

VMB-423

158
⑨

Report # 190

II C (9)

5

VI LOSS OR DAMAGE

None

VII PERSONNEL CASUALTIES

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
PBJ-1	177	138	2hr05'	1016	404

(g) <u>TOTAL AMMO EXPENDED</u>	(h) <u>PLANES RETURNING</u>
30 50 20MM MM	

None:None: None : None

7

IX ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED None Meager Moderate Intense

HEAVY
MEDIUM
LIGHT

XX
XX
XX

X COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT

No enemy aircraft encountered

XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES

- (a) Target: Vunakanau target #8 (b) Time over Target: 0930-0931
(c) Clouds Over Target: .2 cover
(d) Visibility of Target: Partially obscured by clouds (e) Visibility:
15-20 miles
(f) Bombing Tactics: Type: Level Bomb Sight Used: Mark 15
Bombs Dropped per Run: 2 & 3 Spacing: 170 feet Altitude: 11000-11500
(g) Number of Enemy Aircraft hit on Ground: None Destroyed: None
- Damaged: None

(h)	(i)	(j) (k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
Vunakanau number 8 :	:	7 VMB-423	: 16 X 1000 # GP	: See (o)	:

(o) RESULTS:

The pattern of bomb hits with relation to the target are shown on the attached photographs.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes

XIII. MATERIAL DATA (Comment freely on performance or suitability)

CALL	PILOT	T/O GREEN	T/O/T	P/C GREEN
301B21	Major PRITCHARD	0815	0930	1020
302B21	HAZLEHURST	0815	0930	1020
303B21	CLARK	0816	0930	1021
304B21	WEAVER	0816	0930	1021
305B21	MARTIN	0817	0930	1022
306B21	CANNON	0817	0930	1022
*307B21	LEMKE	0818	0931	1028

- * Captain LEMKE flew as leader of the New Zealand Ventura Squadron participating in the strike.

Major PRITCHARD, Operation's Officer of VMB-423, led seven PBJs and eight PVs of NZ-2 in a medium altitude daylight raid on Vunakanau target #8.

The formation was composed of six PBJs of VMB-423 in two, three plane sections as the first squadron, and one PBJ and eight PVs in three, three plane sections as the second squadron. Captain LEMKE in a PBJ flew as leader of the PVs, which do not carry bombsight, so that he could do the sighting for the second squadron.

The flight was airborne by 0818 and joined up as described above. The formation then proceeded to New Ireland, crossing at East Cape to a point north of Watom Island. From Watom Island the planes flew to Ramandu Plantation turning left on 130° magnetic until perpendicular to Vunakanau strip from where the bombing run was made.

The bombing of the formation was made on a heading of 030° magnetic. The first squadron dropped their bombs at 0930 from 11,000 feet and the second squadron at 0931 from 11,500 feet.

After the bomb release, the formation broke away to the right and proceeded back to Green with all planes safely on the deck by 1028.

No anti-aircraft fire encountered.

Form ACA-1
Sheet 5

CONFIDENTIAL
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The pattern of bomb hits with relation to the target are shown on the attached photographs.

(All times in this narrative are love).

WARD D. MARTIN
Capt., USMCR
Intelligence Officer

NORMAN J. ANDERSON
LtCol., USMC
Commanding Officer

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