

MG-61

149  
41

Report # 1417

IC(4)



# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

## I. GENERAL

Ref: WR-113 346  
423 376  
443 192

(a) Unit Reporting NAAG-61 (b) Based on or at Prinsen Island (c) Report No. 147  
(d) Take off: Date 19 July, 1945 Time (LZT) 0851-0900 (Zone); Lat. 01° 36' S. Long 150° E.  
(e) Mission Coordinated medium altitude bombing of A/A positions, Kawlong, N.I. Rabaul #4, & Kabagala #13, New Britain. (f) Time of Return 1030-1041 (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)		
PBJ-14	WR-423	6	None	6	6 x 500# GP's	None: AN-M-103 inst. Tail: AN-M-101A2 .025 sec.
PBJ-1	WR-423	9	None	9	8 x 250# GP's	None: AN-M-103 inst. Tail: AN-M-100A2 inst.
PBJ-1	WR-443	7	None	7	8 x 250# GP's	None: AN-M-103 inst. Tail: AN-M-100A2 inst.

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
PBJ	WR-423	1	Prinsen Island				
PBJ-1	Hq. Sq.	1	same				

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)  
(j) Time of Day and Brilliance \_\_\_\_\_ (k) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_ (MILES)  
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON, DAY, OVERCAST, ETC.)

## 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		
None					







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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 Divouac Area, N.I., Kavieng, N. I., & Panapal Divouac, N.I. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1003-1009L (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target scattered cu. 9,000' to 10,000'.  
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target partially obscured (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) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run all Spacing 20' to 75' Altitude of Bomb Release 10,100'-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 Kavieng Divouac Area, N. I.		7 WR-443	56 x 250# GP's		
2 Kavieng, N. I.		6 WR-423	36 x 500# GP's		See "e".
3 Panapal Divouac Area, N.I.		9 WR-413	72 x 250# GP's		
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.-55 x 250# GP's hit 100 yards north of target clearing out a large patch of trees, no apparent damage.  
1 x 250# GP hung and was jettisoned at sea north of New Hanover.
- 2.-36 x 500# GP's burst along south side of target destroying one heavy gun (direct hit), damaging gardens and cratering the road. A small fire was started in a clump of trees on southeastern side of the guns.
- 3.-70 x 250# GP's struck in wooded area 100 feet southwest of target for unobserved damage.  
2 x 250# GP's hung and were jettisoned at sea.

Photographs attached:

- (3) (WR-423) (213) (0) (20") (10,800') (1007L) (19 July, 1945) (Kavieng A/A positions.)  
(2) (WR-413 - 735) (0) (8 1/2") (10,400') (1009L) (19 July, 1945) (Panapal Divouac Area.)

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



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## XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA. (Narrative and comment. Describe action fully and comment freely, following applicable items in check list at left. Use additional sheets if necessary.)

### ENGAGEMENT WITH ENEMY

#### OWN AIRCRAFT

- Disposition
- Altitudes
- Speeds
- Approach Tactics
- Use of Cover, Deception
- Angles of Attack and Their Effectiveness
- Distance of Opening Fire
- Defense Tactics and Their Effectiveness

#### ENEMY AIRCRAFT

- Method of Locating, Distance
- Disposition
- Altitudes
- Speeds
- Approach Tactics
- Use of Cover, Deception
- Angles of Attack
- Distance of Opening Fire
- Defense Tactics

#### COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Own Weaknesses
- Enemy Weaknesses
- Offensive Tactics, Own
- " " " Enemy
- Defensive Tactics, Own
- " " " Enemy
- Flexible Gunnery, Own
- Escort Tactics
- Fighter Direction
- Use of Radar
- Night Fighting
- Recognition, Aircraft

### ATTACK

#### OWN TACTICS

- Method of Locating Target
- Approach to Target
- Altitudes, Speeds
- Approach
- Dive
- Pull-Out
- Dive Angle
- Strafing
- Retirement
- Defensive Tactics
- Use of Jamming

