

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. 4
 (d) Date of Action 26 August, 1944 Take off: Time 0815 L (~~XXX~~); Lat 6°13' S Long 155°07' E
 (f) Mission Bomb and strafe (g) Time of Return _____ (GCT)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) TYPE	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NO. OF SORTIES	(d) NO. ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	(e) NO. ATTACK- ING TARGET	(f) BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE)	(g) FUZE, SETTING
F4U-1	VMO-251	14	None	14	7x1000 lb. bomb.	1/10 second.
FG-1A	VMO-251	2	"	2	1x1000 lb. bomb.	"

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
F4U-1	VMF-223	16	Same as VMO-251				
SBD	VMSB-236	15	"				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (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.			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____
 (i) Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter (s) _____
 (j) Sun or Moon _____ (k) Visibility _____

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.						

X
87540

9 02385

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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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	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, REMARKS
1	F4U-1VMO-251	Operational	No	Pilot landed with tail wheel retracted causing only slight damage to bottom of fuselage.
2				
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12				
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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

(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, PLANES RETURNING			
						NO. OF PLANES	.30	50	20MM MM.
F4U-1	215	215	3.0	344	240	16		12,000	

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

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

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

X. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only)

- (a) Location of Target(s) SIMPSON HARBOR, NEW BRITIAN (b) Time Over Target(s) 0925 L ~~001~~
 (c) Weather and Clouds Over Target CAVU.
 (d) Sun or Moon _____ (e) Visibility Unlimited.

XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.

(a) DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	(e) ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
	(c) SQUADRON			
1AA SUGAR, (Gun positions on west side of SIMPSON HARBOR).	8 VMO-251	4,000 rounds 50 Cal. 8x1000 lb. bombs	2,500	
2Barges along western shore of SIMPSON HARBOR.	8 VMO-251	8,000 rounds 50 Cal.		Fired 2 Riddled 3
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

(g) **RESULTS:** (FOR SHIP TARGETS 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, WITH DIAGRAMS OR CHARTS WHERE DESIRABLE. DESCRIBE TARGETS FULLY IN (a), AND IN REPORTING DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION, IDENTIFY BY NUMBERS AT LEFT. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY).

TARGET #1. No damage seen from bombing.

TARGET #2. JENNINGS and BARTON caused two barges near TOBOI WHARF to burst into flame. HART'S division riddled three other barges in vicinity of the MARINE RAILWAY. JENNINGS also started a fire among some buildings on KABAKON ISLAND, DUKE OF YORK.

AA FIRE ENCOUNTERED: Pilots saw moderate amount of inaccurate light AA striking the water during their retirement. May have come either from MATUPI ISLAND or RALUANA POINT.

(h) Were Photographs Taken? No. Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached.

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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
Defensive 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
Release
Pull-Out
Dive Angle
Strafing
Retirement
Defensive Tactics**DEFENSE, ENEMY**Evasive Tactics, Ships
Concealment
Anti-aircraft
Searchlights
Night Fighter Tactics**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

This attack was the second in two days against anti-aircraft guns and barges on the western side of SIMPSON HARBOR, RABAU AREA. Once again the SBD's of VMSB-236 went in on AA positions to the NW and W of the harbor and sixteen fighter bombers divided equally between VMO-251 and VMF-223 hit the positions farther south but also on the western side of the harbor. Then sixteen more fighters, also equally divided among the two fighter squadrons already mentioned, strafed barges and other targets along the western shore.

The attack plan called for the first two fighter bombers of VMO-251 to hit the 2 Auto AA guns located on SE side of VULCAN CRATER, which they did, with unobserved results; the next four planes to hit the suspected AA positions just to the north of the VULCAN BARGE HIDE. The first two of these four planes had one dud and one bomb which hung and later fell off the plane during retirement. The second two were prevented from making their attack by several SBD's which appeared beneath them at the moment they were about to release. So these two quit their dive and released on MG positions south of VULCAN CRATER, obtained area hits but could not see any damage. The last two planes of the eight fighter bombers of this squadron dropped on the one auto north of VULCAN CRATER. They pushed over at 12,000 ft. and went into an 85° dive with dive brakes, attaining a speed of 340 knots indicated, one released at 4500-5000 ft. because his windshield was covered with oil and he couldn't see; the other released at 3,000, for two area hits.

