

CONFIDENTIAL

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #929

2 January, 1944

1 E I  
SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission B-1-E. Performed on the 1st of January, 1944. Objective--bombing and strafing of the coast from Sauai Pt. to Southern end of Dekays Bay.

TO : Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

Destruction of personnel and possible gun positions which might oppose a landing was the objective of a bombing and strafing attack from Sauai Pt. to the Southern part of Dekays Bay.

The attack was coordinated with attacks by the 501st, 500th, 499th squadrons of the 345th Group. The 498th Squadron was in number one position and led the Group formation. The Squadron took off from Debedura, endeavored over the Gona Wreck and proceeded up the coast past Finachafen to approach the target from the sea. An approach was made to the coast and towards what appeared to be the objective of the mission. When it was determined that the Cape although resembling the target was in reality down the coast from the target it was too late to make a right turn and continue up the coast. The lead flight passed over Cape Weber without dropping any bombs, circled to the left and proceeded to Saider. The first flight of three planes dropped 11 x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay bombs on the target and strafed the target in a single run. The second flight of three planes passed over Weber Pt., lost sight of the first flight and came in on a second run and dropped its bombs along the coast on the Eastern side of Weber Pt. The target was also strafed in a single run. 15 bombs were dropped by the second flight on this target.

The 498th Squadron was in the number one position and was led by Captain Judd. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT

Capt. Judd	024
Lt. Turk	063
Lt. McCall	026

SECOND FLIGHT

Lt. Heuser	176
Lt. Magee	041
Lt. Browne	036

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The planes took off from strip #4 at Debedura from 1345/L to 1347/L, manoeuvred over the Gona Trench at 1357/L and were on course at 1402/L. After completing the runs on the target the flights returned directly to Debedura landed at 1715/L.

The first flight reached the target at Saider at 1538/L and bombed and strafed from an altitude of 100 to 200 ft. 11 x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse demo bombs were dropped in the target and 4 bombs were salvaged on land 8 of the target when they failed to release. Bombing was excellent. The target was also strafed. A well used trail was observed in the Fangger Village. Small grass fires were started in the target but results were otherwise unobserved. Bomb spotting, sightings and route followed by individual airplanes are shown in chart "B".

The second flight passed over Weber Pt. circled to the left and passed over the target the second time at 1523/L. Bombs were released and target was strafed on the second run at an altitude of 200 ft. 15 x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse demo bombs were dropped along the coast from Weber Pt. on a heading of 180 deg. All bombs hit in the wooded area with unobserved results. The flight circled to the left and returned to base. Bomb spotting is not shown since all bombs fell in an area not specified as the target.

There was nil interception and nil A/A on the mission. No damage was received by planes or personnel.

## BOMBING TABLE

A/P	No. of bombs	Type	Weight	No. dropped
036	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
176	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
041	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
026	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
024	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
063	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
	<u>30</u>			<u>30</u>

## TABLE on STRAFING

A/P	.50 cal. Rds. car'd	Rds. Ex.	.30 cal. Rds. car'd	Rds. Ex.
036	4600	1300	4000	--
176	4600	1500	4000	--
041	4600	1800	4000	--
026	4600	2300	4000	--
024	4600	1800	4000	--
063	4600	2500	4000	--
		<u>11200</u>		

Photographs were not received in time to make photo interpretation for this report.

For the Commanding Officer:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

MISSION NO. E1E.....DATE 1 Jan 44  
 SQUADRON NO. 498.....GROUP 345  
 SQUADRON ORDER OVER TARGET. 15.1  
 ALTITUDE...250  
 TIME OVER TARGET. 1538/L  
 T(BLUE) PLANES TAKING PHOTOS.  
 T(BLACK) OTHER PLANES.(ALL PLANES TO  
 BE SHOWN AT BEGINNING OF RUN.)

MAP REF:-  
 EASTERN NEW GUINEA  
 NAVIGATION CHART  
 Equatorial Scale:- 1:2,315,000  
 31.72 Naut. Miles = 1 inch  
 Mercator Projection

B I S M A R C K S E A

NEW GUINEA

NEW BRITAIN

DAMPPIER STRAIT

VITU ISLANDS

VITIAZ

SAIDOR

ALEXISHAFEN  
 MADANG

DUMPU

WANTOAT  
 KAIAPIT  
 SUKURUM

NADZAB

GABENSIS

WAIME

WAGAU

MALAHANG

LAKE

UMBUI ISLAND

TOLOKIWA I.

SAKARI I.

STRAIT

DAMPPIER STRAIT

CAPE GLOUCESTER  
 BOUGEN BAY  
 KOKOPO  
 ROTTOCK BAY

ARAWA

ARAWA

Arung Bay Port

MOEWE H.R.

345th B.C.

5th

Mal. in

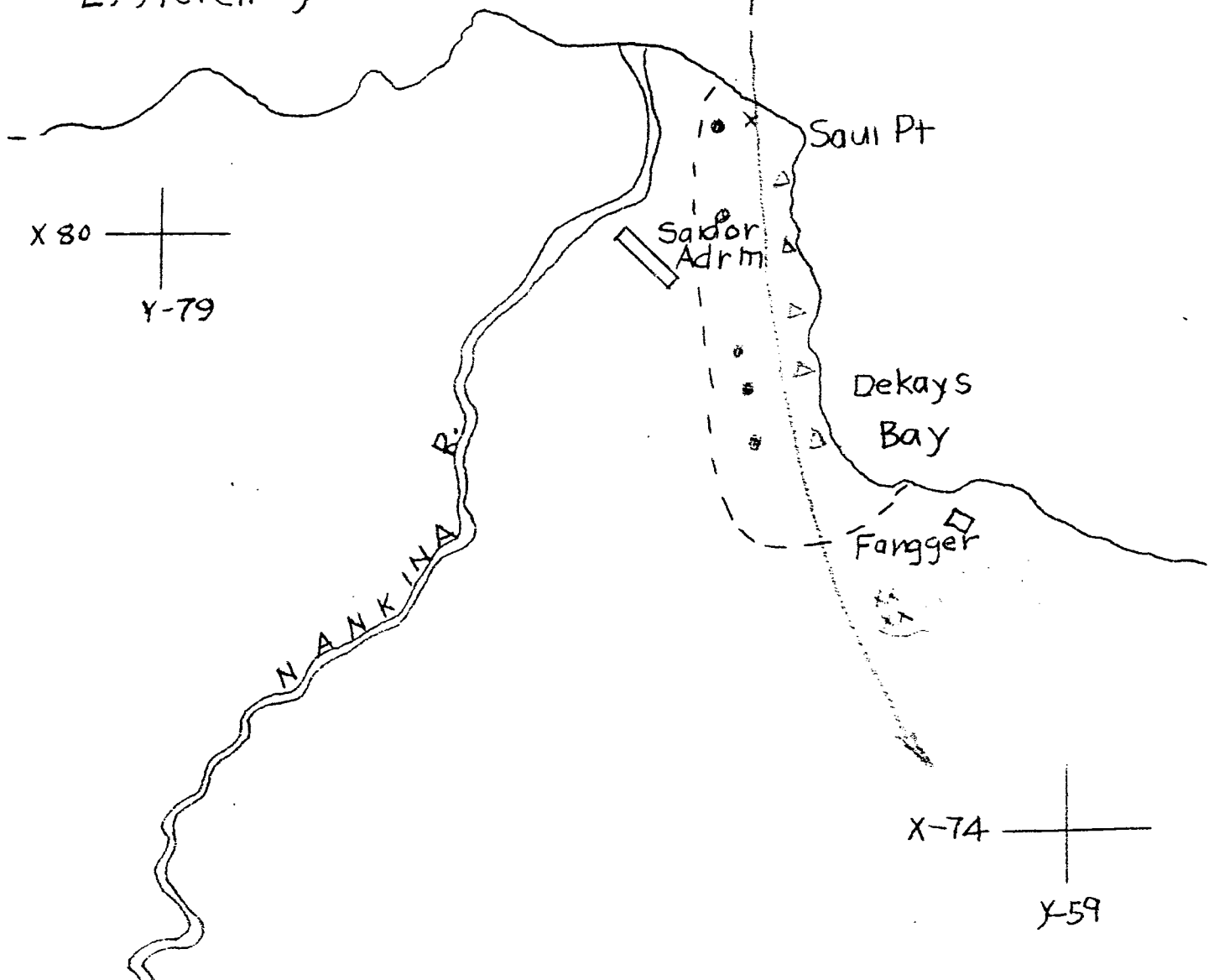
1st Flt { 1 Capt Judd - 024 - X - +  
 2 Lt Turk - 063 - ● - +  
 3 Lt McCall - 026 - Δ -  
 2nd Flt { 1 Lt Heuser - 176 - X - +  
 2 Lt Magee - 041 - Δ - +  
 3 Lt Browne - 036 - ●

+ Took Photos

Second Flt 'Drop'd 15 Bombs  
 on Weber's Point. 0548S-14550E

MISSION # E1E - 1 Jan 44  
 498 Bomb Sq(M) 345 Bomb Gp  
 1st Over Target  
 Alt - 250 Ft.  
 Time - 1538/L  
 Bombs in Target - 11 of 26 - 4 Salvaged  
 Efficiency - 48%

041 + 036  
 176  
 063 +  
 024





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478  
6-I-1  
65 Jan 44

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

7 January, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 6-I-1. Performed on the 6th of January 1944. Objective - ground support for Allied offensive in the Borgen Bay area, NW New Britain.

**TO :** Commanding Officer, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

Pinpointed targets marked by smoke shells fired from Allied guns were bombed and strafed in an attack to neutralize personnel and artillery positions opposing an advance in the Borgen Bay Area.

The attack was coordinated with attacks by the 500th Squadron of the 345th Group. 24 x 300 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse demo bombs dropped on target #4 on a heading 225 deg. All bombs were dropped in the second run over the target and the target was strafed on the second and third runs. Results of the bombing were unobserved but bombs fell along road NE of Nakarop. 24 x 300 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse demo bombs were dropped on targets #1, 2 and 3 on a heading of 220 deg., 180 deg. and the targets were strafed on the third run on a heading of 135 deg. Targets were strafed on first two runs also. Bombs on first run were dropped along ridge 1/2 mile SE of target #2. These bombs fell in area marked with smoke but were East of the target as pinpointed on the map. Results of bombing and strafing were unobserved.

The 498th Squadron was in #2 position and was led by Captain Judd. The flight were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT  
Capt. Judd 176  
Lt. Dean 371  
Lt. McCall 351

SECOND FLIGHT  
Capt. Chiappe 036  
Capt. Giffin 037  
Lt. Hitt 040

The planes took off from strip #7 at Dobodura from 1430/L to 1432/L, rendezvoused over the Gona Wreck with other Squadron and fighters at 1454/L and left Cape Ward Hunt on course at 1515/L. After completing the runs on the targets the planes returned directly to base and landed at 1755/L.

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The first flight was to bomb and strafe targets number one (715888) containing personnel and number three (707882) an artillery position. (Map reference Mt. Langla Special Map 1:20000.) The targets were marked with smoke shell from artillery positions. Bombs on the first run were dropped along the ridge 1/2 mile SE of target #2. The area was marked with smoke but was East of the pinpointed targets. The flight circled to the left and made the second pass over targets one and three. Five bombs were dropped on number one and the remaining seven on number three. The flight followed the same pattern on the third strafing run. Results of the bombing and strafing were unobserved. The flight circled to the left on the fourth time over the target, passed over Target Hill and withdrew down the Itni River Valley. No attack was made on the fourth run.

The second flight was to bomb and strafe the Headquarters of the Commanding General of Japanese Forces in Western New Britain at (698836) (Mt Langla Special Map 1:20000) 150 yards NE of Nakarop. The flight located the target on the first run, strafed, circled to the left and released 24 x 300 lb. bombs along the trail leading from Nakarop on the second run. The target was strafed on the third run in the same pattern and the flight withdrew down the Itni River Valley.

There was nil interception and nil A/A. Fighter cover was excellent. A/P 176 had a leak in the hydraulic line and lowered the wheel by mechanical means.

BOMBING TABLE				
A/P	No. of bombs	Type	Weight	No. dropped
351	8	4/5 sec.	300	8
037	8	4/5 sec.	300	8
036	8	4/5 sec.	300	8
040	8	4/5 sec.	300	8
371	8	4/5 sec.	300	8
176	8	4/5 sec.	300	8
	<u>48</u>			<u>48</u>

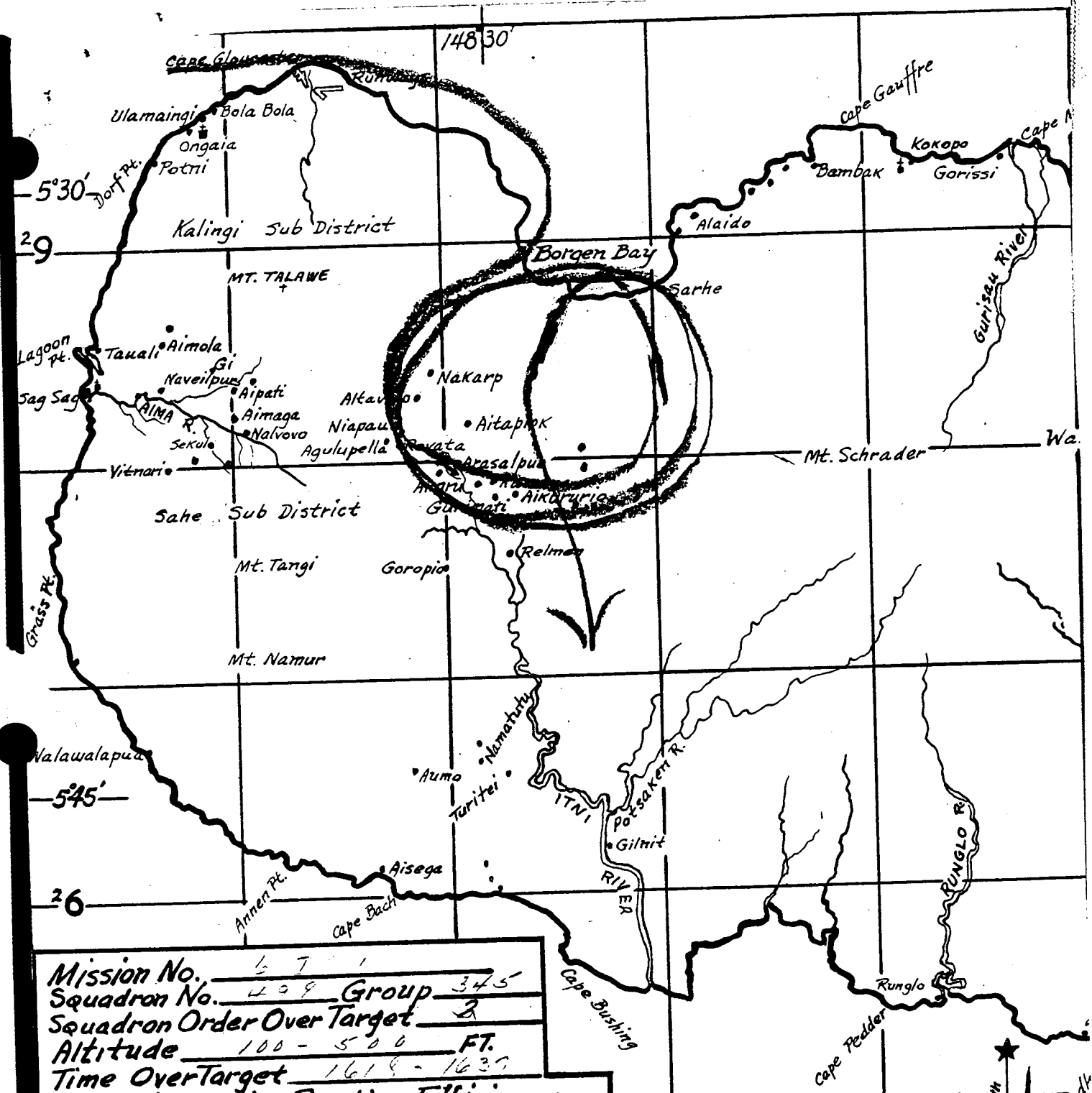
.50 cal.		STRAFING TABLE		.30 cal.	
A/P	Rds car'd	Rds Ex.	Rds car'd	Rds Ex.	
351	4600	2000	4000	--	
037	4600	750	4000	--	
036	4600	1000	4000	--	
040	4600	1300	4000	--	
371	4600	1000	4000	--	
176	4600	2000	4000	--	
		<u>3050</u>			

Photos not received in time to make interpretation for this report.

For the Commanding Officer:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer

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Mission No. 671  
 Squadron No. 409 Group 345  
 Squadron Order Over Target 2  
 Altitude 100 - 500 FT.  
 Time Over Target 1618 - 1635  
 Crew Observation Bombing Efficiency  
 O(Red) Crew Report of Bomb Hits  
 ⊙(Red) Bomb Hits Shown on Photographs  
 T(Blue) Planes Taking Photos  
 T(Black) Other Planes (All Planes to be shown at Beginning of Run.)

**MAP REF:-**  
**Western New Britain**  
 Provisional - Prelim. Sheet  
 1 inch = 4 miles  
 10,000 Meter Modified  
 British Grid System

Grid and True North  
 Mag. North  
 82°  
 Cape Pe...

1618 1/2 - 1637 1/2

BOMBING EFF 100%

MT LANG LA 1:20000

~~880~~  
~~690~~

Flight 2 + 037 -  
~~3-000-S~~ + 036  
 + 040

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498  
7-0-1  
7 Jan 44

**498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503**

**6 January, 1944**

**SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 7-D-1. Performed on the 7th day of January, 1944. Objective - bombing and strafing of supplies and personnel in the Erimahush and Erimahafen Plantations - Bogadjim.**

**TO : Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.**

Neutralization of personnel and stores used to reinforce and supply enemy forces in the Bogadjim area was the purpose of a bombing and strafing attack on these targets.

The attack was coordinated with the 499th Squadron of the 345th Group. The Squadrons took off from strip #7 at Dobodura, rendezvoused over the Gona Wreck, proceeded up the coast to Lae thence up the Markham Valley to Dumpu and across the ranges to Bogadjim. 42 x 250 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse demo bombs were dropped in the target. 3 bombs were dropped on an A/A position in a clearing on the N side of the Palpa River 2000 ft. from the Rivers mouth. A/A position ceased firing. Bombing was excellent. Target was strafed. Results of bombing and strafing were otherwise unobserved.

The 498th Squadron led the formation and was led by Capt. Giffin. The flight were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT		SECOND FLIGHT	
Capt. Giffin	371	Lt. Heuser	063
Lt. Magee	036	Lt. O'Rear	037
Lt. Casselman	024	Lt. Turk	420

The planes took off from strip #7 at Dobodura from 0944/L to 0947/L, made a half circle over the Gona Wreck and proceeded on course. After completing the single run over the target the planes circled to the right and returned along the coast to base landing at 1306/L.

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The first flight started its run at 1122/L and strafed and bombed the target from an altitude of 200 ft. A/P #024 was in the number 3 position and released three bombs on a known A/A position on the N side of the Palpa River 2000 ft. from the Rivers mouth. The remaining 18 bombs were observed to fall on the target but the results were unobserved. Sightings, bomb spotting and course followed by individual planes are shown in chart "B".

The second flight started its run at 1122/L and bombed and strafed from 100 to 200 ft. altitude. Bombs were observed to hit in the target but results were unobserved. Sightings, bomb spotting and route followed by individual planes are shown in chart B.

There was nil interception and nil damage to planes although a few Bursts of medium and heavy A/A fire were seen over the target. Locations of A/A positions are shown on chart B. Two A/A positions were observed in the open on the beach 800 ft. NE of the Jetty (678034). A gun was observed firing from a position in coconut grove 1000 ft. W of the mouth of the Palpa River (672030). A/A position bombed contained at least two guns and was located at (668029). All map references refer to provisional map Bogadjim, one inch to one mile series.

The mission was executed well and the target was covered well.

BOMBING TABLE				
A/P	No. of bombs	Type	Weight	No. dropped
036	7	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	7
037	7	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	7
063	7	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	7
420	7	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	7
024	7	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	7
371	7	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	7
	42			42

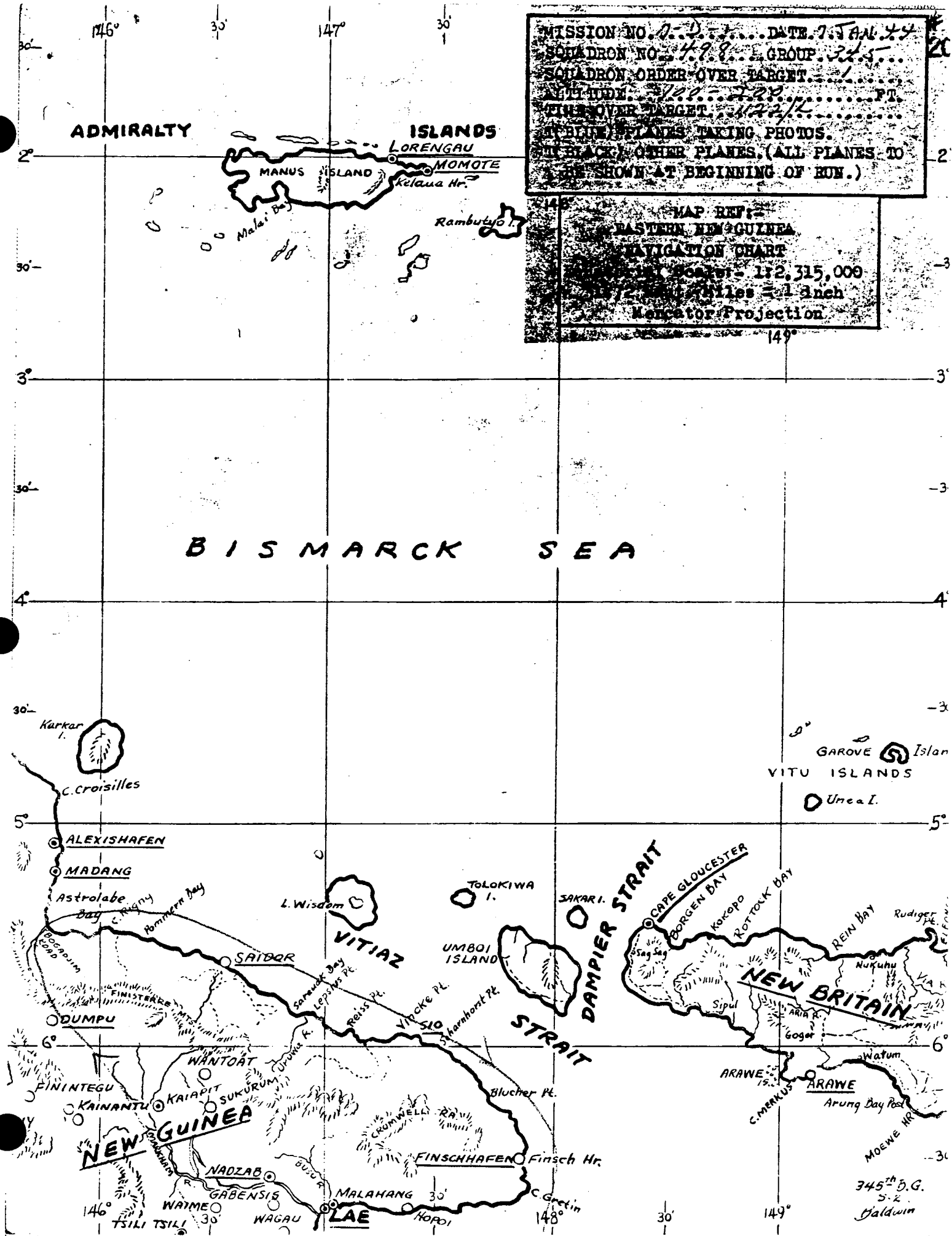
STRAFING TABLE				
A/P	.50 cal. Rds. car'd	Rds Ex.	.30 cal. Rds car'd	Rds Ex.
036	4600	1600	4000	1000
037	4600	1500	4000	400
063	4600	1300	4000	--
420	4600	1000	4000	--
024	4600	750	4000	--
371	4600	1800	4000	550
		7950		1950

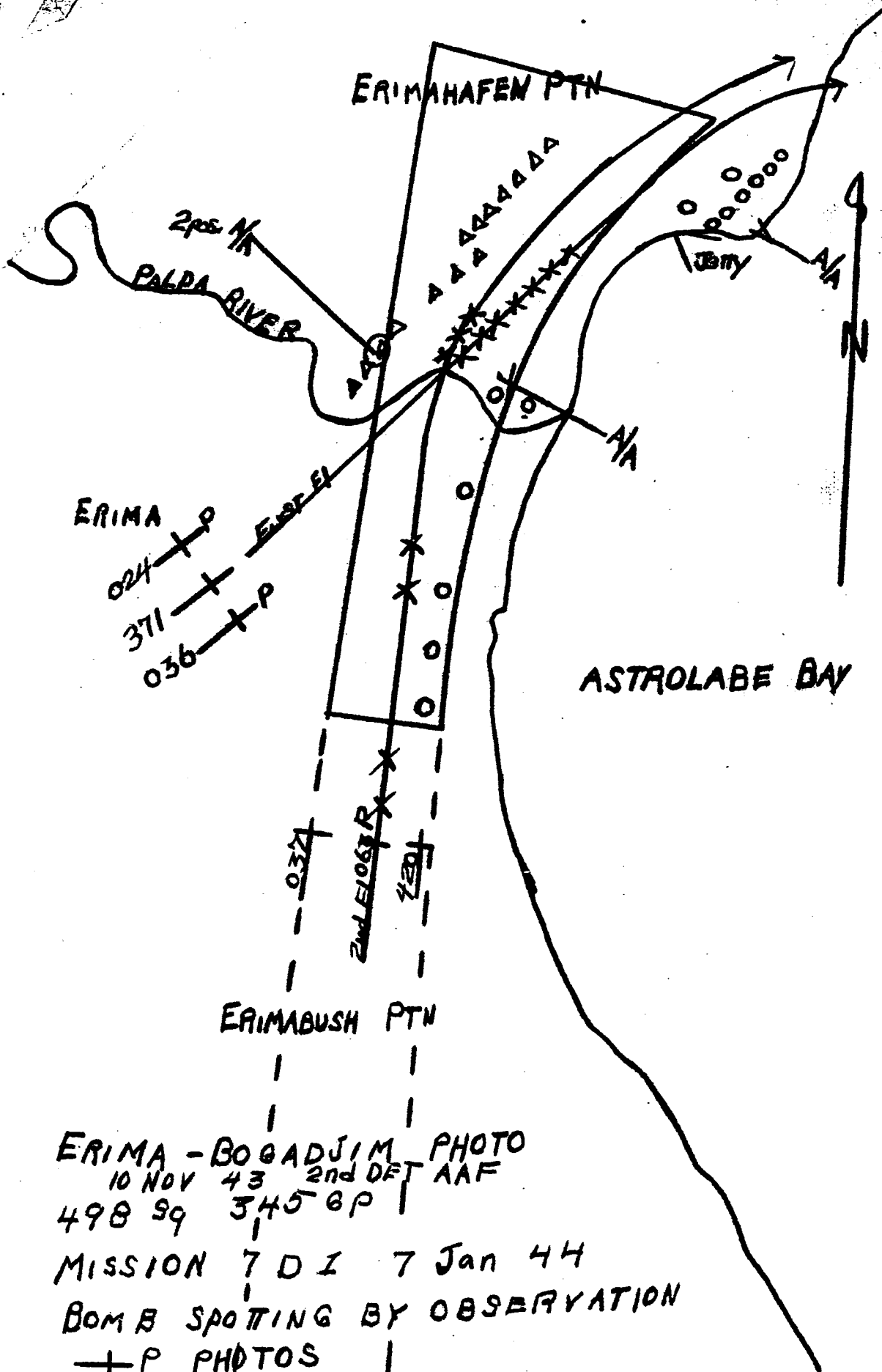
Photos not received in time to make photo interpretation for this report.

For the Commanding Officer:

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CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.







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498  
8-B-1  
8 Jan 44

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #505

9 January, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 8-B-1. Performed on the 8th of January, 1944. Objective - destruction of supplies, A/A positions and barges from Kronprinz Harbor to the Kumil River.

**TO :** Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

Supplies in Moro, Madibur, Toto and two unnamed villages at the mouth of the Kumil River and supplies and A/A positions in a village on the coast at the Eastern approach to Uligan Harbor were the targets assigned this Squadron in a bombing and strafing attack. Barges along the coast from Kronprinz Harbor to Cape Croisilles and any A/A positions firing on the Squadron were priority targets.

The attack was coordinated with attacks by the 500th, 501st and 499th Squadrons of the 345th Group. 40 x 250 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse demo bombs and 7 x 300 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse demo bombs were dropped on targets from Kronprinz Harbor to Kumil River and on Karkar Island. Ten bombs fell in Moro Village starting at least one fire; ten bombs fell in Toto Village; eight bombs were dropped on known A/A position on the West side of Uligan Harbor; eleven bombs were dropped on a known A/A position on the East side of Uligan Harbor with three of the bombs falling into the water N of the target; three bombs fell long on two camouflaged luggers anchored on the Eastern side of the Uligan Harbor and five bombs were dropped on European dwellings on the Southwestern section of Karkar Island. One bomb was returned due to mechanical failure. All targets were strafed thoroughly and tracers were seen entering luggers in Uligan Harbor. A/A positions on the Western side of Uligan Harbor were silenced by strafing. Further results of bombing and strafing were unobserved.

The 498th Squadron was in number three position in the Group formation and was led by Capt. Judd. Flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT	
Capt. Judd	371
Lt. McCall	026
Lt. Hitt	041

SECOND FLIGHT	
Capt. Chiappe	036
Lt. Bronson	420
Lt. Barnaskey	225

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The planes took off from strip #7 at Dobodura from 1403/L to 1405/L, rendezvoused over the Gona Wreck and were on course at 1430/L. Course to the target was up the coast to Lae and thence up the Markham - Ramu Valleys to the target. Return route was from Uligan Harbor to Karkar Island and down the coast to Dobodura where landing was made at 1815/L.

The first flight, flying in a shallow V formation, attacked the targets from 1614/L - 1617/L from altitudes of 100 to 200 ft. Bombs were released on the targets as shown in chart B which also gives the sightings and routes for each plane. A/P 026 flying number 2 position in the flight sighted two 150 ft. camouflaged luggers and 10 to 12 barges on the Eastern side of Uligan Harbor and left the flight to bomb and strafe them. Three bombs released at this point fell long but tracers were seen entering the luggers. Results of bombing and strafing were unobserved. Only one pass was made on the targets.

The second flight, flying in a shallow V formation, attacked the targets from 1614/L to 1617/L from altitudes of 100 to 200 ft. Bombs were released on the targets as shown in chart B which also gives the sightings and route followed. A/P 420 in #2 position in the second flight left the formation to silence A/A positions firing from the West side of Uligan Harbor. The positions were bombed and strafed and ceased firing. A/P 036 in #1 position in the second flight did not have a suitable target along the coast and dropped five bombs on European type houses on the Southwestern part of Karkar Island. Results of bombing and strafing were unobserved.

There was nil interception and P-38 fighter cover was as always excellent. A/A was light, medium and heavy caliber from known positions on the coast at the Eastern approach to Uligan Harbor and on the Western side of Uligan Harbor. A/A fire was light in intensity and inaccurate. Nil damage was received by our planes.

Uligan Harbor appeared to be used extensively and the roads were well used.

## BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
<del>041</del>	2	<del>4/5 sec.</del>	<del>250 lb.</del>	
041	7	4/5 sec.	300 lb.	7
	1	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	1
036	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
420	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
371	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
026	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	7
225	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
	<u>48</u>			<u>47</u>

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## STRAPING TABLE

<u>.50 cal.</u>			<u>.30 cal.</u>	
<u>A/P</u>	<u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
041	4600	900	4000	300
036	4600	1000	4000	--
420	4600	1000	4000	--
371	4600	900	4000	--
026	4600	600	4000	250
225	4600	600	4000	300
		<u>5000</u>		<u>850</u>

Photos not received in time to make photo interpretation for this report.

For the Commanding Officer:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

MAP REF:-  
EASTERN NEW GUINEA  
NAVIGATION CHART  
Equatorial Scale:- 1:2,315,000  
31.72 Naut. Miles = 1 inch  
Mercator Projection

MISSION NO. 8-B-1 DATE 8 JAN 44 1944  
SQUADRON NO. 498 GROUP 345  
SQUADRON ORDER OVER TARGET 3  
ALTITUDE 150 Ft.  
TIME OVER TARGET 1614/4 - 1617/4  
T (BLUE) PLANES TAKING PHOTOS  
T (BLACK) OTHER PLANES (ALL PLANES TO BE SHOWN  
AT BEGINNING OF RUN.)





498  
12-B-1  
12 Jan 44

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498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

13 January, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 12-B-1. Performed on the 12th of January, 1944. Objective - storage and barges in Bostrem Bay, Alexisshafen.

**TO :** Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

Storage and barges along the Northern and Southern shores of Bostrem Bay, Alexisshafen, were the objective of a bombing and strafing mission.

The attack was coordinated with attacks by the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadron of the 345th Group. 72 x 250 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse demo bombs were dropped in target. Bombing was excellent. Areas on North and South sides of Bostrem Bay left with several small fires. Bombs were released along the Northern shores of Bostrem Bay from Boboa Village to the Eastern side of Vitar Plantation and on the Southern side of Bostrem Bay from a point North of the center of the old strip East through Danip Plantation and on Admosin Island and on the Northern end of Sek Island. The target was also strafed with 12400 x .50 cal. and 4800 x .30 cal. rounds of ammunition.

The 498th Squadron was in the number one position in the Group formation and was led by Major Marston. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT	SECOND FLIGHT	THIRD FLIGHT
Maj. Marston 040	Capt. Giffin 371	Lt. Magee 036
Lt. Heuser 036	Lt. Giegar 037	Lt. Browne 041
Lt. Casselman 063	Lt. Buchwald 351	Lt. McCall 026

The planes took off from strip #7 at Bobodura from 0830/L to 0834/L, rendezvoused over the Dona Creek and were on course at 0844/L. Course to the target was up the coast to Lee and thence up the Markhar - Hamu valleys to a point West of the target and thence to the target. Return route was from target direct to Bobodura where landing was made at 1236/L.

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The first and third flights attacked the North shore of Postrem Bay at 1039/L from altitudes of 100 to 350 ft. Slight A/A fire was received by the first flight from a village  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile West of the mouth of the Makely River. Fire ceased after being strafed and other flights did not receive any fire. Several small fires were started in the target with one oil fire being started in the Eastern part of Vitar Plantation. Three barges were seen on the North side of Postrem Bay - one in the first inlet and one in the second inlet West of the Makely River and one at the Western end of the Bay at 706396 (Provisional Map Madang East 1: 1 mile). Bomb spotting, sightings and route followed by individual airplanes are shown in chart 8.

The second flight had targets on the South side of Postrem Bay, Admosin Island and Sek Island. Attack was made at 1039/L from altitude of 100 to 150 ft. Small fires were started in Danip Plantation. Two large fires, one with black smoke and one with white smoke,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile North of the center of the old strip were burning when planes approached the target. Two 100 ft. barges in Postrem Bay North of the West end of the old strip.

The targets were strafed thoroughly by all three flights. The target was well covered but the area did not appear to contain many supplies and activity were limited.

Mission was completed as planned and fighter cover was good. Unfavorable weather prevented photographic being taken of Bagabag Island.

All damage was incurred by planes or personnel. No one is being recommended for an award.

Bombing Results

<u>A/I</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
041	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
351	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
037	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
063	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
036	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
040	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
030	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
026	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
371	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
	<u>72</u>			<u>72</u>

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## SCRAPING TABLE

.50 cal.

.30 cal.

<u>A/F</u>	<u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
<del>242</del>				
041	4600	1400	4000	500
351	4600	1800	4000	500
037	4600	1600	4000	500
063	4600	1000	4000	1000
036	4600	2000	4000	1000
040	4600	1000	4000	--
030	4600	1000	4000	500
026	4600	1100	4000	500
371	4800	1500	4000	300
		<u>12400</u>		<u>4800</u>

Photos were not received in time to make photograph interpretation for this report.

For the Commanding Officer:

CALVIN E. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

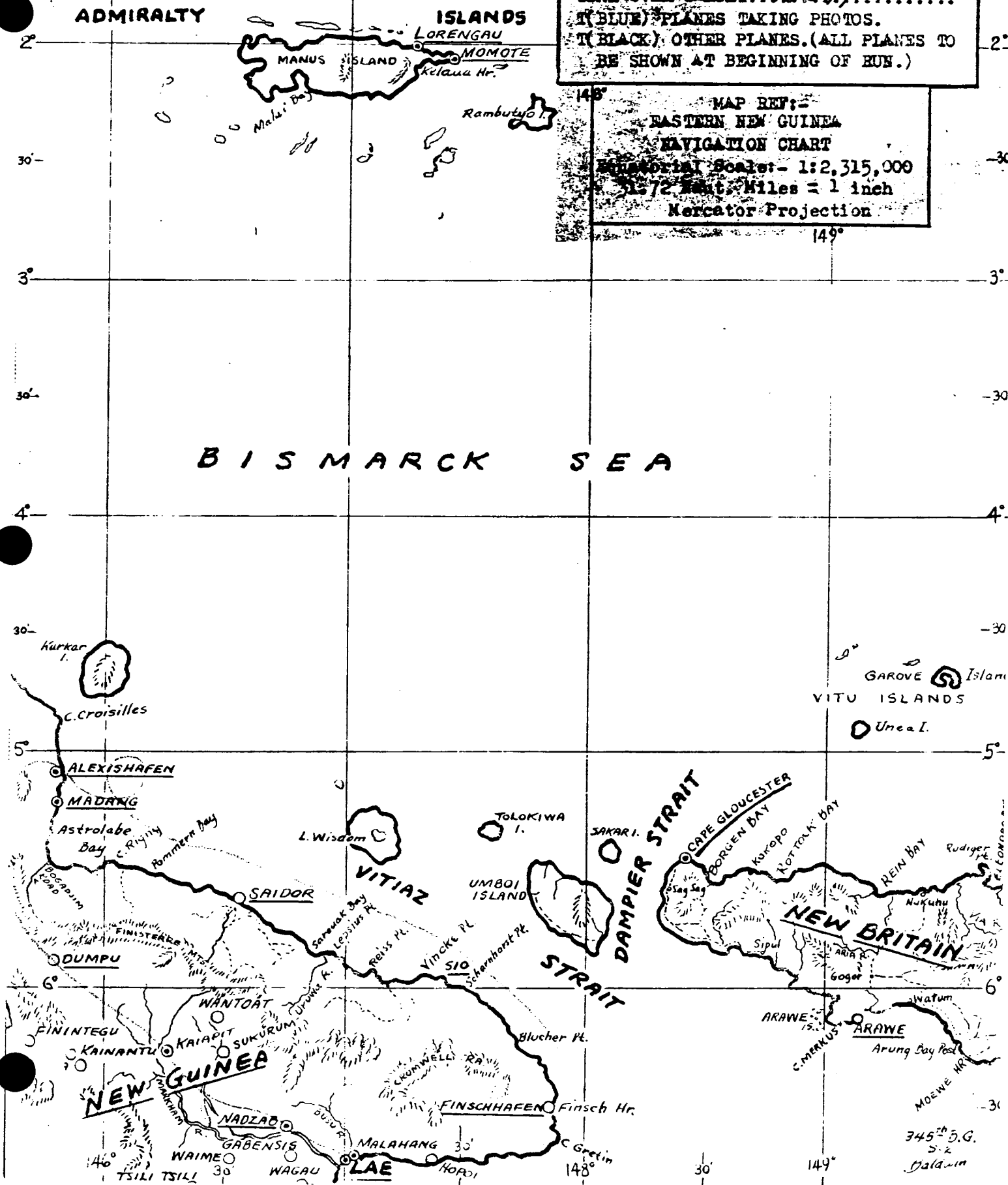
# CONFIDENTIAL



MISSION NO. 12 B.1.... DATE 12 Jan '44  
 SQUADRON NO. 498.... GROUP 345....  
 SQUADRON ORDER OVER TARGET. 1.....  
 ALTITUDE... 100 - 300... FT.  
 TIME OVER TARGET... 10 39/2.....  
 (BLUE) PLANES TAKING PHOTOS.  
 (BLACK) OTHER PLANES. (ALL PLANES TO  
 BE SHOWN AT BEGINNING OF RUN.)

MAP REF:-  
 EASTERN NEW GUINEA  
 NAVIGATION CHART  
 Editorial Scale:- 1:2,315,000  
 1 1/2 inch Miles = 1 inch  
 Mercator Projection

B I S M A R C K S E A



345th S.G.  
 S-2  
 Baldwin

# ALEXISHAFEN

MISSION #1281

12 January '44 1039L

49859 3456P

3 FLIGHTS OF 3A/EA.

X Flight Leader

O #2 4/P

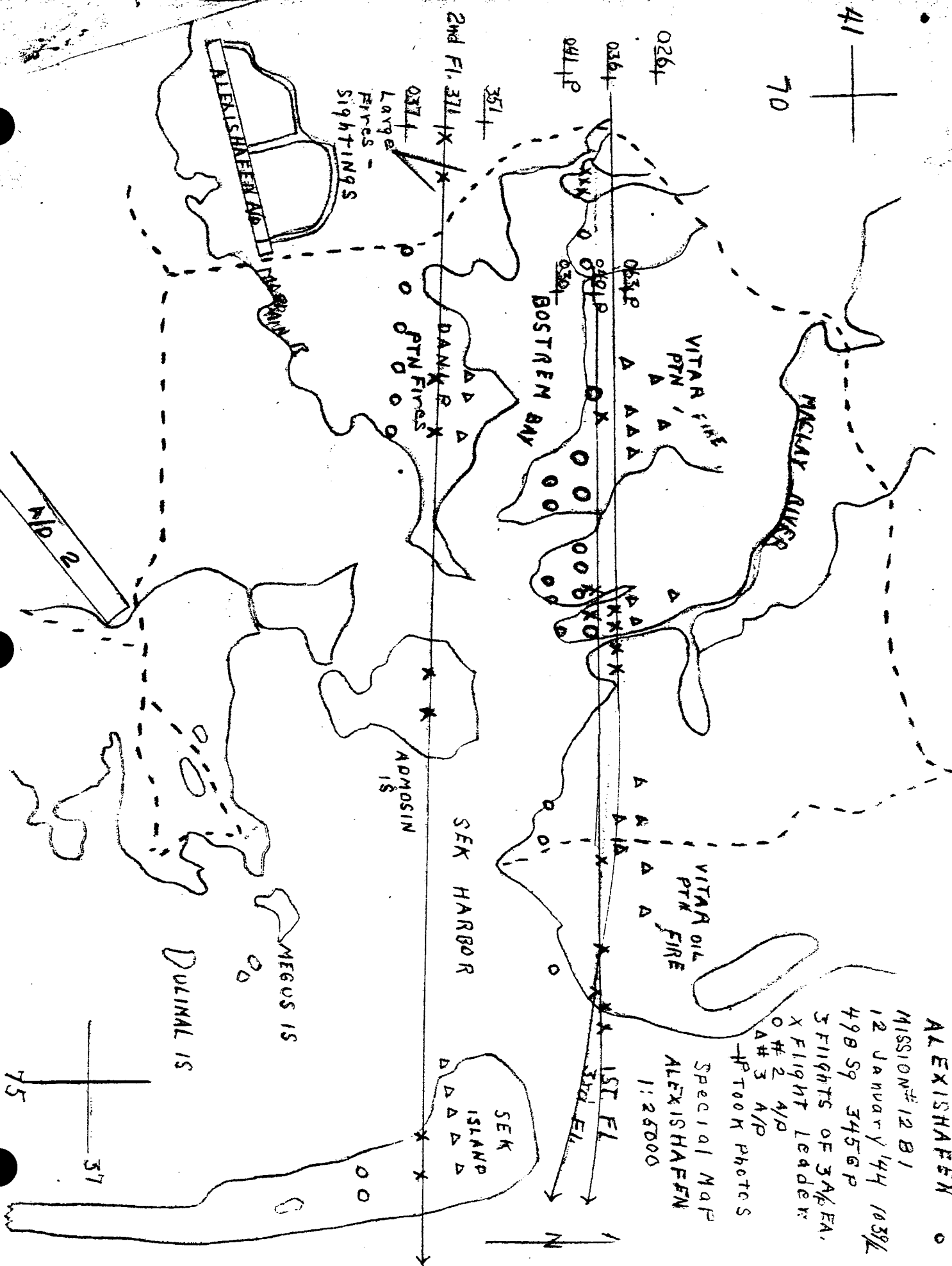
A #3 A/P

PTOON PHOTOS

SPECIAL MAP  
ALEXISHAFEN

1125000

41  
70



75  
37

498  
14-B-1  
14 Jan 44

**498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #508**

15 January, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 14-B-1. Performed on the 14th of January, 1944. Objective - storage and barges in Frederick Earl Harbor.

**TO :** Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 928.

Storage and barges along Frederick Earl Harbor were the objective of a bombing and strafing mission assigned to this Squadron.

The attack was coordinated with attacks by the 498th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group. 56 x 250 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped on target. Five bombs dropped on two barges, one on each side of Pagan Is. One barge in first inlet south of Frederick Earl Harbor and one barge one mile East of the Eastern most point on the South side of the Harbor were bombed. Four bombs were dropped in Anson Mission and two bombs were dropped on one large building 1/2 mile NW of the Western end of the Harbor. The remaining bombs were dropped on targets on the North and South sides of the Harbor and on Tab Island and on Gragat Island. Bombing was excellent. The targets were strafed thoroughly with 2000 x .50 and 1400 x .30 cal. rounds of ammunition.

The 498th Squadron was in the number three position in the Group formation and was led by Captain Judd. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT		SECOND FLIGHT	
Capt. Judd	225	Capt. Chiappe	036
Lt. Dean	351	Lt. Barnaskey	030
Lt. Turk	086	Lt. Bronson	041
		Lt. Mitt	063

The planes took off from strip #7 at Dobodura from 1242/L to 1252/L, rendezvoused over the Gona Wreck and were on course at 1305/L. Course to the target was up the coast and around the Huon Peninsula to a point just below Madang and then circled to the right and crossed Frederick Earl Harbor. Return route was from target around the Huon Peninsula thence direct to Dobodura where landing was made at 1630/L.

The first flight attacked the Southern shore of Frederick Karl Harbor at 1440/L from altitudes from 100 to 150 ft. This flight also bombed and strafed Pasouni and Grogat Islands. One barge was observed in the Bay on the North side of Grogat Is. and ten barges, of questionable serviceability, were seen pulled up on the beach on the Eastern side of the Northern part of Grogat Island. Bomb spotting, sightings and route followed by individual airplanes are shown in chart B.

The second flight attacked the Northern shore of Frederick Karl Harbor, Pasouni Is. and Grogat Is. at 1545/L. Bombs were dropped on a large building  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile NW of the Western end of the Harbor and two bombs were dropped on Tab Island. One gun position was observed in the Star Plantation 732236 (Provisional Map, Padang East, 121 mile). There was an unconfirmed report of several tents in the area around Nekonab Mission. Bomb spotting, sightings and route followed by individual planes are shown in chart B.

The targets were strafed thoroughly by both flights and targets were well covered. Activity in this area was limited.

All damage was incurred by planes or personnel. No sue is being recommended for an award.

#### BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
041	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
351	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
036	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
063	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
030	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
026	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
225	8	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	8
	<u>56</u>			<u>56</u>

#### STRAFING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
041	4800	900	4000	--
351	4600	600	4000	--
036	4800	1200	4000	--
063	4600	1100	4000	400
030	4600	1300	4000	500
026	4600	2300	4000	500
225	4600	900	4000	--
		<u>9600</u>		<u>1400</u>

Photos were not received in time to make a photographic interpretation for this report.

For the Commanding Officer:

CALVIN E. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

ADMIRALTY

ISLANDS

MISSION NO. 14. B. 1. DATE 14 JAN 44  
 SQUADRON NO. 498. GROUP 345  
 SQUADRON ORDER OVER TARGET 3  
 ALTITUDE 100-150 FT.  
 TIME OVER TARGET 14:22  
 (BLUE) PLANES TAKING PHOTOS.  
 (BLACK) OTHER PLANES. (ALL PLANES TO  
 BE SHOWN AT BEGINNING OF RUN.)

MAP REF:-

EASTERN NEW GUINEA

NAVIGATION CHART

Imperial Scale: 1:2,315,000

31.72 Nautical Miles = 1 inch

Mercator Projection

B I S M A R C K S E A

GAROVE Island  
 VITU ISLANDS

Umea I.

SAKARI STRAIT  
 DAMPIER STRAIT

NEW BRITAIN

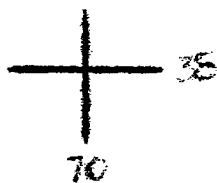
NEW GUINEA

146°

148°

149°

345° S.G.  
 5.4  
 Malanin



SEK Hbr.

ALEXISHAFEN

Mililai Hbr

Amron Mission

FRIEDRICH KARL HBR

Risch Bay

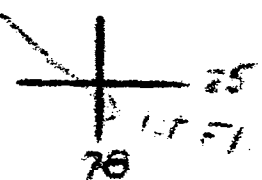
Tab Is

Pacowai Is

2nd FI.

Gragat Is

Madang Hbr



SEK IS. Mission # 14-B-1  
14 Jan 1944 1442/L  
49059 3456p  
7 Np No. 3 Pos  
Overlay from Madang  
East Provisional Map  
Scale 1:1 mile  
Bomb Spotting  
by observation  
X Flight leader  
O # 2 pos.  
P # 3 pos.  
+ took photos  
- # 7 Np

CONFIDENTIAL

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

498  
15-B-1  
15 Jan 44

16 January, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 15-B-1. Performed on the 15th of January, 1944. Objective - Barge sweep and targets of opportunity from Cape Gordon to Cape Corisilles.

TO : Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APC 925.

Barges and targets of opportunity from Cape Gordon to Cape Corisilles were the objective of a bombing and strafing mission assigned to this Squadron.

The attack was performed by the 498th Squadron of the 345th Bombardment Group. 219 x 100 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse demo bombs were dropped on the target. A/A position on NW side of Uligan Hbr. completely destroyed after making three passes. Two barges in Uligan Hbr. hit and two destroyed. Bridge near SE corner of Uligan Hbr. destroyed. Bombs dropped on bridge across Bunabun River. Bombs dropped on bridge over Mangen River destroying same. Bombs dropped on labor huts in Mangen Pltn. and huts were seen to go up in flames. Bombs dropped on Garam Villa e and Marukinam Village. Bombs dropped on bridge across Kalas River. Bombs dropped on huts at Bricelon Island and on Leigar mission. Bombs dropped on Vidari Island amongst European Houses which were left in flames. A bridge across the Musil River destroyed by bombs. Bombs dropped amongst European buildings in Brugil Hbr. Bombs dropped on Bunu (1) Village. Bombs dropped on Matuka Pltn. The entire target was strafed with 25600 x .50 cal. and 8000 x .30 cal. rounds of ammo.

Captain Giffin led the Squadron formation which consisted of three flights. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT	SECOND FLIGHT	THIRD FLIGHT
Capt. Giffin 371	Lt. Reuser 030	Maj. Coltharp 176
Lt. O'Rear 037	Lt. Buchwald 041	Lt. Bosley 036
Lt. Hitt 040	Lt. Casselman 225	Lt. Allen 026
		Lt. Turk 420

- 1 -

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The planes took off from strip #7 at Dobodura from 1249/L to 1253/L, rendezvoused over Gona Wreck and were on course at 1302/L. Course to target was up the coast to Saidor where the Squadron was to rendezvouse with a squadron of P-47's. The Squadron arrived at Saidor at 1445/L and left for the target accompanied by the fighters at 1457/L. In as much as the weather was bad North of Uligan Harbor the Squadron started its attack from Uligan Harbor instead of Cape Gordon. The Squadron proceeded down the coast from Uligan Harbor to Matuka Pltn. making several passes at various targets on the way and then returned down coast to Dobodura. Nine of the ten planes had to land at Finschhafen to refuel and all planes landed at Dobodura between 1805/L and 1940/L.

All three flights went over the target the same way and the time of attack was from 1531/L to 1610/L from 100 ft. altitude. A number of passes were made at various targets and bombs were dropped on places which are more specifically set forth on chart B annexed. A/A installation on NW side of Uligan Harbor was completely destroyed and also two barges in Uligan Harbor. Three bridges were also definitely destroyed and the location of these bridges and other bridges attacked are more specifically set forth in chart B. Combat personnel observed the following: two serviceable barges on West shore of Uligan Hbr.; 8 to 10 barges on E shore of Uligan Hbr., serviceability undetermined; much activity observed in Uligan Hbr.; bridge over Mugil River observed to be blown up; coast road seemed well used and communication lines seen near road; Matuka Pltn. activity was observed and fresh automobile tracks; At Mugil Mission many fresh auto tracks observed in native cemetery.

The targets were strafed thoroughly by all flights and targets were well covered. The crews were of the opinion that much damage was done and fighter cover was good.

The only A/A fire encountered was at Uligan Hbr. from known A/A positions. The A/A fire was intense, of medium caliber and accurate. A/P 176 received three holes caused by A/A fire at Uligan Hbr.

BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
041	22	1/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
420	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
037	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
036	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
030	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
040	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
176	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
371	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
026	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
225	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	21
	<u>220</u>			<u>219</u>

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STRAFING TABLE

.50 cal.

.30 cal.

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds. Ex.</u>	<u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
041	4600	4000	--4000	----
420	4600	1200	4000	360
037	4600	2200	4000	----
036	4600	4500	4000	1500
030	4600	2500	4000	500
040	4600	1400	4000	500
176	4600	3100	4000	<del>4000</del>
026	4600	2200	4000	1000
225	4600	2000	4000	1000
371	4600	2500	4000	----
		<u>25600</u>		<u>8800</u>

Photos were not received in time to make photographic interpretation for this report.

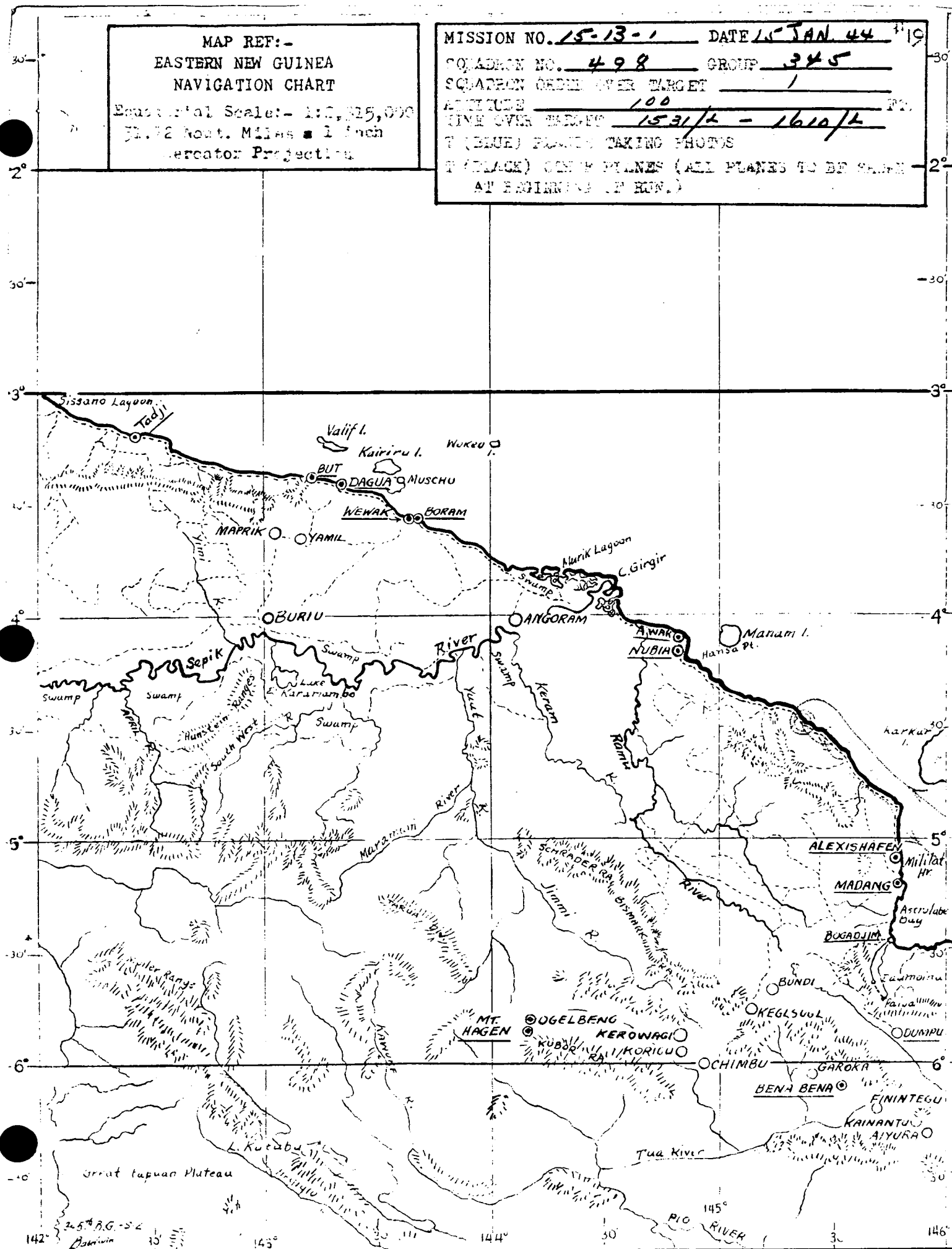
For the Commanding Officer:

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Asst. Intelligence Officer

CONFIDENTIAL

Expenditure Scale:- 1:2,500  
31.72 Hect. Miles = 1 inch  
Mercator Projection

MISSION NO. 15-13-1 DATE 15 JAN 44 Pg. 19  
SQUADRON NO. 498 GROUP 345  
SQUADRON ORIGIN OVER TARGET 1  
ALTITUDE 100 Ft.  
TIME OVER TARGET 1531/4 - 1610/4  
T (BLUE) PLANE TAKING PHOTOS  
T (BLACK) CONFIR PLANES (ALL PLANES TO BE SEARCHED -  
AT ESTIMATED 15 HRS.)



498  
20-A-1  
20 Jan 44

# CONFIDENTIAL

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
205TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

21 January, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 20-A-1. Performed 20 January, 1944.  
Objective - Hannu Bay, New Guinea.

**TO :** Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

a. Destruction of stores, shipping and A/A positions at Hannu Bay, New Guinea were the objectives of a strike on this Base.

b. The 498th Squadron was to assemble enroute to Cape Ward Hunt where it was to form with the Group and then proceed to Nadzab for rendezvous with the fight escort.

c. Attack.

- (1) The Squadron took off from strip #7 at Doboora as ordered. The Group was formed at Cape Ward Hunt and left on course at 0812/L. The Group formation arrived at Nadzab for rendezvous with the fighter escort at 0858/L and left for the target at 0923/L. Approach to the target was from the Southwest and the attack was made in line abreast formation from an altitude of 100 to 200 ft. at 1023/L. 39x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse demo bombs were dropped in target. One bomb failed to release and was dropped in Arina Pt. Five bombs were returned to base because of failure to release. One direct hit was made on building in Awar Pt. One bomb hit on stores in Awar Pt. which made a large black column of smoke thought to be a fuel dump. Two barges were definitely destroyed by direct hits on two barges off shore West of Awar Pt. One large fire was started in stores 200 ft. West of Awar Pt. black smoke of 200 ft. was seen rising and gaining headway, houses were also seen to rise in air. One A/A position bombed between the center of Nubia strip and Bay. A/A position 300 ft. North of North end of Nubia strip was bombed, strafed and silenced. Bombing was excellent and target thoroughly strafed with 14400 x .50 cal. and 2500 x .30 cal. rounds of ammo.

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- (2) The attack was coordinated with the 500th, 501st and 499th Squadrons of the 345th Group. Fighter cover was excellent.

d. Interception.

- (1) There was nil interception.  
(2) Nil Allied plane losses was observed.

2. Captain Giffin led the 498th Squadron. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT	SECOND FLIGHT	THIRD FLIGHTS
Capt. Giffin 371	Lt. Hauser 030	Capt. Robinson 351
Lt. Dunn 176	Lt. Brennan 225	Lt. Barnsley 420
Lt. Gavin 036	Lt. O'Rear 040	Lt. Bushfield 026

3. Details of the mission.

- a. The planes took off from strip 7 at Debodura from 0754/L to 0762/L, rendezvoused at Cape Ward Hunt and were on course at 0812/L. The formation proceeded up the coast, over Lee and arrived at Nadab for rendezvous with the fighters at 0858/L. The rendezvous was completed and the formation left on course at 0923/L and proceeded up the Markham - Ramu Valley to the target. One pass was made on the target at 1023/L on a heading of 10 deg. The return route was down the coast to Erima Pita, and thence over land to the Markham Valley, over Nadab and Lee and down the coast to Debodura where landing was made at 1245/L.

b. Results of flights:

- (1) The first flight attacked the target at 1023/L at an altitude of 100 to 200 ft. Fourteen bombs were dropped in target. One bomb in A/P 371 failed to release and was dropped on Erima Pita, on return route. One bomb hit was made on a house in Awar Pita. Ten barges were sighted along shore from Nubia Village to Awar Jetty. An observation tower was seen at head of Ramu River SE of Ego. One barge observed on West side of Laing Is. This flight strafed target thoroughly with 5250 x .50 cal. and 1400 x .30 cal rounds of ammo. Bomb spotting, sightings and route followed by individual airplanes are shown in chart B.

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# CONFIDENTIAL

- (2) The second flight started its attack at 1023/L at altitudes of 100 to 200 ft. Ten bombs were dropped in target. Two barges were definitely destroyed off shore West of Amar Point by A/P 225 and 040. One large fire was started in stores 200 ft. West of Amar Pt. by A/P 225 with a column of black smoke rising to 200 ft. A/A position 300 ft. North of North end of Nubia strip was silenced when bombed and strafed by A/P 040. A/A position at Amar Pt. was seen firing after planes left target. Stores were observed on Amar Pt. and along shore between Nubia Village to Amar River. At 1027/L a partly submerged submarine was observed traveling on a heading of 100deg, 10 miles off shore between Dove Pt. and Karier Island. Target was thoroughly strafed by this flight with 3500 x .50 cal. and 200 x .30 cal. rounds of ammo. A/P 030 returned five bombs to base because of failure to release over target. Bomb spotting, sightings and route followed by individual airplanes are shown in chart B.
- (3) The third flight began the attack at 1023/L at altitude from 100 to 200 ft. Fifteen bombs were dropped on target. A/P 351 dropped two bombs on bridge across the Amar River. A/P 420 dropped two bombs amongst houses in Amar Pita. Three unserviceable planes and one camouflaged truck were observed in NW corner of Conder strip. Observed preceding squadron dropping bombs amongst barges in Amar Jetty and observed several destroyed. Five barges were observed along shore from Amar Jetty to Amar Pt. Numerous new small huts were seen in Amar Pita. Target was thoroughly strafed, by this flight, with 5150 x .50 cal. and 900 x .30 cal. rounds of ammo. Bomb spotting, sightings and route followed by individual airplanes are shown in chart B.
- c. A/A was from known positions and was light and medium caliber, moderate and accurate to inaccurate.
- d. A/P 371 was hit by A/A fire in center section of right wing which knocked out hydraulic system.
- e. Fighter protection, which was provided by two squadrons of P-47's and one squadron of P-40's, was reported as excellent.
4. Nil personnel is being recommended for an award.
5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are enclosed.
6. Sightings are included in report by flights and are shown on chart B.

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7. Photo interpretation shows a near miss on an A/A position along the shore NE of Hahia A/D. Target on the Western side of Hanna Bay is covered with smoke from bursting bombs. The target in this section appears to be covered well by bombing.

## BOMBING TABLE

A/P	No. of bombs	Type	Weight	No. dropped
351	5	A/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
430	5	A/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
036	5	A/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
176	5	A/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
040	5	A/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
030	5	A/5 sec.	500 lb.	0
026	5	A/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
371	5	A/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
225	5	A/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
	<u>45</u>			<u>40</u>

## STRAFING TABLE

A/P	30 cal. Rds. sec'd	Rds. fr.	Rds. sec'd	30 cal. Rds. fr.
351	4600	1200	4600	---
430	4600	1000	4600	---
036	4600	2500	4600	---
176	4600	600	4600	400
040	4600	1500	4600	200
030	4600	1500	4600	---
026	4600	2350	4600	900
371	4600	2650	4600	1000
225	4600	500	4600	---
		<u>14400</u>		<u>2500</u>

## PHOTOGRAPHS

A/P	Time of photo	Location	Type of camera	Rds. made	Prints rec'd.
040	1022/L	Hanna Bay	RSC1	35	4

A/P's 030 and 026 took photos of the target but the film would not run through completely and was fogged upon removing it from the camera. No prints were made from the exposed films of these two planes.

For the Commanding Officer:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

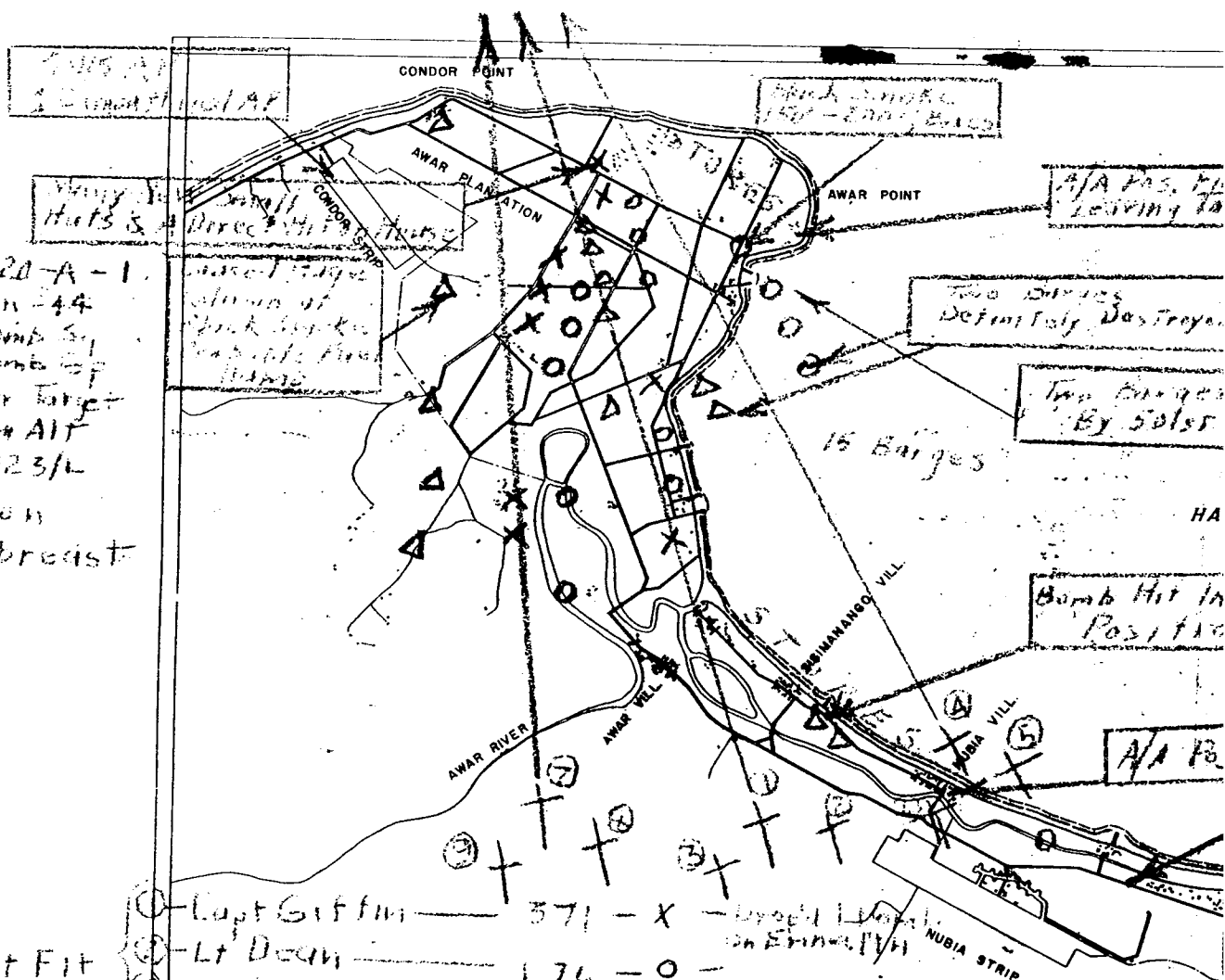
2 Incls:

1. Bomb assessment chart.
2. Route in and out chart.





Mission-20-A-1  
 20-July-44  
 498 Bomb Sq  
 345 Bomb Sq  
 3rd Over Target  
 Minimum Alt  
 Time 1023/L  
 Formation  
 9 AP Abreast



→ 1st Flt	① - Capt Griffin	371	- X	- Dropped Bomb On Enemy [unclear]
	② - Lt Dean	176	- O	
	③ - Lt Carin	036	- Δ	
→ 2nd Flt	④ - Lt Houser	030	- X	- Returned 5 Bombs Mechanical Difficulties
	⑤ - Lt Bronson	225	- O	
	⑥ - Lt O'Rear	040	- Δ	
→ 3rd Flt	⑦ - Capt Robinette	351	- X	
	⑧ - Lt Barnasky	420	- O	+ Took Photos
	⑨ - Lt Bachwald	026	- Δ	+ Took Photos

498  
22-0-1  
20 Jan 44

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

23 January, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 22-D-1. Performed on the 20th of January, 1944. Objective - barges, targets of opportunity between Cape Gordon and Cape Coraillies, New Guinea.

**TO :** Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

a. Barges and targets of opportunity between Cape Gordon and Cape Coraillies were the objectives of a bombing and strafing mission assigned to this Squadron.

b. The 498th Squadron was to assemble enroute to Cape Ward Hunt with the 500th Bombardment Squadron and then proceed to Finschhafen to rendezvous with fighter escort.

c. Attack.

- (1) The Squadron took off from strip #7 at Bobodura, as ordered, at 1250/L. The Squadron was formed enroute to Cape Ward Hunt where it formed formation with the 500th Squadron at 1301/L. The Squadron with the 500th Squadron, with the 498th Squadron leading, proceeded to Finschhafen where it arrived at 1357/L for rendezvous with fighters. The entire formation then at 1358/L proceeded to the target, flying up along the coast to Cape Gordon. Approach to the target was made in individual flights with the planes being over and attacking the target from 1520/L to 1600/L. 15 x 100 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse demo bombs were dropped on targets. Bombing was excellent. Bridges at Franklin Bay, over the Mangen River, Malis River, Gilagil River, Sarang Harbor bombed and destroyed. Bridge across Kunal River was bombed and later destroyed by following flight. The following Villages were bombed: Sarang (1), Sarang (2), Franklin Bay, Kedibur, Ahon, Mugil. The villages around Sunabun Harbor were bombed. Bombs were dropped on A/A position on Western side of Uligan Harbor and at stores at Village on Southern end of Harbor. Bombs were also dropped on one serviceable and one unserviceable barge at the Southern end of Uligan Harbor and the one serviceable barge was destroyed, by a direct hit. Fires were started by bombs dropped on Village at Meiger Harbor. A bridge across River North of Kaleb Village was blown up by planes of another flight. An observation post on top of hill two miles NW of Crown Prince Harbor was

strafed causing a large puff of black smoke which disappeared quickly. One house at Sunabun Harbor was definitely destroyed by direct hit. At least four small fires were started around Uligan Harbor and other small fires were started in villages along the target. Bombs were dropped on the West side of Karkar Island destroying at least one large European type house. Target was thoroughly strafed with 16300 x .50 cal. and 7400 x .30 cal. rounds of ammunition.

- (2) The attack was coordinated with the 500th Bombardment Squadron of the 345th Group. Fighter cover was fair.

d. Interception.

- (1) There was nil interception.
- (2) Nil Allied plane losses were observed.

2. Captain Judd led the 498th Squadron and the entire mission. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT		SECOND FLIGHT	
Captain Judd	030	Lt. Cope	036
Lt. Gavin	040	Lt. Bosley	420
Lt. Mitt	225	Lt. McCall	033
		Lt. Best	351

3. Details of mission.

- a. The planes took off from strip #7 at Dobodura, as ordered, at 1250/L. The Squadron was formed enroute to Cape Ward Hunt where it formed formation with the 500th Squadron at 1301/L. This Squadron with the 500th Squadron, with the 498th Squadron leading, proceeded to Finschhafen where it arrived at 1357/L for rendezvous with fighters. The entire formation then at 1358/L proceeded to the target, flying up along the coast to Cape Gordon. Approach to the target was made in individual flights with the planes being over and attacking the target from 1520/L to 1600/L.
- b. Chart B annexed sets forth the line of flight of the planes of this Squadron, the number of passes made at each target, the number of bombs dropped at each target and the damage resulting therefrom.
- c. A/A fire was encountered at Uligan Harbor from known heavy position on western side of the Harbor. It was heavy in caliber, light in intensity, inaccurate and altitude about 200 ft.
- d. Fighter protection was provided by one squadron of P-47's and one squadron of P-40's which was fair.

4. All personnel is being recommended for an award.
5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are attached.
6. Sightings are included in report by flights and are shown on chart B.
7. Photographs not received in time to make photo interpretation for this report.

BOMBING TABLE				
<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
351	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
026	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
420	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
036	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
033	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
030	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
225	22	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	22
	<u>154</u>			<u>154</u>

STRAFFING TABLE				
<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal. Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal. Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
351	4600	1000	4000	1600
026	4600	3600	4000	1400
420	4600	1000	4000	500
036	4600	4000	4000	1700
033	4600	2700	4000	2000
030	4600	2000	4000	200
225	4600	2000	4000	200
		<u>16300</u>		<u>7400</u>

For the Commanding Officer:

CALVIN H. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

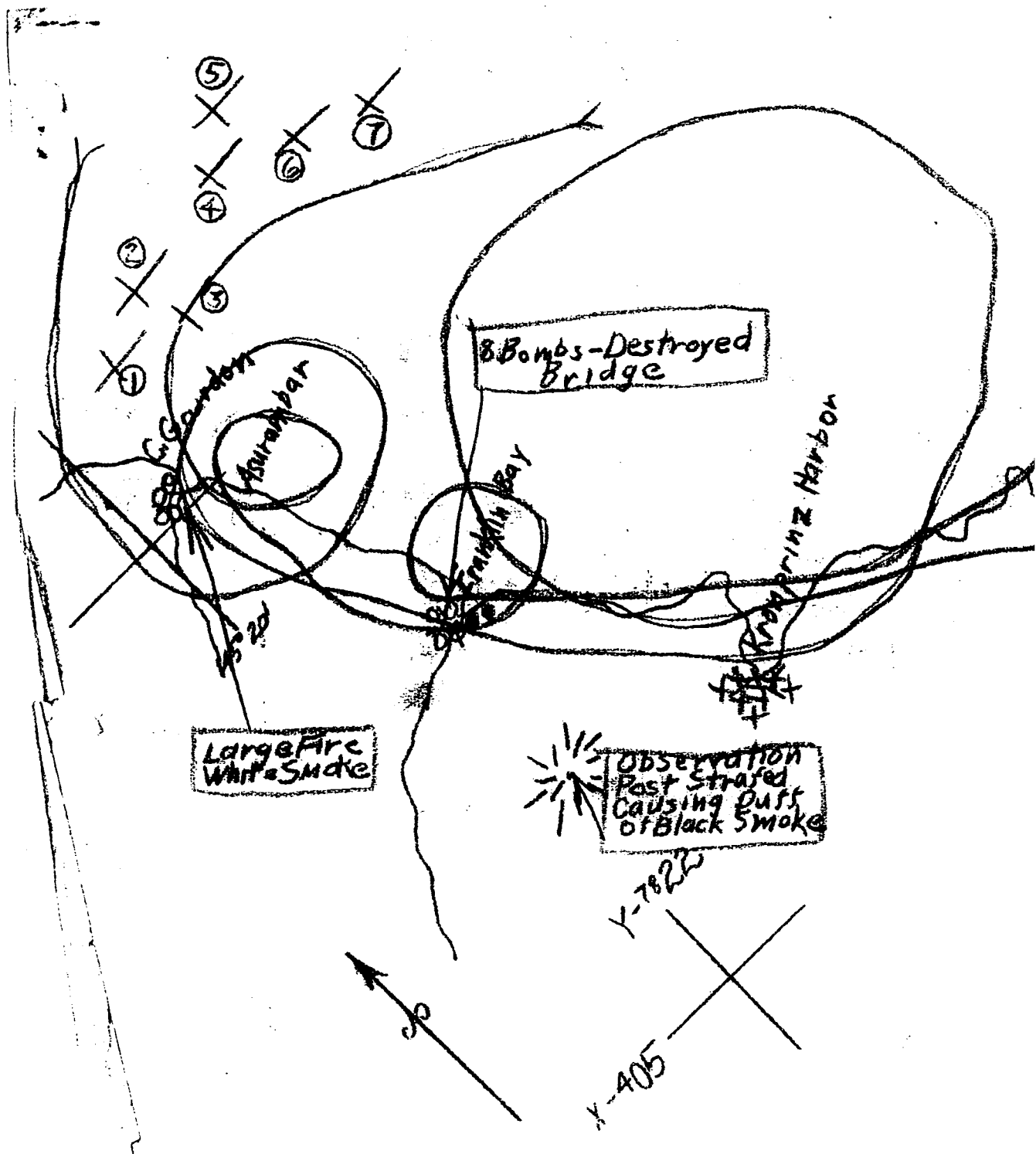
**MAP OF  
EASTERN NEW GUINEA  
NAVIGATION CHART**

Horizontal Scale - 1:2,315,000  
1.72 Naut. Miles = 1 inch  
Mercator Projection

MISSION NO. 222 DATE 22 Jan 1961  
SQUADRON NO. 488  
SQUADRON ORDER OVER 1500  
ALTITUDE 14,000  
TIME OVER TARGET 1520-1600  
T (BLUE) PLANES: TESTING PHOTOS  
T (BLACK) OTHER PLANE: ALL PLANE TO BE SHOWN  
AT BEGINNING OF SORTY

Route  
Target

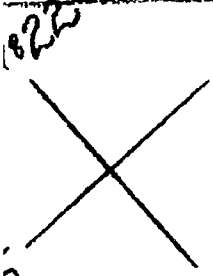




Destroyed  
ge

Prinz Harbor

Observation  
ist Strafed  
Using Duff  
Black Smoke



Adibur

6-8 Serviceable  
Barges on  
Uligha HBR

8 Bombs on A/A Pos  
Still Firing

Two Bombs

12 Bombs 2420  
Barge Destroy

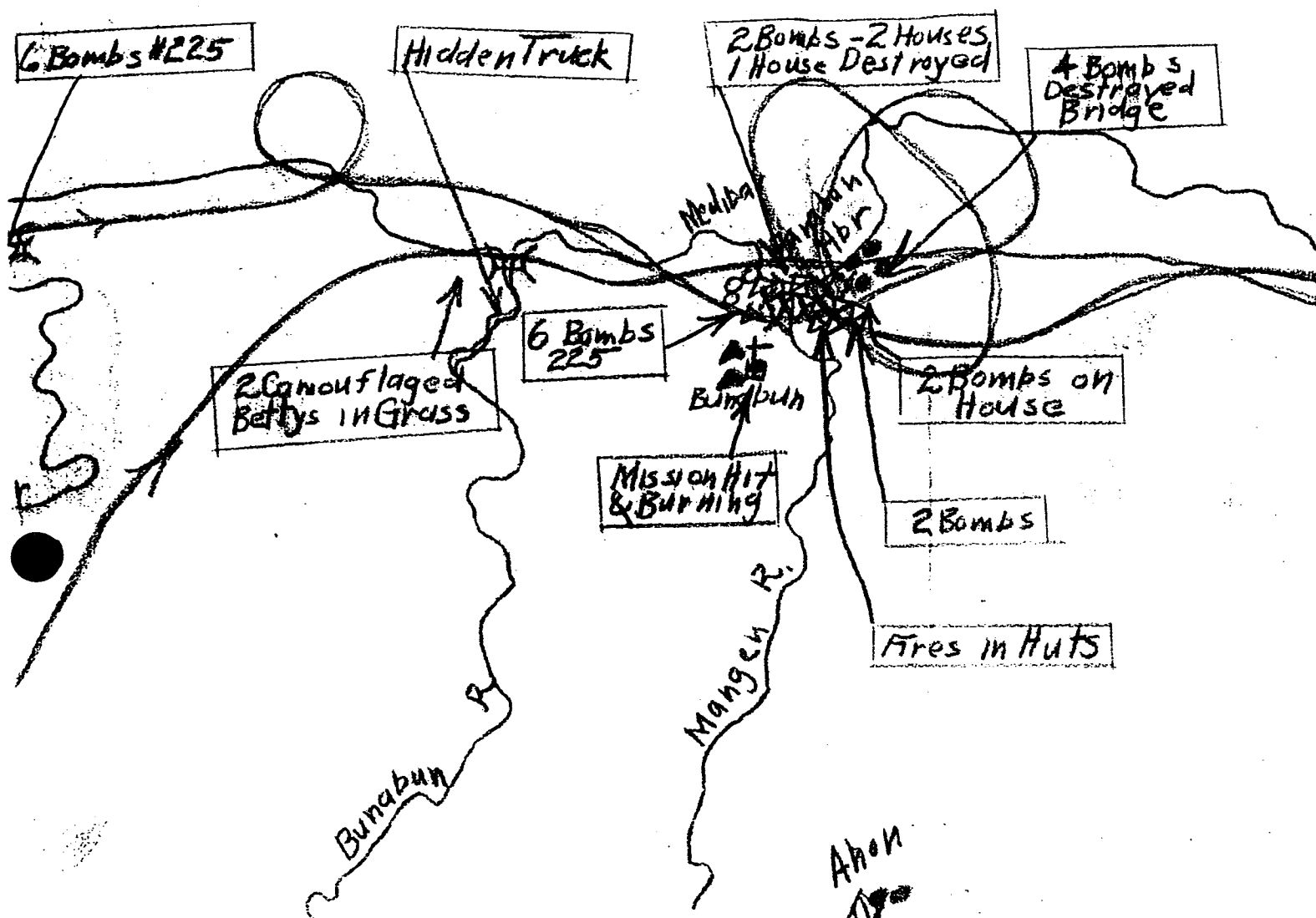
A/A Positi

4 Bombs  
Houses

16 Bombs

1 f 1 c

Ocean



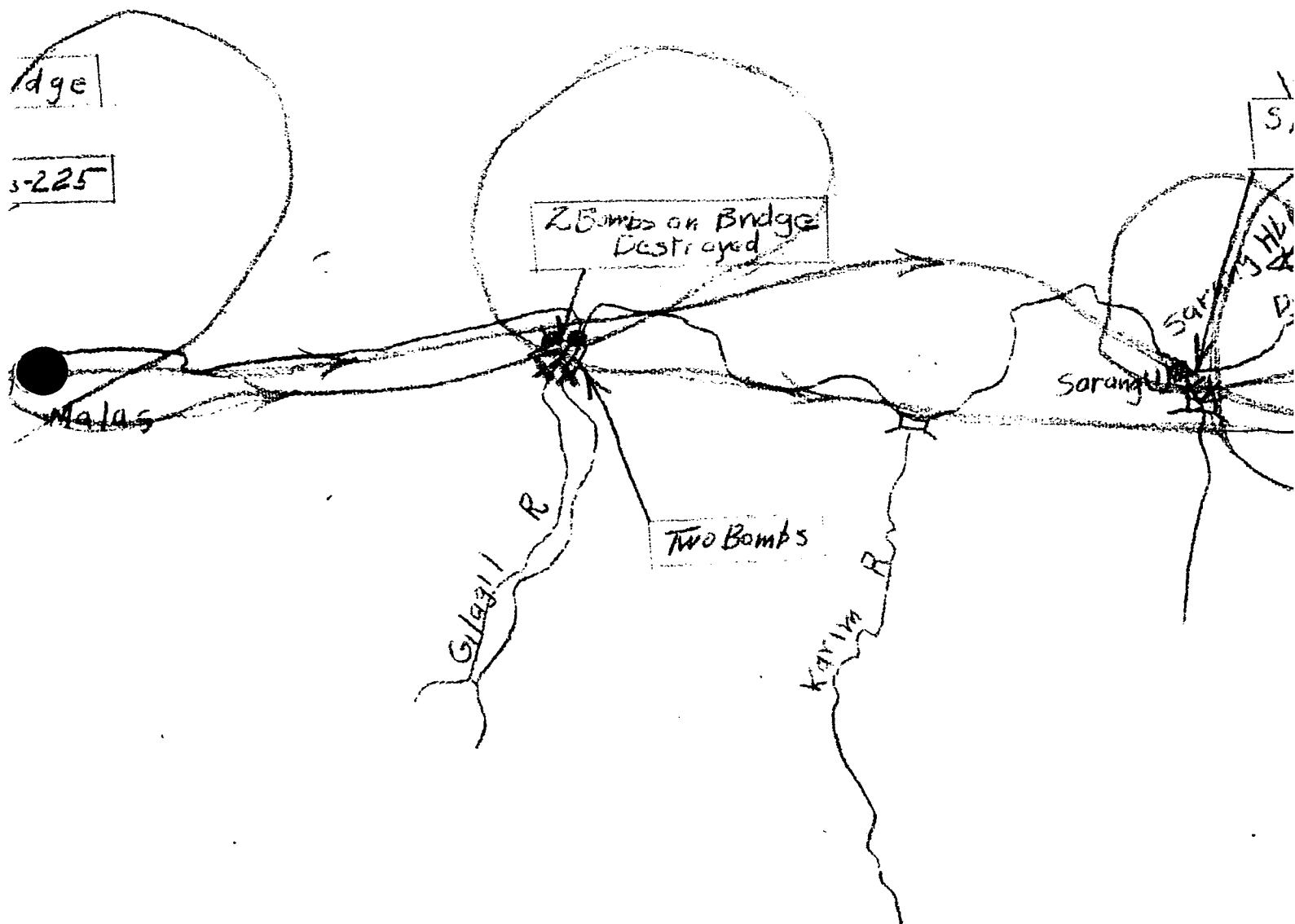
Overlay  
Malaka E, Uro E, Karkar W, Matuka W & Matuka E.  
Provisional Maps Scale 1:63360  
Northeast New Guinea



Photos

MISSION # 22 D-1 22 Jan 44  
498 Bomb Sq (M) 345 Bomb Gp  
1st over Target - Minimum Alt  
Time - 1520 to 1600/L  
7-B25D15  
Bombs - 154 x 100

④ Lt Cape  
⑤ Lt Bosley  
⑥ Lt McCa  
⑦ Lt Best



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498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

25 January, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 24-D-1. Performed on the 24th of January, 1944. Objective - shipping, stores and installations at and near Lorengau Drome, Manus Island.

TO : Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

- a. Shipping, stores and installations at and near Lorengau Drome, Manus Island were the objectives of a bombing and strafing mission assigned to this Squadron.
- b. The 498th Bomb Squadron was to take off at 0940/L, assemble over #7 strip, Dobodura, with the 499th, 500th, and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group at 0955/L and proceed to Finschhafen and rendezvous with two Squadrons of P-38's at 1040/L. From Finschhafen was to go directly to the target with the 501st Squadron leading and the 498th, 499th and 500th Squadrons following. On return the squadrons were to assemble at Lou Island, proceed to Finschhafen and return to base.

c. Attack.

- (1) The Squadron took off from strip #7 at Dobodura as ordered at 0940/L. The Squadron assembled with the other squadrons of the Group over #7 strip at 0955/L as ordered. The squadron and Group formation with the 501st Squadron leading followed by the 498th, 499th and 500th Squadrons proceeded to Finschhafen and rendezvoused with the two squadrons of P-38's and immediately took off on course from Finschhafen at 1040/L to the target. The line of flight is shown on charts A and B annexed. 18 x 1000 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse demo bombs dropped on target. 2 bombs dropped on house in Salami Pltn. 1 bomb dropped on Bear Pt. 1 bomb dropped at six large houses at Boat Bay, at least 2 houses destroyed. 1 bomb dropped at Lombum Pt. among six red roofed European type houses, all houses destroyed. 1 bomb dropped in village at Balcot Bay. 1 direct hit on large house at Papitilai Harbor. 1 bomb dropped South of hill near Lorengau strip. 2 bombs dropped on about 7 European houses at Munster Pltn. 1 of the bombs made a direct hit on one house. 2 bombs dropped on house on NW shore of Paouel Passage. 1 bomb dropped on house on Pilylu Is. 1 direct hit on houses on

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on shore of Kareng Bay. 1 bomb on buildings in the North Central part of Los Negros Island. 1 bomb hit along side of a camouflaged Sugar Charlie in Papitalai Harbor, boat appeared to be listing and was burning as the planes left the target. 1 bomb dropped among buildings in Ombum Pita., a direct hit demolished a large European type house 3/4 mile West of North end of Paouel Passage. Northern coast of Manus Is., small Islands directly North of Manus Is., Los Negros Is., South part of Manus Is. from Jala to Tawi Is. were thoroughly strafed. Two canoes off shore of Manus Is., one containing natives and the other boxes, were strafed. One native canoe two miles South of East side of Los Negros Is. was strafed, boat contained boxes covered with nets.

(2) The attack was coordinated with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and with two squadrons of P-38's. Fighter cover was excellent.

d. Interception.

(1) There was nil interception.

(2) Three planes of this Squadron were damaged by .50 caliber gun fire from unknown sources.

2. Lt. Col. True, Commanding Officer of the 345th Group, led the 498th Squadron. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT		SECOND FLIGHT		THIRD FLIGHT	
Lt. Col. True	02h	Capt. Robinette	351	Lt. Heuser	030
Lt. Dean	033	Lt. Bronsen	225	Lt. Allen	063
Lt. Buchwald	420	Lt. O'Rear	371	Lt. Barnaskey	176
				Lt. Hitt	040

A/P 040, piloted by Lt. Hitt left the third flight of the Squadron and attached itself to a flight of the 499th Squadron which only had two ships in the flight. The results of his bombing and strafing are to be included in the report of the 499th Squadron.

g. Details of mission.

4. Planes took off #7 strip at Dobodura as ordered at 0940/L. The Group formation was formed over #7 strip at 0955/L. With the 501st Squadron leading and the 498th Squadron behind it the Group proceeded to Finschhafen where it arrived at 1040/L for rendezvous with fighters. In as much as the fighters were already in the air the Group immediately proceeded to the target at 1040/L. The approach to the target was made in individual flights with the planes being over and attacking the target from 1227/L to 1237/L. On return the Squadron reassembled with the Group at Lou Island, proceeded directly to Finschhafen and returned to base and landed at 1505/L to 1515/L. Chart B annexed sets forth the line of flight of this Squadron, the number of bombs dropped at each target and the damage resulting therefrom.

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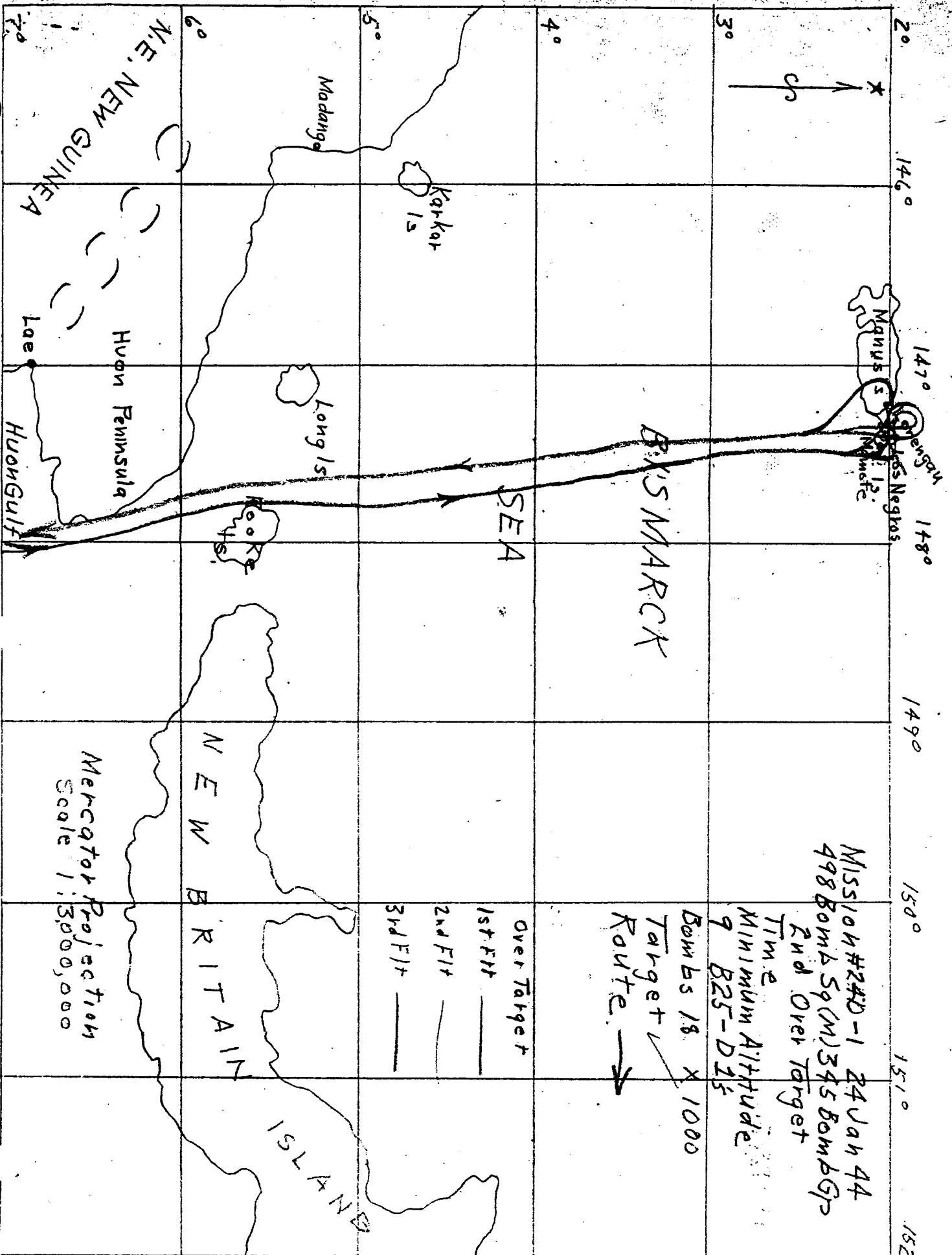
- b. A/A fire was medium in caliber, light in intensity, inaccurate and the altitude was 1000 ft.
- c. Fighter protection was provided by two squadrons of P-38's which was excellent.
- k. Nil personnel is being recommended for an award.
5. Ammunition, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are attached.
6. Sightings are included in report by flights and are shown on chart B.
7. Photographs not received in time to make photo interpretation for this report.

BOMBING TABLE				
A/P	No. of bombs	Type	Weight	No. dropped
420	2	4/5 sec.	1000 lb.	2
063	2	4/5 sec.	1000 lb.	2
176	2	4/5 sec.	1000 lb.	2
030	2	4/5 sec.	1000 lb.	2
371	2	4/5 sec.	1000 lb.	2
024	2	4/5 sec.	1000 lb.	2
351	2	4/5 sec.	1000 lb.	2
225	2	4/5 sec.	1000 lb.	2
033	2	4/5 sec.	1000 lb.	2
	<u>18</u>			<u>18</u>

STRAFING TABLE				
A/P	.50 cal. Rds car'd	Rds Ex.	.30 cal. Rds car'd	Rds Ex.
420	4600	1700	4000	500
063	4600	3000	4000	1000
176	4600	3900	4000	1000
030	4600	4500	4000	1500
371	4600	2800	4000	2000
024	4600	750	4000	400
351	4600	2350	4000	1200
225	4600	1600	4000	300
033	4600	2000	4000	300
		<u>22600</u>		<u>9000</u>

For the Commanding Officer:

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Asst. Intelligence Officer.



* 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th	Col True ——— 024 — X
	1st Lt Dean ——— 033 — 0
	1st Lt Buchwald ——— 420 — Δ
	2nd Lt Robinson ——— 225 — 0
	3rd Lt O'Rear ——— 371 — Δ

3rd	LT Heuser	030	-	X†
Flt	LT Allen	063	-	0
	LT Barnasky	176	-	Δ

Took Photos +

16X

Scott Boy  
Andras Is.

Houses, 2  
Destroyed

Fishing boat

Bottle on Sugar Charite  
Destroyed /

02°00'S  
147°00'E

MANUS ISLAND

40mm Red  
A/A Positions

Bars  
sighted

M. G. F. Inc.

7 Eu 38, 10000  
1 Dir. of Pitt

Born among six  
Houses - All destroyed

Direct Motion Large Europe House

17th Feb 1900  
Monrovia A/S

Amok?  Androvalis

MISSION # 24DL 24 Jan 43  
498 Bomb Sq (M) 345 Bomb Grp

Time 1225-1235/L  
9 B75D15

Benths 18 X 10

Horizontal Map  
Scale 1" = 4 Mi.

Y-301

Manus & Adjacent Islands (Admiralty Is.)

## Astoria Map

Scale 1" = 4 MI

498  
25-6-1  
25 Jan 44

**498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF**  
**345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF**  
**Office Of the Intelligence Officer**  
**A.P.O. #503**

26 January, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 25-G-1. Performed on 26 January, 1944.  
Objective - shipping, supplies and installations near Lorengan strip,  
Mamuas Island.

**TO :** Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

**1. General.**

- a. Shipping, supplies and installations near Lorengan strip, Mamuas Island were the objectives of a bombing and strafing mission assigned to this Squadron.
- b. The 498th Bomb Squadron was to take off at 0905/L, assemble over #7 strip at Dobodura with the 499, 500, and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and three squadrons of the 38th Group at 0915/L and proceed to Finschhafen to rendezvous with three squadrons of P-38's one hour after take off. From Finschhafen it was to go directly to the target with 500th Squadron leading and the 501st, 499th, 498th Squadrons following. On return the squadrons were to assemble at Lou Island, proceed to Finschhafen and return to base.
- c. Attack.
  - (1) The Squadron took off from strip #7 at Dobodura as ordered at 0905/L, assembled with other squadrons of the Group at 0910/L over #7 strip and was in group formation and on course to Finschhafen at 0917/L and rendezvoused with three squadrons of P-38's and immediately took off on course from Finschhafen at 1000/L to the target. The line of flight is shown on charts A and B annexed and the squadrons went over the target in individual flights in trail. 45x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse demo bombs dropped at target from Bowat Bay to Momote Airdrome. 1 bomb dropped on Western end of Lorengan strip demolished buildings and boards were seen to rise into the air. Other bombs in this area were dropped in villages of Bowat and Palasu. 2 bombs were dropped among stores South of Lorengan strip. 1 bomb dropped on Momote strip and one on coast immediately South of strip. 9 bombs were dropped in the South end of Los Negros Island from the South end of Paouel Passage in the Lumbrum Fltn. 1 bomb dropped at plane in dispersal area on South side of Lorengan strip. 3 bombs dropped in Salami Fltn. and 3 bombs dropped in Lugos Fltn. and village, a number of huts were destroyed. 3 bombs dropped on the SW side of Salami Fltn. among European houses. 1 bomb dropped

on A/A position South of Lorengan A/D. 2 bombs dropped on building and 1 bomb on Jetty which directly hit and destroyed a barge on the NW shore of Paouel Passage. 1 bomb on building at Lumbrum Fltn. and 1 bomb on European house located between Hyane and Papitalai Harbors. A barge about 3 miles South of Momote A/D was strafed and left sinking. 4 bombs dropped in water off Munster Fltn. and one bomb made a direct hit on a European house at Papitalai. Houses and installations along coast from Bowat Bay to Momote strip were strafed.

- (2) The attack was coordinated with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group, three Squadrons of the 38th Group and with three Squadrons of P-38's. Fighter cover was excellent.

d. Interception.

- (1) There was nil interception.
- (2) Three A/P's of this Squadron were damaged from enemy machine gun fire.
- (3) 2nd Lt. Robert E. Schrickar, co-pilot of A/P 351, was injured by machine gun fire while going over the target. All other personnel returned uninjured.

2. Capt. Judd led the 498th Squadron. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT		SECOND FLIGHT		THIRD FLIGHT	
Capt. Judd	024	Capt. Magee	033	Lt. Cope	371
Lt. Best	030	Lt. Allen	351	Lt. O'Rear	225
Lt. Cavin	041	Lt. McCall	026	Lt. Bosley	040

3. Details of mission.

- a. Planes took off from #71 strip at Dobodura as ordered at 0905/L. The Group formation was formed over #7 strip at 0917/L with the 500th Squadron leading and 501st, 499th, 498th Squadron behind them. The Group proceeded to Finschhafen where it arrived at 1000/L where it rendezvoused with fighters. Inasmuch as fighters were already in the air the Group immediately proceeded to the target at 1000/L. The approach to the target was made in individual flights with the planes being over and attacking the target from 1140/L to 1203/L. On return the Squadron reassembled with the Group at Lon Island, proceeded directly to Finschhafen and returned to base and 8 A/P landed at 1425/L to 1435/L. A/P 040 landed at Finschhafen to refuel and returned to base at 1640/L.
- b. A/A fire was light, medium and heavy in caliber; moderate in intensity; partly accurate and at same altitude as planes. Machine gun fire received from point 1 mile SW of Lorengan A/D and point 1 mile NW of the North end of Paouel Passage. A/A of medium caliber coming from Kor-aunait Is. and Ndrilo Is.



c. Fighter protection was provided by three squadrons of P-38's which was excellent.

4. The Purple Heart will be request for 2nd Lt. Robert E. Schricker who was wounded.

5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out charts are attached.

6. Sightings are included in report by flights and are shown on chart B.

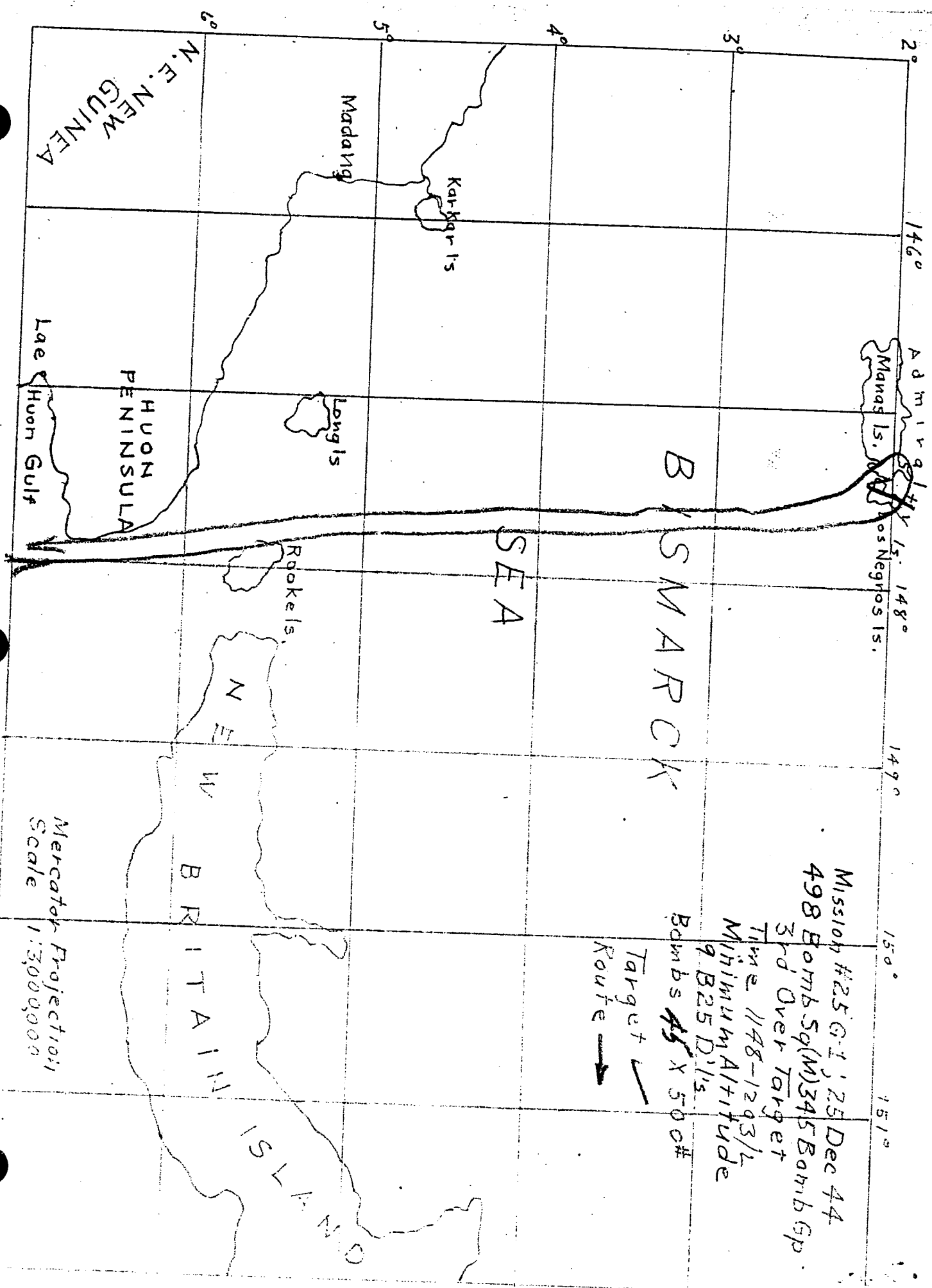
7. Photographs not received in time to make photo interpretation for this report.

BOMBING TABLE				
A/P	No. of bombs	Type	Weight	No. dropped
041	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
351	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
024	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
033	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
030	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
026	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
371	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
225	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
040	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
	45			45

STRAFIN TABLE				
A/P	.50 cal. Rds car'd	Rds. Ex.	Rds car'd	.30 cal. Rds Ex.
041	4600	1800	4000	
351	4600	2500	4000	600
024	4600	1400	4000	1000
033	4600	900	4000	200
030	4600	1800	4000	500
026	4600	1800	4000	900
371	4600	1500	4000	600
225	4600	1800	4000	500
040	4600	1800	4000	500
		15300		4800

For the Commanding Officer:

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Asst. Intelligence Officer.



Mercator Projection  
Scale 1:3,000,000

Mission #25 G-1, 25 Dec 44  
498 Bombs Sq (M) 345 Bomb Grp  
3rd Over Target  
Time 1148-1203/2  
Minimum Altitude  
9 B25 D's  
Bombs 45 X 500#

Target ✓  
Route →

3rd Lt Cooper — 371 — X  
3rd Lt O'Brien — 225 — 0 — +  
1st Lt Bosley — 040 — A — +  
Y256

Track Photos

5

Tamil

Overlay "Memorials & Adjacent Islands" (Admiralty 15)

105-X

Amolky? of Adrowals,

Mission # 256-1 25 Jan 44  
49B Bomb Sq (M) 345 Bomb Grp

3rd Over Target

Provisional Map  
Scale 1" = 4 Mi.

Minimum Altitude  
Time 1148-1203/L  
9 R25 D15  
Bombs 45 x 500

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498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

28 January, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 27-F-1. Performed on 27 January, 1944.  
Objective - personnel in Bogia Village and Bogia Plantation East of Talia Bay and South of Bogia Bay and Talia Bay.

TO : Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

- a. Personnel in Bogia Village and Bogia Plantation East of Talia Bay and South of Bogia Bay and Talia Bay, New Guinea, was the objective of a bombing and strafing attack assigned to this Squadron.
- b. The 498th Squadron was to take of #7 strip at Dobodura at 1245/L, assemble with the 500th Squadron over the strip and proceed to Finschhafen for rendezvous with two squadrons of P-47's, thence up the coast crossing over the coast North of Cape Gourdon and approaching the target from the West. One run was to be made on the target with the return route down the coast direct to base.
- c. Attack.

- (1) The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Dobodura as ordered from 1245/L to 1248/L, circled #7 strip twice but did not sight the 500th Squadron and continued to Finschhafen. The Squadron arrived at Finschhafen at 1345/L behind the 500th Squadron. The fighters were already taking off from the field and after circling once formation started on course at 1348/L. The formation continued up the coast and due to unfavorable weather South of the target made the approach from the sea with the 498th Squadron crossing the coast two miles North of Bogia Village and making a run on the target from the Northwest. The attack was made in flights of three in trail formation with the number three plane in the second flight breaking off to attack Bogia Village, Talia Point and the Northeastern part of Bogia Plantation. The other five planes attacked the personnel in Bogia Plantation and Finsch Rubber Grove South of Bogia Bay and Talia Bay. The attack was made at 1514/L from an altitude of 200 ft. 24 x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs dropped in target. Bombing was excellent. One fire was started along the West Bank of Red-water Creek 400 yds. South of Bay Shore road. One small fire was started 1/4 miles SW of Bogia Bay. Twenty bombs were re-

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# CONFIDENTIAL

leased in coconut grove and Ficus Rubber Gove South of the road running East-West along the shore South of Bogia Bay and Talia Bay. The target was strafed thoroughly. Four bombs were dropped on Bogia Village with A/P strafing Village and Bogia Plantation on Talia Pt. and area East of Talia Bay. A/A was light and of light intensity and inaccurate coming from unknown positions in the target. Three bursts of heavy A/A fired at preceding squadron were observed coming from Babangana Pt. Nil enemy A/P's were destroyed.

- (2) Attack was coordinated with the 500th Squadron of the 345th Group. Rendezvous with the fighters was excellent and the fighter was very good.

## d. Interception.

- (1) There was nil interception.
- (2) Nil Allied planes losses were observed over the target.

2. Captain Robinette led the 498th Squadron with the 500th Squadron leading the formation. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT		SECOND FLIGHT	
Capt. Robinette	041	Lt. Heuser	420
Lt. Hitt	040	Lt. Armijo	225
Lt. Bronson	371	Lt. Barnaskey	024

## 3. Details of mission.

- a. The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Dobodura from 1245/L to 1248/L, assembled over the strip and circled twice but did not sight the 500th Squadron and proceeding to Finschhafen arriving behind the 500th Squadron at 1345/L. The fighters were already taking off from the field and after circling once the formation started on course at 1348/L and proceeding direct to the target. One pass was made on the target at 1514/L from 200 feet on a heading of 90 deg. The return route was direct to Dobodura and landing was made on strip #7 from 1720/L to 1725/L.
- b. Charts A and B give the bomb spotting, sightings of individual airplanes and the route to and from the target.
- c. The first flight attacked the target at 1514/L releasing its bombs in the assigned target and strafing on a heading of 90 degrees from an altitude of 200 ft. Lt. Hitt A/P 040 flew in number two position and Lt. Bronson A/P 371 flew in in number three position. The second flight attacked the target at 1514/L with Lt. Heuser A/P 420 and Lt. Armijo A/P 225 strafing and releasing their bombs in the same target as the first flight. Lt. Barnaskey A/P 024 flying in number three position in the second flight broke off to the left and released his bombs on Bogia Village and strafing Bogia Village, Talia Pt. and the NE part of Bogia Plantation.

# CONFIDENTIAL

- d. A/A was light, of light intensity and inaccurate from unknown positions in the target.
- e. Fighter escort furnished by two squadrons of P-47's was very good
- f. Nil damage was received by planes or personnel of this squadron.
4. Nil personnel is being recommended for an award.
5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are attached.
6. Sightings are included in report by individual airplanes and are shown in chart B.
7. Photographs were not received in time to make interpretation for this report.

BOMBING TABLE				
A/P	No. of bombs	Type	Weight	No. dropped
040	4	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	4
371	4	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	4
225	4	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	4
420	4	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	4
024	4	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	4
041	4	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	4
	<u>24</u>			<u>24</u>

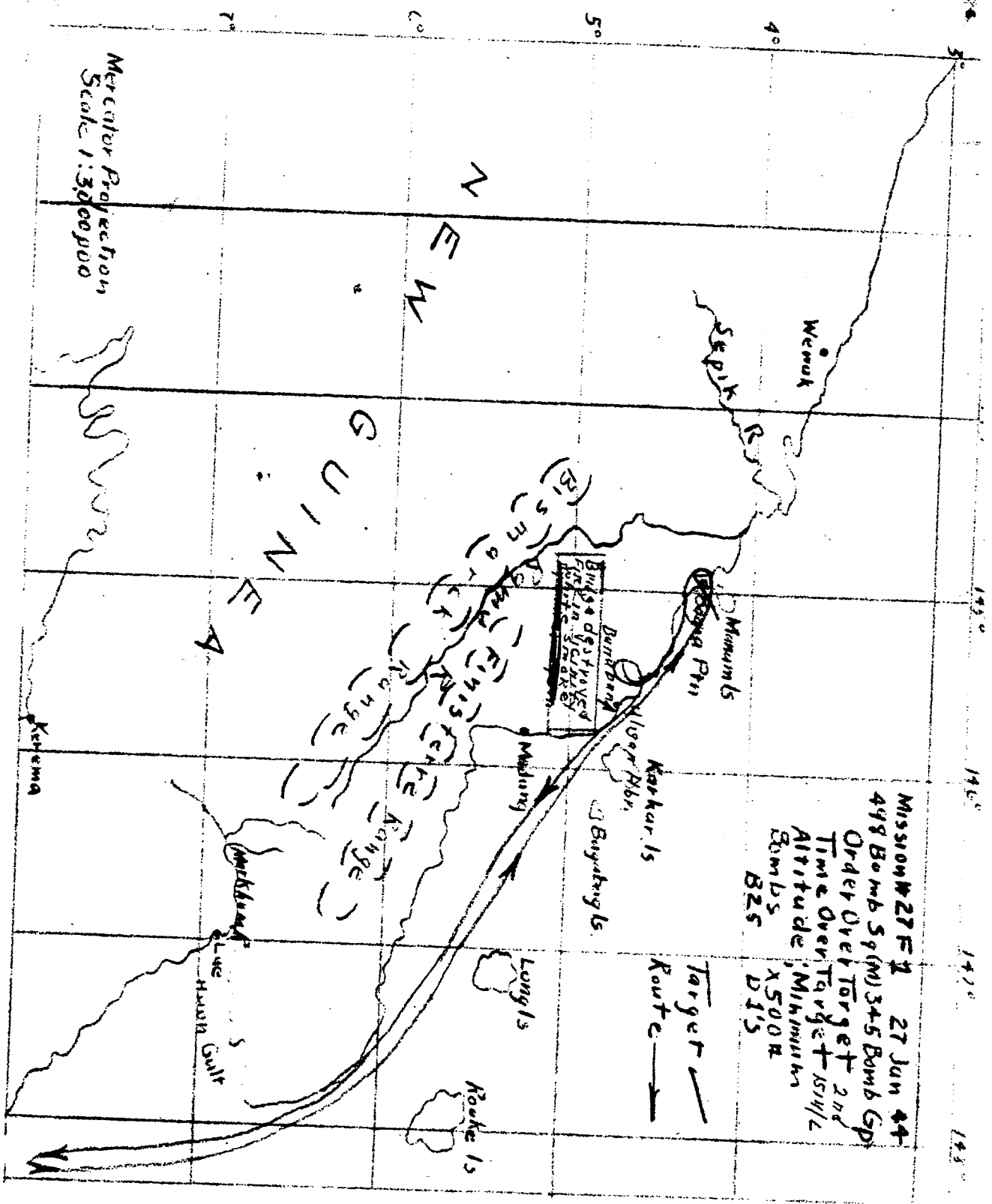
Lt. Cavin A/P 033 salvaged his bombs 35 miles SE of Salamaua at 1330/L when he was forced to return to base on a single engine.

STRAFING TABLE				
A/P	.50 cal. Rds car'd	Rds. Ex.	.30 cal. Rds car'd	Rds Ex.
040	4600	2000	4000	1000
371	4600	1500	4000	600
225	4600	550	4000	500
420	4600	2000	4000	1000
024	4600	2000	4000	1000
041	4600	1600	4000	600
		<u>9650</u>		<u>4700</u>

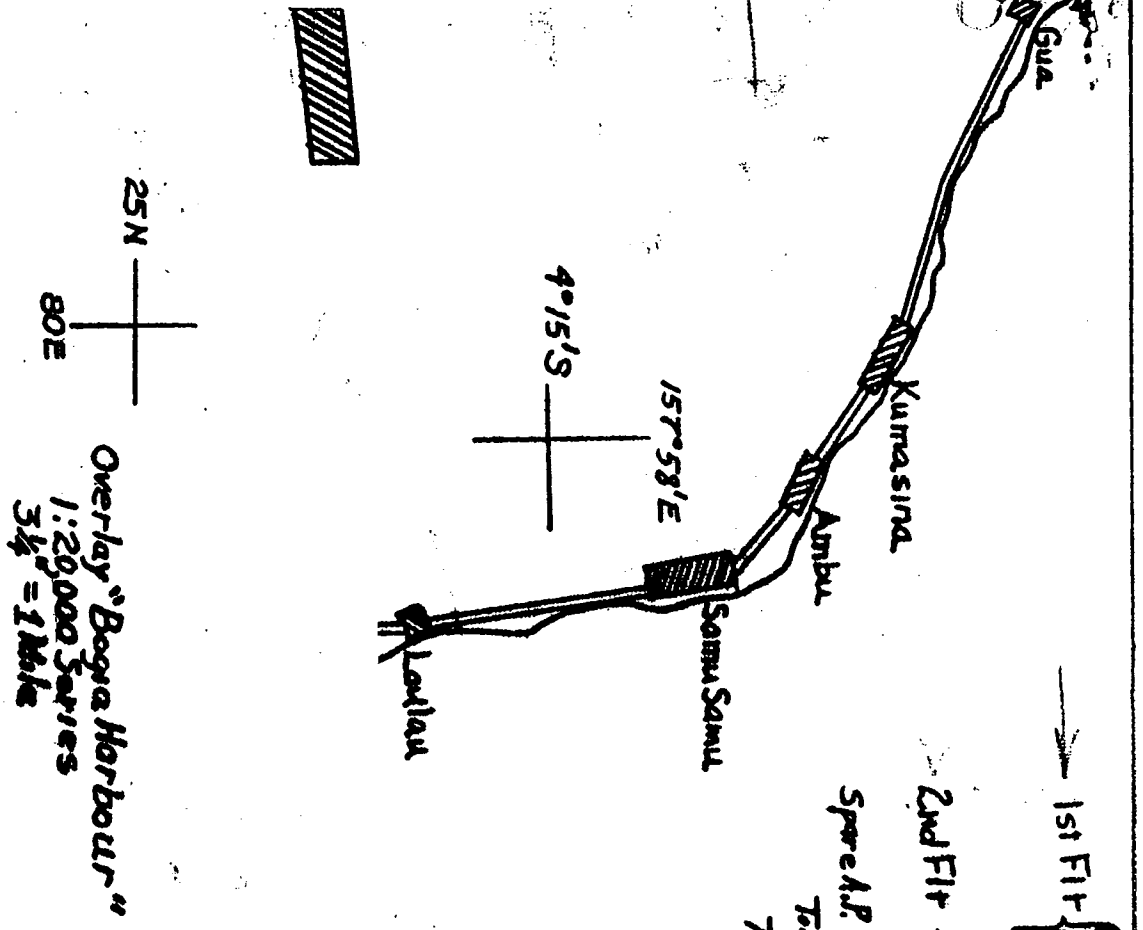
For the Commanding Officer:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

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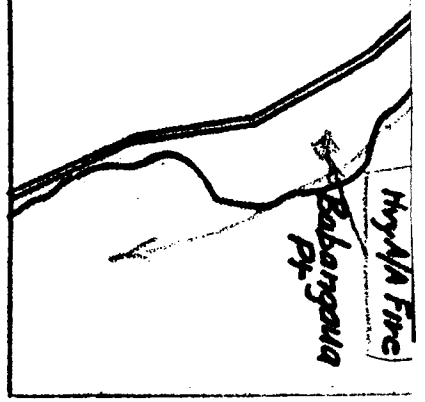
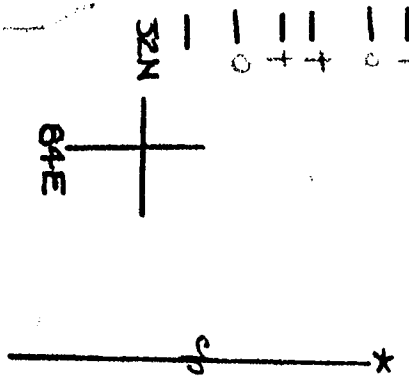


Mercator Projection  
 Scale 1:3000000



# BISMARCK

- 1st Flt
- ① - Capt Robinette - 041 - X - T
  - ② - Lt Hitt - 040 - 0 - +
  - ③ - Lt Bronson - 371 - A - 0
- 2nd Flt
- ④ - Lt Heuser - 420 - X - +
  - ⑤ - Lt Armijo - 225 - 0 - +
  - ⑥ - Lt Garvin - 033 - A - 0
- Spec. A.P. ⑦ - Lt Barnasky - 024 - -
- Took Photos +
- Target - - -





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498  
33-J-1  
2 Feb 44

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

CMB/rc

3 February, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 33-J-1. Performed on 2 February, 1944.  
Objective - bomb and strafe targets from Cape Gauffre to Rein Bay and observation of enemy troop movements from Kakuma Village to Cape Gauffre, New Britain.

**TO :** Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

**1. General**

- a. Personnel and targets of opportunity from Cape Gauffre to Rein Bay were to be bombed and strafed and enemy troop movements from Kakuma Village to Cape Gauffre were to be observed in an attack on North-western New Britain.
- b. The 498th Squadron was to take off from #7 strip at Dobodura at 0830/L, assemble with the 500th Squadron enroute to Tami Island where the formation was to rendezvous with the fighter escort, thence to the mouth of the Itai River continuing up the Itai River Valley to Kakuma Village thence to Cape Gauffre. The coast from Cape Gauffre to Rein Bay was to be bombed and strafed from West to East and on the return attack from East to West. The formation was to withdraw down the Itai River Valley and return direct to the base.
- c. Attack.
  - (1) The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Dobodura as ordered from 0830/L to 0835/L, made a wide circle to the left, assembled with the 500th Squadron and continued to Tami Island arriving at 0920/L. Rendezvous was completed with the fighters and the planes left on course at 0929/L. The formation proceeded to the Itai River and continued up the Valley to Kakuma Village. Unfavorable weather prevented observation of enemy troop movements in this area and it was necessary to circle to the right, avoiding Mt. Schneider and continuing to Cape Gauffre along the Eastern side of Bergen Bay. The five planes attacked in two elements of two and three planes each in trail formation. Both flights made two 360 deg. turns at Rein Bay crossing over Iboki Plantation in two attacks before starting the return attack along the coast to Cape Gauffre. The attack was made from 1002/L to 1040/L from an altitude of 150 feet. 35 x 250 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped on the target from Tamuniai Island to Rein Bay with the majority falling in Iboki

# CONFIDENTIAL

Plantation, Rein Bay. Bombing was excellent. Bombs were dropped as follows: Two on Tamuniai Plantation, one in the water and two on the Coast at Arinegi Village, two on two possibly serviceable barges at Cape Raoult, one in the water and five along the Coast at Cape Raoult, nine along the coast West of Kentengi Anchorage, ten in Iboki Plantation and three at the mouth of the Aria River. The coast was strafed thoroughly with 14300 x .50 cal and 2000 x .30 cal. rounds of ammunition. Phosphorus were dropped at the target. There was an unconfirmed report as to burst of medium A/A from Makati Village. Nil enemy airplanes were destroyed.

- (2) The attack was coordinated with the 500th Squadron of the 345th Group. Rendezvous with fighters was excellent. Escort was forced to return over target due to bad weather.

## d. Interception

- (1) There was nil interception.
- (2) Nil Allied plane losses were observed over the target.

2. The 498th Squadron led by Captain Kilgore led the formation. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT		SECOND FLIGHT	
Capt. Kilgore	225	Lt. Cope	035
Lt. Brigham	041	Lt. Fair	040
		Lt. McCall	026

## 3. Details of mission.

- a. The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Bobodura from 0830/L to 0835/L, assembled enroute to Tami Island with the 500th Squadron arriving at 0920/L. The formation circled once completing rendezvous with the fighters and was on course at 0929/L. The route was direct to the Mouth of the Itini River and thence up the Itini River Valley to Kahmai Village. Unfavorable weather prevented observation of enemy troop movements to the coast East of Borgen Bay and the formation circled to the right South of Mt. Schrader and continued up the Eastern side of Borgen Bay to Cape Gauffre. The target from Cape Gauffre to Rein Bay and return was attacked from 1002/L to 1040/L from an altitude of 150 feet. After completing the attack the planes circled over the water North of Cape Gauffre returning across New Britain East of the Itini River and direct to base landing at #7 strip at 1229/L.
- b. Charts A and B give the bomb spotting, sightings of individual airplanes and the route to and from the target.
- c. The first flight attacked the target at 1002/L releasing its bombs on the assigned target and strafing on a heading from 90 to 120 deg.

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Two complete circles were made over Rein Bay in attacks on the Iboki Plantation before continuing on the strafing run on the return trip to Cape Gauffre. The target was left at 1040/L. The second flight followed the first flight in its method of attack leaving the target at 1040/L. Lt. Fair A/P 040 flew the #2 position and Lt. McCall A/P 026 flew in #3 position. Lt. O'Hear A/P 037 reached the target but was forced to return when the instruments went out. The bomb load was salvaged in the sea on the return route.

- d. Unconfirmed report of two bursts of medium A/A from Makati Village.
- e. Fighter escort was furnished by two squadrons of P-38's which were forced to return due to unfavorable weather.
- f. Nil damage was received by planes or personnel of this Squadron.
4. Nil personnel is being recommended for an award.
5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are attached.
6. Sightings are included in report by individual airplanes are shown in chart B.
7. Photographs were not received in time to make interpretation for this report.

## BOMBING TABLE

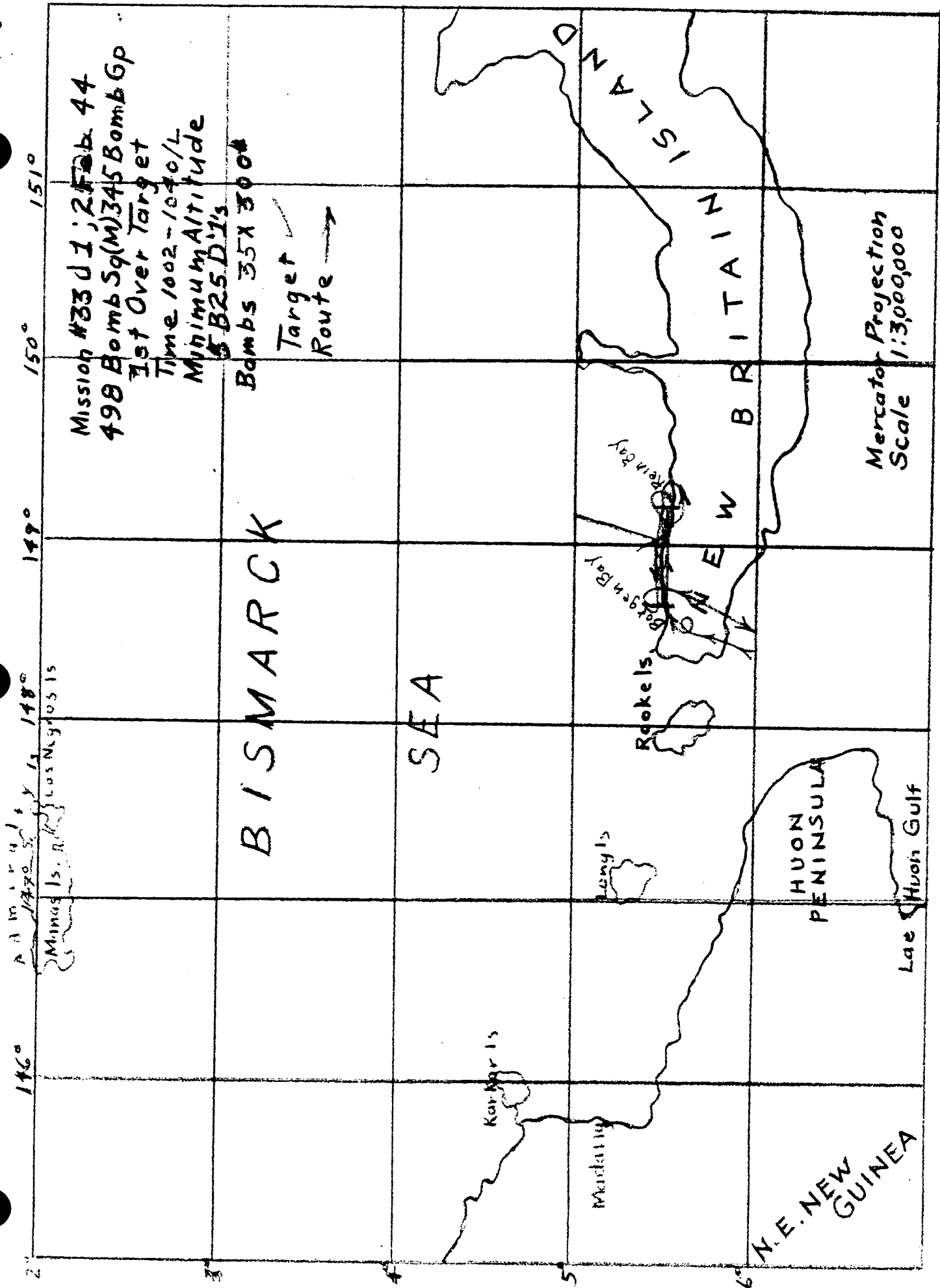
A/P	No. of bombs	Type	Weight	No. dropped
034	7	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	7
026	7	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	7
041	7	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	7
225	7	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	7
040	7	4/5 sec.	250 lb.	7
	<u>35</u>			<u>35</u>

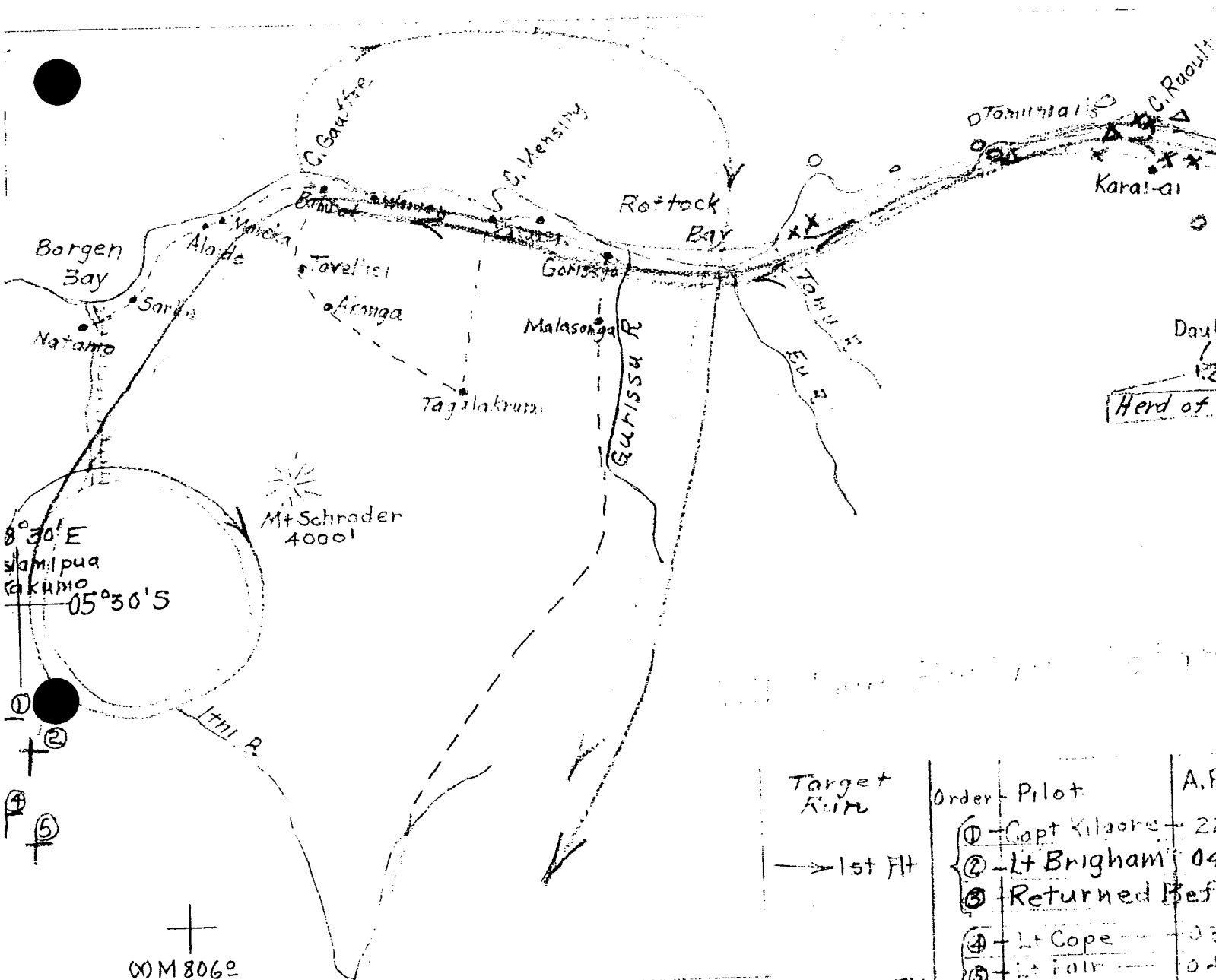
A/P 037 salvaged 7 bombs in sea.

	.50 cal.		.30 cal.	
A/P	Rds. car'd	Rds. Ex.	Rds. car'd	Rds. Ex.
034	4600	4000	4000	1000
026	4600	2000	4000	—
041	4600	3500	4000	—
225	4600	1800	4000	1000
040	4600	1000	4000	—
		<u>14300</u>		<u>2000</u>

For the Commanding Officer:

CALVIN M. BUSH,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.





Overlay; Sag Sag & C. Raoul  
4 Mile Strategic Series  
Scale 1:253,470

Target Area	Order	Pilot	A.F.
→ 1st Flt	①	Capt Kilaore	22
	②	Lt Brigham	04
	③	Returned Bef	
→ 2nd Flt	④	Lt Cope	03
	⑤	Lt Felt	04
	⑥	Lt McCall	02
	⑦	Returned Bef	
		Took Photo	

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498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.F.O. #503

CMB/fc

4 February, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 34-C-1. Performed on 3 February, 1944.  
Objective - Dagua airstrip, New Guinea.

TO : Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General

- a. Grounded airplanes and installations on Dagua strip were to be bombed and strafed in an attack on this New Guinea base.
- b. The 498th Squadron was to take off from #7 strip at Dobodura at 0900/L, assemble with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons over the strip and proceed to Lae and up the Markham Valley to a point three miles South of Gusap for rendezvous with fighter escort at 1200/L thence up the Ramu River Valley crossing over the ranges North of Hewak and approaching the target from the SE. Following the attack the formation was to make a wide circle to the right, reassemble and return down the coast direct to base.

c. Attack.

- (1) The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Dobodura as ordered from 0900/L to 0905/L, circled over the strip and assembled with the other squadrons enroute to Buna Wreck, continued to the rendezvous point and after circling twice the formation left on course. One additional circle was made NW of Gusap to complete the assembly and the formation then continued up the Valley crossing the ranges NW of Hewak and approached the target behind the hills at the Southeastern end of Dagua Village. The twelve planes attacked in four elements of three planes each in a shallow V of V's. The attack was made at 1200/L from altitudes 120 to 150 feet above the terrain. The enemy seemed to be taken by surprise as the planes came in close to the hills on the Eastern side of the runway and passed over the target. An estimated 60 to 70 planes were lined up along either side of the runway and in the revetments along both sides of the strip. Approximately 30 planes were parked wing tip to wing tip in the open parallel to the strip. Planes consisted of approximately 75% fighters and 25% bombers. An estimated 30 to 40 planes were destroyed in the attack, and the entire strip was left covered with smoke and fires. A/A positions at the Eastern end of the runway were silenced by strafing and bombing. One heavy position 1500 ft. S of the E end of the

# CONFIDENTIAL

runway was also silenced. One large fire was started in a dump 3000 feet W of the W end of the Dagua strip 200 ft. inland from the coast. Three large fires were reported along the Southern side of the strip with one fire emitting huge columns of black smoke which covered a large proportion of the drome. The entire target including dumps at the Eastern end of the drome and along the shore W of the drome were strafed thoroughly. 208 clusters of three parafrag bombs and 17600 x .50 cal. and 3900 x .30 cal. rounds of ammunition were expended in bombing and strafing the target. Bombing was excellent.

- (2) The attack was coordinated with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group. Rendezvous with the fighters was good, fighter cover was excellent. The mission was planned and executed perfectly.

## d. Interception.

- (1) One Tony, six Zakes and two twin engine fighters intercepted the planes but did not press the attacks after being fired upon. One Tony approached from nine o'clock at the same level and broke off at 2500 yds. Zakes attempted interception but were driven off by P-38's. One twin engine fighter and one Zeke started pass at 1500 yds but broke off at 1200 yds when fired upon. One twin engine fighter and one Zeke started a head-on attack but broke off after the first bursts of the nose guns were fired at them. Interception took place over the target.
- (2) Nil Allied plane losses were observed over the target.

2. The 498th Squadron led by Captain Kilgore led the Group formation. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT	SECOND FLIGHT	THIRD FLIGHT	FOURTH FLIGHT
Capt. Kilgore 225	Lt. Cope 034	Capt. Robinette 033	Lt. Heuser 315
Capt. Chiappe 036	Lt. O'Hear 037	Lt. Gavin 041	Lt. McCall 026
Lt. Barnaskey 024	Lt. Turk 420	Lt. Hitt 040	Lt. Bronson 371

## 3. Details of mission.

- a. The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Dobedurat from 0900/L to 0905/L, circled over the strip and assembled with the other squadrons enroute to Gona Wreck, continued to the rendezvous point at Gusap and after circling twice the formation left on course. One additional circle was made NW of Gusap to complete the assembly and formation then continued up the Valley crossing the ranges NE of Wewak and approached the target from behind the hills at the Southeastern end of Dagua Village. The Squadron attacked in four elements of three planes each in a shallow V of V's. The attack was made at 1200/L from altitudes of 120 to 150 ft. above the terrain taking the enemy by surprise.

