

MG-61

149
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Report #114

H C (4)

6

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

Ref: **WR-413 303**
433 192
443 159

(a) Unit Reporting **NAAG-61** (b) Based on or at **Enfrem Island** (c) Report No. **114**
(d) Take off: Date **29 May, 1945** Time (LZT) **0947L** (Zone); Lat. **01° 36' S.** Long **150° E**
(e) Mission **Coordinated medium altitude bombing attack on New Rabaul #38, New Britain.** (f) Time of Return **1230L** (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-1	WR-413	6	None	6	3 x 500 GP Mk. 61.	N: AN-M-103 inst. T: AN-M-101A2 .01 second.
PBJ-1	WR-413		None		3 x 500 GP Mk. 61.	N: AN-M-103 .1 sec dbl. T: AN-M-101A2.025 second.
PBJ-1	WR-433	9	None	9	3 x 500 GP Mk. 61.	N: AN-M-103 inst. T: AN-M-101A2 .01 second

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
PBY-5A	VPB 53	1	Enfrem Island				
P4U	NZ #25	2	same				

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) _____
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:				(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER	GUNS USED		
None						

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(a) Unit Reporting NAO-61 (b) Based on or at Eniwai Island (c) Report No. 114
 (d) Take off: Date _____ Time (LZT) _____ (Zone); Lat. _____ Long. _____
 (e) Mission _____ (f) Time of Return _____ (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-1	WR-133		None		3 x 500 GP Mk. 61.	H: ANM-103 .1 sec.del. T: ANM-101A2 .025sec.del.
PBJ-1	WR-143	8	None	8	3 x 500 GP Mk. 61.	H: ANM-103 inst. T: ANM-101A1 .01 sec.del.
PBJ-1	WR-143		None		3 x 500 GP Mk. 61.	H: ANM-103 .1 sec.del. T: ANM-101A1 .025sec.del.

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE

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
			(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 _____
(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		

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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 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	
F4U-1	198	204	2hrs. 53'	974	452	0	0	0	0	23

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

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

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

URNS

DIVES

CEILINGS

RANGE

PROTECTION

ARMAMENT

No enemy aircraft encountered.

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. _____

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) New Rabaul #38, New Britain (b) Time Over Target(s) 1111L (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target Scattered cumulus at 2000', tops to 4000'.
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)

(d) Visibility of Target clear (e) Visibility 10
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)

(f) Bombing Tactics: Type level Bomb Sight Used Mk.15 Mod.7.
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run 111 Spacing 50' Altitude of Bomb Release 10500'-11500'.
(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 New Rabaul #38, N.B.	1800' x 1100'	6 WR-413	36 x 500 GPs		
2 New Rabaul #38, N.B.	same	9 WR-413	54 x 500 GPs		See "0"
3 New Rabaul #38, N.B.	same	8 WR-413	48 x 500 GPs		
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).

1.-36 x 500 GPs landed in the very center of the target covering an area 400' square. Results: 1 building, 200' x 100', a suspected factory, destroyed; 1 building 100' x 50' destroyed; 4 adjacent small buildings destroyed; 2 small buildings damaged.

2.-12 x 500 GPs clipped the southwestern edge of the target destroying a group of four buildings.
 42 x 500 GPs cut a pattern outside the southwest corner from 900' west to 300' south for no apparent damage.

3.-48 x 500 GPs strung 1500' south of the target in a path 1200' by 600'. Large plots of gardens and 2 small huts were destroyed.

Photographs attached:

(4) (WR-413 - 702) (0) (20") (10,500') (1111L) (29 May - 45) (NEW RABAU 38)

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

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XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA. (Narrative and comment. Describe action fully and comment freely, following applicable items in check list at left. Use additional sheets if necessary.)

ENGAGEMENT WITH ENEMY

OWN AIRCRAFT

- Disposition
- Altitudes
- Speeds
- Approach Tactics
- Use of Cover, Deception
- Angles of Attack and Their Effectiveness
- Distance of Opening Fire
- Defensive Tactics and Their Effectiveness

ENEMY AIRCRAFT

- Method of Locating, Distance
- Disposition
- Altitudes
- Speeds
- Approach Tactics
- Use of Cover, Deception
- Angles of Attack
- Distance of Opening Fire
- Defensive Tactics

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Own Weaknesses
- Enemy Weaknesses
- Offensive Tactics, Own
- " " , Enemy
- Defensive Tactics, Own
- " " , Enemy
- Flexible Gunnery, Own.
- Escort Tactics
- Fighter Direction
- Use of Radar
- Night Fighting
- Recognition, Aircraft

ATTACK

OWN TACTICS

- Method of Locating Target
- Approach to Target
- Altitudes, Speeds
- Approach
- Dive
- Pull-Out
- Dive Angle
- Strafing
- Retirement
- Defensive Tactics
- Use of Jamming

DEFENSE, ENEMY

- Evasive Tactics, Ships
- Concealment
- Searchlights
- Night Fighter Tactics
- Use of Jamming

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Bombing Tactics
- Torpedo Tactics
- Effectiveness of Bombs, Torpedoes
- Selection of Targets
- Fuzing
- Strafing Tactics
- Defensive Tactics
- Use of Radar
- Reconnaissance
- Photography
- Briefing

OPERATIONAL

- Navigation
- Homing
- Rendezvous
- Recognition, Ships
- Communications
- Flight Operations
- Search and Tracking
- Base Operations
- Maintenance

CALL #	PILOT	CALL #	PILOT	CALL #	PILOT
254B21	Mendenhall	266B21	Whitney	279B21	Anderson
255B21	Oslund	267B21	Arant	280B21	Hawkins
256B21	Ingberg	268B21	Heahennet	281B21	Whittanore
257B21	Gilbert	269B21	Saddin	282B21	Dee
258B21	Bouscaren	270B21	Dunn	283B21	Palmer
259B21	Thomas	271B21	Benjamin	284B21	Gracer
		272B21	Weten	285B21	McDonnell
		273B21	Wilson	286B21	Boyson
		274B21	Evans	287B21	Stewart

Major B. O. Whitney, of WBL-433, led 23 PBJs on a coordinated medium level attack against New Rabaul #36, an active storage and hut area located on New Britain.

Of 138 x 500# GPs dropped on the target, 46 hit in the target and destroyed 2 large buildings, ten small buildings and damaged two small buildings. Large plots of gardens located outside the target were also destroyed.

WBL-433 took off at 0928, followed by WBL-413 at 0947 and WBL-443 at 0950. The squadrons flew independently to the rendezvous over Djaul Island at 10,000 feet.

From Djaul Island the flight in a vee of vees proceeded down the southern coast of New Ireland then crossed over water to Ligan Bay, New Britain. From here the flight, in right echelon, squadrons javelin down, took a course of 094° magnetic onto the bombing run with WBL-433 at an altitude of 11,500 feet, WBL-413 at 10,500 feet and WBL-443 at 11,000 feet and a speed of 155 knots (IAS). Bombs were away at 1111.

After a break to the left the squadrons rallied 10 miles east of Tawui Point. The flight in right echelon, squadrons javelin down, followed the northern coast of New Ireland back to land safely at 1230.

One of the scheduled planes of WBL-443 did not participate owing to electrical trouble experienced prior to take-off.

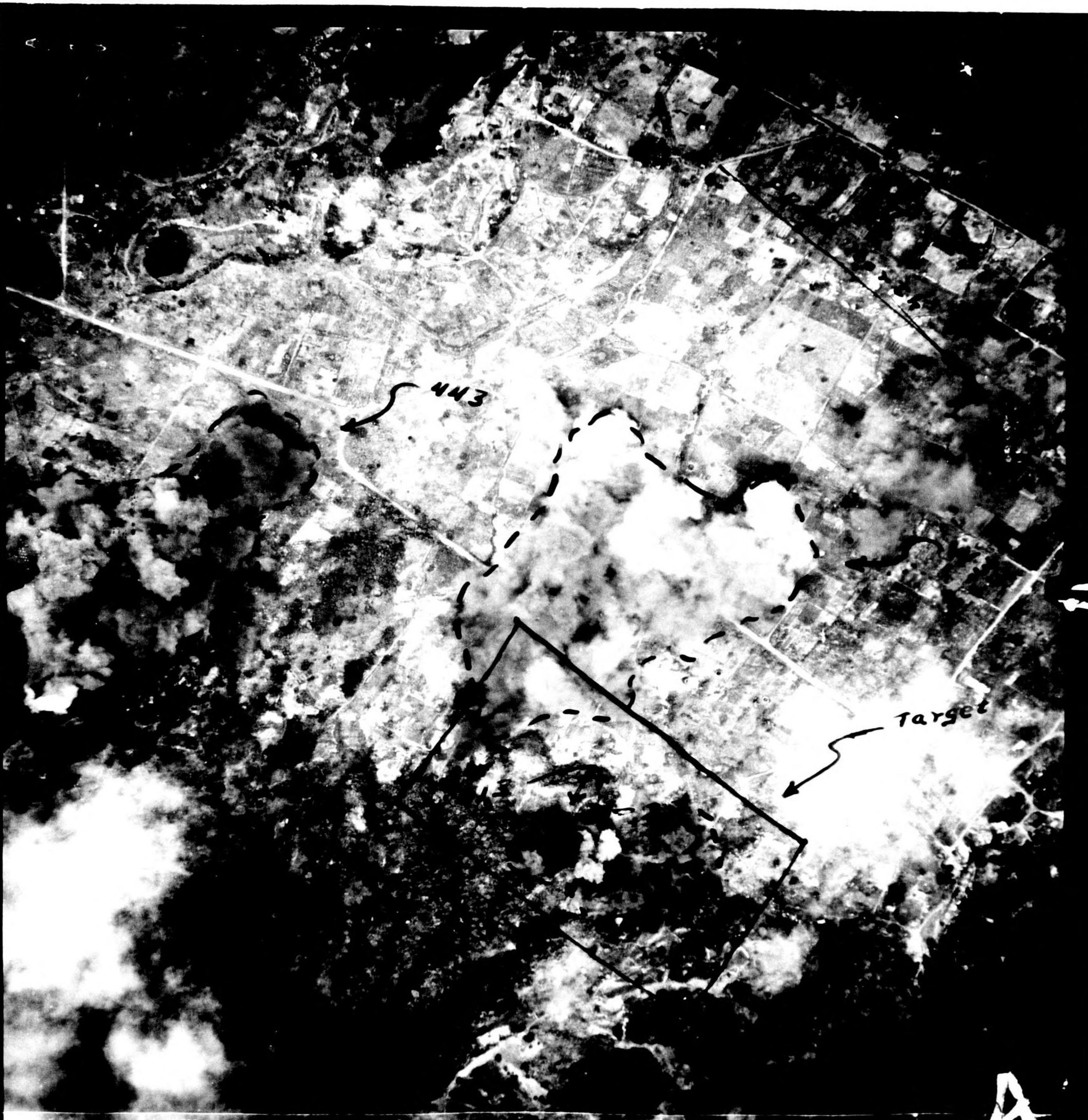
R. R. GRUYSE,
Capt., USMC,
Group Intelligence Officer.

P. K. SMITH,
Col., USMC,
Group Commander.

EASTMAN REGUL

EASTMAN REGULAR SAFETY

ULAR SAFETY



(VMB-413-702)(6)(20") (10,500') (1111 L) (29 MAY-45) (NEW RABAU 38)