#### DEFENSE, ENEMY

- Evasive Tactics, Ships
- Concealment
- Searchlights
- Night Fighter Tactics
- Use of Jamming

#### COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Bombing Tactics
- Torpedo Tactics
- Effectiveness of
- Bombs, Torpedoes
- Selection of Targets
- Fuzing
- Strafing Tactics
- Defensive Tactics
- Use of Radar
- Reconnaissance
- Photography
- Briefing

### OPERATIONAL

- Navigation
- Homing
- Rendezvous
- Recognition, Ships
- Communications
- Flight Operations
- Search and Tracking
- Base Operations
- Maintenance

413		423		443	
CALL	PILOT	CALL	PILOT	CALL	PILOT
251B21	Coz	242B21	Taylor	279B21	Anderson
252B21	Usher	243B21	Barrett	280B21	Johnson
256B21	Wilson	244B21	Sofers	281B21	Garton
257B21	MacLean	245B21	Winn	282B21	Stone
258B21	Oxson	246B21	Paige	283B21	Pratt
259B21	Appel	247B21	Lee	284B21	England
260B21	Smith			285B21	Curcio
261B21	Ulrich				
262B21	Sanford				

Today's Mitchell medium altitude strike hit their secondary targets; Kavieng heavy A/A, the Panapai and Kavieng Bivouac Areas, as weather closed in on the primaries.

Major Taylor led six PWs of WR-423 in a raid on the heavy A/A at Kavieng, New Ireland, when bad weather prevented an attack on the primary target, Kabagada #1, New Britain. The formation was airborne by 0654 and joined up in two-three plane sections javelin down. The strike proceeded down the NE coast of New Ireland until near Fangelawa Bay where it was decided an attack on the primary could not be made, and the formation turned back to the secondary, Kavieng. The bomb run was on a heading of 285° magnetic, at 10,800' and speed of 155 knots. With bombs away at 1007 the flight broke right and returned to base. The last plane pancaked at Bairau at 1039. 36 x 5000 GP's burst along the south side of the target, scoring a direct hit on one heavy gun, damaging gardens and cratering the road. A small fire was started in a clump of trees on the southwestern side of the guns.

Lt. Col. R.B. Coz took nine Mitchell's from his squadron, WR-413, on a strike planned for Rabaul #4. As this target was closed in, the squadron hit its secondary, the Panapai Bivouac Area. The strike was airborne at 0651 flying vee javelin down. Upon nearing Cape Wamarado, New Ireland it was determined that the Rabaul Area was closed so the flight turned and flew back to Panapai along the NE coast of New Ireland. The bombing run was made on a heading of 285° magnetic, from 10,100' at a speed of 150 knots. Bombs were away at 1009. 70 x 250# GP's struck in a wooded area 100 feet southwest of the target for unobserved damage. 2 x 250# GP's hung and were jettisoned at sea. All planes returned safely to Bairau by 1046.

Major Anderson led 7 WR-443 PW's off the strip at 0900 for a strike at Kabagada #13. The weather below Fangelawa was such that this squadron was instructed to hit its secondary, the Kavieng Bivouac. Accordingly the flight reversed its course, cutting in over the New Ireland coast at the Old Balgud Strip, and turned starboard for a run on its secondary. The run was executed on 315° magnetic at an altitude of 11,000' and speed of 154 knots. The lead was away at 1003. After release the strike broke left and rallied northeast of North Cape. A short hop to base put all the planes on the deck at 1030. The customary javelin down formation was used throughout.

R. R. CHUISE,  
Capt., USMC,  
Group Intelligence Officer.

H. P. BECKER,  
Col., USMC,  
Group Commander.





3) (VMB-923) (243) (0) (20) (10800) (1007LX) (19 July 1957) K. J. ... Co. f





(VMB 913-735)(0)(8 1/2") (10,410') (10092) (19 JULY, 95) (Pinnacal BIRDS AREA)