AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL I. GENERAL

Did Any Part of Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? Time of Day and Brilliance (i) of Sun or Moon (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON: DAY, OVERGAST; ETC.) V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). (a) (b) DESTROYED OR DAMAGED BY:		Fighte:	r-bombin		trafing	sweeps of targets.	ſ	at. 0 13'	S Long 15 Return	(Zon
TYPE SQUADRON TAKING CHERT ATTACKING CARRIED CARRIED CARRIED FOR ELANE) FUZE, SETTING CARRIED (FR PLANE) F	II. O	VN AIRCRA	AFT OFFICIA		RED BY TH	IS REPORT.				
III. OTHER U. S. OR ALLIED AIRCRAFT EMPLOYED IN THIS OPERATION. TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE TYPE SQUADRON NUMBER BASE IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT OBSERVED OR ENGAGED (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only). (a) (b) (b) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c) (c				ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	TARGET		ED (PER PLANE			TING
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TYPE (b) OBSERVED NO ENGAGING OWN A/C (ZONE) (ZONE	IV EN	IEMY AIRC	DAET ORSE	OVED OR EN	CACED (P.	Own Aircraft	Listed in II	Only)		
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(a) TYPE ENEMY A/C TYPE A/C SQUADRON PILOT OR GUNNER GUNS USED WHERE HIT, ANGLE CLAIMS None	V. EN	EMY AIRCR	AFT DESTR				Aircraft Lis	ted in II On		
None	TYPE				OR CUNNER	CUNE	LICED			DAMAGE
		TIPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT	OR GOINNER	GUNS	USED.	WILKE I	T, ATOLL	CLAIMEL
11 01120		ESCHARGE.								
11 01120		The second secon								
			1,740 (10 mm) PAC and PAC (10 mm) (10 mm)			THE RESIDENCE			01120	
		1						DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY	1111 1 441	
		1						11	ULLAU	
	,							11	Uliko	
		1						11	Ullao	
		1						11	Uliko	

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(a) NO.

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TYPE OWN A/C	(b) SQUADRON	CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE, (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
1F4U-1	VMO	Operational	Plane ran off taxiw	ay after landing during
2	251			d flipped over on to its
3				led ditch. The pilot,
4			Lt. DAIGLE, escaped	NA 1000 C 1 PAGE 100 C 1
5				
6 FG-LA	VMO	Light AA fire.	Fuel pump.	Plane caught fire upon
7	251			landing at GREEN ISLAND
8				Pilot escaped with mino
9				injuries. The plane wa
0				stricken from the Navy
1				List.
2				
3				

VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES (in aircraft listed in II only; identify with planes listed in VI by Nos. at left).

(b) SQUADRON NAME. RANK OR RATING

VMO-251 STURGIS, James B. Jr. Enemy AA fire.

Lacerated right hand

1stLt. USMCR.

and wrenched right foot.

6	VMO-251	STURGIS, James B. Jr 1stLt., USMCR.	. Enemy AA fire.	Lacerated right hand and wrenched right foo
				- (4

VIII RANGE FUEL AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(ç) TOTAL AMMUI	NITION EXPE	NDED	(h)
TYPE A/C	MILES	MILES RETURN	AV. HOURS IN AIR	LOADED	AV. FUEL CONSUMED	.30	.50	20MM	MM	NO. OF PLANES
F4U-1	215	215	2.5	344	180		44,400	rds.		33
FG-1A	215	215	2.5	344	170		Includ	ed abo	ve.	11

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		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

TURNS
DIVES
CEILINGS
RANGE
PROTECTION
ARMAMENT

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RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

		~/	
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				IVES (By Own Aircraft Listed		
	(a) Target(s) and Location(s) G	AZELLE nd°BUUG	PENINSULA,	NEW BRITA (N) Time Ove	er Target(s	Varying (Zone)
	(c) Clouds Over Target	Varying	Weather co	nditions.		
	(d) Visibility of Target	(CLEAR, HAZY.	PARTIALLY OBSCURED	BY CLOUDS, ETC.)	/isibility	(MILES)
	(f) Bombing Tactics: Type	(L	EVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE)	Bomb Sight Us	ed	(TYPE)
	Bombs Dropped per Run	(NUMBER)	Spacing	(FEET) Altitude	of Bomb Rel	ease
	(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft H	it on Grour	nd: Destroyed	Probably Destroyed_		Damaged
	(h) AIMING POINT DIMEN	SIUNS UK	NO. A/C ATTACKING SQUADRON	BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO. HITS On Aiming Point	DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
	Jap huts and garden between KARA AIRFIE		10 VMO-251	No bombs 16,400 rds. 50 Ca	1.	Unobserved except for seeing one
1.	2and Mt. SENFFT; Jap bivouse at KAINO-KU	PAI				hut ablaze.
	**Sector; Jap O.P. ne KOROMIRA; huts at B	Carl Salling Harris Control Control				
	4					
2.	plus huts up and do		VMO-251	4x500 lb. bombs 3800 rds. 50 Cal		Unobserved.
3.	7 Bivouac area, Expermental Gardens, KE 8 NEW BRITAIN.	ri- RAVAT	4 VMO-251	4x500 lb. bombs 800 rds. 50 Cal.		Unobserved.

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

(ref all hits channed 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.

	TARGET	NO. A/C	BOMBS & AMMO.	HITS	DAMAGE
4.	Seven trucks along road from MALABUNGA JUNCTION TO TOMA.	4	2200 rds. 50 Cal.		Probably wrecked three.
5.	Possible twin engine Jap plane in VUNAKANA revetment.	U 2	800 rds. 50 Cal.		Unobserved
6.	40 foot fishing boat TORTU RIVER, OPEN BAY NEW BRITAIN		6x500 lb. bombs. 3000 rds. 50 Cal.	Several very closé	Sank boat
7.	Good-looking house on TORIU RIVER.	4	4x500 lb. bombs. 2000 rds. 50 Cal.	2	Damaged slightly.
	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 ne KUKUGAI, BOUGAINVILLE	ar . 2	800 rds. 50 Cal.	?	Unobserved.
10.	Gardens near KUKUGAI and NE of KARA AIRFIE One with 2 more Japs	LD ₄	4200 rds. 50 Cal.	?	Two probable Japs.
11.	Hutsat KUKUGA and TUGIU	2	4700 rds. 50 Cal.	Yes.	One hit left blazing, an- other smoking.

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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
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

The squadron spent three days on gunnery practice and did not fly one day because of weather, which accounts for the relatively small amount of activity for the week.

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.

Use additional sheets if necessary).

No comment.

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

REPORT PREPARED BY: 548 Well

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

APPROVED BY:

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

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