

VMB-42B

161  
①

Report # 336

IIc (a)

4

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting: VMB-423 (b) Based at: Green Island (c) Report # 336  
 (d) Date of Action: 22 May, 1945 (e) Take off: Time: 0510-1710 LZT  
 Lat. 04 32' Long. 154 14' (f) Mission: Patrol Missions over  
Rabaul, New Britain.  
 (g) Time of Return: 0955-2037 LZT

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	VMB-423	4	None	4	8 X 250# GP
PBJ-1J	VMB-423	1	None	1	6 X 500# GP

FUZE, SETTING :

Nose: AN-M-103 )  
 .1 Sec Delay )  
 Tail: AN-M-100A2 ) - 250#  
 .025 Sec Delay )  
 Nose same as above )  
 Tail: AN-M-101A2 ) - 500#  
 .025 Sec Delay )

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

336

## 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	-806-		4hrs 45'	974	854	None	1
PBJ-1J	-571-		3hrs 27'	974	608	None	1
PBJ-1J	-772-		4hrs 25'	974	818	1000 rds of .50 Caliber	3

## 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 0610-2000(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 600' to 10,000'  
Probably
- (g) No. of Enemy A/C hit on Ground: None Destroyed: None Damaged  
: None

(h)	(i)	(j)	(l)	(m)	(n)
		(k)			
Rabaul Town		2 VMB-423	3 X 500# GP 3 X 250# GP	See (o)	
Duke of York		4 VMB-423	1 X 500# GP 16 X 250# GP	" "	
Sulphur Creek		2 VMB-423	5 X 250# GP	" "	
Huts east of Hospital Ridge		1 VMB-423	3 X 250# GP	" "	
Watom Island & Duke of York		1 VMB-423	1000 rounds .50 Caliber Ammo Used	" "	
Vunakanau		1 VMB-423	1 X 250# GP	" "	
Boat in Simpson Harbor		1 VMB-423	1 X 500# GP	" "	
Huts on east side of Mother		1 VMB-423	1 X 500# GP	" "	

(c) RESULTS

- 375B21 - Results were unobserved.
- 376B21 - Two bombs exploded in the center of a group of huts on Duke of York. This plane also strafed hut areas on Watom Island and Duke of York.
- 377B21 - Results were unobserved.
- 378B21 - One bomb hit a building in Rabaul Town throwing up debris with high white smoke.
- 379B21 - Four bombs hit in the hut area on Duke of York.
- (p) Were Photographs Taken? No Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should be attached by staple.

# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
Reclass. when  
filed with  
**CONFIDENTIAL**  
REPORT No. **336**

**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

CALL	PILOT	T/O GREEN	T/O/T	P/C GREEN
375B21	HEIL	0510	0610-0900	0955
376B21	VAN HORN	0815	0902-1200	1245
377B21	WORKMAN	1123	1200-1505	1545
378B21	KEITH	1415	1500-1750	1835
379B21	BEAIRD	1710	1800-2000	2037

On 22 May, 1945, five PBJs of **BMB-423** patrolled the Rabaul area, New Britain. Planes were relieved on station and patrols were over the area from 0605 to 2015.

**375B21** dropped four 250 pound general purpose bombs as follows: three on huts on Duke of York and one on Sulphur Creek with unobserved results.

**376B21** dropped eight 250 pound general purpose bombs as follows: five on hut areas on Duke of York and three on hut areas east of Hospital Ridge. Two bombs exploded in the center of a group of huts on Duke of York. This plane also strafed the hut areas on Watom Island and Duke of York.

**377B21** dropped eight 250 pound general purpose bombs as follows: four on Sulphur Creek, three on Rabaul Town and one on Vunakanau. Results were unobserved.

**378B21** dropped six 500 pound general purpose bombs as follows: three on Rabaul Town, one on a boat in Simpson Harbor, one on huts on the east slope of the Mother and one on huts on Duke of York. One bomb hit a building in Rabaul Town throwing up debris with high white smoke.

**379B21** dropped eight 250 pound general purpose bombs on huts on Duke of York. Four of the above bombs hit in the hut area. One inaccurate searchlight was encountered in the vicinity of Vunakanau.

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

(All times in this narrative are love).

REPORT PREPARED BY:

**WARD D. MARTIN**  
Capt., USMCR  
Intelligence Officer

APPROVED BY:

**NORMAN J. ANDERSON**  
LtCol., USMC  
Commanding

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE