1MB-4723

190

Neport # 29mg

TC

CONFIDENCE AFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

053037

II. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION. PER SQUADRON NUMBER BASE TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE A VPB-53 1 Green Island V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). PER OBSERVED NO BESCAGING OBSERVED NO BESCAGING OBSERVED (GCT) (GCT) Oparent Enemy Mission(s) (1) Sun or Moon	FUZE, SETTING		ING TARGET	NO ENGAGING	NO. OF	SQUADRON	YPE
Solution	8 X 250# GP		THE TANGET	ENEMY A/C	NO. OF SORTIES		
TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER TYPE SQUADRON NUMB			3	None	3	VMB423	-10
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OBSERVED OBSERVED OWN A/C OBSERVED OWN A/C OWN	MALL		Island	Green	1	VPB-53	A
Description of Encounter (s) (i) Sun or Moon (ii) Sun or Moon (iii) Sun or Moon (iii) Sun or Moon (iv) Destroyed or Damaged By (iv) Type A/C SQUADRON PILOT OR CURNIS SQUADRON (c)							
Description of Encounter (s) Camputation of Encounter (s)			A	IINTERED (D	AFT FNCO	MY AIRCR	ENE
CAMOL (GCT) (G	(e)	N OF	LOCATION	TIME	NO ENGAGING	NO I	
(GCT) (G	COUNTED CAMOUS OF	NTER	ENCOUN	ENCOUNTERED	OWN A/C		
(GCT) Obarent Enemy Mission(s) Other and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s) (j) Sun or Moon (k) Visibility ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in 11 Only). (b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY: (c) (c)				(GCT)			
parent Enemy Mission(s)				(GCT)			
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ather and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s)				(GCT)			
A/C TYPE A/C SQUADRON PILOT OR GUNNER CHAIR (c)	(k) Visibility	R (B		of Encounter(s	t Location of Location of Location of Control of Contro	Y AIRCRAF	ENEM'
The state of the s	GUNS USED WHERE HIT ANGLE						A/C
	CI						
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VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT None

VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES

None

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING

A/C	MILES	MILES	AV HOURS IN AIR	AV FUEL LOADED	AV FUEL CONSUMED	TOTAL AMMO: NO. OF A/c EXPENDED : RETURNING
PBJ-1J	185	178	2hrs 20'	974	385	11,000 rds .50 Caliber 3

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED.

HEAVY MEDIUM LIGHT	None	Meager	Heavy
	XX		XX

X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY STAIRCRAFT.

No enemy aircraft encountered.

XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES.

- (a) Target & Location: Nakaru#9, Boug'nvil' (b) Time over Target: 2042 (c) Clouds over Target: 2 Communication (d) Target: 2043
- (c) Clouds over Target: .2 Cover (d) Visibility of Target: Clear
- (e) Visibility: 20 miles (f) Bombing Tactics: Type: Low Level
 Bomb Sight Used: None Bombs Dropped per Run: 8 Spacing: 25 ft.
 Altitude of Bomb Release: 100 Feet
- (g) No. of Enemy A/C hit on Ground None Destroyed None Damaged None
- (h) (i) (k) (l) (m) (n)

 Nakaru #9,

 Bougainville VMB-423 24 X 250# GP See(o)

(o) RESULTS:

of the target while nineteen obtained good coverage of Nakaru target #9 ammunition. The speed of the planes prevented observation of results and no photographs were taken.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No

Sheet 4	of &		AIRCRAFT	ACTION	REPORT	CONFIDENTIAL 293
CALL		PILOT	T/O	GREEN	T/O/T	P/C GREEN
331B21 332B21 333B21	Major	LOWELL HOPPER LUSKY		1930 1930 1931	2040 2042 2043	2145 2150 2155

Major LOWELL, Operations Officer, led three PBJs of VMB-423 in a night low level bombing and strafing attack on target #9, Nakaru, Bougainville. The strike was planned to surprise the enemy relying on darkness, direction of approach and the speed of the planes to achieve this effect.

The strike was airborne by 1932 and joined up as described; a three plane section in vee formation and proceeded down the west coast of Bougainville at 3000 feet. South of Montopena Point the formation went into left echelon and made a shallow left turn at the Mibo River to a heading of 0180 magnetic, still at 3000 feet. When west of Kara Airdrome the flight leader peeled off to the right and flew east until north of Kara at an altitude of 2000 feet. The other planes proceeded on the heading of 0180 magnetic and peeled off to the right successively at one minute intervals and flew east until north of Kara Airdrome.

The first plane made its bombing and strafing run on a heading of 1380 magnetic at 2040, the second plane at 2042 on a heading of 1580 magnetic and the third at 2044 on a heading of 1780 magnetic. All bombing and strafing was done from an altitude of 100 feet at a speed of from 190 to 200 knots indicated, and when beyond target #9, broke to the right and returned to base individually at altitudes of 2000, 3000 and 4000 feet. All planes were safely on deck at Green by 2155.

Moderate inaccurate medium anti-aircraft fire was encountered from unidentified positions.

Five bombs were dropped on gardens two miles north of the target while nineteen obtained good coverage of Nakaru target #9 and the target was thoroughly strafed with 11,000 rounds of caliber .50 ammunition. The speed of the planes prevented observation of results and no photographs were taken.

(All times in this narrative are love).

WARD D. MARTIN Capt., USMCR Intelligence Officer

NORMAN J. ANDERSON LtCol., USMC Commanding