

VMB-423

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Report # 3321

II c(9)

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CONFIDENTIAL

254240

I. GENERAL

Report #

(a) Unit Reporting: VMB-423 (b) Based at: Green Island (c) 334

(d) Date of Action: 21 May, 1945 (e) Take off: Time: 0517 to 1705 LZT

Lat. 04°32' Long. 154°14' (f) Mission: Patrol Missions over

Rabaul Area, New Britain.

(g) Time of Return: 0950 to 2106 LZT

JUN 7 1945
0607

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT

TYPE	SQDN	NO. OF SORTIES	NO. ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	NO. ATTACKING TARGET	BOMBS CARRIED PER PLANE
PBJ-1J	VMB423	2	None	2	6 X 500# GP
PBJ-1J	VMB423	3	None	3	8 X 250# GP

FUZE, SETTING :

Nose: AN-M-103
 .1 sec Delay
 Tail: AN-M-101A2
 .025 sec Delay
 Nose same as above
 Tail: AN-M-100A2

} - 500#
 } - 250#

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

Type	Sqdn.	No.	Base	Type	Sqdn.	No.	Base
None							

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED

None

V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR

None

334

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

None

VII. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES

None

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

TYPE A/C	MILES OUT	MILES IN	AV HOURS IN AIR	AV FUEL LOADED	AV FUEL CONSUMED	TOTAL AMMO EXPENDED	PLANES RETURNING
PBJ-1J	786		4hrs 29'	974	801	N-O-N-E	3
PBJ-1J	789		4hrs 22'	974	783	1000 rds .50 Caliber Ammo	1
PBJ-1J	872		4hrs 01'	974	712	N-O-N-E	1

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED

	None	Meager	Moderate	Intense
HEAVY	XX			
MEDIUM	XX			
LIGHT	XX			

X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT

No enemy aircraft encountered.

XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES

(a) Target & Location: Rabaul Area, New Britain.
 (b) Time over Target: 0605-2015 L (c) Clouds over Target: CAVU
 (d) Visibility of Target: Clear (e) Visibility: 30
 (miles)
 (f) Bombing Tactics: Type: Level Bomb Sight Used: Mark 15
 Bombs Dropped per Run: 1, 2 & 3 Spacing: VARIED Altitude: 4,000 ft to 9,000 ft.
 (g) No. of Enemy A/C hit on Ground: None Destroyed: None Damaged: None

(E)	(i)	(j) (k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
Rabaul Town		5 VMB-423	4 X 500# GP 12 X 250# GP	Sea (o)	
Sulphur Creek		1 VMB-423	1 X 500# GP	" "	
Duke of York		2 VMB-423	1 X 500# GP 4 X 250# GP	" "	
Vunakohau		3 VMB-423	2 X 500# GP 3 X 250# GP	" "	
South Daughter & Vulcan Crater		2 VMB-423	2 X 500# GP 4 X 250# GP	" "	
Koinaga		1 VMB-423	1 X 500# GP	" "	
Keravat		1 VMB-423	1 X 500# GP	" "	
Huts near Hos- pital Ridge		1 VMB-423	1 X 250# GP	" "	

* 1,000 rds. of Cal. 50 ammo were expended on this target also.

(c) 375B21 - Results were unobserved.

376B21 - Results were unobserved.

377B21 - One small explosion was caused in the hut area on South Daughter. Huts on Duke of York were thoroughly strafed with 1,000 rounds of .50 Caliber ammunition.

378B21 - Results were unobserved.

379B21 - Results were unobserved.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should be attached by staple.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

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XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.
Use additional sheets if necessary).

334

- 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

CALL	PILOT	T/O GREEN	T/O/T	P/C GREEN
375B21	TOGERSON	0517	0605-0900	0950
376B21	HICKS	0815	0900-1200	1240
377B21	LINEN	1115	1200-1500	1537
378B21	Major LOWELL	1415	1500-1800	1845
379B21	GARTHWAITE	1705	1755-2015	2106

On 21 May, 1945, five PBJs of VMB-423 flew patrol missions over Rabaul, New Britain. Planes were relieved on station and a continuous patrol was maintained from 0605 to 2015.

375B21 dropped six 500 pound general purpose bombs as follows: three on Rabaul Town, one on Sulphur Creek, one on Duke of York and one on Vunakanau with unobserved results.

376B21 dropped eight 250 pound general purpose bombs as follows: five on Rabaul Town and three on Vunakanau with unobserved results.

377B21 dropped eight 250 pound general purpose bombs as follows: two on a boat near South Daughter, three on hut areas on Duke of York, two on hut areas on South Daughter and one on Rabaul Town. One small explosion was caused in the hut area on South Daughter. Huts on the Duke of York were thoroughly strafed with 1,000 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition.

378B21 dropped six 500 pound general purpose bombs as follows: one on huts at Kolnnga, two on Vulcan Crater, one on Vunakanau, one on Rabaul Town and one on the Keravat gardens with unobserved results.

379B21 dropped eight 250 pound general purpose bombs as follows: six on Rabaul Town, one on huts on Duke of York and one on huts near Hospital Ridge with unobserved results.

None of the above patrols encountered any anti-aircraft fire.

(All times in this narrative are local).

REPORT PREPARED BY:

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Commanding

SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY SIGNATURE RANK AND DUTY DATE