

MG-61

145
④

Report #77

HC(4)

7

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when
filled out)

REPORT No. _____

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	
PAL-1	231	76	2hrs. 16'	975	376	8	0	7	2	21

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)

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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) Kavieng AA Positions (b) Time Over Target(s) 1103L (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target 4/10 cu. at 2000'; 3/10 - 5/10 S.C. at 8000'; 5/10 A.S. at 14,000'.
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target clear (e) Visibility 10
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBTSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type level Bomb Sight Used 15 mil 7
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run 111 Spacing minimum Altitude of Bomb Release 11,500-12,800'
(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, serious, destroyed, or S.O.K.)
1 Western AA Positions		6 WR-413	18 x 1000 GP		
2 Center Positions		9 WR-433	27 x 1000 GP		See "e"
3 NW half of Kavieng Strip		9 WR-443	27 x 1000 GP		
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.-3 x 1000 GP fell on edge of western end of strip.
- 3 x 1000 GP fell in vicinity of lone heavy AA position but doing no apparent damage.
- 3 x 1000 GP fell in open area 500 feet south of target.
- 9 x 1000 GP fell in woods 500 feet NE of target clearing out space 500 feet in diameter cratering a road, ruining a garden plot, and doing probable damage to a hut approximately 50 feet away from one hut.
2. 27 x 1000 GP fell in a group approximately 2000 feet from coast and 1000 feet NW of target. The bombs fell in a wooded area destroying two huts.
3. 27 x 1000 GP strung diagonally across the western half of the strip leaving seven craters in the strip itself. Other craters were slightly north and south of the target.

Photographs attached:

- (2) (WR-413 - 665) (0) (20") (12300') (1104L) (28Mar45) (Kavieng AA Positions)
 (5) (WR-433 - 99) (0) (8 1/2") (12800') (1103L) (28Mar45) (Kavieng, N.I.)
 (4) (WR-443 - 187) (0) (8 1/2") (11500') (1105L) (28Mar45) (Kavieng, N.I.)

(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

Evasion 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	Bronleowe	266B21	Miller	279B21	McConnell
255B21	Galund	267B21	Watson	280B21	Lord
256B21	Helake	268B21	Fischer	281B21	Stewart
257B21	MacLean	269B21	Bablo	282B21	Ritteman
258B21	Boussaron	270B21	Parrieh	283B21	Wetzel
259B21	Inberg	271B21	Bethior	284B21	Graser
		272B21	Johnston	285B21	Dee
		273B21	Percy	286B21	Burt
		274B21	Carr	286B21	Ross

The primary target was Vunakou # 12, New Britain. Due to adverse weather conditions, the primary target could not be reached, and the secondary, Kavieng AA positions located north of the northwestern end of Kavieng Airstrip and the northwestern half of the Kavieng Airstrip was the target of a coordinated medium level bombing attack by 3 PRJ squadrons.

Following the join up over Suva, the flight with WIL-433 as lead squadron and LtCol Miller as flight leader, proceeded on a course of 140° southeast over Solapua Island to within 50 miles of the Gazelle Peninsula, with the flight in a vee of squadrons, javelined down. At this point the flight leader due to adverse weather conditions towards the Rabaul Area, elected to hit the secondary target.: The flight turned northwest to Djaul Island where the flight headed inland on a course of 027° magnetic for approximately 6 miles and changed formation to right echelon of squadrons, javelined down to go into the bomb run.

WIL-433 entered the bombing run at 160 kts, on a heading of 340° magnetic and at an altitude of 17,800' having as its target the center positions including the light and medium AA positions and the direction finder and control unit positions.

