

MG-61

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Report # 47

IC (4)

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

Ref:- VMB-413 184
VMB-433 88
VMB-443 65

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting MAG-61 (b) Based on or at Emirau Island (c) Report No. 47
(d) Take off: Date 31 January, 1945 Time (LZT) 0918-0926L (Zone); Lat. 1°36' S. Long 150° E.
Coordinated strike on Tobbi, Targets
(e) Mission #1 and #2, N. B. (f) Time of Return 1159-1205 Zone L

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	VMB413	4	None	4	8 x 300 GP	Inst.
PBJ-1	VMB413	2	None	2	4 x 300 GP	Inst.
PBJ-1	VMB433	6	None	6	8 x 300 GP	AN-M-115 Inst.
PBJ-1	VMB443	9	None	9	8 x 300 GP	AN-M-103

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
PBY	VPB44	1	Emirau Island				
F4U	NZ-22	2	Emirau 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) _____

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

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		
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 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-1	207	202	2hrs40'	973	443	N	0	N	E	21

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

TURNS
 DIVES
 CEILINGS
 RANGE
 PROTECTION
 ARMAMENT

No enemy aircraft encountered.

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

(a) Location of Target(s) Toboi #1 & 2 N. B. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1049-1052 Local
 (c) Weather and Clouds Over Target Cu. 1500-12,000' 3/10 coverage.
 (d) Sun or Moon _____ (e) Visibility Unlimited

XI. TARGETS, RESULTS OF ATTACK.

1	(a) DESCRIPTION OF TARGET (List All Ships in Group, Whether or Not Individually Attacked)	(b) A/C ATTACKING	(d) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH TARGET	(e) ALTITUDE OF RELEASE	(f) HITS
		(c) SQUADRON			
1	Toboi #1	6 VMB-413	40 x 300 GP		
2	Toboi #2	6 VMB-433	48 x 300 GP		
3	Same	9 VMB-443	72 x 300 GP		
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

(g) **RESULTS:** (FOR SHIP TARGETS 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, WITH DIAGRAMS OR CHARTS WHERE DESIRABLE. DESCRIBE TARGETS FULLY IN (a), AND IN REPORTING DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION, IDENTIFY BY NUMBERS AT LEFT. USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY).

Photographs show that between twelve and fifteen bombs fell within the northern valley of the "Y" in Toboi #1. The remainder of the bombs aimed at this target extended from the northern edge of the target to a point approximately five to six hundred feet north. Of the bombs intended for Toboi #2 only three hit pay dirt, the rest fell along the side of the hill and in the valley from the northwestern corner of the target to a point approximately one thousand feet north.

(h) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached.

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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

REPORT PREPARED BY: _____

APPROVED BY _____

413		433		443	
CALL	PILOT	CALL	PILOT	CALL	PILOT
254B21	Cox	266B21	Miller	279B21	Gould
255B21	Treacy	267B21	Harpley	280B21	Hartman
256B21	Ross	268B21	Benjamin	281B21	Booth
257B21	Cunningham	269B21	Woten	282B21	McConnell
258B21	Muehleisen	270B21	Carr	283B21	Larson
259B21	Ellis	271B21	Johnston	284B21	Kennedy
				285B21	Hammond
				286B21	Ballou
				287B21	Dee

The supply and plane hide at Toboi on the west side of Simpson Harbor is divided into two targets. Target #1 measures about 600' x 600' and #2, 600' x 1000'. A three squadron medium altitude strike was set up so the leading squadron would aim at target #1 and the other two squadrons take #2.

Lt Col Cox of VMB-413 led the flight in a vee of squadrons javelined down over the west tip of Djaul Island then to Watom Island and a turn for the bomb run. Because of the cloud build ups the flight approached the target in a column of squadrons instead of in left echelon as planned, and on a course nearer 160° than the scheduled 200°. After release VMB-413 circled left over the harbor while the other squadrons continued to their target and then broke right for the rally north of Watom Island and a direct trip back to base.

D. E. HATCH,
Capt., USMCR,
Group Intelligence Officer.

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

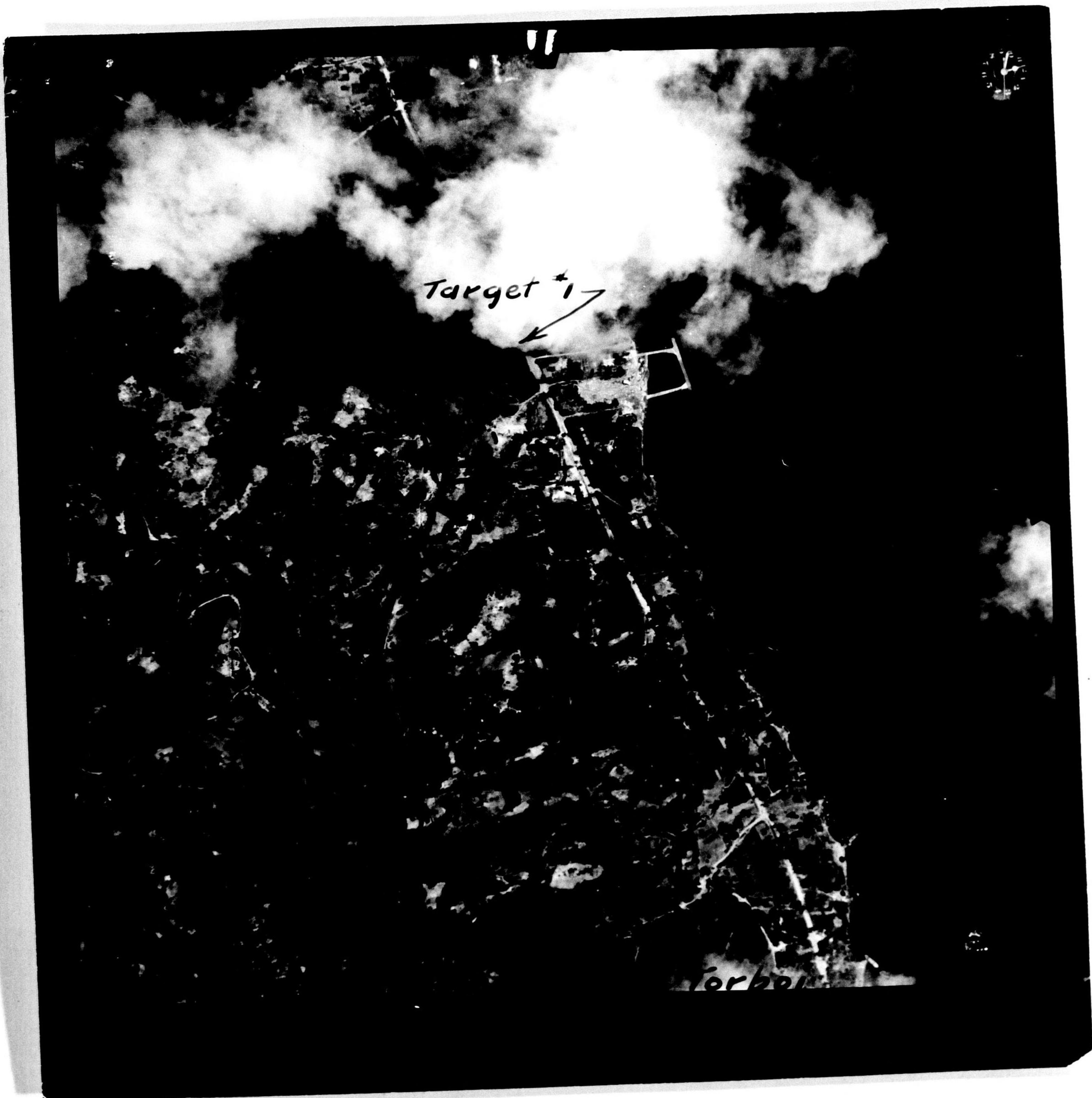
SIGNATURE _____

RANK AND DUTY _____

