

VMPB 423

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Report # 299

HC (9)

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053275

CONFIDENTIAL

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting: ~~442-423~~ (b) Based at: ~~Green Island~~ (c) Report # ~~290~~
 (d) Date of Action: ~~22 April 1945~~ (e) Take off: Time: ~~1245-1247~~ LZT
 Lat. ~~04° 32'~~ Long. ~~154° 14'~~ (f) Mission: ~~Medium Altitude Daylight~~
~~Strike on Kahili # 8, Bougainville.~~
 (g) Time of Return: ~~1520-1522~~ LZT

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT

TYPE	SQDN	NO. OF SORTIES	NO. ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	NO. ATTACK ING TARGET	BOMBS CARRIED PER PLANE
F4U-7F	442-423	6	None	6	3 x 1000# GP

FUZE, SETTING :
 . :
 Nose: ~~AI-N-103~~
~~1 sec Delay~~
 Tail: ~~AI-N-102A2~~
~~300 sec Delay~~

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

Type	Sqdn.	No.	Base	Type	Sqdn.	No.	Base
F4U-7F	442-423	1	Green Island				

IV. ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED

None

V. ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED OR DAMAGED IN AIR

None

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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	199	180	2hrs 25'	974	403	None	8

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: Kahili # 5, Bougainville.
 (b) Time over Target: 1401 (c) Clouds over Target: GAU
 (d) Visibility of Target: Clear (e) Visibility: 30
 (miles)
 (f) Bombing Tactics: Type: Level Bomb Sight Used: Mark 10
 Bombs Dropped per Run: 3 Spacing: 100' Altitude: 8,000'
 (g) No. of Enemy A/C hit on Ground: None Destroyed: None Damaged: None
 Probably

(h)	(i)	(j) (k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
Kahili # 5.		WB-423	10 x 1000' GP	See (c)	

(c) See (c)

All bombs were in the target area. After the bombs exploded a series of small explosions were sighted followed by a large blast which sent sheets of flame over a large part of the target area followed by a cloud of smoke which blanketed Kahili air strip one mile to the east. One hour and fourteen minutes later New Zealand PVs flying over the area reported smoke from the target rising to 5,000 feet. The location of bomb hits in relation to the target is shown on the attached photographs.

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should be attached by staple.

PHOTOGRAPH REFERENCE: WB423 (177) 4-23-45 (8,000') Kahili # 5, Boug. CONF.

CALL	PILOT	T/O GREEN	T/O/T	P/C GREEN
301B21	Major TAYLOR	1245	1401	1510
302B21	PEARCE	1245	1401	1510
303B21	HUBER	1246	1401	1511
304B21	WALLER	1246	1401	1511
305B21	MONROE	1247	1401	1512
306B21	GRUE	1247	1401	1512

Major TAYLOR, Executive Officer, led six PWs of VMB-423 in a medium altitude daylight strike on Kahili target # 5, Bougainville. The formation was composed of two, three plane sections Javelin down.

The raid was airborne by 1247 and after joining up as described above proceeded down the east coast of Bougainville, to Oema Island. The flight then took a heading of 135° magnetic over Oema to check drift and then turned on a heading of 242° magnetic to Popotala Island and turned into the bomb run.

The bombing run was made on a heading of 315° magnetic and bombs were released at 1401 from 9,800 feet. The formation then broke to the right and returned to Green with all planes on the deck by 1513.

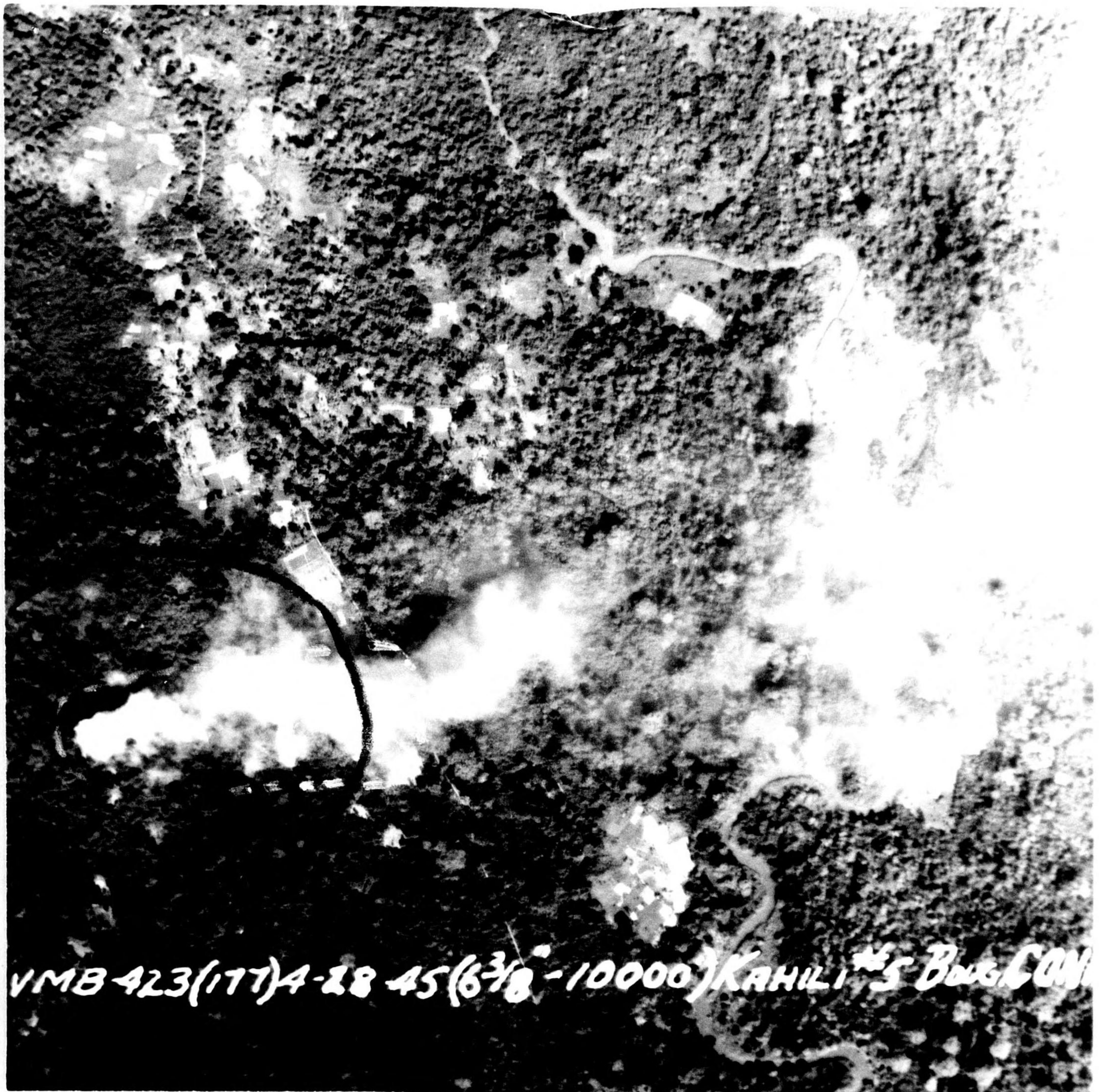
No anti-aircraft fire was encountered.

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(All times in this narrative are local).

WARD D. MARTIN
Capt., USMC
Intelligence Officer

NORMAN J. ANDERSON
LtCol., USMC
Commanding.



VMB 423(177)4-28 45(6³/₈-10000)KAHIL^{#5} BUS CON



423(177)(6-1)42845 (84-9900) KAHILI #5 BOUG CONF