

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL 6822

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

WB-413 233  
WB-433 131  
WB-443 103

012568

## I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting NAQ-61 (b) Based on or at Enirau Island (c) Report No 74  
 (d) Take off: Date 25 March, 1945 Time (LZT) 0915L (Zone); Lat. 01° 36' S. Long 150° E.  
Coordinated medium altitude attack on  
 (e) Mission Tunakanau #12, Rabaul, N. B. (f) Time of Return 1110L (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	WB413	5	None	5	1 x 2000 GP inst.	ANM-103 nose ANM-102A2 tail
PBJ-1	WB413	1	None	1	2 x 1000 GP inst.	ANM-100A2 tail
PBJ-1	WB433	9	None	7	1 x 2000 GP ANM 34	ANM-103 inst.
PBJ-1	WB443	9	None	9	1 x 2000 GP MK. 66	Nose: ANM-103 Inst. Tail: ANM-102A2 Inst.

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
PBY-5A	VPB 44	1	Enirau Island				
T4U	NZ#23	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 \_\_\_\_\_ (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	GUNS USED		
None						



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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) Kavieng AA positions, N. I. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1045L (Zone) \_\_\_\_\_  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target 2/10 cu. at 2000' 2/10-9/10 A.S. at 14,000'  
(BASE IN FEET, TENS AND TENTHS OF COVER)

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

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

Bombs Dropped per Run 23 Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ Altitude of Bomb Release 11,500-12,800'  
(NUMBER) (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. HIT ON AIMING POINT	(n) DAMAGE TO TARGET
1 Eastern AA positions		6 WB 413	5 x 2000 GP 2 x 1000 GP		
2 3 western heavy AA positions		7 WB 433	7 x 2000 GP		See "e"
3 Light and medium AA positions		9 WB 443	9 x 2000 GP		
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 number of hits. For all targets give location and effect of hits, and identify by numbers above. Use additional sheets if necessary.)

- 1.-3 x 2000# GPs in short center of target damaging one medium AA, demolishing one M/G position and one hut, splitting approximately 50-75' of slit trenches, and clearing out a corner of the woods in which likely AA stores had been observed in previous photographs.
- 2 x 2000# GPs fell northeast of the target by 2000' doing no apparent damage to the woods in which they fell.
- 2 x 1000# GPs fell in open area north of the target doing no apparent damage.
- 2.-7 x 2000# GPs landed beyond or north of the target doing no observed damage to the plantation area.
- 3.-5 x 2000# GPs landed in woods 2000' south of target doing no apparent damage.
- 4 x 2000# GPs landed 10,000' south in open area, of target doing no apparent damage.
- 4.-2 x 2000# GPs hung, one being jettisoned over water, the other being returned to base.

**Photographs attached:**

- (3) (WB 413 - 662) (0) (20") (11500') (1047L) (3-25-45) (Kavieng AA Pos.)
- (4) (WB 433 - 94) (0) (5 1/2") (12800') (1045L) (25Mar45) (Kavieng, N. I.)
- (3) (WB 443 - 178) (0) (8 1/2") (12800') (1045L) (25Mar45) (Kavieng, N.I.)

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Serial \_\_\_\_\_

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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  
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

413		433		413	
CALL	PILOT	CALL	PILOT	CALL	PILOT
254B21	Bronleewe	266B21	Miller	279B21	Whitney
255B21	Leggie	267B21	Smith	280B21	Balleu
256B21	Holake	268B21	Farrish	281B21	Christaas
257B21	Hoolen	269B21	Hendy	282B21	Brazel
258B21	Bousearsen	270B21	Fischer	283B21	Mueller
259B21	Ingberg	271B21	Klein	284B21	Rose
		272B21	Johnston	285B21	Hartman
		273B21	Carr	286B21	Larson
		274B21	Percy	287B21	Blaisdell

The primary target was Vanakana # 12 New Britain. Due to adverse weather conditions, the primary target could not be reached, and the secondary Kavieng AA positions located south of the southeast end of Kavieng airstrip was the target of a coordinated medium level bombing attack by three PBJ squadrons.

Following the join up over Enirau, the flight proceeded on course southeast over Salapiu Island and down the southwestern coast of New Ireland in a right echelon of squadrons, javelined down. Due to adverse weather conditions towards the Rabaul area, the flight leader LtCol Miller elected to hit the secondary target, Kavieng AA positions and the flight turned north and approached the target on a heading of 312° magnetic.

WR-433 entered the bombing run at 165 kts, on a heading of 340° magnetic and at an altitude of 12,600', having as its target the 3 western heavy AA positions.

WR-413 made the bombing run at 165 kts, on a heading of 331° magnetic and at an altitude of 12,400', and had as its aiming point the center position including light and medium AA positions and the direction finder and control unit position.

WR-413 made the bombing run at 150 kts, on a heading of 335° magnetic and at an altitude of 11,500' and had as its aiming point eastern AA positions.

All squadrons broke to the left and the flight rallied 5 miles northwest of North Cape. After the flight was in formation, it returned to base.

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

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

REPORT PREPARED BY:

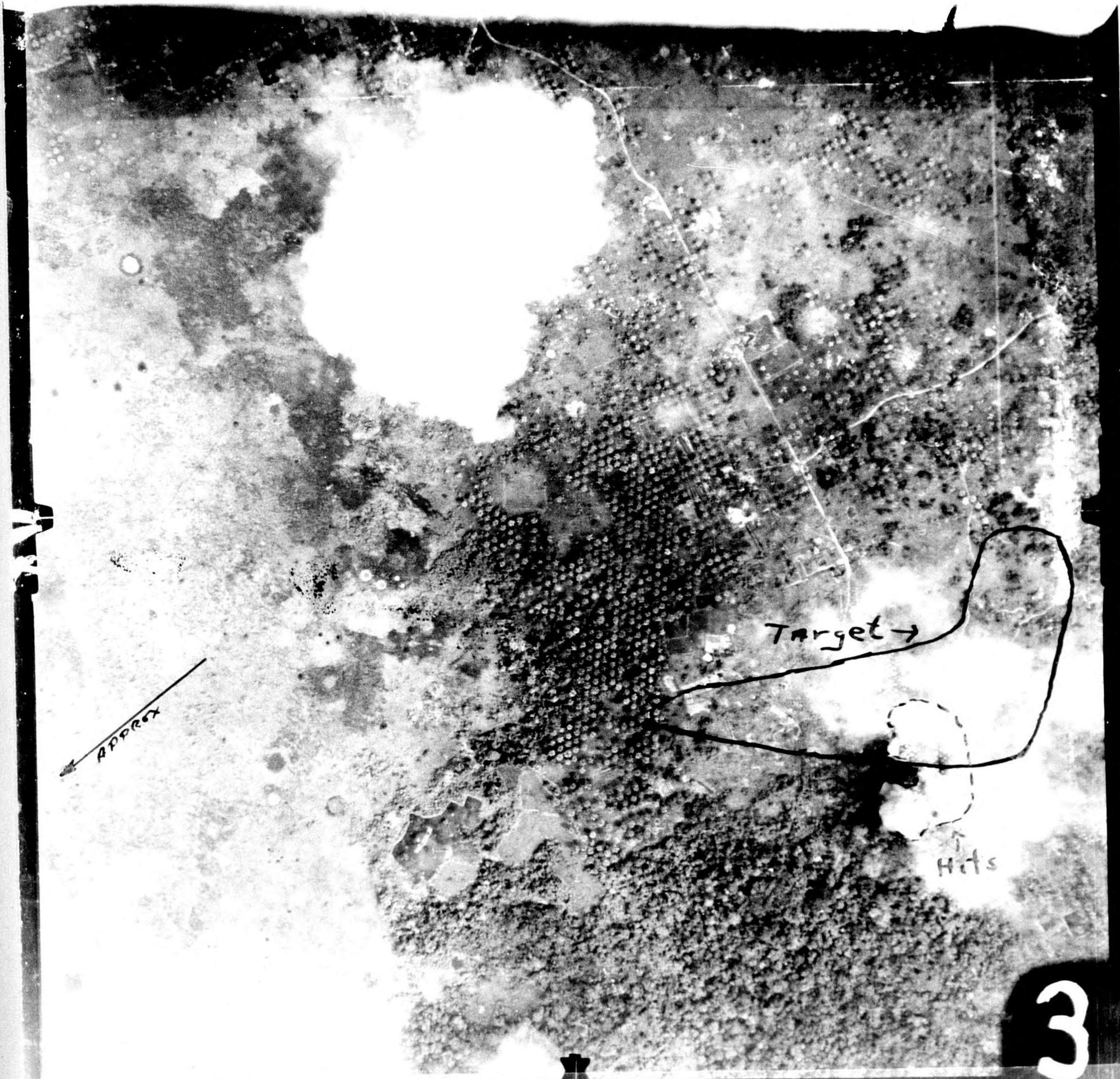
APPROVED BY:

