

VMB-4123

159
⑨

Report #284

HCC(9)

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VI. LOSS OR DAMAGE, COMBAT OR OPERATIONAL OF OWN AIRCRAFT.

(a) None

(b) None

VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES.

(a) None

VIII. RANGE, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION DATA FOR PLANES RETURNED.

Type A/C	Miles Out	Miles In	AV Hours in Air	AV Fuel Consumed
PBJ-1J	199	179	2 Hours 25'	403 Gals.

TOTAL AMMUNITION EXPENDED.

None

Number of Planes Returning: 6

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED.

None

X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT.

No enemy aircraft encountered.

XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES.

(a) Target & Location: AA positions south of Kara Airdrome, Bougainville.

(b) Time over Target: 0942 (c) Clouds over Target: .9 Towering Cumulus

(d) Visibility of Target: Hazy (e) Visibility: 10 miles

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

Bombs Dropped per Run: 8 Spacing: 50 to 75 feet.

Altitude of Bomb Release: 8,500 feet.

(g) No. of Enemy A/C hit on Ground: Destroyed: None Damaged: None
Probably Destroyed: None

(h)	(i)	(j) (k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
AA Positions, Kara Airdrome		8 VMB-423	48 X 250# GP	See (c)	

(o)
RESULTS:

All bombs were in the target area causing two large smoke columns. The location of bomb hits with relation to the target is shown on the attached photograph.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes

PHOTO REFERENCE: VMB-423(165) ²⁻²/₃₋₂ (4-20-45) (8 1/2:8,500') (Kara A/A, Boug.)

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

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REPORT No. 284

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
Defense 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	T/O GREEN	T/O/T	P/O GREEN
301B21	Major LOWELL	0820	0942	1048
302B21	LEAIRD	0820	0942	1048
303B21	MONROE	0821	0942	1046
304B21	BEARD	0821	0942	1046
305B21	VANAKEN	0822	0942	1047
306B21	HUBER	0822	0942	1047

Major LOWELL, Operations Officer, led six PBJs of VMB-423 in a medium altitude daylight raid on the anti-aircraft positions south of Kara Airdrome. The formation was composed of two, three plane sections javelin down.

The strike was airborne by 0823 and after joining up as described above proceeded down the west coast of Bougainville to Empress Augusta Bay. The flight turned to a heading of 122° magnetic from Montopena Point to the Mongorai River and then flew a course of 096° magnetic for 18 miles where it turned into the bomb run.

Bombs were released from 8,500 feet at 0942 hours on a heading of 065° magnetic at 160 knots indicated. After bombing the formation returned to base and all planes were safely on deck by 1048.

No anti-aircraft fire was encountered.

All bombs were in the target area causing two large smoke columns. The location of bomb hits with relation to the target is shown on the attached photograph.

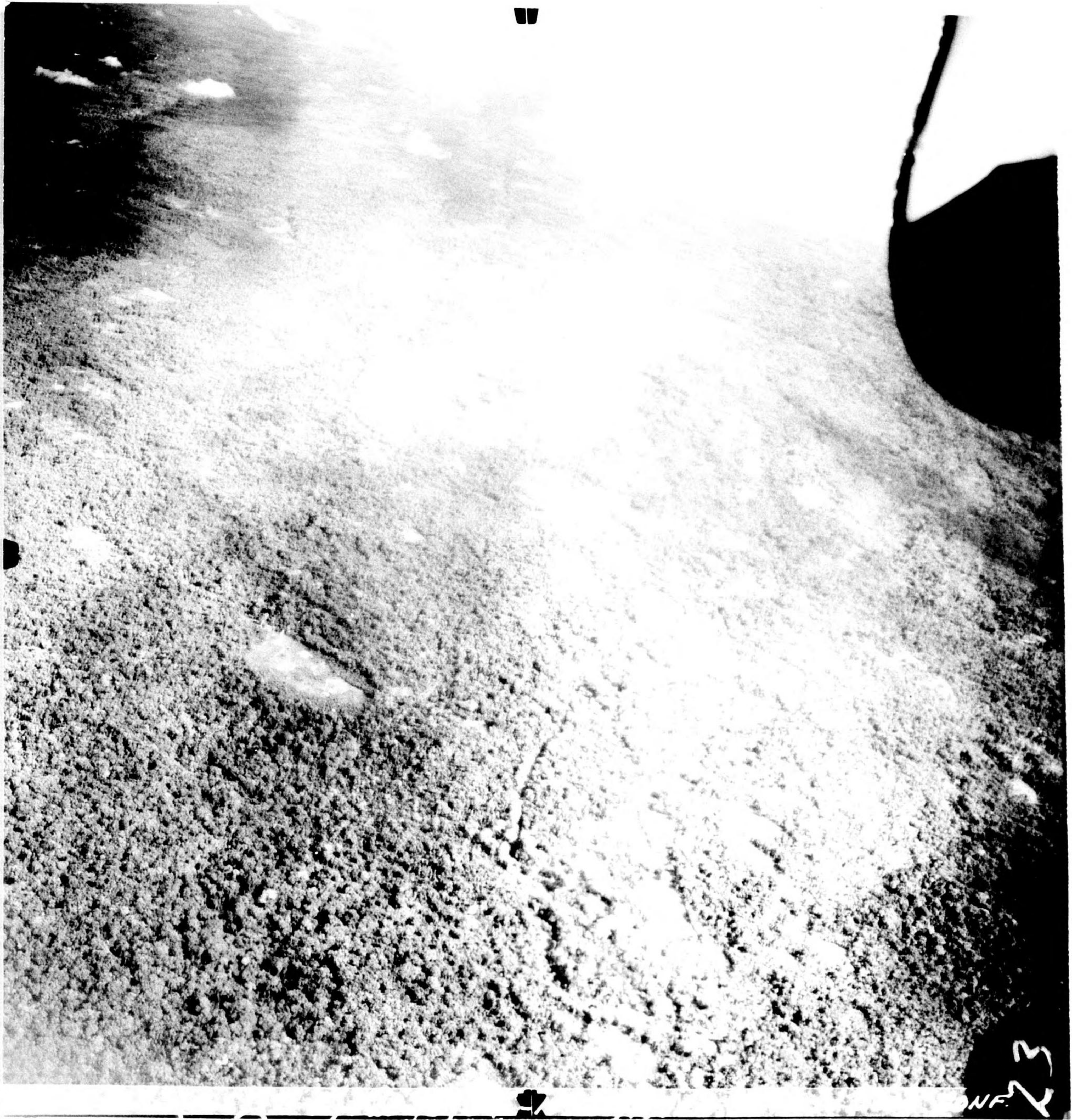
(All times in this narrative are local).

WARD D. MARTIN
Capt., USMC
Intelligence Officer

NORMAN J. ANDERSON
LtCol., USMC
Commanding



VMB-423(165)(2-2)4-20-45(8 1/4" - 10900') KARA AA Pbs. Boug. CONF. 3



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