# CONFIDENTIAL

After completing the attack the formation made a wide circle to the right off the coast, reassembled and continued down the coast direct to base landing at 1500/L. Four planes landed at Finschhafen at 1410/L to refuel before returning to base.

- b. Charts A and B give the bomb spotting, sightings of individual airplanes and the route to and from the target.
- c. The Squadron attacked the target at 1200/L with the four flights in shallow V of V's. The first flight passed over the Southern edge of the runway with the number two flight attacking the Northern edge and the area between the strip and the coast. The number three flights attacked the dispersal areas on the Southern side of the strip and the supply dump 8000 ft. W of the W end of the runway with the number flight attacking A/A positions S of the strip and installations in the grove between the strip and the edge of the hills. Lt. Cope A/P 034 salvaged his bombs North of the target when they failed to release, Capt. Chiappe A/P 036 returned his bombs to base after they failed to release, Capt. Kilgore A/P 225 dropped ten clusters along parked planes on Southern side of the strip and returned 12 clusters to base after they had failed to release, Lt. Kitt A/P 040 dropped 12 clusters among revetments along the South of the strip and returned 10 clusters to base after they had failed to release.
- d. A/A light to heavy, light to heavy intensity and inaccurate. Barrage was thrown up over E end of runway as planes approached the target. Bursts were below the planes and ineffective. Fire appeared to be coming from position approximately 5000 ft. S of the Western end of the strip.
- e. Fighter escort was furnished by two squadrons of P-40's and two squadrons of P-38's. Fighter cover was excellent.
- f. Only minor damage was received by the planes of this squadron and nil personnel was injured.

4. Captain Kilgore, squadron leader and leader of Group formation, is being recommended for the Distinguished Flying Cross.

5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are attached.

6. Sightings are included in report by individual airplanes are shown in chart B.

7. Photographs show twenty (20) planes lined up wing tip to wing tip on the Southeastern section of the runway with other planes in the open along the Southwestern side of the strip. Revetments on Northern and Southern dispersal areas are filled with planes with the positions on the Northern side being camouflaged with netting. Direct hits are shown on four planes with many bombs falling within thirty feet of parked fighters.



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BOMBING TABLE					
A/P	No. of bombs	Type	Weight	No. dropped	Returned
025	22	clusters	69 lb.	10	12
036	22	clusters	69 lb.	0	22
024	22	clusters	69 lb.	22	
034	22	clusters	69 lb.	0	0
037	22	clusters	69 lb.	22	
420	22	clusters	69 lb.	22	
033	22	clusters	69 lb.	22	
041	22	clusters	69 lb.	22	
040	22	clusters	69 lb.	12	10
315	22	clusters	69 lb.	22	
026	22	clusters	69 lb.	22	
371	22	clusters	69 lb.	22	
	<u>254</u>			<u>198</u>	<u>33</u>

44/P 034 salvaged its bomb load after it had failed to release over the target.

SERAPING TABLE				
A/P	.50 cal. Rds car'd	Rds Ex.	.30 cal. Rds car'd	Rds Ex.
025	4600	1800	4000	1200
024	4600	1500	4000	400
420	4600	1200	4000	500
225	4600	---	4000	---
036	4600	3000	4000	600
040	4600	---	4000	---
315	4600	1000	4000	1200
034	4600	3500	4000	---
041	4600	1500	4000	---
037	4600	2100	4000	---
371	4600	600	4000	---
033	4600	1600	4000	500
		<u>17600</u>		<u>5400</u>

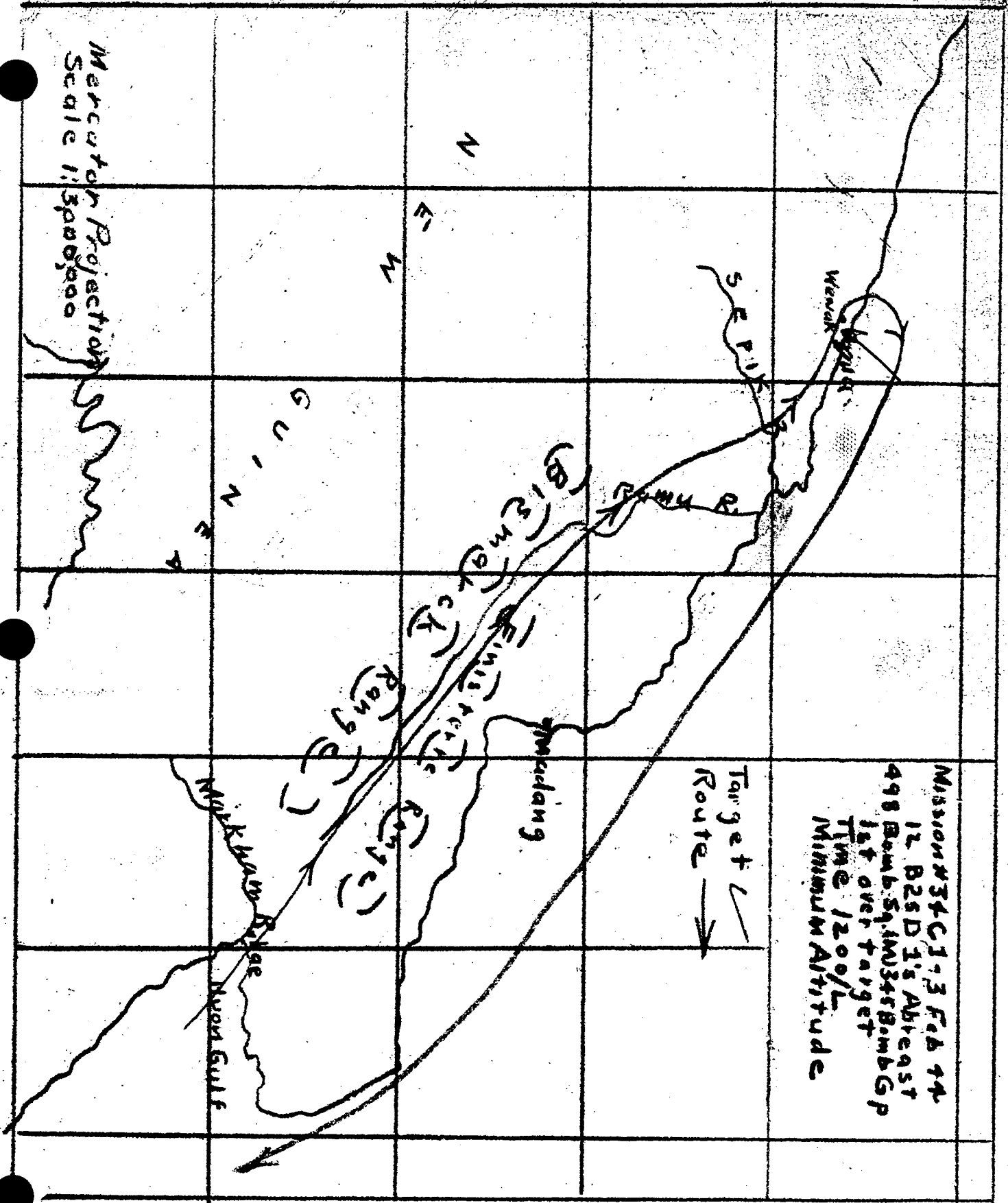
PHOTOGRAPHS					
A/P	Time	Location	Type camera	No. Ex.	Prints rec'd
024	1200/L	Dagua	K-21	36	1
037	1200/L	Dagua	K-21	36	19
420	1200/L	Dagua	K-21	0	0
041	1200/L	Dagua	K-21	35	10
040	1200/L	Dagua	K-21	0	0
315	1200/L	Dagua	K-20	0	0
371	1200/L	Dagua	K-20	0	0

For the Commanding Officers:

GALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

Mission #34CJ-3 Feb 44  
 12 B25D1's Abt east  
 498 Bomb Sq (M) 3458 Bomb GP  
 1st over target  
 Time 1200/L  
 Minimum Altitude

Target ✓  
 Route →



Mercator Projection  
 Scale 1:300,000

1st Flt →	① Capt Kilgore - 225 - x	Erept 130 No Bombs Dropped	→ 2nd Flt	④ Lt Cope - 034 - - x
	② Capt Chiappe - 036 - o			⑤ Lt Oregan - 037 - - o
	③ Lt Barnasky - 024 - Δ -			⑥ Lt Turk - 420 - - Δ

Betty Bomber Shot Down  
By Flt's over Tendayne Is.

Too  
Note

Large Fire

50 To 70 AP Alo  
And in Revet w  
Destroyed

Magaheim

Time - 1200/L  
Mission #34C1 - 3 Feb 44  
12 B25D1's Abreast  
498 Bomb Sq. (M) 345 Bomb Gp  
1st Over Target  
Minimum Altitude  
Bomb Lo - 252 Clusters 3 Parafr

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498  
35-C-1  
4 Feb 44

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

CMB/fc

5 February, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 35-C-1. Performed on the 4th of February.  
Objective - supplies and installations Alexishafen.

TO : Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General

a. Supplies and installations at Alexishafen were to be bombed and strafed in an attack on this base.

b. The 498th Squadron was to take off from #7 strip at Dobodura at 0830/L, rendezvous over the strip with the 499th, 500th, 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and proceed to Nadzab for rendezvous with three squadrons of P-38's thence up the Ramu Valley approaching the target from the West. The attack was to be made between 1030/L to 1045/L. The return route was down the coast direct to base.

c. Attack.

(1) The squadron took off from #7 strip at Dobodura from 0838/L to 0842/L, circled over #7 strip and assembled with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons and then continued up the coast to Lae and thence to rendezvous point at Nadzab. The rendezvous was completed at 0955/L and the formation left on course for the target. The approach was made as planned and the squadron flying in number four position attacked in four elements of three planes each in a shallow V of V's on a heading of 60 deg. at 1038/L from an altitude of 150 to 350 ft. 55 x 500 lb. 8/11 sec. delay fuse demo bombs and 4 x 300 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse demo bombs were dropped in the target. Bombing was excellent. Small fires on the North side of #2 strip and on the South side of #1 strip were started with black smoke rising to 200 ft. Bombs were dropped in supply areas between the strips, on Admosin Island, Vitar Fltn. and at the Southeastern and Eastern end of strip #2. The areas were covered well by bombing. Bombs were dropped on six camouflaged fighters in the dispersal area close to the western end of #1 strip and on an A/A position adjacent to the South side of the center of #1 strip. The target was strafed thoroughly including both sides of the strip, the area between the strips and the coast, Admosin Island, Vitar Fltn and the Northern part of Dek Island. All enemy planes were destroyed.

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- (2) The attack was coordinated with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group. Rendezvous with the fighters was good and fighter cover was excellent.

d. Interception.

- (1) There was nil interception.

- (2) Nil Allied plane losses were observed over the target.

2. The 499th Squadron led the Group formation and Captain Giffin led the 498th Squadron. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT		SECOND FLIGHT		THIRD FLIGHT		FOURTH FLIGHT	
Capt. Giffin	371	Capt. Magee	036	Capt. Robinette	351	Lt. Heuser	033
Lt. Best	225	Lt. Casselman	024	Lt. Gavin	041	Lt. Allen	420
Lt. Turk	176	Lt. Browne	026	Lt. Mitt	040	Lt. Arrijo	037

3. Details of mission.

- a. The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Dobodura from 0838/L to 0842/L, assembled over the strip and enroute to the Gona wreck with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons and proceeded up the coast to Lae and thence to the rendezvous point at Nadzab. The rendezvous with the fighters was completed at 0955/L and the formation left on course. The approach was made on a heading of 60 deg. as planned and the Squadron flying in number four position attacked in four elements of three planes each in shallow V of V's. The attack was made at 1038/L from an altitude of 150 to 350 ft. After completing the attack the formation reassembled and returned down the coast direct to base landing on strip #7 at 1220/L.
- b. Charts A and B give the bomb spotting, sightings of individual airplanes and the route to and from the target.
- c. All four flights attacked at 1038/L with the number one flight bombing and strafing supplies and installations in the Northern part of the dispersal area on strip #2 and strafing the area between the coast and the dispersal area. Flight number two bombed and strafed stores in the Southern part of the dispersal area of number two strip and A/A positions along the Southern side of the strip and stores and installations at the Eastern and Southeastern end of strip #2 also strafing the area between the strip and the coast and the Northern part of Sex Island. Flight number three and four bombed stores and A/A positions on the Southern side of strip #1 and between the coast and Eastern end of #1 strip with one bomb falling in stores on the Western coast of Admosin Island. Lt. Arrijo flying in number three position in the fourth flight dropped his bombs along the Northern side of strip number 1 at the Western end with one bomb being released among six camouflaged enemy fighters. The area on both sides of strip #1, between the strip and the shore, Admosin Is. and the Southeastern corner of Vitar Fltn. was strafed thoroughly.

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- d. A/A was light, of light to heavy intensity and partly accurate. Machine gun fire was received from the South side of strip #1 damaging two planes slightly.
- e. Fighter cover was excellent and was furnished by two squadrons of P-38's.
- f. Nil personnel was injured.
- h. Nil personnel is being recommended for an award.
5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are attached.
6. Sightings are included in report by individual airplanes and are shown in chart B.
7. Photo interpretation discloses no observation of stores at the target. One twin engine plane with one wing propped up shown in revetment at the Eastern end of strip #2.

**BOMBING TABLE**

A/P	No. of bombs	Type	Weight	No. dropped
371	5	A/Class.	500 lb.	5
176	5	A/Class.	500 lb.	5
026	5	A/Class.	500 lb.	5
351	5	A/Class.	500 lb.	5
024	5	A/Class.	500 lb.	5
420	4	A/5 sec.	300 lb.	4
225	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
033	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
040	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
041	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
036	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
037	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
	<b>59</b>			<b>59</b>

**STRAFING TABLE**

A/P	.50 cal. Rds. car'd	Rds. Ex.	.30 cal. Rds. car'd	Rds. Ex.
371	4600	2700	4000	200
037	4600	1000	4000	500
176	4600	1200	4000	—
026	4600	2100	4000	1000
351	4600	1400	4000	1000
024	4600	1500	4000	—
420	4600	2500	4000	500
225	4600	1200	4000	1000
033	4600	500	4000	300
040	4600	2000	4000	200
041	4600	1200	4000	500
036	4600	2000	4000	500
		<b>19300</b>		<b>4700</b>

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PHOTOGRAPHS

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of camera</u>	<u>No. Ex.</u>	<u>Prints Rec'd.</u>
02h	1038/L	Alexishafen	K-21	35	1
041	1038/L	Alexishafen	K-21	35	2
040	1038/L	Alexishafen	K-21	35	2

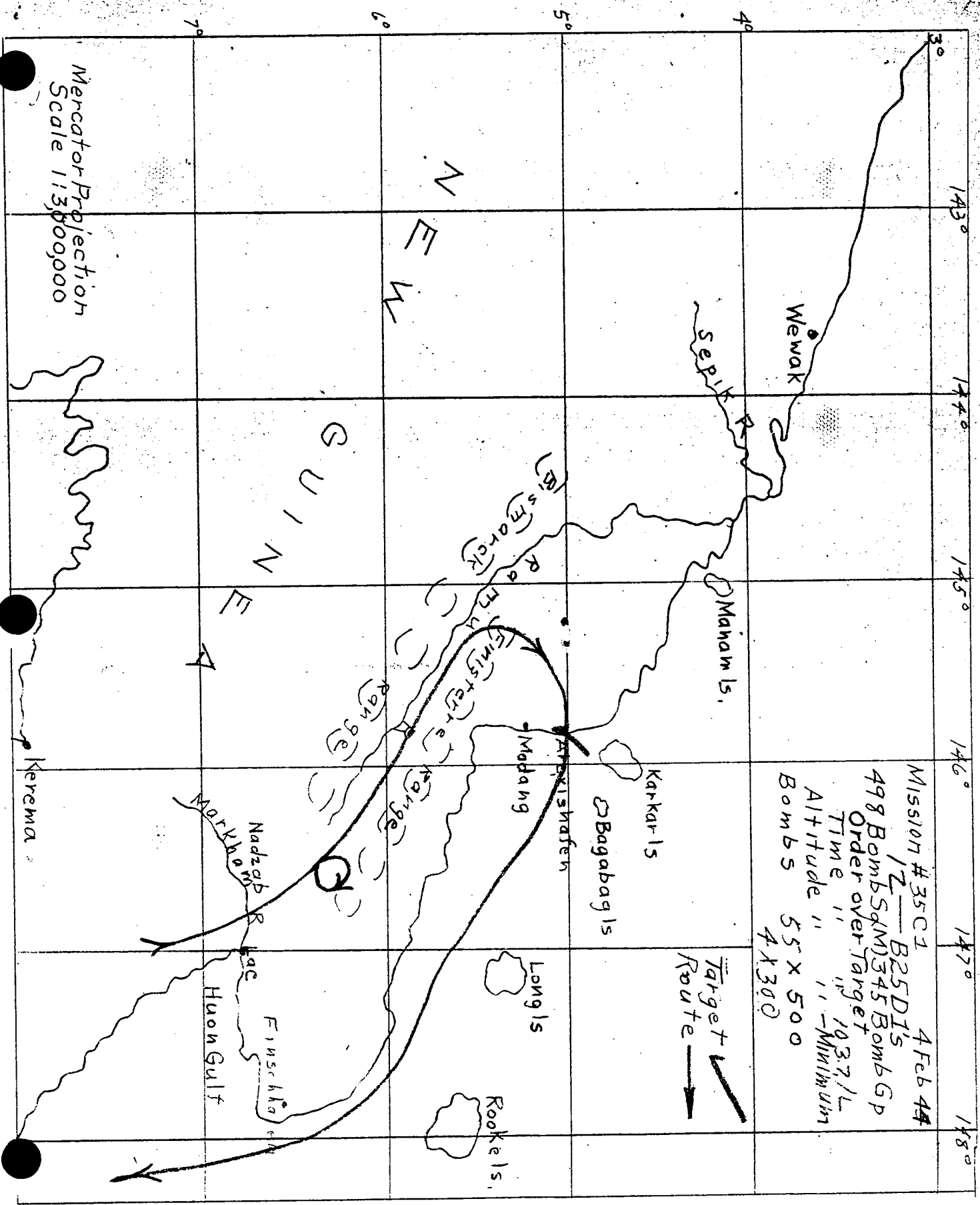
For the Commanding Officer:

CAVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

CONFIDENTIAL

Mission # 35C1 4 Feb 44  
 12 B25D15  
 498 Bombs (M) 345 Bomb GP  
 Order over Target  
 Time " " 1937/L  
 Altitude " " - Minimum  
 Bombs 55 x 500  
 4 x 300

Target  
 Route



Mercator Projection  
 Scale 1:3,000,000



X-40

2nd Flt { 4 - Capt Magee — 036 - X  
5 - Lt Casselman — 024 - 0  
6 - Lt Browne — 026 - Δ

3rd Flt { 7 - Capt Robinette — 351 - X  
8 - Lt Cavin — 641 - 0  
9 - Lt Hitt — 040 - Δ

4th Flt { 10 - Lt Heuser — 033 - X  
11 - Lt Allen — 020 - 0  
12 - Lt Armitage — 037 - Δ

{ Changed A.P.  
Drops 4 300  
Pound Bombs

Took Photos +

6 Camouflaged  
SSE

Dispersal Area

ALEXISHAFEN

Mortain R

DANIP

PTN

Alexishafen

Ptn

145°46'E  
05°06'S

Fires Started

Fires Started

Dispersal

ALEXISHAFEN

Alexishafen Road

Biges R

Y-69

X-336

OVERLAY: Special Map "Alexishafen"  
Scale 1:20,000  
Preliminary Sheet

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498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

CMB/fo

498  
36-C-1  
5 Feb 44

6 February, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 36-C-1. Performed on  
6 February, 1944. Objective - Awar Plantation,  
Hansa Bay, New Guinea.

**TO :** Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

**1. General.**

- a. Supplies and installations in Awar Plantation, Hansa Bay, New Guinea, were to be bombed and strafed in an attack on this enemy supply base.
- b. The 498th Squadron was to take off from #7 strip at Debedura at 0740/L, rendezvous over the strip with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and proceed up the coast to Lae and thence up the Markham Valley to Gusap for rendezvous with the fighter escort. The formation was to continue down the Ramu Valley to a point NW of Hansa Bay and thence turn East to the coast and attack the target from the NW. A single run was to be made on the target and the formation was to reassemble off the coast and continue down the coast past Finschhafen direct to base.
- c. Attack.

- (1) The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Debedura from 0742/L to 0746/L, circled over the strip and assembled with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons and left on course at 0752/L. The formation continued up the coast and up the Markham Valley, rendezvoused with the fighter escort at 0912/L and left on course at 0915/L. The approach was made as planned and the squadron flying in number two position attacked in three elements of three with the number ten plane flying number four position of the third element. The attack was made in a shallow V of V's on a heading of 125 deg. at 1010/L from an altitude of 100 feet. 40 x 500 lb. 8/11 sec. delay fuse demo bombs were dropped on supplies and A/A positions in the Awar Plantation from Awar strip to Awar Point. Bombing was excellent with two large fires with explosions being started 300 ft. N of

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Awar Pt. adjacent to heavy A/A position (689434) and 1200 ft. N of Awar Pt. respectively (688438). Other small fires were started in the plantation 500 ft. North of Awar Pt. One large fire was started 500 ft. from the coast 5000 ft. NW of Awar Pt. (684453). One large fire was started midway between Awar Pt. and the South end of Awar strip (679439). Six buildings were destroyed 5000 ft. NW of Awar Pt. 672445. Supply dump 1000 feet S of the N end of Awar dispersal area destroyed with a direct hit. One bomb fell among four buildings 1500 ft. W of the N end of Awar strip. Group of buildings 1200 ft. E of Awar strip and adjacent to the S side of the dispersal road running E from the center of the strip hit with one bomb. A/A silenced 2500 ft. E of N end of Awar strip. The entire target was strafed thoroughly including a twin engine plane on the N end of Awar strip, A/A positions N of Awar strip and on Awar Point. Map reference Nubia East, Provisional Map Preliminary Edition, 1 inch to 1 mile. Nil enemy planes were destroyed.

- (2) The attack was coordinated with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group. Rendezvous with the fighters was good and fighter cover was excellent.

d. Interception.

- (1) There was nil interception.
- (2) Nil Allied plane loss was observed over the target.

2. The 501st Squadron led the Group formation and Captain Kilgore led the 498th Squadron. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT		SECOND FLIGHT		THIRD FLIGHT	
Capt. Kilgore	225	Capt. Giffin	371	Lt. Cope	034
Lt. Swartley	351	Lt. McCall	026	Capt. Chiappe	036
Lt. Barnaskey	041	Lt. Bronson	176	Lt. Casselman	024
				Lt. O'Rear	037

3. Details of mission.

- a. The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Debedura from 0742/L to 0745/L, circled over the strip and assembled with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons and left on course at 0752/L. The formation proceeded up the coast and up the Markham Valley, rendezvoused with the fighter escort at 0912/L and left on course at 0915/L. The approach was made as planned and the Squadron flying in number two position attacked in three elements of

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three planes each with the number ten plane flying in number four position of the third element. The attack was made in a shallow V of V's at 1010/L from an altitude of 100 ft. After completing the attack the Group reassembled over Manam Island at 1017/L. Unfavorable weather prevented the Group from returning down the coast as planned and the formation crossed the coast line South of Uligan Harbor and continued South over the land passing over Bogadjim Road and Gusap and continuing down the Markham Valley to Lae thence to Dobodura, landing at 1230/L.

- b. Charts A and B give the bomb spotting, sightings of individual airplanes and the route to and from the target.
  - c. All three flights attacked the target at 1010/L with number one flight crossing over the center of Awar strip and Awar Pt. releasing the bomb load on supplies in the coconut grove NW of Awar Pt. and strafing the entire length of the target. The number two flight attacked the Southern end of Awar strip crossing the Western part of Awar Pt. and releasing bomb load on buildings on each side of Awar strip and on supplies from Awar strip to the coastline of Hansa Bay. The number three flight crossed the Northern end of Awar strip and followed down the coast from Condor Pt. to Awar Pt. bombing and strafing supplies and A/A positions from Condor Pt. to The SE tip of Awar Pt.
  - d. A/A was light and heavy, of light to heavy intensity and inaccurate. A/A was from known positions with heavy fire received from the S end of Awar strip, positions along the coast N of Awar strip, between the known light and medium positions. Concentrated fire was received from light positions S of the mouth of the Awar River and along Nubia strip.
  - e. Fighter cover was excellent.
  - f. Nil personnel was injured.
4. Nil personnel is being recommended for an award.
5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are attached.
6. Sightings are included in report by individual airplanes and are shown in chart B.

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7. Photo interpretation discloses small dumps scattered in the coconut grove NW of Awar Pt. with black smoke coming from point N and NW of Awar Pt. One apparently serviceable Lily is shown at the N end of Awar strip. Several serviceable barges are shown drawn up on the coast W of Awar Pt.

BOMBING TABLE				
A/P	No. of bombs	Type	Weight	No. dropped
176	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	0
315*	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
371	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	0
037	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
034	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
225	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
036	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
041	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
024	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
351	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
026	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
	<u>55</u>			<u>45</u>

\*A/P 315 flew with the 501st Squadron.

A/P 371 and 176 stayed above the overcast and did not drop bombs. All bombs were returned.

.30 cal.		STRAFING TABLE		.30 cal.	
A/P	Rds car'd	Rds Ex.	Rds car'd	Rds Ex.	
176	4600	----	4000	----	
315	4600	----	4000	----	
037	4600	1600	4000	1500	
371	4600	----	4000	----	
034	4600	1500	4000	1500	
225	4600	1000	4000	----	
036	4600	2000	4000	1000	
041	4600	2100	4000	----	
024	4600	2000	4000	400	
351	4600	1200	4000	----	
026	4600	1800	4000	500	
		<u>13200</u>		<u>4900</u>	

PHOTOGRAPHS					
A/P	Time	Location	Type of camera	Ex.made	Prints rec'd
024	1010	Hansa Bay	K-21	35	3
351	1010	Hansa Bay	K-21	35	8
041	1010	Hansa Bay	K-21	35	1

For the Commanding Officer:

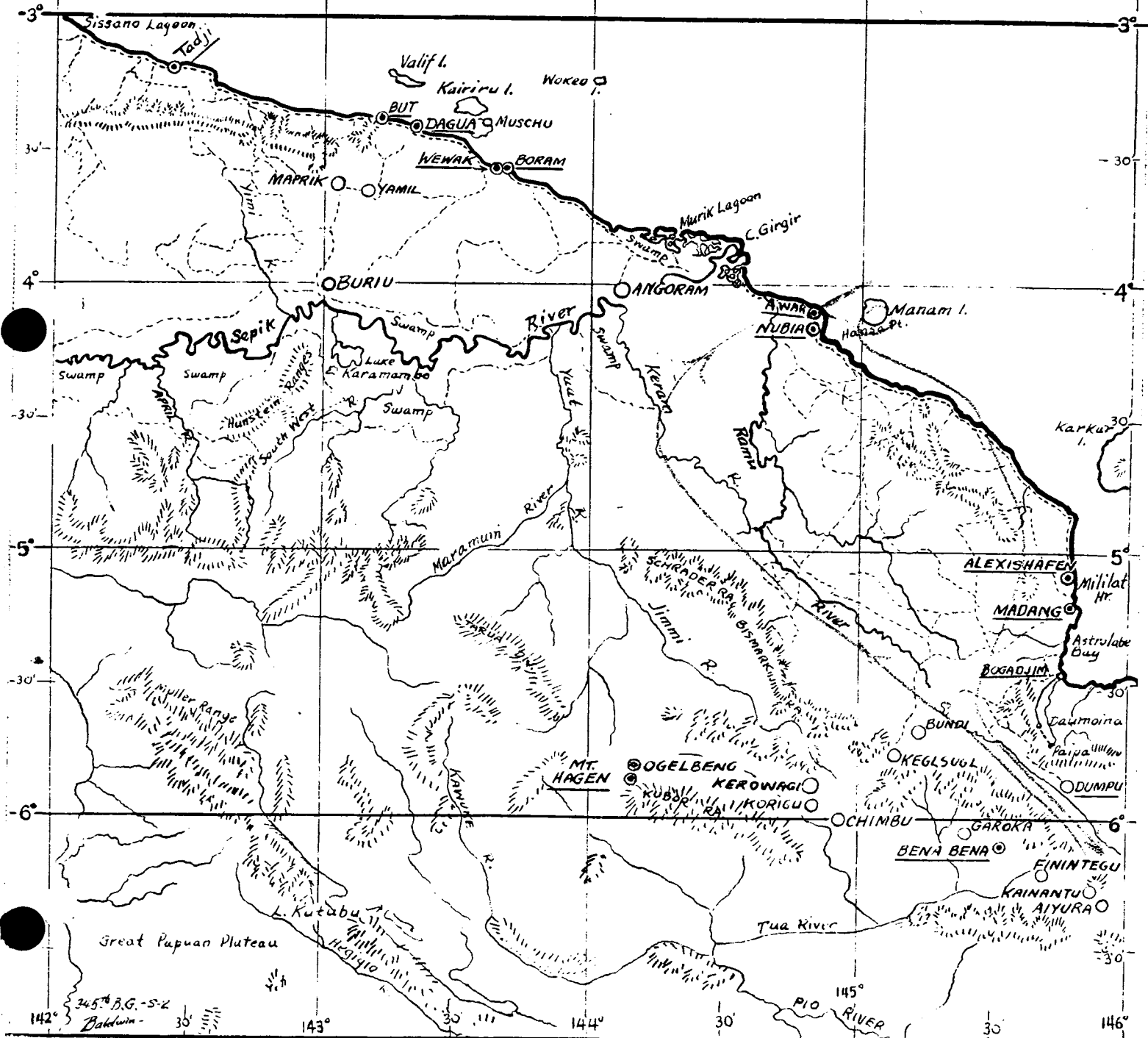
CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

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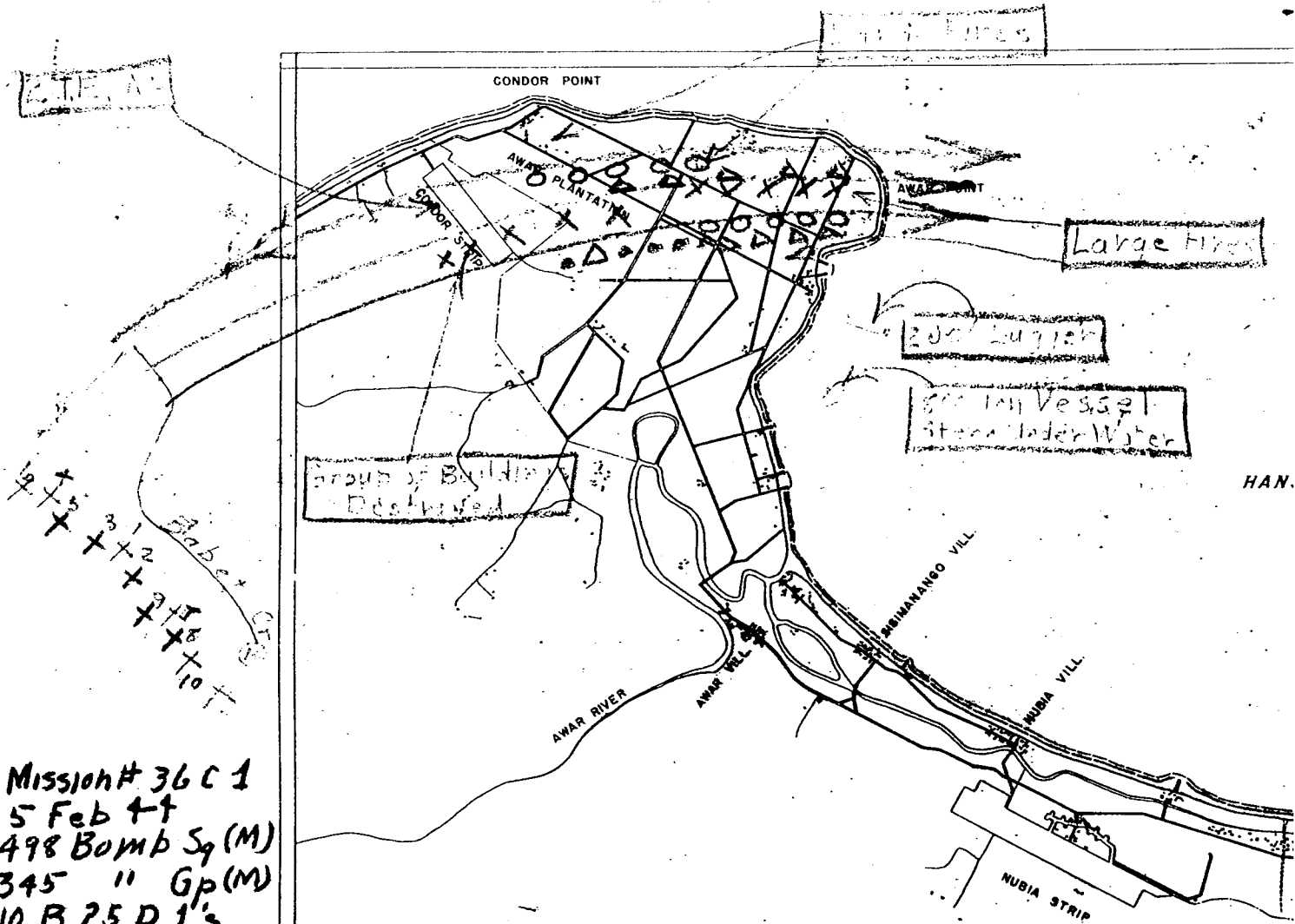
MAP REF:-  
EASTERN NEW GUINEA  
NAVIGATION CHART  
Equatorial Scale:- 1:2,315,000  
31.72 Naut. Miles = 1 inch  
Mercator Projection

MISSION NO. 36C7 DATE 5 Feb 44 1944  
SQUADRON NO. 498 GROUP 345  
SQUADRON ORDER OVER TARGET END  
ALTITUDE MINIMUM  
TIME OVER TARGET \_\_\_\_\_  
T (BLUE) PLANES TAKING PHOTOS  
T (BLACK) OTHER PLANES (ALL PLANES TO BE SHOWN AT BEGINNING OF RUN.)

Target  
Route →



2. THE AREA



Mission # 36 C 1  
 5 Feb 44  
 498 Bomb Sq (M)  
 345 " Gp (M)  
 10 B 25 D 1's  
 2nd Over Target  
 Minimum Altitude  
 Time  
 Bombload 50 x 500#  
 Took Photos

1st Att { 1 - Capt Kilgore - 225 - X -  
 2 - Lt Swartley - 351 - O - T  
 3 - Barnasky - 041 - A - T

2nd Ftr { 4 Capt Giffin - 371 - X -  
 5 Lt MSColl - 026 - O - T  
 6 Lt Bronson - 176 - A -

\* Drop No Bombs

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498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

CME/fc

498  
39-A-1  
8Feb44

8 February, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 39-A-1. Performed on 8 February, 1944.  
Objective - Madang.

**TO :** Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

- a. Supplies and installations at Madang, New Guinea were to be bombed and strafed with the intent to destroy this enemy base. Targets at the Western end of Siar Harbor, between Siar Hbr. and Meiro River, Belian Island and Gragat Island were specifically assigned to this Squadron.
- b. The 498th Squadron was to take off from #7 strip at Dobodura at 0900/L, rendezvous over the strip with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and proceed up the coast to Lae and thence up the Markham Valley for rendezvous with the fighter escort five miles NW of Gusap at 1030/L. Rendezvous with the 3rd Attack Group which was to attack Alaxishafen was to be made at the same point. The formation led by the 3rd Attack Group was to proceed direct to the target with the 345th Group breaking off to attack Madang. Three runs were to be made on the target with the first run being made from the West across Siar Hbr., Belian Is., Madang Township and Gragat Is. The second was to be made from the NE across Gragat Is. and Madang Township with the third run being made the same as the first run. This was the plan of attack for the 498th and 499th Squadrons with the 500th and 501st Squadrons leading the attack and crossing Madang Township and Gragat Is. on the first run, circling to the right and crossing Madang Township and Siar Hbr. from the East and then repeating the first run. The attack was coordinated so as to crisscross the target in separate runs of two squadrons each. After completing the attack the formation was to return direct to base.
- c. Attack.
  - a. The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Dobodura from 0900/L to 0902/L, circled over the strip and assembled with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons at 0907/L and left on course at 0912/L. The formation continued up the coast and up the Markham Valley, rendezvoused with the 3rd Attack Group and

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fighter escort enroute NW of Gusap at 1023/L and proceeded to target. The approach was made as planned and the Squadron flying in number three position attacked in two elements of three planes each in trail formation. The attack was made as planned and was without opposition. 30 x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped in the assigned targets from 1045/L to 1057/L from altitudes of 100 to 150 ft. Bombing was excellent. Nil fires were started and no explosions were caused by the attack. Nil enemy airplanes were destroyed. The target appeared deserted with most of the buildings already destroyed and A/A positions empty. Bombs were dropped on the assigned targets 56-D, at the Western end of Siar Harbor; 15-D, camp sight between the Eastern end of Siar Hbr. and the Meiro River; 58-D, on the Southern coast of Beliau Island; 57-D, on the Northern coast of Beliau Island; 16-D, on the Western coast of Gragat Island with four bombs falling in Madang Township and one in coconut Pltn. East of Madang Township. The entire target was strafed on three passes with 14,900 x .50 cal. rounds of ammunition. (Target reference: MADANG, Dumps & personnel, target data section, A-2, FATE, 11-1-44)

- (2) The attack was coordinated with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadron of the 345th Group. Rendezvous with the fighters and 3rd Attack Group was excellent and fighter cover was excellent.

d. Interception.

- (1) There was nil interception.
- (2) Nil Allied plane loss was observed over the target.

2. The 500th Squadron led Group formation and Captain Judd led the 498th Squadron. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT		SECOND FLIGHT	
Capt Judd	024	Capt. Robinette	351
Lt. Gavin	041	Capt. Magee	036
Lt. Turk	371	Lt. Best	063

3. Details of mission.

- (1) The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Bobodura from 0900/L to 0902/L, circled over the strip and assembled with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons at 0907/L and left on course at 0912/L. The formation continued up the coast and up the Markham Valley, rendezvoused with the 3rd Attack Group and fighter escort enroute NW of Gusap at 1023/L and proceeded to target. The approach was made as planned and the Squadron flying in number three position attacked in two elements of three planes each in trail formation. The attack was made as planned and without opposition. The attack was made from 1045/L to 1057/L from altitudes of 100 to 150 ft. The Group assembled 10 miles SE of Madang and returned down the coast direct to base landing at 1245/L.

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- b. Charts A and B give the bomb spotting, sightings of individual airplanes and the route to and from the target.
- c. Both flights attacked the target at 1045/L with the first flight attacking from the NW across Siar Hbr. and Madang Township and second flight attacking from the West across the Western end of Siar Hbr. and lower end of Gragat Island in order to cover the assigned targets. The second and thirds runs were made from the NE across Gragat Island and Madang Township and from the NW respectively. All bombs except two were dropped on the first run. Lt. Cavin A/P 041 released two bombs on Madang Township on the second run. The target was strafed in all three attacks.
- d. There was an unconfirmed report of a few bursts of machine gun fire from the North side of Madang Township. A/A positions on Beliau Island were reported empty. Ten camouflaged gun emplacements were observed 2500 ft. N of Cape Kusserow. No guns were seen in these positions.
- e. Fighter cover was excellent.
- f. Mil personnel was injured.
4. Mil personnel is being recommended for an award.
5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are attached.
6. Sightings are included in report by individual airplanes and are shown in chart B.
7. Photographs were not received in time to make photo interpretation for this report.

BOMBING TABLE				
A/B	No. of bombs	Type	Weight	No. dropped
041	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
036	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
063	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
024	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
351	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
371	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
	30			30

STRAFING TABLE				
A/P	.50 cal. Rds car'd	Rds Ex.	.30 cal. Rds car'd	Rds Ex.
041	4600	3500	4000	—
036	4600	2500	4000	—
063	4600	900	4000	—
024	4600	2500	4000	—
351	4600	3000	4000	—
371	4600	2500	4000	—
		14900		—

For the Commanding Officer:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer

1400T  
Mission #51A1-8Feb44

~~1300~~  
31d 00 r target

Minimum Alt

Time 045-1057

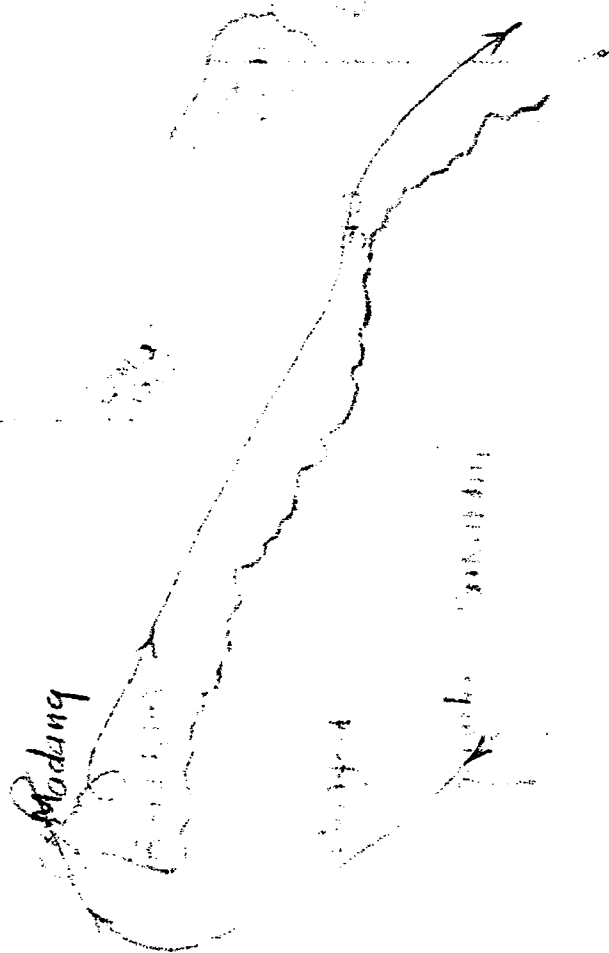
30 X 500 H Bombs

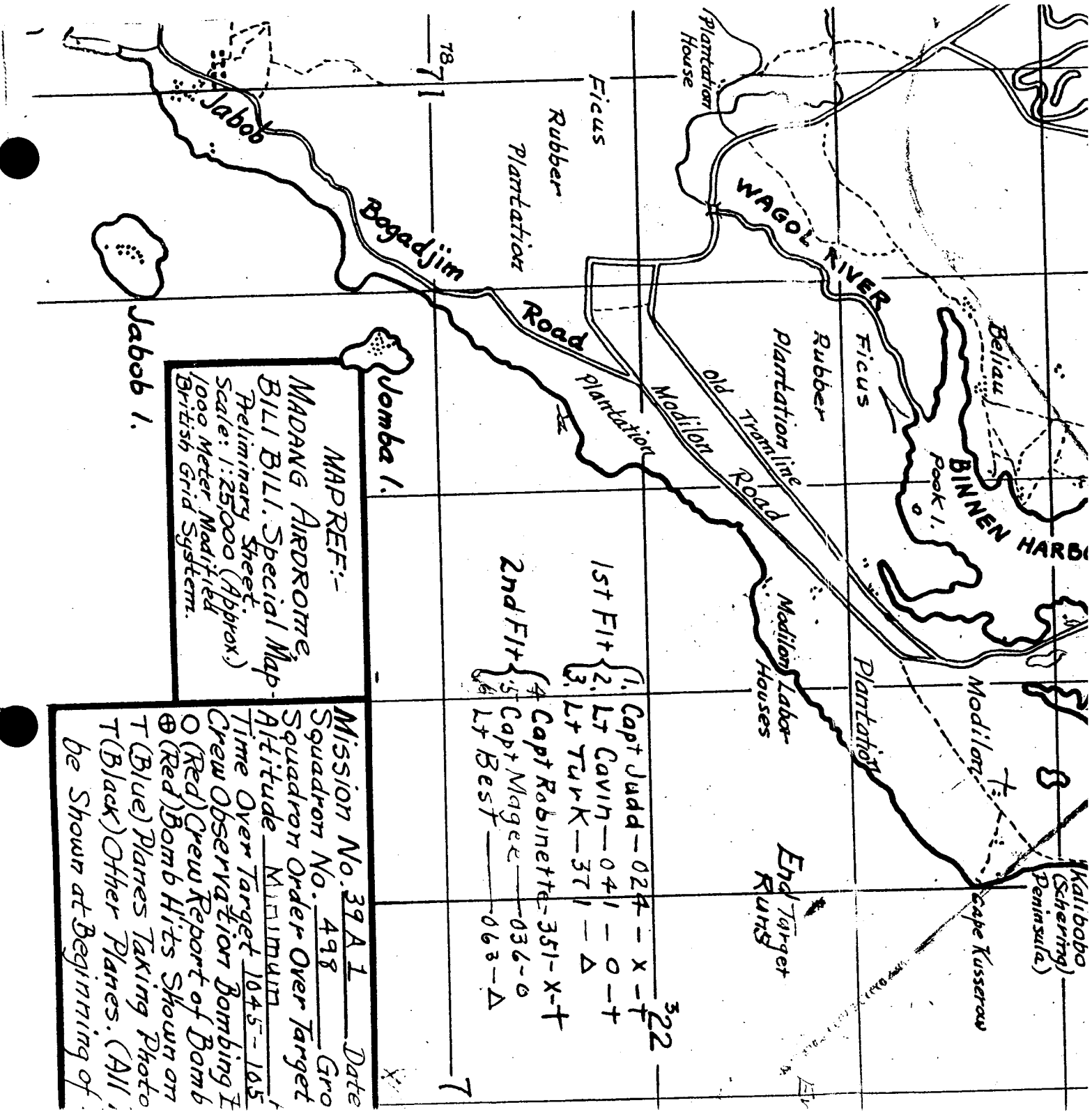
1-B 240 Is

Target ✓

Route →

Moding





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498  
44-C-1  
13 Feb 44

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

GMB/jv

14 February, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 44-C-1. Performed on 13 February, 1944.  
Objective - Supplies and Personnel on Los Negros Island, Admiralty Group.

**TO :** Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

**1. General.**

- a. Target 5-D, supplies and personnel in area 300 x 600 yards beginning 1500 feet Northw st of the north end of Momote Strip on Los Negros Island were to be bombed.
- b. The 498th Squadron was to take off from #4 Strip, Dobodura at 0708/L, following the 38th Group, assemble enroute with the 499th 500th, 501st of the 345th Group and three Squadrons of the 38th Group and proceed to Tolokiwa Island for rendezvous with the fighter escort and thence direct to the target. Following the attack the formation was to return direct to base at Dobodura. Bombing was to be from 7500 feet on a single run over the target.

**c. Attack.**

- (1) The Squadron took off from #4 strip at Dobodura from 0711/L to 0715/L, assembled with the 499th, 500th, 501st, Squadrons and left on course at 0728/L. The Squadron proceeded up the coast to Tolokiwa Island arriving at 0845/L. The fighters were not present and the formation continued to the target unescorted as planned. The approaches made as planned on a heading of 285 degrees and the Squadron flying in number one position bombed in three elements of four planes each in trail formation. Bombs were released from 1000/L to 1010/L from 7500 feet altitude. The bombs in the lead plane did not release on the first run and the second run was made on the target on the same heading. All of the <sup>other</sup> planes dropped their bombs on the first run. 45 x 500 lb. inst. fuse bombs were dropped in the target starting three small fires in the Western end of the target and one flash fire with small amount of smoke on the N edge of the target 600 ft. S of the jetty at the N end of the target. Bombing was excellent and target was well covered. 8 bombs fell in water at the Western edge of the target with five bombs falling in the woods

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- 200 ft. S of the target. Two bombs were returned to base. All enemy planes were destroyed.
- (2) The attack was coordinated with the 499th, 500th, and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and three Squadrons of the 38th Group. There was no fighter escort on the mission.

d. Interception.

- (1) There was no interception.
- (2) No Allied plane loss was observed over the target.

2. The 496th Squadron led by Capt. Kilgore led the Group formation. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT		SECOND FLIGHT		THIRD FLIGHT	
Capt. Kilgore	632	Major Galtman	276	Lt. Cope	769
Lt. Best	063	Lt. Cavin	041	Capt. Chiappe	036
Lt. McCall	026	Lt. Casselman	024	Lt. O'Rear	037
Lt. Turk	420	Lt. Mitt	033	Lt. Allen	176

3. Details of mission.

- a. The Squadron took off from #4 strip at Bobodara from 0711/L to 0715/L, assembled with the 499th, 500th, 501st Squadrons and left on course at 0728/L. The formation proceeded up the coast to Tolokiwa Island arriving at 0845/L. The fighter escort was not present and the formation proceeded to the target unescorted as planned. The approach was made as planned on a heading of 285 deg. and the Squadron flying in number one position bombed in three elements of four planes each in trail formation. Bombs were released from 1000/L to 1010/L from an altitude of 7500 ft. The bombs in the lead plane did not release on the first run and the second run was made on the target on the same heading. All other planes dropped their bombs on the first run but continued to cross the target on the second run. The planes returned direct to base landing at #4 strip at 1245/L.
- b. Charts A and B give the bomb spotting, sightings of individual airplanes and the route to and from the target.
- c. All three flights attacked the target from 1000/L to 1010/L from an altitude of 7500 ft. Flights #1 and #3, crossed the center of the target with #2 flight being spread over the entire target. The intervalometer in the lead ship did not function and no bombs were dropped by this plane on the first run. The other planes in the first flight and the remaining two flights released their bombs on the first run. All flights crossed the target on the second run on which the lead plane released its bombs in the target. A/P #423 in the first flight dropped its bomb load over the target in the water when the lead plane failed to release its bombs as planned. Bomb sights were installed only in the lead plane of each flight with the other planes dropping on the lead plane. The second flight was scattered making it difficult for the wing planes to drop the bombs on the leader.

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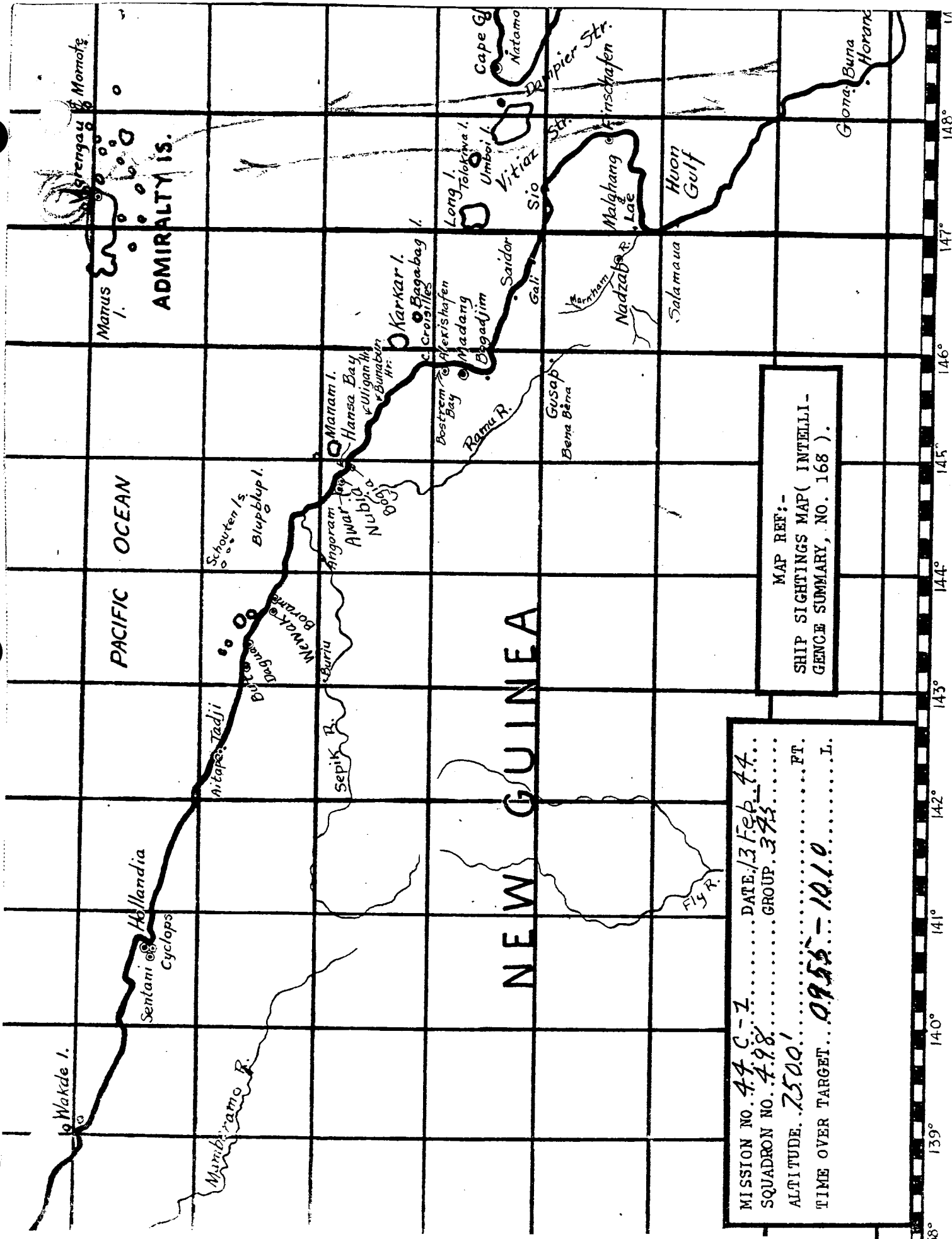
- d. There was nil A/A.
- e. There was nil fighter cover.
- f. Nil personnel was injured.
4. Nil personnel is being recommended for an award.
5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report, Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are attached.
6. Sightings are included in report by individual airplanes and are shown in chart B.
7. Photographs taken on the mission did not coverage of the target and were not printed

BOMBING TABLE				
A/P	No. of bombs	Type	Weight	No. dropped
632	5	Instantaneous	500 lb.	5
063	5	Instantaneous	500 lb.	5
026	5	Instantaneous	500 lb.	5
420	5	Instantaneous	500 lb.	5
276	5	Instantaneous	500 lb.	5
041	5	Instantaneous	500 lb.	5
024	5	Instantaneous	500 lb.	5
038	5	Instantaneous	500 lb.	5
769	5	Instantaneous	500 lb.	5
036	5	Instantaneous	500 lb.	5
037	5	Instantaneous	500 lb.	5
176	5	Instantaneous	500 lb.	5
	<u>50</u>			<u>50</u>

\* A/P 026 returned two bombs to base after they had failed to release.

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

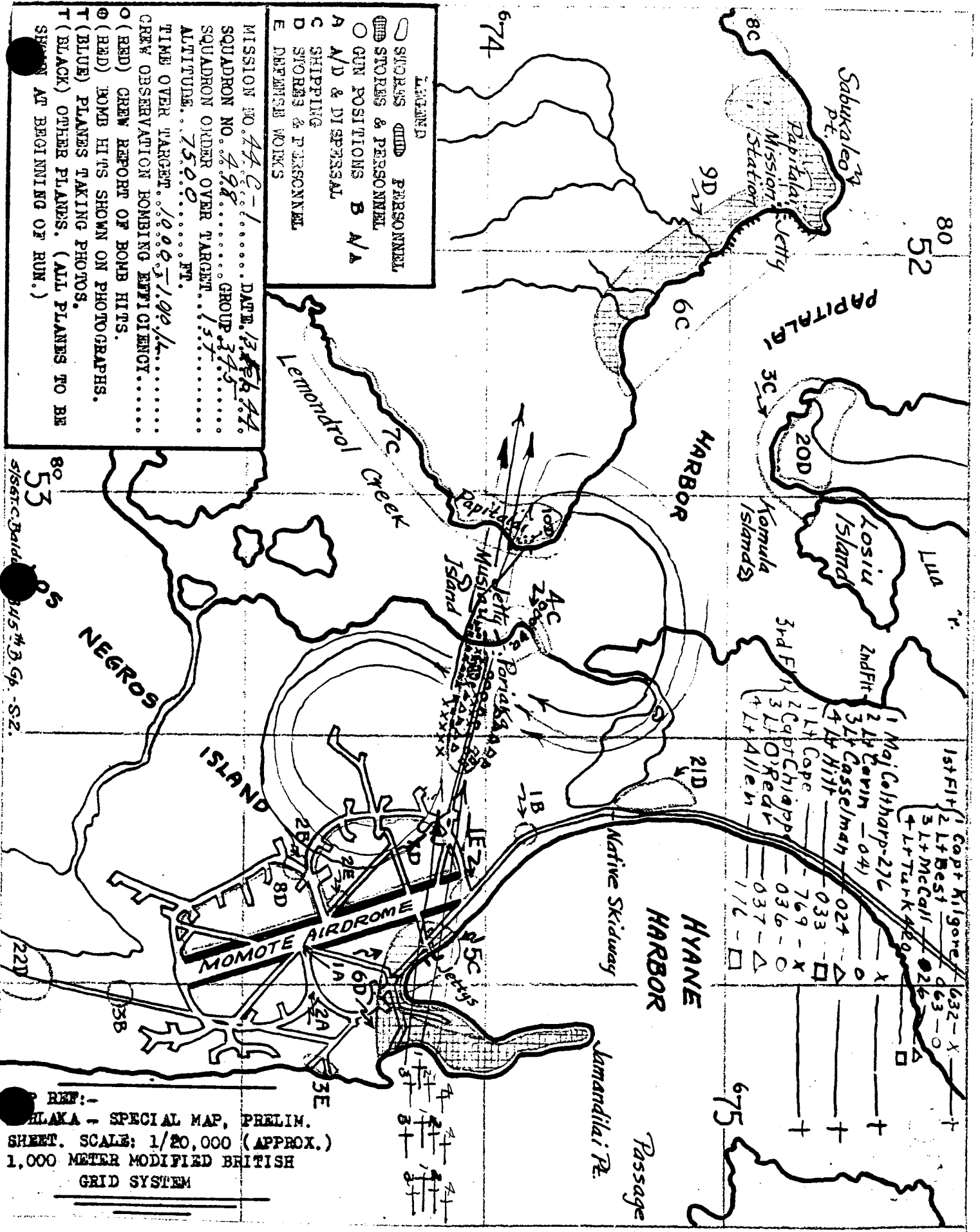
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MAP REF:-  
SHIP SIGHTINGS MAP( INTELLI-  
GENCE SUMMARY, NO. 168 ).

MISSION NO. 44 C-1. DATE 13 Feb 44.  
SQUADRON NO. 498. GROUP 375.  
ALTITUDE 2500'. FT.  
TIME OVER TARGET 0955-1010. I.





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498  
45-1-1  
14 Feb 44

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

SIS/fe

15 February, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 45-C-1. Performed on 14 February, 1944.  
Objective - Momote Strip.

**TO :** Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

**1. General.**

a. Momote strip was to be bombed and rendered unserviceable.

b. The 498th Squadron was to take off from #4 strip at Dobodura at 0745/L, assemble enroute with 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and three Squadrons of the 38th Group and proceed to Tolikwa Island for fighter escort thence direct to target. Following the attack the formation was to return direct to base at Dobodura. Bombing was to be from 7500 ft. altitude on a single run over the target.

**c. Attack.**

(1) The Squadron took off from #4 strip at Dobodura from 0745/L to 0748/L, assembled with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons and left en route at 0810/L. The Group formation proceeded up the coast to Tolikwa Island arriving at 0925/L. Since the fighters were at the place of rendezvous the Group proceeded immediately at 0925/L for the target. The approach was made as planned on a heading of 360 deg. and the Squadron flying in four elements of three planes each in trail formation. Bombs were released at 1038, from an altitude of 7300 to 7700 ft. All bombs were released on the first run. Twelve 1000 lb. inst. fuse bombs were dropped on the target and twelve bombs dropped past the target into the water in Hyane Harbor. Bombing was excellent and the target was well covered with bomb hits which definitely made the strip unserviceable.

(2) The attack was coordinated with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and three Squadrons of the 38th Group. There was one Squadron of P-38's as fighter escort on the mission.

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## d. Interception.

- (1) There was nil interception.
- (2) Nil Allied plane loss was observed over the target.

2. The 498th Squadron was led by Captain Kilgore. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT	SECOND FLIGHT	THIRD FLIGHT	FOURTH FLIGHT
Capt. Kilgore 632	Lt. Witt 276	Lt. O'Rear 769	Capt. Chiappe 036
Lt. Armijo 037	Lt. McCall 026	Lt. Casselman 024	Lt. Gavin 041
Lt. Best 063	Lt. Turk 420	Lt. Allen 033	Lt. Cope 176

## 3. Details of mission.

- a. The Squadron took off from #4 strip at Dobodura from 0745/L to 0748/L, assembled with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons and left on course at 0810/L. The formation proceeded up the coast to Tolekiwa Island arriving at 0925/L. Since the fighters were at the place of rendezvous the formation proceeded to the target escorted by the one Squadron of P-38's providing fighter cover. The approach was made as planned on a heading of 360 deg. and the Squadron flying in number four position bombed in four elements of three planes each in trail formation. Bombs were released at 1038/L at an altitude of 7300 to 7700 ft. All planes dropped their bombs on first run as planned. The planes returned direct to base landing at #4 strip at 1320/L to 1330/L.
- b. Charts A and B give the bomb spotting, sightings of individual airplanes and the route to and from the target.
- c. All four flights attacked the target at 1038/L from an altitude of 7300 to 7700 ft. Flights one and four dropped their bombs past the target and into the water in Myase Harbor. Flights two and three dropped their bombs in direct center of target. Bomb sights were installed only in lead plane of each flight and other planes dropping on the lead plane. The direct hits of bombs from the planes of flight two and three made large bomb craters in the runway and rendered it unserviceable.
- d. There was nil A/A.
- e. One Squadron of P-38's accompanied the formation as fighter cover.
- f. Nil personnel was injured.
4. Nil personnel is being recommended for an award.

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5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are attached.

6. Sightings are included in report by individual airplanes and are shown in chart B.

7. Photographs were not received in time to make photo interpretation for this report.

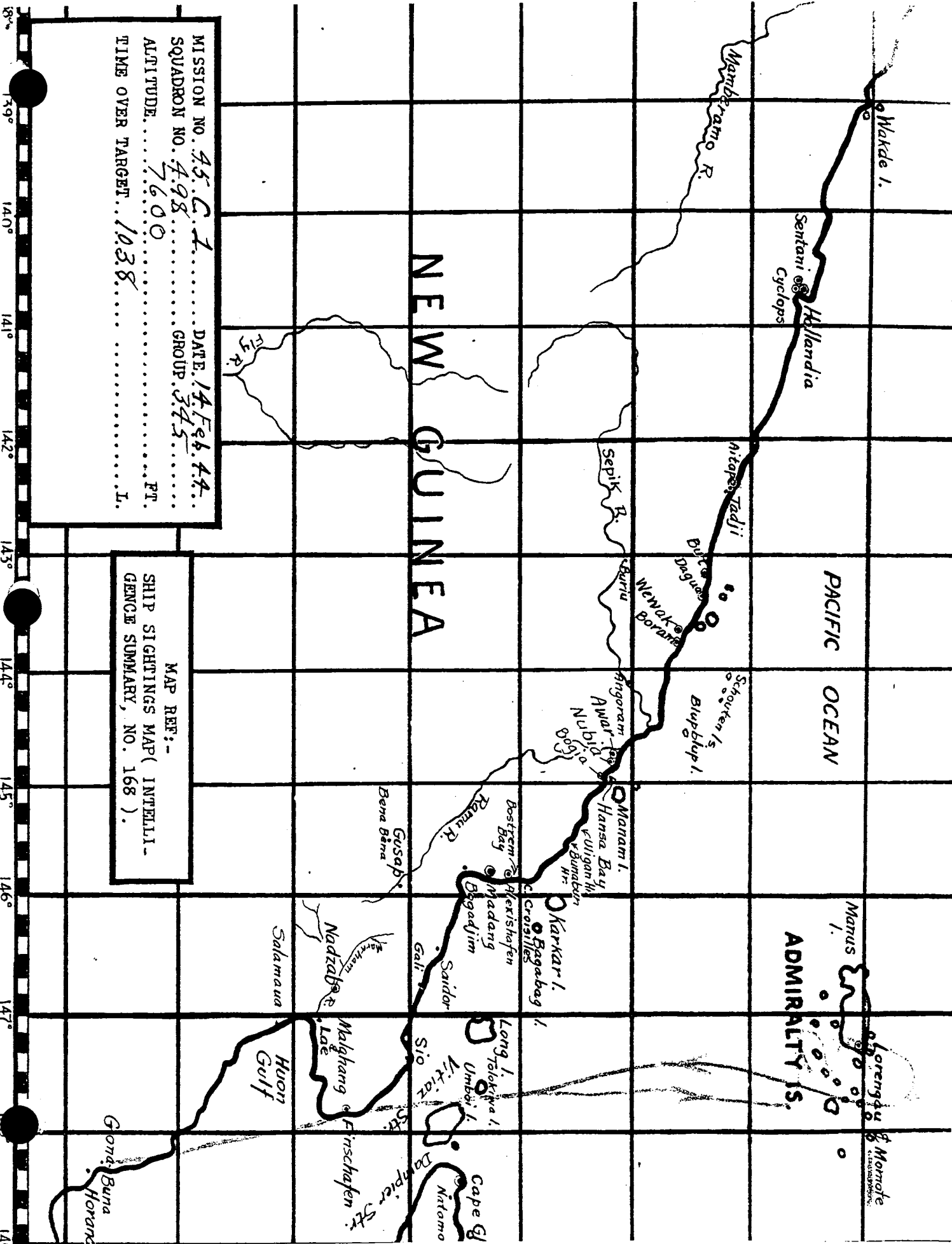
BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
632	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
037	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
063	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
276	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
026	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
420	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
769	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
024	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
013	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
036	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
041	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
176	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
	<u>24</u>			<u>24</u>

For the Commanding Officer:

SAMUEL L. SLUTSKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Asst. Intelligence Officer.

CONFIDENTIAL



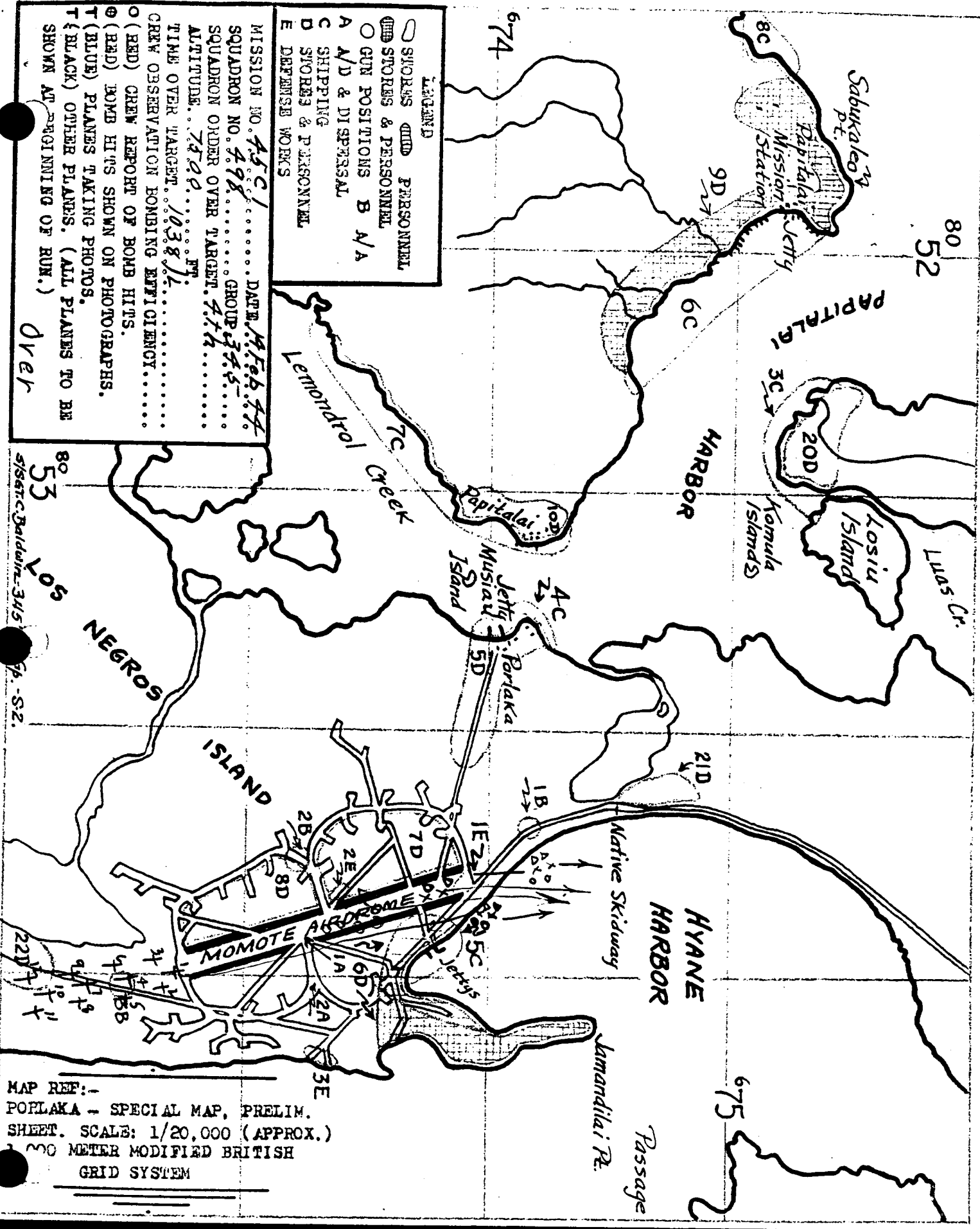
MISSION NO. 45. C. 1. DATE. 14 Feb 44.  
 SQUADRON NO. 498. GROUP. 345.  
 ALTITUDE. 7600 FT.  
 TIME OVER TARGET. 10.38. I.

MAP REF:-  
 SHIP SIGHTINGS MAP ( INTELLI-  
 GENCE SUMMARY, NO. 168 ).

- LEGEND
- STORES AND PERSONNEL
  - GUN POSITIONS B A/A
  - A A/D & DISPENSAL
  - C SHIPPING
  - D STORES & PERSONNEL
  - E DEFENSE WORKS

MISSION NO. 45C/ DATE 19. Feb. 44  
 SQUADRON NO. 498 GROUP 44.5  
 SQUADRON ORDER OVER TARGET 4th  
 ALTITUDE 7800 FT.  
 TIME OVER TARGET 1038.1  
 CREW OBSERVATION BOMBING EFFICIENCY  
 ○ (RED) CREW REPORT OF BOMB HITS.  
 ○ (RED) BOMB HITS SHOWN ON PHOTOGRAPHS.  
 T (BLUE) PLANES TAKING PHOTOS.  
 T (BLACK) OTHER PLANES. (ALL PLANES TO BE SHOWN AT BEGINNING OF RUN.)

Over



MAP REF: -  
 POPLAKA - SPECIAL MAP, PRELIM.  
 SHEET. SCALE: 1/20,000 (APPROX.)  
 1000 METER MODIFIED BRITISH  
 GRID SYSTEM

1st Flt { 1 Capt Kilgore - X - + - 632  
2 Lt Armijo - 0 - - 037  
3 Lt Best - - Δ - - 063

2nd Flt { 4 Lt Hitt - 276 - X  
5 Lt McCall - 026 - 0  
6 Lt Turk - 420 - Δ

3rd Flt { 7 Lt O'Rear - 769 - X  
8 Lt Casselman - 024 - 0  
9 Lt Allen - - 033 - Δ

4th Flt { 10 Capt Chiappe - 036 - X  
11 Lt Carin - 041 - 0  
12 Lt Cope - 176 - Δ

498  
46-C-1  
15 Feb 64

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

SLS/fc

16 February, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 46-C-1. Performed on 15 February, 1944.  
Objective - Kavieng Township.

TO : Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

a. Kavieng Township was to be bombed and strafed with special emphasis on stores and supplies in the Chinatown area.

b. The 498th Squadron was to take off from #7 strip at Dobodura at 0745/L, assemble over #4 strip with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and three squadrons of the 38th Group and proceed to Sakar Island thence to Sand Island to rendezvous with two Squadrons of P-38's thence proceed to Damm on the South side of New Ireland and thence up along the South coast of New Ireland to a point directly South of Kavieng Township then proceed up and over the target on a heading of 360 deg. thence make a wide turn to the left, assemble with the Group and return to the East side of Umboi Island and thence directly to base. Bombing and strafing was to be from minimum altitude in a single run over the target in two flight of three planes each abreast.

c. Attack.

(1) The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Dobodura from 0752/L to 0755/L, assembled with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons and the three Squadrons of the 38th Group and left on course at 0808/L. The Group formation with the three squadrons of the 38th Group in the lead proceeded up the coast to Sakar Is. and thence to Sand Island arriving at 1005/L. The formation then proceeded towards the target as planned inasmuch as the two Squadrons of P-38's were ready to proceed as fighter cover. The approach was made as planned on a heading of 360 deg. with two flights of three planes each flying abreast going over the target in trail formation. Bombs were released from 1125/L to 1130/L from an altitude of 50 to 700 ft. All bombs were released on the one run over the target. 52 x 500 lb. 8/11 sec. delay fuse bombs in target. Target was a mass of flames and explosions from main wharf through Chinatown with other large fires in coconut grove NE of Chinatown and on Cape Nuan.

DECLASSIFIED

Dir. 5200.9, Sept. 27, 1988

by 7-29-80 date 7-29-80



Numerous large explosions at 1330/L, two hours after strike. Three bombs were dropped among 10 to 12 float planes at F/P base. One bomb dropped on wharf 2000 ft. North of main wharf destroying a large section of the installation. A direct hit was scored on a 2000 T ship 500 ft. South of main wharf. Ship was blazing from previous attack when bombed. Hits scored in Chinatown and on installations along coast started fires and large explosions. Two bombs fell in water and five bombs were salvaged in target. Float planes were strafed thoroughly and damaged or destroyed. Remainder of target was covered by strafing. Bombing was excellent. 10 or 12 float planes, on the water, were probably destroyed due to strafing and bombing.

- (2) The attack was coordinated with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and three Squadrons of the 38th Group. There were two Squadrons of P-38's as fighter escort on the mission.

d. Interception.

- (1) There was no interception.
- (2) A/P 041 was forced to crash into the sea approximately four miles NW of North Cape. This plane was severely damaged by A/A fire while going over the target causing the turret tank to start burning, the right engine nacelle to burn and the rear of the plane to burn. This plane was piloted by 1st Lt. Edgar R. Cavin.

2. The 498th Squadron was led by Major Coltharp. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT		SECOND FLIGHT		THIRD FLIGHT		FOURTH FLIGHT	
Maj. Coltharp	176	Lt. O'Rear	037	Capt. Kilgore	033	Capt. Chiappe	036
Lt. Hitt	040	Lt. Cavin	041	Lt. McCall	026	Lt. Fair	351
Lt. Best	063	Lt. Turk	420	Lt. Allen	024	Lt. Armijo	030

3. Details of mission.

- a. The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Dobodura from 0752/L to 0755/L, assembled with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons and three Squadrons of the 38th Group and left on course at 0808/L. The formation proceeded up coast to Sakar Island and then to Sand Island for rendezvous with two Squadrons of P-38's providing fighter cover at 1005/L and immediately left on course for the target. The approach was made as planned on a heading of 360 deg. with the Squadron flying in #3 position bombed and strafed in two elements of six planes each abreast in trail formation. Bombs were released at 1125/L to 1130/L at an altitude of 50 to 700 ft. All planes before returning to base, with exception of A/P 176 and A/P 041 which crashed, landed at Finschhafen to refuel. A/P 176 landed at Cape Gloucester to refuel. Planes landed at #7 strip between 1435/L and 1735/L.

b. Charts A and B give the bomb spotting, sightings of individual airplanes and the route to and from the target. In addition the following sightings were noted: 12 to 15 barges were observed near Bangetang Island and Nadei Island in the Steffen Strait; 2 luggers were observed in Albatros Channel NW of Mane Island.

c. All four flights attacked the target between 1125/L and 1130/L from an altitude of 50 to 700 ft. 52 x 500 lb. 8/11 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped on target causing many fires, large columns of smoke and explosions. A direct hit was scored on a 2000 T ship 500 ft. South of main wharf which was on fire from a previous attack of another plane or planes. Bombs were dropped on float planes which were also strafed and it is believed 10 or 12 planes were probably destroyed. It was the opinion of all combat personnel participating in this attack that more damage was done to this target than any other target they had ever attacked.

d. A/A was light and medium in caliber, very intense, accurate and bursting at the same level as the planes. Known heavy A/A positions West of North end of strip were seen firing A/A of medium caliber. Heavy A/A position 2500 ft. North of North end of runway was apparently firing medium caliber guns and from around it intense light ground fire was observed. Two medium A/A positions were seen firing from the decks of a sunken ship off the East shore of Musalik Island. Much ground fire was observed around Chinatown.

e. Two Squadrons of P-38's accompanied formation as fighter cover.

f. The following personnel were injured: in A/P 041, 1st Lt. Edgar R. Cavin, 2nd Lt. Elmer J. Kirkland, Capt. Robert G. Huff, S/Sgt. David B. McCready, S/Sgt. Lawrence E. Herbst and T/Sgt. Fred E. Arnett. In A/P 033, T/Sgt. Robert A. Cross.

4. The following personnel will be recommended for the Purple Heart: 1st Lt. Edgar R. Cavin, 2nd Lt. Elmer J. Kirkland, Capt. Robert G. Huff, S/Sgt. Lawrence E. Herbst, T/Sgt. Fred E. Arnett, S/Sgt. David B. McCready and T/Sgt. Robert A. Cross. The other personnel being recommended for awards for their part in the raid and effecting the rescue of three combat crews are: Maj. Chester A. Coltharp, 1st Lt. Anthony Buchwald, 1st Lt. Allen L. Hallum, S/sgt. William T. Bramstad, T/Sgt. Robert M. Barsom, Capt. Anthony N. Chiappe and 1st Lt. Joe F. Armijo.

5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are attached.

6. Sightings are included in report by individual airplanes and are shown in chart B.

7. Photos taken by the 498th Squadron were duplicated in other squadrons. Photos taken by the 499th Squadron show at least three float planes anchored at base burning with probable damage to some of the other planes at the same base. These planes were bombed and strafed by A/P 063, 033 of this squadron.

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8. While A/P 041 was proceeding over the target it was hit by intense light and medium A/A fire which caused the turret tank to start burning, the right nacelle to burn and the rear of the plane to burn. 1st Lt. Edgar R. Cavin, pilot, managed after much difficulty in making an excellent water landing of the burning plane approximately four miles NW of North Cape at Kavieng. Capt. Chiappe, Operations Officer of the 498th Bomb Sq., and Lt. Armijo circled for approximately five minutes over the crashed plane until other planes of the Squadron arrived. Capt. Chiappe in A/P 036 and Lt. Armijo A/P 030 then proceeded to search and seek aid of a Catalina to pick up the crew that had crashed. Approximately 100 miles from the target Capt. Chiappe and Lt. Armijo were successful in intercepting the Catalina and directed it back to the place where the plane crashed. Major Coltharp, Commanding Officer of the 498th Bomb Sq., kept circling the area along where A/P 041 went down until the Catalina had picked up the crews of three B-25's that had crashed into the sea. Before picking up the third and last crew the Catalina left the area since it thought it had picked up all the crews which had crashed into the sea. Major Coltharp located the third crew that went down and immediately took chase of the Catalina which was proceeding to Pinschhafen since radio contact could not be made. Major Coltharp eventually brought back the Catalina where the third crew had crashed and saw the Catalina pick up that crew. Throughout his entire flight over 24 hours in the Kavieng area Major Coltharp was subject to enemy fire from coast defense guns at Kavieng and possible interception and upon many occasions just missed being hit by enemy fire. Before undertaking the attempt to aid in the rescuing of the three crews Maj. Coltharp asked each member of his crew whether he would be willing to stay in the area. Their answers were all in the affirmative. Major Coltharp eventually landed at Cape Gloucester with less than 10 gallons of gas after notifying all members of crew to prepare to leave the ship because of lack of gas.

BOMBING TABLE.

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
351	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
420	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
030	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
024	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
026	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
063	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
040	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
037	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
176	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
036	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	4
033	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
041	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
	<u>59</u>			<u>59</u>

A/P 351 salvoed its bombs over the target.

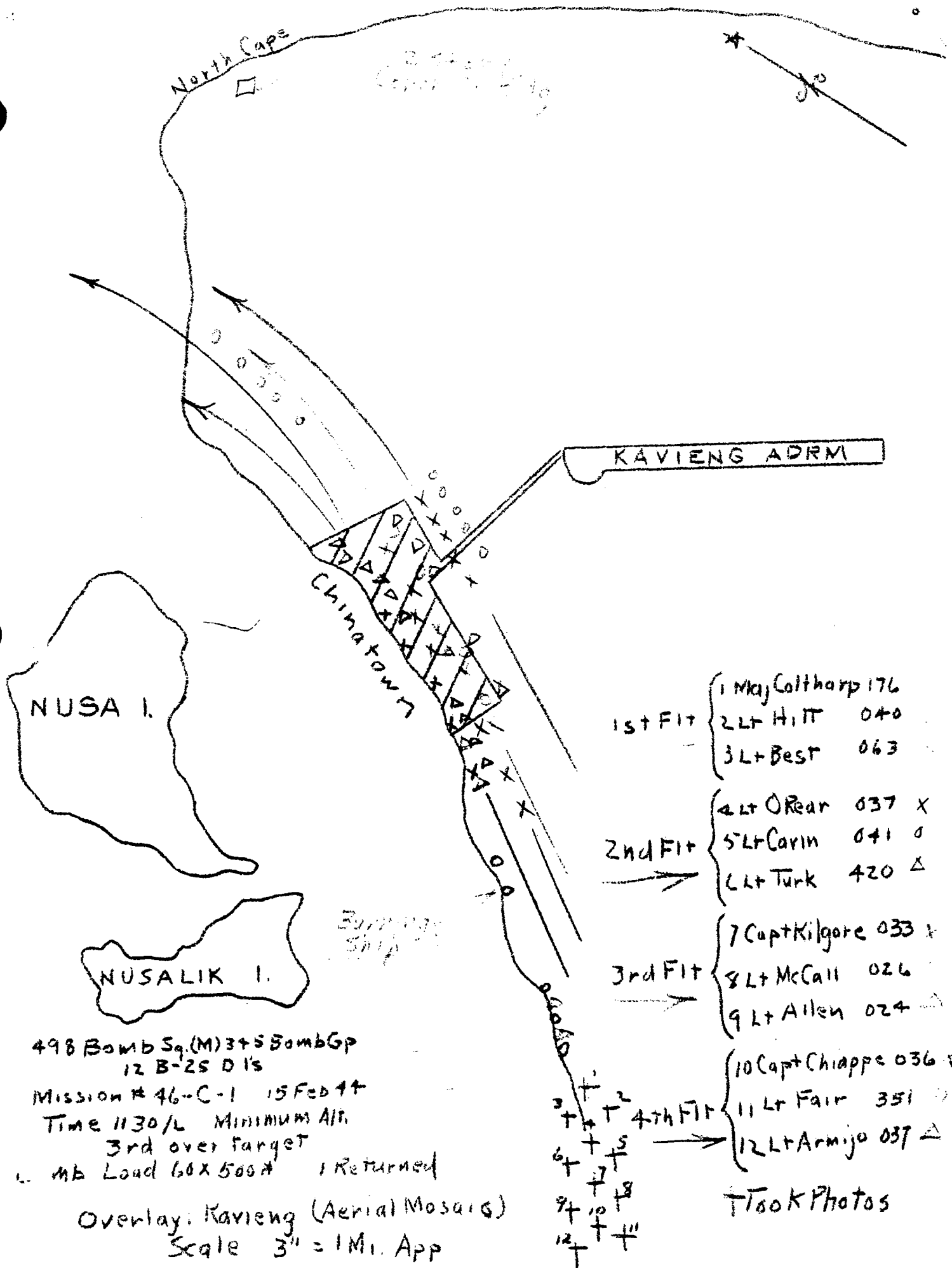
A/P 036 returned one bomb to base because of failure to release.

# STRAFING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal.</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal.</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
	<u>Rds. car'd</u>		<u>Rds car'd</u>	
351	4600	1000	4000	---
420	4600	1700	4000	---
030	4600	500	4000	---
024	4600	700	4000	---
026	4600	2300	4000	---
063	4600	2000	4000	---
040	4600	1000	4000	---
037	4600	1200	4000	---
176	4600	3800	4000	---
036	4600	1000	4000	---
033	4600	1000	4000	---
		<u>16300</u>		

For the Commanding Officer:

SAMUEL L. SLATZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Asst. Intelligence Officer.



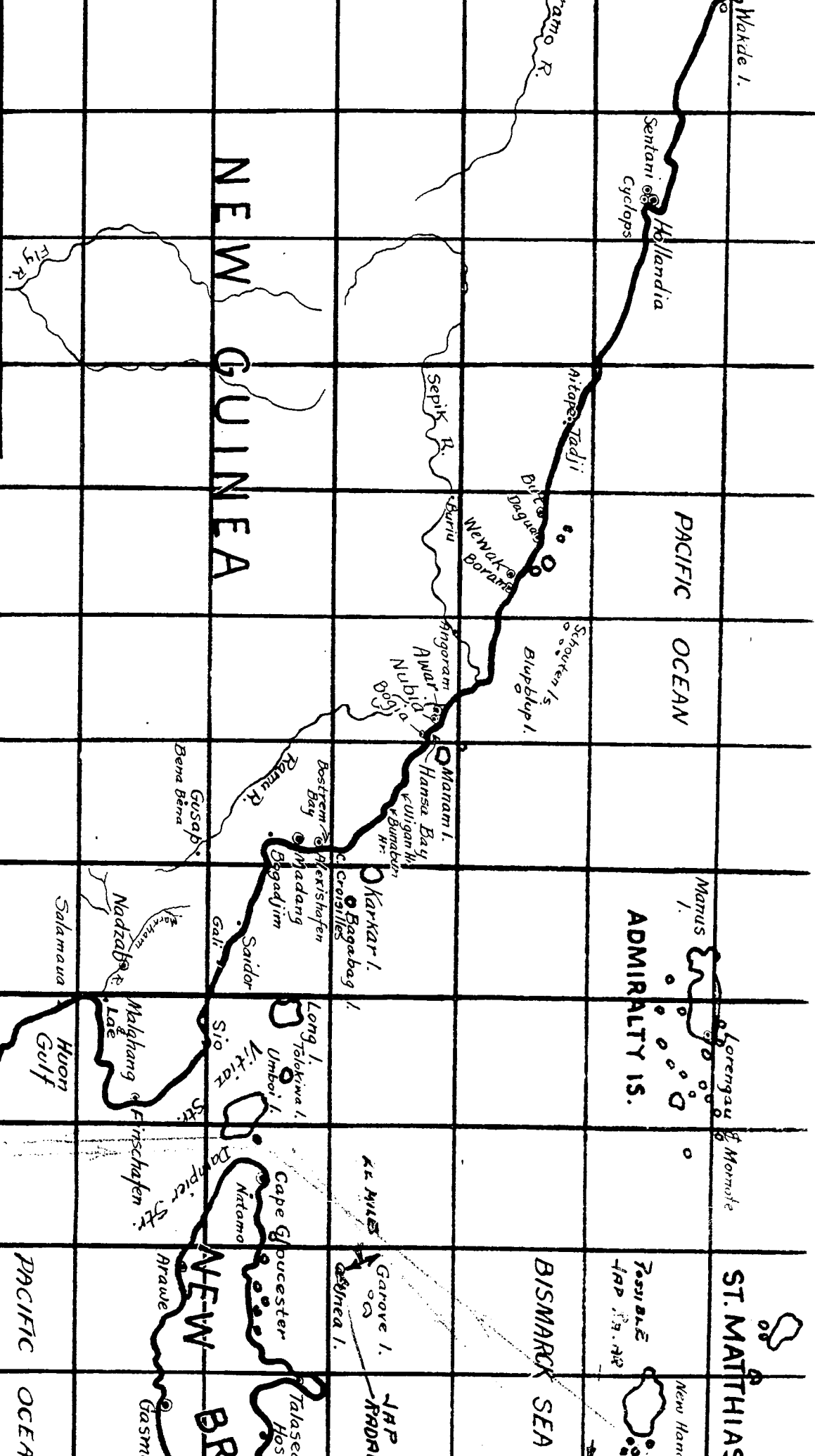
NO. .... DATE .....

GROUP .....

FT. ....

SR TARGET ..... I.

MAP REF:-  
SHIP SIGHTINGS MAP ( INTELLI-  
GENCE SUMMARY, NO. 168 ).



143° 144° 145° 146° 147° 148° 149° 150°

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498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

SL2/fe

498  
49-  
16 Feb 44

17 February, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 47-C-1. Performed on 16 February, 1944.  
Objective - Convoy in vicinity of New Hanover Island--secondary target, Garove Island.

**TO :** Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

- a. The primary target was a convoy supposed to be located near New Hanover Island. The secondary target were supplies, stores and installations on Garove Island.
- b. The 498th Squadron was to take off from #7 strip at Dobodura at 0800/L, assemble over #4 strip with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and three Squadrons of the 38th Group and proceed to Sakar Island thence to Sand Island to rendezvous with two Squadrons of P-38's and thence around the coast of New Hanover Island to the Convoy, which was to be attacked in flights of two planes each. In the event the convoy was not sighted the Squadron was to return to Garove Island which was the secondary target, and then return to base.

c. Attack.

- (1) The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Dobodura from 0804/L to 0807/L, assembled with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons and three squadrons of 38th Group as ordered and left on course at 0821/L. The Group formation with the three squadrons of the 38th Group proceeded up the coast to Sakar Island and thence to Sand Island arriving at 1020/L. The formation then proceeded towards New Hanover Island as planned in as much as the two squadrons of P-38's were ready to proceed as fighter cover. The Squadron searched for the convoy around New Hanover Island but inasmuch as the ships sighted had already been attacked by other squadrons and left in a burning condition the Squadron then proceeded to Garove Island the secondary target. The Eastern half of Garove Island was bombed and strafed in two passes in flights of three planes each and one flight of four planes, in trail. The target was attacked from 1236/L to 1241/L from an altitude of 100 ft. 41 x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped in the target. One explosion

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and fire was started in a village 100 yds. West of Cape Ndoll. A/A position 100 yds. West of Cape Ngogo was bombed and strafed. 18 bomb were dropped on European type houses and villages from Cape Ndoll to Cape Ngogo, on the SE corner of Garove Island and 1500 ft. West of Cape Ngogo. Bombing was excellent and the target was strafed thoroughly. One A/P dropped 5 x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs in a village on the NE side of Baudissin Island at 1134/L on a heading of 280 degrees.

- (2) The attack was coordinated with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and three squadrons of the 38th Group. There was two squadrons of P-38's as fighter escort on the mission.

d. Interception.

- (1) There was nil interception.
- (2) A/P 034 had instruments destroyed and a damaged right wing as a results of machine gun fire.

2. The 498th Squadron was led by Capt. Kilgore. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT		SECOND FLIGHT		THIRD FLIGHT	
Capt. Kilgore	033	Lt. McCall	315	Lt. Hitt	030
Lt. Fair	176	Lt. Allen	034	Lt. Barnaskey	036
Lt. Turk	420	Lt. Best	063	Lt. Armijo	037
				Lt. Betherington	351

3. Details of mission.

- a. The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Bobodura from 0804/L to 0807/L, assembled with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons and three squadrons of the 38th Group as ordered and left on course at 0821/L. The Group formation with the three squadrons of the 38th Group proceeded up the coast to Sakar Island and thence to Sand Island arriving at 1020/L. Since the fighter were at the place of rendezvous the formation proceeded to New Hanover Island escorted by two squadrons of P-38's providing fighter cover, in search of the convoy. The squadron searched for the convoy around New Hanover Island but inasmuch as the ships sighted had already been attacked by other squadrons and left in a burning condition the squadron then proceeded to the secondary target, Garove Is. The squadron bombed and strafed the target on a heading of 185 degrees in two elements of three planes each and one element of four planes in trail formation. Bombs were released and target strafed from 1236/L to 1241/L. Six airplanes returned to the base immediately after attacking the target and four airplanes landed at Finschhafen to refuel. Three of these planes later returned to base and A/P 034 was left at Finschhafen for repair.



The planes landed at base between 1430/L and 1535/L.

- b. Charts A and B give the bomb spotting, sightings of individual airplanes and the route to and from the target. In addition the following sightings were noted: A large number of barges were sighted singly or in groups of two along the coast of New Hanover Island and round the island between New Hanover and New Ireland. Dispersal of barges prevented an accurate estimate of the number and exact locations of the barges. 38th Group set fire to one 7000 T M/V and one smaller M/V and ~~one~~ a destroyer or a large *P. 4. B.* corvette at 1050/L off Cape Matanalem. Large fires with columns of black smoke were seen at Kavieng Township at 1100/L. Coastal gun from North Cape fired upon the formation while passing.
- c. All three flights attacked the target in two runs from 1236/L to 1241/L. All planes released their bombs on this target except A/P 351 which dropped its bombs on Baudissin Island at NE end of New Ireland.
- d. All planes except A/P 034 reported nil A/A fire over Garove Is. A/P 034 reported machine gun fire received from indefinite location 2000 ft. West of Cape Ngogo. Machine gun fire was accurate and damaged plane.
- e. Two squadrons of F-38's accompanied the formation as fighter cover. Fighter cover was excellent.
- f. Nil personnel was injured.

4. Nil personnel is being recommended for an award.

5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are attached.

6. Sightings are included in report by individual airplanes and are shown in chart B.

7. Photographs disclose that the ships set on fire and destroyed off New Hanover Island were destroyed by the 499th and 500th Squadrons of the 345th Group instead of the planes of the 38th Group as reported. Photographs of bombing of Garove have not been received in time to make photo interpretation for this report.

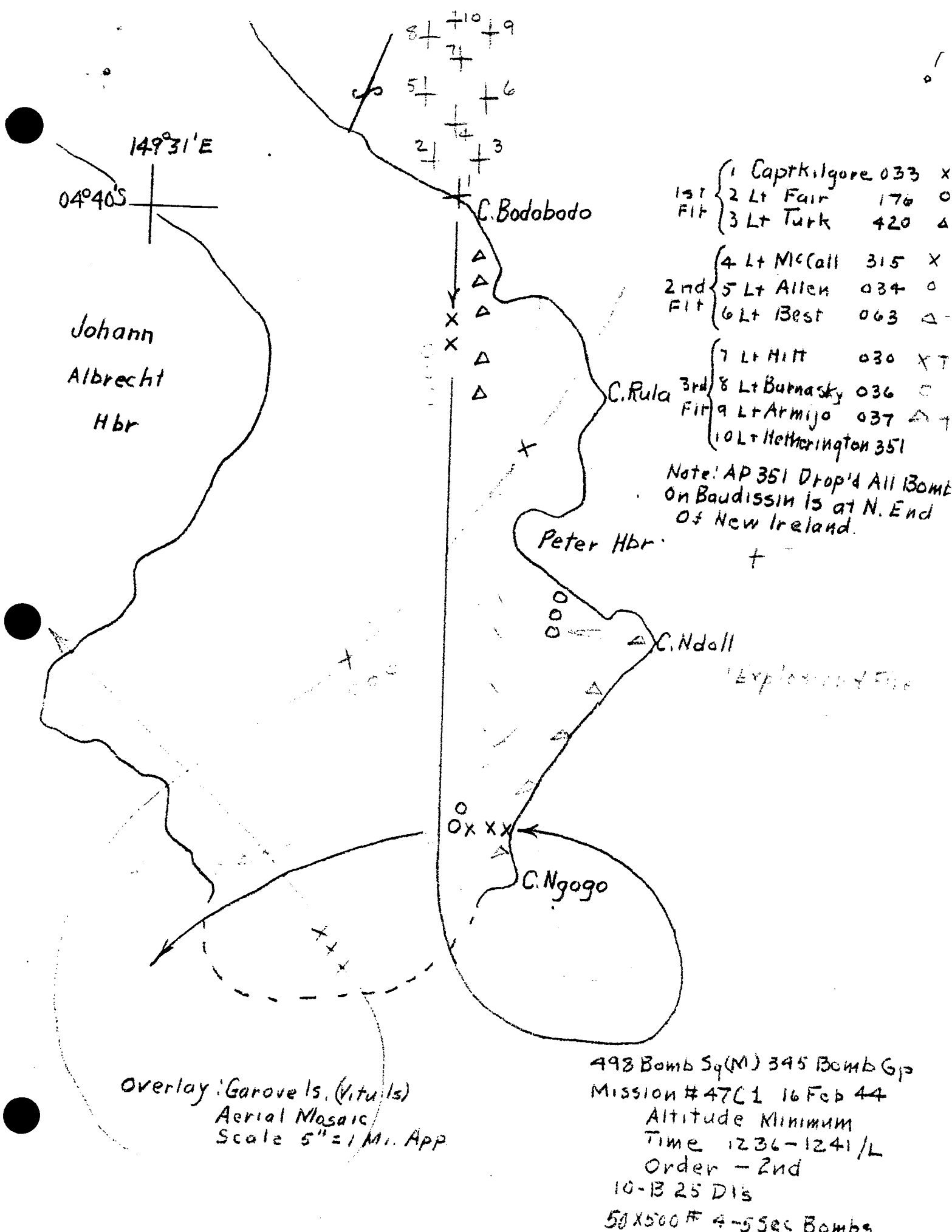
BOMBING TABLE				
A/P	no. of bombs	Type	Weight	No. dropped
034	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
315	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
030	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
063	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
033	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
176	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
420	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
036	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
037	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
351	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
	50			50

# STRAFING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal.</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal.</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
	<u>Rds car'd</u>		<u>Rds car'd</u>	
315	4600	1100	4000	----
030	4600	1000	4000	----
063	4600	2000	4000	----
033	4600	1500	4000	200
176	4600	2000	4000	600
420	4600	2500	4000	560
036	4600	2000	4000	----
037	4600	1000	4000	----
351	4600	2000	4000	<del>60</del>
		<u>15100</u>		<u>1360</u>

For the Commanding Officer:

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Asst. Intelligence Officer.



149°31'E

04°40'S

Johann  
Albrecht  
Hbr

C. Bodobodo

1st Fit { 1 Captn Kilgore 033 X  
2 Lt Fair 176 0  
3 Lt Turk 420 Δ  
2nd Fit { 4 Lt McCall 315 X  
5 Lt Allen 034 0  
6 Lt Best 063 Δ  
3rd Fit { 7 Lt Hill 030 XT  
8 Lt Burnasky 036 0  
9 Lt Armijo 037 Δ  
10 Lt Hetherington 351

Note: AP 351 Drop'd All Bomb  
on Baudissin Is at N. End  
of New Ireland.

Peter Hbr.

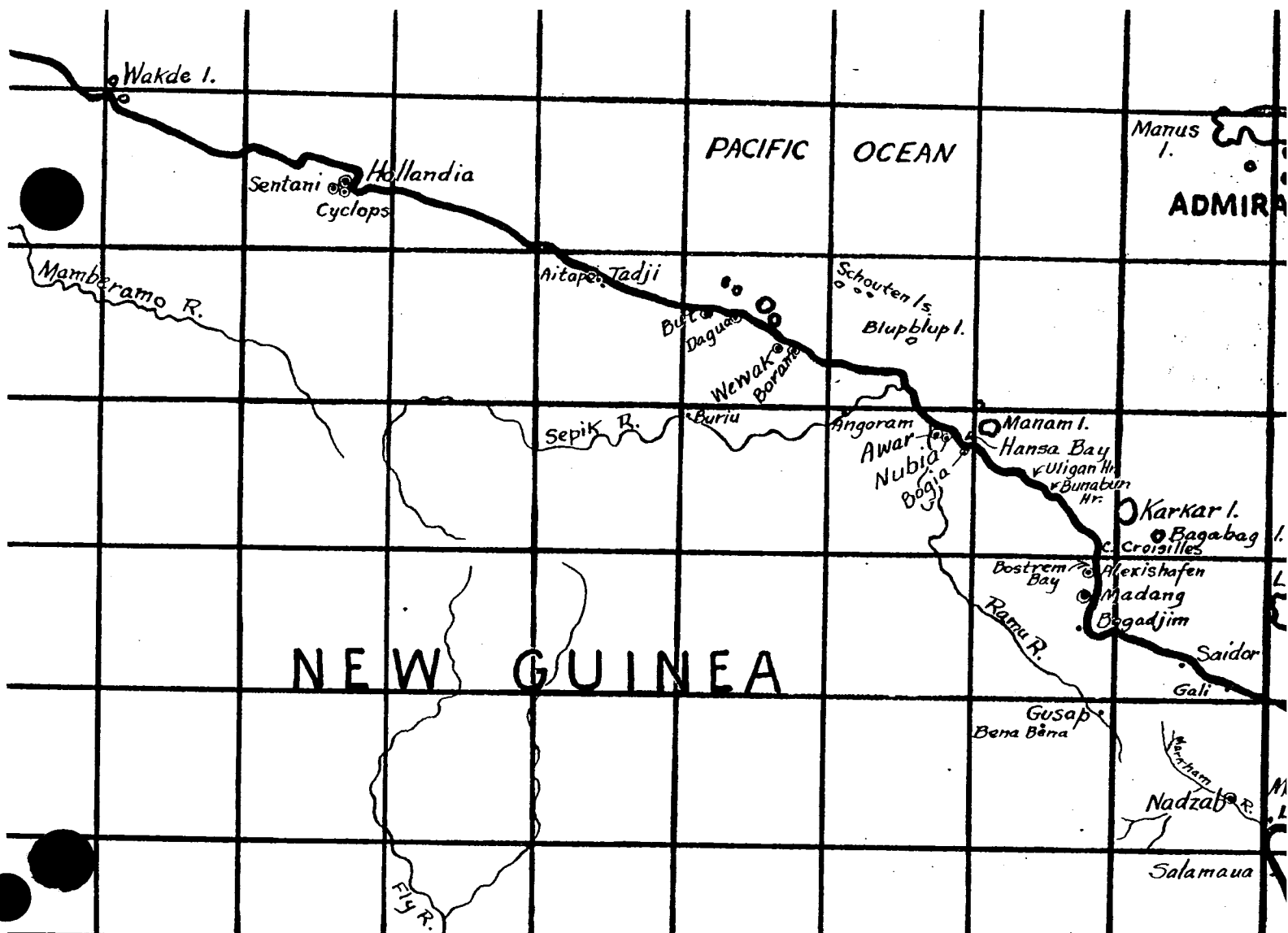
C. Ndall

Explosion & Fire

C. Ngogo

Overlay: Garove Is. (Vitu Is)  
Aerial Mosaic  
Scale 5" = 1 Mi. App

498 Bomb Sq (M) 345 Bomb Gp  
Mission #47C1 16 Feb 44  
Altitude Minimum  
Time 1236-1241/L  
Order - 2nd  
10-13 25 Dis  
50 X 500 # 4-5 Sec Bombs



MISSION NO. 47 C. I ..... DATE 16 Feb 44.  
 SQUADRON NO. 498 ..... GROUP 345 .....  
 ALTITUDE... Minimum ..... FT.  
 TIME OVER TARGET.. 1236 - 1241 ..... L.

MAP REF:-  
 SHIP SIGHTINGS MAP( INTELLI-  
 GENCE SUMMARY, NO. 168 ).

139

140°

141°

142°

143°

144°

145°

146°

147°

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498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

CMB/fc

498  
48-F-1  
17 Feb 44

18 February, 1944.

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 48-P-1. Performed on 17 February, 1944.  
Objective - Convoy off New Hanover Island.

**TO :** Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

**1. General.**

a. The target was a convoy supposed to be located near New Hanover Island.

b. The 498th Squadron was to take off from #7 strip at Debedura as soon as possible, assemble over the strip with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and proceed to Sand Is. to rendezvous with one Squadron of P-38's and thence around New Hanover Island to the convoy which was to be attacked in flights of two planes each.

**c. Attack.**

(1) The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Debedura at 1114/L, assembled with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons with the 498th Squadron in the lead and proceeded at 1123/L after the Group formation was formed to Sand Island going over New Britain and Bergen Bay. The Group arrived at Sand Island at 1320/L and proceeded directly to New Hanover Island without fighter escort inasmuch as the fighters failed to show up at Sand Island as planned. The Squadron searched for the convoy around New Hanover Island but failed to sight same. It attacked, however, a Sugar Charlie in Three Island's Harbor (first bay East of Lai Bay) New Hanover Island. The target was attacked from 1420/L to 1437/L at an altitude of 100 ft. 12 x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped on the Sugar Charlie. Ship was reported as being probably damaged on a previous raid and resting on a reef. Three bombs were dropped on village on the South side of New Hanover Island near Metanas Harbor. Villages were also strafed. Five bombs were returned to base due to lack of a suitable target.

(2) The attack was coordinated with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group. One squadron of P-38's was to act as fighter cover but never showed up at place of rendezvous.

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d. Interception.

(1) There was nil interception.

(2) There was nil Allied plane loss observed over the target.

2. The 498th Squadron was led by Captain Kilgore. The flights were as follows:

FIRST FLIGHT  
Capt. Kilgore 176  
Lt. McCall 063

SECOND FLIGHT  
Capt. Chiappe 036  
Lt. Barnaskey 030

3. Details of mission.

- a. The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Debedara at 1114/L, assembled with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons with the 498th Squadron in the lead and proceeded at 1123/L after the Group formation was formed to Sand Island going over New Britain and Bergen Bay. The Group arrived at Sand Island at 1320/L and proceeded directly to New Hanover Island without fighter escort inasmuch as the fighters failed to show up at Sand Island as planned. The Squadron searched for the convoy around New Hanover Island but failed to sight same. It attacked, however, a Sugar Charlie in Three Island's Harbor New Hanover Island, in flights of two planes each. The target was attacked from 1420/L to 1437/L at an altitude of 100 feet. 12 x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped on the Sugar Charlie completely destroying the ship. Three bombs were dropped on South side of New Hanover Island near Metanas Harbor. Villages along the Island were strafed and five bombs were returned to base due to lack of a suitable target. The planes returned to base between 1710/L and 1715/L.
- b. Charts A and B give the bomb spotting, sightings of individual airplanes and the route to and from the target. In addition the following sightings were observed: A rusty submarine previously destroyed was sighted at location where tanker was destroyed in the raid on shipping at New Hanover Island on the 16th of February. Other ships reported bombed on the raid of 16th of February observed destroyed. Small supply dumps were observed along the coast of Marica Bay on the Western side of New Hanover.
- c. The two flights attacked the target from 1420/L to 1437/L. All planes released their bombs, except A/P 176 which returned its bombs to base, on the Sugar Charlie and on Villages on the South side of New Hanover Island near Metanas Harbor.
- d. Nil A/A fire.
- e. There was no fighter cover on this mission.
- f. Nil personnel were injured.

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4. Nil personnel is being recommended for an award.
5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are attached.
6. Sightings are included in report by individual airplanes and are shown in chart B.
7. Photographs were not available to make photo interpretation for this report.

## BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
176	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	0
063	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
036	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
030	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
	<u>20</u>			<u>15</u>

## STRAFING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal.</u>		<u>.30 cal.</u>	
	<u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
176	4600	700	4000	---
063	4600	2000	4000	---
036	4600	2000	4000	---
030	4600	1100	4000	---
		<u>5800</u>		

For the Commanding Officer:

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Asst. Intelligence Officer

ST. MATTHIAS GROUP

151°

152°

MISSION NO. 4815-1 DATE 17 Feb 44  
 SQUADRON NO. 498 GROUP 345  
 SQUADRON ORDER OVER TARGET 1st  
 ALTITUDE Minimum  
 TIME OVER TARGET 14.26-14.37/L  
 T (BLUE) PLANES TAKING PHOTOS.  
 T (BLACK) OTHER PLANES. (ALL PLANES TO  
 BE SHOWN AT BEGINNING OF RUN.)

2°

Ysabel Channel

12 Bombs Drop'd on  
 Beached Sugar Charlie  
 Completing Destruction

MAP REF:-

EASTERN NEW GUINEA

NAVIGATION CHART

Equatorial Scale:- 1:2,315,000

31.72 Naut. Miles = 1 inch

Mercator Projection

NEW HANOVER

Kingwon Group

Marion Bay  
 Baungung Hr.

Metanas Hr.  
 Selapiu Hr.

Kolopina Hr.

Kaut Bay

Dyaul Hr.

Palmen Hr.

KAVIENG

PANAPAI

Fangalawa Bay  
 Logagon Bay

Tatau  
 Tabar

TABAR OR  
 GARDNER IS.

Kandan Bay

Lagago Bay

Karu Bay

Ramat Bay

Namatanai

Elizabeth Bay

BORPOP

C. Sena

C. Minias

C. Buggon

C. St. George

Lambton I.

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

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C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

BISMARCK SEA

Gardner I.  
 151.05

C. Holmann

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

NEW BRITAIN

Lolobau I.

Expectation

JUBILI

THE FATHER

7546

okola

Wide Bay

Crater Pt.

Waterfall Bay

Jaquinet Bay

Montagu Hr.

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

C. Schir-litz

C. Dampier

Cop - Kitger 176 - returned 5 Bombs  
 Lt McCaff 163

Cop - Chiappe 136  
 Lt Barnas 136

Bomb Drop - 15 x 500 ft



CONFIDENTIAL

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #503

498  
53-K-1  
22 Feb 44  
SLS/fe

22 February, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 53-K-1. Performed on 22 February, 1944.  
Objective - Primary target-target 8D dispersal area on West side of Momote strip; secondary target-Iboki Plantation on West side of Reim Bay.

**TO :** Commanding General, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

**1. General.**

- a. The primary target to be bombed was target 8 D, dispersal area on West side of Momote strip; secondary target was Iboki Plantation on West side of Reim Bay.
- b. The 498th Squadron was to take off from #7 strip at Dobodura at 0830/L, assemble over the strip with 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and the 822nd Squadron of the 38th Group and then proceed in group formation to Sakar Island to rendezvous with a squadron of P-38's at 1000/L and proceed from there direct to the primary target. In the event the primary target could not be bombed because of weather the secondary target was to be bombed. After bombing the target the group was to return to base going over New Britain but avoiding Aramo. The planes were to bomb the target at an altitude of 7500 ft. in flights of three planes each in trail javelin down. In the event weather interfered the planes were to bomb at any altitude convenient but not less than 3000 feet.
- c. Attack.

**(1) Time and location Of:**

Alert: 0800/L Strip 7 DOBODURA  
Take-off: 0833/L to 0836/L, Strip 7, DOBODURA  
Op. Rendezvous: Strip 4, DOBODURA, 0845/L  
Attack: Iboki Plantation, 1115/L - 1119/L  
Landing: Base 1230/L - 1236/L

Route: BASE \* DAMPIER STRAIT - SAKAR ISLAND - IBOKI  
PLANTATION at REIM BAY - ACROSS NEW BRITAIN to HELA PT. -  
BASE

Approach: A Flight approached the target on a heading of  
140 degrees. B Flight approached the target on a heading

# CONFIDENTIAL

of 170 degrees after making a second run on the target. B Flight approached the target on a heading of 170 degrees.

- (2) The attack was coordinated with the 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and the 822nd Squadron of the 38th Group. One squadron of P-38's was to act as fighter cover but never showed up at place of rendezvous.

## d. Interception.

- (1) There was nil interception.
- (2) There was nil Allied plane loss observed over the target.

2. The 498th Squadron was led by Captain Kilgore. The flights were as follows:

A FLIGHT	B FLIGHT	C FLIGHT
Capt. Kilgore 632	Capt. Chiappe 276	Col. Trus 315
Lt. Boden 033	Lt. Dougherty 037	Lt. Turk 420
Lt. Fair 026	Lt. Swartley 351	Lt. Best 030

## 3. Details of mission.

- a. The Squadron took off from #7 strip at Debodura at 0833/L to 0836/L, assembled over the strip with 499th, 500th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group and the 822nd Squadron of the 38th Group with the 499th Squadron in the lead and proceeded at 0845/L to Sakar Island in order to rendezvous with one squadron of P-38's as fighter cover on this mission. The Group arrived at Sakar Island at 0955/L and circled. Inasmuch as the P-38's did not show up the Group then proceeded on course to the primary target. About fifty miles from Sakar Island a front was observed. The Group circled the area in the hope of finding an opening. Since no opening could be found at 1045/L the Group proceeded to Iboki Plantation, the secondary target. A flight approached the target on a heading of 140 degrees and released all of its bombs in the target. B flight approached the target on the heading of 170 degrees and released its bombs from an altitude of 3500 feet in the target. C flight was unable to release its bombs on the first pass over the target and made a second pass on a heading of 170 degrees from an altitude of 4500 feet releasing all of its bombs in the target. The bombing was excellent with 18 x 1000 lb. inst. demo bombs being dropped in the target. Time of attack was 1115/L to 1119/L. After the attack the formation proceeded across New Britain to Hela Pt. and thence directly to base landing between 1230/L to 1236/L.
- b. Chart B indicates the bomb spotting and run over the target. Chart A shows the route followed to and from the target.

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- c. All planes released their bombs on the secondary target.
- d. Nil A/A fire.
- e. There was no fighter cover on this mission.
- f. Nil personnel were injured.
- 4. Nil personnel is being recommended for an award.
- 5. Armament, Ordnance and Photograph tables are included in the report. Bombing assessment chart and route in and route out chart are attached.
- 6. There were nil sightings on this mission.
- 7. Photographs were not received in time to make photo interpretation for this report.

BOMBING TABLE.

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
632	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
033	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
026	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
276	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
037	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
351	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
315	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
420	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
030	2	inst.	1000 lb.	2
	<u>18</u>			<u>18</u>

For the Commanding Officer:

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Asst. Intelligence Officer.

Maruro Is.

1st Flt.

1. Capt Kilgore - 632 - X
- 2 Lt. Boden - 033 - 0
- 3 Lt. Fair - 026 - Δ

2nd Flt.

- 4 Capt Chiappe - 276 - X
- 5 Lt. Dougherty - 037 - 0
- 6 Lt Swartley - 351 - Δ Y8254

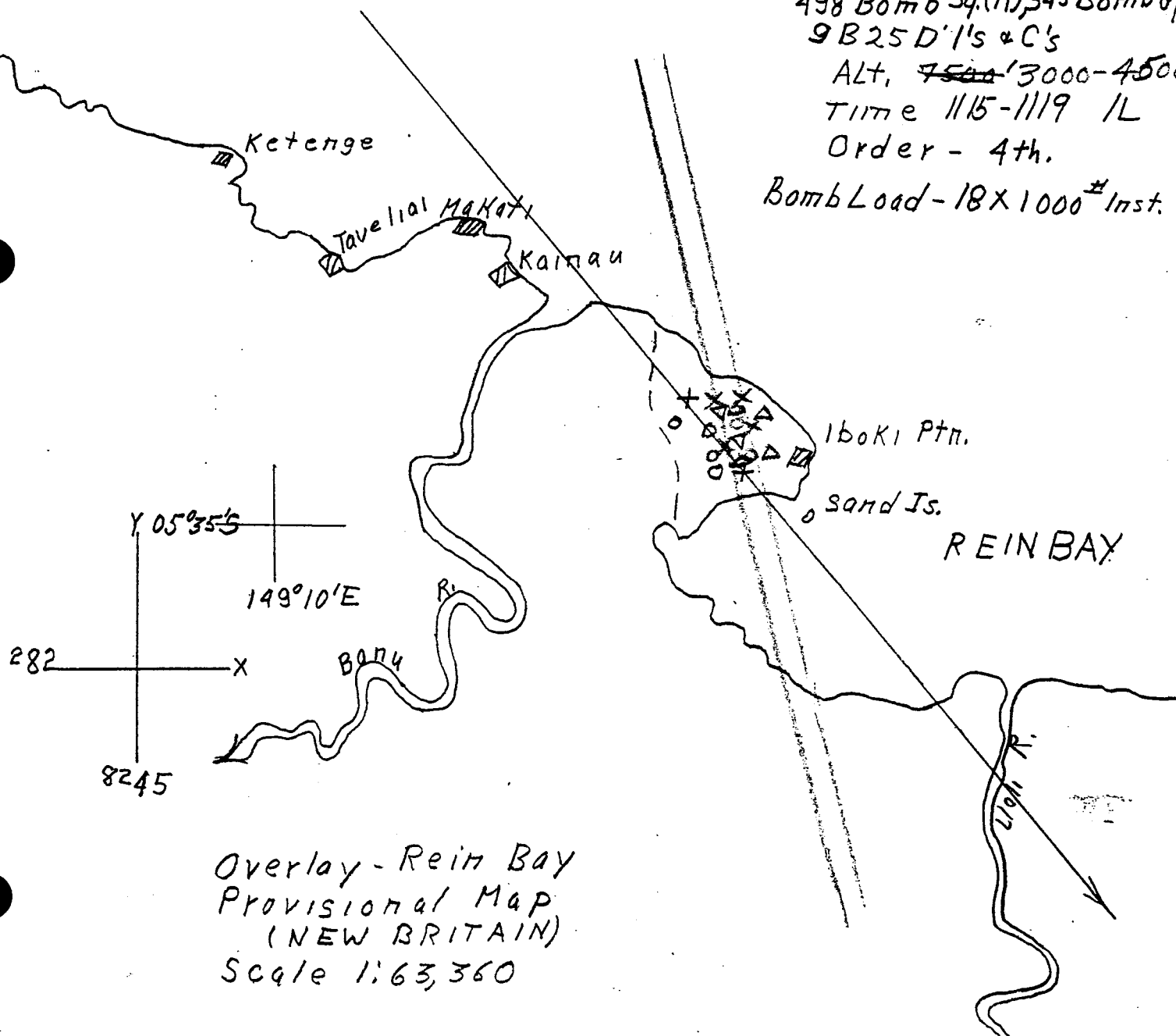
3rd Flt.

- 7 Col. True - 315 - X
- 8 Lt. Turk - 020 - 0
- 9 Lt Best - 030 - Δ

+ Took Photos

291

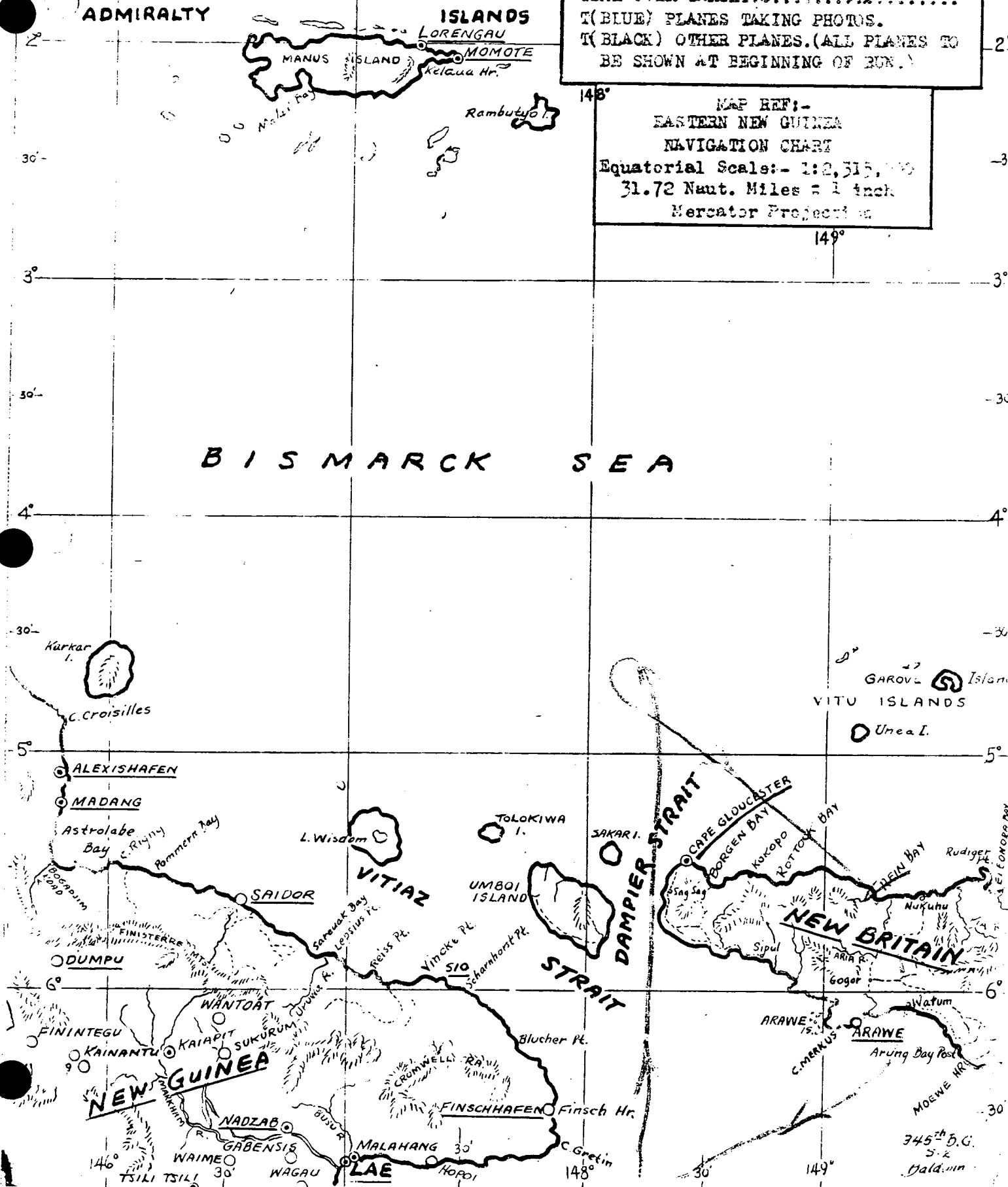
Mission #53K1-22 Feb 44  
498 Bomb Sq.(M) 345 Bomb Gr  
9 B25 D's & C's  
Alt, ~~7500~~ 3000-4500  
Time 1115-1119 IL  
Order - 4th.  
Bomb Load - 18 X 1000<sup>lb</sup> Inst.



MISSION NO. 53.R.1... DATE 22 Feb 44  
 SQUADRON NO. 498... GROUP 34.5...  
 SQUADRON ORDER OVER TARGET 476...  
 ALTITUDE 3000-4500 FT.  
 TIME OVER TARGET 1115-1119.21...  
 T(BLUE) PLANES TAKING PHOTOS.  
 T(BLACK) OTHER PLANES. (ALL PLANES TO  
 BE SHOWN AT BEGINNING OF RUN.)

MAP REF:-  
 EASTERN NEW GUINEA  
 NAVIGATION CHART  
 Equatorial Scale:- 1:2,315,000  
 31.72 Naut. Miles = 1 inch  
 Mercator Projection

# B I S M A R C K S E A



345th S.G.  
 5.2  
 Baldwin

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713, Unit #1

SLS/jv

498  
56-B-2  
25 Feb 44

26 February, 1944.

SUBJECT: Narrative report on Mission 56-B-2, performed 25 February, 1944, by ten A/P's of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - BORAM STRIP, A/A installations and revetment area.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. GENERAL.

(a) On the morning of 25 February, 1944, the 345th Bomb Group with three Squadrons in conjunction with the 38th Bomb Group and co-ordinated with the 90th Bomb Group, and 43rd Bomb Group and two Squadrons of the 3rd Group were ordered to strike BORAM STRIP, WEWAK HARBOR, and A/A positions. The 498th Squadron was to bomb BORAM STRIP, A/A installations, and revetment area.

(b) Rendezvous - The 345th BOMB GROUP over strip #4, HADZAB at 1500 ft. and proceed to GUSAP and rendezvous with 38th Group and two Squadrons of P-40's and one Squadron of P-47's at 8,000 ft..

(c) Attack - The Squadron went across the target on a heading of 35 degrees at an altitude of 6,000 ft. to 7,000 ft. in three flights in a shallow V formation in trail. The first two flights had three A/P's and the third flight had four A/P's. Since the lead A/P's in each flight were the only A/P's containing bomb sights all A/P's dropped their bombs on the lead A/P of each flight. 50 x 500 lb. inst. demo. bombs were dropped in target. Direct hits made on A/P's in revetments on South East side of Strip destroying one twin engine bomber and three SSF. Direct hits were also made on five unidentified A/P's destroying same which were parked in revetment area North of East half of Strip. Fires were started among the A/P's destroyed. Strip was left unserviceable because of three direct hits. Smoke and flames covered the Strip and revetment area on leaving target. Two bombs were dropped at A/A positions on the North East side of Strip with unobserved results.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.  
(1) Nil enemy aircraft interception with  
(2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.  
Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by the Squadron.  
Nine enemy A/P's destroyed on the ground by

the Squadron.

(e) Time and location of:

Alert: 1030/L.

Take-Off: From Strip No. 4 at NADZAB, 1055/L to 1057/L.

Rendezvous: Squadron rendezvous with Group at NADZAB, 1104/L. Rendezvous with 38th Group at GUSAP, 1130/L. Rendezvous with fighters at GUSAP, 1130/L. Left on course to target at 1137/L.

Attack: At BORAM, 1241/L to 1243/L.

Landing: 1515/L to 1519/L, Strip No. 4 at NADZAB.

(f) Route: NADZAB - GUSAP - BORAM.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>		<u>THIRD FLIGHT</u>	
Capt. CHIAPPE	276	Lt. HITT	632	Lt. HEUSER	769
Lt. SWARTLEY	040	Lt. TURK	176	Lt. ADAMS	036
Lt. ALLEN	030	Lt. BEST	033	Lt. McCALL	026
				Maj. ROSENBAUM	815

Capt. CHIAPPE was Strike Commander of the Mission.

The 498TH SQUADRON was assigned to lead the Group formation. This Squadron flew in number one position and Capt. CHIAPPE was assigned to lead this Squadron.

## 3. DETAILS OF MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The Squadron went across the target on a heading of 35 degrees at an altitude of 6,000 to 7,000 ft. in three flights in a shallow V formation in trail. The first two flights had three A/P's and the third flight had four A/P's. Since the lead A/P's in each flight were the only A/P's containing bombsights all A/P's dropped their bombs on the lead A/P of each flight.

The first flight consisting of Capt. CHIAPPE, LEADER, Lt. SWARTLEY, and Lt. ALLEN, attacked the target on a heading of 35 degrees at 1241/L at an altitude of 6500 ft.. All of their bombs hit the target and are shown on "Chart B" annexed. Direct hits were made on the Strip and direct hits were made in revetments on South East side of Strip destroying one twin engine bomber and three SSF.

The second flight consisting of Lt. HITT, leader, Lt. TURK, and Lt. BEST, attacked the target on a heading of 35 degrees at 1242/L at an altitude of 6,000 ft.. All their bombs hit the target and are shown on "Chart B". Bombs were dropped on the Strip and in revetment area amongst A/P's on both sides of East end of Strip. Two bombs were dropped on A/A position on the South East side of Strip. Results were unobserved.

The third flight consisting of Lt. HEUSER, leader, Lt. ADAMS, Lt. McCALL, and Maj. ROSENBAUM, attacked the target on a heading of 35 degrees at 1243/L at an altitude of 7,000 ft.. All their bombs hit the target and are shown on "Chart B". Bombs were dropped on the strip and in revetment areas North and South of the strip. Direct hits were made in revetments North of East half of Strip destroying five unidentified A/P's.

Immediately upon making bomb run all three flights made a dive to right and then left and took evasive action to avoid the heavy A/A fire and barrage.

(b) Anti-Aircraft Fire  
Caliber - Heavy and medium.  
Intensity - Very intense.  
Accuracy - Inaccurate.  
Altitude - On same level as bomb run.

(c) Fighter Cover  
Fighter cover was not observed.

(d) Details of Damage to Aircraft in the Air.  
(1) Nil damage to our aircraft.  
(2) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in the air.

(e) There were nil injuries to personnel of this Squadron on this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

5. APPENDICES.

- (a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, photo table.
- (b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.
- (c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Three barges or luggers were observed on shore one-half mile west of AWAR POINT, HANSA BAY. Smoke and fires were seen rising from WERWAK.

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION.- Photographs were not received in time to make photo interpretation for this report.

For the Squadron Commander:

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SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Ass't Intelligence Officer.



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## APPENDIX "A"

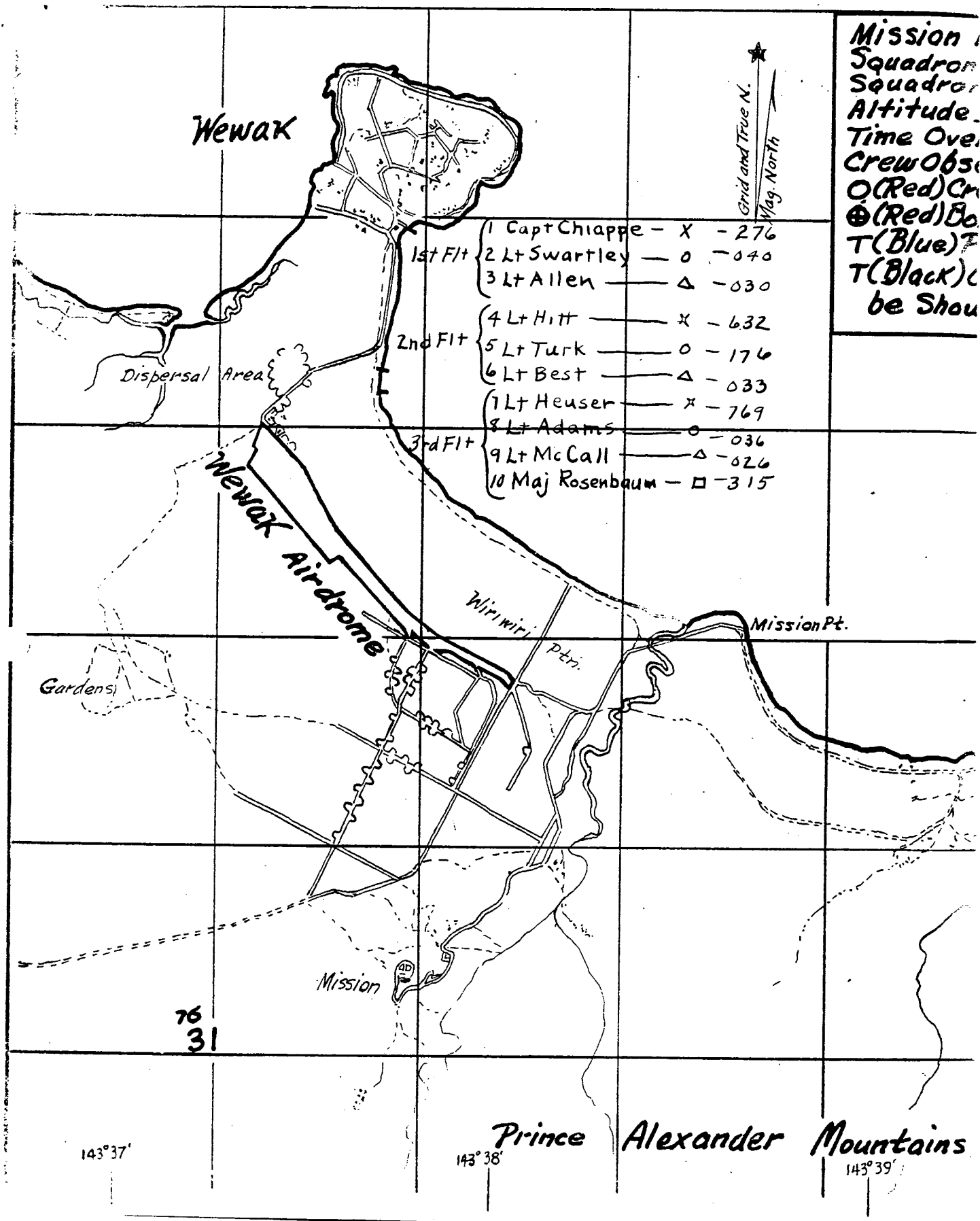
### BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
276	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
040	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
030	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
832	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
176	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
033	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
769	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
036	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
026	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
315	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
	<u>50</u>		<u>25,000 lb.</u>	<u>50</u>

### PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of Photo</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of camera</u>	<u>Ex. made</u>	<u>Prts Rec</u>
276	1241/1	BORAE	R-21	30	none rec'd
030	1241/1	BORAE	R-21	30	as yet.
033	1241/1	BORAE	R-21	30	

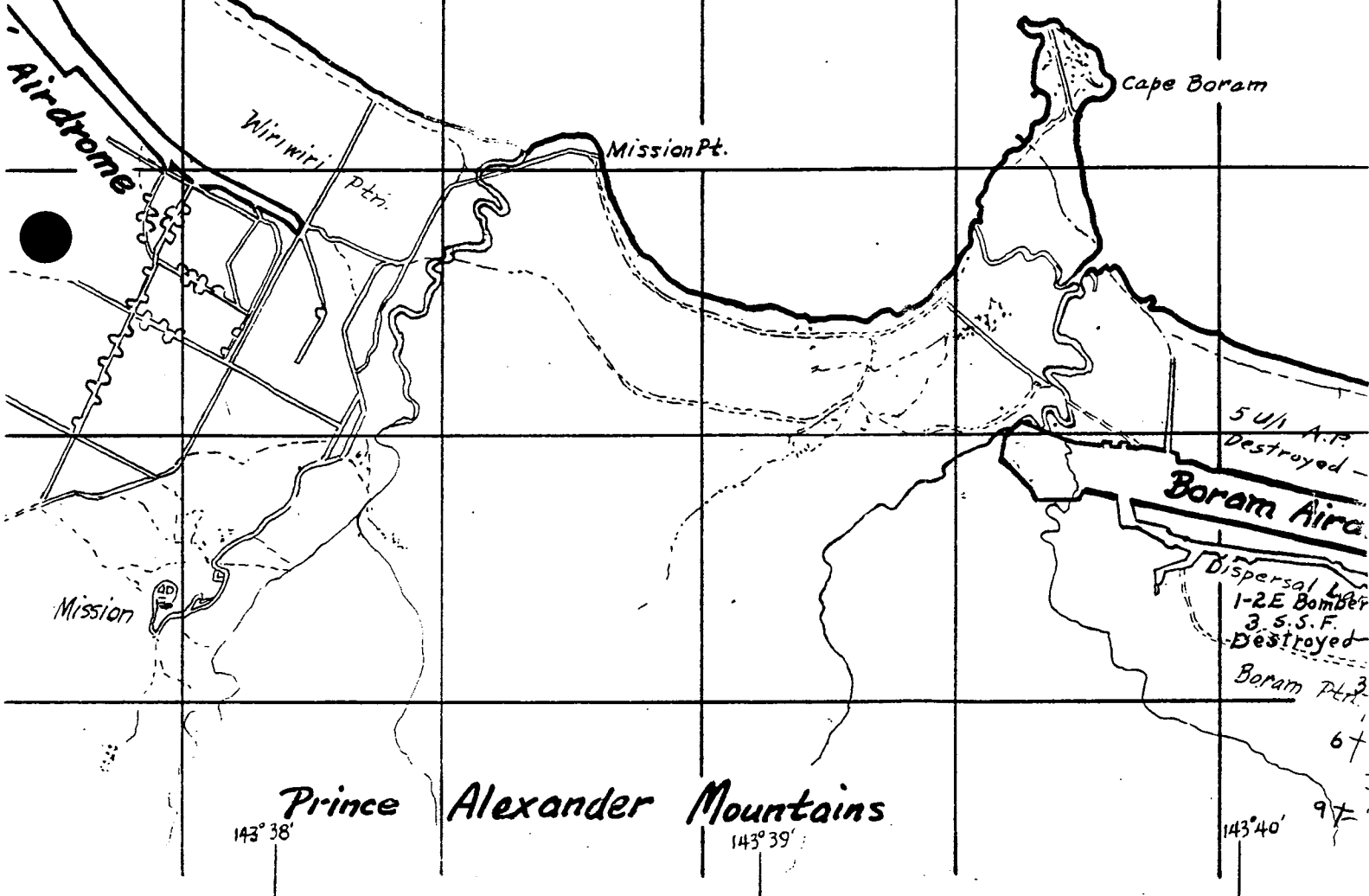
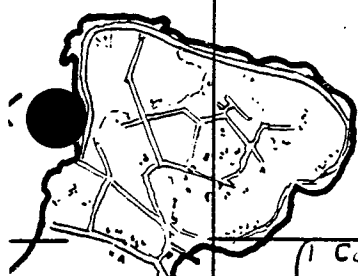
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Mission No. 56 B-2 25 Feb 44  
 Squadron No. 498 Group 345  
 Squadron Order Over Target 1st  
 Altitude 6000-7000 FT.  
 Time Over Target 1241-1243 / L  
 Crew Observation Bombing Efficiency  
 O (Red) Crew Report of Bomb Hits 50  
 ⊕ (Red) Bomb Hits Shown on Photos  
 T (Blue) Planes Taking Photos  
 T (Black) Other Planes. (All Planes to  
 be Shown at Beginning of Run.)