SIGNATURE _____

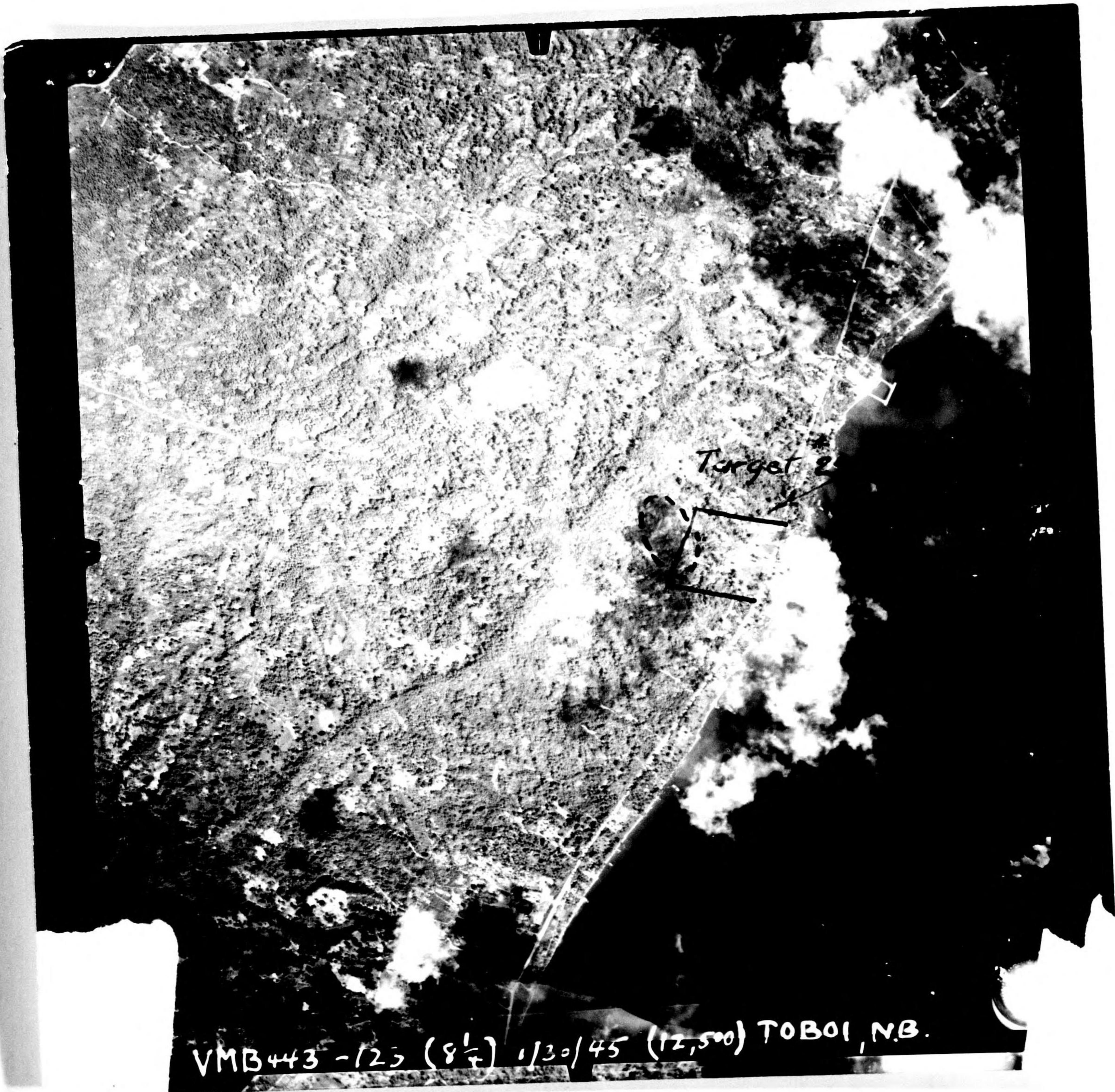
RANK AND DUTY _____

DATE _____





(63) VMB-433 20" (B) 1-31-45, 12000 T-31.0



VMB 443 - 123 (8 1/2) 1/30/45 (12,500) TOB01, N.B.