Selapiu Island and then to the base. All planes landed safely by 1240.

Two planes from VMB-413 landed at Green Island when one plane had engine trouble. Returning in the afternoon, one plane dropped 6 x 500 GPs just west of the Panapai Bivouac Area, New Ireland, and the time of drop was 1605. The other plane carried it's six bombs back to the base.

R. R. CRUISE,
Capt., USMCR,
Group Intelligence Officer.

P. K. SMITH,
Col., USMC,
Group Commander.

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE



(130)(VM3433)(0X20)(11,000)(1106L)(6 MAY 45)(RABAU 39)