The bombing tactics employed by the four planes which did successfully attack their assigned targets consisted of a pushover at 12,000 ft., 75 degree angle of dive, 340 knots indicated air speed, with dive brakes, and a release at approximately 2500 feet with 90 mils lead.

The eight strafing planes of our squadron expended 8,000 rounds on barges and wharfs along the shore. They followed the bombers in by a few seconds, but all complained that the flight leader pushed over at too high an altitude (12,000 Ft), thus giving them too much speed (400 knots) for a good strafing run. Retirement was made at low level over BLANCHE BAY between MATUPI ISLAND and RALUANA POINT.

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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

None.

MISSION LOG

<u>PLANE NO.</u>	<u>PILOT</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
036	TELLER	Unobserved
942	MOYNIHAN	"
065	TANNER	Dud
221	ROBINSON	Hung and jettisoned
691	SMITH	Area hit.
387	NEILSON	"
032	MAC LACHLAN	"
044	ROSELLEN	"
265	HART	All eight of these planes strafed.
119	ERDMANN	
724	FLICKINGER	
394	CRUTCHER	
305	JENNINGS	
353	BARTON	
413	FOLEY	
739	FRANK	

REPORT PREPARED BY:

H.B. Welch
H.B. WELCH, 2ndLt., A.C.I.O.
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

W.L. Bachelor
W.L. BACHELER, Major, 26 August, 1944.
Actg. CO. RANK AND DUTY DATE

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CONFIDENTIAL

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
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I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMO-251 (b) Based on or at PIVA NORTH BOUGAINVILLE (c) Report No. 5
 (d) Date of Action 27 August, 1944. (e) Take off: Time 0930 L (GCT); Lat. 4°25'S Long 154°10' E
 (f) Mission Bomb and strafe (g) Time of Return 1050 L (GCT)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) TYPE	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NO. OF SORTIES	(d) NO. ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	(e) NO. ATTACKING TARGET	(f) BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE)	(g) FUZE, SETTING
F4U-1	VMO-251	13	None	10	1x500 lb. mag. cluster	No fuse
FG-1A	VMO-251	3	"	3	"	"

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
F4U-1	VMF-223	16	Same as VMO-251				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (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.			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____
 (i) Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s) _____
 (j) Sun or Moon _____ (k) Visibility _____

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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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

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	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, REMARKS
1 F4U-1	VMO-251	Operational		Surveyed one elevator when it struck side of revetment at GREEN ISLAND. The elevator was replaced and the plane flown back to base by the pilot, ENDERS
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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

(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, PLANES RETURNING			
						NO. OF PLANES	.30	.50	20MM MM.
F4U-1	123	215	2.8	344	175	16		2,600	

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

TURNS

DIVES

CEILINGS

RANGE

PROTECTION

ARMAMENT

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

X. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only),

(a) Location of Target(s) TALILI BAY, RABAU, NEW BRITIAN (b) Time Over Target(s) 1025 L ~~00~~
 (c) Weather and Clouds Over Target CAVU.
 (d) Sun or Moon _____ (e) Visibility Unlimited.

XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.

(a) DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING (c) SQUADRON	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	(e) ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
1 <u>RATAVAL 124: Buildings and supply area inland from TALILI BAY.</u>	<u>13</u> <u>VMO-251</u>	<u>13x500 lb. mag.</u> <u>2,600 rds. 50 Cal.</u>	<u>2500</u>	<u>13 in Area.</u>
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(g) **RESULTS:** (FOR SHIP TARGETS 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, WITH DIAGRAMS OR CHARTS WHERE DESIRABLE. DESCRIBE TARGETS FULLY IN (a), AND IN REPORTING DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION, IDENTIFY BY NUMBERS AT LEFT. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY).

All bombs of the thirteen planes which reached the target were seen to fall within the target area. After the attack, many small fires were seen, including one that put up a 1500 foot column of brownish gray smoke. One fire was also started at a point in the cocconut plantation about 3/4 mile to the south of the target. The target consisted of an area about 1/4 mile square which is reported to contain many buildings and huts, and is located between RABAU TOWN and TALILI BAY, south of the TUNNEL HILL ROAD.

No results seen from strafing.

(h) Were Photographs Taken? No. Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached.

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

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
- Defensive 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
- Release
- Pull-Out
- Dive Angle
- Strafing
- Retirement
- Defensive Tactics

DEFENSE, ENEMY

- Evasive Tactics, Ships
- Concealment
- Anti-aircraft
- Searchlights
- Night Fighter Tactics

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

This attack was staged through GREEN ISLAND for the purpose of picking up 500 lb. magnesium cluster bombs. The flight took off from BOUGAINVILLE at 0700, landed at GREEN at 0750, loaded and took off for the target at 0930. Approach to target was made from the west over TALILI BAY at 12,000 feet. Pushover was at 11,500 feet, in a 70 to 80 degree dive with dive brakes, attaining an indicated air speed of 320 to 350 knots. The planes did not dive on a particular building, but rather on the area, so no sight lead was used. All bombs hit in the target area. Strafing was begun at 5,000 feet in the dive, and continued through the pull out.

Three planes did not reach the target for the following reasons: One did not take off from GREEN ISLAND because of an elevator damaged slightly while taxiing; another did not take off because of starting trouble, and FOWLER returned to GREEN after takeoff because of engine trouble.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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

No comment.

MISSION LOG

<u>PLANE NO.</u>	<u>PILOT</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
036	BACHELER	Hit in area.
942	PIRAGES	"
221	SPINDLER	"
157	JOHNSON, H.	"
387	JOLINK	Hit in area.
912	ENDERS	Did not get off from GREEN.
119	BOWERS	Hit in area.
305	CORMAN	"
065	TELLER	Hit in area
413	MOYNIHAN	"
739	ROBINSON	Direct hit.
724	TANNER	Hit in area.
099	FOWLER	Did not get off from GREEN.
691	MC CABE	" " "
394	SWICK	Hit in area.
353	MASHETER	"

REPORT PREPARED BY:

H. B. Welch

H. B. WELCH, 2nd Lt., A.C.I.O.

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

W. L. Bachelor

W. L. BACHELER, Major,

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

27 August, 1944.

DATE

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMO-251 (b) Based on or at PIVA NORTH BOUGAINVILLE (c) Report No. 6
(d) Date of Action 28 August, 1944 (e) Take off: Time 0915 L (GCT); Lat. 6°13' S Long 155°07' E
(f) Mission Bomb Truck Park and guns, CAPE LIGUAN (g) Time of Return 1155 L (GCT)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) TYPE	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NO. OF SORTIES	(d) NO. ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	(e) NO. ATTACK- ING TARGET	(f) BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE)	(g) FUZE, SETTING
F4U-1	VMO-251	13	None.	13	1x1000 lb.	1/10 sec.
FG-1A	"	3	"	3	"	"

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
F4U-1	VMF-223	16	Same as VMO-251				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (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.			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____

(i) Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s) _____

(j) Sun or Moon _____ (k) Visibility _____

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.						

9 02385

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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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	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, REMARKS
1 None.				
2				
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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

(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, PLANES RETURNING				
						NO. OF PLANES	.30	50	20MM	MM.
F4U-1	215	215	2.8	344	225	4		5600		

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

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

12

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

X. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only)

- (a) Location of Target(s) CAPE LIGUAN, NEW BRITAIN (b) Time Over Target(s) 1035 L 60
 (c) Weather and Clouds Over Target Ceiling Unlimited.
 (d) Sun or Moon _____ (e) Visibility Unlimited

XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.

(a) DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	(e) ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
	(c) SQUADRON			
1 Truck Park and storage bldgs. east of CAPE LIGUAN	12 VMO-251	9x1000 lb.	2-300	4 Direct 1 Area. 1 Damaging.
2 AA gun position just west of Truck Park	4 VMO-251	3x1000 lb. 5600 rds. 50 Cal.	1500 1500	3 Damaging.
3 Huts on WATOM ISLAND	1 VMO-251	1x1000 lb.	1500	1 Damaging.
4 TAWII POINT	1 VMO-251	1x1000 lb.	1500	Miss.
5				
6				
7				
8				

(g) **RESULTS:** (FOR SHIP TARGETS 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, WITH DIAGRAMS OR CHARTS WHERE DESIRABLE. DESCRIBE TARGETS FULLY IN (a), AND IN REPORTING DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION, IDENTIFY BY NUMBERS AT LEFT. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY).

TARGET # 1: Destroyed an unknown number of buildings. One division leader reported that the entire target, when he looked back, appeared to have been completely obliterated.

TARGET # 2: Though no actual damage could be seen by pilots in the split-second retirement, they did see three bombs explode right in the target.

TARGETS # 3 & 4: These two pilots had "cock-pit trouble", did not have their master gun switch on, did not release in the attack. They then selected other targets.

(h) Were Photographs Taken? No. Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached.

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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
- Defensive 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
- Release
- Pull-Out
- Dive Angle
- Strafing
- Retirement
- Defensive Tactics

DEFENSE, ENEMY

- Evasive Tactics, Ships
- Concealment
- Anti-aircraft
- Searchlights
- Night Fighter Tactics

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

PUSHOVER: 8-10,000 feet.
 ANGLE OF DIVE: 60-75 degrees.
 DIVE BRAKES: Yes.
 SPEED IN DIVE: 300-320 knots.
 RELEASE: 2-3000 feet.
 SIGHT LEAD: Varied from 50-100 mils.

Pilots stated that this was one of the most successful missions they have undertaken in some time, largely because of the weather being so good and the target was easy to locate.

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

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

MISSION LOG

<u>PLANE NO.</u>	<u>PILOT</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
036	TELLER	Damaging hit
942	MOYNIHAN	Direct hit
221	ROBINSON	Damaging hit
691	TANNER	Miss
387	SMITH	Direct hit
912	NEILSON	"
065	ROSELLEN	"
032	MAC LACHLAN	"
265	HART	Dud
119	ERDMANN	Damaging hit
394	FLICKINGER	"
724	CRUTCHER	"
305	JENNINGS	Hit in area
739	BARTON	Hung on and fell off in water.
353	FOLEY	Miss
413	FRANK	Damaging hit.

REPORT PREPARED BY

H. B. Welch

APPROVED BY

W. L. Bachelor

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

W. L. BACHELER, Major,

28 August, 1944.

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
Declassify when
filled out

I. GENERAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PIVA NORTH
BOUGAINVILLE

(a) Unit Reporting VMO-251 (b) Based on or at BOUGAINVILLE (c) Report No. 7
 (d) Date of Action 29 August, 1944 (e) Take off: Time 0905 L (GCT); Lat 6°13'S Long 155°07'E
 (f) Mission Bomb Bivouac Areas, PONDO PLTN., N.B. (g) Time of Return 1200 L (GCT)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) TYPE	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NO. OF SORTIES	(d) NO. ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	(e) NO. ATTACKING TARGET	(f) BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE)	(g) FUZE, SETTING
F4U-1	VMO-251	12	None	12	1x500 lb.	Inst.
FG-1A	"	3	"	3	1x500 lb.	"
16 A/C were ordered, but one did not take off (See Para. X111)						

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
F4U-1	VMF-223	16	Same as VMO-251				
SBD-5	VMSB-236	15	"				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (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						
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____

(i) Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s) _____

(j) Sun or Moon _____ (k) Visibility _____

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					
9 02385					

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

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	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, REMARKS
1 F4U-1	VMO-251	1 Cause not known positively, could have been a 50 Cal. ricochet, AA fire or fragment from a friendly bomb.	Atop the green house over pilot's head.	Slight. Knocked a 4" hole in the hood, necessitating a hood change.
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
1	VMO-251	SWICK, Orville, 1st Lt.	See Para VI	Suffered laceration of the face, above and below the right eye. Not seriously hurt.

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA

(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, PLANES RETURNING			
						NO. OF PLANES	.30	50	20MM MM.
F4U-1	215	215	3.0	344	230	14		9,600	

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

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

TURNING
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

X. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only),

TORIU RIVER and PONDO PLANTATION,

(a) Location of Target(s) OPEN BAY, NEW BRITAIN (b) Time Over Target(s) 1010 L ~~COF~~

(c) Weather and Clouds Over Target Cavu.

(d) Sun or Moon _____ (e) Visibility Unlimited.

XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.

(a) DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	(e) ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
	(c) SQUADRON			
1 Called Target #1. Jap bivouac on PONDO PLANTATION.	4 VMO-251	4x500 lb. 2300 rds. 50 Cal.	2000	4 in area.
2 Called Target #2. Jap bivouac on PONDO PLANTATION.	4 VMO-251	4x500 lb. 2300 rds. 50 Cal.	2000	4 in area.
3 Designated Target #5. Jap bivouac area TORIU RIVER	8 VMO-251	8x500 lb. 1000 rds. 50 Cal.	2000	8 in area.
4 Huts located 2 miles up from mouth of TORIU RIVER	8 VMO-251	4000 rds. 50 Cal.		Unknown.
5				
6				
7				
8				

(g) RESULTS: (FOR SHIP TARGETS 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, WITH DIAGRAMS OR CHARTS WHERE DESIRABLE. DESCRIBE TARGETS FULLY IN (a), AND IN REPORTING DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION, IDENTIFY BY NUMBERS AT LEFT. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY).

Results of bombing totally obscured by jungle. Good coverage was had of the assigned target, with 15 out of 15 bombs placed within the assigned targets.

The targets consisted simply of a designated piece of jungle where it is reported there are Japs encamped. The pilots did locate and thoroughly strafe several huts on the TORIU RIVER, approximately 2 miles up from the river's mouth.

(h) Were Photographs Taken? No. Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached.

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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
- Defensive 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

The usual dive bombing tactics were employed; Pushover at 9000 feet; angle of dive 65-70 degrees; dive brakes used; speed 300 knots indicated; release at 2000 feet with 75 to 100 mils lead.

No AA fire was seen by any pilot.

ATTACK

OWN TACTICS

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

DEFENSE, ENEMY

- Evasive Tactics, Ships
- Concealment
- Anti-aircraft
- Searchlights
- Night Fighter Tactics

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

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

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

One plane did not go on this mission because the engine quit on takeoff, just after the plane became airborne. The pilot succeeded in landing the plane safely with only damage to tires.

Another pilot on a hop in this same plane later in the day reported that the throttle would fly back to "idle" position as soon as he took his hand off it. This may have been what happened on the takeoff described above.

MISSION LOG

<u>PLANE NO.</u>	<u>PILOT</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
036	BACHELER	Hit in area.
942	PIRAGES	"
221	SPINDLER	"
157	JOHNSON, H.	"
119	JENNINGS	Hit in area.
724	BARTON	Did not takeoff.
17	FOLEY	Hit in area.
265	FRANK	"
895	JOLINK	Hit in area.
387	ENDERS	"
912	BOWERS	"
032	CORMAN	"
065	FWLER	Hit in area.
717	MC CABE	"
691	JOHNSON, A.	"
739	SWICK	"

REPORT PREPARED BY:

H. B. Welch
H. B. WELCH, 2nd Lt., A.C.I.O.
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

W. L. Bacheler
W. L. BACHELER, Major, 29 August, 1944.
SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY DATE

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED,
(Reclassify when
filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

X. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only)

(a) Location of Target(s) **1. SE of KERAVAL AIRFIELD, N.B.**
2. BUKA ISLAND, BOUGAINVILLE.
3. CAPE LAMBERT (b) Time Over Target(s) **1. 0815 L**
2. 0850 L
3. 1330 L GCT
 (c) Weather and Clouds Over Target **See Bottom of this page.**
 (d) Sun or Moon _____ (e) Visibility _____

XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.