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

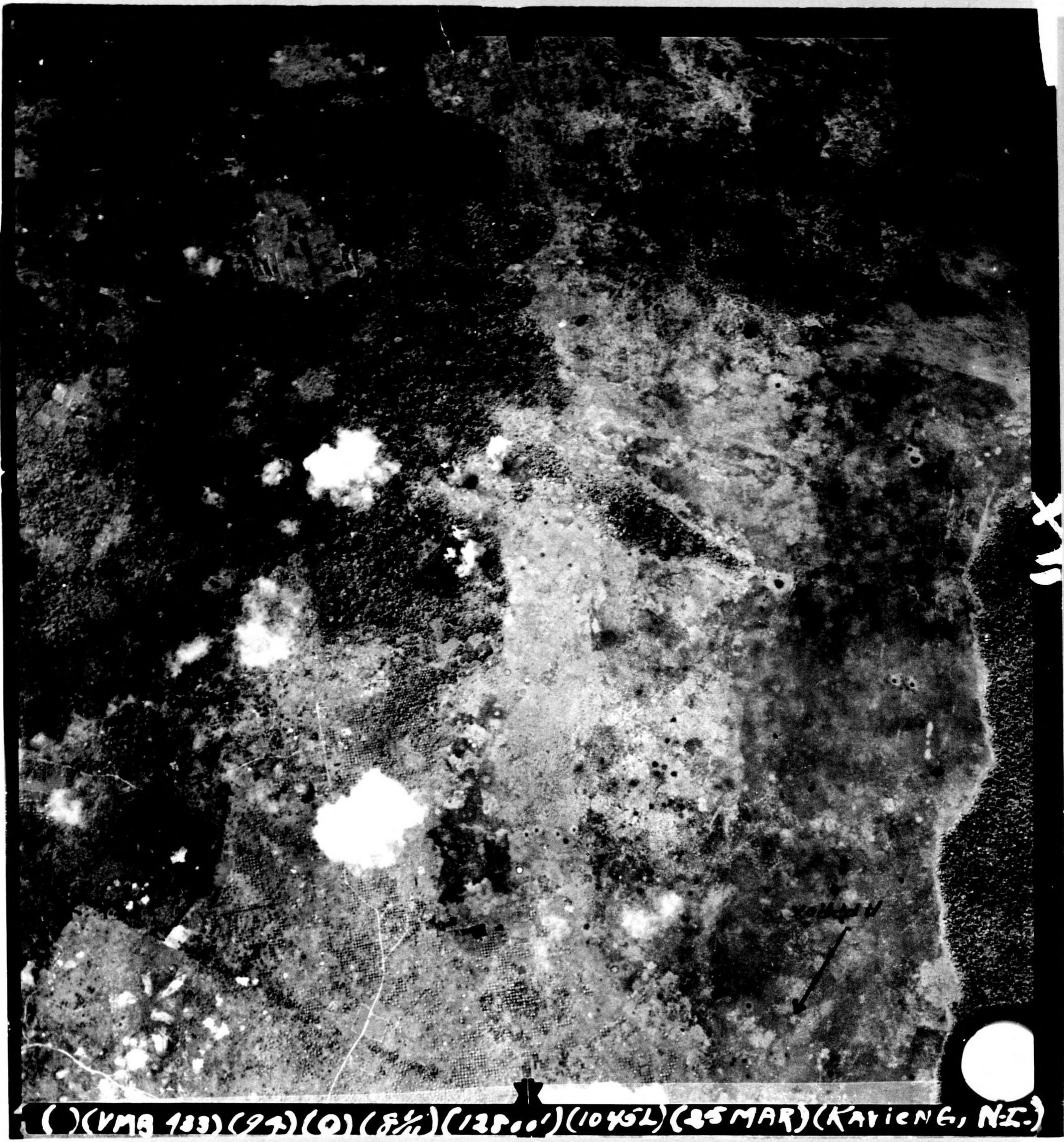
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DATE



(VMB413-662)(0)(20)(11500)(10476)(325-45)(KAWAII MILITARY)

3



11X

( ) (VMB 183) (94) (0) (8 1/2) (128.00) (1045L) (25 MAR) (KAVIENG, N.I.)



( ) (VMB 443) (178) (0) (9-1) (12,800) (10456) (25 MAR) (KAVIENG MI.)