

VMB-423

159
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Report 282

HC (9)

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CONFIDENTIAL AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

CONFIDENTIAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB-423 (b) Based on or at Green Island (c) Report No 282
 (d) Take off: Date 19 April, 1945 Time (LZT) 0830-0832 (Zone); Lat. 04° 32' Long 154° 14'
Medium Altitude Daylight Attack on AA Positions, Ebery's Lease, Bougainville.
 (e) Mission _____ (f) Time of Return 1038-1043 (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	VMB-423	6	None	6	8 X 250# GP	Nose: AN-M-103 .1 Sec Delay Tail: AN-M-100A2 .025 Sec Delay

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
PV-1	NZ-3	8	Green Island	F4U	NZ-24	2	Green Island
PBY3A	VPB33	1	Green Island				
F4U	NZ-24	8	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 _____
 (YES OR NO) (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
 Time of Day and Brilliance _____
 (j) of Sun or Moon _____ (NIGHT, BRIGHT MOON, DAY, OVERCAST, ETC.)
 (k) Visibility _____ (MILES)

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:				(c) WHERE HIT, ANGLE	(d) DAMAGE CLAIMED
	TYPE A/C	SQUADRON	PILOT OR GUNNER	GUNS USED		
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	
PRJ-LJ	175	160	2hrs09'	974	356	None	None	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

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) **AA Positions, Ebery's Lease.** (b) Time Over Target(s) **0935** (Zone)
- (c) Clouds Over Target **.3 Cloud Cover**
- (d) Visibility of Target **Clear** (e) Visibility **20 miles**
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Level** Bomb Sight Used **Mark 15**
- Bombs Dropped per Run **3** Spacing **25 feet** Altitude of Bomb Release **11,000-11,200**
- (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 AA Positions Ebery's Lease.		6 VMB-423	48 X 250# GP	See (c)	
2					
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).

Bombs fell to the east of the AA positions. The pattern of bomb hits in relation to the target is shown on the attached photograph.

(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	0830	0935	1039
302B21	HOPPER	0830	0935	1039
303B21	LEAIRD	0831	0935	1040
304B21	GARTHWAITE	0831	0935	1040
305B21	HEIL	0832	0935	1041
306B21	HUBER	0832	0935	1041

Lieutenant Colonel ANDERSON, Commanding Officer, led six PBJs on a medium altitude daylight attack on anti-aircraft positions in Kbery's Lease, South Bougainville. The formation was composed of two, three plane sections javelin down.

The strike was airborne by 0832 and after joining up as described above proceeded down the east coast of Bougainville to Oema Island. From Oema the flight took a heading of 220° magnetic for twelve miles to Cavu Island. From Cavu the flight flew to Popotala Island, a distance of 12 miles on 265° magnetic and turned into the bomb run.

The bombing run was made on a heading of 320° magnetic. The first section bombing from 11,200 feet and the second from 11,000 feet at 0935 with 160 knots indicated air speed.

The formation broke right after the bombing and returned to base all being safely on deck by 1042.

Fourteen bursts of accurate and inaccurate heavy anti-aircraft fire were received from known positions in Kbery's Lease.

Bombs fell to the east of the AA positions. The pattern of bomb hits in relation to the target are shown on the attached photograph.

(All times in this narrative are love).

WARD D. MARTIN
Capt., USMC
Intelligence Officer.

APPROVED BY:

NORMAN J. ANDERSON
LtCol., USMC
Commanding.

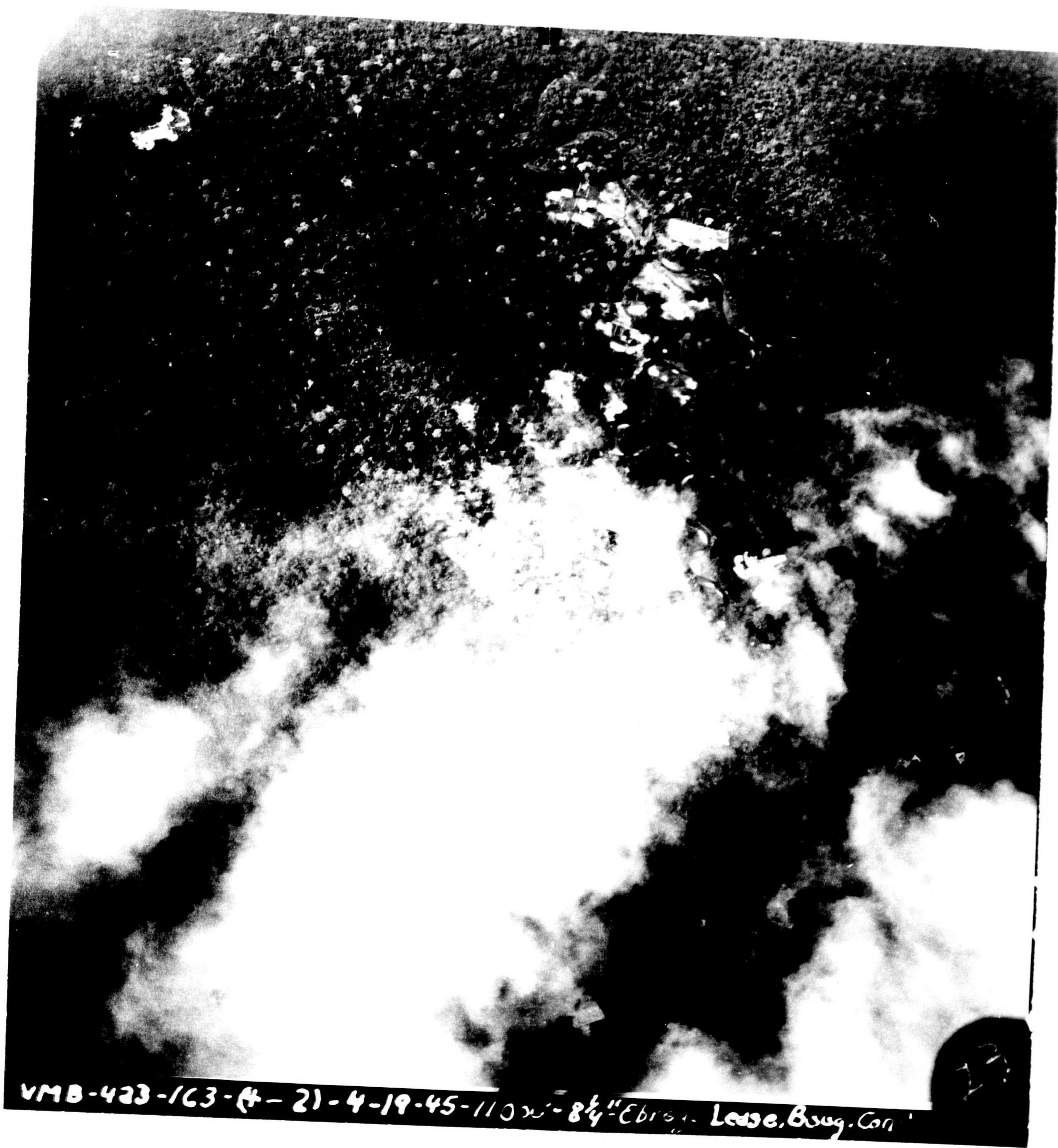
SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE



VMB-423-163-(4-21-4-19-45-1102)-8 1/2" Ebris. Lease, Boug. Con.