

VMB-44B

150
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Report # 112

IIc (11)

4

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting VMB 443 (b) Based on or at Smirna Island (c) Report No. 112
 (d) Take off: Date 29 March 1945. Time (LZT) 1430 (L) (Zone); Lat. 01° 36' S Long. 150° 00' E
 (e) Mission Dallan Bridge, New Ireland. Medium Altitude. (f) Time of Return 1700(L) (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-1B	VMB 443	6	None	6	3 X 1000# G.P.S. No. 44	Nose: AN-M 103 Inst Tail: AN-M 102A2 Inst.

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

TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE	TYPE	SQUADRON	NUMBER	BASE
None							

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						

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

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REPORT No **113**

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-1D	175	90	2.5	974	385	N	-	-	-	6

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

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

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

- SPEED, CLIMB,
at various altitudes
- TURNS
- DIVES
- CEILINGS
- RANGE
- PROTECTION
- ARMAMENT

None Encountered.

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RESTRICTED
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(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No **112**

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

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) **Kaut Bay village, N. I.** (b) Time Over Target(s) **1619 (L)** (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target **Over**
(BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target **Clear** (e) Visibility **Unlimited**
(CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type **Medium Level** Bomb Sight Used **Mk. 15, Mod. 7**
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)
- Bombs Dropped per Run **All** Spacing **(15-20) Minimum** Altitude of Bomb Release **10,000'**
(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 OR Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1					
2 Kaut Bay village.	300' X 300'	6 PWs. VMS 443	18 X 1000# GPs.	See	Narrative.
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).

See Narrative.

(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	TO	TOT	PAW
279B21	Gould	1430	1619	1700
280B21	Dee	1430	1619	1700
281B21	McGuffee	1431	1619	1701
282B21	Stewart	1431	1620	1701
283B21	Mueller	1432	1620	1702
284B21	Rose	1432	1620	1702

Led by Lt. Col. Gould, six VMB 443 planes took off at 1430 to bomb a bridge at Dallon New Ireland.

In javelin down formation, the flight proceeded to target on a bearing of 120 deg. mag.. Within 25 miles of the target area, it was apparent that the complete cloud coverage prevailing would prevent hitting the bridge. The flight reversed its course, headed northwest along the coast of New Ireland to Fangelawa Bay, crossed New Ireland and made a run on the secondary target. This secondary target was Kaut Bary village.

A good run was made on a bearing of 240 deg. mag., at an altitude of 10,000' and 163 knots i.a.s.. Bombs were away at 1619 with the following results:

10 X 1000# GP'S hit in target.
8 X 1000# GP'S hit 100' north of target.

The target was well hit, but the woods prevented accurate damage assessment.

After a routine flight back to base the planes landed at 1700.

SUBMITTED BY:

G. W. McCormick
Capt. USMC.
ACIO

APPROVED BY:

A. D. Gould
Lt. Col. USMC
COMMANDING

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE