

VMB-423

158  
⑨

Report # 192

IIc(9)

5



# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

05799  
 RESTRICTED  
 (Reclassify when filled out)  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB-423 (b) Based on or at Green Island (c) Report No. 192  
28/30 Jan 1945 0933-0930  
 (d) Take off: Date & 2 Feb 1945 Time (LZT) & 0700 (Zone); Lat. 04° 32' Long 154° 14'  
1145-1133  
 (e) Mission Medium Altitude bombing raids over (f) Time of Return & 0915 (Zone)  
New Britain and New Ireland.

## 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)		
PBJ-1	VMB423	1	None	1	2 X 1000# GP	AN-M-103
PBJ-1	VMB423	1	None	1	2 X 1000# GP	AN-M-103
PBJ-1	VMB423	1	None	1	2 X 1000# GP	AN-M-103

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
PV	NZ-2	8	Green Island				
PV	NZ-2	8	Green Island				
PV	NZ-2	8	Green Island				

## 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
None			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			
			(ZONE)			

(h) Apparent Enemy Mission(s) \_\_\_\_\_

(i) Did Any Part of Encounter(s) Occur in Clouds? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, Describe Clouds \_\_\_\_\_  
 (YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(j) Time of Day and Brilliance \_\_\_\_\_ (k) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_  
 of Sun or Moon \_\_\_\_\_ (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:			GUNS USED	(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER			
None						



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## VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL, OF OWN AIRCRAFT (of those listed in II only).

(a) TYPE OWN A/C	(b) SQUADRON	(c) CAUSE: TYPE ENEMY A/C, TYPE GUN, OR OPERATIONAL CAUSE	(d) WHERE HIT, ANGLE (List armor, self-sealing tanks, equipment hit)	(e) EXTENT OF LOSS OR DAMAGE (Give Bureau serial number of planes destroyed)
1 <b>None</b>				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

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

(a) NO.	(b) SQUADRON	(c) NAME, RANK OR RATING	(d) CAUSE	(e) CONDITION OR STATUS
<b>None</b>				

## 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	(g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED				(h) NO. OF PLANES RETURNING
						.30	.50	20MM	MM.	
<b>PBJ-1</b>	<b>352</b>		<b>2hrs 12'</b>	<b>1016</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>PBJ-1</b>	<b>328</b>		<b>2hrs 03'</b>	<b>1016</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>PBJ-1</b>	<b>360</b>		<b>2hrs 15'</b>	<b>1016</b>	<b>468</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>1</b>

## IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	<b>XX</b>			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	<b>XX</b>			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	<b>XX</b>			

## X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

- SPEED, CLIMB,  
at various altitudes
- TURNES
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

**No enemy aircraft encountered.**



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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) **Borpop, New Ireland & Tobera, Rembarr Range #1, New Britain** (b) Time Over Target(s) **1105 & 1045 & 0810** (Zone)

(c) Clouds Over Target \_\_\_\_\_ (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target \_\_\_\_\_ (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (e) Visibility \_\_\_\_\_ (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Level** Bomb Sight Used **Mark 15**

Bombs Dropped per Run **2** Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release **10,400 & 11,500**

(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 <b>Borpop, N. I.</b>		1 <b>VMB-423</b>	<b>2 X 1000# GP</b>	<b>See</b>	<b>(o)</b>
2 <b>Tobera, N. B.</b>		1 <b>VMB-423</b>	<b>2 X 1000# GP</b>	<b>See</b>	<b>(o)</b>
3 <b>Rembarr Range #1, N. B.</b>		1 <b>VMB-423</b>	<b>2 X 1000# GP</b>	<b>See</b>	<b>(o)</b>
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).

**28 January, 1945**

Photographs were taken but did not record bomb hits because of cloud coverage. The bombs generally covered the target.

**30 January, 1945**

No photographs were taken. All bombs reported in the target area.

**2 February, 1945**

Bomb hits in relation to the target are shown on the attached photograph.

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



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Reclassification  
Code 1

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**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
  - Ortants
  - 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**
  - Plans, Servicing Equipment
  - Personnel Facilities

CALL	PILOT	T/O GREEN	T/O/T	P/C GREEN
		28 January, 1945		
301B21	FRIEDMAN	0933	1105	1145
		30 January, 1945		
301B21	DUTTENHOFER	0930	1045	1133
		2 February, 1945		
301B21	WILHITE	0700	0810	0915

During the week of 28 January to 3 February, 1945, three PBJs have been used as squadron leader for the PV NZ-2 squadron of Green, on medium altitude bombing raids. Since the PVs do not carry bombsights to conduct medium altitude bombing raids, it is necessary for a PBJ to lead the strikes, to do the sighting for the squadron. This has been practiced in the past and has resulted in numerous requests, recently. This cooperation is considered as an opportunity for training VMB-423 pilots as squadron leaders in addition to its tactical purpose.

On 28 January, Lieutenant FRIEDMAN led eight PVs on a medium altitude bombing raid on Tobera target number 35, New Britain. However, because of weather the strike flew to secondary target, Borpop, New Ireland. The formation dropped its bombs from 11,500 feet at 1105. No anti-aircraft fire encountered. Photographs were taken, but did not record bomb hits because of cloud coverage. The bombs generally covered the target.

On 30 January, Captain DUTTENHOFER led eight PVs on a medium altitude bombing raid on Tobera target number 35, New Britain. The formation approached the target on a heading of 210° magnetic dropping the bombs at 1045 from 11,500 feet. No anti-aircraft fire encountered. No photographs were taken. All bombs were reported in the target.

On 2 February, Captain WILHITE led eight PVs on a medium altitude bombing raid on Rembarr Range target number 1, New Britain. The formation dropped its bombs at 0810 from 10,400 feet. No anti-aircraft fire encountered. Bomb hits in relation to the target are shown on the attached photograph.

(All times in this narrative are local).

REPORT PREPARED BY:

**WARD D. MARTIN** APPROVED BY  
**Capt., USMCR**  
**Intelligence Officer**

**NORMAN J. ANDERSON**  
**LtCol., USMC**  
**Commanding Officer**

SIGNATURE

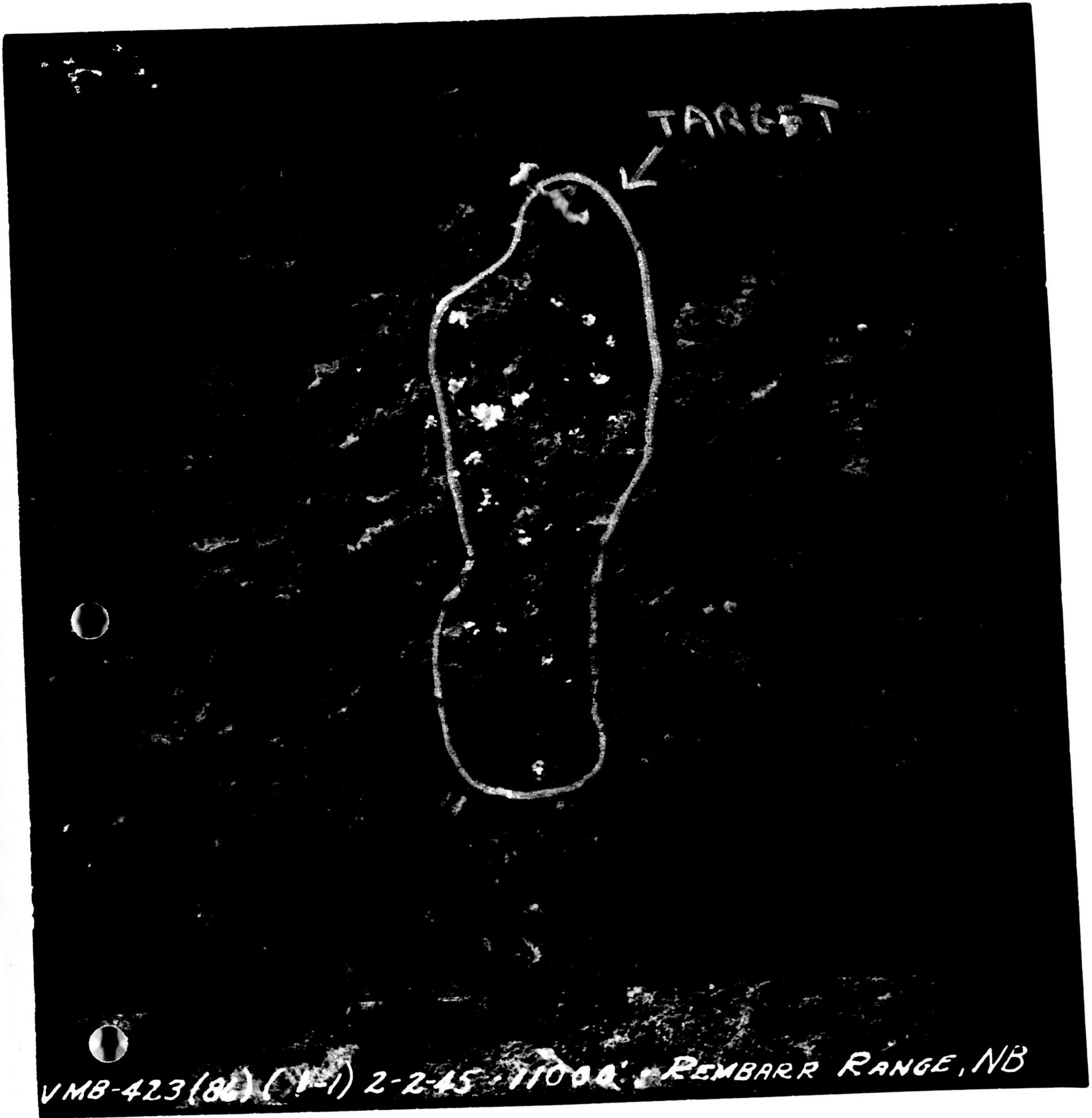
RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE





TARGET

VMB-423(86) (1-1) 2-2-45 11000 REMBARR RANGE, NB