

VMB-413

148  
⑧

Report # 249

ILC(8)

4



AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

6590  
012318

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when  
filled out)

I. GENERAL

CONFIDENTIAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB - 413 (b) Based on or at Enirau, St. Matthias (c) Report No. 249  
 (d) Take off: Date 4/5 April, 1945 Time (LZT) narrative (Zone); Lat. 01° 38' S Long. 150° E  
 (e) Mission Heckle Kavieng Area, New Ireland (f) Time of Return narrative (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-1	VMB413	2	None	2	6 x 250 GP inst.	AN-M-103 nose AN-M-102A2 tail
PBJ-1	VMB413	2	None	2	6 x 500 GP inst.	AN-M-102A2 tail
PBJ-1	VMB413	1	None	1	6 x 500 incendiary	No Fuse
PBJ-1	VMB413	1	None	1	4 x 500 "	" "
					2 x 100 "	" "

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
	None						

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)  
 Time of Day and Brilliance  
 (j) of Sun or Moon \_\_\_\_\_ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (k) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_ (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	* GUNS USED		
	None					



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## VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only). VMB 413

(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	<u>None</u>			
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
	<u>None</u>			

## 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	
<u>F4U-1</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>2hr16'</u>	<u>375</u>	<u>280</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>6</u>

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

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

## 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



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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, New Ireland (b) Time Over Target(s) ref. narrative (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target 4/10 (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Partially Obscured (e) Visibility 20 (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Medium Bomb Sight Used MR. 15 (TYPE) 7

Bombs Dropped per Run Varied Spacing Varied Altitude of Bomb Release 10,000-11,500 (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		6			
2 Area		VNB 413	All	see(o)	see(o)
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).

2 x 500 incendiaries in woods, 1500 yds north of Kavieng strip.  
 2x 500 " in woods, 2000 yards south east of Panapai strip.  
 2 x 500 " in woods, west of Kavieng strip.  
 4 x 500 " in woods, north of Kavieng strip.  
 2 x 100 " in woods, east of Kavieng strip.  
 6 x 250 GP inst. in woods, 2500 yards south east of Panapai strip.  
 6 x 250 GP inst. in woods, between Kavieng and Panapai strips.  
 5 x 500 " " in woods, 2000' south east of Panapai strip.  
 2 x 500 " " in woods, 1000 yards south of Panapai strip.  
 2 x 500 " " in Kavieng Town.  
 2 x 500 " " in woods, 2000 feet north of Kavieng strip.  
 1 x 500 " " in woods, 500 yards west of Panapai strip.

(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. **VMB 413**  
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	TTO	TOT	TOR
254B21	BROCKEWE	1945	2030	2205
255B21	HELMKE	1945	2125	2205
256B21	MAC LEAN	2056	2125	2309
257B21	INGBERG	2056	2225	2309
258B21	BOUSCAREN	0001	0025	0145
259B21	OSLUND	0001	0115	0145

Six planes from this squadron heckled the Kavieng area from Kavieng Town to Balgai Air Field, between 2030 to 2225 and 0025 to 0115.

The first two planes were over the target from 2030 to 2125, the second two planes covered the target from 2125 to 2225 and the last two planes were over the target from 0025 to 0115.

A total of twenty seven bombing runs were made during the night. The runs were made on varied courses and altitudes between 10,000 to 11,500 feet. The usual procedure was followed, one plane heckled and one covered 1000 feet above.

The area from Kavieng Town to the Balgai area was well covered by a total of 12 x 500 pound GP instantaneous bombs, 12 x 250 pound incendiary clusters, 10 x 500 pound incendiary clusters and 2 x 100 pound incendiary clusters.

Results were very good, one large fire was started in the woods, 2000 yards south east of the Panapai strip which continued to burn until the last plane was off the target. Four small fires were started in the wooded area, 1500 yards north of the Kavieng strip and five other small fires were started 2000 feet north east of the Kavieng strip.

All planes hit the deck safely, the last two planes on the deck at 0145.

(All times in narrative are love)

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

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ASS'T INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

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COMMANDING OFFICER

REPORT PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE