

UMB-423

161
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Report #312

#C (9)

5

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

10659
253810
RESTRICTED (Reclassify when filled out)
CONFIDENTIAL

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I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB-423 (b) Based on or at Green Island (c) Report No. 312
 (d) Take off: Date 7 May, 1945 Time (LZT) 1400-1402 (Zone); Lat. 04°32' Long. 154°14'
 (e) Mission Medium Altitude Bombing of Nakaru #36, Boug'nvil' & Low Level Bomb & Strafe Chindpats, Boug. (f) Time of Return 1610-1612 (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-1J	VMB423	6	None	6	3 X 1000# GP	Note: AN-M-103 2.1 Sec Delay Tail: AN-M-102A2 .025 Sec Delay

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
PBY5A	VPB-53	1	Green 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)
 Time of Day and Brilliance _____ (j) of Sun or Moon _____ (k) Visibility _____ (MILES)
 (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON; DAY, OVERCAST; ETC.)

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:			GUNS USED	(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-LJ	192	178	2hrs 10'	974	392	None	14000	None	None	6

IX. ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED (Check one block on each line).

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	XX			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	XX			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm			XX	

X. COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, OWN AND ENEMY AIRCRAFT (use check list at left).

SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes

- TURN
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

No enemy aircraft encountered.

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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) **Nakaru #36 & Chindpats, Boug.** (b) Time Over Target(s) **1506 & 1540** (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target **.2 Cover** (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target **CLEAR** (e) Visibility **25 miles** (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Level** Bomb Sight Used **Mark 15** (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run **3** Spacing **125'** Altitude of Bomb Release **10,900'** (NUMBER) (FEET) (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 Nakaru # 36.		6 VMB-423	18 X 1000# GP	See(o)	
2 Chindpats.		3 VMB-423	14,000 rds. .50 Caliber AMMO	See(o)	
3					
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.)

Target number 36 at Nakaru was well covered as all but three bombs hit in the target and started one fire with smoke to 1000 feet. Chindpats and Unum were thoroughly strafed with 14,000 rounds of caliber .50 ammunition for unobserved results.

PHOTOGRAPH **VMB423 (190)(3-2) 5-7-45 (20"-10,700') NAKARU #36, BOUG., CONF.**
REFERENCE: **VMB423 (190)(4-1) 5-7-45 (8 1/2"-10,900') NAKARU #36, BOUG., CONF.**

(p) Were Photographs Taken? **Yes** Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple

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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:

CALL	PILOT	T/O GREEN	T/O/T	P/C GREEN
301B21	LtCol ANDERSON	1400	1505	1610
302B21	EWERS	1400	1505	1610
303B21	PEARCE	1401	1505	1611
304B21	WALLER	1401	1505	1611
305B21	HOPPER	1402	1505	1612
306B21	WORKMAN	1402	1505	1612

Lieutenant Colonel ANDERSON, Commanding Officer, led six PBJs of VMB-423 in a medium altitude daylight bombing of target number 36 at Nakaru followed by a low level strafing of Chindpats both on Bougainville Island. The formation was composed of two, three plane sections javelin down.

The strike was airborne by 1403 and after joining up proceeded down the east coast of Bougainville to Koromira Point. Here it crossed the coastline and flew a course of 159° magnetic to the Lulual River for the bombardier to stabilize the bombsight and figure drift, then southwesterly to west of Mt. Gulcher where it turned into the bomb run.

Bombing was done on a heading of 159° magnetic from 10,900 feet with 160 knots indicated air speed and bombs were away at 1505.

Following the medium altitude attack the formation broke right and proceeded northeasterly losing altitude. At 4,000 feet over Numa Numa Harbor the second section made a 360° turn to the right to establish an interval behind the first section. From this point both sections flew to a point southwest of Teop Harbor at which point the first section flew a heading of 280° magnetic for ten miles and then made its strafing run on Chindpats at 1540 on a heading of 330° magnetic.

The second section flew from Teop Harbor for nine miles on a heading of 288° magnetic and made its strafing run on Chindpats and Umum at 1542 on a heading of 303° magnetic.

Following the strafing the planes broke to the right to return to base and all were safely on the deck by 1613.

No anti-aircraft fire was encountered over Nakaru but moderate inaccurate machine-gun fire was encountered from an unidentified position in Inus Plantation.

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE

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Bombs, Torpedoes
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Bomb Releases

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Codes, Ciphers

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of Fire Needing Further
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Leak Proofing

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Safety Belts
Emergency Kits
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Driftsights
Octants
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Flight
Power Plant

OXYGEN SYSTEM

**CAMOUFLAGE AND
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Control Surfaces
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Landing Gear
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Flight Characteristics
At Various Loadings

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Engine Accessories
Propellers
Lubricating System
Starters
Exhaust Dampers

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ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

Auxiliary Plant
Lights

FUEL SYSTEM

FLIGHT CLOTHING

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(All times in this narrative are love).

WARD D. MARTIN
Capt., USMCR
Intelligence Officer

APPROVED BY:

NORMAN J. ANDERSON
LtCol., USMC
Commanding

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE



VMB-423(190)(3-2)5-7-45(20'-10700')NAKARU#16-BOUG. CONF.



VMB-423(190)(A-1)5-7-45 (8 $\frac{1}{2}$ '-10900') NAKARU #26 - BOUG. CONF.