(a) DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	(e) ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
	(c) SQUADRON			
1 Thatched huts on road 2 miles SE of KERAVAL AIRFIELD.	4 VMO-251	3x500 lb. bomb	1000 ft.	None
2 Huts along CAPE LAMBERT shore	4 VMO-251	2,000 rds. 50 Cal.		
3 Buildings off west end of BUKA AIRSTRIP, BOUGAINVILLE	4 VMO-251	2x500 lb. bomb	1000 ft.	Unobserved
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

(g) **RESULTS:** (FOR SHIP TARGETS 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, WITH DIAGRAMS OR CHARTS WHERE DESIRABLE. DESCRIBE TARGETS FULLY IN (a), AND IN REPORTING DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION, IDENTIFY BY NUMBERS AT LEFT. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY).

- 1. Unobserved.
- 2. Smoked two huts.
- 3. Unobserved.

WEATHER OT:

- 1. Fronts on either side of route. O'cast at 7,000 ft. Visibility: Unlimited
- 2. Good. Scattered Cu. at 4,000 ft. Thunderheads North of BUKA. CAVU.
- 3. Below average.

(h) Were Photographs Taken? No. Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

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
- Defensive 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
 - Release
 - Pull-Out
- Dive Angle
- Strafing
- Retirement
- Defensive Tactics

DEFENSE, ENEMY

- Evasive Tactics, Ships
- Concealment
- Anti-aircraft
- Searchlights
- Night Fighter Tactics

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

Usual dive bombing and strafing tactics

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

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

MISSION LOG

NAVIGATIONAL EQUIPMENT

- Compasses
- Driftsights
- Octants
- Automatic Pilots
- Charts
- Field Lighting

PLANE NO.

PILOT

REMARKS

119	JENNINGS	Dud.
394	BARTON	Jettisoned in water.
265	FOLEY	Overshot.
724	FRANK	"
691	SMITH	No bombs. Strafed.
413	NEILSON	
739	ROSELLEN	
353	MAC LACHLAN	
065	FOWLER	Jettisoned.
413	MC CABE	Unobserved.
691	SWICK	Jettisoned.
119	JOHNSON, A.	Unobserved.

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

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

W. L. Bachelier
W. L. BACHELER, Major,
Actg. CO.

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

30 August, 1944.

DATE

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. 10
 (d) Date of Action 31 August, 1944 (e) Take off: Time 1010 L (~~xxx~~); Lat. 6°13'S Long. 155°7'E
 (f) Mission Bomb and strafe RATAVAL 130. (g) Time of Return 1250 L (~~xx~~)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) TYPE	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NO. OF SORTIES	(d) NO. ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	(e) NO. ATTACKING TARGET	(f) BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE)	(g) FUZE, SETTING
F4U-1	VMO-251	13	None	12	1x500 lb. bomb.	Inst.
FG-1A	"	3	"	2	"	"

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
None							

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (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			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____

(i) Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s) _____

(j) Sun or Moon _____ (k) Visibility _____

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						
9 02385						
X						

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

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	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, REMARKS
1 F4U-1	VMO-251	Hit by 20MM AA	Underneath engine	Plane lost.
2 "	"	Hit by small AA	Top of Cowl	3" hole in top of cowl
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
1	VMO-251	FOLEY, James A. 1stLt.	Plane hit by AA	"Killed in Action".

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA

(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, PLANES RETURNING				
						NO. OF PLANES	.30	.50	20MM	MM.
F4U-1	215	215	2.7	344	205	3		2,000		

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

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

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

X. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only),

- (a) Location of Target(s) East shore TALILI BAY, NEW BRITAIN (b) Time Over Target(s) 1110 L GW
 (c) Weather and Clouds Over Target 10/10 at 10,000 feet directly over target.
 (d) Sun or Moon _____ (e) Visibility Unlimited.

XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.

(a) DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING (c) SQUADRON	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	(e) ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
1 Bldgs. 350 yards inland 2 mi. S of TUNNEL HILL ROAD.	2 VMO-251	2x500 lb. bombs	1200	Unobserved.
2 Supply area just east of KABAGADA POINT.	2 VMO-251	2x500 lb. bombs	1500	2 area.
3 Bldgs. NE of TUNNEL HILL coastal roads.	2 VMO-251	2x500 lb. bombs	1500	"
4 RATAVAL 130	6 VMO-251	6x500 lb. bombs	2000	4 area. 2 direct.
5 Groups of huts 1 mile in on KURAKAKAUL ROAD	2 VMO-251	2x500 lb. bombs	2000	2 direct.
6				
7				
8				

(g) **RESULTS:** (FOR SHIP TARGETS 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, WITH DIAGRAMS OR CHARTS WHERE DESIRABLE. DESCRIBE TARGETS FULLY IN (a), AND IN REPORTING DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION, IDENTIFY BY NUMBERS AT LEFT. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY).

Only observed damage was one small fire putting up a small amount of gray smoke from huts on KURAKAKAUL ROAD.

(h) Were Photographs Taken? _____ Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

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

No comment.

MISSION LOG

<u>PLANE NO.</u>	<u>PILOT</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
036	HART	Jettisoned bomb.
942	ERDMANN	"
157	FLICKINGER	Missed.
221	CRUTCHER	"
895	SMITH	Area hit.
387	NEILSON	"
353	ROSELLEN	"
032	MAC LACHLAN	"
119	JOLINK	"
724	ENDERS	"
394	MOYNIHAN	"
265	BOWERS	"
065	JENNINGS	Direct hit.
413	BARTON	"
739	FOLEY	"
691	FRANK	"

REPORT PREPARED BY:

H. B. Welch

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

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

W. L. Bachelier

W. L. BACHELER, Major,

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

31 August, 1944

DATE

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. 11
 (d) Date of Action 1 September, 1944 (e) Take off: Time 1135 L (GCT); Lat. 6°13'S Long. 155°07'E
 (f) Mission Bomb and strafe (g) Time of Return 1135 L (GCT)

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT.

(a) TYPE	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NO. OF SORTIES	(d) NO. ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	(e) NO. ATTACK- ING TARGET	(f) BOMBS AND TORPEDOES CARRIED (PER PLANE)	(g) FUZE, SETTING
F4U-1	VMO-251	11	None	11	1x500 lb. bomb	Inst.
FG-1A	"	1	"	1	"	"

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
None							

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (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						
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			
			(GCT)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) _____

(i) Weather and Clouds at Location of Encounter(s) _____

(j) Sun or Moon _____ (k) Visibility _____

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					

9 02385

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AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

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	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, REMARKS
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

(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, PLANES RETURNING			
						NO. OF PLANES	.30	50	20MM
F4U-1	41	41	1.0	344	120	7			
F _g -1A	41	41	1.0	344	115	1		4,000	

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

TURNS

DIVES

CEILINGS

RANGE

PROTECTION

ARMAMENT

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

X. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only),

- (a) Location of Target(s) SOUTH BOUGAINVILLE (b) Time Over Target(s) 1100L ~~00~~
 (c) Weather and Clouds Over Target 5/10 at 1500 ft. Build up of Cu. clouds up to 14,000 ft.
 (d) Sun or Moon _____ (e) Visibility Unlimited.

XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.

(a) DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	(e) ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
	(c) SQUADRON			
1 Huts below assigned target on MALABETA HILL	4 VMO-251	4x500 lb. bombs	1500	4 Area
2 2 houses inland north of MALABETA HILL	4 VMO-251	4x500 lb. bombs	2000	2 Area 2 Unobserved
3 3 thatched huts on MALABETA HILL	4 VMO-251	4x500 lb. bombs	3000	1 " 3 Area
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

(g) **RESULTS:** (FOR SHIP TARGETS 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, WITH DIAGRAMS OR CHARTS WHERE DESIRABLE. DESCRIBE TARGETS FULLY IN (a), AND IN REPORTING DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION, IDENTIFY BY NUMBERS AT LEFT. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY).

No damage seen.

(h) Were Photographs Taken? No. Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

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
Defensive 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
Release
Pull-Out
Dive Angle
Strafing
Retirement
Defensive Tactics

DEFENSE, ENEMY

Evasive Tactics, Ships
Concealment
Anti-aircraft
Searchlights
Night Fighter Tactics

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

Attack was hindered by clouds over the target. Pilots selected various groups of huts which could be sighted through the few holes in the clouds. The primary target was obscured from view.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

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

No comment.

MISSION LOG

<u>PLANE NO.</u>	<u>PILOT</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
119	BACHELER	Hit in area.
724	PIRAGES	"
394	SPINDLER	"
221	JOHNSON, H.	"
942	FOWLER	Unobserved.
413	MC CABE	Hit in area.
691	SWICK	"
353	JOHNSON, A.	Unobserved.
895	JOLINK	Unobserved.
157	ENDERS	Area hit.
912	BOWERS	"
032	CORMAN	"

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

W. L. Bachelor
W. L. BACHELER, Major,
Avtg. CO.

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

1 September, 1944.

DATE

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL
I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMO-251 (b) Based on or at PIVA NORTH BOUGAINVILLE (c) Report No. 12
 (d) Take off: Date 2 September, 1944 time (LZT) 1. 0755 L (Zone); Lat. 6013'S Long. 15507'E
2. 1330 L (Zone); Lat. 1. 1055 L
 (e) Mission Fighter-Bomber Sweep (f) Time of Return 2. 1615 L (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)		
1. 3F4U-1 1FG-1A	VMO-251 "	3 1	None "	3 1	1x500 lb. bomb "	Inst. "
2. 2F4U-1 1FG-1A	" "	2 1	" "	2 1	" "	" "

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:			GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			
None						

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. _____

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	
F4U-1	215	215	3.0	344	201			5600		7
FG-1A	215	215	3.0	344	197			Included above		1

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

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

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

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

TURNS

DIVES

CEILINGS

RANGE

PROTECTION

ARMAMENT

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. _____

XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only)

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) DUKE OF YORK-CAPE LAMBERT (b) Time Over Target(s) 1. 0910 L
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
2. 1430 L (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 1. 4/10 1-3000 ft. Scattered Cu. CAVU.
2. Scattered Cu. 2/10 from 2-6000 ft. Rain squalls at
CAPE MOLTKE.
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear (e) Visibility Unlimited.
(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 1000-2500 ft.
(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 Huts back of Channel at WUNAMARITA.		2	2x500 lb. bombs	2 area	
		VM0-251			
Bldgs. about 1 mi. SE of KERA VAT AIRFIELD Red roofed bldg. on USAUAT PLTN.		2	2x500 lb. bombs	2 direct	
		VM0-251			
		3			
Bldgs SW part of BUKA		1	3x500 lb. bombs	3 miss	
		VM0-251			
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).

- Destroyed by bombing at least 4 wooden huts 1 mile SE of KERA VAT. One direct hit on each of two concentrated group of huts.
- None from bombing. Smoked 6 huts by strafing.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes. Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple
JENNINGS photographed truck park east of CAPE LIGUAN.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. _____

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
Defensive 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

1. **Strafed DUKE OF YORK ISLANDS. Lt. JENNINGS went in and photographed the truck park just east of CAPE LIGUAN.**

2. **SMITH, NEILSON and MAC LACHLAN smoked 6 huts on TAKIS PLANTATION. Also strafed DUKE OF YORK. ROSELLEN, the fourth member of SMITH's division took off late because of flat tire and was unable to over take flight. So he dropped his bomb on a large building on SW tip of BUKA ISLAND. Results unobserved.**

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No. _____

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

MISSION LOG

EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

- Parachutes
- Life Belts, Life Rafts
- Safety Belts
- Emergency Kits
- Rations, First Aid

PLANE NO.

PILOT

REMARKS

895	JENNINGS	Hit in area.
032	FRANK	"
724	SWICK	Direct hit.
119	BARTON	"
895	SMITH	Miss.
032	NEILSON	"
119	MAC LACHLAN	"
387	ROSELLEN	Unobserved.

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

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W. L. BACHELER, Major,

2 September, 1944.

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE