

VMB-423

161
⑨

Report #551

II C (9)

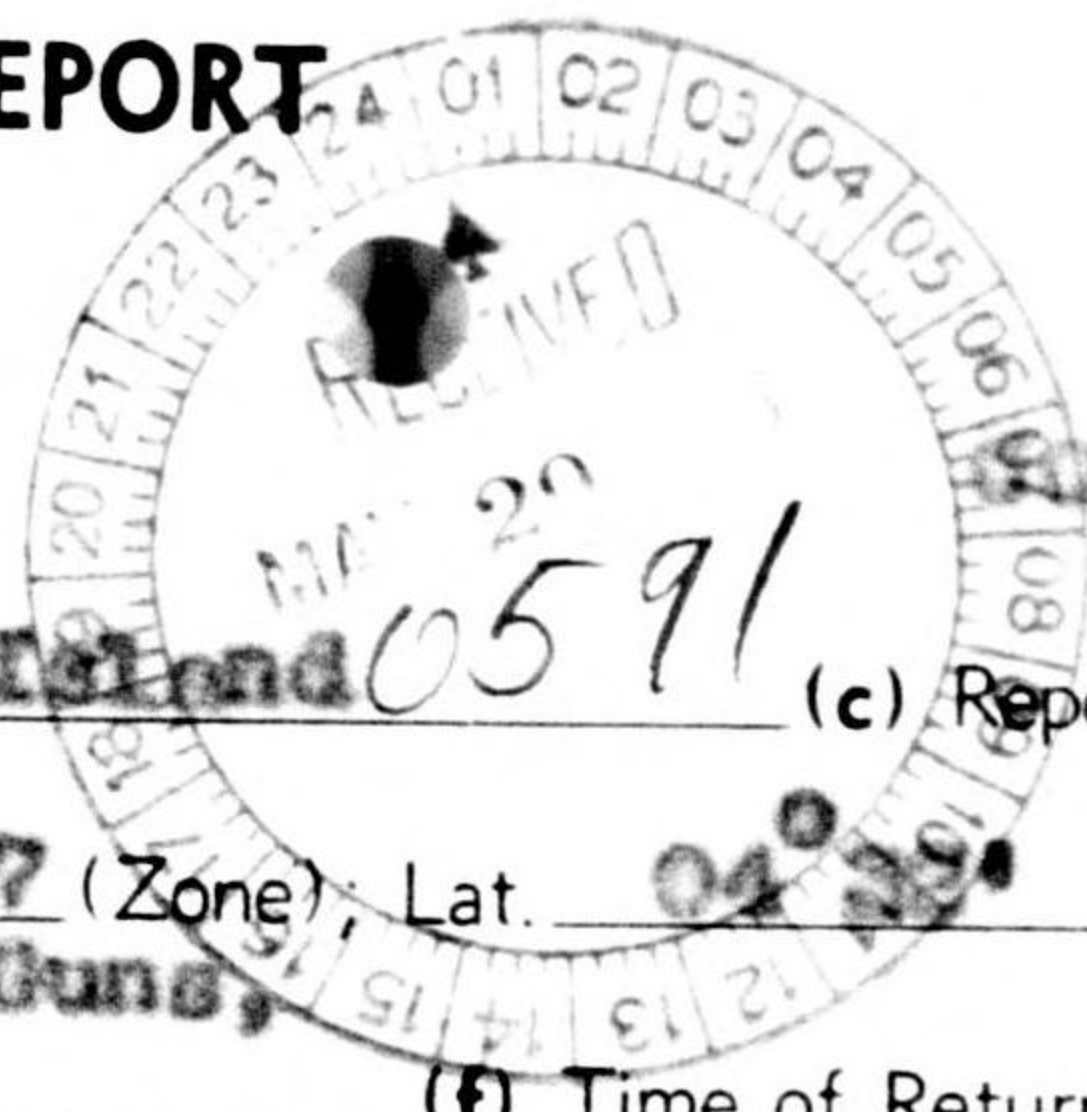
5

CONFIDENTIAL

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

.. GENERAL



053888

CONFIDENTIAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB-423 (b) Based on or at Green Island (c) Report No. 331
 (d) Take off: Date 20 May, 1945. Time (LZT) 0845-0847 (Zone) Lat. 04° 29' Long. 154° 14'
Medium altitude day raid on Medium AA Guns,
 (e) Mission Kahili, Bougainville. (f) Time of Return 1110-1125 (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)		
<u>PBJ-1J</u>	<u>VMB-423</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>None</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6 X 500# GP</u>	<u>Nose: AN-M-103 .1 Sec Delay Tail: AN-M-101A2 .025 Sec Delay</u>

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
<u>PBXA</u>	<u>VPS3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Green Island</u>				

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
<u>None</u>				(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 _____ (k) Visibility _____
(NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (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		
<u>None</u>						

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)
CONFIDENTIAL

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. **331**

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) **AA Guns, Kahili, Bougainville** (b) Time Over Target(s) **1010** (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target **.4 Cloud Cover with light rain**
- (d) Visibility of Target **Hazy** (e) Visibility **15 miles**
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Level** Bomb Sight Used **Mark 15**
- Bombs Dropped per Run **6** Spacing **75 ft.** Altitude of Bomb Release **11,800-12,000**
- (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 Medium AA Guns Kahili, Boug.		6 VMB-423	36 X 500# GP	See (o)	
2					
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.)

The location of bomb hits with relation to the target is shown on the attached photograph.

PHOTOGRAPH REFERENCE:

VMB-423 (208) (5-2) 5-20-45 (20"-12200') Kahili AA Pos., Boug., CONFIDENTIAL

(p) Were Photographs Taken? **Yes** Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
Reclassify when
filled out!

CONFIDENTIAL
REPORT No. **331**

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

CALL	PILOT	T/O GREEN	T/O/T	P/C GREEN
301B21	Major LOWELL	0845	1010	1118
302B21	HEIL	0845	1010	1118
303B21	WORKMAN	0846	1010	1119
304B21	WALLER	0846	1010	1119
305B21	KEITH	0847	1010	1120
306B21	VAN HORN	0847	1010	1125

Major LOWELL, Operations Officer, led six PBJs of VMS-423 in a medium altitude daylight attack on medium anti-aircraft guns at Kahili, Bougainville. The strike was airborne by 0848 and joined up in two, three plane sections javelin down.

After join-up the formation proceeded down the west coast of Bougainville to Express Augusta Bay, here it turned to a heading of 083° magnetic for twenty-five miles. Here it took a heading of 170° magnetic and at the Duero Range turned into 185° magnetic and when east of Kara Airborne turned into the bomb run.

Bombs were dropped at 1010 with the first section at 12,000 feet and the second section at 11,800 feet on a heading of 188° magnetic at 150 knots indicated air speed. The formation broke left after bombs away and returned to base. All planes were safely on deck at Green Island by 1125.

Six bursts of inaccurate to accurate anti-aircraft fire were encountered from known positions on Kangu Hill. Eight bursts of inaccurate medium anti-aircraft fire were encountered from unidentified positions.

The location of bomb hits in relation to the target is shown on the attached photograph.

(All times in this narrative are local).

REPORT PREPARED BY:

WARD D. MARTIN
Capt., USMCR
Intelligence Officer

APPROVED BY:

NORMAN J. ANDERSON
LtCol., USMC
Commanding

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE



Y018-423 (108) (5-2) 5-20-45 (20" - 12200) KAHILI FA FA PS, BOK. C. 1015