

VMB-423

159
⑨

Report #254

ITC(9)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB-423 (b) Based on or at Green Island (c) Report No. 258

(d) Take off: Date 4 April, 1945 Time (LZT) 240530157 (Zone); Lat. 04° 32' Long. 154° 14'

(e) Mission Night snooper search and heckling missions over Rabaul, New Britain. (f) Time of Return 032640520 (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)		
PBJ-1J	VMB423	1	None	1	6 X 250# GP	Nose: AN-M-103 .1 Sec Delay Tail: AN-M-102A2 .025 Sec Delay
PBJ-1J	VMB423	1	None	1	12 X 100# GP	Nose same as above Tail: AN-M-100A2 .025 Sec Delay

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
None							

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)			
None			(ZONE)			
None			(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 _____ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.) (k) Visibility _____ (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						

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

CONFIDENTIAL
REPORT No. 253

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		None		
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
		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	(g) TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED				(h) NO. OF PLANES RETURNING
						.30	.50	20MM	MM	
PBJ-1J	---370---		2hrs22'	974	395	None	None	None	None	2

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

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

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

TURNS

DIVES

CEILINGS

RANGE

PROTECTION

ARMAMENT

No enemy aircraft encountered.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT No **258**

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Rabaul Area, New Britain (b) Time Over Target(s) 0100/0240 & 0245/0435 (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target .5 Cloud Cover
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target Hazy (e) Visibility 15 miles
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type Level Bomb Sight Used D-8
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 1 & 5 Spacing Varied Altitude of Bomb Release 9500 & 10,000
(NUMBER) (FEET) (FEET)

(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 NW Rabaul		1 VMB-423	1 X 250# GP	See (o)	
2 Rabaul		1 VMB-423	1 X 250# GP	" "	
3 NE Rabaul		1 VMB-423	1 X 250# GP	" "	
4 Raluena Point		1 VMB-423	1 X 250# GP	" "	
5 Tovakundun Plantation		1 VMB-423	1 X 250# GP	" "	
6 Ground Lights Taliliga Area		1 VMB-423	1 X 250# GP	" "	
7 Ground Lights NW Vanakenu		1 VMB-423	5 X 100# GP	" "	
8 Ground Lights SW Vanakenu		1 VMB-423	1 X 100# GP	" "	

NOTES: (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.)

9 Sulphur Creek	1 VMB-423	1 X 100# GP	" "
10 S of Tobera	1 VMB-423	1 X 100# GP	" "
11 Lakunai A/D	1 VMB-423	1 X 100# GP	" "
12 Liguana Bay coastal road	1 VMB-423	1 X 100# GP	" "
13 Talili Bay coastal road	1 VMB-423	1 X 100# GP	" "
14 Karavia Pltn.	1 VMB-423	1 X 100# GP	" "

(o) RESULTS:

Results were unobserved.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
Reclassified when
issued out
CONFIDENTIAL
REPORT No. 258

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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

CALL	PILOT	T/O GREEN	T/O/R	P/C GREEN
331B21	TAYLOR	2405	0100/0240	0326
332B21	GARTHWAITE	0157	0245/0435	0520

On the night of 4/5 April, 1945, 331B21 and 332B21 flew snoopers search and heckling missions over Rabaul, New Britain.

By 2405, 331B21 was airborne and proceeded to Rabaul, where 6 X 250 pound general purpose bombs were dropped during the period of 0100 to 0240. One on northwest Rabaul, one on Rabaul, one on northeast Rabaul, one on Raluana point, one on Tobakundum Plantation and one on ground lights in Taliligan area.

By 0157, 332B21 was airborne and proceeded to Rabaul, relieving 331B21 on station. During the period of 0245 to 0435, 12 X 100 pound general purpose bombs were dropped. Five on ground lights northwest of Vunakanau and one on each of the following; ground light southwest of Vunakanau, Sulphur Creek Area, south of Tobera, Lakunai Airfield, Ligan Bay coastal road, Talili Bay coastal road and Karavia Plantation.

No anti-aircraft fire or search lights were encountered.

Results were unobserved.

(All times in this narrative are love).

WARD D. MARTIN
Capt., USMCR
Intelligence Officer

H. W. TAYLOR
Major, USMC
Acting

APPROVED BY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE