

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL
I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMO-251 (b) Based on or at PIVA NORTH BOUGAINVILLE (c) Report No. 36
 (d) Take off: Date 8-14 Oct. 1944. Time (LZT) _____ (Zone); Lat. 6°13'S Long. 155°7'E
 (e) Mission Fighter-bombing and strafing sweeps of NEW BRITAIN and BOUGAINVILLE targets. (f) Time of Return _____ (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)		
F4U-1	VMO-251	33	None	33	Total: 5 tons bombs 44,400 rds. 50 Cal. Included above.	Inst.
FG-1A	"	11	"	11		

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 _____
(YES OR NO) (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						
					11 01120	

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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) GAZELLE PENINSULA, NEW BRITAIN (b) Time Over Target(s) Varying (Zone)
FOR ENEMY AIRCRAFT IN THE AREA UNDER ATTACK
and BOUGAINVILLE.
- (c) Clouds Over Target Varying weather conditions.
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target _____ (e) Visibility _____
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type _____ Bomb Sight Used _____
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run _____ Spacing _____ Altitude of Bomb Release _____
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed _____ Probably Destroyed _____ Damaged _____

(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 Jap huts and gardens between KARA AIRFIELD and Mt. SENFFT; Jap bivouac at KAINO-KUPAI sector; Jap O.P. near KOROMIRA; huts at BONAMU.		10 VMO-251	No bombs 16,400 rds. 50 Cal.		Unobserved except for seeing one hut ablaze.
2 LEMINGI VILLAGE, N. B. plus huts up and down the coast.		4 VMO-251	4x500 lb. bombs 3800 rds. 50 Cal.		Unobserved.
3 Bivouac area, Experimental Gardens, KERAVAT, NEW BRITAIN.		4 VMO-251	4x500 lb. bombs 800 rds. 50 Cal.		Unobserved.

(o) Rest of targets continued on next page.
 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).

Probably wrecked three trucks.
 Sank a 40 foot single-masted boat.
 Cratered four Jap gardens.
 Smoked one hut.
 Fired one hut.
 Probably killed two Japs by strafing.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No. Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

<u>TARGET</u>	<u>NO. A/C</u>	<u>BOMBS & AMMO.</u>	<u>HITS</u>	<u>DAMAGE</u>
4. Seven trucks along road from MALABUNGA JUNCTION TO TOMA.	4	2200 rds. 50 Cal.	3	Probably wrecked three.
5. Possible twin engine Jap plane in VUNAKANAU 2 revetment.	2	800 rds. 50 Cal.		Unobserved
6. 40 foot fishing boat in TORIU RIVER, OPEN BAY, NEW BRITAIN	6	6x500 lb. bombs. 3000 rds. 50 Cal.	Several very close	Sank boat
7. Good-looking house on TORIU RIVER.	4	4x500 lb. bombs. 2000 rds. 50 Cal.	2	Damaged slightly.
8. Experimental Gardens, KERAVAT, N.B.	4	4x500 lb. bombs. 2800 rds. 50 Cal.	4	Cratered several gardens. Other damage unobserved.
9. Two Japs in garden near KUKUGAI, BOUGAINVILLE.	2	800 rds. 50 Cal.	?	Unobserved.
10. Gardens near KUKUGAI and NE of KARA AIRFIELD One with 2 more Japs	4	4200 rds. 50 Cal.	?	Two probable Japs.
11. Hutsat KUKUGA and TUGIU	2	4700 rds. 50 Cal.	Yes.	One hit left blazing, another smoking.

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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

No comment.

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

REPORT PREPARED BY: *H. B. Welch*

APPROVED BY:

H. B. WELCH, 2ndLt., A.C.I.O.

W. C. Humbert
W. C. HUMBERD, Major, 14 October, 1944.

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

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DATE

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