

496 Nagae, Hayama-cho
Kanagawa-ken 240-01, Japan
15 September 1986

Mrs. N. Milne
25 Adelaide Street
Arncliffe, 3143
Victoria, Australia

Dear Mrs. Milne,

I have received your letter of 24 August concerning the reconnaissance carried out by RAAF's Hudsons.

I have just checked Japanese action reports of Savo Island Battle at the Library of War History Department of the National Defense College where all remaining war documents are kept. Detailed Action Reports of the heavy cruiser, Chokai, Admiral Gunichi Mikawa's flagship, read as follows:

at 0826 on 8th August 1942: Sighted an enemy plane Lockheed (Hudson) which had shadowed us, at some 3000 [meters] in the bearing of 210°, and missed it in the bearing of 310° after about 10 minutes.

at 0903: Recognized the plane which had kept shadowing us, and drove it off by main battery firings. The plane found our fleet. Intercepted its report as follows:

0927 three cruisers, three destroyers, two seaplane tenders or gunboats, 0549 S, 156 07L, course 120 at 15 knots.

Japanese action reports were recorded at Tokyo Time. In the Library, besides the Chokai's reports, only heavy cruiser, Kaka's reports have been kept, among those cruisers and destroyers that joined the Savo Island Battle. The cruiser Chokai was east of Bougainville when she drove the Hudson off by firings around 0920 (Tokyo time). I can't pick up a record of a cruiser, west of Bougainville, firing a Hudson at 0945 local time.

Wishing you completion of your interesting research,

Sincerely yours,

*Letter letter copy "Kaka"
make my report*