Report # 190

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## AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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| (a)                      | (b)           | NO. OF       |             | NO ATTACK-     |            | (f)<br>AND TORPEDOES<br>D (PER PLANE) |              | (g)<br>FUZE, SETTI | NG                      |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
|                          | SQUADRON      | SORTIES      | ENEMY A/C   | ING TARGET     | x 1000     |                                       |              | AN-M-103           |                         |
|                          | MB 423        | 5            | None        |                | X 1000     |                                       |              | AN-M-103           |                         |
| DI. OTH                  | IER U. S. O   | R ALLIED     | AIRCRAFT    | EMPLOYED IN    | THIS OPER  | ATION.                                | AU IAADED    | BASE               |                         |
| TYPE                     | SQUADRON 12-2 | NUMBER       |             | BASE           | TYPE       | SQUADRON                              | NUMBER       | D/\JC              |                         |
| IV. ENE (a) TYPE         | MY. AIRCR     | AFT ENC      | NG TIME     | (By Own Aircra | N OF       | BOMBS TORPE                           | DOES CARRIED | CAMOUF<br>MAF      | g)<br>LAGE AND<br>RKING |
| lone                     |               |              | (GCT        |                |            |                                       |              |                    |                         |
|                          |               |              | (GC         |                |            |                                       |              |                    |                         |
|                          |               | ls at Locati | Sun or Moon | ter(s)         |            |                                       |              | sibility           |                         |
|                          | MY AIRCR      | AFT DEST     | ROYED OR D  | AMAGED IN A    | IR (By Own | Aircraft Liste                        |              | 167                | DAN<br>CLA              |
|                          |               |              |             | LOT OR GUNNER  | GUI        | NS USED                               | WHER         | RE HIT, ANGLE      | CLAI                    |
| (a)<br>TYPE<br>ENEMY A/C | 1             | +            |             |                |            |                                       |              |                    |                         |
| (a)<br>TYPE              |               |              |             |                |            |                                       |              |                    |                         |
| (a)<br>TYPE<br>ENEMY A/C |               |              |             |                |            |                                       |              |                    |                         |
| (a)<br>TYPE<br>ENEMY A/C |               |              |             |                |            |                                       |              |                    |                         |

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VI LOSS OR DAMAGE

None

VII PERSONNEL CASUALTIES

None

VIII RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNING

| TYPE MILES MILES AV. HOURS AV. FUEL AV. FUEL  A/C OUT RETURN IN AIR LOADED CONSUMED  PBJ-1: 177: 138: 2hr05: 1016: 404 | (a)         |   | (b) |          | (c)   |              | (6                                      | 1)   |   | (e)  |  | (£ | )  |
|--|-------------|---|-----|----------|-------|--------------|---|------|---|------|--|----|----|
| PBJ-1: 177: 138 : 2hr05: : 1016 : 404  | TYPE<br>A/C | - |     | a market | MILES | ness entrace | 1 |      | 5 |      | A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH |    |    |
|  | PBJ-1       |   | 177 | :        | 138   |              | 2hr(                                    | 05 • | : | 1016 | 3  | 4  | 04 |

(g) TOTAL AMMO EXPENDED
30 50 20MM MM

(h) PLANES RETURNING

None: None: None

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| IX | ENEMY ANTI-AIRUMAPT | ENGOUNTERED | None | Meager | Moderate | Intense |
|----|---------------------|-------------|------|--------|----------|---------|
|    | HEAVY               |             | XX   |        |          |         |
|    | LIGHT               |             | XX   |        |          |         |

X COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT

No enemy aircraft encountered

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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:
- (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) (l) (m) (n)

Vunakanau number 8: 7 : 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

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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           | 081.6     | 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 1300 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.

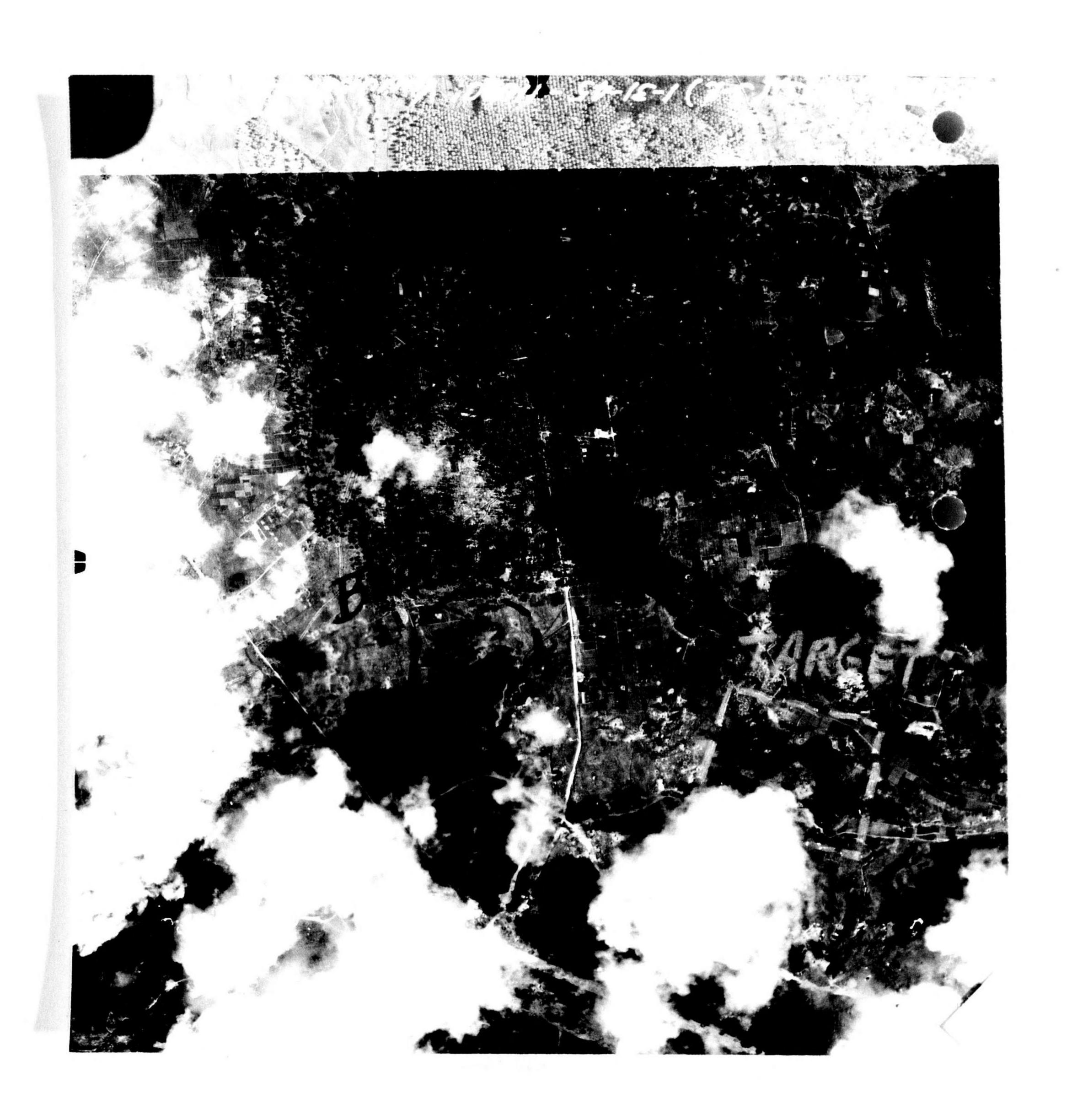
No anti-aircraft fire encountered.

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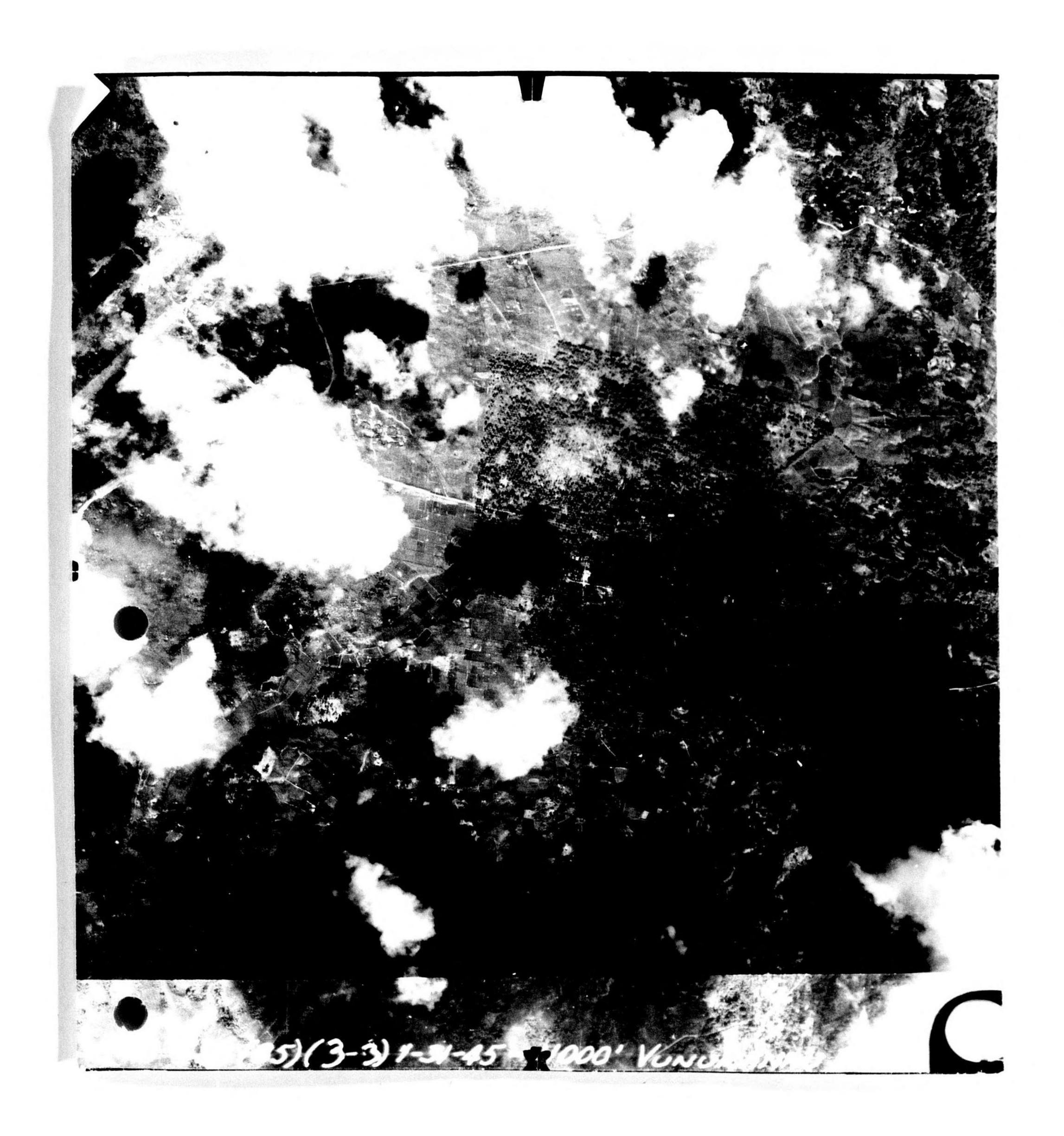
The pattern of bomb hits with relation to the target are shown on the attached photographs.

(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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