

MG-61

145
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Report #42

II 2 (4)

7

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(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) Vunakanau #8, N. B. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1104-1111 (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target cumulus 3000-5000' 8-10 coverage
(BASE IN FEET TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Partially obscured by clouds (e) Visibility unlimited
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type level Bomb Sight Used Mk15 mod 7
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run all Spacing varied Altitude of Bomb Release 12,200-13,000'
(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 HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 Vunakanau #8	1500' x 800'	9 VMB-413	48 x 500 GP's		
2 Sulphur Creek		9 VMB-433	53 x 500 GP's		See (o)
3 NW end of Vunakanau runway		9 VMB-443	54 x 500 GP's		
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).

- Due to cloud coverage results were unobserved.
- 53 x 500 GP's hit between the head of Sulphur Creek and the "sister"
1 x 500 GP hung up and pried loose by navigator and jettisoned 40 miles NW of target over water
- 18 x 500 GP's on taxiway
36 x 500 GP's in revetment area adjacent to runway.

(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

413		433		443	
CALL	PILOT	CALL	PILOT	CALL	PILOT
254B21	Cox	266B21	Wolfe	279B21	Guillotte
255B21	Treacy	267B21	Tyler	280B21	Mueller
256B21	Ross	268B21	Green	281B21	Dee
257B21	Cunningham	269B21	Lattner	282B21	Corman
258B21	Cochrane	270B21	Shaw	283B21	Ballou
259B21	Bronleewe	271B21	Carr	284B21	Booth
260B21	Arsenault	272B21	Hendy	285B21	Habig
261B21	Muehleisen	273B21	Klein	286B21	Lord
262B21	Roome	274B21	Leachman	287B21	Hartman

The target, Vunakanau #8 is a wooded area, 1500' x 800' at the end of one of the taxiways on the northeast side of Vunakanau strip. The strike was planned to approach from the south, turn to the bomb run on 306° and break sharp left to avoid the concentration of A/A northeast of the airfield. The target was divided into three parts, the leading squadron was to take the left section, the 2nd squadron, the center; and the last squadron the right side.

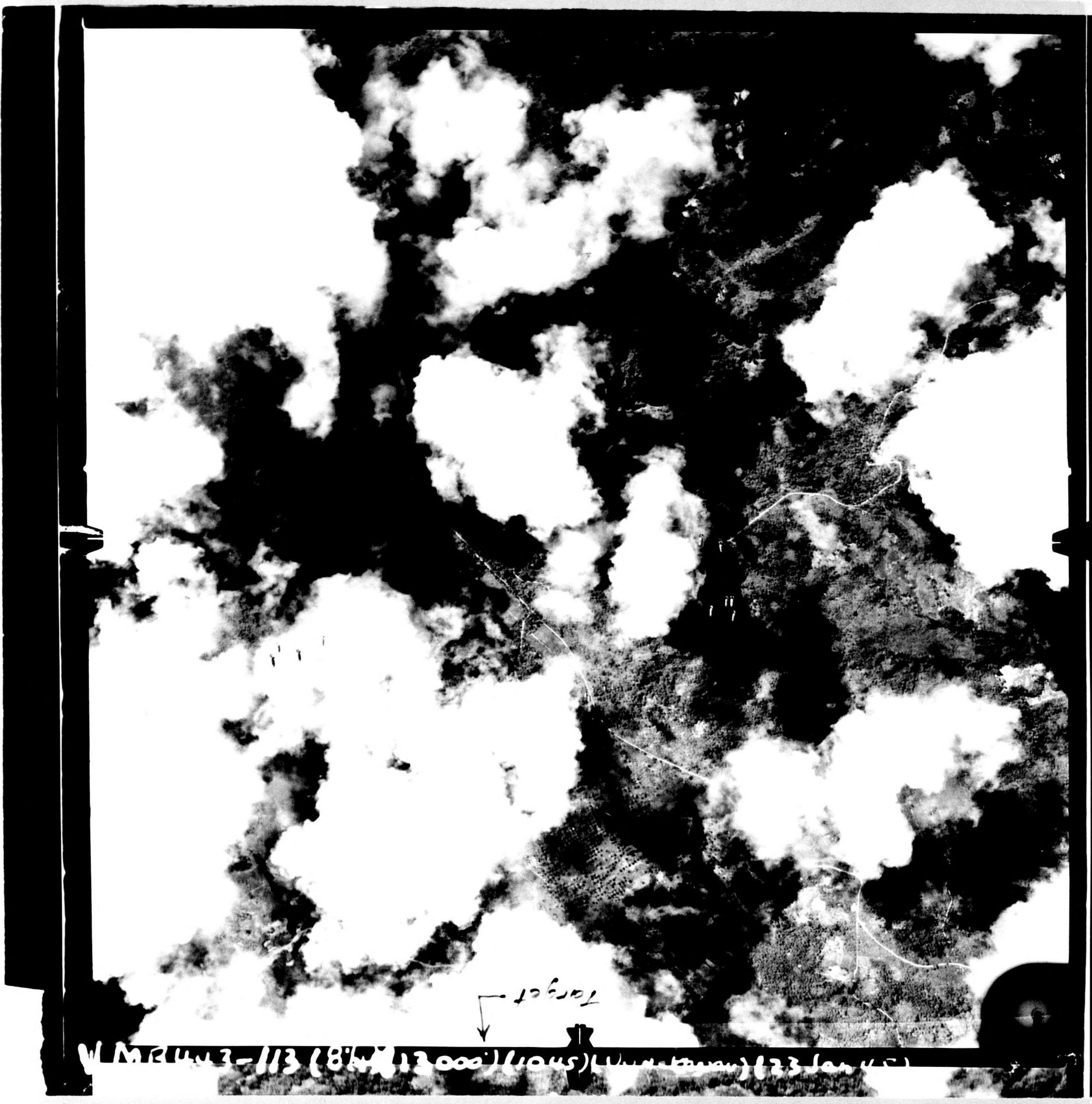
LtCol Guillotte of VMB-443 led the flight with VMB-433 in second position and 413 last. The course out to the initial point was according to plan in a vee of squadrons javelin down. Large rapidly moving clouds over the target forced the squadrons to take greater interval in a column of squadrons in right echelon, and make independent runs. VMB-443 released at 1104 on a heading of 343° magnetic. VMB-413 dropped at 1111 on a course of 046°. In between them VMB-433 found the target completely cloud covered so swung across Simpson Harbor and took Sulphur Creek Plane Park as its target.

The return flight were made by the squadrons independently.

Clouds rendered photos and observation of results unreliable for assessment of damages. However some hits were reported in the southwest taxiway and revetment area. VMB-433 reported its bombs hit between the head of Sulphur Creek and the slope of the crater.

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

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



target

W. MR 443-113 (8/4/13 000) (1045) (1000) (123) (100)