

VMB-443

ISO  
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Report # 129

LIC (11)

4





# AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED  
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No **129**

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

(a) Target(s) and Location(s) Namatonai A/A Positions. (b) Time Over Target(s) 1440 (L) (Zone)  
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)

(c) Clouds Over Target Scattered Cumulus at 2,000', Tops to 5,000'.  
(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 Mt. 15, Mod. 7  
(LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) (TYPE)

Bombs Dropped per Run All Spacing 20 Feet Altitude of Bomb Release 10,000'  
(NUMBER) (FEET) (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, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 <u>Guns at H. W. End of Airstrip.</u>		<u>6 PWs. VMB 443</u>	<u>36 X 500# GP's.</u>	<u>See Narrative.</u>	
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).

**See Narrative**

(p) Were Photographs Taken? No. 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	TOF	Pen
279321	Anderson	1320	1440	1604
280321	Ballou	1320	1440	1604
281321	Weeks	1321	1440	1605
282321	Braveal	1321	1441	1605
283321	Hawkins	1322	1441	1606
284321	Biberstine	1322	1441	1606

Major E. E. Anderson left the strip at 1320 to lead an independent six-plane raid on the light and medium anti-aircraft positions located just off the northwest end of the Namatanai Airstrip, New Ireland.

Departing at 1330 on a course of 119° mag., and climbing to reach 10,000', the javelin-down, two section formation passed down the eastern New Ireland coast to Cape Limeris, and hence on 109° mag. to a point 15 miles N.E. of Namatanai.

After reconnoitering the area to identify the target, a run on 071° mag., at 10,000' and at 160 knots IAS was begun. The bombardier made his drop at 1440, but it wasn't his day. All bombs fell 500 yds northeast of the target and hit the next best target in the area. At the end of a small inlet there is a jetty and a wooded patch at the foot; photos showed several trails and tracks leading into it, thus indicating a Jap barge base and storage area. All bombs ripped into this shelter, and a patrol plane reported that a large fire was still blazing an hour and forty minutes later.

After further familiarization flying, the raid turned on a reciprocal course and dodged heavy cumulus and showers to land aboard at 1604.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

G. W. McCormick Jr.  
Capt. USMC  
ACIO

A. B. Gould  
Lt. Col USMC  
COMMANDING

APPROVED BY:

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

SIGNATURE

RANK AND DUTY

DATE