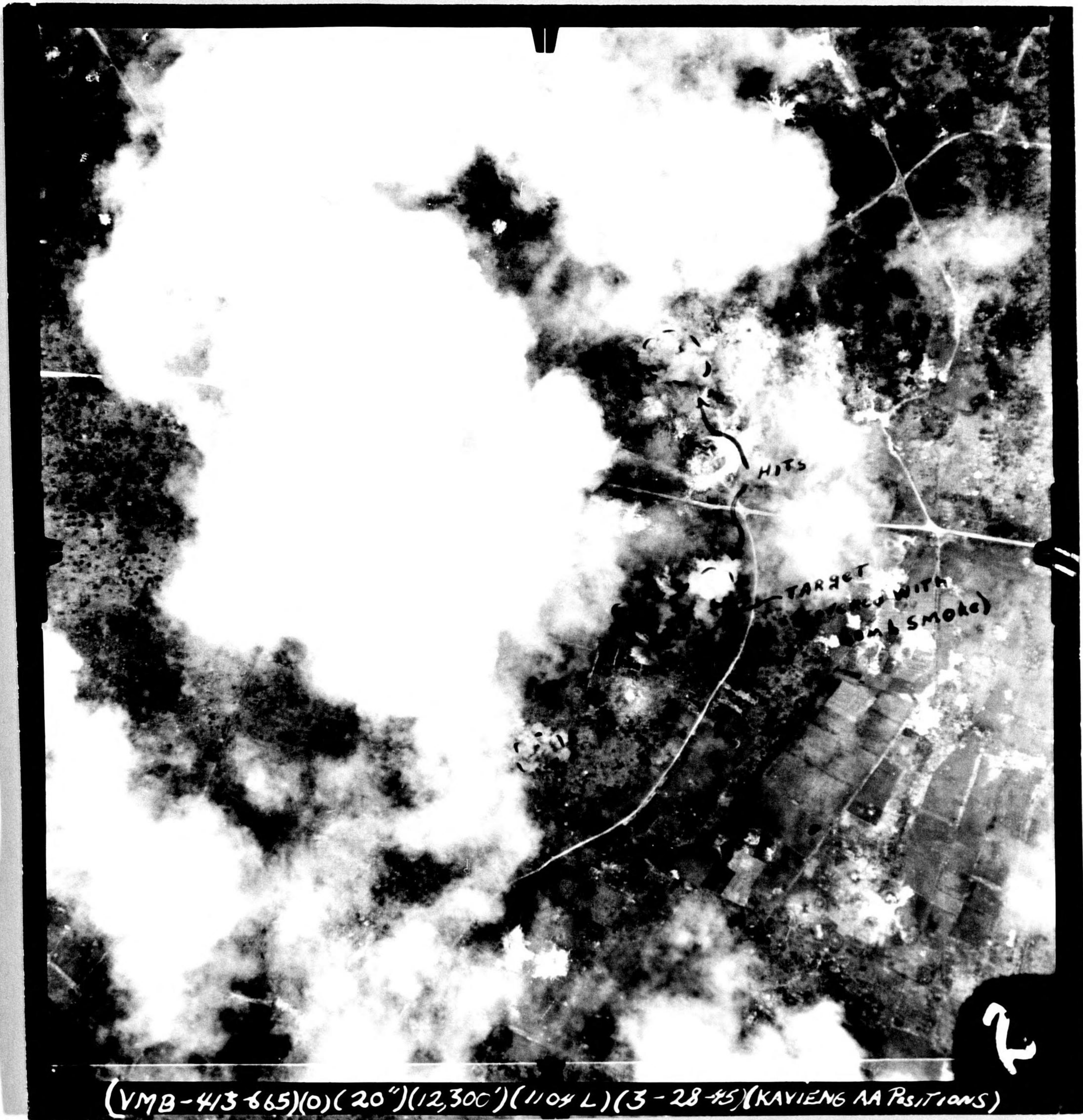
WIL-413 made the bombing run at 165 kts, on a heading of 340° magnetic and at an altitude of 12,300', and has as its aiming point the western AA positions.

WIL-443 made the bomb run at the speed of 161 kts on a heading of 345°, and at an altitude of 11,500' and had as its target the northwest half of Kavieng Airstrip.

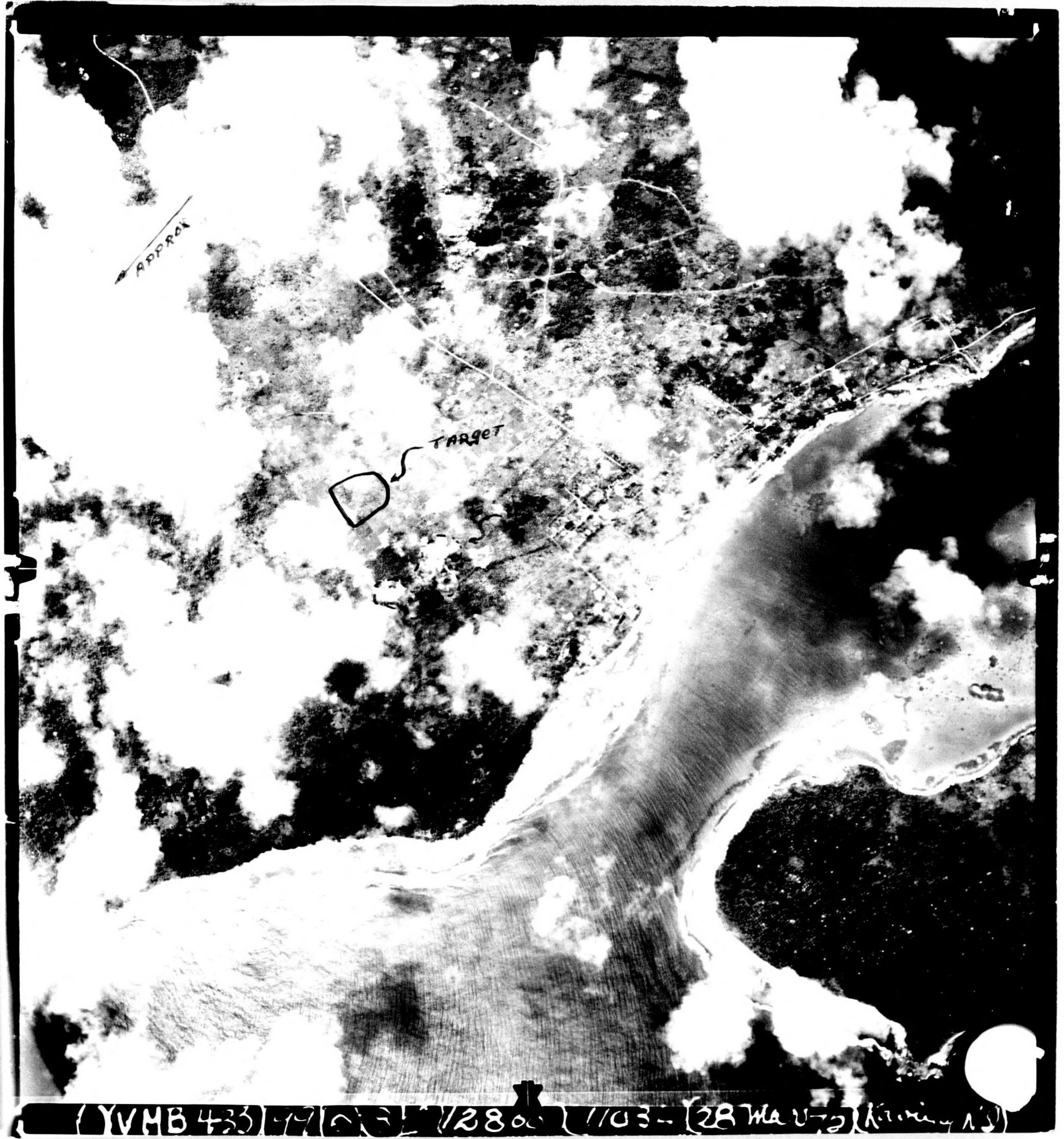
All squadrons broke to the left and the flight rallied 5 miles northwest of North Cape and returned to base.

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

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



(YMB-413665)(0)(20")(12,300')(1104 L)(3-28-45)(KAVIENG NA POSITIONS)



(YVMB 433) 47103-12800 (1103- (28 MA 0-2 (Kinney A))

