

VMB-423

159
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Report # 271

Hc(9)

41

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)
CONFIDENTIAL
REPORT No. 271

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 None				
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
None				

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	
PBJ-LJ	---632---	3hrs55'	974	672	None	None	None	None	None	1
PBJ-LJ	---679---	4hrs22'	974	722	None	None	None	None	None	1

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over				XX
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm				XX
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	XX			

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes
 - TURNES
 - DIVES
 - CEILINGS
 - RANGE
 - PROTECTION
 - ARMAMENT

No enemy aircraft encountered.

XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES

- (a) Target & Location: Rabaul, New Britain (b) Time over Target: 2010/2230
2220/2417
(c) Clouds over Target: .4 Cloud Cover (d) Visibility of Target: Hazy
(e) Visibility: 10-15 miles (f) Bombing Tactics: Type: Level
Bomb Sight Used: D-8 Bombs Dropped per Run: 1, 5 and 8. Spacing: Varied
Altitude of Bomb Release: 9,500 to 10,000 feet.
(g) No. of Enemy A/C hit on Ground: Destroyed: None Probably Destroyed: None
Damaged: None

(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
Rabaul, New Britain	1	VMB-423:5	X 250# GP	See (o)		
Erinhur Creek	1	VMB-423:1	X 250# GP	" "		
South of Simpson Harbor	1	VMB-423:1	X 250# GP	" "		
Malaguna Area	1	VMB-423:1	X 250# GP	" "		
Ground Lights NE of Vunakobau	1	VMB-423:0	X 250# GP	" "		

(e) RESULTS:

The results were generally unobserved.

(p) Were photographs Taken? No

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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

CALL	PILOT	T/O GREEN	T/O/T	P/C GREEN
331B21	Major TAYLOR	1920	2010/2230	2315
332B21	RIGDON	2133	2220/2417	0055

On the night of 12/13 April, 1945, a two plane snoopers search and heckling mission was flown over Rabaul, New Britain.

By 1920, 331B21 was airborne and proceeded to the Gazelle Peninsula, where 8 X 250 pound general purpose bombs were dropped during the period of 2010 to 2230. Five on Rabaul, one on Sulphur Creek, one south of Simpson Harbor, and one in Malaguna area.

At 2133, 332B21 was airborne and proceeded to New Britain and relieved 331B21 on station to continue the mission. During the period of 2220 to 2417, 8 X 250 pound general purpose bombs were dropped on ground lights northeast of Vunakanau near Karavia Bay area.

Results were unobserved.

Approximately thirty bursts of inaccurate medium and heavy anti-aircraft fire was encountered by 331B21 in the vicinity of Karavia Bay and Vulcan Crater. No search lights were encountered. Neither anti-aircraft fire or search lights were encountered by 332B21.

(All times in this narrative are local).

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE