

MG-61

146
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Report #96

ITC (4)

6

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

REPORT No. 96

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	
FBI-1	221	214	3hrs. 19'	974	477	N	0	N	N	27

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

CALIBER	NONE	MEAGER	MODERATE	INTENSE
HEAVY — Time-fused shells, 75mm and over	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
MEDIUM — Impact-fused shells, 20mm-50mm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
LIGHT — Machine gun bullets, 6.5mm-13.2mm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

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)

REPORT No. **96**

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Tobera #26, New Britain (b) Time Over Target(s) 1055L (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 4/10 cu. at 2000', tops to 4000'
- (d) Visibility of Target clear (e) Visibility 10 (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type level Bomb Sight Used Mk.15, Mod.7.
- Bombs Dropped per Run All Spacing 20' Altitude of Bomb Release 11,800'
- (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 (Type, extent, service, destroyed or sunk)
1 Tobera #26.	2100' x 300'	8 VMR-413	64 x 300 GPs		
2 Tobera #26.	same	9 VMR-433	72 x 300 GPs		See "c".
3 Tobera #26.	same	9 VMR-443	72 x 300 GPs		
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.)

- 1.-64 x 300 GPs covered a rectangular pattern in the plantation area 100' x 300' with the nearest bomb 300' east of the target. There was no apparent damage.**
- 2.-72 x 300 GPs fell parallel to the southern edge of the target with the nearest bomb just nicking the vegetation along the edge and the furthest being 400' south of target. All bombs fell in plantation area for no apparent damage.**
- 3.-72 x 300 GPs fell in a cluster 1500 yards east of target amongst coconut trees for no observed damage.**
- 4.- 8 x 300 GPs were returned to base due to release failure.**

Photographs attached:

- (4) (VMR-433) (119) (0) (20") (10,300') (1056L) (30 April 45) (Tobera Aird., N.B.)
(6) (VMR-413) (686) (0) (20") (11,800') (1055L) (30 April 45) (Tobera #26)

(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	Long	279B21	Anderson
255B21	Leggio	267B21	Carr	280B21	Palmer
256B21	Smith	268B21	Parri sh	281B21	Booth
257B21	MacLean	269B21	Woten	282B21	Kitterman
258B21	Ross	270B21	Percy	283B21	Kozlowski
259B21	Conant	271B21	Benjamin	284B21	Graser
260B21	Hines	272B21	Johnston	285B21	Schreier
261B21	Helling	273B21	Fischer	286B21	Wilson
262B21	Fischburg	274B21	Smith	287B21	Tafel

Lt. Col. Robert B. Cox taking off at 0920, led three squadrons of 27 PBJ's on a coordinated medium level attack of Tobera No 26, a target 2100' x 500', located 4680' northwest of the Tobera Airstrip. There have been reports of concentrated activity in this area.

WR-413, WR-443 and WR-433 took off at 0919, 0920 and 0924 respectively. After becoming airborne each squadron proceeded to Djaul Island where a rendezvous was held at 10,000 feet.

After joining up the flight in a vee formation, squadrons javelin down, took a course of 134° magnetic to the western tip of Atiliklikum Bay, at which point the formation changed to a left echelon, squadrons javelin down.

Travelling at a speed of 155 knots I.A.S. and an altitude of 12,000', the bombing run was made on a course of 080° magnetic with bombs away at 1055. The results were as follows: 64 x 300# GPs landed 300' east of the target, 72 x 300# GPs fell parallel to the southern edge of the target, 72 of the same bombs exploded 1500 yards east of the target area and 8 x 300# GPs were returned to base due to release failure.

The group broke right, rallied off the southern tip of Duke of York Islands and then flew back to base to land at 1225.

On the return leg a probable Rufe was sighted in the Musa Archipelago, however, upon investigation it was not located.

Two planes from the formation peeled off, upon instruction from Lt. Col. Cox, and hunted for the possible plane hide on Tunschui Inlet, located on the southwest coast of the Kavieng Peninsula, N. I. After these two planes returned to base, five other PBJ's covered the area with 10,000 rounds of 50 caliber and 24 x 300 Demolition, delay fused, bombs. The results were unobserved.

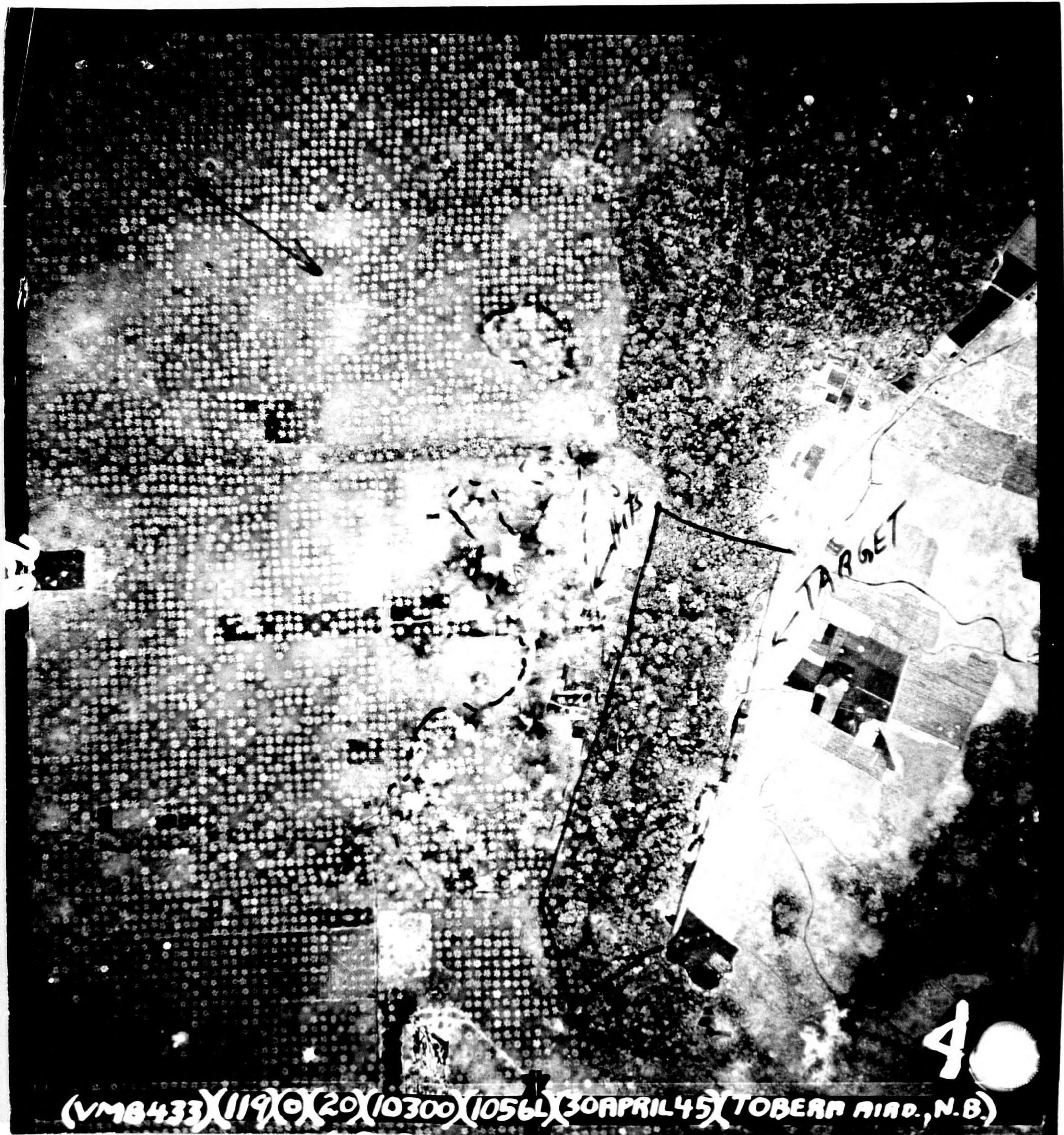
R. R. CRUISE,
Capt., USMC,
Group Intelligence Officer.

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



{VMB413-686}(0)(20"X11,800)(1055L)(30 APRIL 16)(TOBERM 26)

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(VMB433)(119)(20)(10300)(1056L)(30APRIL45)(TOBERN AIRD., N.B.)

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