

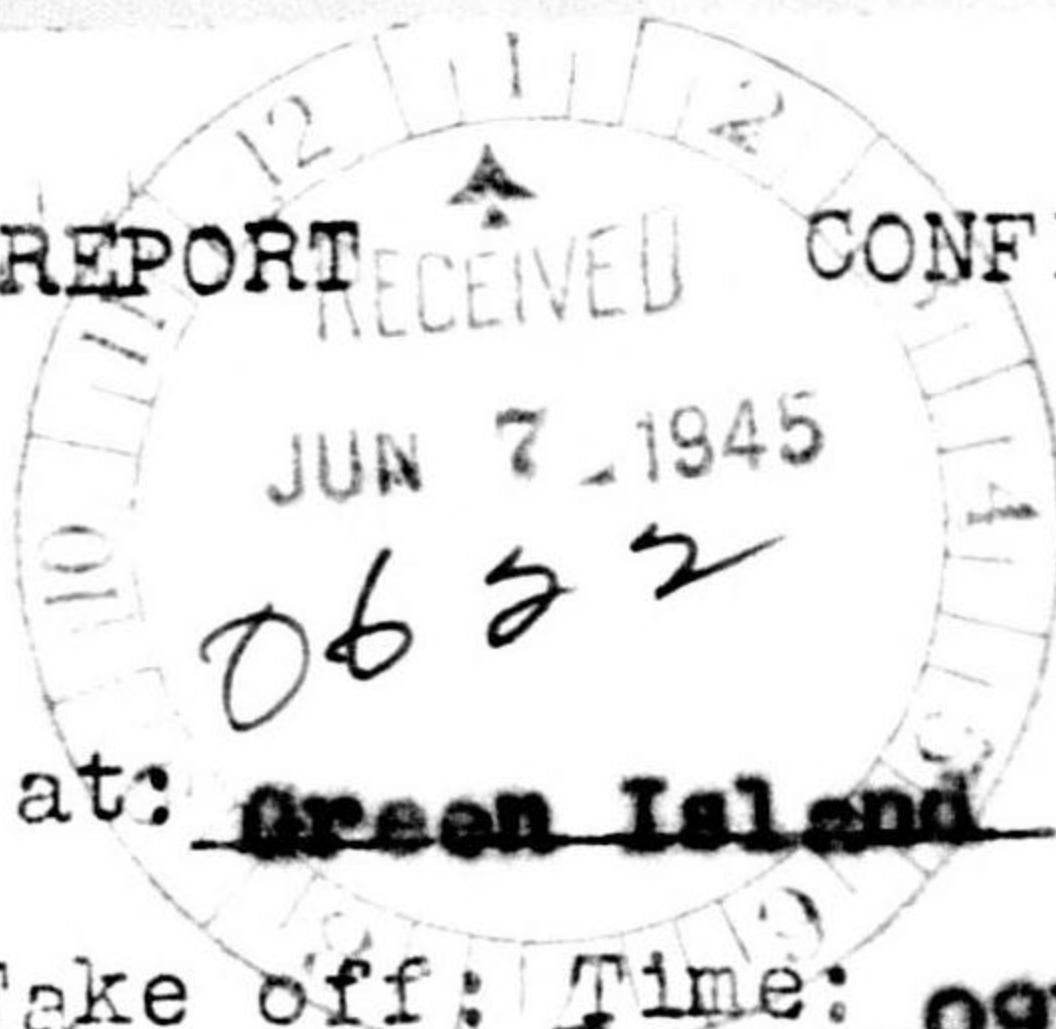
VMB 423

5

(4)
9

Report # 341

HC (9)



054248

I. GENERAL

(a) Unit Reporting: ~~VMB-423~~ (b) Based at: ~~Green Island~~ (c) ~~341~~ Report #
 (d) Date of Action: ~~25 May, 1945~~ (e) Take off Time: ~~0915-0917~~ LZT
 Lat. ~~04°32'~~ Long. ~~154°14'~~ (f) Mission: ~~Medium altitude daylight~~
~~attack on Anti-Aircraft Guns on Kangu Hill, Bougainville.~~
 (g) Time of Return: ~~1120-1128~~ LZT

II. OWN AIRCRAFT OFFICIALLY COVERED BY THIS REPORT

TYPE	SQDN	NO. OF SORTIES	NO. ENGAGING ENEMY A/C	NO. ATTACKING TARGET	BOMBS CARRIED PER PLANE
PBJ-1J	VMB423	6	None	6	12 X 100# GP

FUZE, SETTING :
 . :
 . :
 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	Sqdn.	No.	Base	Type	Sqdn.	No.	Base
PBY5A	VPB53	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	202	178	2hrs 11'	974	392	None	6

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: Kangu Hill AA Guns, Bougainville.
- (b) Time over Target: 1025 (c) Clouds over Target: GAVU
- (d) Visibility of Target: Clear (e) Visibility: 30
(miles)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type: Level Bomb Sight Used: M-15
Bombs Dropped per Run: 12 Spacing Minimum In-
Interval Altitude 11,100'
Probably
- (g) No. of Enemy A/C hit on Ground: None Destroyed: None Damaged
: None

(h)	(i)	(j) (k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
Kangu Hill AA:		⁶ VMB-423	72 X 100# GP	See (o)	

(c) 1025.05

All bombs hit in a compact group in the target. The location of bomb hits with relation to the target is shown on the attached photograph.

PHOTOGRAPH REFERENCE:

VMB423 (218) (4-1) 5-25-45 (8 1/2"-11,100') Kangu Hill, Boug., CONF.

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

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)
CONFIDENTIAL
REPORT No. **341**

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
- Defense 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

- Evasive 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

CALL	PILOT	T/O GREEN	T/O/T	P/C GREEN
301B21	Major TAYLOR	0915	1025	1126
302B21	HICKS	0915	1025	1126
303B21	TOGEMSON	0916	1025	1127
304B21	BEAIRD	0916	1025	1127
305B21	GRUE	0917	1025	1128
306B21	RIGDON	0917	1025	1128

Major TAYLOR, Executive Officer, led six PBJs of VMB-423 in a medium altitude daylight raid on anti-aircraft positions on Kangu Hill, Bougainville.

The strike was airborne by 0918 and joined up in two, three plane sections javelin down. After join-up the formation proceeded down the west coast of Bougainville to Montopena Point where it turned southwesterly and then crossed the mouth of the Mibo River on a heading of 070° magnetic for five miles. The flight then turned east to the Silibai River where it turned into the bomb run.

Bombs were released at 1025 from an altitude of 11,100 feet on a heading of 080° magnetic with 155 knots indicated air speed. The formation then broke away to the right and returned to base. All planes were safely on deck at Green Island by 1128.

Five bursts of inaccurate heavy anti-aircraft fire were encountered from known positions on Kangu Hill.

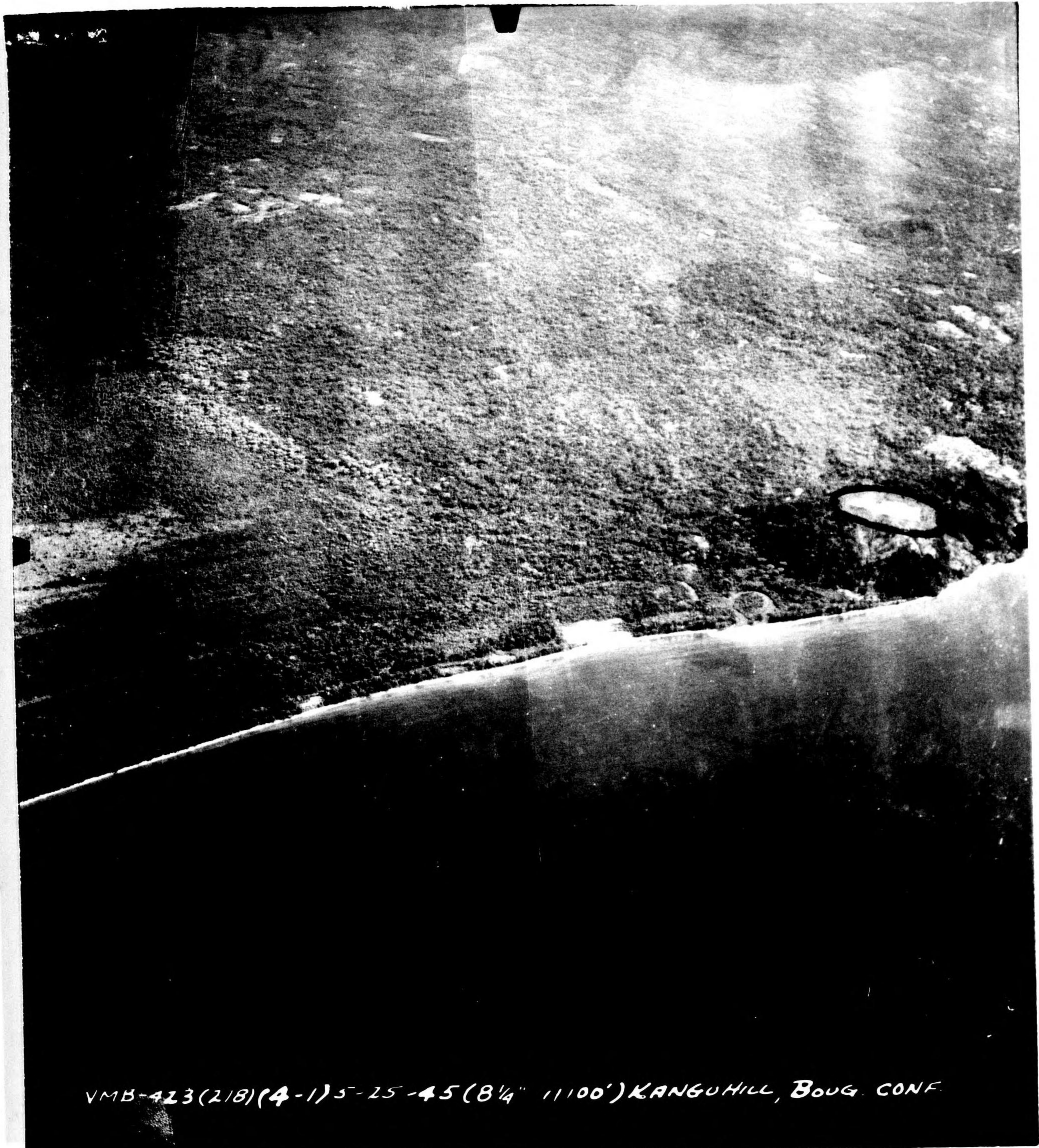
All bombs hit in the target in a compact group.

The location of bomb hits with relation to the target is shown on the attached photograph.

(All times in this narrative are love).

WARD D. MARTIN
Capt., USMCR
Intelligence Officer

NORMAN J. ANDERSON
LtCol., USMC
Commanding.



VMB-423 (218) (4-1) 5-25-45 (8 1/4" 11100') KANGOHILL, BOUG. CONF.