1st Flt { 1 Capt Chiappe - X - 276  
 2 Lt Swartley - O - 040  
 3 Lt Allen - Δ - 030  
 2nd Flt { 4 Lt Hitt - X - 632  
 5 Lt Turk - O - 176  
 6 Lt Best - Δ - 033  
 7 Lt Heuser - X - 769  
 8 Lt Adams - O - 036  
 3rd Flt { 9 Lt McCall - Δ - 026  
 10 Maj Rosenbaum - □ - 315

Grid and True N.  
 Mag. North



Prince Alexander Mountains

143°38'

143°39'

143°40'

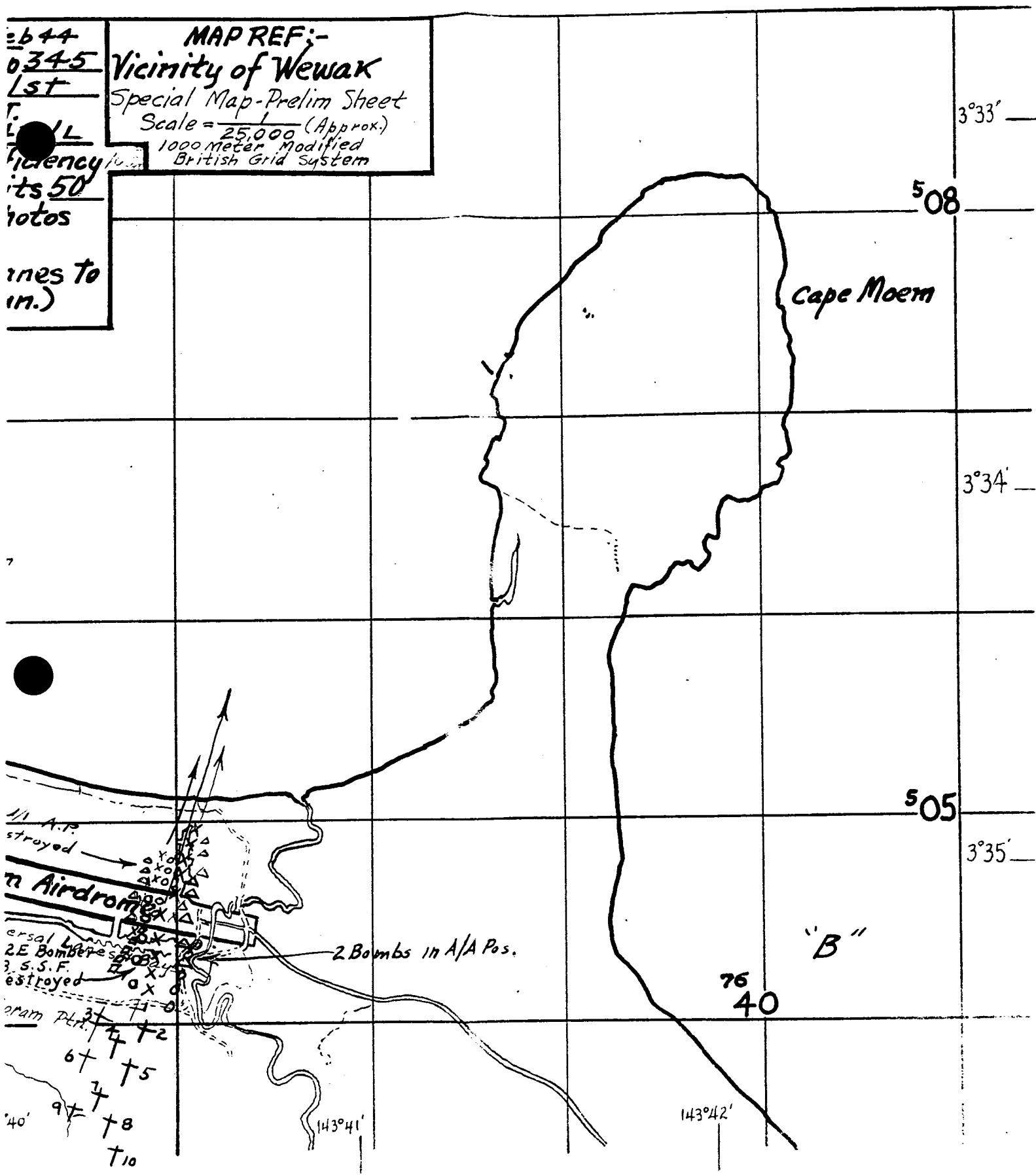
Boram Pt. 3

67

97

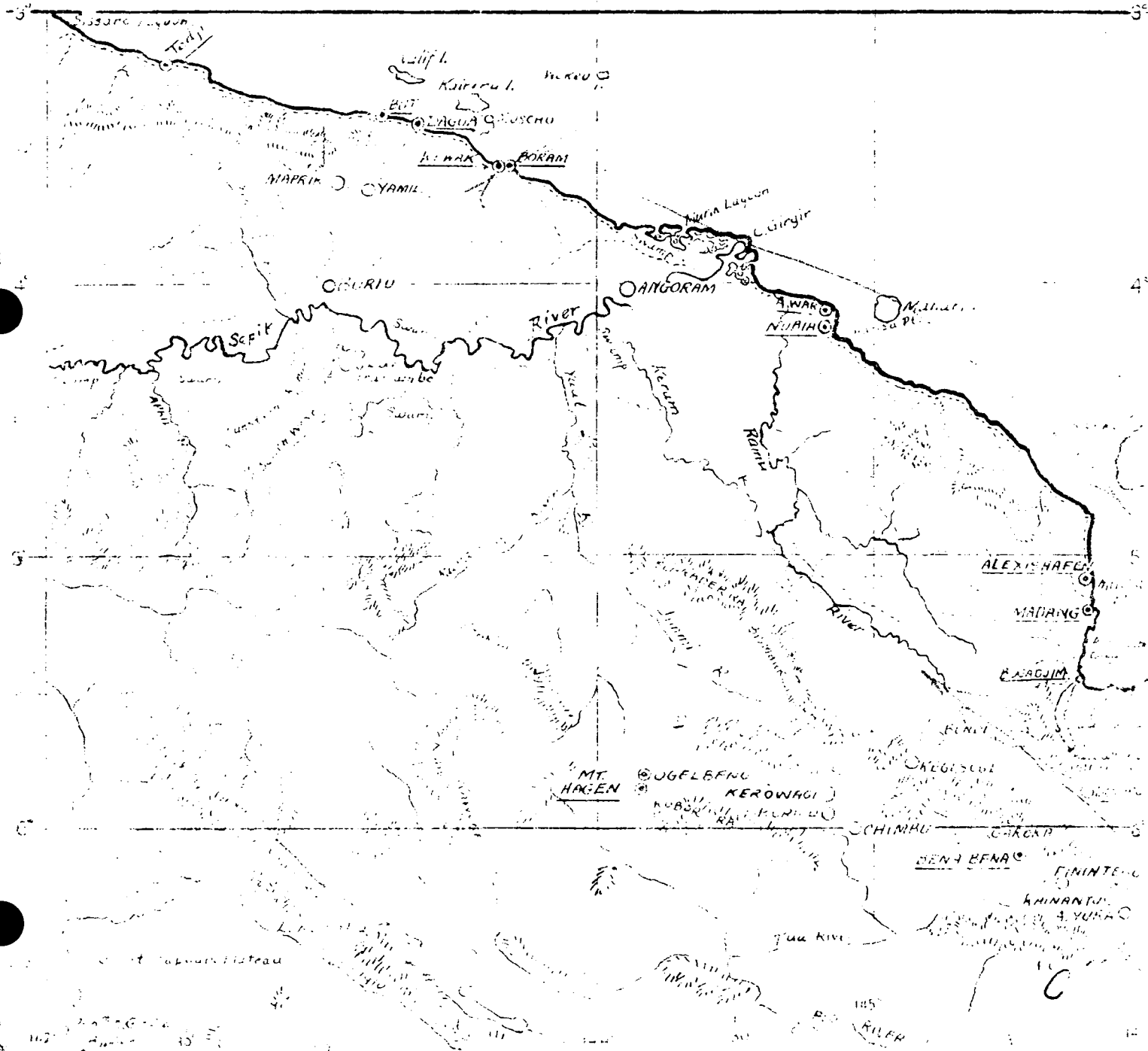
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MAP REF:-  
**Vicinity of Wewak**  
Special Map-Prelim Sheet  
Scale =  $\frac{1}{25,000}$  (Approx.)  
1000 Meter Modified  
British Grid System



MAP REF:-  
EASTERN NEW GUINEA  
NAVIGATION CHART

MISSION NO. 56-2 DATE 25 Feb 44  
CO. 498 345  
SEA. E 1st  
TIME 6000 - 7000  
1241-1243/L



498  
58-H  
27 Feb 44

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713, Unit #1

SLS/jv

28 February, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on Mission 58-H, performed 27 February, 1944, by five A/P's of the 498th Squadron. Objective - NUBIA STRIP and DISPERSAL AREAS, HANSA BAY.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. GENERAL.

(a) On the afternoon of 27 February, 1944, three Squadrons of the 345TH BOMB GROUP were ordered to strike NUBIA STRIP and DISPERSAL AREAS and AWAR STRIP and DISPERSAL AREAS at HANSA BAY. The 498th. Squadron was to bomb NUBIA STRIP and DISPERSAL AREAS at HANSA BAY.

(b) Rendezvous - The 345TH BOMB GROUP over strip 4, NADZAB with two squadrons of P-47's.

(c) Attack - The Squadron went across the target on a heading of 355 degrees at an altitude of 7,700ft. to 8,000 ft. in two flights in trail. The first flight had three planes and second flight two A/P's. Since the lead A/P's in each flight were the only A/P's containing bomb sights, all A/P's dropped their bombs on the lead A/P of each flight. The first flight did not observe the target until too late as the result it had to make a second bomb run over the target. 22 x 500 lb. inst. demo. bombs dropped in target. Five direct hits were made on the Southern end of the runway. Seventeen bombs hit in dispersal areas along the south west and the south east side of the runway. Three bombs hit approximately one hundred to two hundred feet from two twin engine bombers parked in south west dispersal area. Three bombs were salvaged about one mile north of north end of strip because of mal rack function. Bombing was excellent.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

- (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.
- (2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.

Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron

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Two enemy A/P's were probably damaged on the ground by the Squadron.

(e) Time and location of:

Alert: Immediate.

Take-Off: From Strip No. 4 at NADZAB, 1420/L to 1422/L.

Rendezvous: Squadron rendezvoused with GROUP and FIGHTERS over Strip No. 4 at NADZAB. Left on course immediately after rendezvous at 1430/L for target.

Attack: At NUBIA, HANSA BAY, 1540/L to 1545/L.

Landing: 1645/L to 1649/L, Strip No. 4 at NADZAB.

(f) Route: NADZAB - DUMPU - RAMU RIVER - NUBIA - RAMU RIVER - DUMPU - BASE.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

### FIRST FLIGHT

Maj. COLTHARP	632
Lt. FAIR	276
Lt. TURK	033

### SECOND FLIGHT

Capt. KILGORE	769
Lt. BODEN	040

Capt. DOUGHERTY, of the 500TH SQUADRON was strike Commander of the Mission.

The 500TH SQUADRON was assigned to lead the Group formation. This Squadron flew in #3 position and Maj. CHESTER A. COLTHARP was assigned to lead this Squadron.

## 3. DETAILS OF MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The Squadron went across the target on a heading of 355 degrees at an altitude of 7,000 ft. 8,000 ft. in two flights in trail. The first flight had three planes and second flight two A/P's. Since the lead A/P's in each flight were the only A/P's containing bomb sights, all A/P's dropped their bombs on the lead A/P of each flight.

The first flight consisting of Maj. COLTHARP, leader, Lt. FAIR, Lt. TURK, attacked the target on a heading of 355 degrees at 1540/L at an altitude of 8,000 ft. This flight did not observe the target in time to release its bombs and made a second run over the target on the same heading and at the same altitude at 1545/L. Maj. COLTHARP in A/P 632 got two direct hits on the southern end of the strip and had to salvoe three bombs approximately one mile north of the north end of the strip because of bomb rack mal function. The bombs of Lt. FAIR'S A/P and Lt. TURK'S A/P, fell along side of the southwest end of the strip and in the dispersal area on the southwesterly half of the strip.

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The second flight consisting of Capt. KILGORE, leader, and Lt. BODEN attacked the target on a heading of 355 degrees at 1541/L at an altitude of 7,700 ft. Three bombs from Capt. KILGORE'S A/P were direct hits on the southeast side of runway, and two bombs hit in dispersal area on the east side of the strip. Five bombs from Lt. BODEN'S A/P landed in the dispersal area on the southwesterly end half of strip. These bombs were seen to explode approximately 100 to 200 feet from two engine bombers parked in the dispersal area. It is believed that these two planes were probably damaged.

Immediately upon making the bombing run the GROUP assembled and returned to BASE.

(b) Anti-Aircraft Fire  
Caliber - Heavy and medium.  
Intensity - Intense.  
Accuracy - Inaccurate.  
Altitude - 4,000' to 10,000'.

(c) Fighter Cover  
Fighter cover was excellent.

(d) Details of Damage to Aircraft in the air.  
(1) Nil damage to our aircraft.  
(2) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in the air.

(e) There were nil injuries to personnel of this Squadron on this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Three A/A positions located on shore east of NUBIA STRIP were observed firing as the planes went over target. Three luggers were observed on shore east of middle of NUBIA STRIP, serviceability undetermined.



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7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photos show bombs dropping in dispersal areas on both sides of runway.

For the Squadron Commander.

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st. Lt., Air Corps,  
Ass't Intelligence Officer.

# APPENDIX "A"

## BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
632	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
276	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
035	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
769	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
040	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
	<u>25</u>		<u>12,500 lb.</u>	<u>25</u>

## PHOTO TABLE

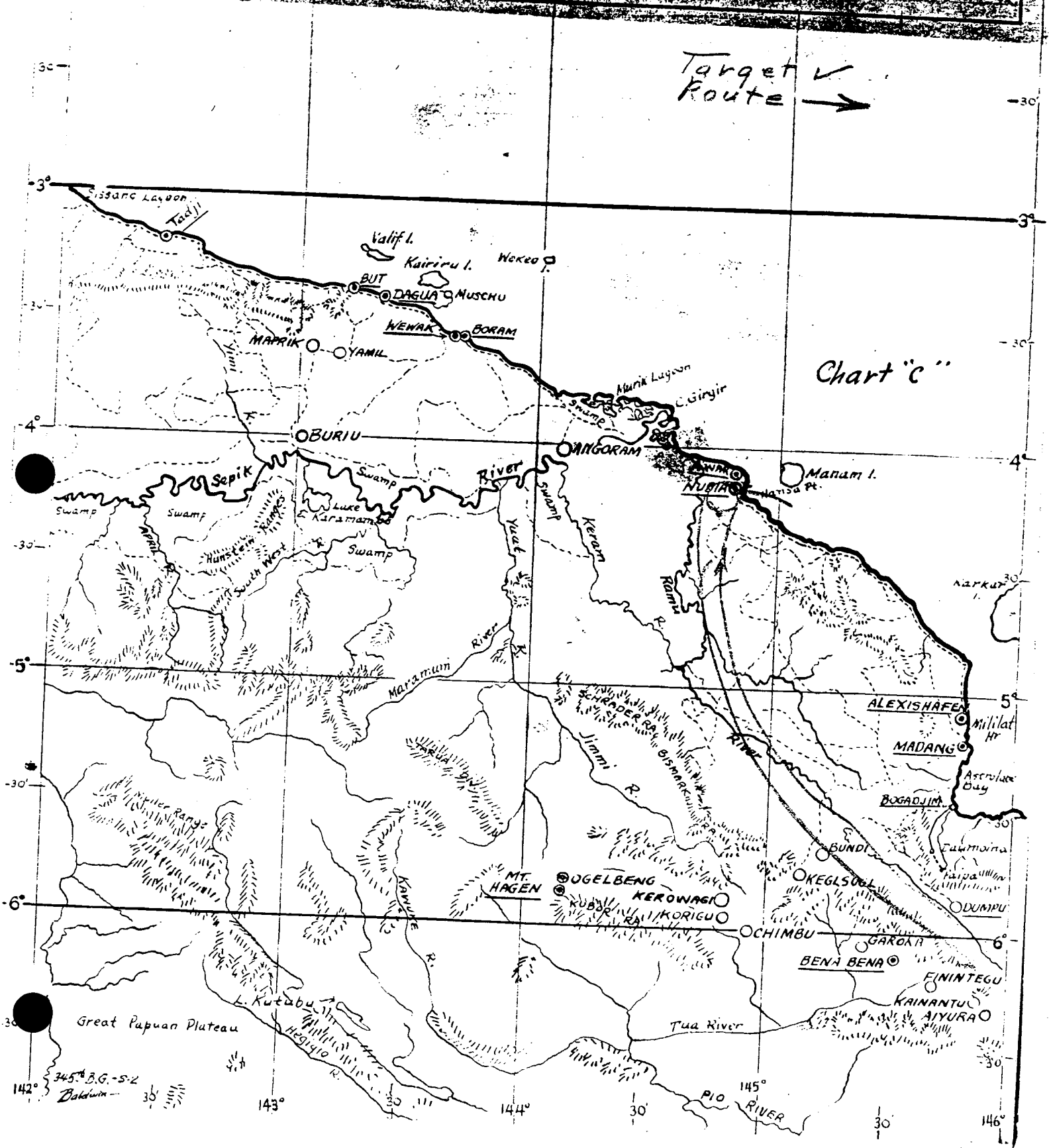
<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of Photo</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of camera</u>	<u>Ex. made</u>	<u>Ppts Rec'd</u>
769	1541/L	NUBIA	K-21	30	5

MAP REF:-  
**EASTERN NEW GUINEA**  
**NAVIGATION CHART**  
 Equatorial Scale: 1:2,315,000  
 31.72 Naut. Miles = 1 Inch  
 Mercator Projection

MISSION NO. 58H DATE 27 Feb 44 #19  
 SQUADRON NO. 498 REPORT 345  
 SQUADRON ORDER OVER TARGET 5th  
 ALTITUDE 7700-8000 FT  
 TIME OVER TARGET 1540-1545 LT  
 (BLACK) OTHER PLACES AND PLACES TO BE SHOWN  
 AT THE END OF THE

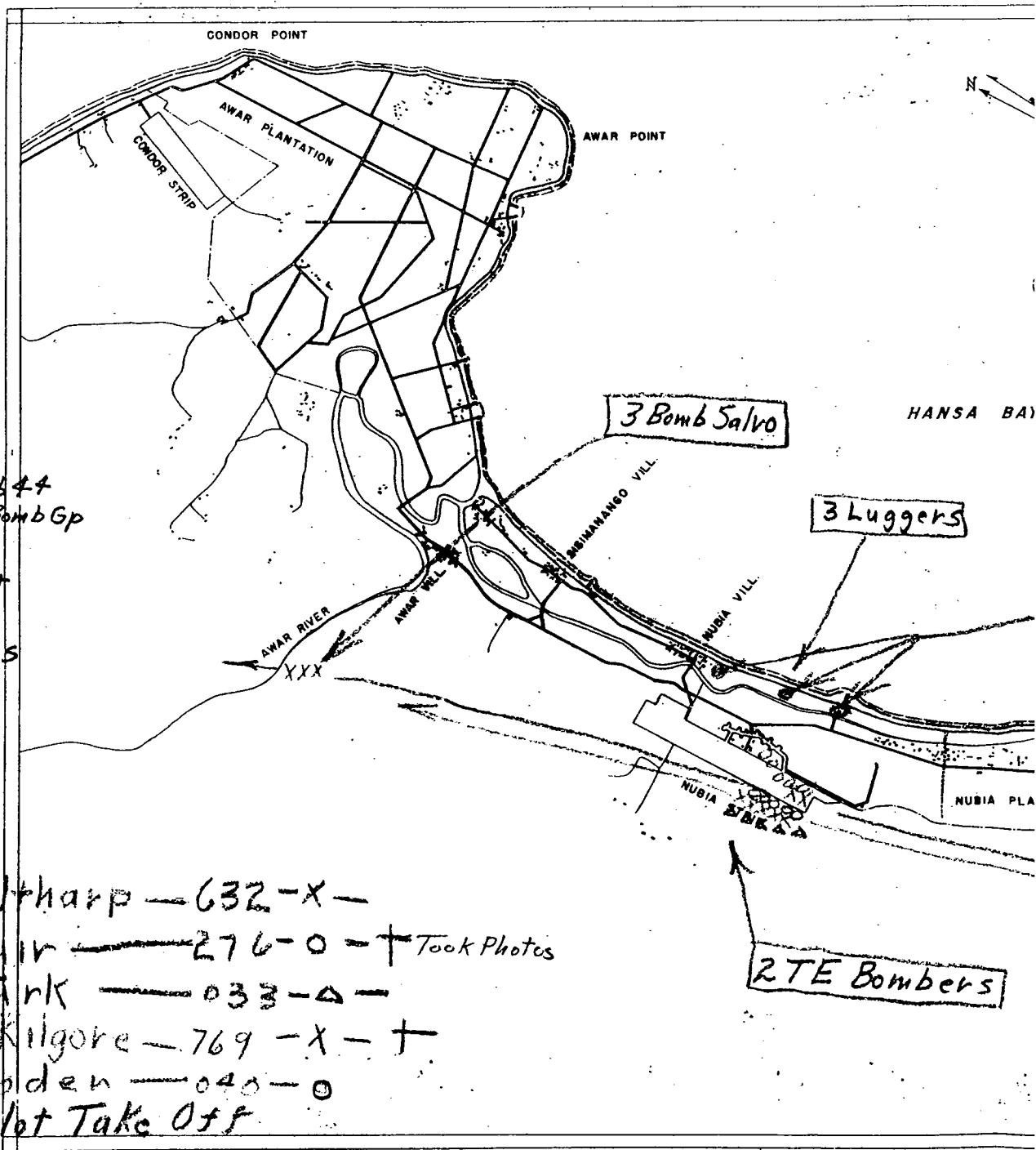
Target ✓  
 Route →

Chart "c"



Mission #58H-27Feb44  
 498 Bomb Sq (M) 345 Bomb Gp  
 5 B25 D1's + C's  
 Alt 7700-8000 Ft  
 Time 1540-1545/L  
 25x500# Inst. Bombs

1st Flt { 1 Maj Coltharp — 632-X-  
 2 Lt Fair — 276-0-+ Took Photos  
 3 Lt Turk — 033-A-  
 2nd Flt { 4 Capt Kilgore — 769-X-+  
 5 Lt Boden — 040-0  
 6 — Did Not Take Off



CONFIDENTIAL

498  
60-6  
29 Feb 44

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713, Unit #1

SLS/jv

1 March, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on Mission 60-G, performed 29 February, 1944, by six A/P's of the 498th. Squadron.  
Objective - Primary target as directed by NAVY at ADMIRALTY ISLANDS. Secondary target - LOU ISLAND.

**TO :** COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 923.

1. GENERAL.

(a) On the morning of 29 February, 1944, this Squadron was ordered to fly to PAK ISLAND which is just east of LOS NEGROS ISLAND, make contact with the control ship of the NAVY and strike such targets as the NAVY directs and in the event it did not strike any target as directed, it should bomb and strafe LOU ISLAND as its secondary target.

(b) Rendezvous - The SQUADRON was to rendezvous over strip #4, MANZAS and proceed as directed without fighter cover.

(c) Attack - The SQUADRON arrived at PAK ISLAND as directed at 0958/L, contacted the control ship of the NAVY and kept circling the island. The weather over MANUS ISLAND was rain, visibility and ceiling zero. AT 1023/L, the leader of the Squadron advised the NAVY that it could not possibly hit any targets it may want it to hit because of weather and also stated that the gas supply on A/P's were running low. NAVY then directed A/P's to return to BASE. The secondary target, LOU ISLAND was bombed and strafed at 1029/L. 23 x 500 lb. 8/11 sec. delay bombs were dropped on the southwesterly end of LOU ISLAND. One bomb was salvaged at sea. Five bombs were returned to base because of failure to release. 3700 x .50 caliber rounds of ammunition was expended to strafe secondary target.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

- (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.
- (2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.  
Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air.  
Nil enemy A/P's destroyed on ground.

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(e) Time and location of;

Alert: 0630/L.

Take-Off: From Strip No. 4 at NADZAB, 0705/L.

No. 4 at NADZAB. Rendezvous: SQUADRON rendezvoused over Strip  
Left on course at 0717/L.  
Attack: LOU ISLAND 1029/L.

Landing: 1235/L to 1238/L, Strip No. 4 at  
NADZAB.

(f) Route: NADZAB - LAE - UMBOI ISLAND - PAK  
ISLAND - LOU ISLAND - UMBOI ISLAND - LAE - BASE.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

### FIRST FLIGHT

Capt. KILGORE 030  
Lt. BODEN 065  
Lt. STEFANOWSKY 351

### SECOND FLIGHT

Maj. ROSENBAUM 315  
Lt. SCHRIKKER 026  
Lt. DOUGHERTY 036

Capt. KILGORE was strike commander and leader of  
the mission.

## 3. DETAILS OF MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The SQUADRON arrived  
at PAK ISLAND as directed at 0958/L, contacted the control ship  
of the NAVY and kept circling the island. The weather over  
MANUS ISLAND was rain, visibility and ceiling zero. At 1023/L,  
the leader of the Squadron advised the NAVY that it could not  
possibly hit any targets it may want it to hit because of weather  
and also stated that the gas supply on A/P's were running low.  
NAVY then directed A/P's to return to BASE. The Squadron then  
attacked the secondary target, LOU ISLAND.

The first flight consisting of Capt. KILGORE, leader,  
Lt. BODEN and Lt. STEFANOWSKY approached the target on a heading  
of 290 degrees at an altitude of 100 feet. Capt. KILGORE'S bombs  
fell on the southwesterly side of the island with one bomb over  
shooting the island and falling in the sea. Lt. BODEN dropped  
four of his bombs on the southwesterly end of the island and he  
salvaged one bomb that he could not release into the sea. Lt.  
STEFANOWSKY dropped all of his bombs on the southwesterly end of  
the island. All planes strafed the southwesterly end of the  
island. Chart "B" shows the approximate location of where all  
bombs fell.

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The second flight consisting of Maj. ROSENBAUM, Lt. SCHRICKER and Lt. DOUGHERTY approached the target on a heading of 290 degrees at an altitude of 100 feet. Maj. ROSENBAUM'S bombs and Lt. DOUGHERTY bombs fell across the southwesterly end of the island. The bombs of Lt. SCHRICKER would not release because of mal rack function and he returned them to BASE. In addition all the A/P's of this flight strafed the southwesterly end of the island.

Immediately upon making bombing and strafing run the Squadron assembled and returned to BASE.

(b) Anti-Aircraft Fire - NIL

(c) Fighter Cover - NIL

(d) Details of Damage to Aircraft in the Air.

(1) Nil damage to our Aircraft.

(2) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in the air.

(e) There were nil injuries to personnel of this Squadron on this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS- From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS. - NIL

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Nil photos were taken.

For the Squadron Commander.

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st. Lt., Air Corps,  
Ass't Intelligence Office:

# CONFIDENTIAL

## APPENDIX "A"

### BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
030	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
063	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
351	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
315	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
026	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
036	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
	<u>30</u>		<u>3000 lb.</u>	<u>25</u>

\* A/P 026 returned bombs to base.

### PHOTO TABLE

Photos were ~~xxx~~ not taken because of bad weather

### STRAFING TABLE

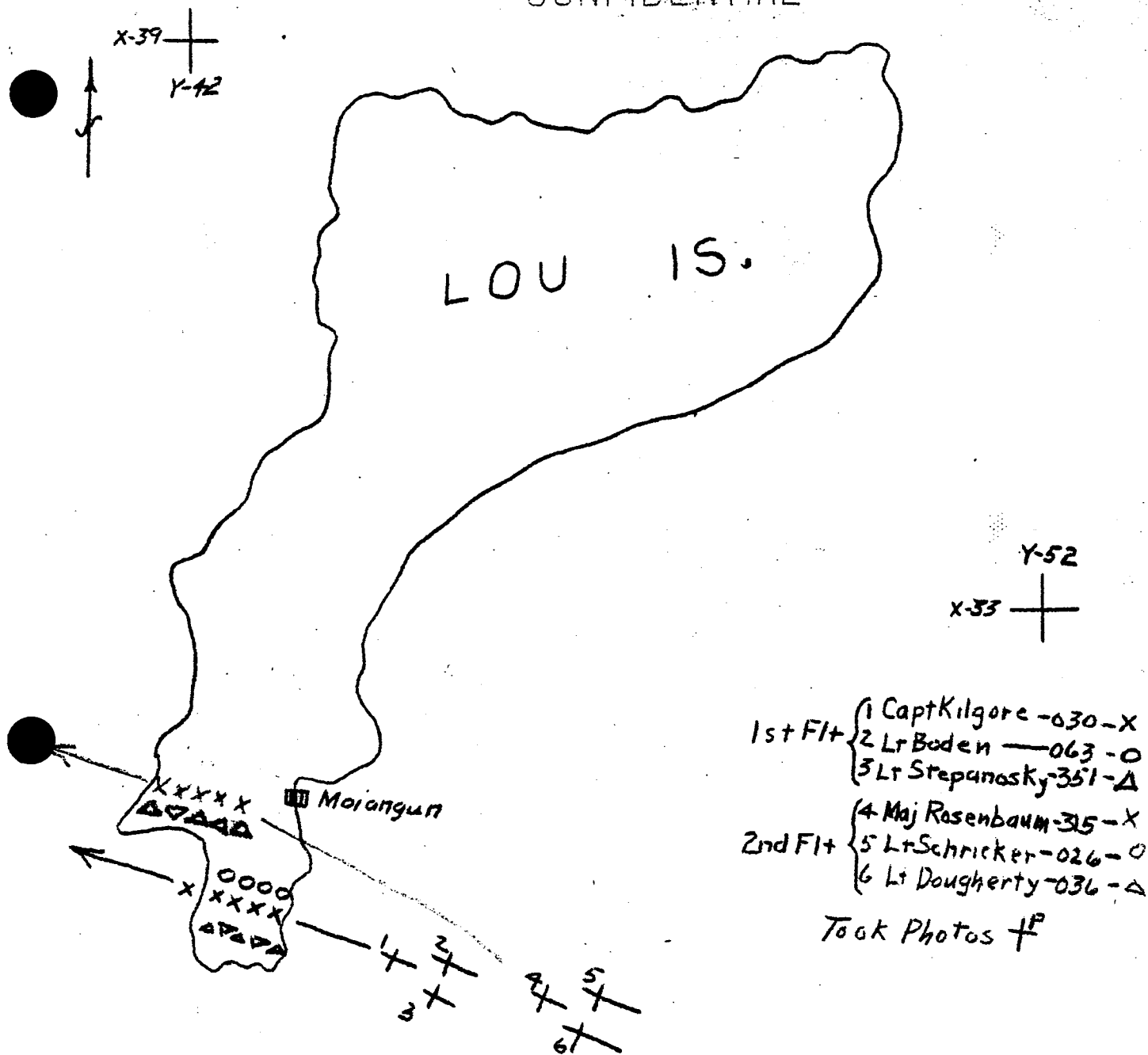
.50 Cal.

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>Rds. car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
	4,000			--
030	4,000	600	3,000	11
063	4,000	600	3,000	--
	4,000	600	3,000	--
	4,000	600	3,000	--
	4,000	700	3,000	--
		600	3,000	--
		<u>3,700</u>		

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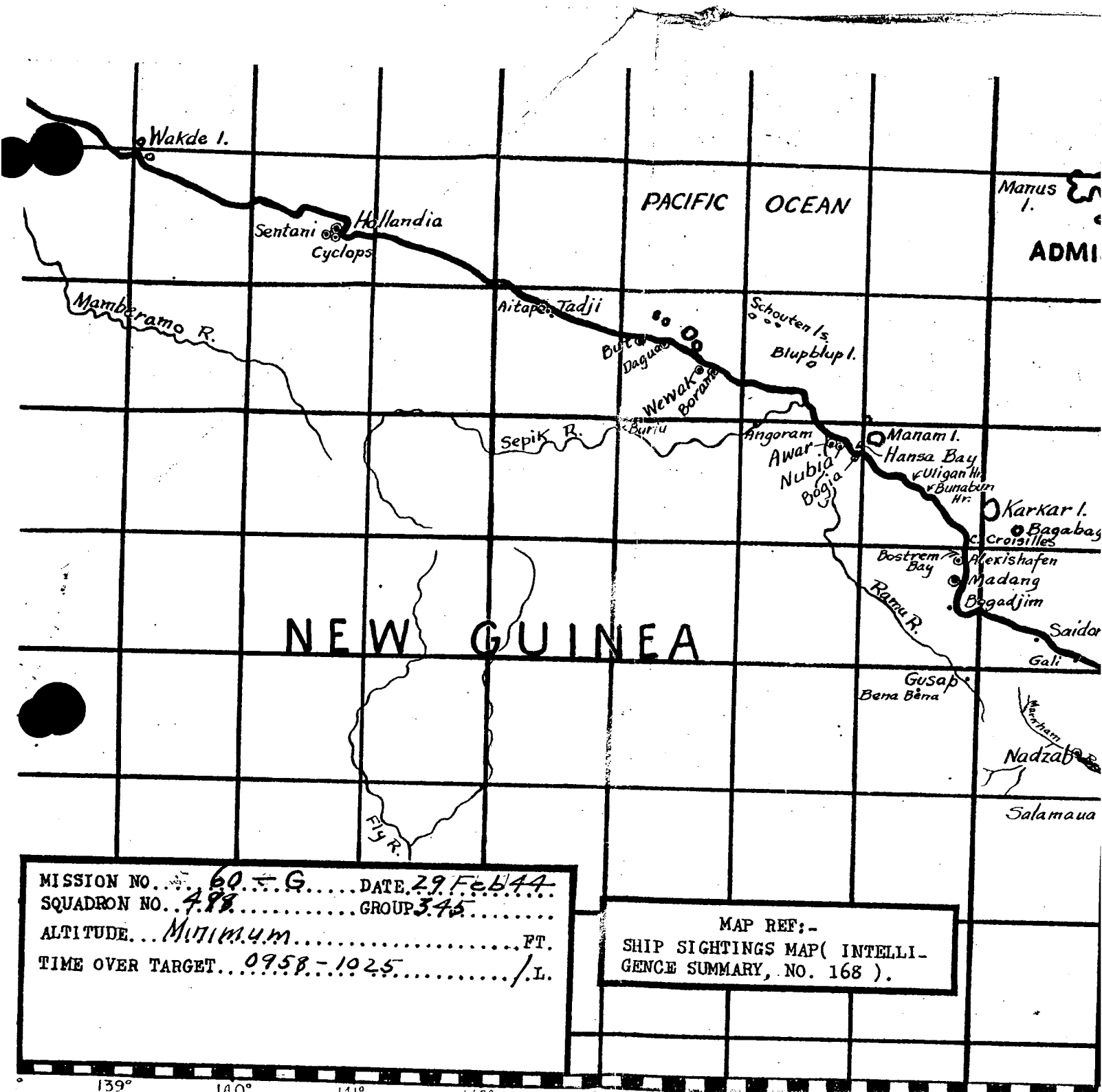
1st Flt { 1 Capt Kilgore - 030 - X  
2 Lt Boden - 063 - O  
3 Lt Stepanosky - 351 - A  
2nd Flt { 4 Maj Rosenbaum - 315 - X  
5 Lt Schriker - 026 - O  
6 Lt Dougherty - 036 - A  
Took Photos <sup>1P</sup>

Mission # 60-G 29 Feb 44  
498 Bomb Sq (M) 345 Bomb Gp  
6 B 25 D 13  
Time 0958-1025/L  
Alt - 100 Ft  
24 X 500# 8-11 Sec Delay

Overlay "Lou Is" (Admiralty Is) Prov. Map.  
Scale 1:63360

B

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498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713, Unit #1

498  
61-E  
1m24  
SL3/jv

2 March, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on Mission 61-E, performed 1 March, 1944, by 6 B25D-1's of the 498TH SQUADRON. Objective - Grounded A/P's, supplies and A/A positions at HANSA BAY, target 21-D, HANSA BAY.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. GENERAL.

(a) On the morning of 1 March, 1944, four Squadrons of the 345TH BOMB GROUP were ordered to bomb certain targets at HANSA BAY and the 498TH BOMB SQUADRON were to bomb grounded A/P's, supplies and A/A positions at HANSA BAY, target 21-D, HANSA BAY.

(b) Rendezvous - The 345TH BOMB GROUP were to assemble over Strip #4, NADZAB, and rendezvous with one Squadron of P-40's and one Squadrons of P-47's at GUSAP 30 minutes after take off.

(c) Attack - The Squadron went across the target on a heading of 300 degrees at an altitude of 7,100 ft. in two flights of three planes each in trail. Since the lead A/P's in each flight were the only A/P's containing bomb sights, all A/P's dropped their bombs on the lead A/P of each flight. 14 x 500 lb. inst. fuse bombs were dropped in target 21-D completely covering target. 15 x 500 lb. inst. fuse bombs were dropped in area between 4-C to the center of NUBIA STRIP. One bomb fell short and dropped in Bay off shore target 21-D. Bombing was excellent.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

- (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.
- (2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.  
Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air.  
Nil enemy A/P's destroyed on ground.

(e) Time and location of:

Alert: 1000/L.

Take-off: From Strip No. 4 at NADZAB, 1035/L.

Rendezvous: GROUP assembled over Strip #4 at NADZAB. Left on course to GUSAP, 1040/L. Fighter cover never did rendezvous with GROUP at GUSAP and GROUP left for target from GUSAP at 1110/L.

Attack: HANSA BAY, 1157/L.

Landing: 1330/L to 1333/L, Strip #4, NADZAB.

(f) Route: NADZAB - GUSAP - RAMU RIVER - HANSA BAY - RAMU RIVER - DUMPU - BASE.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

### FIRST FLIGHT

Maj. COLTHARP	632
Col. TRUE	315
Lt. SWARTLEY	024

### SECOND FLIGHT

Lt. BEST	769
Lt. STEFANOWSKY	371
Lt. ADAMS	030

Capt. DOUGHERTY, of the 500TH SQUADRON led his Squadron and the GROUP formation. Following the 500TH SQ. were the 501ST SQ., 499TH SQ., and the 498TH SQ.

Col. CLINTON U. TRUE, Commanding Officer of the 345TH BOMB GROUP was the strike force commander. Maj. CHESTER A. COLTHARP was assigned to lead this Squadron.

## 3. DETAILS OF MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The Squadron went across the target on a heading of 300 degrees at an altitude of 7,000 feet in two flights in trail. Since the lead A/P's in each flight were the only A/P's containing bomb sights, all A/P's dropped their bombs on the lead A/P of each flight.

The first flight consisting of Maj. COLTHARP, leader, Col. TRUE and Lt. SWARTLEY, attacked the target on a heading of 300 degrees at 1157/L at an altitude of 7,100 feet. All the bombs of this flight hit in an area between target 4-C to the center of NUBIA STRIP. Bombing was excellent.

The second flight consisting of Lt. BEST, leader, Lt. STEFANOWSKY and Lt. ADAMS, attacked the target on a heading of 300 degrees at 1157/L at an altitude of 7,100 feet. All the bombs of this flight excepting one which fell in the BAY short of the target, hit directly in target 21-D. Bombing was excellent.

Immediately upon making bombing and strafing run, the Squadron assembled and returned to BASE.

(b) Anti-Aircraft Fire  
Caliber - Heavy and medium.  
Intensity - Intense.  
Accuracy - Inaccurate.  
Altitude - 7,100'

(c) Fighter Cover  
Nil fighter cover was observed.

(d) Details of Damage to Aircraft in the air.  
(1) Nil damage to our aircraft.  
(2) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in the air.

(e) There were nil injuries to personnel of this Squadron on this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

5. AF ENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - The A/A positions at EKU VILLAGE and AWAR POINT was seen firing as planes left the target. A new A/A positions was seen firing from the AWAR PLANTATION BUILDINGS in target 9-D. A large fire was seen rising from the AWAR PLANTATION. Three heavy black smoke fires in vicinity of EKU VILLAGE.

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photos have not been received in time for interpretation.

For Squadron Commander.

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Ass't Intelligence Officer.

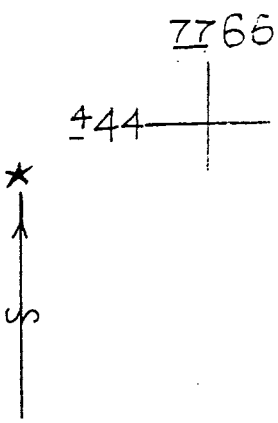
# APPENDIX "A"

## BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
632	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
315	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
024	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
769	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
371	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
030	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
	<u>30</u>		<u>3,000 lb.</u>	<u>30</u>

## PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of camera</u>	<u>Ex. made</u>	<u>prts rec'd</u>
769	1157/L	HANSA BAY	K-21	30	0



Mission #61-E 1-Mar-44  
498 Bomb Sq. (M) 345 Bomb Gp  
6 B-25 D1's & C's  
Order — 4  
Time — 1157  
Alt. — 7000  
Bombs: 30 x 500# 8-11 Sec.

1 Large Fire  
New Hwy A/A Pos: Firing

3 Black Fires

Eku

# HANSA BAY

Sisimanango

1st Flt {  
1-Maj Coltharp — 632-X  
2-Col True — 315-0  
3-Lt Swartley — 024-A

2nd Flt {  
4-Lt Best — 769-X-P  
5-Lt Stepanowsky — 371-0  
6-Lt Adams — 030-A

Took Photos — +

Nubia Adrm

Nubia

1 Bomb in Water

14 Bombs in 210

144°50'E

04°10'S

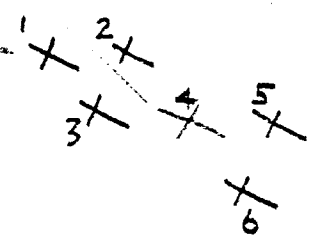
210

140

440

7766

3 A.P. Sighted



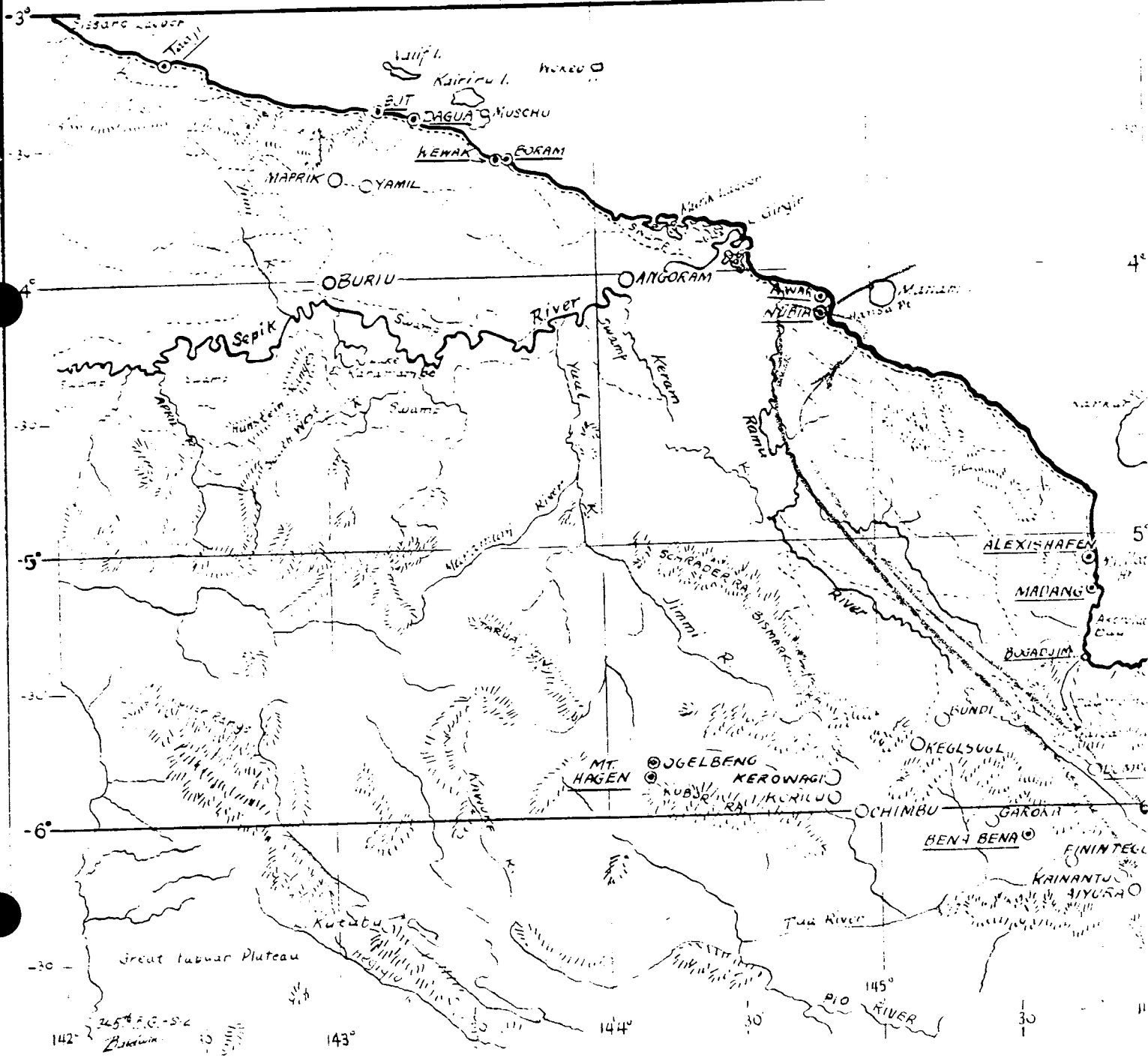
Overlay "Condor Adrm & New Nubia Adrm  
1:20,000 Series

MAP REF:-  
EASTERN NEW GUINEA  
NAVIGATION CHART

Scale:- 1:2,315,  
1/2 inch = 1 mile  
Mercator Projection

MISSION NO. LI-E DATE 1 Mar 44 '19  
SQUADRON NO. 498 GROUP 345  
SQUADRON ORDER OVER TARGET 4  
ALTITUDE 7000  
TIME OVER TARGET 1157/L  
T (BLUE) PLANES TAKING PHOTOS  
T (BLACK) OTHER PLANES (ALL PLANES TO BE IN PLACE  
AT BEGINNING OF RUN.)

*Target Area*  
*Route*





CONFIDENTIAL

498  
62-I  
2 March

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713, Unit #1

SLS/jv

3 March, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on Mission 62-I, performed 2 March, 1944, by 6 B25D-1's of the 498TH SQUADRON.  
Objective - Area 1,00 yards west of MOMOTE STRIP and both sides of RIVER southwest of MOMOTE STRIP, LOS NEGROS ISLAND.

**TO :** COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. GENERAL.

(a) On the morning of 2 March, 1944, four Squadrons of the 345TH BOMB GROUP were ordered to bomb area 1,000 yards west of MOMOTE STRIP and GROUND STATION requested that both sides RIVER southwest of MOMOTE STRIP be bombed.

(b) Rendezvous - The 345TH BOMB GROUP were to assemble over Strip #4, MADZAB, and proceed to the target without fighter cover.

(c) Attack - The Squadron went across the target on a heading of 320 degrees at an altitude of 4,400 ft. to 5,000 ft. in two flights of three planes each in trail. Since the lead A/P's in each flight were the only A/P's containing bomb sights, all A/P's dropped their bombs on the lead A/P of each flight. 11 x 500 lb. inst. demo. bombs were dropped on the southwesterly end of target 22. 11 x 500 lb. inst. demo. bombs were dropped along RIVER southwest of MOMOTE STRIP and as directed by ground station. 8 x 500 lb. inst. demo bombs were returned to base because they were not released since ground station requested no more bombing. All bombs released were direct hits in the target. Bombing was excellent.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

(1) At 1245/1, 30 miles south of MOMOTE, 8 Tony's intercepted the Squadron while the Squadron was flying at an altitude of 7,500 feet. Four Tony's attacked the second flight from 2 o'clock and above and pressed their attack to within 50 yds. Tony's were observed at an altitude of 9,000 feet. The Squadron on sighting of Tony's immediately formed a tight formation and made a dive in order to fly at minimum altitude.

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- (2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.  
One Tony was definitely destroyed in the air by the Squadron. Details of destruction are as follows; While four Tony's were pressing their attack on the second flight, S/Sgt. Thomas A. Scanlon fired a number of bursts at the attacking planes. One of the Tony's was seen to smoke as a result of S/Sgt. SCANLON'S fire and two other crews saw this Tony dive and crash into the sea. S/Sgt. SCANLON was turret gunner in A/P 036.  
Nil enemy A/P's destroyed on the ground.

(e) Time and location of:  
Alert: 1045/L.  
Take-off: From Strip #4 at NADZAB, 1054/L.

Rendezvous: GROUP assembled over Strip #4 at NADZAB at 1106/L and proceeded on course to target.

Attack: LOS NEGROS ISLAND, 1355/L.

Landing: 1610/L to 1613/L, Strip #4, NADZAB.

(f) Route: NADZAB - LAE - UMBOI ISLAND - LOS NEGROS ISLAND - UMBOI ISLAND - LAE - BASE.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

	<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>	<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>
Maj. ROSENBAUM	276	Lt. TURK 632
Lt. POLEY	063	Lt. SCHRIKER 036
Lt. EASTER	026	Lt. STEPANOWSKY 024

Capt. NEUNSCHWEIMER, of the 501ST SQUADRON led his Squadron in the GROUP formation. Following the 501ST SQUADRON were the 500TH SQUADRON, 498TH SQUADRON and 498TH SQUADRON. The 498TH SQUADRON flew over the target in number three position.

Maj. ROSENBAUM was assigned to lead this Squadron.

3.

## 3. DETAILS OF MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The Squadron arrived at the target at about 1310/L. It then made contact with the GROUND STATION and after circling for about 45 minutes, the GROUND STATION requested that both sides of the RIVER southwest of MONOTE STRIP be bombed and strafed. The Squadron went across the target on heading of 320 degrees at an altitude of 4,400 ft. to 5,000 ft. in two flights in trail. Since the lead A/P's in each flight were the only A/P's containing bomb sights, all A/P's dropped their bombs on the lead A/P of each flight.

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The first flight consisting of Maj. ROSENBAUM, leader, Lt. FOLEY and Lt. EASTER, attacked the target on a heading of 320 degrees at 1355/L, at an altitude of 4,400 ft. All the bombs of this flight that were released, were dropped on the southwesterly end of target 22, making a total of eleven 11 x 500 lb. inst. demo. bombs in all. Lt. FOLEY, in A/P 063, released only one bomb since the GROUND STATION requested no further bombing. He returned four of his bombs to BASE.

The second flight consisting of Lt. TURK, leader, Lt. SCHRICKER and Lt. STEFANOWSKY, attacked the target on a heading of 320 degrees at 1355/L, at an altitude of 5,000 ft. All bombs of this flight were released along both sides of the RIVER southwest of MONOTE as directed by the GROUND STATION. However, Lt. SCHRICKER, in A/P 036, only release one bomb cause he heard the message of the GROUND STATION requesting no further bombing. He returned four bombs to BASE. In all, 11 x 500 lb. inst. demo. bombs were dropped by this flight along both sides of the river.

Immediately upon making bombing run, the Squadron assembled and returned to BASE.

(b) Anti-Aircraft Fire - Nil

(c) Fighter Cover

There was to be no fighter cover on the mission. However, after being intercepted by enemy A/P's, P-47's were observed attacking the interceptors.

(d) Details of Damage to Aircraft in the air.

- (1) A/P 036, was damaged due to interception. A 20 m.m. explosive shell hit the left rudder of this A/P ripping a few large holes in it.
- (2) One TONY was definitely destroyed in the air by this Squadron.

(e) There were nil injuries to personnel of this Squadron on this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available, S/Sgt. THOMAS A. SCANLON, will be recommended for an award.

5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, ammunition table and photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS: - Two unidentified bombers followed by a P-38 was observed about 300 feet off the water flying in a southwesterly direction at about 1250/L.

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - No prints of photos were made in as much as the camera was turned on prior to the bomb run and negatives show only pictures of the sea.

For the Squadron Commander:

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Ass't Intelligence Officer

CONFIDENTIAL

APPENDIX "A"

BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
276	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
065	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	1
026	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
632	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
036	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	1
024	5	Inst. Demo.	500 lb.	5
	<u>30</u>		<u>11,000 lb.</u>	<u>22</u>

AMMUNITION TABLE

A/P - 632 expended 100 x .50 caliber rounds of ammunition.

A/P 036 expended 250 x .50 caliber rounds of ammunition.

PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of camera</u>	<u>Ex. made</u>	<u>prts rec'd</u>
276	1355/L	MONOTE	K-21	30	0

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Intercepted By  
Enemy Ftrs

146

148

149

150

151

ADMIRALTY

Manus Is.

Manote Is.

B I S M A R C K

S E A .

MADANG

Long Is

UMBOI Is.  
S. B. Karls Is.

N E W

B R I T A I N

HUON  
PENINSULA

NABZAB

Mercator Projection  
Scale 1:3,000,000

Chart  
No. 11

MISSION #621 - 2 Mar 44  
418 Bomb Sq 345 Bomb Gr

Target - ✓  
Route →

Mission #62 I 2 Mar 1944

Time 1355/L

Order 3rd

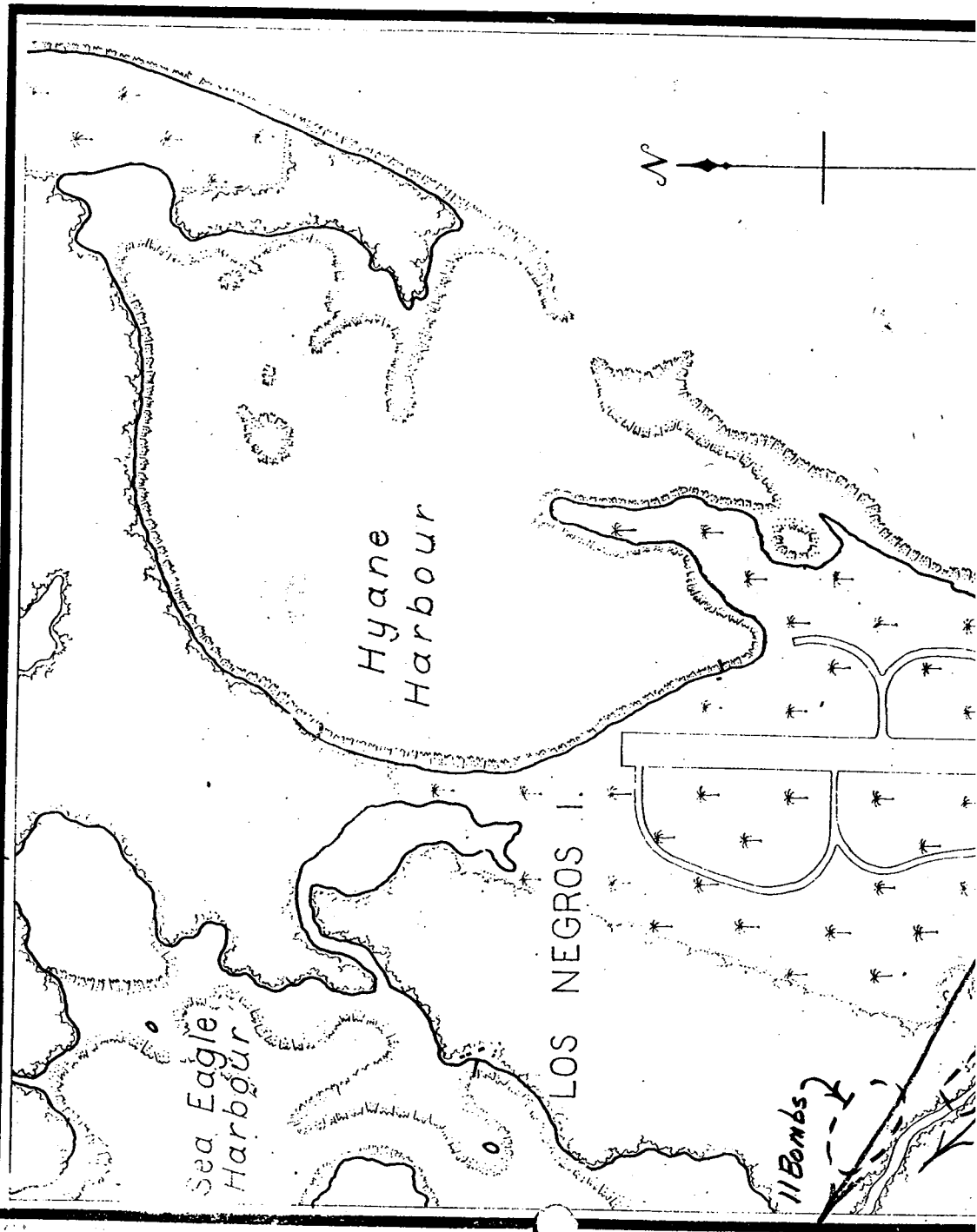
6 B 25 D's & C's

Alt - 4400-5000'

Bombload 30x500# Inst Demo

4985g 345 Gp

1st Flt { 1 Maj Rosenbaum - 276 -  
2 Lt Foley - 063 -  
3 Lt Easter - 026 -  
2nd Flt { 4 Lt Turk - 632 -  
5 Lt Schriker - 036 -  
6 Lt Stephanowski - 024 -



CONFIDENTIAL

478  
65-I  
5 Mar 44

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713, Unit #1

6 March, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on Mission 65-I, performed 6 March, 1944, by six A/P's of the 498th. Squadron.  
Objective - Target #14, LOS NEGROS ISLAND.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. GENERAL.

(a) On the morning of 6 March, 1944, three Squadrons of the 345TH BOMB GROUP were ordered to bomb and strafe Target #14, LOS NEGROS ISLAND.

(b) Rendezvous - The 345TH BOMB GROUP were to assemble over Strip #1, NADZAB and 15 minutes thereafter was to proceed to the target without fighter cover.

(c) Attack - The Squadron went across the target on a heading of 330 degrees at an altitude of 100 ft. in two flights of three A/P's each in trail. Two passes were made at the target. 29-x 500 lb., 8/11 sec. delay bombs were released at target. 14 bombs were direct hits in target and 15 bombs fell slightly to the east and north of target. One bomb was returned to base because of rack mal function. Target was thoroughly strafed in two passes expending 11,000 x .50 cal. and 2,000 x .30 cal. rounds of ammunition.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

(1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.

(2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.

Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

(e) Time and location of:

Alert: 0815/L.

Take-Off: From Strip No. 4 at NADZAB, 0844/L  
to 0846/L.

Rendezvous: Squadron rendezvoused with GROUP over Strip #1, NADZAB at 0859/L and immediately proceeded on course to the target.

Attack: At LOS NEGROS ISLAND, 1110/L to 1112

Landing: 1330/L to 1333/L, Strip No. 4, "

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(f) Route: MADZAB - LAE - UMBOI ISLAND -  
LOS NEGROS ISLAND - UMBOI ISLAND - LAE - BASE.

2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

FIRST FLIGHT

Capt. KILGORE 176  
Lt. ADAMS 037  
Maj. ROSENBAUM 063

SECOND FLIGHT

Lt. DOUGHERTY 024  
Lt. STEFANOWSKY 026  
Lt. SWARTLEY 351

Capt. KILGORE of the 498TH SQUADRON was strike  
Commander of the mission.  
The 498TH SQUADRON was assigned to lead the GROUP  
formation.

3. DETAILS OF MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The Squadron went  
across the target on a heading of 330 degrees at an altitude  
of 100 feet in two flights in trail and made two passes at  
the target.

The first flight consisting of Capt. KILGORE,  
Lt. ADAMS and Maj. ROSENBAUM, attacked the target on a heading  
of 330 degrees at 1110/L to 1124/L, at an altitude of 100 feet.  
This flight bombed and strafed the target on the first pass and  
strafed on the second pass. Capt. KILGORE'S bombs fell just  
north of the target, and a little to the east of it. Lt. ADAMS  
released his five bombs just east of the target. Maj. ROSEN-  
BAUM released four of his five bombs just north of the target.  
One bomb in Maj. ROSENBAUM'S A/P, failed to release because of  
rack mal function and it was returned to BASE. This flight  
expended 5400 x .50 caliber and 1500 x .30 caliber ammunition  
in thoroughly strafing the target.

The second flight consisting of Lt. DOUGHERTY,  
leader, Lt. STEFANOWSKY and Lt. SWARTLEY, attacked the target  
on a heading of 330 degrees at 1110/L to 1124/L, at an altitude  
of 100 feet. This flight bombed and strafed the target on the  
first pass and strafed on the second pass. Lt. DOUGHERTY, got  
four direct hits in the target and one bomb fell just north of  
the target. The bombs released by Lt. STEFANOWSKY were direct  
hits in the target. All the bombs released by Lt. SWARTLEY  
were direct hits in the target. The bombing of this flight was  
excellent. This flight expended 5700 x .50 caliber and  
1300 x .30 caliber ammunition in thoroughly strafing the tar-  
get.

Immediately upon making the second strafing  
run the GROUP assembled and returned to BASE.

(b) Anti-Aircraft Fire - Nil.

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(c) Fighter Cover

There was to be no fighter cover on the mission. However, there was to be area fighter cover near the target which was not observed.

(d) Details of Damage to Aircraft in the air.

- (1) Nil damage to our Aircraft.
- (2) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in the air.

(e) There were nil injuries to personnel of this Squadron on this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, strafing table and photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - A camouflaged gun position was observed 1500 ft. north of north end of Target #14. A flag red on top and yellow bottom was observed protruding out of the water at 147 degrees 35 minutes East - 5 degrees 45 minutes South, which is just west of UMBOI ISLAND.

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Prints from photos have not been received from which an interpretation can be made.

For the Squadron Commander.

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Asst Intelligence Officer.

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APPENDIX "A"

BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
176	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
037	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
063	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	4
051	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
026	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
024	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
	30		14,500 lb.	29

STRAPING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 Cal.</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 Cal.</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
	<u>Rds car'd</u>		<u>Rds car'd</u>	
176	4,000	1,800	4,000	500
037	4,000	1,600	4,000	500
063	4,000	2,000	4,000	500
351	4,000	1,600	4,000	300
026	4,000	2,000	4,000	1,000
024	4,000	2,100	4,000	---
		11,100		2,800

PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Type of camera</u>	<u>Ex made</u>	<u>Ppts rec'd</u>
037	1110/L	LOS NEGROS ISL.	K-21	10	0
063	1110/L	LOS NEGROS ISL.	K-21	10	0
351	1110/L	LOS NEGROS ISL.	K-21	30	0

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7/26/2014

$$\begin{array}{r} Y56 \\ X-79 \end{array}$$

MISSIO#65A 5 Mar 44  
498 Sq 345 GP  
6XB25 D/S  
Time - 1110-1124/L  
Alt - Minimum  
Order - 1st  
Bomb Load 30x500#  
A.P. 063 ~~to~~ returned 1 Down

Negros Is.

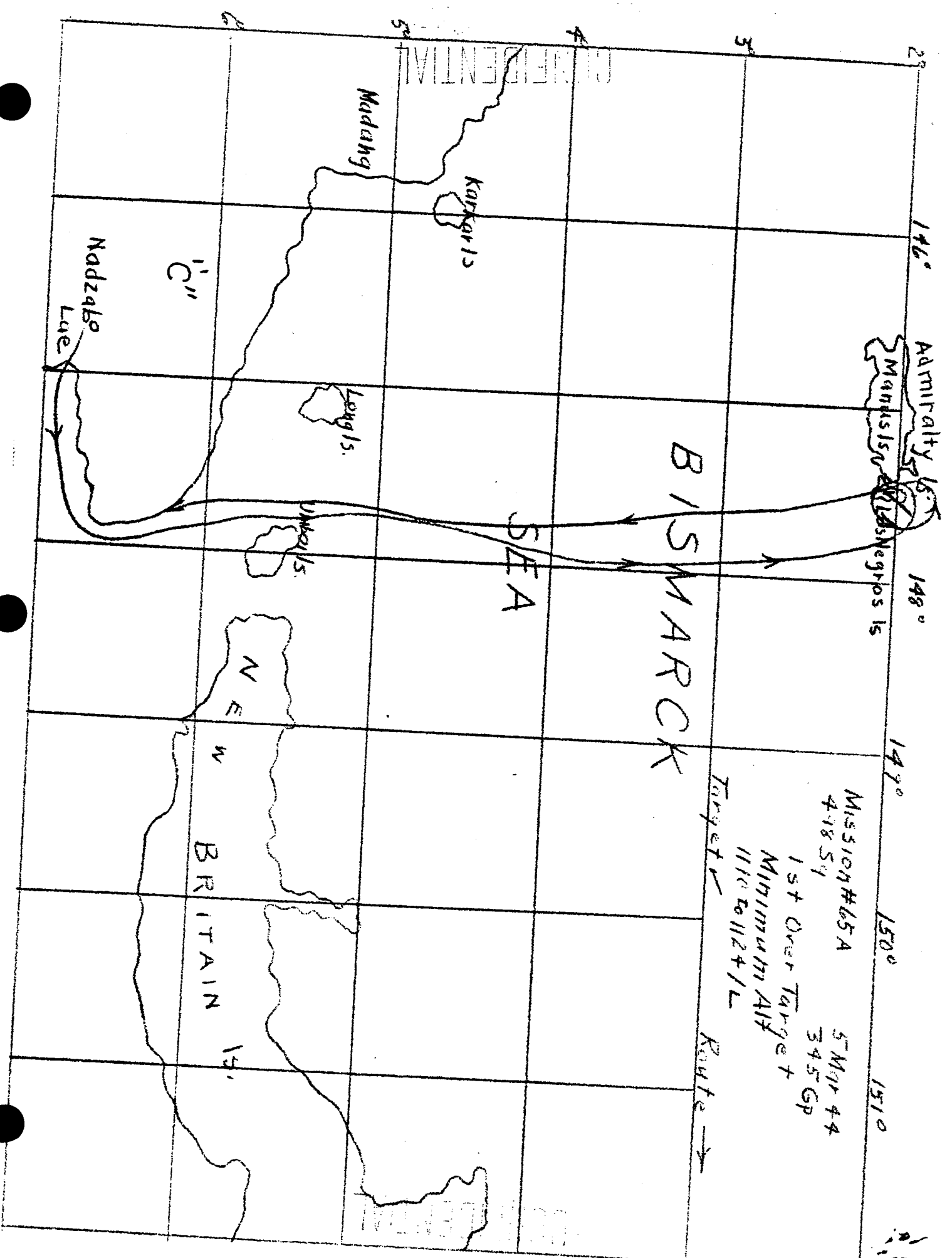
X-52

Los

Overlay: Materning & Pokaka Special Maps  
Scale 1:20,000

02° 02' S

147027'E



B I S M A R C K

SEA

BRITAIN

Mission #65A  
4-18-54  
1st Over Target  
Minimum Alt  
110 to 12412

5 Mr 44  
345 Gp

Target Route →

CONFIDENTIAL

498  
66-I  
6mcr4-

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713, Unit #1

SLS/jv

7 March, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on Mission 66-I, performed 6 March, 1944, by five A/P's of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - Target #1, LOS NEGROS ISLAND.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925,

1. GENERAL.

(a) On the morning of 6 March, 1944, three Squadrons of the 345TH GROUP were ordered to strike at a target designated by the ALP at LOS NEGROS ISLAND. The 498th Squadron was ordered to attack an area designated as target #1 and the 501st and 499th Squadrons were assigned specific targets in the same area.

(b) Rendezvous - The 345TH BOMB GROUP over Strip #1, NADZAB, ten minutes after the first A/P left the ground.

(c) Attack - The Squadron kept circling east of LOS NEGROS ISLAND until contact was made with the ALP who then directed that they bomb and strafe target #1, LOS NEGROS ISLAND. The Squadron went across the target on a heading of 300 degrees at an altitude of 100 feet in one flight of four A/P's. 18 x 500 lb. 8/11 sec. fuse bombs were direct hits in target. One bomb was released on beach just short of target and one bomb was salvaged in water just beyond target. Five bombs were returned to base by A/P 420, who returned to base after getting within 30 mi. of the target. Target was thoroughly strafed with 1900 x .50 cal. and 700 x .30 cal. rounds of ammunition. A/A position in target was silenced. Bombing was excellent.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

(1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.

(2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.

Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

(e) Time and location of:

Alert: 0800/L.

Take-Off: From Strip #1, NADZAB, 0933/L to 0934/L.

Rendezvous: Squadron rendezvoused with GROUP over Strip #1, NADZAB at 0940/L, and left immediately thereafter for the target.

Attack: At LOS NEGROS ISLAND, 1227/L.

Landing: 1440/L to 1442/L, Strip #1, NADZAB.

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(f) Route: NADZAM - DUMPU - BAGBAG ISLAND-  
LOS NEGROS ISLAND - HANSA BAY - BOGADJIM - DUMPU - BASE.

2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>	
Capt. MAGEE	176	Lt. TURK	371
Capt. DAVIDSON	037	Lt. EASTER	030
Lt. ADLEMAN	063		

The 499TH SQUADRON led the GROUP formation. The 498TH SQUADRON flew in number three position following the 501ST SQUADRON. Capt. MAGEE was assigned to lead the Squadron.

3. DETAILS OF MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The Squadron upon orders received kept circling east of LOS NEGROS ISLAND until contact was made with the ALP who then directed that they bomb and strafe target #1, LOS NEGROS ISLAND. The Squadron went across the target on a heading of 300 degrees at an altitude of 100 feet in one flight of four A/P's at 1227/1.

The Squadron was to go across the target in two flights but inasmuch as A/P 420 piloted by Lt. TURK, had return to BASE after getting to within 90 miles of the target, the Squadron reformed and flew across the target in four A/P's abreast. The bombs of Capt. MAGEE, A/P 176, and Capt. DAVIDSON, A/P 037, all were direct hits in the target. Four bombs released by Lt. ADLEMAN, A/P 063, were direct hits in the target and one bomb was salvaged in water just beyond target. Four bombs released by Lt. EASTER, A/P 030, were direct hits in the target and one bomb landed on beach just short of the target. The bombing of the Squadron was excellent. In addition to bombing, all A/P's thoroughly strafed target expending 1900 x .50 cal. and 700 x .30 cal. rounds of ammunition.

Immediately upon making the bombing run, the GROUP assembled to return to BASE.

(b) Anti-Aircraft Fire - Only one burst of A/A fire was observed in front of formation from target. This position was silenced by bombing and strafing.

(c) Fighter Cover - There was to be no fighter cover on this mission. However, there was to be area fighter cover near the target which was not observed.

(d) Details of Damage to Aircraft in the air.  
(1) Nil damage to our aircraft.  
(2) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in the air.

(e) There were nil injuries to personnel of this Squadron on this mission

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4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, strafing table and photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Fires were observed in target #11, prior to reaching target. At 1355/L, at a distance of 10 miles away from HANSA BAY, large fires were observed.

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photos confirm bomb spotting as observed by crews. Target well covered.

For the Squadron Commander.

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Asst Intelligence Officer.

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APPENDIX "A"

BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
176	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
037	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
063	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
*371	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	-
030	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
	<u>25</u>		<u>12,500 lb.</u>	<u>20</u>

\* Substitute A/P 420 for A/P 371. Five bombs were returned to base.

STRAPPING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 Cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 Cal.</u> <u>Rds. car'd</u>	<u>Rds ex.</u>
176	4,600	800	4,000	500-
037	4,600	400	4,000	200
063	4,600	600	4,000	---
<del>371</del>	<del>4,600</del>	-	4,000	---
030	4,600	<u>300</u>	4,000	---
		1,900		<u>700</u>

PHOTO TABLE

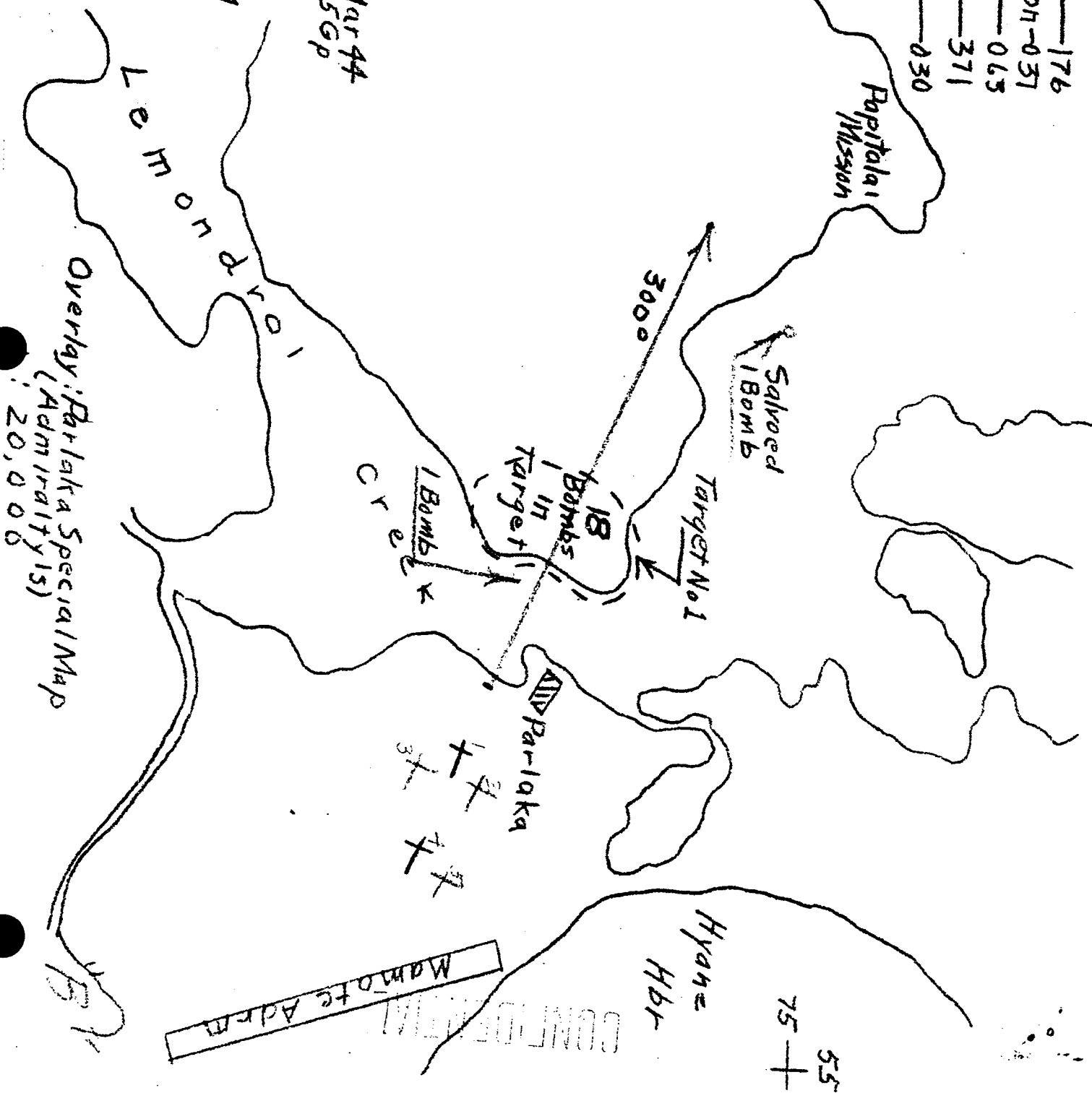
<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Type of camera</u>	<u>Ex. made</u>	<u>prts rec'd</u>
037	1227/1	LOS NEGROS	K-21	30	4
063	1227/1	LOS NEGROS	K-21	30	5
030	1227/1	LOS NEGROS	K-21	30	0

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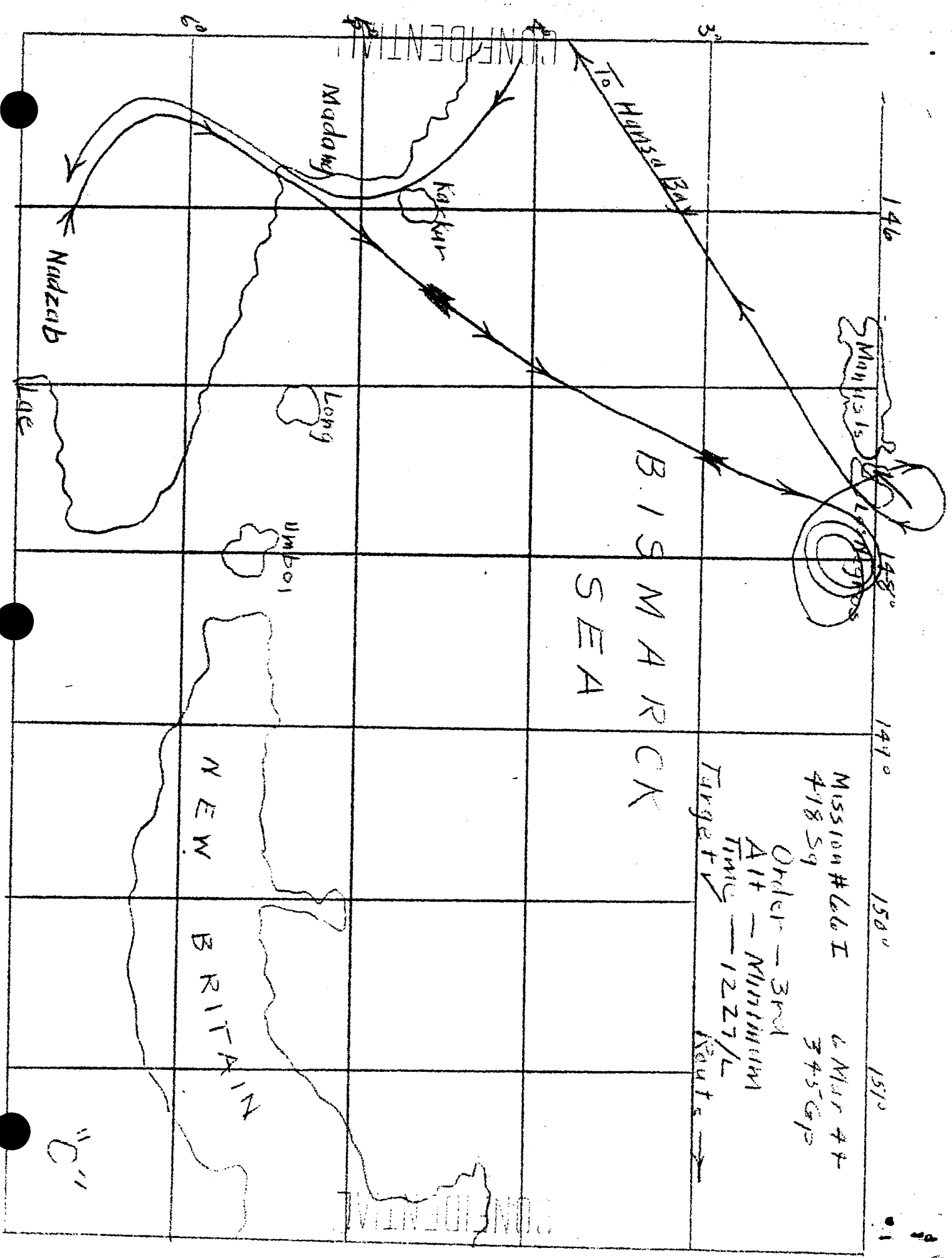
- Capt Magee — 176  
 1st Flt { 2 - Capt Davidson — 037  
           3 - Lt Adelmann — 065  
 2nd Flt { 4 - Lt Turk — 371  
           5 - Lt Easter — 030

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Mission # 66-I 6 Mar 44  
 49859 5 B25 D1's 345 GP  
 50 73 Time — 1227L  
 Order — 3rd  
 Alt — Minimum  
 25 x 500 # Bombs  
 Took Photos +



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498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713 - 1

CMB/fo

10 March, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 69-I, performed 9 March, 1944, by five A/P's of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - personnel and installations in Lorengau Township and Lugos Mission.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. GENERAL.

(a) Six airplanes each from two Squadrons of the 345th Group were to strike at personnel and installations in Lorengau Township, Lugos Mission and Bear Point. The 498th Squadron was to attack Lorengau Township and Lugos Mission.

(b) Rendezvous - the two Squadrons assembled enroute, rendezvoused at Pinschhafen at 0756/L.

(c) Attack - The Squadrons circled Momote strip in order to pick up any message sent by the ground station and then proceeded direct to the individual targets. The Squadron attacked on a heading of 300 degrees from an altitude of 100 feet in two flights of two planes each with the number five plane attacking individually. 16 x 500 lb. 8/11 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped on Lorengau Township and 9 bombs were dropped in Lugos Mission. One bomb was dropped in the water off the coast of Bowat Bay. Two fires were started in Lugos Mission and two houses were destroyed by direct hits. Both targets were strafed thoroughly and the coast west to Bowat Bay was also strafed on both runs. 12100 x .50 caliber and 4500 x .30 caliber rounds of ammunition were used in the two strafing runs. Bombing was excellent.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

- (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.
- (2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.
- (3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

(e) Time and location of:

Alert: Nil

Take Off: From strip #4, WADZAB, 0730/L to 0732/L.

Rendezvous: The Squadron assembled enroute to Pinschhafen, rendezvoused at Pinschhafen with the 501st Squadron at 0756/L and were on course at 0758/L.

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498  
69-I  
9 Mar 44

# CONFIDENTIAL

Attack: MANUS ISLAND, 0938/L to 0945/L.  
Landing: 1453/L to 1500/L, strip #4, HADZAB.

(f) Route: HADZAB - PINSCHHAFEN - MANUS ISLAND.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>	
Capt. Kilgore	030	Lt. Schrieker	371
Lt. Stefanowski	024	Lt. Boden	037
Lt. Swartley	034		

The 498th Squadron was assigned to lead the GROUP formation and was led by Captain Kilgore.

## 3. DETAILS OF MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The Squadron circled Momote strip to pick up any signal from the ground station and then proceeded direct to the target. Two passes were made on the targets on a heading of 300 degrees and from an altitude of 100 feet at 0938/L to 0945/L. The Squadron was to attack in two flights but the gas cap of A/P 024 came off on the take-off and the plane landed immediately and after replacing the cap took off again. This plane attacked the target individually immediately behind the second flight. 16 x 500 lb. 8/11 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped on Lowengau Township and 8 bombs were dropped in Lugos Mission. One bomb was dropped in the water off the coast of Bowat Bay. Two fires were started in Lugos Mission and two houses were destroyed by direct hits. Both targets were strafed thoroughly and the coast West to Bowat Bay was also strafed on both runs. 18200 x .50 caliber and 4800 x .30 caliber rounds of ammunition were used in the two strafing runs. Bombing was excellent. Following the attack the Squadrons returned separately. The 498th Squadron ran into a front extending from Bergen Bay to Karkar Island and after circling the storm landed at Pinschhafen to refuel. Landing was made at 1300/L and the planes took off at 1415/L and returned to base.

(b) Anti-Aircraft Fire - Nil

(c) Fighter Cover - Nil

(d) Details of Damage to Aircraft in the air.

(1) Nil damage to our aircraft.

(2) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in the air.

(e) There was nil injury to personnel of this Squadron

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4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, strafing table and photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Nil

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photos confirm bomb spotting as reported and ~~does~~ not disclose any information not reported.

For the Squadron Commander:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

# CONFIDENTIAL

# CONFIDENTIAL

## APPENDIX "A"

### BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
037	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
034	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
371	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
024	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
030	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
	<u>25</u>			<u>25</u>

### STRAPPING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
037	4,600	2,000	4,000	1,000
034	4,600	3,000	4,000	2,000
371	4,600	3,000	4,000	500
024	4,600	1,500	4,000	500
030	4,600	<u>2,500</u>	4,000	<u>500</u>
		<u>12,100</u>		<u>4,500</u>

### PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Type of camera</u>	<u>Ex.made</u>	<u>print rec'd</u>
1/2 037	0938/L	Lorengan	E-21	50	5

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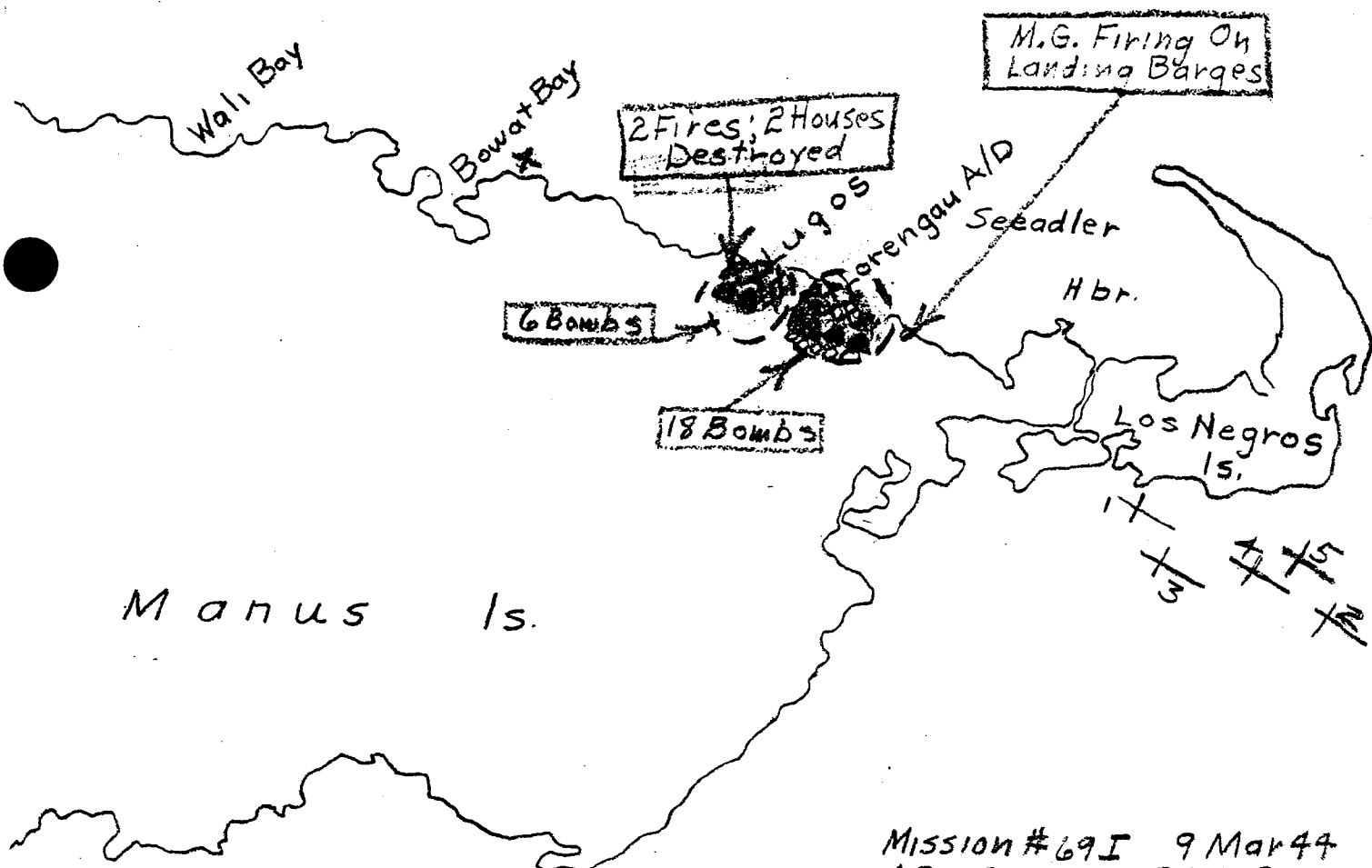
1st Flt { 1 - Capt Kilgore ——— 030 X  
 2 - Lt Stephanowsky ——— 024 O  
 3 - Lt Swantley ——— 034 Δ

2nd Flt { 4 - Lt Schrecker ——— 371 X  
 5 - Lt Boden ——— 037 - + 70

+ Took Photos

801  
 70

805  
 70



Mission #69I 9 Mar 44  
 498 Sq 345 Gp  
 Time 0938-0945/L  
 Alt - Minimum  
 Order - 1st,  
 5XB-25D 1's  
 25X500# Bombs

Overlay: Manus & Adjacent Is.  
 Scale 1:253440

B



146°

Admiralty

148°

149°

150°

151°

Mand's Is

Syros

MISSION #69 I

498 Sq

9 Mar 44  
345 Gp

Order - 1st

A1+ - MINIMUM

Time - 0938-0945/L

Target ✓ Route →

B I S M A R C K

S E A

Madang

Koror

Long

Urukoi

N E W B R I T A N I A

Nadzab

C

CONFIDENTIAL

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713 - 1

CMB/fc

498  
73-K  
13 March

14 March, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 73-K, performed 13 March, 1944, by six A/P's of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - personnel and installations along the coastal road from Lorengau to Lugos Mission, Manus Is.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. GENERAL.

(a) Six airplanes from each of two squadrons of the 345th Group were to attack personnel and installations along number one and number three roads leading from Lorengau Drome to Tinge Village and the mouth of the Lief River respectively. The 498th Squadron was to attack the coastal road.

(b) Rendezvous - the Squadrons assembled over strip number four at NADZAB and formed enroute to Finschhafen.

(c) Attack - The Squadrons approached Manus Island from the Northeast crossing over Koruniat Island and attacked their respective targets. The Squadron attacked on a heading of 300 degrees from an altitude of 100 feet in two flights of three planes each. Three runs were made on the target and the bombs were dropped on the second and third runs. The target was strafed on all three runs. 19 x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped among buildings and along the road at Lugos Mission. Three large houses were definitely destroyed and bombs were observed to fall among other smaller dwellings. Two bombs were dropped on fox holes at the Western end of Lorengau Drome and six bombs were released along the road between Lorengau Drome and Lugos Mission. The target was strafed thoroughly with 18000 x .50 cal. and 4400 x .30 cal. rounds of ammo. Buildings and plantations and the areas bordering the road were covered thoroughly in the three runs.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

- (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.
- (2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.
- (3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

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(e) Time and location of:

Take Off: From #4 strip, NADZAB, 0942/L to 0945/L.

Rendezvous: The Squadron assembled over #4 strip and formed with the 501st Squadron enroute to Finschhafen.

Attack: MANUS ISLAND, 1215/L to 1240/L.

Landing: NADZAB, #4 strip, 1532/L to 1535/L.

(f) Route: NADZAB - FINSCHHAFFEN - MANUS ISLAND.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>	
Lt. Turk	040	Lt. Dougherty	176
Lt. Swartley	030	Lt. Easter	026
Lt. Hetherington	034	Lt. Adams	420

The 501st Squadron led the Group formation. The 498th Squadron was led by Lt. Turk.

## 3. DETAILS OF MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The Squadrons approached Manus Island from the Northeast crossing over Koruniat Island and attacked their respective targets. The Squadron attacked on a heading of 300 degrees from an altitude of 100 feet in two flights of three planes each. Three runs were made on the target and the bombs were dropped on the second and third runs. The target was strafed on all three runs. 19 x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped among buildings and along the road at Lugos Mission. Three large houses were definitely destroyed and bombs were observed to fall among other smaller dwellings. Two bombs were dropped on fox holes at the Western end of Lorengau Drome and six bombs were released along the road between Lorengau Drome and Lugos Mission. Bombing was excellent. A/P 176 salvaged three bombs in the water North of the target when they failed to release due to hydraulic difficulties. The target was strafed thoroughly with 18000 x .50 cal. and 4400 x .30 cal. rounds of ammo. Buildings and plantations and the areas bordering the road were covered thoroughly in the three runs. Following the attack the 498th Squadron circled North of Manus Island until the 501st Squadron completed its attack. The formation left the target at 1256/L. Manus Island was circled on the return route in an effort to locate missing personnel of wrecked PT boat. There were nil sightings of the missing crew.

(b) Anti-Aircraft fire - two bursts of medium A/A were observed over Lugos Mission. Bursts were white and below planes. A small amount of M/G fire was received from the Western end of Lorengau strip. All fire was inaccurate.

CONFIDENTIAL

- (c) Fighter cover - Nil
- (d) Details of Damage to Aircraft in the air.
  - (1) Nil damage to our aircraft.
  - (2) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air.
- (e) There was nil injury to personnel of this Squadron.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

5. APPENDICES.

- (a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, strafing table and photo table.
- (b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.
- (c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Nil

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photos do not reveal any damage not already reported.

For the Squadron Commander:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

# CONFIDENTIAL

## APPENDIX "A"

### BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
420	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
034	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
176	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
040	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
030	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
026	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
	<u>30</u>			<u>30</u>

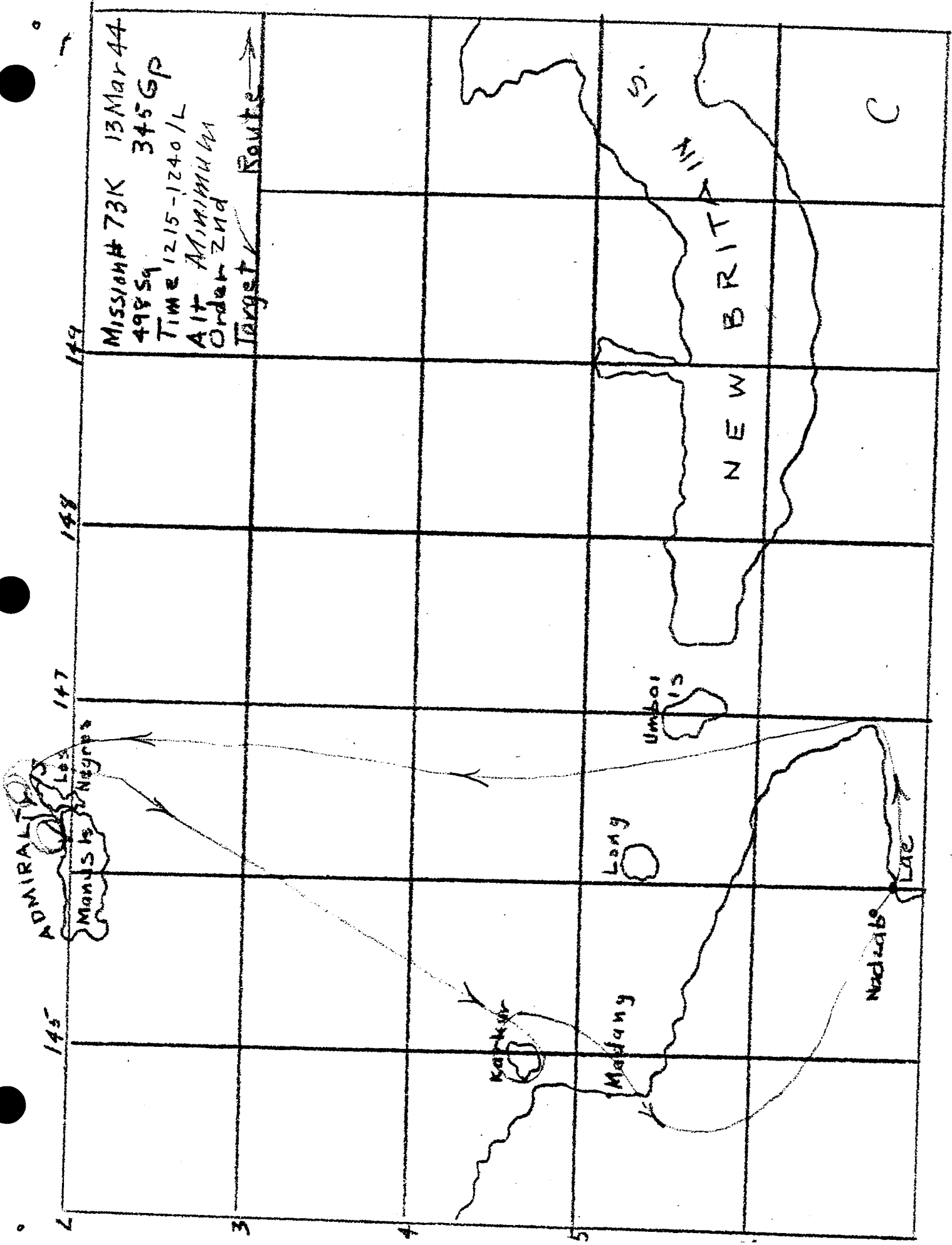
### STRAFING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
420	4600	3000	4000	500
034	4600	3000	4000	---
176	4600	3500	4000	2400
040	4600	2500	4000	500
030	4600	3000	4000	500
026	4600	<u>3000</u>	4000	<u>500</u>
		18000		4400

### PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Type camera</u>	<u>Ex. made</u>	<u>Prints rec'd.</u>
030	1215/L	Manus Is.	K-21	30	3

CONFIDENTIAL



MISSION # 73K	13 Mar 44
498 Sq	345 Gp
TIME 1215-1240/L	
Alt 10,000 ft	
Order 2nd	
Target	Route

ADMIRALTY

Manus Is. Negros

145

147

148

149

Karakor

Madang

Long

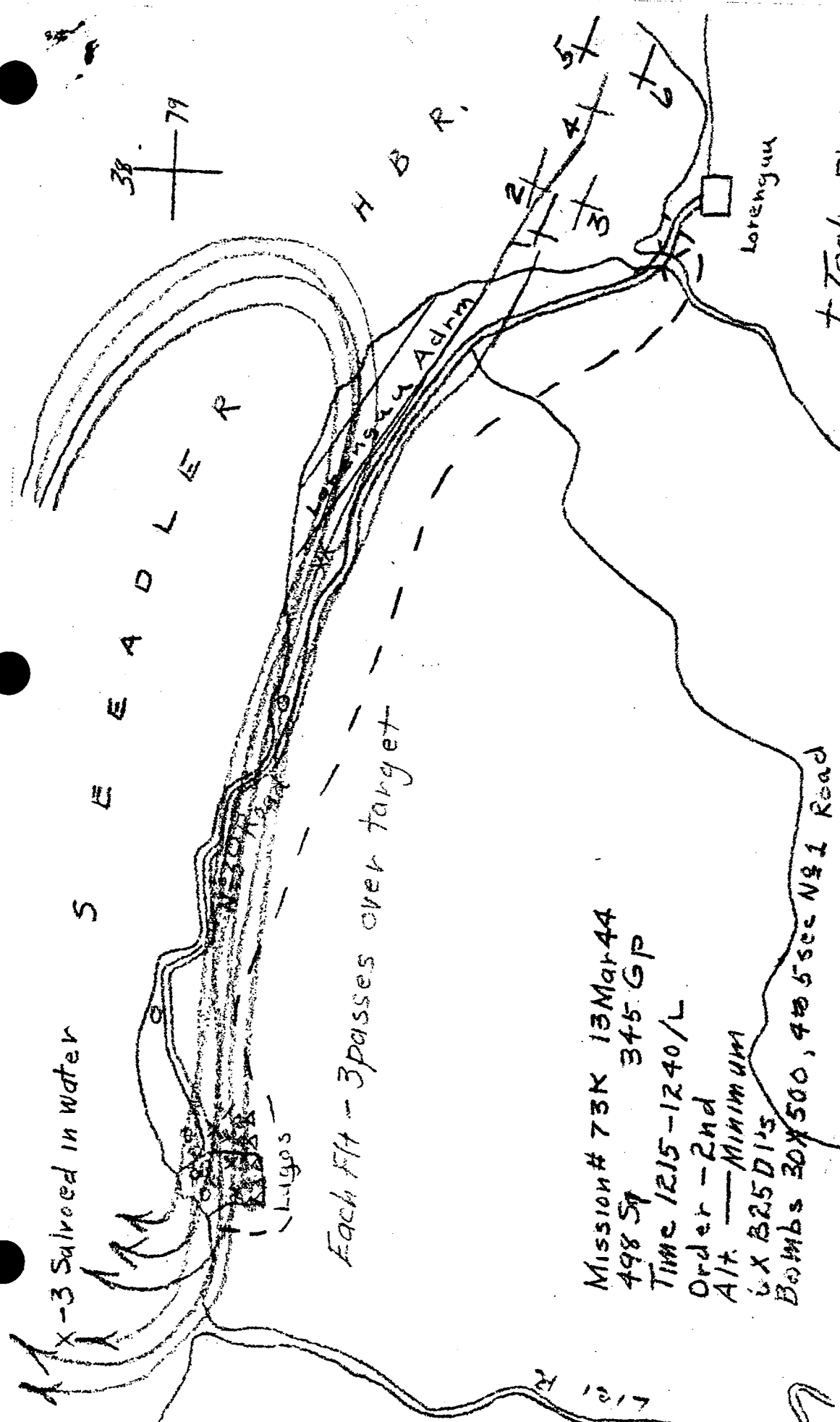
Umbou

Nadab

Lae

NEW BRITAIN

C



+ Took Photos

- |                     |       |
|---------------------|-------|
| 1 - Lt Turk         | 040-X |
| 2 - Lt Swartley     | 030-0 |
| 3 - Lt Hetherington | 034-0 |
| 4 - Lt Dougherty    | 176-X |
| 5 - Lt Easter       | 026-0 |
| 6 - Lt Adams        | 020-A |

1st Flt

2nd Flt

Mission # 73K 13 Mar 44  
 498 Sq 345 GP  
 Time 1215-1240/L  
 Order - 2nd  
 Alt - Minimum  
 6 X B25 D1's  
 Bombs 30 X 500, 4 X 5 sec N&I Road

X-3 Salvaged in water

Overlay: Lorengau Drome (Special Map)  
 Scale 1:20,000

CONFIDENTIAL

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713 - 1

CMB/fo

15 March, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 74-G, performed 14 March, 1944, by nine airplanes of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - supplies and installations at Brandi Plantation and along road one mile East of Plantation, Boram.

1. General.

(a) Nine airplanes from each of two Squadrons of the 345th Group were to attack supplies and installations in the Brandi Plantation and on the road one mile East of Plantation.

(b) Rendezvous - The Squadrons rendezvoused at Kiapit at 1000/L and were on course at 1005/L. Formation rendezvoused with fighters enroute over Dumpu at 1013/L.

(c) Attack - The Squadrons approached the target from the East and the 498th Squadron attacked on a heading of 280 degrees from an altitude of 100 feet in three flights of three planes each. One pass was made and target was bombed and strafed in the single run. 43 x 500 lb. 8/11 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped in the target. One large fire with explosion and a large amount of black smoke was started on the Western edge of the Plantation South of the coastal road. A small fire was started in supplies on the N side of the road at the Western edge of the Plantation. Two additional small fires were started in the center of the plantation and bombs were observed to fall among huts between the road and the coast at the Eastern edge of the coconut grove. Three bombs fell along the Southern side of the road East of the Brandi River. The remaining bombs fell in the Brandi Plantation. Bombing was excellent. The target and the Eastern edge of Cape Moem were strafed thoroughly.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

- (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.
- (2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.
- (3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

(e) Time and location of:

Take Off: From strip #4, NADZAB, 0930/L.

Rendezvous: The Squadron formed with the 501st Squadron over Kiapit at 1000/L and rendezvoused with the fighters at Dumpu, enroute, at 1005/L.



# CONFIDENTIAL

Attack: BRANDI PLANTATION, BORAM, 1120/L to 1122/L.  
Landing: NADZAB, #4 strip, 1255/L.

(f) Route: NADZAB, KIAPIT, DUMFU, BRANDI PLANTATION.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>		<u>THIRD FLIGHT</u>	
Maj. Coltharp	176	Capt. Kilgore	371	Capt. Hitt	040
Lt. Turk	026	Lt. Adams	037	Lt. Easter	030
Lt. Swartley	063	Lt. Hetherington	033	Lt. Foley	024

Major Coltharp led the 498th Squadron and the Group formation.

## 3. DETAILS OF MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The Squadrons approached the target from the East and the 498th Squadron attacked on a heading of 280 degrees from an altitude of 100 feet in three flights of three planes each. One pass was made and target was bombed and strafed in the single run. 43 x 500 lb. 8/11 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped in the target. One large fire with explosions and a large amount of black smoke was started on the Western edge of the Plantation South of the coastal road. A small fire was started in supplies on the N side of the road at the Western edge of the Plantation. Two additional small fires were started in the center of the plantation and bombs were observed to fall among huts between the road and the coast at the Eastern edge of the coconut grove. Three bombs fell along the Southern side of the road East of the Brandi River. The remaining bombs fell in the Brandi Plantation. Bombing was excellent. The target and the Eastern edge of Cape Moem were strafed thoroughly.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - There was light, medium and inaccurate A/A from the direction of Boram strip.

(c) Fighter cover - Two Squadrons of P-47's provided fighter cover for the Group.

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air.

(1) A/P 024 received a hole in right nacelle from a .25 cal. bullet.

(2) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air.

(e) There was nil injury to personnel on this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, strafing table and photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Nil

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photos do not reveal any damage not already reported.

For the Squadron Commander:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

# CONFIDENTIAL

## APPENDIX "A"

### BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
024	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
371	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
083	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
033	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
176	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
037	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
026	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
040	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
030	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
	<u>45</u>			<u>45</u>

Two bombs were returned to base after failing to locate a suitable target West of Brandi Plantation.

### STRAPPING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal.</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal.</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
	<u>Rds car'd</u>		<u>Rds car'd</u>	
024	4600	1400	4000	1200
371	4600	1600	4000	----
083	4600	1600	4000	----
033	4600	1800	4000	----
176	4600	2650	4000	300
037	4600	2000	4000	----
026	4600	1600	4000	400
040	4600	2000	4000	----
030	4600	1800	4000	1000
		<u>16050</u>		<u>2900</u>

### PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Type camera</u>	<u>Ex. made</u>	<u>Prints rec'd</u>
LXX 176	1120/L	Brandi Pl.	R-21	30	3

Mission #74G 14 Mar 44

498 Sq 345 Gp

Time - 1120-1125/L

Alt - Minimum

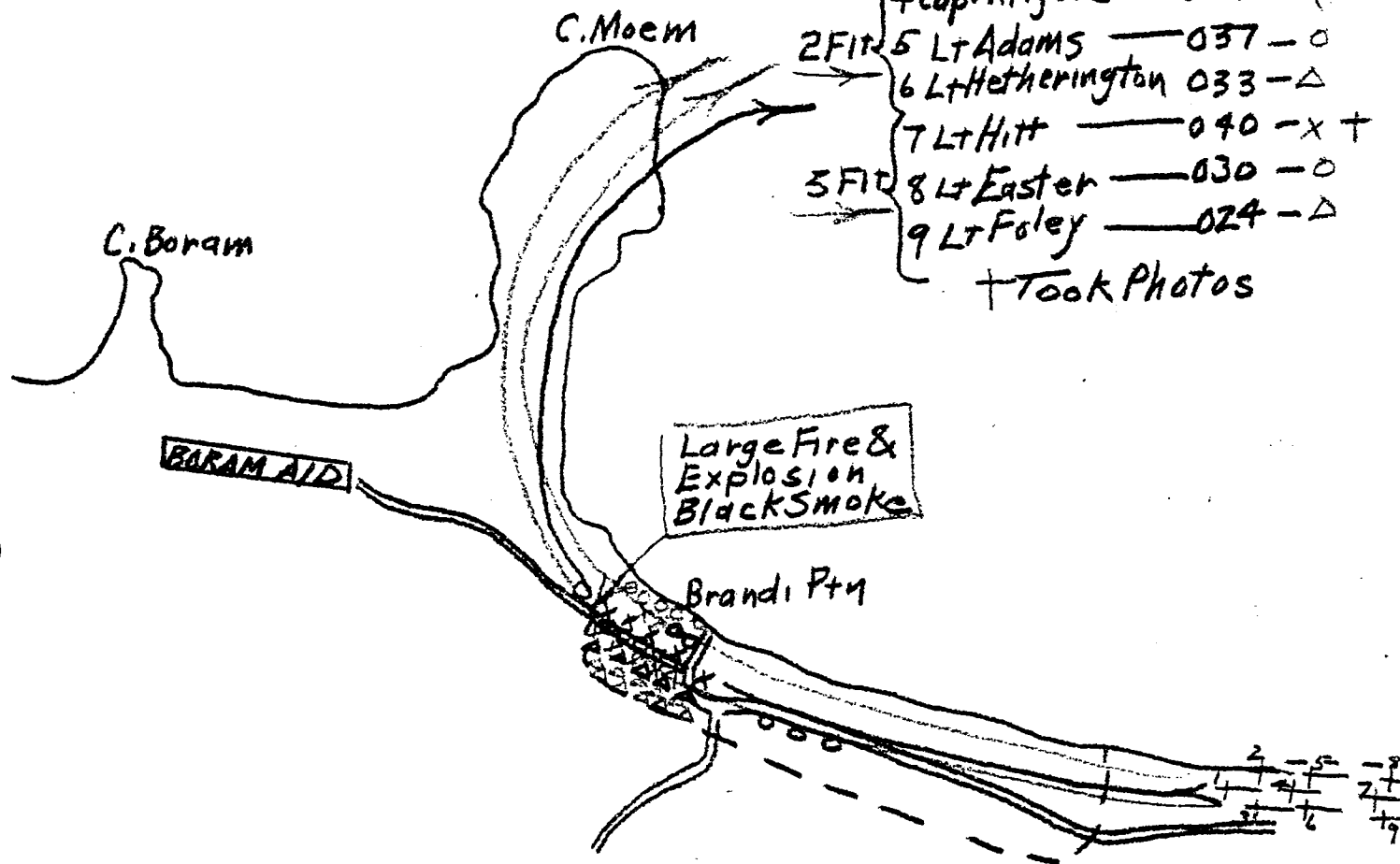
Order - 1st

9x B25 D15 & D2's

45x 500# 4-5 Sec Bombs - 2 Returned

45  
+ //

1 Fit { 1 Maj Coltharp — 176 — X +  
2 Lt Turk — 026 — O +  
3 Lt Swartley — 063 — Δ +  
4 Capt Kilgore — 371 — X  
2 Fit { 5 Lt Adams — 037 — O  
6 Lt Hetherington — 033 — Δ  
7 Lt Hitt — 040 — X +  
3 Fit { 8 Lt Easter — 030 — O  
9 Lt Foley — 024 — Δ  
+ Took Photos



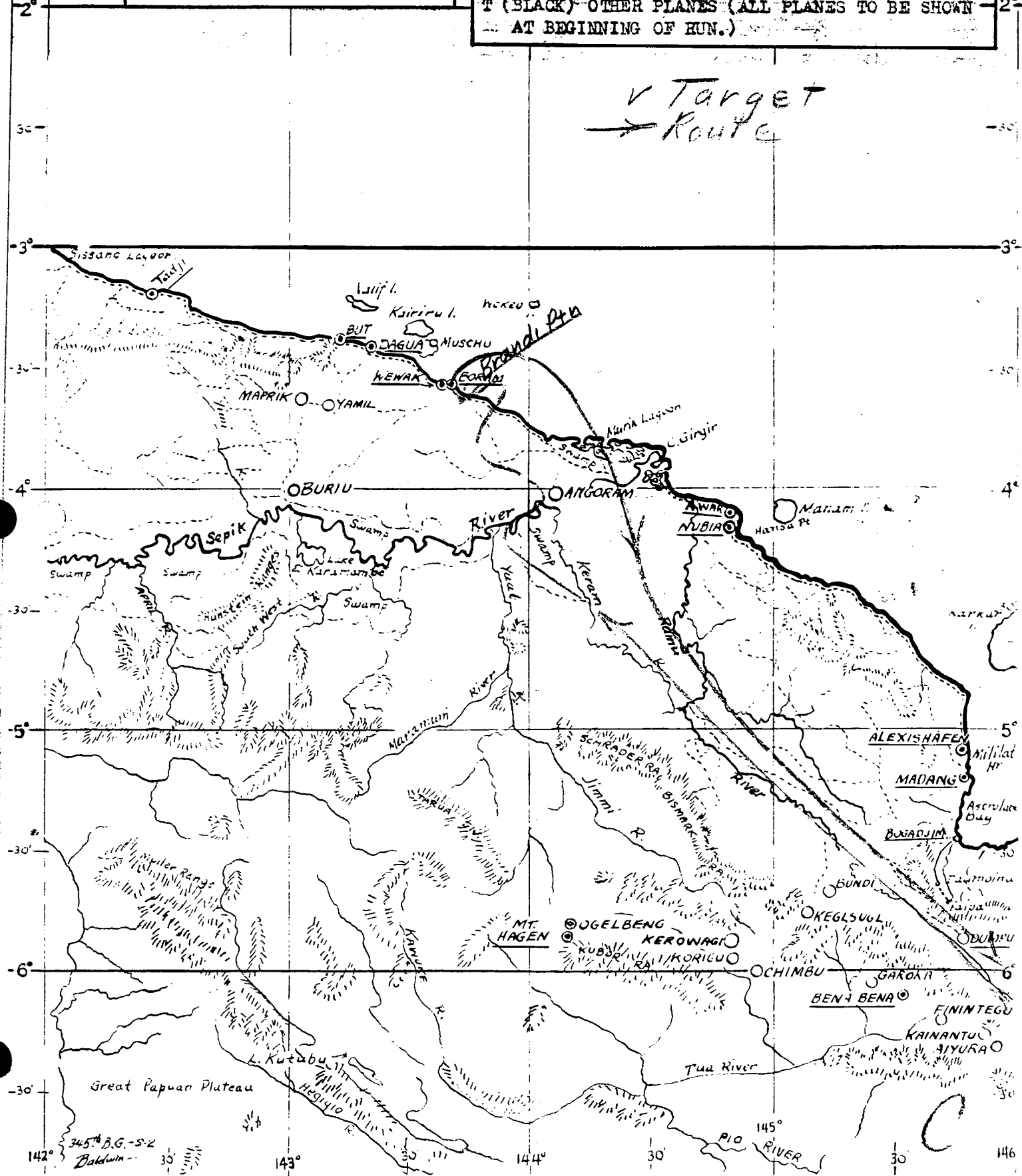
35  
+

Overlay - Wowak West  
Scale 1:63360

MAP REF:-  
EASTERN NEW GUINEA  
NAVIGATION CHART  
Equatorial Scale:- 1:2,315,000  
31.72 Naut. Miles = 1 inch  
Mercator Projection

MISSION NO. 74G DATE 14 Mar 44 #19  
SQUADRON NO. 498 GROUP 345  
SQUADRON ORDER OVER TARGET 1st  
ALTITUDE MINIMUM FT.  
TIME OVER TARGET 1120-1125/L  
T (BLUE) PLANES TAKING PHOTOS  
T (BLACK) OTHER PLANES (ALL PLANES TO BE SHOWN  
AT BEGINNING OF RUN.)

✓ Target  
→ Route



CONFIDENTIAL

498  
75-K  
15mcr4

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
348TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.F.O. #713 - 1

CMB/fc

18 March, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 75-K, performed 15 March, 1944, by nine airplanes of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - Air alert to cover landing of troops near Liel River - N coast of Manus Island.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

(a) Nine airplanes of the 498th Squadron were to circle Momote strip from 1100/L to 1200/L to give support to troops landed at 0925/L, West of Lorengau at the Liel River. If support was not needed the Squadron leader was to notify the ground station that the Squadron was going to attack the secondary target, Tingo Village (target #3), Manus Island.

(b) Rendezvous - There was no rendezvous and the Squadron assembled enroute.

(c) Attack - The Squadron approached the target on its first run from the SW and circled to the left around Lorengau Drome and approached the target on its second run from the NW, at an altitude of 100 feet in three flights of three planes each. The target was bombed and strafed on the first and second runs. 44 x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped among huts and buildings in the target. Two buildings were observed demolished. Bombing was excellent. All structures were strafed thoroughly and one machine gunner from a building in the Village was silenced in the first run.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.  
(1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.  
(2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.  
(3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by squadron.

(e) Time and location of:  
Take Off: From strip #4, MADZAB, 0845/L.  
Rendezvous: Squadron assembled enroute.  
Attack: TINGO VILLAGE, MANUS IS. (target #3) 1215/L.  
Landing: MADZAB, #4 strip, 1424/L to 1430/L.

# CONFIDENTIAL

(f) Route: NADZAB, around HUON PENINSULA, MOMOTE, TINGO VILLAGE.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>		<u>THIRD FLIGHT</u>	
Capt Kilgore	371	Capt Magee	176	Lt. Best	063
Lt. Kirkland	026	Lt. Adams	024	Lt. Master	030
Lt. Swartley	033	Lt. Foley	420	Lt. Hetherington	040

Captain Kilgore led the 498th Squadron.

## 3. DETAILS OF MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The Squadron approached the target on its first run from the SW and circled to the left around Lorengau Brome and approached the target on its second run from the NW, at an altitude of 100 feet in three flights of three planes each. The target was bombed and strafed on the first and second runs. 44 x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped among huts and buildings in the target. Two buildings were observed demolished. Bombing was excellent. All structures were strafed thoroughly and one machine gunner from a building in the Village was silenced in the first run.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - Machine gun fire was received from building in target.

(c) Fighter cover - P-40's based at Momote.

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air.

(1) Nil damage received by our Squadron.

(2) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air.

(e) There was nil injury to personnel in this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

## 5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, strafing table and photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

CONFIDENTIAL

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Nil

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photos do not reveal any damage not already reported.

For the Squadron Commander:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.



## APPENDIX "A"

CONFIDENTIAL

BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
176	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
030	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
033	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
026	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
024	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
371	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
040	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	4
063	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
420	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
	<u>45</u>			<u>44</u>

STRAPING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
176	4600	1500	4000	----- 200
030	4600	1900	4000	600
033	4600	1500	4000	200
026	4600	1000	4000	-----
024	4600	1000	4000	-----
371	4600	1700	4000	-----
040	4600	500	4000	-----
063	4600	1000	4000	400
420	4600	1500	4000	1400
		<u>11600</u>		

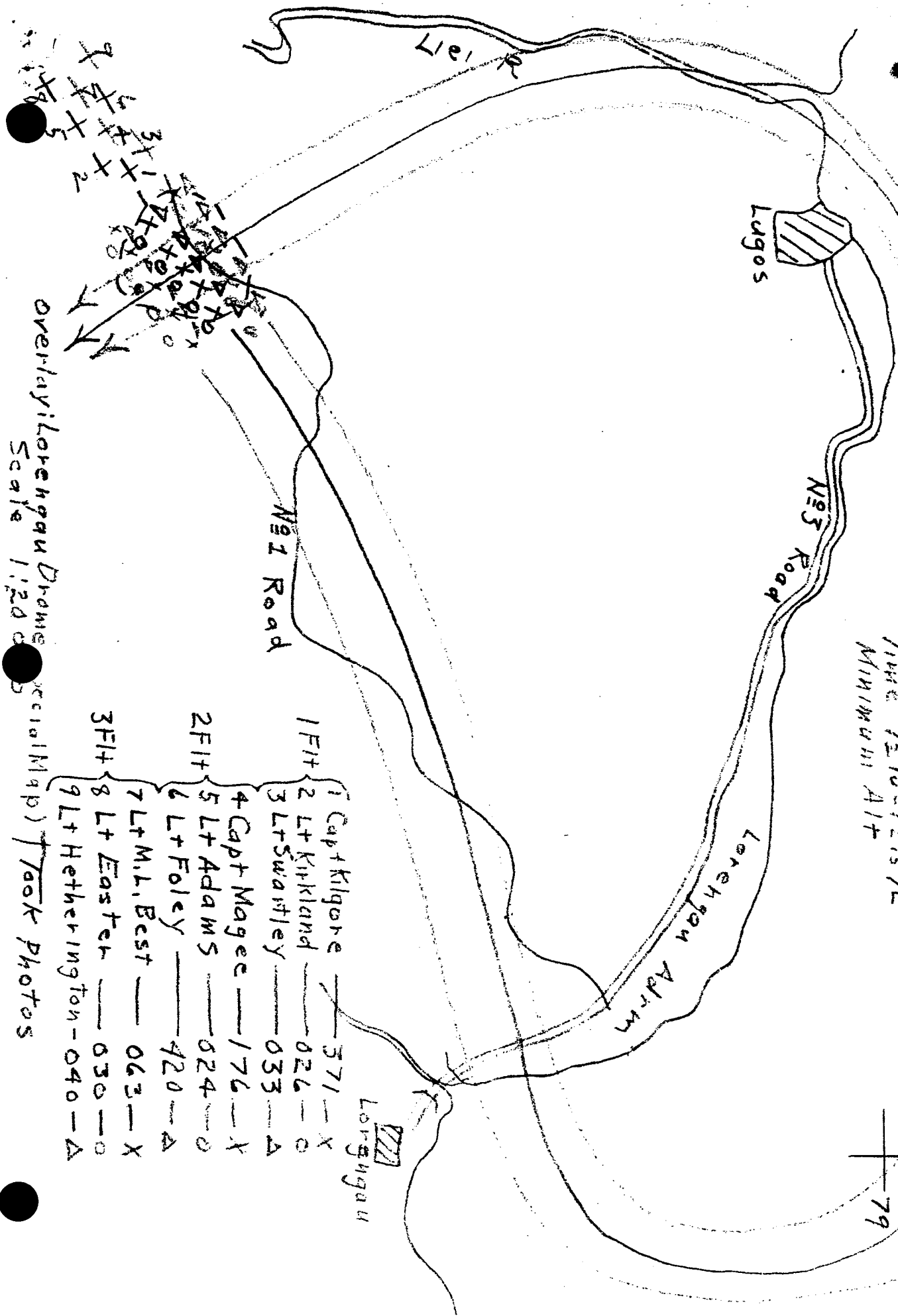
PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>locality</u>	<u>Type camera</u>	<u>Ex.made</u>	<u>Prints rec'd</u>
033	1210/L	Tingo Vil.	K-21	30	2
040	1210/L	Tingo Vil.	K-21	30	2
063	1210/L	Tingo Vil.	K-21	30	5

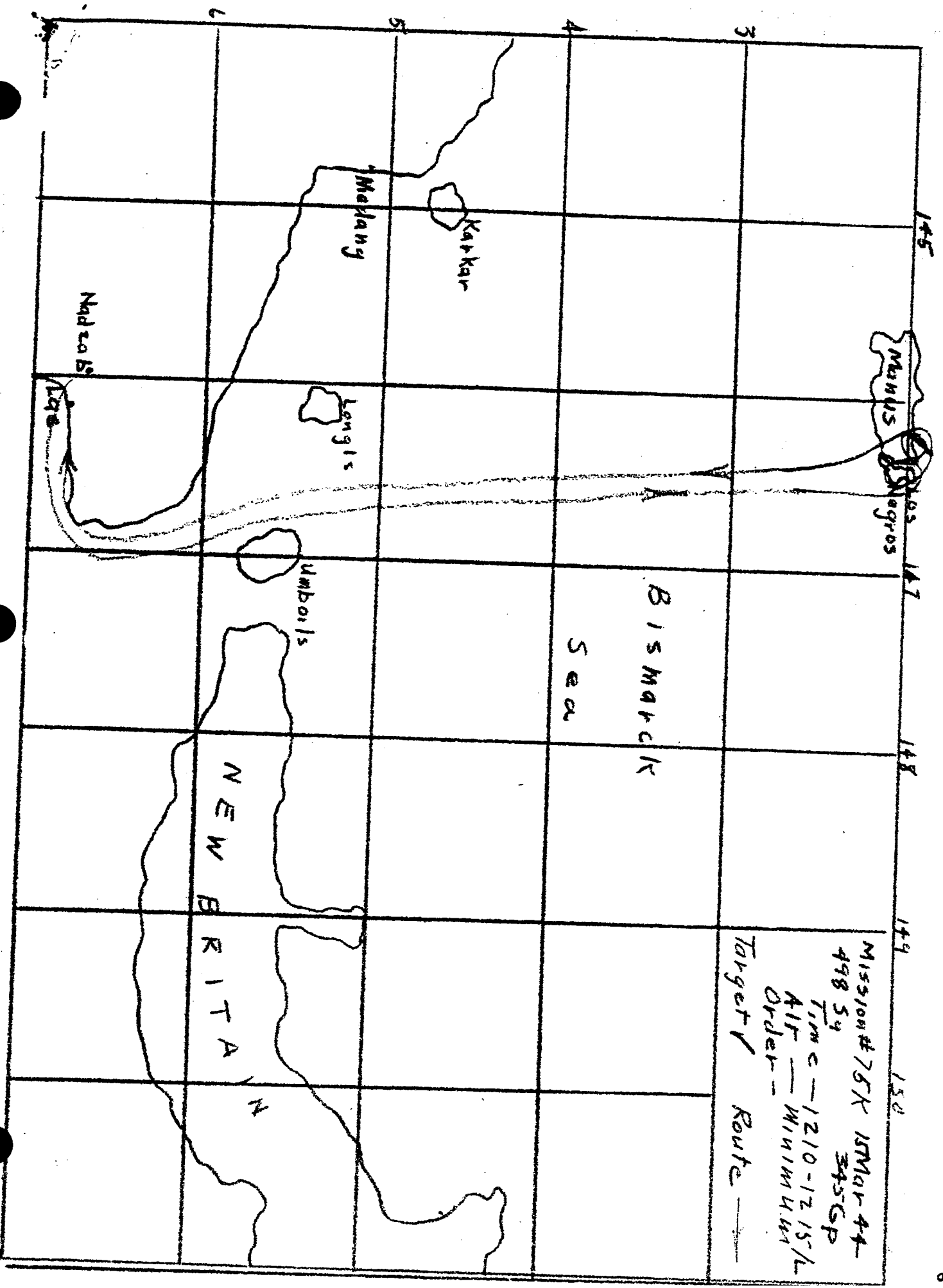
Mission # 75K 15 Mar 74  
 498 S<sup>4</sup> 345 GP

9 B25's  
 45 x 500# Bombs + 550c.  
 Time 1210-1215/L  
 Minimum Alt

38  
 79



- |       |                   |       |
|-------|-------------------|-------|
| 1 F14 | 1 Cap Kilgore     | 371-X |
|       | 2 Lt Kirkland     | 026-0 |
|       | 3 Lt Swartley     | 033-A |
|       | 4 Capt Magee      | 176-X |
| 2 F14 | 5 Lt Adams        | 024-0 |
|       | 6 Lt Foley        | 420-A |
|       | 7 Lt M.L. Best    | 063-X |
| 3 F14 | 8 Lt Easter       | 030-0 |
|       | 9 Lt Hetherington | 040-A |



Mission # 75K 15 Mar 44  
498 54 345 GP  
Time - 1210-1215/L  
Alt - Minimum  
Order -  
Target ✓ Route -

CONFIDENTIAL

498  
77-E 18 March 44

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713 - 1

CMB/fo

18 March, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 77-E, performed 17 March, 1944, by six airplanes of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - six gun heavy A/A position on the West side of Cape Moem, Wewak.

**TO :** COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

(a) Six airplanes of the 498th Squadron were to bomb, at medium altitude, a six gun heavy A/A position on the West side of Cape Moem, Wewak. The 498th and 501st Squadrons of the 345th Group attacked the same target in a coordinated strike.

(b) Rendezvous - over #4 strip, NADZAB, and pick up fighter cover at Gusap.

(c) Attack - The Squadron approached the target from the South on a heading of 360 degrees at an altitude of 8000 ft. in two flights of three planes each. The target was bombed on the single run. 24 x 250 lb. inst. bombs were dropped in train across the target. 10 bombs fell in the water West of the target and 10 bombs were salvaged off the coast NW of the target. Bombing was excellent and some of the positions were believed hit.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

(1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.

(2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.

(3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

(e) Time and location of:

Take Off: From strip #4, NADZAB, 0840/L.

Rendezvous: GUSAP, 0900/L, with one Sq. of P-40's.

Attack: CAPE MOEM, WEWAK, 1028/L.

Landing: NADZAB, strip #4, 1202/L.

(f) Route: NADZAB, GUSAP, ANNANBERG, WEWAK, RAMU VALLEY, MARKHAM VALLEY, BASE.

# CONFIDENTIAL

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>	
Capt. Kilgore	276	Capt. Hages	424
Lt. Adams	420	Lt. Hetherington	940
Lt. Foley	063	Lt. Kirkland	024

Captain Kilgore leader of the 498th Squadron led the Group formation.

## 3. DETAILS OF MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - Take off time was too close to the B-24's and the Group formation had to kill time on the way to the target in order to arrive at the proper time and behind the heavies. The Squadron approached the target from the South on a heading of 360 degrees at an altitude of 8000 ft. in two flights of three planes each. The target was bombed on the single run. 24 x 250 lb. inst. bombs were dropped in train across the target. 10 bombs fell in the water West of the target and 10 bombs were salvaged off the coast NW of the target. Bombing was excellent and some of the positions were believed hit. Following the strike the formation reassembled enroute to base and returned direct.

(b) Heavy and medium, light intensity, inaccurate from positions along Beram strip. Two bursts were received from the target.

(c) Fighter cover of P-40's was excellent.

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air.

- (1) Nil damage received by our Squadron.
- (2) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air.

(e) There was nil injury to personnel in this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

## 5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table and photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Nil.

CONFIDENTIAL

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photos show last bombs bursting at the Northern end of the target, indicating that the main group of bombs fell across the target.

For the Squadron Commander:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

CONFIDENTIAL

## APPENDIX "A"

CONFIDENTIAL

## BOMBING TABLE.

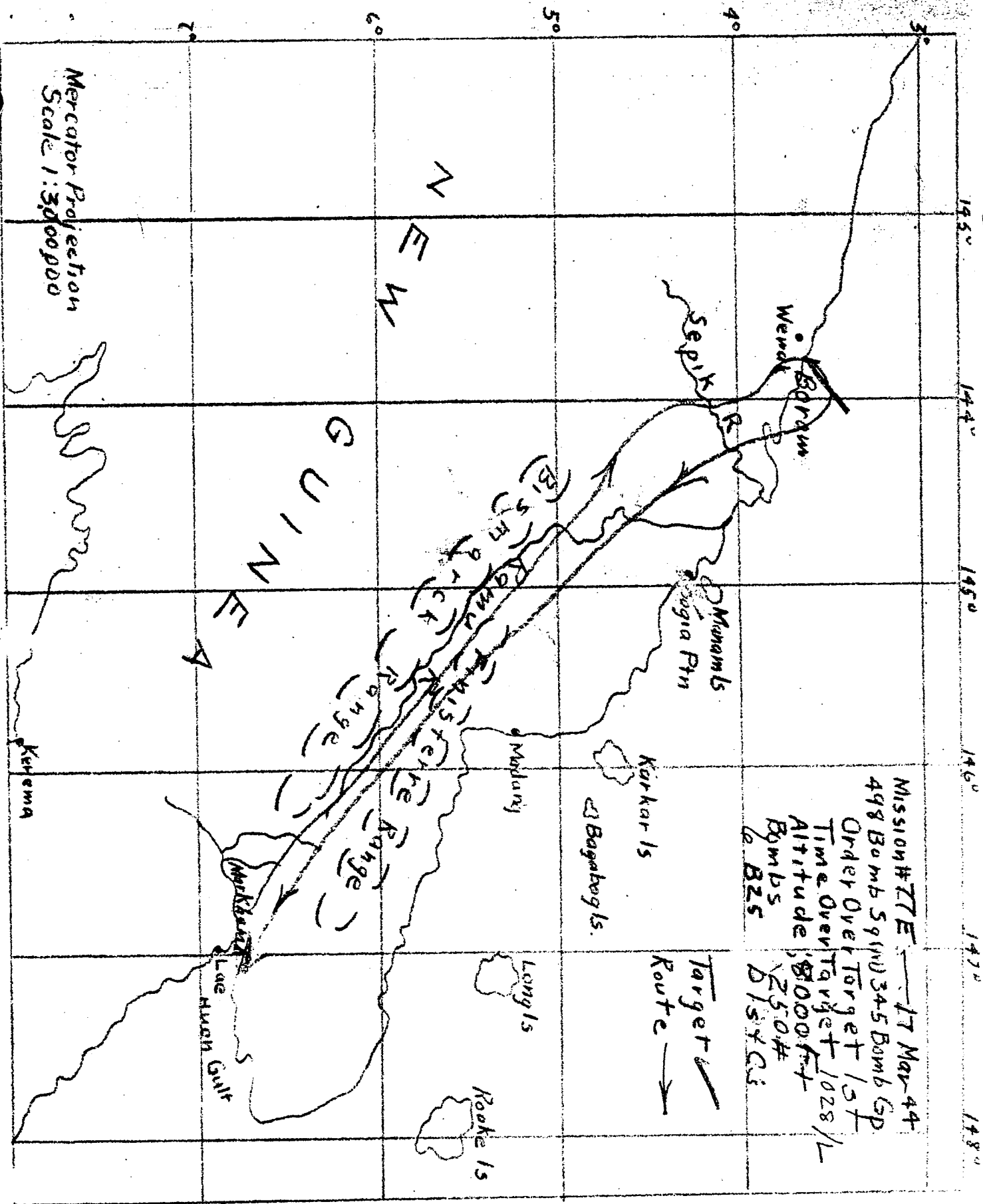
<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
276	10	inst.	250 lb.	10
420	10	inst.	250 lb.	0
063	10	inst.	250 lb.	10
424	4	inst.	250 lb.	4
040	10	inst.	250 lb.	10
024	10	inst.	250 lb.	10
	<u>54</u>			<u>44</u>

A/P 420 returned all bombs to base, failure to release.

A/P 040 salvaged all bombs off the coast NW of target.

## PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Type camera</u>	<u>Ex.made</u>	<u>Prints rec'd</u>
276	1025/L	Cape Moen	K-21	30	2



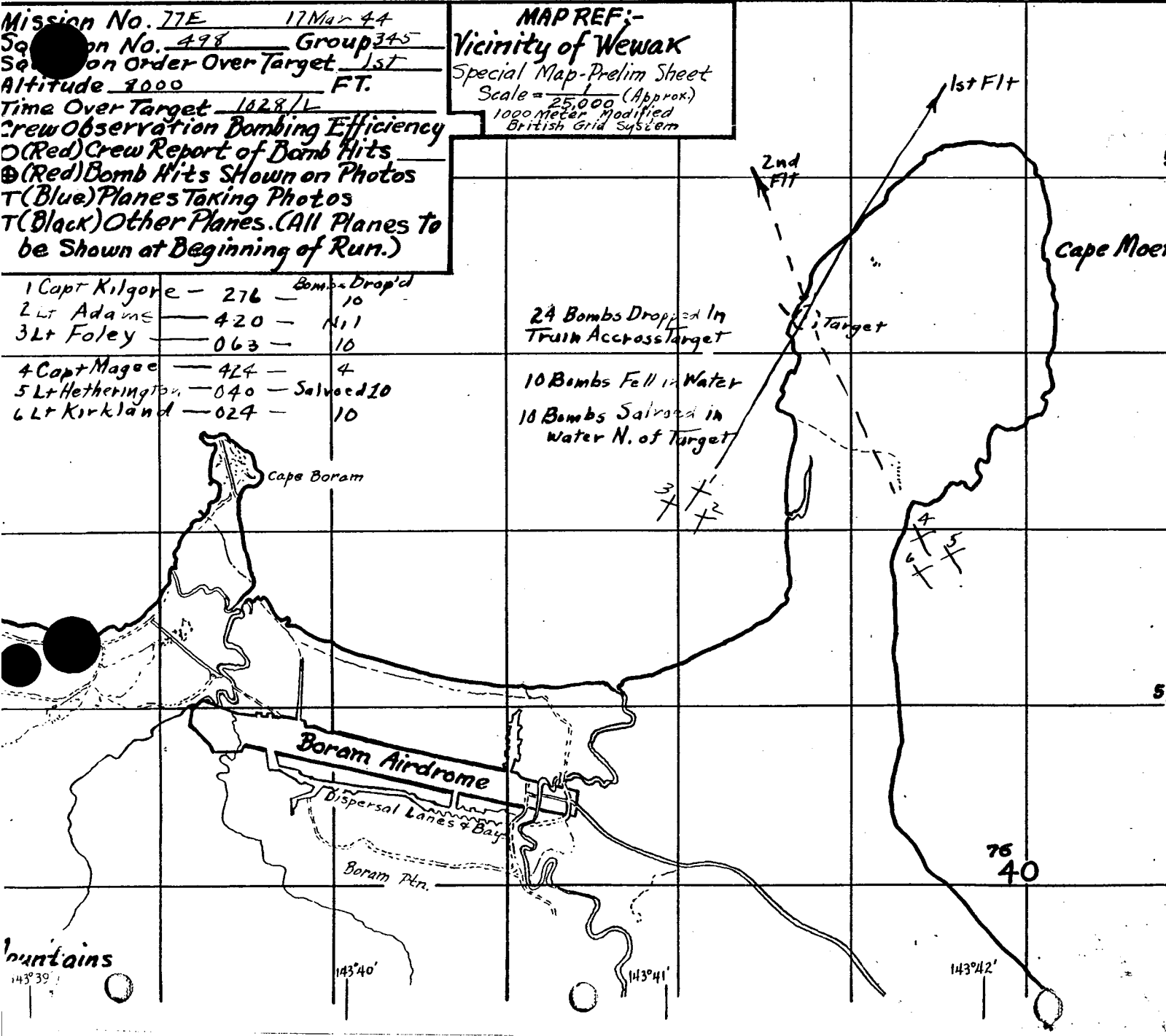


Mission No. 77E      17 Mar 44  
 Squadron No. 498      Group 345  
 Squadron Order Over Target 1st  
 Altitude 9000      FT.  
 Time Over Target 1028/L  
 Crew Observation Bombing Efficiency \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Red) Crew Report of Bomb Hits \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Red) Bomb Hits Shown on Photos \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Blue) Planes Taking Photos \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Black) Other Planes. (All Planes to  
 be Shown at Beginning of Run.)

**MAP REF:-**  
**Vicinity of Wewak**  
 Special Map-Prelim Sheet  
 Scale =  $\frac{1}{25,000}$  (Approx.)  
 1000 Meter Modified  
 British Grid System

1 Capt Kilgore	- 276	- Bombs Drop'd	10
2 Lt Adams	- 420	- Nil	
3 Lt Foley	- 063	-	10
4 Capt Magee	- 424	-	4
5 Lt Hetherington	- 040	- Salvaged	10
6 Lt Kirkland	- 024	-	10

24 Bombs Dropped In  
 Train Across Target  
 10 Bombs Fell in Water  
 10 Bombs Salvaged in  
 water N. of Target



Mountains      143°39'      143°40'      143°41'      143°42'

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713 - 1

CMB/fe

20 March, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 79-M, performed 19 March, 1944, by seven airplanes of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - Destruction of enemy convoy 40 miles North of Newak.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

(a) Six A/P's of the 498th Squadron were to lead the 345th Group and the 38th Group and 3rd Attack Group against an enemy convoy reported 40 miles North of Newak and on a heading of 310 deg. at 10 knots. Take off was to be at 1400/L and the rendezvous with other groups and two Squadrons of P-40's and three Squadrons of P-38's at ANNANBERG at 1530/L.

(b) Rendezvous - Rendezvous at ANNANBERG at 1544/L with the fighters was good. Bomber Groups did not come into position quickly.

(c) Attack - The formation approached the convoy on a heading of 330 deg. One escort vessel was sighted at 02°50' S 143° 20' E and sunk at 1620/L by B25's and A20's in the #3 position in the strike formation. A cargo ship was sighted on the horizon and was located at 142° 45' E 02° 35' S. The lead flight of three planes of the 498th Squadron bombed the vessel identified as a Fox Tare Charlie scoring hits at the waterline and bow with two 1000 lb. bombs, on the superstructure with three 500 lb. bombs and on the stern with two 500 lb. bombs. The ship was smoking and listing as the flight pulled away and was finished quickly by the following Squadrons. The vessel and wreckage was strafed thoroughly.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

- (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.
- (2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.
- (3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

(e) Time and location of:

Take Off: From strip #4, NADZAB, 1415/L.

Rendezvous: ANNANBERG, 1525/L.

Attack: 142° 45' E 02° 35' S, 1634/L to 1700/L.

Landing: strip #4, NADZAB, 1849/L.

(f) Route: NADZAB, GUSAP, ANNANBERG, TARGET. Return by same route.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

### ONE FLIGHT

Capt. Kilgore 424  
Lt. Foley 371

Maj. Coltharp 417  
Lt. Netting 034

A/P 034 flew with another Squadron formation.  
The 498th Squadron led by Capt. Kilgore led the Group and strike formations.

## 3. DETAILS OF MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The formation approached the convoy on a heading of 330 deg. One escort vessel was sighted at 143° 20' E 02° 50' S and sunk at 1620/L by B25's and A20's in the #3 position of the strike formation. A cargo ship was sighted NW of this position and was located at 142° 45' E 02° 35' S. The lead flight of three planes composed of Capt. Kilgore A/P 424, Maj. Coltharp, #2 position, A/P 417 and Lt. Foley, #3 position, A/P 371 bombed the vessel identified as a Fox Tare Charlie. Three 500 lb. bombs dropped by A/P 425 hit the superstructure of the ship, two 1000 lb. bombs dropped by A/P 371 hit at water line and on the bow and two 500 lb. bombs dropped by A/P 417 hit the stern of the ship. Two bombs dropped by this plane fell past the ship. The vessel was smoking and listing as the planes pulled away and the destruction was completed quickly by following Squadrons. The vessel and the wreckage of the two escort vessels sunk were strafed. A/P 034 joined another Squadron and did not bomb due to lack of a target. The wreckage was strafed. A/P 351 turned back at Murik Lagoon after a late take-off which prevented joining formation. A/P 176 took off late and joined one Squadron of the 38th Group which bombed and strafed an area South of #2 strip at Alexishafen at 1633/L. Three 500 lb. bombs dropped and one was returned.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - A/A intense, heavy, medium from cargo ship.

(c) Fighter cover - Fighter cover excellent.

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air.

(1) A/P 424 damaged by shrapnel, radio knocked out. Window on co-pilot's side in A/P 371 blown out.

(2) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air.

(e) S/Sgt Herbert R. Loeb, 16077328, radioman on A/P 424 injured slightly.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - S/Sgt Herbert R. Loeb, 16077328, will be recommended for the award of the Purple Heart.

5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, strafing table and photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Nil

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - No photos were received.

For the Squadron Commander:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

# APPENDIX "A"

## BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>no. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
176	4	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	3
417	4	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	4
371	2	4/5 sec.	1000 lb.	2
424	3	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	3
	<u>13</u>			<u>12</u>

## STRAT. B. TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.60 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds ex.</u>
176	4600	800	4000	----
417	4600	1200	4000	----
371	4600	2400	4000	400
424	4600	1800	4000	----
		<u>6200</u>		<u>400</u>

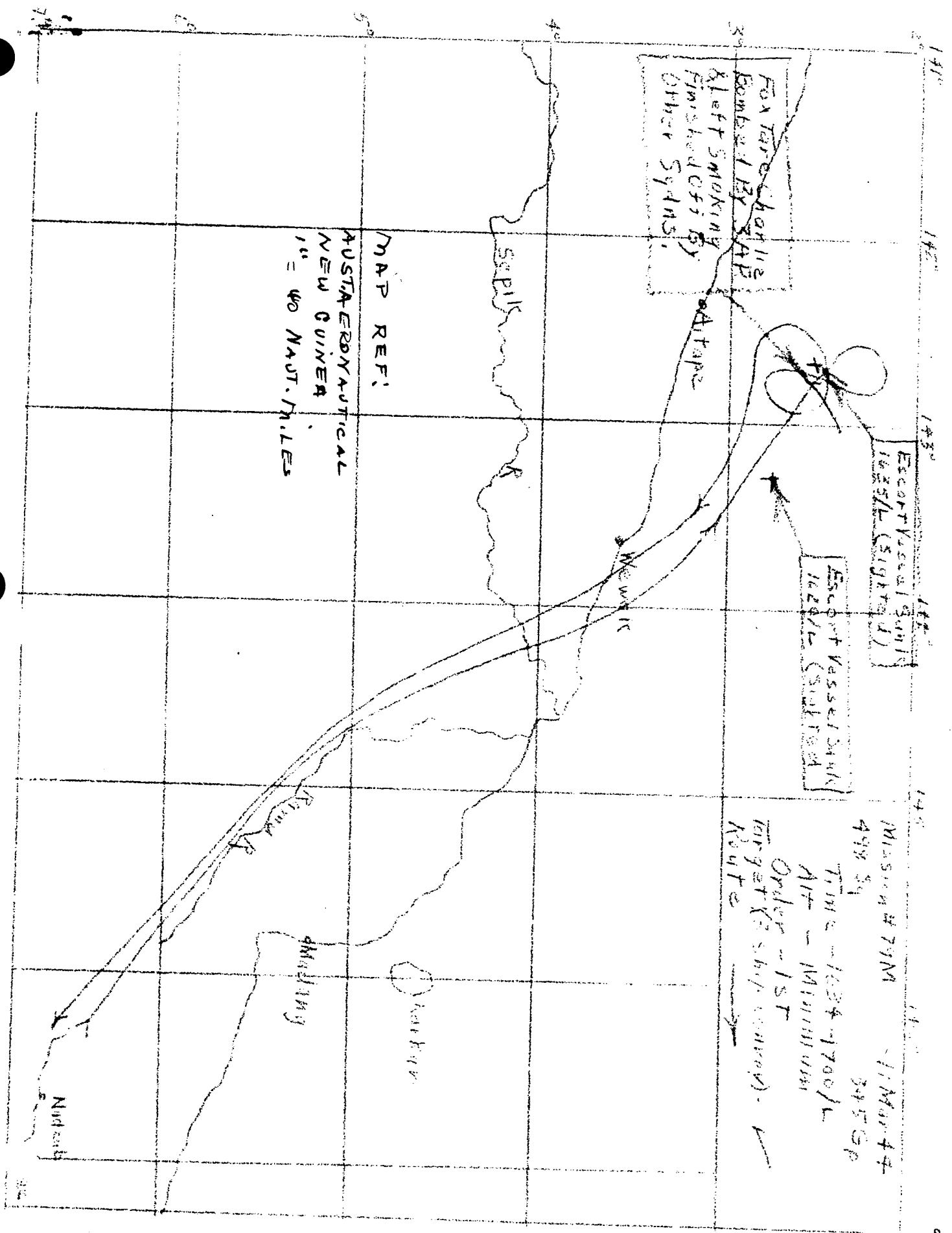
For Targeting  
Bombardier  
& Left Smoking  
Finishes off by  
Other Sydn's.

Escort Vessel (3441)  
1625/L (Sighted)

Escort Vessel (3441)  
1625/L (Sighted)

Mission # 79M - 11 Mar 44  
498 Sq  
Time - 1634 - 1700/L  
Alt - Minimum  
Order - 1ST  
Target (Ship Convoy) -  
Route

MAP REF:  
AUSTEROGRAPHICAL  
NEW GUINEA  
1" = 40 NAUT. MILES



498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713 - 1

CMB/fo

478  
77-E  
19 mcd

20 March, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 79-E, performed 19 March, 1944, by six airplanes of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - Destruction of supplies and personnel on Cape Moem, Wewak.

**TO :** COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

(a) Six airplanes from each of three Squadrons of the 345th Group were to attack stores and personnel on Cape Moem, at minimum altitude in a single run on a heading of 360 degrees. The attack was to be made not earlier than 1025/L in two individual flights of three A/P's each.

(b) Rendezvous - The Squadron assembled over strip #4 at HADZAB at 0830/L, rendezvoused with the Group at Gusap at 0845/L and were on course at 0850/L. Rendezvous with fighter escort at ANHANBERG was at 0937/L and the strike formation left on course at 0950/L.

(c) Attack - The formation approached the target from the Southeast and came in behind the two hundred foot ridge South of Boram strip in order to be out of the line of sight of A/A positions at Boram and attacked on a heading of 360 degrees at an altitude of 100 feet in two flights of three planes each. One run was made on the target. 25 x 500 lb. 8/11 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped in the target starting one large fire 1500 ft. NE of A/A position on West side of Cape Moem, one large fire with explosions 1500 feet South of the North tip of Cape Moem and smaller fires in the center part of the target (#44B). The target was covered well with bombs bursts and smoke. The area was strafed thoroughly.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

- (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.
- (2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.
- (3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

(e) Time and location of:  
Take Off: From strip #4, NADZAB, 0828/L to 0831/L.  
Rendezvous: The Squadron formed with the Group at GUSAP at 0845/L and rendezvoused with the fighters at ANNANBERG at 0937/L.

Attack: CAPE MOEM, WEWAK, 1030/L.  
Landing: NADZAB, strip #4, 1215/L.

(f) Route: NADZAB, GUSAP, ANNANBERG, CAPE MOEM, Return was by the same route.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>	
Maj. Coltharp	176	Capt. Heuser	036
Lt. Easter	351	Lt. Kirkland	034
Lt. Hetherington	024	Lt. Neblett	040

The 501st Squadron led the attack. The 498th Squadron was led by Major Coltharp, Squadron Commander.

## 3. DETAILS OF THE MISSION.

(a) Details of the attack - The formation approached the target from the Southeast and came in behind the two hundred foot ridge South of Boram strip in order to be out of the line of sight of A/A positions at Boram and attacked on a heading of 360 degrees at an altitude of 100 feet in two flights of three planes each. One run was made on the target. 25 x 500 lb. 8/11 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped in the target starting one large fire 1500 ft. NE of A/A position on West side of Cape Moem, one large fire with explosions 1500 feet South of the North tip of Cape Moem and smaller fires in the center part of the target (#44B). The target was covered well with bomb bursts and smoke. The area was strafed thoroughly.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - A/A was light, of light intensity and inaccurate to accurate. Machine gun fire received from positions on the East side of the narrow part of the Cape. Two bursts of medium A/A were observed from a position at the NE end of Boram strip. Bursts were correct as to altitude but ahead of planes.

(c) Fighter cover - Fighter cover was excellent.

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air.

- (1) Nil enemy planes destroyed in air.
- (2) A/P 034 was holed in the nose. Turret gunner's canopy on A/P 024 was shattered by a direct hit.



(e) S/Sgt Frank R. Baranko, 32394065, gunner on A/P 024 was injured slightly by A/A.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - S/Sgt Frank R. Baranko, 32394065, will be recommended for the Purple Heart Award.

5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, strafing table and photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - one B-25 was observed to crash into the sea NE of Murik Lagoon. Large piles of supplies were observed along the West coast of Cape Moem 1500 feet to 2500 ft. South of the heavy A/A position on the West side of the Cape. A small schooner beached at the North tip of Cape Moem.

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photos of this Squadron do not show the target but reveal medium fires at Boram.

For the Squadron Commander:

CAVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

# APPENDIX "A"

## BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
024	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
176	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
034	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
036	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
351	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
040	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
	<u>30</u>			<u>30</u>

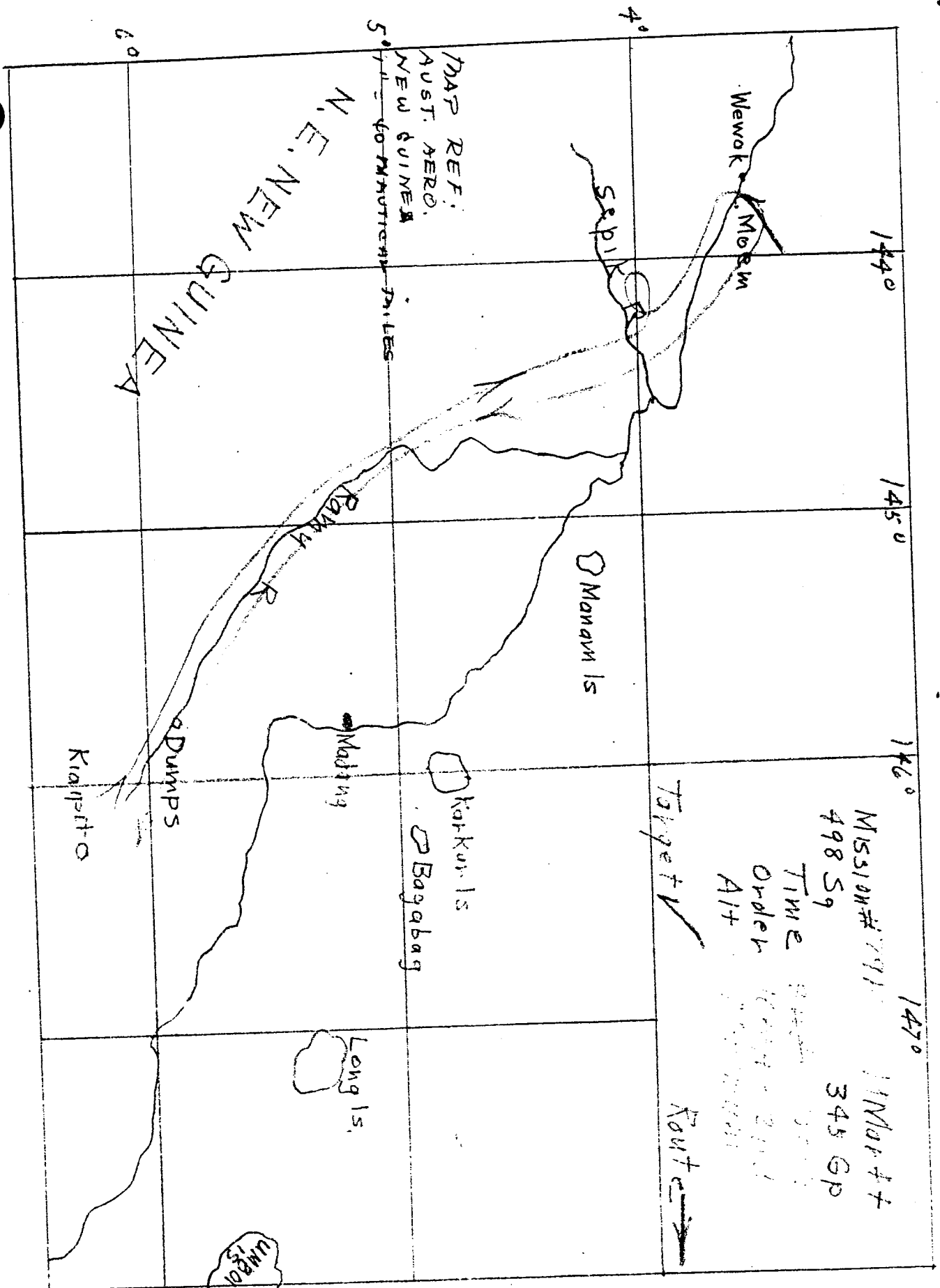
A/P 351 salvaged its bombs.

## STRAPPING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal.</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal.</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
	<u>Rds car'd</u>		<u>Rds car'd</u>	
024	4600	1800	4000	----
176	4600	2400	4000	1000
034	4600	1500	4000	----
036	4600	1500	4000	500
351	4600	1800	4000	1000
040	4600	1500	4000	500
		<u>10500</u>		<u>3000</u>

## PHOTO TABLE

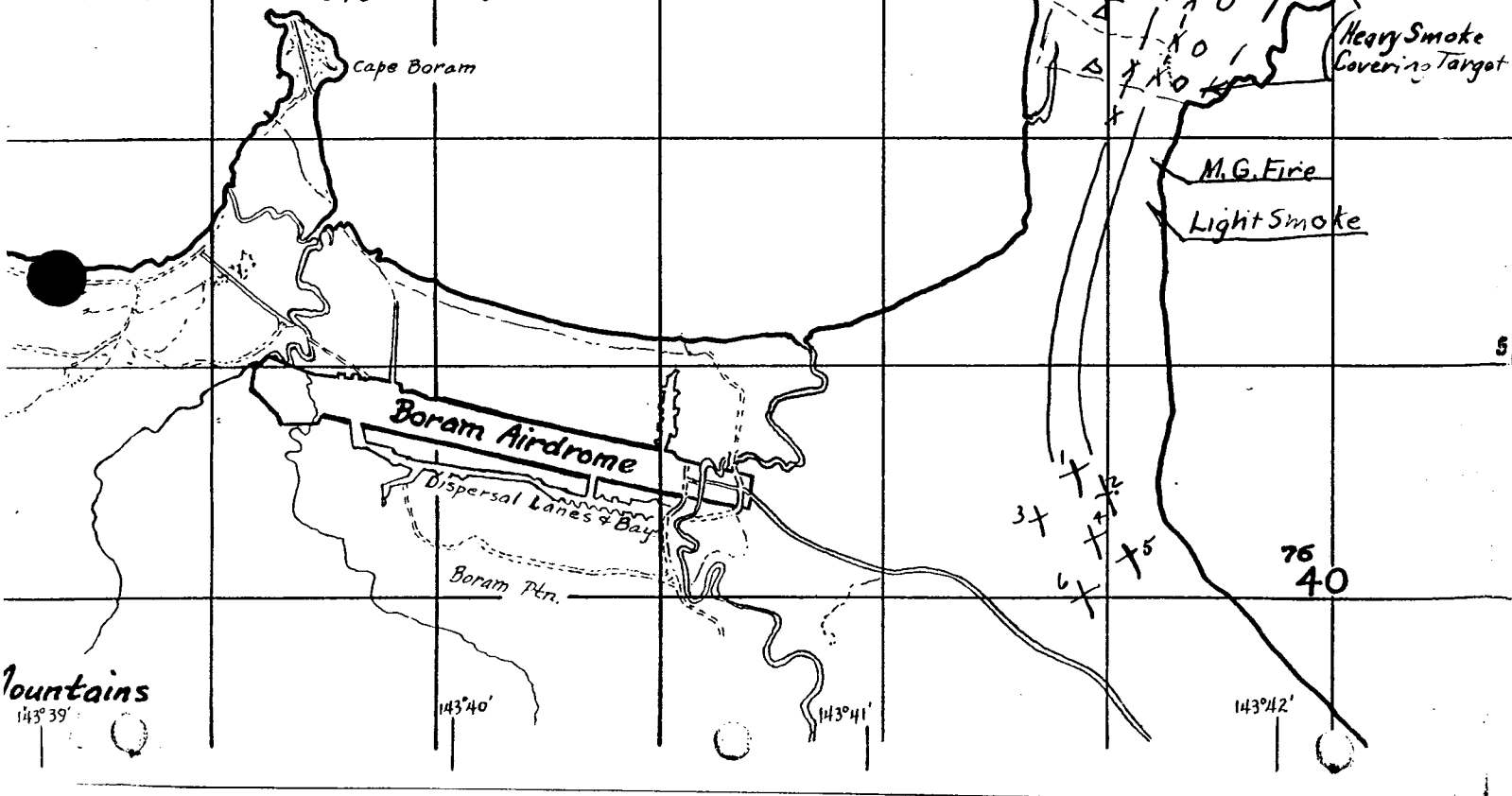
<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Type camera</u>	<u>Ex.made</u>	<u>Prints rec'd</u>
<del>176</del> 034	1028/L	Cape Mcom	R-21	30	2



Mission No. 79E 19 Mar 44  
 Squadron No. 498 Group 345  
 Squadron Order Over Target 2nd  
 Altitude MINIMUM FT.  
 Time Over Target 1030/L  
 Crew Observation Bombing Efficiency  
 (Red) Crew Report of Bomb Hits  
 (Red) Bomb Hits Shown on Photos  
 (Blue) Planes Taking Photos  
 (Black) Other Planes. (All Planes to  
 be Shown at Beginning of Run.)

MAP REF:-  
 Vicinity of Wewak  
 Special Map-Prelim Sheet  
 Scale = 25,000 (Approx.)  
 1000 Meter Modified  
 British Grid System

1 Maj Coltharp	176	-X	Bombs Dropped	5
2 Lt Easter	351	-O	Salvaged	5
3 Lt Herberington	024	-A		5
4 Capt Heuser	036	-X		5
5 Lt Kirkland	034	-O		5
6 Lt Neblett	040	-A		5



CONFIDENTIAL

498  
82-  
22 mcl

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713 - 1

CMB/fo

23 March, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 82-C, performed 22 March, 1944, by the 498th Squadron (six planes).  
Objective - Shipping off Wewak and Cape Wom.

**TO :** COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

(a) Six A/P's of the 498th Squadron were to fly in the number two position in a formation of four Squadrons of B25's of the 345th Group and four Squadrons of A-20's from the 3rd Attack Group and 312 th Group in an attack against Wom Pt, Wewak and against shipping near Wewak. Shipping was the priority target. The planes were to take off from #4 strip, NADZAB, at 0910/L, rendezvous at ANNANBERG with the A-20's and fighter cover of one Squadron of P-38's and one Squadron of P-47's and be on course at 1025/L. In the event shipping was sighted the Squadrons were to attack in the sequence of their position in the formation with the remainder of the formation circling until the preceding Squadron had completed its attack.

(b) Rendezvous - Rendezvous was at ANNANBERG at 1019/L with the formation on course at 1033/L.

(c) Attack - The formation crossed the coast at the Sepik River and circled to the North of Wewak in search of shipping. Two luggers and a number of scattered barges were sighted around Muschu, Kariru and Valif Islands. There were not enough vessels for the number of planes in the attack and the 498th Squadron attacked Cape Wom, barges and Dagua strip. 6 x 500 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped on Cape Wom on a heading of 200 deg. Three huts were observed destroyed. Cape was also strafed. 7 bombs were dropped on barges on the West side of Muschu Is. No direct hits were observed. 5 bombs were dropped on two barges on the NW side of Muschu Is. Results were unobserved. 7 bombs were dropped on Dagua strip on a heading of 120 deg. Barges on the West and South sides of Kariru Is., on the West and North sides of Muschu Is. and on the Tendaayne Is. were strafed. No shipping claimed destroyed by this Squadron. European type houses on Kariru and Tendaayne Is. were strafed as were native huts on the same Islands.

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- (d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.  
(1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.  
(2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.  
(3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.
- (e) Time and location of:  
Take Off: From strip #4, NADZAB, 0913/L to 0916/L.  
Rendezvous: ANHANBERG, 1033/L.  
Attack: Shipping and Cape Wom, Wewak, 1130/L to 1215/L.  
Landing: Strip #4, NADZAB, 1346/L.
- (f) Route: BASE to ANHANBERG to TARGET. Return direct.

2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>	
Lt. Turk	424	Maj. Rosenbaum	038
Lt. Adams	063	Lt. Foley	040
Lt. Cutinelli	417	Lt. Heblett	371

The 498th Squadron flew in number two position and was led by Lt. Turk.

3. DETAILS OF THE MISSION.

(a) Details of the attack - The formation circled North of Wewak and sighting enemy vessels around Kariru, Muschu and Valif Island started the attack. The 501st Squadron, leader of the formation, started its run for the ships and the remaining Squadrons of the 345th Group circled as planned, waiting for their turn to attack. The A-20's broke from the formation and attacked the targets at will resulting in confusion and inefficiency in the strike. The 498th Squadron dropped part of its bomb load on barges and the remainder on Cape Wom and Dagua strip. A/P 424 dropped one bomb on Cape Wom, two on the West end of Muschu Is. and two on barges on the West side of Muschu Is. A/P 063 dropped four bombs among buildings on Cape Wom and dropped one safe. A/P 417 dropped one bomb on Cape Wom and salvaged remainder. A/P 036 dropped five bombs on Dagua strip. A/P 040 dropped five bombs on barges on the West tip of Muschu Is. straddling the target. A/P 371 dropped two bombs on Dagua strip and three bombs on barges. All targets were strafed by all planes.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - Medium A/A was received from the center of Tendayne Is. and from the West and East ends of Dagua strip. A/A was accurate as to altitude bursting in front of the planes. Light A/A was received from the hills South of Dagua.

(c) Fighter cover - Fighter cover was good.

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air.

(1) Nil enemy planes destroyed in air.

(2) Nil damage to our aircraft.

(e) Nil personnel was injured on this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, strafing table and photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Nil

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photo interpretation shows a string of five bombs bursting across a lugger on the West side of Muschu Island. Bursts shown in photos #2-0-22, 23, 25, 26, 27 and 28, A/P 040, make it unlikely that the boat was not at least badly damaged. Photos #1-0-2 and 3, A/P 063, show five bomb bursts in the target on the West side of Cape Wom. The road and the beaten ground under the trees along the beach indicate considerable activity.

For the Squadron Commander:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

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## APPENDIX "A"

### BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
036	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
371	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
424	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
063	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
417	4	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	4
040	5	4/5 sec.	500 lb.	5
	<u>29</u>			<u>29</u>

### STRAPPING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
036	4600	2500	4000	1000
371	4600	1800	4000	800
424	4600	1000	4000	----
063	4600	1800	4000	----
417	4600	1800	4000	----
040	4600	1800	4000	----
		<u>10100</u>		<u>1200</u>

### PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Type camera</u>	<u>Ex.made</u>	<u>Prints rec'd</u>
040	1130/L	Cape Wom	K-21	30	8
063	1130/L	Cape Wom	K21	30	4



12 Bombs - Borges  
Muschu 12

7 Bombs  
Dagua A/D

6 Bombs  
C. Horn

Dagua  
Muschu  
Wemar

3 x 4 x 5

Burru

Angarank

Nabid

Madang

Ramy R.

Mar. Khan R.  
NADZAB

MISSION 82C 22 May 44

49859 345G

6 x B25 D1582's

Time - 1130 - 1245 /L

Alt - Minimum

Order - 2nd

Bomb Load - 29x500# 8-115x

Bombs Dropped

1 Lt Turk - 424 - 5

2 Lt Adams - 063 - 14 8 Salvaged 1

3 Lt Cutnell - 417 - 1 8 Salvaged 3

4 Maj Kosenbaum - 036 - 5

5 Lt Foley - 040 - 15

6 Lt Neblett - 371 - 5

7 Took Photos

Overlay: Eastern New Guinea Navigation Chart  
Scale 1:12,315,000

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498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.F.O. #713 - 1

498  
85-E  
25 Mar 44  
CMB/fo

26 March, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 85-E, performed 25 March, 1944, by the 498th Squadron (six planes).  
Objective - Personnel - Newak.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

(a) Six A/P's of the 498th Squadron were to bomb personnel concentrated on the Sauri-Newak Mission Road one and one half miles SW of Newak Drome. The Squadron was to fly in the number two position of a two squadron formation of the 345th Group. Take off time was scheduled for 0805/L but was delayed one hour and thirty minutes due to weather. The formation was to rendezvous with fighters at Gusap at 1010/L and proceed direct to the target bombing from SW to NE at 7800 ft.

(b) Rendezvous - Rendezvous at Gusap was at 1010/L as planned and the formation left on course at 1020/L.

(c) Attack - The formation crossed the coast at the Sepik River and due to 8/10 cloud coverage up to 8000 ft. approached the target from sea to land from the NE. The bombardier in the lead ship of the second flight sighted the target on this heading and considering the likelihood of the weather closing in released his bombs with the other two planes in the second flight releasing their bombs at the same time. All bombs fell in the Western end of the target starting one medium sized fire. The lead flight followed the formation, made an S turn West of the target and approached the target from the SE as planned. The target was clear at the bomb release point and all the bombs fell in the target starting minor fires in the center. A/P 040 released three bombs and salvoed three after they failed to release over the target. 33 x 500 lb. inst. demo bombs were dropped in the target by the six planes from 7800 ft.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

- (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.
- (2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.
- (3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

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(e) Time and location of:  
Take Off: from strip #4, NADZAB, 0939/L to 0942/L.  
Rendezvous: GUSAP, 1010/L.  
Attack: Personnel 1½ miles SW of Newak Drome,  
1143/L and 1152/L.  
Landing: strip #4, NADZAB, 1330/L.

(f) Route: NADZAB, GUSAP, WEWAK and return direct.

2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>	
Capt Kilgore	424	Lt. Neblett	417
Lt. Fair	036	Lt. Best, R.D.	420
Lt. Foley	034	Lt. Kirkland	040

The 498th Squadron flew in number two position and was led by Capt. Kilgore.

3. DETAILS OF THE MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The formation crossed the coast at the Sepik River and due to 8/10 cloud coverage up to 8000 ft. approached the target from sea to land from the NE. The bombardier in the lead ship of the second flight sighted the target on this heading and considering the likelihood of the weather closing in released his bombs with the other two planes in the second flight releasing their bombs at the same time. All bombs fell in the Western end of the target starting one medium sized fire. The lead flight followed the formation, made an S turn West of the target and approached the target from the SE as planned. The target was clear at the bomb release point and all the bombs fell in the target starting minor fires in the center. A/P 040 released three bombs and salvoed three after they failed to release over the target. 33 x 500 lb. inst. demo bombs were dropped in the target by the six planes from 7800 ft.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - Nil

(c) Fighter cover - Fighter cover was excellent.

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air.  
(1) Nil enemy planes destroyed in air.  
(2) Nil damage to our aircraft.

(e) Nil personnel was injured on this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

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5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table and the photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Three distinct fires at the Western end of Boram strip with black smoke rising to 2000 ft. The fires were followed by intermittent explosions. Wewak Township was covered with smoke. One large fire followed by explosions was observed in the dispersal area at the Southern end of Wewak strip. Six luggers and 12 barges were observed in the cove on the West side of Muschu Island. Six barges were seen on the beach Northwest of Cape Hom. All sightings were made between 1140/L and 1152/L, from altitude of 7800 ft.

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photos taken on the mission were obscured by cloud cover over the target. The two prints received show the far end of the target and shows that the formation was on course.

For the Squadron Commander:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

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## APPENDIX "A"

### BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
424	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
036	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
034	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
417	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
420	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
040	6	inst.	500 lb.	3
	<u>36</u>			<u>33</u>

A/P 040 salvaged three bombs after they had failed to release.

### PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Type Camera</u>	<u>Ex.made</u>	<u>Prints rec'd</u>
424	1152/L	Wewak	K-17	20	2

Mission #85E 25 Mar 44  
 498 Sq 345 Gp  
 2nd over target  
 Alt - 7800'  
 Time 1143-1152/L

Wewak

Grid and True N.  
 Mag. North

1 Capt Kilgore - x

Bombs Dropped

2 Lt Fair - o

3 Lt Foley - Δ

4 Lt Neblett - x

5 Lt Best R.D. - o

6 Lt Kirkland - Δ 3 13 Salvaged

Took Photos +

Dispersal Area

Wewak Airfield

Wiriviri Pen.

Mission

Gardens

5+ +6  
 4+ +5

3+ +2  
 76  
 31

Mission

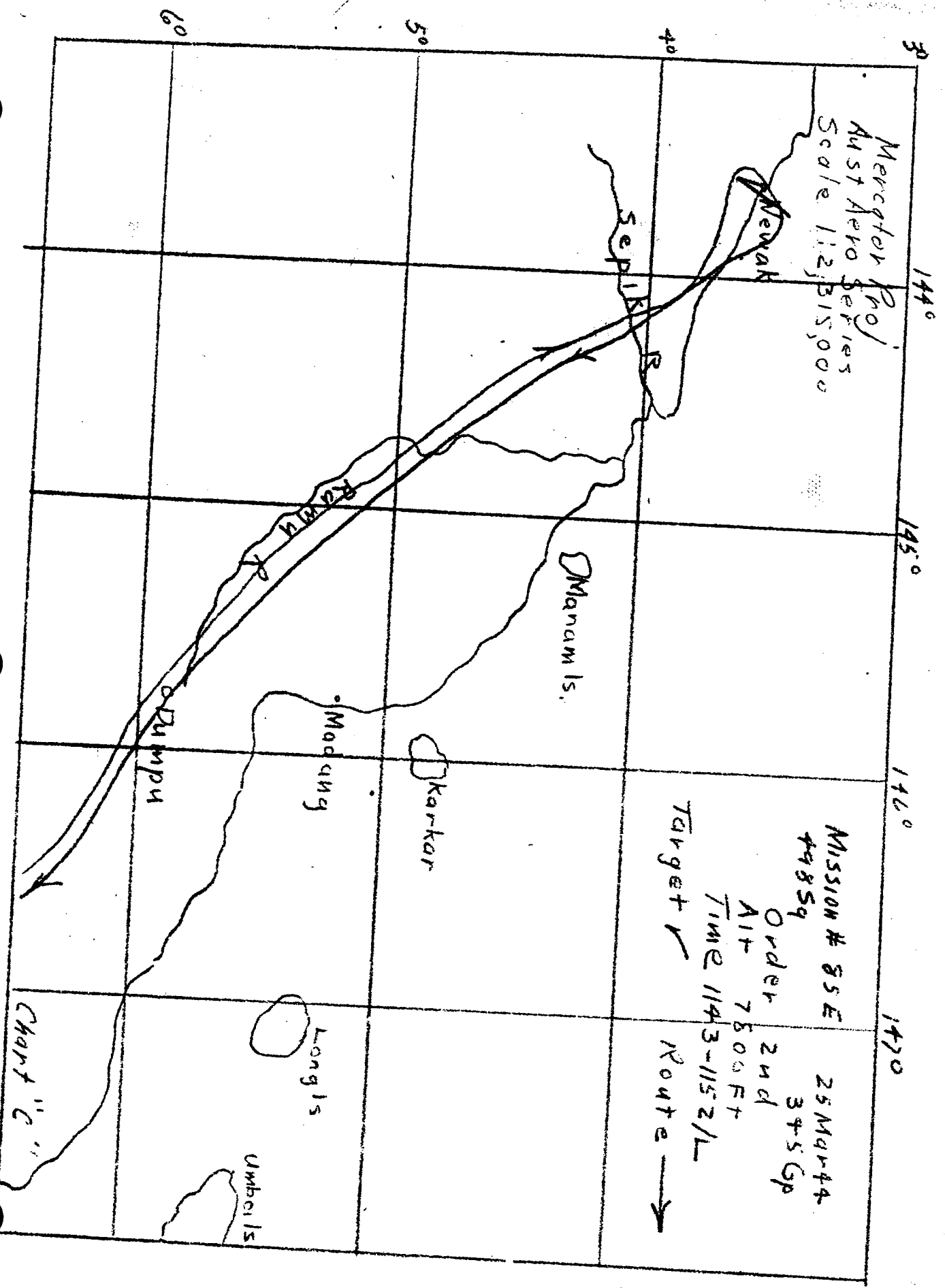
Prince Alexander I

143° 37'

143° 38'

Mercator Proj  
Aust Aero Series  
Scale 1:2,315,000

MISSION # 85E  
44859  
Order 2nd  
Alt 7800 FT  
Time 1143-1152/L  
Target ✓  
Route →



CONFIDENTIAL

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713 - 1

498  
86-C  
CMB/ro 26 March

27 March, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 86-C, performed by nine  
airplanes of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - personnel, Dagua.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APC 925.

1. General.

(a) Nine airplanes of the 498th Squadron were to lead a formation of two squadrons of B25's of the 345th Group in an attack against personnel in targets 6-D, 7-D and 8-D in the Jap Camp Area one mile SW of Dagua Drome. The planes were to take off from #4 strip at Nadzab at 0805/K, rendezvous at Gusap with P-47 fighter cover and proceed direct to the target. Following the attack which was to be from West to East at 7700 ft. altitude the squadron was to rejoin the 501st Squadron and if the 38th Group was visible off shore North of Wewak form with it and return direct to base. If the 38th Group was not visible the two Squadrons were to return direct to base in two squadrons formation.

(b) Rendezvous - Rendezvous was at Gusap at 0845/K.

(c) Attack - The formation approached the target inland South of Wewak and made its first run on a heading of 270 degrees at 7700 ft. altitude. Half the bomb load was dropped on the first run and the Squadron then made a 180 deg. turn to the right and recrossed the target on a heading of 90 degrees. The remaining bombs were dropped on the second run over the target. 44 x 500 lb. inst. demo bombs were dropped in the target with two bombs falling in 7-D and the remainder in targets 6-D and 8-D. Target 6-D was covered with smoke and dust from the bombing but no fires were observed. One small explosion, possibly an ammo or fuel dump was caused in the center of 8-D. Bombing was excellent and the concentrations of huts were well covered.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

- (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.
- (2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.
- (3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.



(e) Time and location of:  
Take Off: From strip #4, NADZAB, 0805/K to 0809/K.  
Rendezvous: GUSAP, 0845/K.  
Attack: Personnel, Dagua, 1009/K to 1015/K.  
Landing: Strip #4, NADZAB, 1155/K.

(f) Route: BASE TO GUSAP TO TARGET. Return direct.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK:

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>		<u>THIRD FLIGHT</u>	
Capt. Kilgore	424	Lt. Fair	276	Lt. Dougherty	417
Lt. Adams	371	Lt. Stapleton	040	Lt. Easter	033
Lt. Browne	351	Lt. Nutting	034	Lt. Jensen	036

The 498th Squadron flew in the number one position in the Group formation and was led by Captain Kilgore.

## 3. DETAILS OF THE MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - A/P 034 of the second flight returned from ANNAMBERG due to engine trouble and the rest of the formation proceeded to the target approaching from South of Wewak and crossing the target on a heading of 270 deg. in two flight of three planes each and one flight of two planes. The leading plane in each flight carried a bombardier and the other planes in the flight released their bombs on the lead ship. Half the bomb load was dropped on the first run and the Squadron then made a 180 deg. turn to the right and recrossed the target on a heading of 90 degrees. The remaining bombs were dropped on the second run over the target. 44 x 500 lb. inst. demo bombs were dropped in the target with two bombs falling in 7-D and the remainder in targets 6-D and 8-D. Target 6-D was covered with smoke and dust from the bombing but no fires were observed. One small explosion, possibly an ammo or fuel dump, was caused in the center of 8-D. Bombing was excellent and the concentrations of huts were well covered. The bombardier in A/P 424 released two bombs in target 6-D on the first run and when the remaining bombs failed to release he salvoed them in target 8-D on the second run with the wing A/P's releasing their bombs in the same order. Following the strike the Squadron withdrew to the SE and failing to sight the 38th Group formed with the 501st Squadron South of Wewak and returned direct to base.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - A/A was light, of medium and heavy caliber and inaccurate. Fire was received from the Eastern part of target 8-D. A few bursts were observed coming from positions between the road and river 1000 ft. East of target 6-D.

(c) Fighter cover - Fighter cover was good.

CONFIDENTIAL

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air.

(1) Nil enemy planes destroyed in air.

(2) Nil damage to our aircraft.

(e) Nil personnel was injured on this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table and photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - One gun boat was observed firing from North of But Airdrome.

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photo coverage of the target is poor but bomb bursts are shown through target 6-D and 8-D. Resulting damage could not be determined.

For the Squadron Commander:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

CONFIDENTIAL

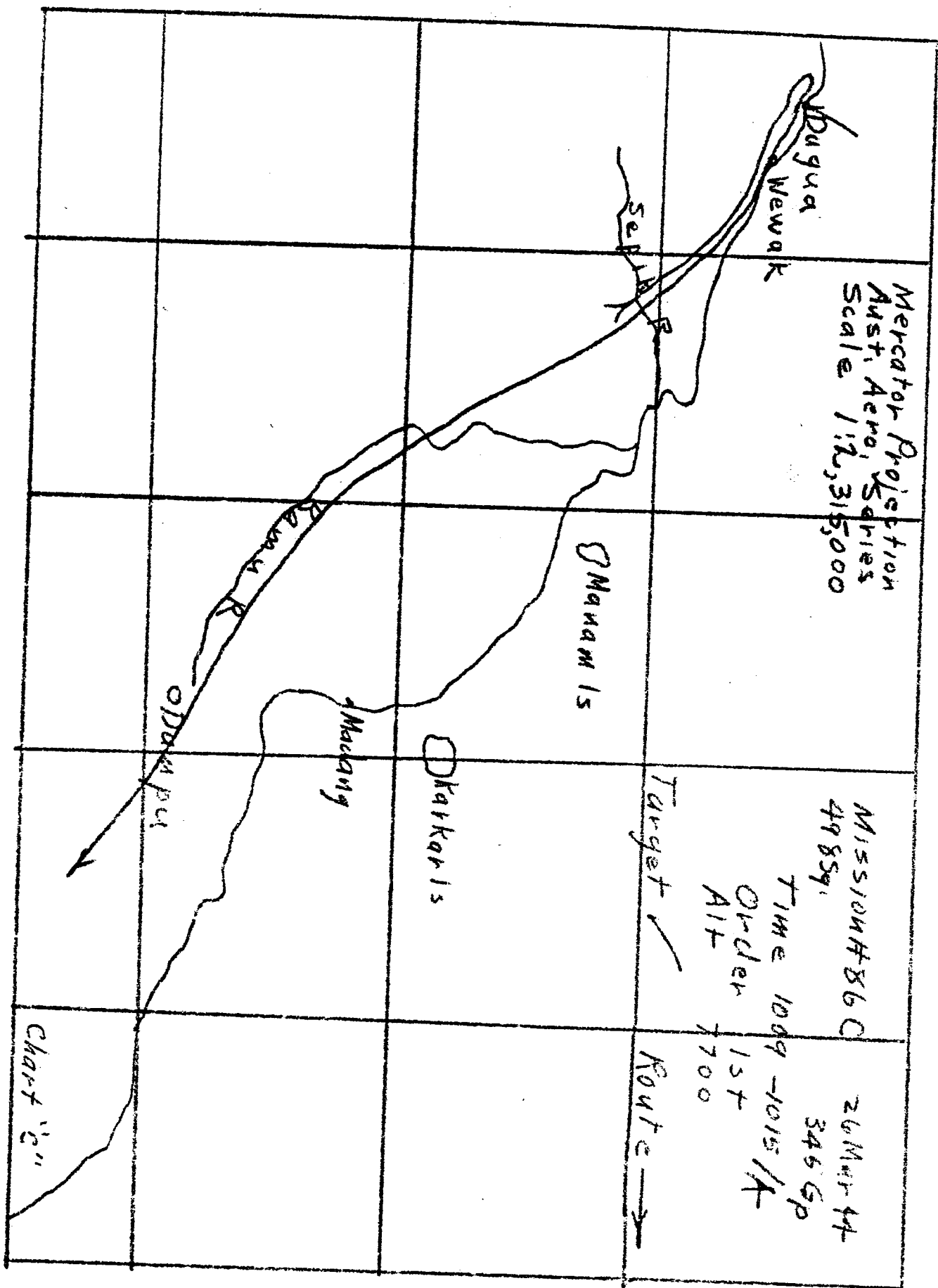
# APPENDIX "A"

## BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
424	6	inst.	500 lb.	2
371	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
351	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
276	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
040	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
<del>232</del>	<del>6</del>	<del>inst.</del>	<del>500 lb.</del>	<del>6</del>
417	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
033	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
036	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
	<u>48</u>			<u>44</u>

## PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Type camera</u>	<u>Ex.made</u>	<u>Prints Rec'd</u>
040	1010/K	Dagua	K-21	30	4
424	1010/E	Dagua	K-17	20	2



Pacific

Ocean

Daguerre Album

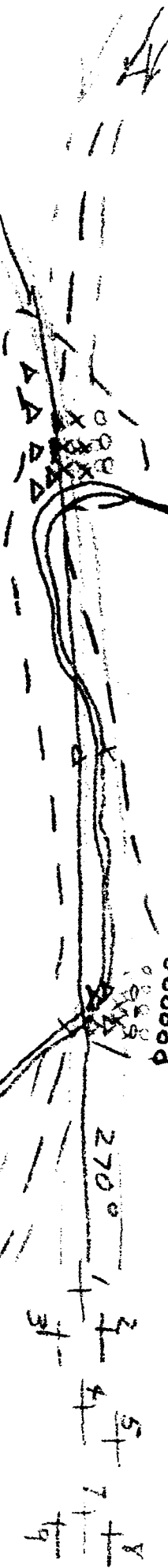
Dispersal Area

Aerial Mosaic  
"Daguerre"  
Bomber Command

1 Capt Kilgore - 424-X  
2 Lt Adams - 371-O  
3 Lt Browne - 351-A

4 Lt Fair - 276-X  
5 Lt Stapleton - 040-X  
6 Lt Nutting - 034 - Did not reach target

7 Lt Dougherty - 417-X  
8 Lt Easter - 033-O  
9 Lt Jensen - 036-A



MISSION #366 26 May 44  
49859 3455P  
Time 1009-1015/K  
Alt 7500'  
Order 1st  
4 500# Ingr

2 Runs on target  
2nd Run - Broken line  
Took Photos

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713 - 1

CMB/fc

30 March, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 89-F, performed by six  
airplanes of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - personnel - Dagua.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

(a) Six A/P's of the 498th Squadron were to fly in the number two position in a formation of three Squadrons of B25's of the 345th Group in an attack against personnel in targets 6-D, 7-D, 8-D, 9--D, 10-D, one and one-half miles South of Dagua Airdrome. The Eastern end of the target 8-D was assigned the Squadron. The planes were to take off from strip #4, NADZAB, at 0930/K, rendezvous with one Squadron of P-47's at ANNANBERG at 1050/K and proceed direct to the target attacking between 1140/K and 1155/K on a heading of 90°. Following the attack the formation was to assemble North of Wewak and return direct to base.

(b) Rendezvous - Rendezvous was at ANNANBERG at 1038/K.

(c) Attack - The formation crossed the coast South of the target, made one circle at sea to get below the cloud cover and approached the target from the West. 26 x 500 lb. inst. demo bombs were dropped by two flights of three A/P's each from 7000 ft. and 7200 ft. respectively on a heading of 90 degrees. Bombing was excellent covering target with smoke and starting two small fires.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.  
(1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.  
(2) A/P 040 is missing.  
(3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

(e) Time and location of:  
Take Off: from strip #4, NADZAB, 0936/K to 0939/K.  
Rendezvous: ANNANBERG, 1038/K.  
Attack: Personnel, target 8-D one and one-half miles South of Dagua Airdrome at 1138/K.  
Landing: strip #4, NADZAB, 1335/K.

(f) Route: BASE, ANNANBERG, TARGET.

2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>	
Lt. Turk	424	Lt. Browne	417
Lt. Schricker	351	Lt. Foley	040
Lt. Jensen	036	Lt. Nutting	371

The 498th Squadron flew in #2 position in the Group formation and was led by Lt. Turk.

3. DETAILS OF THE MISSION.

(a) Details of the attack - The formation crossed the coast South of the target, made one circle at sea to get below the cloud cover and approached the target from the West. 26 x 500 lb. inst. demo bombs were dropped by two flights of three A/P's each from 7000 ft. and 7200 ft. respectively on a heading of 90 degrees. Bombing was excellent covering target with smoke and starting two small fires. The first flight and two A/P's of the second flight dropped the bombs on the first run over the target but the bombs in A/P 040 failed to release and Lt. Foley asked to be taken over the target again. The second flight went out over the sea and again approached the target from the West. Clouds had moved in on the approach between runs and the flight passed through them but was unable to reach the target. The flight crossed the coast South of Dagua and turned left to join the formation. A/P #040 continued on a straight course towards Kairiru Island and was not seen again. The Squadron leader was not aware that the plane was missing and continued on the direct route to base.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - two bursts of A/A from unknown position were observed over the target.

(c) Fighter cover - Fighter cover of P-47's was good.

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air.  
(1) Nil enemy planes destroyed in air.  
(2) A/P #040 has not returned - cause unknown.

(e) 1st Lt. Bernard L. Foley, O-677699, pilot; 2nd Lt. Wade Westfall, O-747932, co-pilot; 2nd Lt. Richard A. Hochadel, O-681887, navigator; S/Sgt William T. Branstad, 37424438, Eng-gunner; T/Sgt Orville H. Diedrichs, 20919827, radio-gunner; S/Sgt Leon Monteith, 35325829, Gunner and S/Sgt James J. Beattie, 31191049, Aerial photographer are missing in action.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, and photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS \* A large fire 7000 ft. West of target. One small fire along road 3000 ft. from coast and 6000 ft. West of Dagua A/D. 2 Sugar Charlies, 1 barge off shore at But, three barges on beach (shipping sightings unconfirmed).

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - photos do not give any additional information.

For the Squadron Commander:

CALVIN M. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.



# APPENDIX "A"

## BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
424	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
351	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
036	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
417	6	inst.	500 lb.	6
040	6	inst.	500 lb.	0
371	6	inst.	500 lb.	2
	<u>36</u>			<u>26</u>

A/P #040 salvaged six bombs.

A/P #371 salvaged four bombs.

## PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Type camera</u>	<u>Ex.made</u>	<u>Prints rec'd</u>
<del>424</del> 424	1150/K	Dagua	K-17	15	1

P a c e s c o c e a

D a g u a A d m

Dispersal  
Area

Overlay  
Aerial Mosaic  
"Dagua"  
Bomber Comm.

Bombs Drop

1 Lt Turk — 424 — X  
2 Lt Schricker — 351 — O  
3 Lt Jensen — 036 — A  
4 Lt Browne — 417 — X  
5 Lt Foley — 046 — O  
6 Lt Nutting — 371 — A

6 3 2  
4 1  
5

Target 8D

Mission # 89F 29 Mar 44  
498 Sq 545 Gp  
Time 1300 K  
Alt 7000-7200  
Order 2nd  
Bombs — 26 X 500 #

+ Took Photos

Mercator Projection  
Aust. Aero. Series  
Scale 1:2,315,000

Madaya  
Wawak

Sepik

Hansa Bay  
Mahanis

KarKar

Madang

Long Is

Umbai

Durupu

Chart "C"

Mission # 89A  
498 Sq

Time  
Order

Alt 7000-7200'

Target ✓

Route →

29 Mar 44  
345 Gp

1136/K  
2nd

CONFIDENTIAL

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713 - 1

CMB/fc

498  
91-B  
3/mar 4

1 April, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 91-B, performed by nine airplanes of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - personnel in Kairiru Village (21-D) and road East of Village.

**TO :** COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

(a) Nine airplanes of the 498th Squadron were to lead a formation of three Squadrons of B25's of the 345th Group in an attack on target 21-D, personnel in Kairiru Village and along the South coastal road of Kairiru Island North of Wewak, New Guinea. The fourth Squadron of the Group was to attack targets on Muschu Island immediately South of Kairiru Village. The planes were to take off from strip #4 at NADZAB at 0805/K, assemble over the strip and proceed to ANMANBERG for rendezvous with one Squadron of P-40's and one Squadron of P-43's at 0910/K. The attack was to be made from minimum altitude, releasing single parafrag bombs in train and strafing. The attack was to be made from West to East with the formation assembling and returning direct to base.

(b) Rendezvous - rendezvous was at ANMANBERG at 0925/K and was good.

(c) Attack - The formation circled Kairiru Island from the North and attacked as planned. Only one rack functioned perfectly dropping 80 bombs at 75 foot intervals through the target. Malfunction of other racks resulted in the remaining planes releasing only part of their bomb load and either salvaging the entire rack if the bombs were entangled or returning bombs to base. 215 x 23 lb. parafrag bombs were dropped in train through Kairiru Village. Bombing was excellent. One large fire was started in Kairiru Village just North of the mission with black smoke rising to 4000 ft. and still visible 15 minutes after leaving the target. Small fires were started in the Village. All buildings in the village and the coast line on either side of the village were strafed thoroughly with 12,750 x .50 cal. and 1700 x .30 cal. rounds of ammo. Tracers were seen to enter the buildings.

- (d) Interception and A/P's destroyed  
 (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.  
 (2) Nil Allied airplanes observed lost.  
 (3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.
- (e) Time and location of:  
Take Off: From strip #4, NADZAB, 0812/K - 0817/K.  
Rendezvous: ANNAMBERG, 0925/K.  
Attack: Personnel target 21-D, KAIRIRU VILLAGE,  
 1005/K - 1007/K.  
Landing: strip #4, NADZAB, 1205/K.
- (f) Route: BASE, ANNAMBERG, TARGET.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>		<u>THIRD FLIGHT</u>	
Lt. Col. Fridge	315	Lt. Turk	351	Lt. Dougherty	176
Lt. Schricker	371	Lt. Best, R.D.	030	Lt. Cutinelle	036
Lt. Stapleton	034	Lt. Neblett	033	Lt. Wright	026

The 498th Squadron flew in number one position and was led by Lt. Col. Fridge, Strike Force Commander.

## 3. DETAILS OF THE MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The attack was made as planned, circling Kairiru Island from the NW and making the run from West to East. The nine planes were in three flights of three each in trail formation. The first flight; A/P 315 released six bombs in train and the remainder failed to release over the target. The bomb-bay doors were opened over the jungle in order to check the rack and approximately twenty bombs fell out. After the plane landed it was taken up again and the rack salvoed. A/P 371 released 62 bombs in train on the target and then salvoed the rack when the bombs became entangled. A/P 034 released 10 bombs on the target and remainder were returned to base and unloaded. The second flight; A/P 351 released all 80 bombs perfectly at 75 foot intervals. A/P 030 released 26 bombs satisfactorily and then the rack was salvoed--loose bombs. A/P 033 released about 25 bombs satisfactorily and then the rack was salvoed--loose bombs. The third flight; A/P 176 three bombs and rack was salvoed. A/P 036 no bombs released and all were returned to base. Upon opening bomb-bay doors in hard standing one bomb fell out but did not arm. Plane was taken up and rack salvoed--unsafe. A/P 026 three bombs dropped--rack salvoed. Total: 215 x 23 parafrag bombs dropped on target; one perfect function, eight malfunction. 224 bombs returned to base by three planes of which two planes took off again and salvoed racks and 154 remaining bombs. Five planes salvoed racks enroute from target and two racks were saved.

The targets were strafed thoroughly. One large fire with black smoke visible for 15 minutes was started just North of mission. Small fires were started in the Village.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - Machine gun fire was received from the western end of Kairiru Village with two bursts of medium A/A reported from the center of the Village. Fire was ineffective.

(c) Fighter cover - Fighter cover of P-40's and P-47's was good.

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air.

(1) Nil enemy planes destroyed in air.  
(2) Hydraulic system knocked on A/P 033 by falling rack.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

#### 5. APPENDICES

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing and strafing table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - One tracer was seen coming from Watean Village at the mouth of the Sepik River. Tracer was thought to be possible signal. Four or five barges were seen along the coast at Kairiru Village but were thought to be unserviceable as they had been sighted in the same position on several missions. One barge was seen in Murik Lagoons.

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Nil photos received by this Squadron.

For the Squadron Commander:

CALVIN H. BOWEN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

# APPENDIX "A"

## BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
315	80	parafrag	23 lb.	6
371	80	parafrag	23 lb.	62
034	80	parafrag	23 lb.	10
351	80	parafrag	23 lb.	80
030	80	parafrag	23 lb.	26
033	80	parafrag	23 lb.	25
176	80	parafrag	23 lb.	3
036	80	parafrag	23 lb.	0
026	80	parafrag	23 lb.	3
	<u>720</u>			<u>215</u>

A/P 315 salvoed 74.  
 A/P 371 salvoed 18.  
 A/P 034 returned 70.  
~~A/EX18X~~  
 A/P 030 salvoed 54.  
 A/P 033 salvoed 55.  
 A/P 176 salvoed 77.  
 A/P 036 salvoed 80.  
 A/P 026 salvoed 77.

## STRAPPING TABLE.

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
<del>315</del>	4600	1500	4000	----
371	4600	500	4000	----
034	4600	1000	4000	----
351	4600	1300	4000	1200
030	4600	1300	4000	----
033	4600	2650	4000	500
176	4600	1500	4000	----
036	4600	1500	4000	----
026	4600	1500	4000	----
		<u>12750</u>		<u>1700</u>

18  
34

Victoria Bay

Kairua Is

Large Field

215 Bombs  
in Target

Kairua

Kairua St

Yahin

Black { 1 Lt Col Fridge - 315 - +  
2 Lt Schrieker - 371 - +  
3 Lt Stapleton - 034 - +

Blue { 4 Lt Turk - 351 - + 32  
5 Lt Best RD - 030 - + 34  
6 Lt Neblett - 033 - +

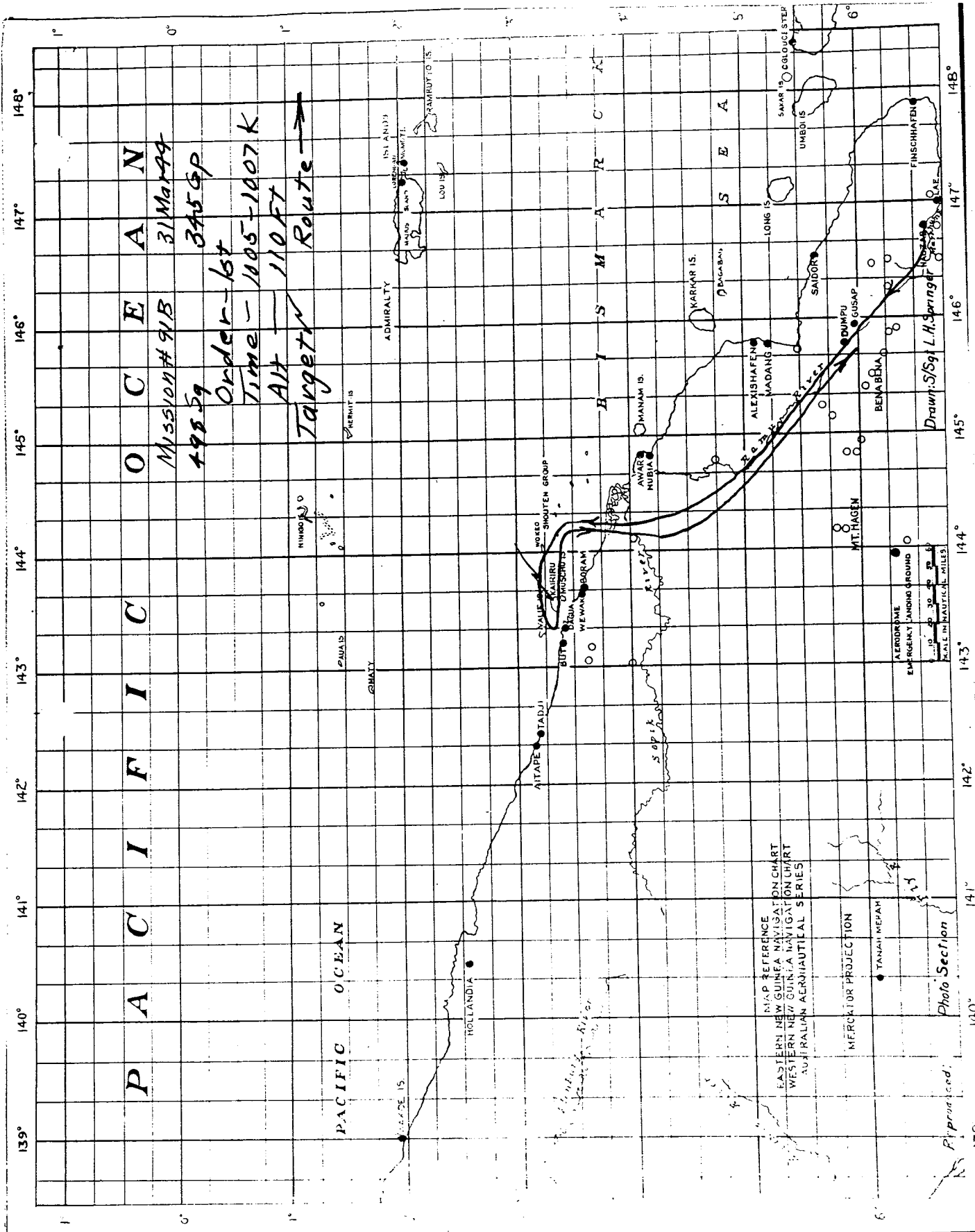
Red { 7 Lt Dougherty - 176 - +  
8 Lt Curmelle - 036 - +  
9 Lt Wright - 026 - +  
Took Photos +

Mission # 91B 31 Mar 44  
4859 345 GP  
Order - 1st  
Time - 1805-1807  
Alt - 110  
Bomb Load 720 x 23 # Parastraps  
9 B25's

Play: Prov. Map "Kairua West"  
Scale 1:63360

Muschu Is





P A C I F I C O C E A N  
 M I S S I O N # 9 1 B  
 3 1 M a r 4 4  
 4 9 8 5 g  
 O r d e r - 1 s t  
 T i m e - 1 0 0 5 - 1 0 0 7 K  
 A l t - 1 1 0 F T  
 T a r g e t - R o u t e

N I A P R E F E R E N C E  
 E A S T E R N N E W G U I N E A N A V I G A T I O N C H A R T  
 W E S T E R N N E W G U I N E A N A V I G A T I O N C H A R T  
 A U S T R A L I A N A E R I A U T I C A L S E R I E S

M E R C A T O R P R O J E C T I O N

Photo Section

Prepared:

By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

107965

498  
92-1  
1 Apr 7

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713 - 1

SLS/fc

2 April, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 92-D, performed by six airplanes of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - target #5X, Karoka at Tadjil.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General.

(a) Six Airplanes of the 498th Squadron were to bomb target 5X, Karoka at Tadjil and strafe coast area from Bakau to Karoka on the morning of 1 April, 1944. The other three Squadrons of the 345th Group were to attack other targets in the Tadjil area and the Squadron was to go over the target in number four position. The planes were to take off at #4 strip, NADZAB, 0835/K, assemble over strip and proceed to ANNANBERG for rendezvous with one Squadron P-40's and two Squadrons of P-43's at 0945/K and four Squadrons of the 38th Group which were to lead the 345th Group. The bombing of target was to be made from an altitude of 4500 feet in two flights of three planes each and after bombing the planes were to strafe the coast from minimum altitude. The attack was to be made from NW to SE with the formation assembling and returning direct to base.

(b) Rendezvous - rendezvous was at ANNANBERG at 0945/K according to plan.

(c) Attack - The formation circled at Tadjil from the North and attacked as planned. 22 x 500 lb. inst. demo bombs were dropped in target. Eight bombs fell in water just off target. Bombing was excellent. Small black fires were observed rising and covering target area. Area from Vakau to Karoka was thoroughly strafed with 4300 x .50 cal. rounds of ammunition.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed  
(1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.  
(2) Nil Allied airplanes observed lost.  
(3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

(e) Time and location of:

Take Off: From strip #4, NADZAB, 0835/K - 0837/K.

Rendezvous: ANNANBERG, 0945/K.

Attack: target 5X, Karoka, 1050/K - 1058/K.

Landing: strip #4, NADZAB, 1246/K - 1248/K.

(f) Route: BASE, ANNANBERG, TARGET.

2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

FIRST FLIGHT

Lt. Fair 424

Lt. Hetherington 315

Lt. Kirkland 030

SECOND FLIGHT

Lt. Neblett 417

Cutinelle 351

Lt. Schricker 371

The 498th Squadron flew in number four position and was led by Lt. Fair. Colonel True, Commanding Officer of the 345th Group, was Strike Force Commander and led the 499th Squadron and the Group formation.

3. DETAILS OF THE MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The formation circled at Tadjl from the North and attacked as planned. 22 x 500 lb. inst. demo bombs were dropped in target. Eight bombs fell in water just off target. Bombing was excellent. Small black fires were observed rising and covering target area. Area from Vakau to Karoka was thoroughly strafed with 4300 x .50 cal. rounds of ammo. Since weather was so poor over target the Squadron bombed from 3500 feet instead of 4500 feet as planned. FIRST FLIGHT: A/P 424 had two bombs in target and three in water; A/P 030 had all bombs in water and A/P 315 had all bombs in target. SECOND FLIGHT: All bombs in target. After bombing they made a circle and made a second run over the target strafing.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - Nil.

(c) Fighter cover - Fighter cover of P-40's and P-47's was excellent.

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air

(1) Nil enemy planes destroyed in air.

(2) Nil damage to our aircraft.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

5. APPENDICES

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, strafing table and photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing and bomb run.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Large black fires were observed rising from Tumleo Island. Many native huts were observed along shore from Aconcha to Ncr in the Tadjl area with nil activity.

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photos do not show any additional information than reported.

For the Squadron Commander:

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

## APPENDIX "A"

## BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
424	5	inst.	500 lb.	5
371	5	inst.	500 lb.	5
030	5	inst.	500 lb.	5
315	5	inst.	500 lb.	5
417	5	inst.	500 lb.	5
351	5	inst.	500 lb.	5
	<u>30</u>			<u>30</u>

## STRAPING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal. Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal. Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
424	4600	1000	4000	----
371	4600	800	4000	----
030	4600	1200	4000	----
315	4600	800	4000	----
417	4600	300	4000	----
351	4600	200	4000	----
		<u>4300</u>		

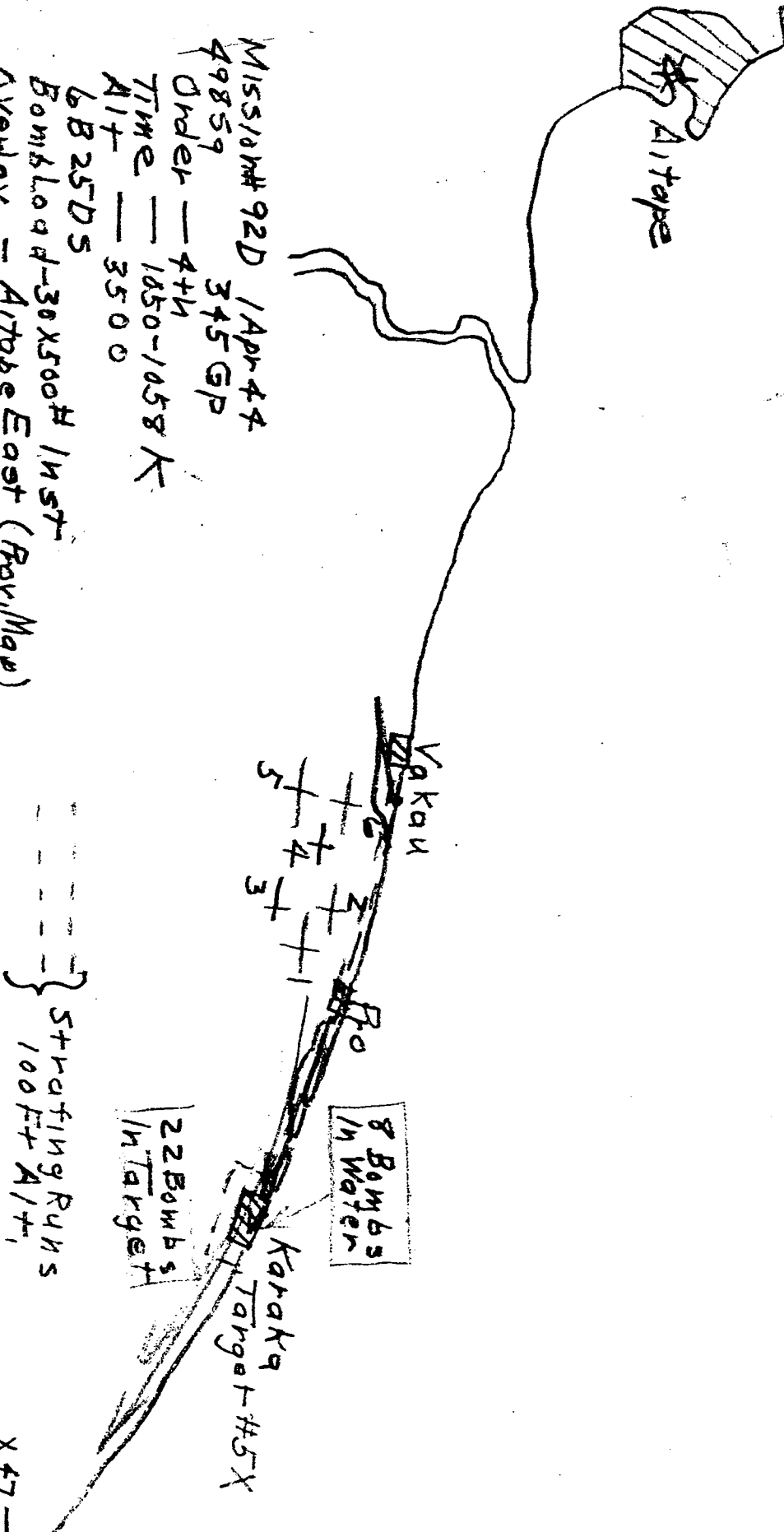
## PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>time of photo</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Type camera</u>	<u>Ex. made</u>	<u>Prints rec'd</u>
424	1055/K	Karoka	K-17	15	1

By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

X58  
Y89

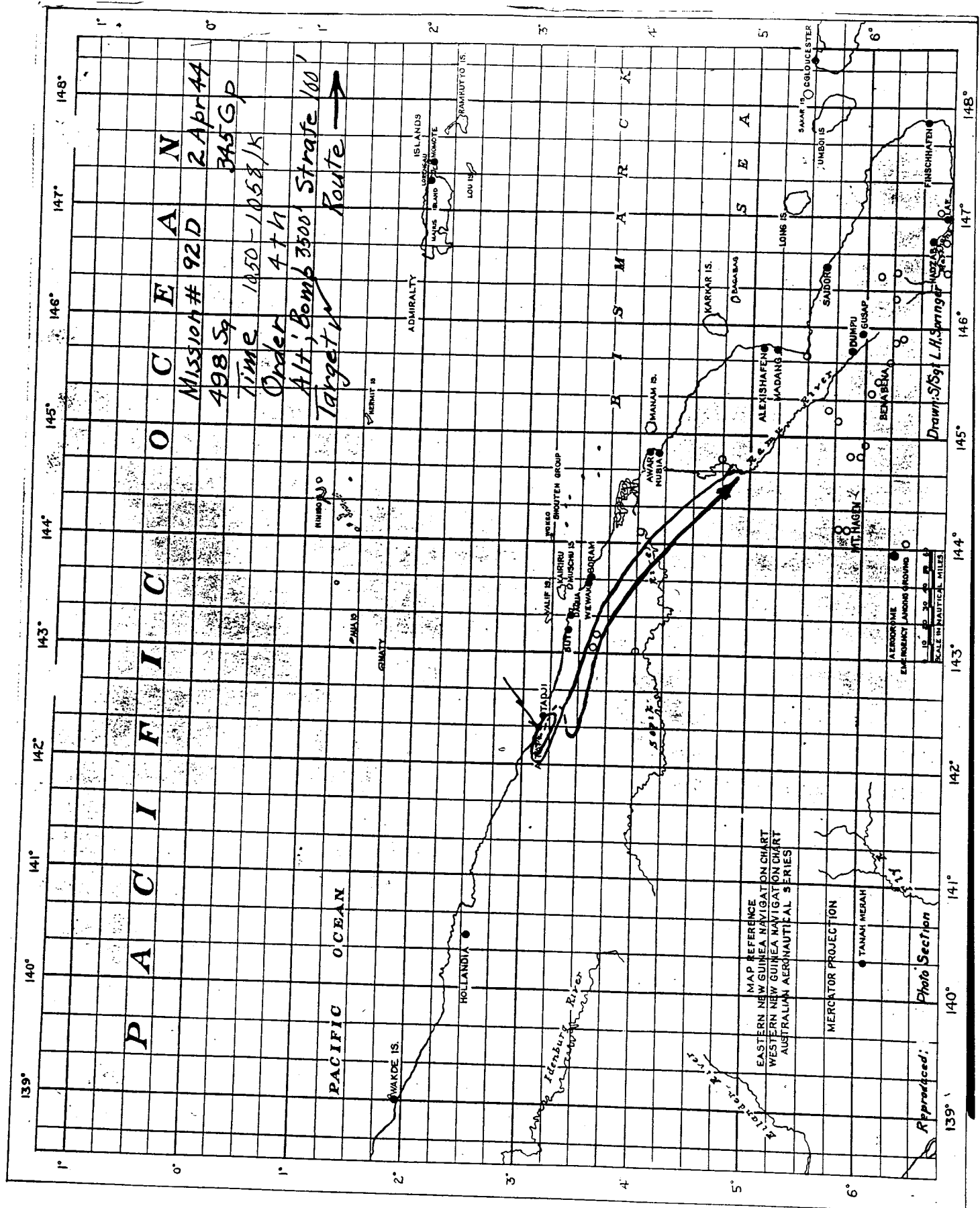
MISSION #92D 1 APR 44  
49859 345 GP  
Order — 4+4  
Time — 1050-1058 K  
Alt — 3500  
6B25DS  
Bombload — 30X500# 1st  
Overlay — Airbase East (Rev. Map)  
Scale 1:63360



1st Flt { Lt Fair — 424 — 5+ —  
2 Lt Hetherington — 315 — 5+ —  
3 Lt Kirkland — 030 — 5+ —  
4 Lt Neblett — 417 — 5+ —  
5 Lt Cuttelle — 351 — 5+ —  
6 Lt Schrider — 371 — 5+ —  
2nd Flt {  
700k Photos

Be is  
Dropped

By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91



By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.I.O. #713 - 1

SLS/fc

4 April, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 94-E, performed by ten  
airplanes of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - grounded airplanes, dispersal area and  
A/A positions at Hollandia.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. General

(a) Ten airplanes of the 498th Squadron were to bomb grounded airplanes, dispersal areas and A/A positions at Hollandia and to strafe Hollandia, Cyclops and Sentani Dromes on the morning of the 3rd of April, 1944. The other three Squadrons of the 345th Group were to attack other targets in the Hollandia area and the Squadron was to go over the target in the number two position. This attack was to be coordinated with the 38th Group, 3rd Group, 312th Group, 90th Group, 43rd Group and the 22nd Group all striking in the Hollandia area. The planes were to take off number four strip at Nadzab at 0834/K, assemble over strip and proceed to Gusap for rendezvous with the 38th Group and fighters. From Gusap the formation was to go to Dumpu and there pick up the 312th Group and the 3rd Group and from there proceed to the target with the 345th Group leading. At the Sepik River the 312th Group and 3rd Group were to leave the Group formation and proceed to the target so that they arrived at least ten minutes prior to the 345th Group and 38th Group. Bombing was to be made from minimum altitude in three flight abreast and after bombing the planes were to strafe the Cyclops and Sentani Dromes. After the attack the formation was to assemble and return direct to base by way of Tadji.

(b) Rendezvous - rendezvous was at GUSAP AND DUMPU according to plan.

(c) Attack - The formation proceeded to target and attacked as planned with the 498th Squadron following the 501st Squadron which was leading. 175 x 100 lb. para demo bombs were released and dropped at A/P's, dispersal areas and A/A positions about Hollandia Drome. 18 bombs were dropped on Ifaar Village which is SE of Sentani Drome destroying many houses and starting small fires. 6 bombs were released in revetment area about 3000 ft. NW of Hollandia Airrome among 8 to 10 Betty bombers. Black smoke was seen to rise after bombing. 16 bombs were



By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

dropped on A/A positions on the North side of Hollandia A/D with unobserved results. 27 bombs were salvoed because of mal-rack function. 2 Bettys received direct hits which were parked on the NW end of Hollandia Drome, destroying same. Three A/P's in revetments 700 yards NW of Hollandia strip received direct bomb hits and were definitely destroyed. In revetment area about 1000 yards North of the center of Hollandia strip 2 planes were definitely destroyed by direct bomb hits. Many small fires were started at Hollandia, Cyclops and Sentani from strafing. 22,700 x .50 cal. and 3500 x .30 cal. rounds of ammo were used in strafing targets.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

(1) As A/P 420 was rising over ridge to approach target, a Zeke attacked this A/P from 12 o'clock at 100 ft. After attack it was noticed that four P-38's were chasing this Zeke. The Zeke fired within 200 ft. of the A/P and three holes were received between the engine and the fuselage. In addition, the turret received several direct hits which shattered the plexi-glass.

(2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.

(3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

(e) Time and location of:

Take Off: From strip #4, NADZAB, 0836/K - 0838/K.

Rendezvous: GUSAP, 0908/K; DUMP, 0915/K.

Attack: HOLLANDIA DROMES, 1155/K.

Landing: strip #4, NADZAB, 1445/K - 1625/K.

(f) Route: BASE, GUSAP, DUMP, TARGET, TADJI, GUSAP, BASE.

2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>		<u>THIRD FLIGHT</u>	
Maj. Coltharp	176	Lt. Turk	351	Lt. Fair	371
Lt. Browne	315	Lt. Schricker	034	Lt. Nutting	026
Lt. Hetherington	030	Lt. Boden	036	Lt. Neblett	024
				Lt. Best, R.D.	420

The 498th Squadron flew in number two position and was led by the Commanding Officer, Maj. Coltharp. Colonel True, Commanding Officer of the 345th Group, was Strike Force Commander and led the 501st Squadron and the Group formation.

3. DETAILS OF THE MISSION.

(a) Details of the Attack - The formation proceeded to target and attacked as planned with the 498th Squadron following the 501st Squadron which was leading. 175 x 100 lb. para demo bombs were released and dropped at A/P's, dispersal areas and A/A positions about Hollandia Drome. 18 Bombs were dropped on Ifaar Village which is SE of Sentani Drome Destroying many

By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

houses and starting small fires. 6 bombs were released in revetment area about 3000 ft. NW of Hollandia Airdrome among 8 to 10 Betty bombers. Black smoke was seen to rise after bombing. 16 bombs were dropped on A/A positions on the North side of Hollandia A/D with unobserved results. 27 bombs were salvaged because of mal-rack function. 2 Bettys received direct hits which were parked on the NW end of Hollandia Drome, destroying same. Three A/P's in revetments 700 yards NW of Hollandia strip received direct bomb hits and were definitely destroyed. In revetment area about 1000 yards North of the center of Hollandia strip 2 planes were definitely destroyed by direct bomb hits. Many small fires were started at Hollandia, Cyclops and Sentani from strafing. The first flight released 48 bombs in dispersal areas and at grounded A/P's on Hollandia Drome. A/P 176 also released 18 bombs in Ifaar Village which is SE of Sentani Drome destroying many houses and starting many small fires. Two Bettys received direct bomb hits, destroying same, from this flight which were parked on the NW of Hollandia Drome. The second flight flew in number two position abreast of flight number one and three. 47 bombs of this flight were dropped in the dispersal areas and grounded installations at Hollandia Drome. 19 bombs of A/P 351 had to be salvaged because of malfunction. This flight claims that it started many small fires on the Hollandia and Sentani Dromes. The third flight released 82 bombs in dispersal areas where enemy planes were parked and that A/A installations to the North of Hollandia Drome. A/P's 024 and 420 were assigned to bomb and strafe these installation, which they did very effectively. This flight claims the destruction of three airplanes in revetments 700 yards NW of Hollandia strip and two enemy planes 1000 yards North of Hollandia strip, caused by direct bomb hits and strafing. All planes of all three flight strafed Hollandia, Cyclops and Sentani Dromes. A/P 420 was attacked by a Beke from 12 o'clock just as it was flying over the ridge to approach target. This plane was damaged and the gunner injured, but not seriously.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - Nil A/A fire observed over target. A few bursts (about one dozen) were observed being fired from a Sugar Charlie in Humbolt Bay.

(c) Fighter cover - fighter cover of P-38's was excellent.

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air.

- (1) Nil enemy planes destroyed in air.
- (2) A/P 420 received three holes between the engine and the fuselage and in addition the turret received several direct hits which shattered the plexi-glass.

(e) Personnel injured - Sgt. Frank W. Leach, 6146369, gunner, was injured by enemy fire when direct hits were made on the turret.

By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - Sgt. Frank W. Leach, 6146369, gunner, will be recommended for the Purple Heart. From information at present available no other personnel will be recommended for an award.

5. APPENDICES.

- (a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, strafing table and photo table.
- (b) Appendix "B" shows map of bomb hits and bomb run.
- (c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - The first A/A position to the North of Hollandia Drome was observed on fire and destroyed. A large oil fire rising to at least 2000 ft. was observed just South of the center of Hollandia Drome. [An enemy plane was observed to crash into Sentani Lake.] About three barges were observed on the shore of Humbolt Bay. Many destroyed and unserviceable planes were observed on Hollandia, Cyclops and Sentani Dromes. Many boxes and oil dump and supplies were observed along the road leading from Sentani to Humbolt Bay. P-38's were observed fighting with enemy airplanes over the target.

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photos disclose extensive damage to grounded planes by previous raids. Destruction and damage to planes on this strike not determinable as previous condition of planes is unknown. Few serviceable planes are visible in the photos..

For the Squadron Commander:

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

## APPENDIX "A"

## BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
420	22	para demo	100 lb.	22
030	22	para demo	100 lb.	22
036	22	para demo	100 lb.	22
351	22	para demo	100 lb.	22
315	22	para demo	100 lb.	22
026	22	para demo	100 lb.	22
024	22	para demo	100 lb.	22
371	22	para demo	100 lb.	22
034	22	para demo	100 lb.	22
176	22	para demo	100 lb.	22
	<u>220</u>			<u>220</u>

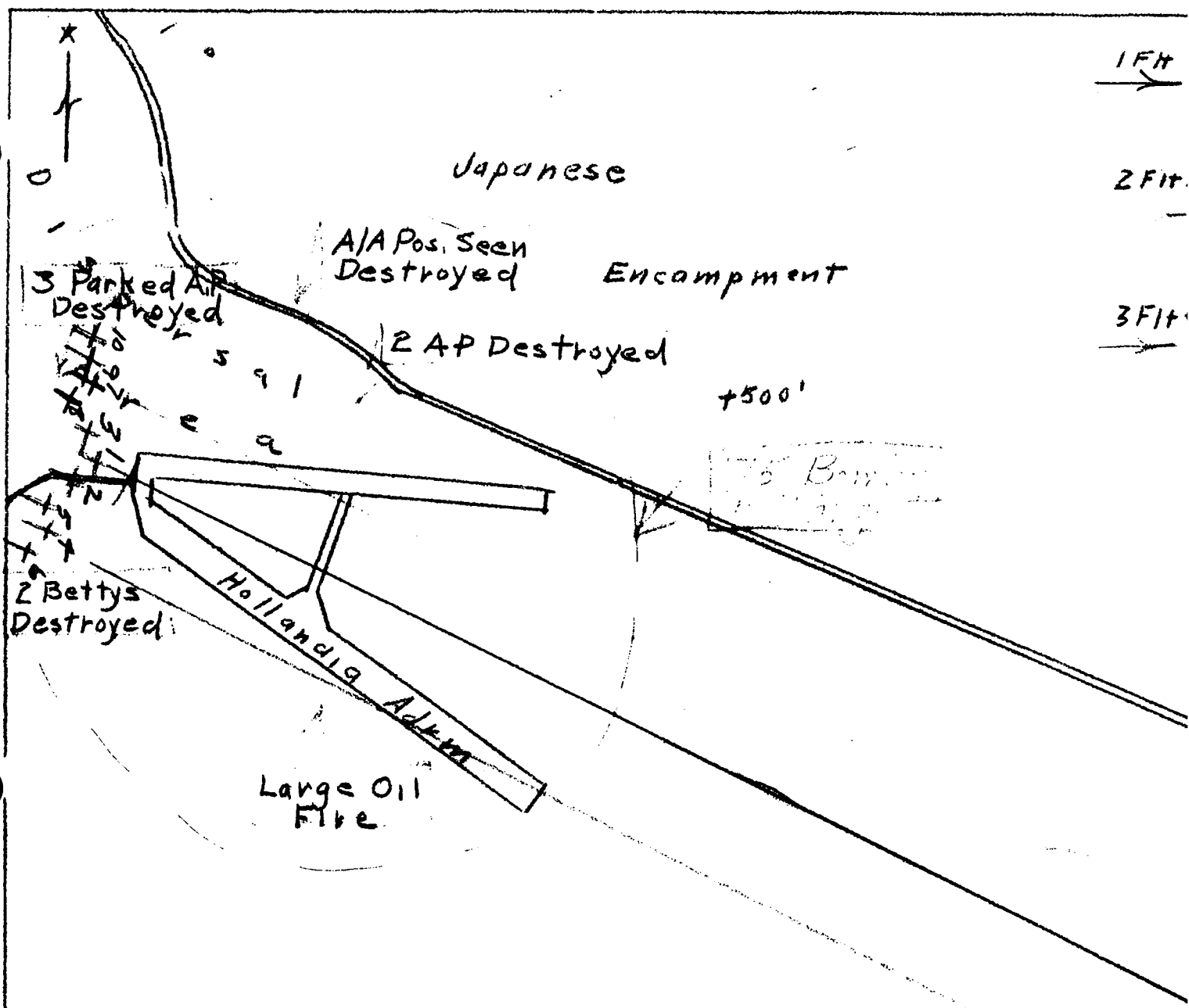
## STRAPING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
030	4600	1900	4000	----
036	4600	3200	4000	----
351	4600	2700	4000	1000
315	4600	----	4000	----
026	4600	2200	4000	300
024	4600	1900	4000	200
371	4600	1900	4000	1000
034	4600	3500	4000	500
176	4600	2900	4000	500
420	4600	2500	4000	----
		<u>22700</u>		<u>3500</u>

## PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>time of photo</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Type camera</u>	<u>Ex.made</u>	<u>Prints rec'd</u>
034	1155/K	Hollandia	K-21	35	9
030	1155/K	Hollandia	K-21	30	2
315	1155/K	Hollandia	K-20	40	12





Mission #94E 3 Apr 44

498 Sq 345 Gp

Time - 1155/K

Alt - Minimum

Order - 2nd

Bomb Load 220X100# Para Demo 4-5 Sec

10-B25 D1's

Y63 Overlay, Hollandia Drome &

Sentani Drome (Special

+ X73 Maps) Scale 1:20,000

CONFIDENTIAL

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713 - 1

CMB/re

498  
96-D  
5 Apr 4

6 April, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 96-D, performed by eight airplanes of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - Barges and dumps Humbolt Bay.

**TO :** COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

**1. General.**

(a) Nine airplanes of the 498th Squadron were to lead three Squadrons of B25's of the 345th Group in an attack on the coastline from the Tami River to Cape Djar and South along the East coast of Humbolt Bay. Photographs of the target were an equal objective. The 499th Squadron of this Group was to lead the formation to the target and then split from the Group to attack targets on the Southern side of Humbolt Bay. The planes were to take off from strip #4, NADZAB at 0828/K, assemble over the Leron River and rendezvous with one Squadron of P-38's at Gusap at 0915/K. The attack was to be made at minimum altitude from East to West on the first part of the target and from North to South on the second section of the flights in echelon to the left on the first part of the target and in three ship elements in trail on the second part. Time over target was to be from 1140/K to 1145/K. Return was to be direct to base. A tenth ship was to fly 500 yards from the shore and parallel to the coast to take oblique shots. Plane was not included in the attack.

(b) Rendezvous - rendezvous was at Gusap with one Squadron of P-38's at 0915/K.

(c) Attack - The attack was made as planned with photos taken of the complete target. 22 x 500 lb. 8/11 sec. delay fuse bombs were dropped in the target with hits scored on huts and houses in Skojambe, Skomabo, Skosai and Holtelkang Villages. Bombs dropped across Cape Kassoe from Sand Beach South started one medium sized fire on the Southeast coast of Sand Beach. Bombing was excellent. The coast was strafed on the single run.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

- (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.
- (2) Nil Allied airplanes observed lost.
- (3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

CONFIDENTIAL

- (e) Time and location of:  
Take Off: from strip #4, NADZAB, 0828/K - 9833/K.  
Rendezvous: GUSAP, 0915/K.  
Attack: HUMBOLT BAY, 1150/K - 1200/K.  
Landing: strip #4, NADZAB, 1450/K.

- (f) Route: NADZAB, GUSAP, TARGET and return direct.

2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>		<u>THIRD FLIGHT</u>	
Lt. Col. Fridge	036	Lt. Hetherington	351	Lt. Boden	176
Lt. Stapleton	030	Lt. Wright	420	Lt. Kirkland	024
Lt. Jensen	034	Lt. Best, R.D.	371	Lt. Neblett	026
				Lt. Nutting	452

The 498th Squadron flew in number two position in the Group formation and led over the target. Squadron was led by Lt. Col. Fridge, Strike Force Commander.

3. DETAILS OF THE MISSION.

(a) Lt. Jensen A/P 034 was forced to return to base due to mechanical trouble and Lt. Best, A/P 371, from the second flight moved into his position with Lt. Kirkland, A/P 024, of the third flight taking the place of A/P 371. On approaching the target the formation leader was notified by the BQ24's that their attack was not finished and two circles were made between Vanimo and Watong before receiving the all clear. The attack was made from East to West at minimum altitude with the flights in echelon to the left. The coast and Villages from Tami River to Cape Djar were strafed and bombs were dropped in the Villages. It was necessary to leave the coast immediately East of Cape Djar to avoid crowding the inner flights into the high cliffs along the shore. A large circle to the right was made North of Humbolt Bay and the flights formed in trail formation for the attack on the Eastern shore of Humbolt Bay. The first flight made the attack as planned dropping bombs on Cape Kassoe and in Holtelkang Village. The target was also strafed. The hydraulic line on A/P 351 was severed under the co-pilots seat on the first part of the target and not being able to determine the extent of the damage the pilot salvoed his bombs over the water on the approach to the second part of the target and left the formation in order to be at sea in case of a force landing was necessary. The wingmen followed the flight leader and also salvoed their bombs. The leader of the third flight had released his bombs on the first part of the target and fell into formation behind the second flight with four bombs in A/P 026 being salvoed. These two flights returned down the coast to the Sepik River and direct to base. The first flight after completing its run circled to the left and recrossed the coast at the Tami River, rejoined the formation and proceeded to base. Photos were taken of the entire run with a K-17 mounted in the tail of A/P 036. 22 x 500 lb. 8/11 sec. delay fuse



bombs were dropped in the target with hits scored on huts and houses in Skojamba, Skomabo, Skosai and Holtelkang Villages. Bombs dropped across Cape Kassoe from Sand Beach South started one medium sized fire on the Southeast coast of Sand Beach. Bombing was excellent. The coast was strafed on the single run.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - light, light intensity. M/G fire was received from the crest of hill 780, SE of Cape Djar. Fire from coastal guns threw up water spouts which were not effective. M/G fire was received from one of the villages between Tami River and Cape Djar.

(c) Fighter cover - Fighter cover of P-38's was excellent.

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air.

(1) Nil enemy planes destroyed in air.  
(2) Hydraulic system on A/P 351 knocked out by a M/G bullet fired from one of the villages along the coast between Tami River and Cape Djar. A/P's landing gear was lowered by the emergency system and plane landed at strip #1.

(e) Nil personnel was injured in this attack.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information at present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

#### 5. APPENDICES.

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing and strafing tables.  
(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bombing run and bomb hits.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - One large fire with flames to 150 ft. followed by explosions and black smoke to 6000 ft. was seen in Hollandia Township. Fire was visible for 40 minutes as planes were approaching target. One large oil fire was seen in Humbolt Bay East of the Township. Source of fire was not visible. A small fire was seen on Cape Tjoberi and small fires were seen along the road leading to the airstrips from Hollandia. Two luggers were reported in Vanimo Hbr. (unconfirmed). One lugger was seen at 1240/K from 6000 ft. proceeding NW along a small island West of Valif Island. A medium sized fire with black smoke was seen on another small island immediately West of Valif Island.

7. No photographs delivered to Squadron.

For the Squadron Commander:

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

# APPENDIX "A"

## BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
036	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
030	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
034	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	0
351	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	0
420	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	0
371	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	0
176	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
024	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	5
026	5	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	1
452	0	8/11 sec.	500 lb.	1
	<u>45</u>	<del>8/11 sec. 500 lb.</del>		<u>0</u>
				<u>22</u>

A/P 034 returned all bombs.  
 A/P 351 salvaged five bombs.  
 A/P 420 salvaged five bombs.  
 A/P 024 salvaged four bombs.  
 A/P 026 salvaged four bombs.  
 A/P 452 acted as photo ship only.

## STRAPPING TABLE.

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
036	4600	3700	4000	1000
030	4600	1900	4000	1000
034	4600	----	4000	----
351	4600	----	4000	----
424	4600	----	4000	----
371	4600	1400	4000	----
176	4600	1500	4000	----
024	4600	1500	4000	----
026	4600	1300	4000	----
452	4600	500	4000	----
		<u>11800</u>		<u>2000</u>

Mission #96D 5 Apr 44  
498 Sq 345 GP

Time - 1150 - 1200/K - 9 B25D's

Order - 1st - 40 X 500# 8-H Sec Bomb Load

Alt - Minimum

Bombs Dropped

1 Flt { 1 Lt Col Fridge - 036 - X + - 5  
2 Lt Stapleton 030 - 0 - 5  
3 Lt Jensen 034 Returned

4 Lt Hetherington

5 Lt Wright

6 Lt Best, R.D.

7 Lt Boden

8 Lt Kirkland

9 Lt Neblett

10 Lt Nutting

+ Took Photos

351 - X + - 0 Salvo 5

420 - 0 + - 0 " 5

371 - 4 + - 5

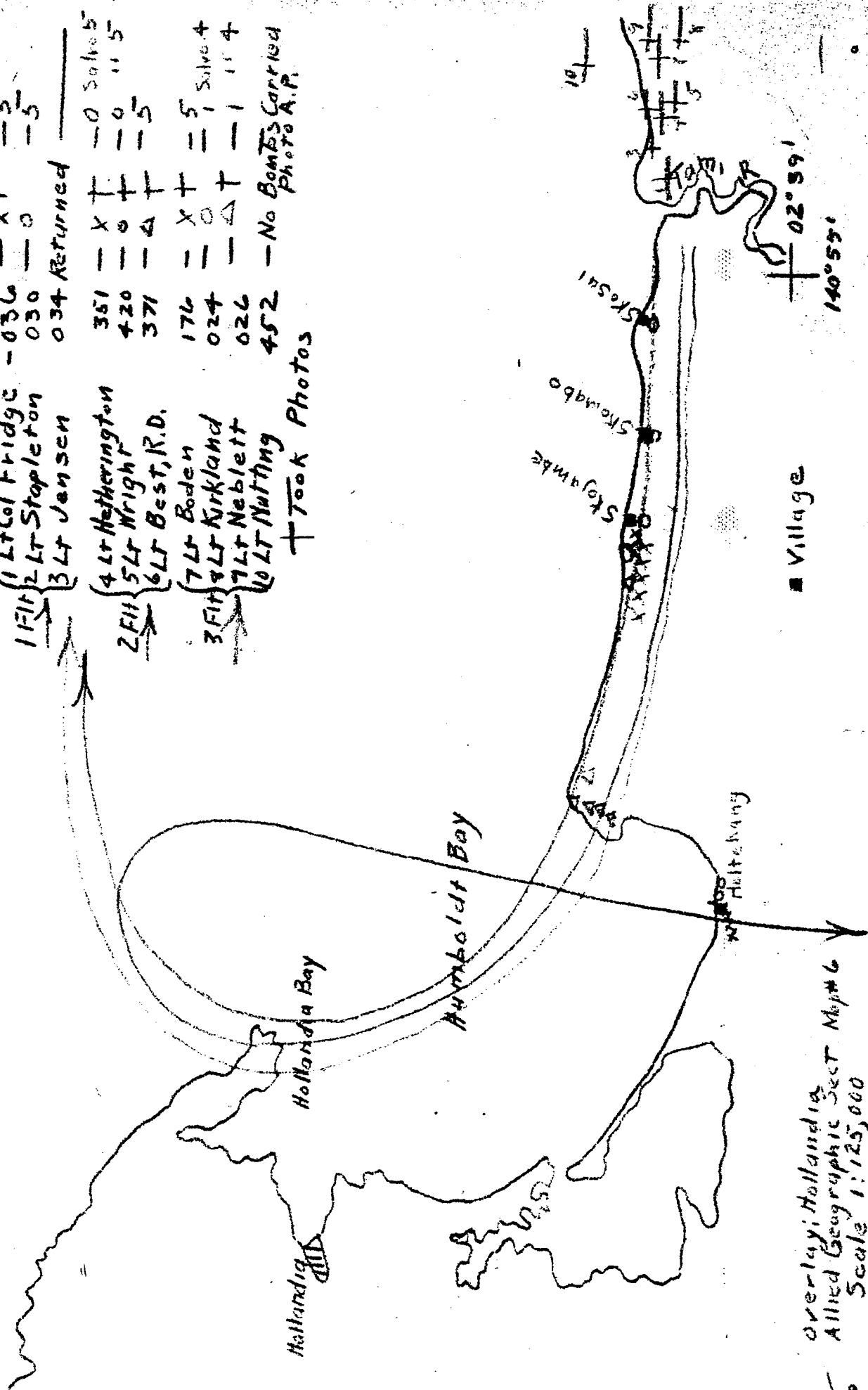
176 - X + - 5 Salvo 4

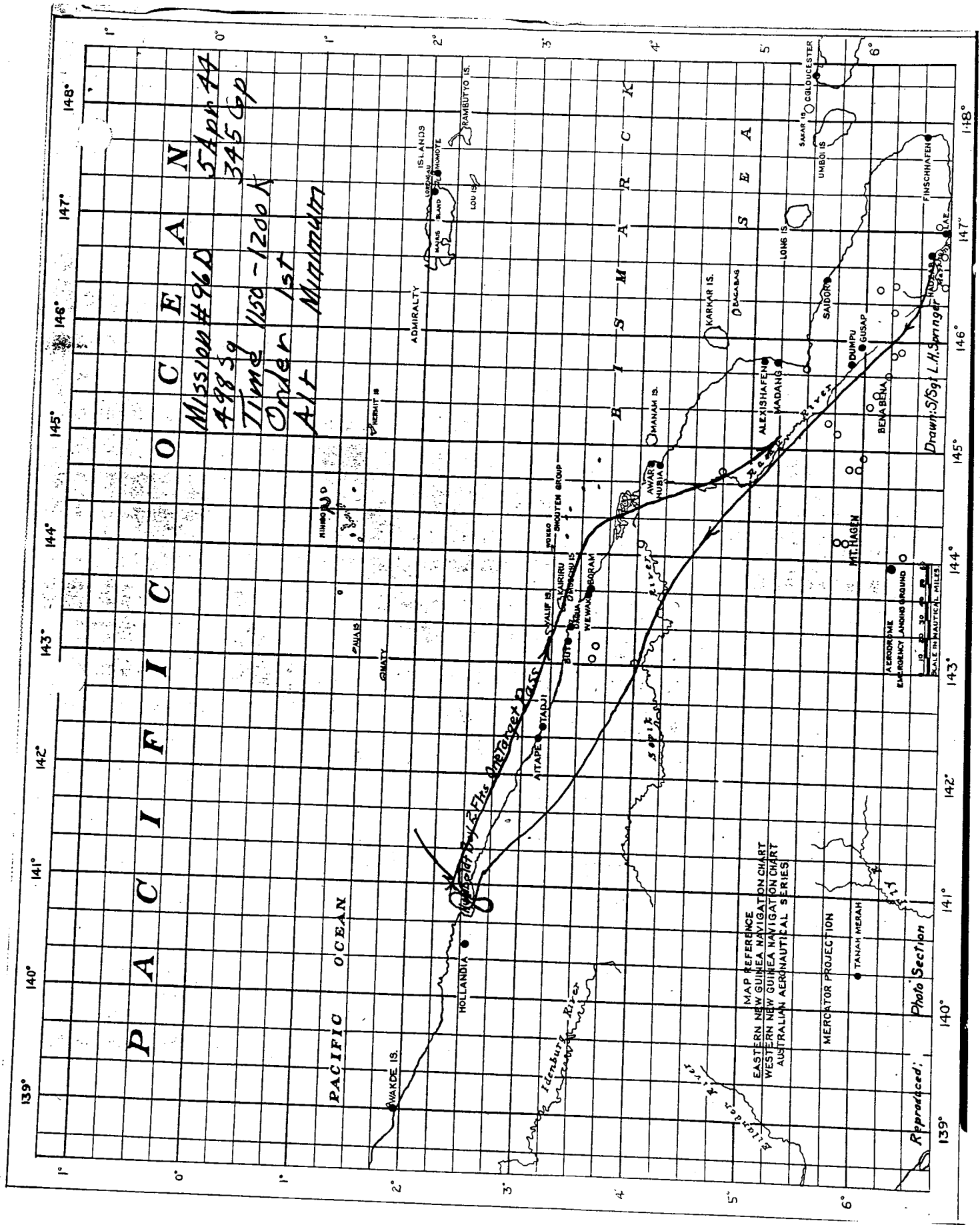
024 - 0 + - 1 " 4

026 - 1 + - 1 " 4

452 - No Bombs Carried

Photo A.P.





P  
A  
C  
I  
F  
I  
C

O  
C  
E  
A  
N

Mission #960  
5 Apr 44  
4985g  
Time 1130-1200 H  
Order 1st  
Alt Minimum

PACIFIC OCEAN

ADMIRALTY

ISLANDS  
LOUIS IS.  
KARAR IS.  
DUMPU  
GUSAP  
SAIDOR  
BENABUA  
MIT HAGEN  
AERODROME  
EMERGENCY LANDING GROUND  
TANAH MERAH

ADMIRALTY ISLANDS  
LOUIS IS.  
KARAR IS.  
DUMPU  
GUSAP  
SAIDOR  
BENABUA  
MIT HAGEN  
AERODROME  
EMERGENCY LANDING GROUND  
TANAH MERAH

ADMIRALTY ISLANDS  
LOUIS IS.  
KARAR IS.  
DUMPU  
GUSAP  
SAIDOR  
BENABUA  
MIT HAGEN  
AERODROME  
EMERGENCY LANDING GROUND  
TANAH MERAH

ADMIRALTY ISLANDS  
LOUIS IS.  
KARAR IS.  
DUMPU  
GUSAP  
SAIDOR  
BENABUA  
MIT HAGEN  
AERODROME  
EMERGENCY LANDING GROUND  
TANAH MERAH

ADMIRALTY ISLANDS  
LOUIS IS.  
KARAR IS.  
DUMPU  
GUSAP  
SAIDOR  
BENABUA  
MIT HAGEN  
AERODROME  
EMERGENCY LANDING GROUND  
TANAH MERAH

ADMIRALTY ISLANDS  
LOUIS IS.  
KARAR IS.  
DUMPU  
GUSAP  
SAIDOR  
BENABUA  
MIT HAGEN  
AERODROME  
EMERGENCY LANDING GROUND  
TANAH MERAH

ADMIRALTY ISLANDS  
LOUIS IS.  
KARAR IS.  
DUMPU  
GUSAP  
SAIDOR  
BENABUA  
MIT HAGEN  
AERODROME  
EMERGENCY LANDING GROUND  
TANAH MERAH

ADMIRALTY ISLANDS  
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KARAR IS.  
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AERODROME  
EMERGENCY LANDING GROUND  
TANAH MERAH

MAP REFERENCE  
EASTERN NEW GUINEA NAVIGATION CHART  
WESTERN NEW GUINEA NAVIGATION CHART  
AUSTRALIAN AERONAUTICAL SERIES

MERCATOR PROJECTION

Photo Section

Reproduced:

Drawn: S/Sgt L.H. Springer

AERODROME  
EMERGENCY LANDING GROUND

MERCATOR PROJECTION

Photo Section

Reproduced:

Drawn: S/Sgt L.H. Springer

By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

498  
23 Apr  
114 J

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713 - 1

24 April, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 113-J, performed 23 April, 1944, by nine A/P's of the 498th Squadron. Objective - target 29 B Hansa Bay, strafe targets of opportunity Hansa Bay to Cape Croisilles.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. GENERAL

(a) On the morning of 23 April, 1944 four squadrons of the 345th Bombardment Group were ordered to bomb certain targets at Hansa Bay and the six B25-H's of the 498th Squadron after bombing from medium altitude target 29 B at Hansa Bay were then to proceed at minimum altitude from Hansa Bay to Cape Croisilles strafing targets of opportunity along the coast.

(b) Rendezvous - The 345th Bomb Group were to assemble at Leron River and rendezvous with one Squadron of P-47's at Gusap at 0820/K.

(c) Attack - The Squadron went across the target on a heading of seventy-five degrees at an altitude of 6500/6700 feet in three flight of three planes each in trail. Since the lead airplanes in each flight were the only airplanes containing bombsights all airplanes dropped their bombs on the lead airplane of each flight. 35 x 500 lb. inst. fuse demo bombs dropped in target 29-B. Smoke was observed coming from all over the target after bombing. Two bombs were salvaged and two fell just to the south of the target. After bombing target 29-B, at Hansa Bay, the lead planes of each flight left the formation and the six B25H's flown by the squadron proceeded to strafe targets of opportunity, in pairs of two, along the coast from Hansa Bay to Cape Croisilles at minimum altitude. 135 x 175 mm rounds were expended on targets between Hansa Bay and Cape Croisilles. Many direct hits were made at huts in villages between Hansa Bay and Cape Croisilles. A bridge at Bunabun Harbor was destroyed by a direct hit. Houses were destroyed at Bogia Village and Uligan Harbor. The entire area was strafed thoroughly with 12800 x .50 cal. rounds of ammunition.

By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

- (d) Interception and A/P's destroyed  
 (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.  
 (2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.  
 (3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.
- (e) Time and location of:  
Take off: From strip #4, NADZAB, 0740/K to 0743/K.  
Rendezvous: GUSAP, 0820/K.  
Attack: target 29-B, HANSA BAY, 0914/K strafing  
 from HANSA BAY 0920/K to CAPE CROISILLES 0950/K.  
Landing: strip #4, NADZAB, 1050/K to 1120/K.
- (f) Route: BASE, GUSAP, HANSA BAY, along coast from  
 HANSA BAY to CAPE CROISILLES, GUSAP, BASE.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>		<u>THIRD FLIGHT</u>	
Lt. Col. Fridge	491	Lt. Neblett	604	Lt. Browne	764
Maj. Coltharp	315	Capt Magee	184	Lt. Hetherington	356
Lt. Best, R.D.	331	Lt. Nutting	344	Lt. Gutinelle	150

The 498th Squadron led the Group with Lt. Col. Fridge leading the Squadron and Group and acting as Strike Force Commander. After bombing target 29-B, Hansa Bay, Maj. Coltharp, Commanding Officer of the 498th Squadron, led the attack on targets of opportunity between Hansa Bay and Cape Croisilles.

## 3. DETAILS OF THE MISSION.

(a) Details of the attack - The formation proceeded to the target and attacked as planned with the 498th Squadron leading. The Squadron went across the target on a heading of seventy-five degrees at an altitude of 6500/6700 feet in three flights of three planes each in trail. Since the lead airplanes in each flight were the only airplanes containing bombsights all airplanes dropped their bombs on the lead airplane of each flight. 35 x 500 lb. inst fuse demo bombs dropped in target 29-B. Smoke was observed coming from all over the target after bombing. Two bombs were salvaged and two fell just to the South of the target. After bombing 29-B, at Hansa Bay, the lead planes of each flight left the formation and the six B25 H's flown by the Squadron proceeded to strafe targets of opportunity, in pairs of two, along the coast from Hansa Bay to Cape Croisilles at minimum altitude. 135 x .75 mm rounds were expended on targets between Hansa Bay and Cape Croisilles. Many direct hits were made at huts in villages between Hansa Bay and Cape Croisilles. A bridge at Bunabun Harbor was destroyed by a direct hit. Houses were destroyed at Bogia Village and Uligan Harbor. The entire area was strafed thoroughly with 12800 x .50 cal. rounds of ammunition.

By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

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The first flight led by Col. Fridge dropped all of its bombs in target 29-B, Hansa Bay, from an altitude of 6700 feet on a heading of 75 degrees. The second flight led by Lt. Neblett dropped nine of its bombs in target 29-B, Hansa Bay. Two of the bombs released by airplane 164 fell just South of the target and two bombs were salvaged. This flight released its bombs from an altitude of 5600 feet on a heading of 75 degrees. The third flight led by Lt. Browne dropped all of its bombs in target 29-B, Hansa Bay, from an altitude of 6500 feet on a heading of 75 degrees.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - Nil A/A fire was observed at Hansa Bay. Three heavy bursts of A/A fire was observed from A/A position on West side of Uligan Harbor. Light ground fire was observed coming from Bogia Village. This fire was accurate. Small ground fire was observed between Hansa Bay and Cape Croisilles but locations could not be observed.

(c) Fighter cover - Fighter cover was excellent.

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air

(1) Nil enemy planes destroyed in air.

(2) A/P 331 received four holes in its right wing from small ground fire from Bogia Village.

(e) Personnel injured - Nil personnel injured on this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

#### 5. APPENDICES

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, strafing table and photo table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bomb hits and bomb run.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Two barges were observed near shore at Cape Massembar.

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Nil photographs have been received from which a photo interpretation could be made.

For the Squadron Commander:

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
Captain, Air Corps,



By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

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## APPENDIX "A"

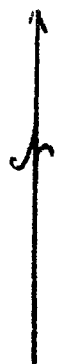
## BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
491	5	inst.	500 lb.	5
315	4	inst.	500 lb.	4
331	4	inst.	500 lb.	4
604	5	inst.	500 lb.	5
164	4	inst.	500 lb.	2
344	4	inst.	500 lb.	4
764	5	inst.	500 lb.	5
356	4	inst.	500 lb.	4
150	4	inst.	500 lb.	4
	<u>39</u>			<u>37</u>

A/P 164 salvaged two bombs.

## STRAFING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.75 mm</u> <u>No. car'd</u>	<u>No. Ex.</u>	<u>.50 cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>rds. Ex.</u>
491	----	---	4600	400
315	31	31	4600	1700
331	21	21	4600	2200
604	----	---	4600	400
164	21	21	4600	2000
344	--21	21	4600	1500
764	----	---	4600	400
356	21	21	4600	2000
150	22	20	4600	2700
		<u>135</u>		<u>12800</u>



09°30' ———  
|  
145°00'

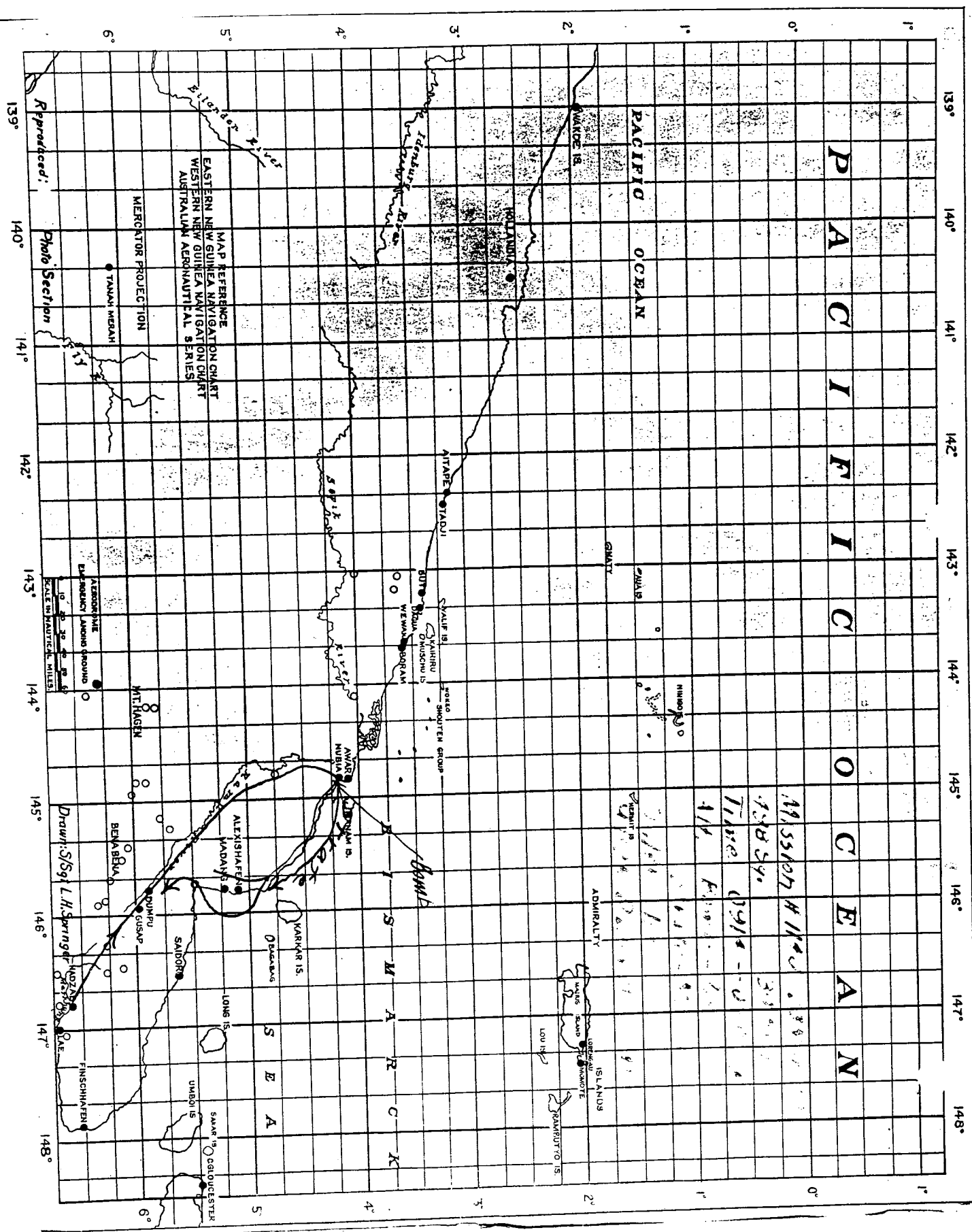
G. Gourdon  
A/A Pos Firin  
Uligan Hbr.  
Uligan  
Strafing Coast From Hansa Pt To  
Bur

	Pilot	APN
1 Flt	1 Lt Col Fridge	491
	2 Maj Coltharp	315
	3 Lt Best R.D.	331
2 Flt	4 Lt Neblett	604
	5 Capt Magee	164
	6 Lt Nurting	344
3 Flt	7 Lt Browne	764
	8 Lt Hetherington	356
	9 Lt Cutinelle	150

05°00' ———  
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Took Photos

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 745225  
By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91



498  
115-J  
OK 24 Apr  
✓CN

CONFIDENTIAL

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713- 1

SLB/fo

26 April, 1944

**SUBJECT:** Narrative report on mission 115-J, performed 24 April, 1944, by nine A/P's of the 498th Squadron. Objective - targets 9 D, 10 D, 11 D Hansa Bay, strafe targets of opportunity from Hansa Bay to Cape Croisilles.

**TO :** COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

**1. GENERAL**

(a) On the morning of the 24 April, 1944 three Squadrons were ordered to bomb targets 9 D, 10 D, 11 D at Hansa Bay and the six B28H's of the 498th Squadron after bombing from medium altitude were then to proceed at minimum altitude from Hansa Bay to Cape Croisilles strafing targets of opportunity along the coast.

(b) Rendezvous - The 345th Bombardment Group were to assemble at Leron River and continue to the target. There was to be area fighter cover only from fighters escorting convoy.

(c) Attack - The Squadron went across the target on a heading of 335 degrees at an altitude of 7000 feet in three flights of three planes each in trail. Since the lead A/P's of each flight were the only A/P's containing bombsights all airplanes dropped their bombs on the lead airplane of each flight. 8 x 500 lb. inst. demo bombs in target. 22 bombs were released on Awar Pt. East of target, four bombs fell in water just off target and three bombs were salvaged. A large fire was started at Awar Pt. Awar Pt. was bombed instead of target because target was obscured by cloud cover. 10,400 x .50 cal. and 106 x .75mm rounds of ammunition were expended in strafing the coast from Hansa Bay to Cape Croisilles destroying many huts in native villages by direct hits. A machine gun position at Bogia was thoroughly strafed and ceased firing. A truck along side of road near Bogia Village and woods near truck were strafed. Three passes were made on A/A and machine gun positions on the North and West sides of Uligan Harbor. A/A position on West side of Uligan Harbor was completely destroyed by direct hits from seven .75mm shells. This position completely silenced and contained two guns which appeared to be one heavy and one medium.

Native huts in Dogumir Harbor, Kronprinz Harbor and Bunabun Bay were strafed.

- (d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.  
 (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.  
 (2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.  
 (3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

- (e) Time and location of:  
Take Off: strip #4, NADZAB, 0820/K to 0824/K.  
Attack: targets 9-D, 10-D, 11-D Hansa Bay 1008/K and strafing run 1015/K to 1100/K.  
Landing: strip #4, NADZAB, 1120/K to 1300/K.

- (f) Route: BASE, GUSAP, HANSA BAY, GUSAP, BASE.

## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH BOMB SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>		<u>THIRD FLIGHT</u>	
Maj. Rosenbaum	491	Lt. Wright	604	Lt. Hebllett	230
Lt. McCall	130	Lt. Jensen	164	Lt. Kirkland	344
Lt. Girdler	315	Lt. Stapleton	347	Lt. Mosser	150

The 498th Squadron led the Group with Major Rosenbaum leading the Squadron and Group and acting as Strike Force Commander. After bombing targets 9-D, 10-D, 11-D Hansa Bay Lt. McCall led the attack on targets of opportunity from Hansa Bay to Cape Croisilles.

## 3. DETAILS OF THE MISSION.

(a) Details of the attack - The first flight led by Maj. Rosenbaum from an altitude of 7000 ft. and heading of 335 deg. released 8 bombs in target and 4 bombs fell in water just off the target. Major Rosenbaum's bombs fell in target on the coast and Lt. McCall's bombs, flying in #2 position, fell about 150 ft. from the coast in the target. All of Lt. Girdler's bombs, flying in #3 position on Maj. Rosenbaum's wing, fell in the water just off the target.

The second flight led by Lt. Wright, from an altitude of 7000 ft. and heading of 335 deg., released all of its bombs in Awar Point, East of target because target was obscured by cloud cover. Lt. Wright's bombs hit about 150 ft. from the shore at Awar Point. Lt. Stapleton, flying in #3 position on Lt. Wright's wing, released his bombs about 25 feet from the shore at Awar Point. Lt. Jensen, flying in #2 position on Lt. Wright's wing, released his bombs about 275 feet from the shore at Awar Point. The bombs of Lt. Wright's started a large fire at Awar Point.

The third flight led by Lt. Hebllett, from an altitude of 7000 ft. and heading of 335 deg., released its bombs at Awar Point. Lt. Hebllett's bombs fell about 150 ft. from the shore. Lt. Kirkland, flying in #2 position in this flight released his bombs about 250 ft. from the shore. Lt. Mosser, flying in #3 position, released his bombs about 50 ft. from the shore at Awar Point.

After bombing target at Hansa Bay the lead A/P's of each flight assembled and returned to base. Planes flying number two and three position in each flight then proceeded to attack targets of opportunity from Hansa Bay to Cape Croisilles at minimum altitude. The attack was made in three flights of two planes each. Due to hydraulic failure of Lt. McCall's airplane his plane and the other plane of his flight landed at Saidor after making strafing run. The airplanes piloted by Lt's. Kirkland and Mosser returned to base after strafing targets. After strafing target as planned airplanes 164 and 347 attempted to return to base. A/P 164, piloted by Lt. Jensen which was the lead plane in this flight, had to land at Pt. Moresby because of compass failure which was believed caused from firing of canon. Lt. Stapleton in A/P 347 attempted to follow Lt. Jensen and was forced to crash land on the beach on the mainland just off Yule Island because of lack of fuel. All members of plane were saved.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - Nil A/A was observed at Hansa Bay. Six bursts of A/A seen from A/A position on West side of Uligan Harbor prior to its being destroyed. Small ground fire was observed from Nubia Village.

(c) Fighter cover - None observed.

(d) Details of damage to aircraft in air.

(1) Nil enemy planes destroyed in air.

(2) A/P 130 had a hydraulic failure which was believed caused from firing of canon. A/P 164 had compass failure of all of its compasses which was believed caused by firing of canon. A/P 347 was crash landed on beach on mainland just off Yule Island because of lack of fuel. This plane is believed not repairable.

(e) Personnel injured - Nil personnel injured on this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information present available all personnel will be recommended for an award.

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**5. APPENDICES**

- (a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table and strafing table.
- (b) Appendix "B" shows map of bomb hits and bomb run.
- (c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

**6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS** - A large fire was observed in target bombed by 38th Group.

**7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION** - Nil photographs have been received from which a photo interpretation could be made.

For the Squadron Commander:

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

# CONFIDENTIAL

## APPENDIX "A"

### BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
491	4	inst.	500 lb.	4
130	4	inst.	500 lb.	4
315	4	inst.	500 lb.	4
604	4	inst.	500 lb.	4
164	4	inst.	500 lb.	1
347	4	inst.	500 lb.	4
230	5	inst.	500 lb.	5
344	4	inst.	500 lb.	4
150	4	inst.	500 lb.	4
	<u>37</u>			<u>34</u>

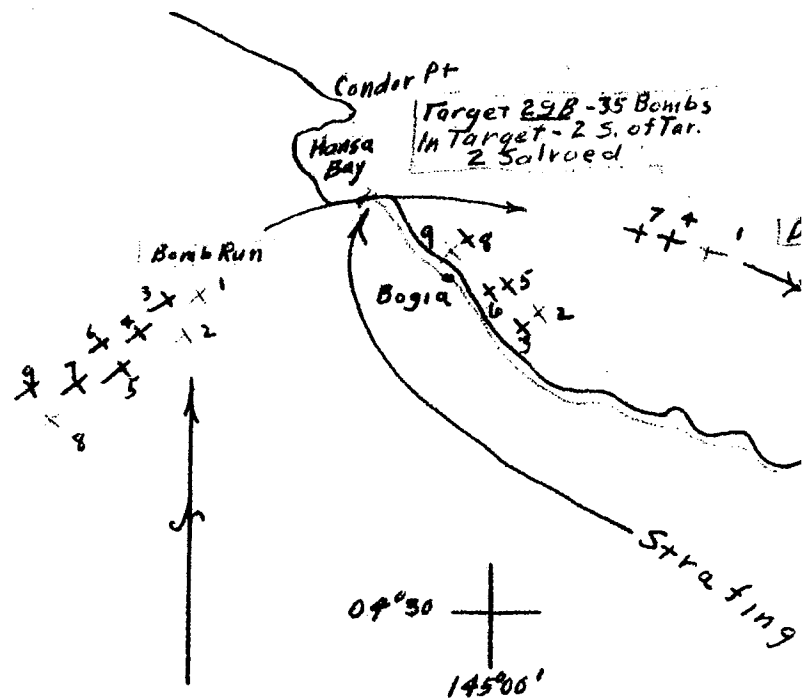
A/P 164 salvaged three bombs.

### STRAFING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.75mm</u> <u>No. car'd</u>	<u>No. Ex.</u>	<u>.50 Cal.</u> <u>Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
491	----	---	----	----
130	27	27	4600	2000
315	21	21	4600	2700
604	----	---	----	----
164	18	18	4600	1500
347	21	---	4600	----
230	----	---	----	----
344	21	21	4600	1800
150	21	19	4600	2400
		<u>108</u>		<u>10400</u>

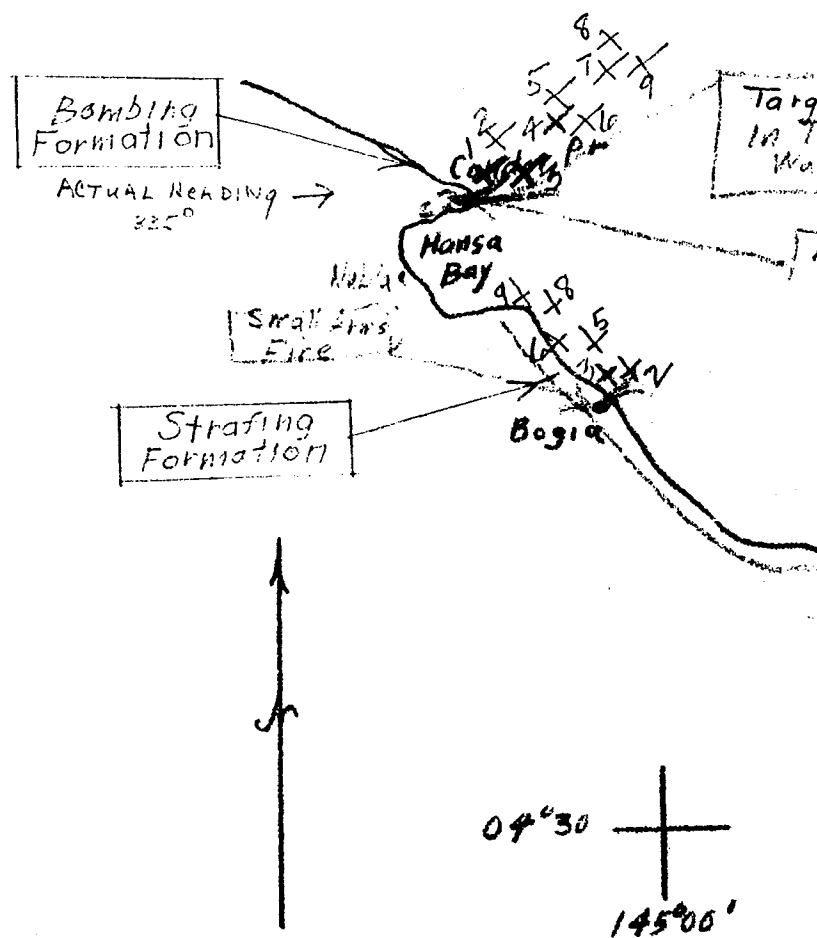
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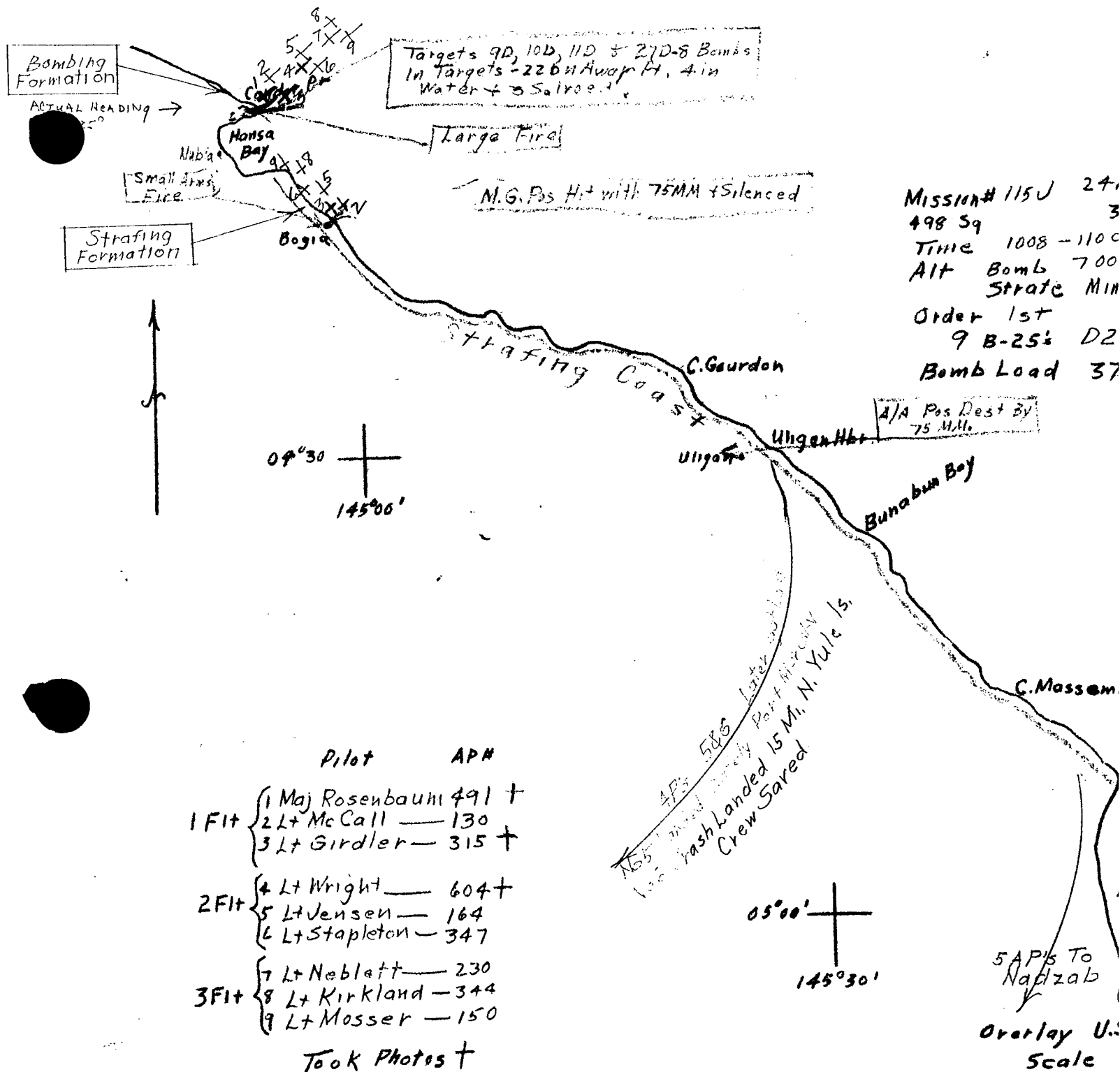
	Pilot	APH
1 Flt	1 Lt Col Fridge	491
	2 Maj Coltharp	315
	3 Lt Best R.D.	331
2 Flt	4 Lt Neblett	604
	5 Capt Magee	164
	6 Lt Nurtin	344
3 Flt	7 Lt Browne	764
	8 Lt Hetherington	356
	9 Lt Cutinella	150

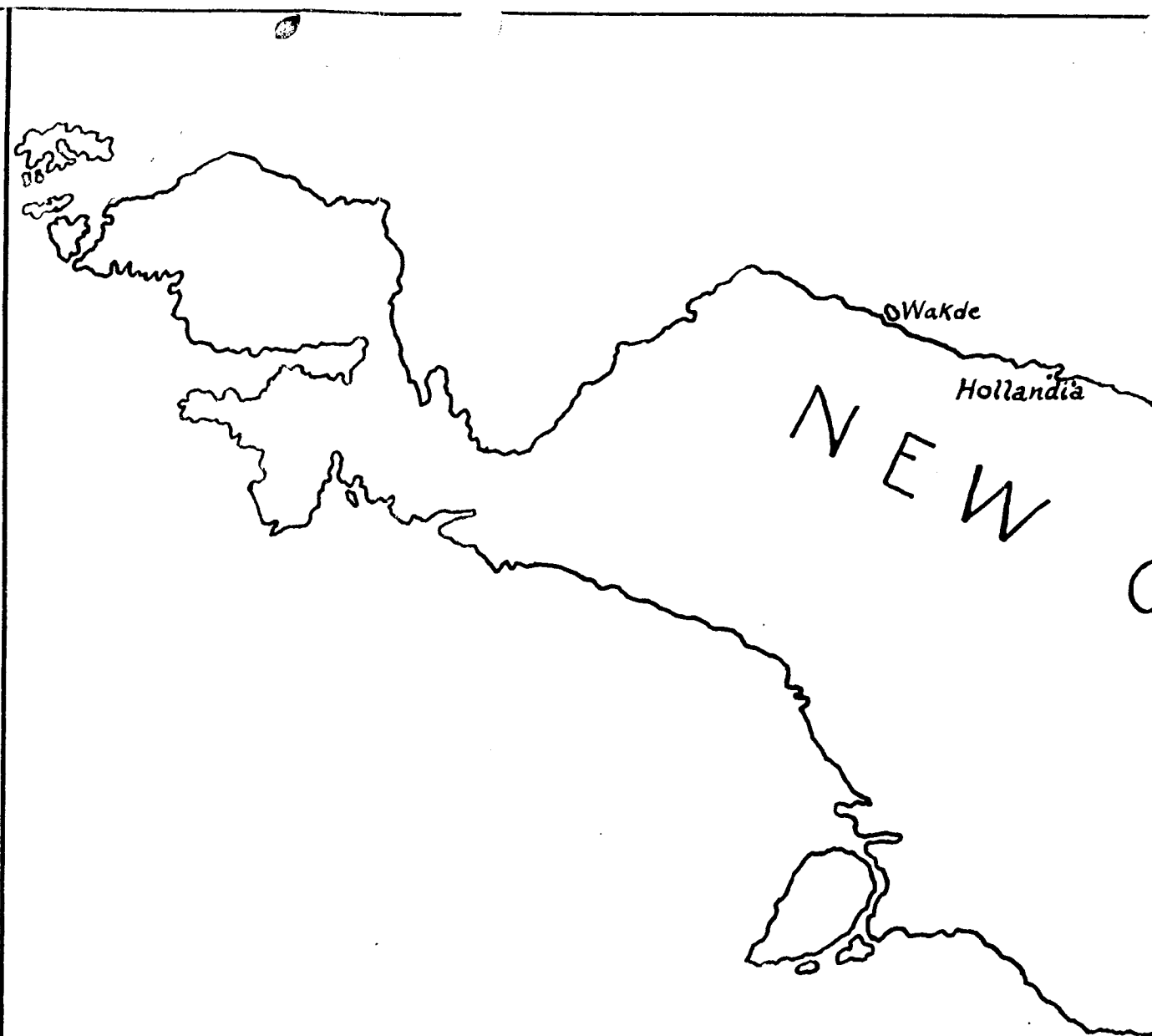
Took Photos



### Pilot

- 1 Flt { 1 Maj Rosenbaum —  
 2 Lt McCall —  
 3 Lt Girdler —
- 2 Flt { 4 Lt Wright —  
 5 Lt Jensen —  
 6 Lt Stapleton —
- 3 Flt { 7 Lt Noble —  
 8 Lt Kirkland —





**ROUTE TO & FROM TARGET**

FFO:                      DATE:  
345th BOMB GROUP  
BOMB SQUADRON  
TIME OVER TARGET:  
ALTITUDE:

DRAWN BY- GROUP PHOTO  
Cpl. ADAM A. GWIAZDA

CONFIDENTIAL

498  
118-C  
JCH 27 Apr 44

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.O. #713 - 1

SLS/fc

28 April, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 118-C, performed 27 April, 1944, by nine A/P's of the 498th Squadron. Objective - targets of opportunity on Muschu and Kairiru Islands.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. GENERAL

(a) On the morning of the 27th of April the 498th Squadron was ordered to bomb and strafe targets of opportunity on Muschu and Kairiru Islands.

(b) Rendezvous - The squadron assembled over strip number four and continued to the target. There was to be area fighter cover from fighters.

(c) Attack - The Squadron made its first pass on the target on a heading of 90 degrees at an altitude of 50 to 200 feet in flights of two planes each in trail. Three passes were made at the targets. Villages and scattered huts and buildings along the coasts of Muschu and Kairiru Islands were bombed, strafed and hit with .75mm cannon fire. Several huts were destroyed and others were raked by strafing. One large fire with black smoke rising to 1500 ft. was started at the seaplane base West of Kairiru Village. Explosions were observed 15 minutes after the attack. Other small fires were started in villages already battered in previous strikes. Bombing was excellent with 84 x 100 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs dropped in targets, 4 bombs falling in the water and two being salvaged.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.

- (1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.
- (2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.
- (3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

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(e) Time and location of:

Take Off: strip #4, NADZAB, 0830/K to 0834/K.

Attack: MUSCHU and KAIRIRU ISLANDS, 1030/K to 1058/K.

Landing: strip #4, NADZAB, 1240/K to 1245/K.

(f) Route: BASE, GUSAP, SEPIK RIVER, ALONG TO COAST TO TARGET, DOWN COAST TO SEPIK RIVER, GUSAP, BASE.

2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>		<u>THIRD FLIGHT</u>	
Maj. Coltharp	356	Capt. Magee	335	Lt. Neblett	150
Lt. Cutinelli	315	Lt. Nutting	336	Lt. Best, R.D.	331
Lt. Wright	341	Lt. Girdler	344	Lt. Jensen	164

The 498th Squadron was led by Major Coltharp.

3. DETAILS OF THE MISSION.

(a) Details of the attack - The Squadron proceeded to the target as planned. The Squadron made its first pass on the target on a heading of 90 degrees at an altitude of 50 to 200 feet in flights of two planes each in trail. Three passes were made at the targets. Villages and scattered huts and buildings along the coasts of Muschu and Kairiru Islands were bombed, strafed and hit with .75mm canon fire. Several huts were destroyed and others were raked by strafing. One large fire with black smoke rising to 1500 ft. was started at the seaplane base West of Kairiru Village. Explosions were observed 15 minutes after the attack. Other small fires were started in villages already battered in previous strikes. Bombing was excellent with 84 x 100 lb. 4/5 sec. delay fuse bombs dropped in targets, 4 bombs falling in the water and two being salvoed. A/P 356 dropped all of its bombs at the seaplane base near Kairiru Village causing large oil fire with black smoke rising to 1500 feet and explosions were observed at the fire 15 minutes after the attack. A/P 315 released six bombs on OCC and four bombs in Caurai destroying huts in these Villages. A/P 341 released its bombs on the Jap Camp on Muschu Island registering a number of direct hits on huts. A/P 335 dropped all of its bombs at the seaplane base near Kairiru Village destroying a number of native huts. A/P 336 released two of its bombs at Cape Musalalang, two bombs at Cape Pausum and four bombs at Cape Warba. A/P 344 released four bombs in water off seaplane base, four bombs at Kairiru Village and two bombs at Angua. A/P 150 released six bombs on Observation Spot and four bombs on Cape Barabar. A/P 331 released ten bombs at the Jap Camp on the West side of Muschu Island. A/P 164 released two bombs on the Jap Camp, two fell safe and six bombs at seaplane base near Kairiru Village. All of these planes fired their canons on the several villages on the coast of both Islands and also strafed the same.

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- (b) Anti-aircraft fire - Nil
- (c) Fighter cover - None observed.
- (d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air.
  - (1) Nil enemy planes destroyed in air.
  - (2) Nil damage was received by our planes.
- (e) Personnel injured - Nil personnel injured on this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

5. APPENDICES

- (a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table and strafing table and photographic table.
- (b) Appendix "B" shows map of bomb hits and bomb run.
- (c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Approximately 25 u/s barges were sighted along the coasts of Muschu and Kairiru Islands. Nil serviceable barges were sighted. One apparently serviceable bridge was seen across an inlet between Cape Kolang and the mouth of Hawain River. Nil activity was observed at the targets. Targets at Wewak appeared to be covered well by bombs of other units at 1052/K.

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - Photos 118 & 173 show u/s barges and luggers along beaches. Photos 135 & 136 show large oil fire near Kairiru Village. Photo 256 show a large number of oil drums. Photos 132 & 257 show many European houses and two apparently serviceable dump trucks are shown in photo 252.

For the Squadron Commander:

SAMUEL L. SLUTZKY,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

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## APPENDIX "A"

### BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
344	10	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	10
356	10	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	10
331	10	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	8
341	10	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	10
336	10	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	10
315	10	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	10
164	10	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	10
335	10	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	10
150	10	4/5 sec.	100 lb.	10
	<u>90</u>			<u>88</u>

A/P 331 salvaged two bombs.

### STRAFING TABLE.

<u>A/P</u>	<u>.75mm No. car'd</u>	<u>No. Ex.</u>	<u>.50 cal. Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
<del>344</del>	21	21		
356	31	31	4600	2400
331	21	21	4600	1500
341	21	14	4600	1000
336	21	21	4600	1500
315	21	21	4600	1600
164	21	21	4600	3200
335	30	29	4600	3000
150	21	21	4600	2000
		<u>200</u>	4600	<u>3200</u>
				<u>19400</u>

### PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of camera</u>	<u>Ex.made</u>	<u>prints rec'd</u>
356	1025/K	Muschu	K-20	30	13
336	1025/K	Muschu	K-20	25	7

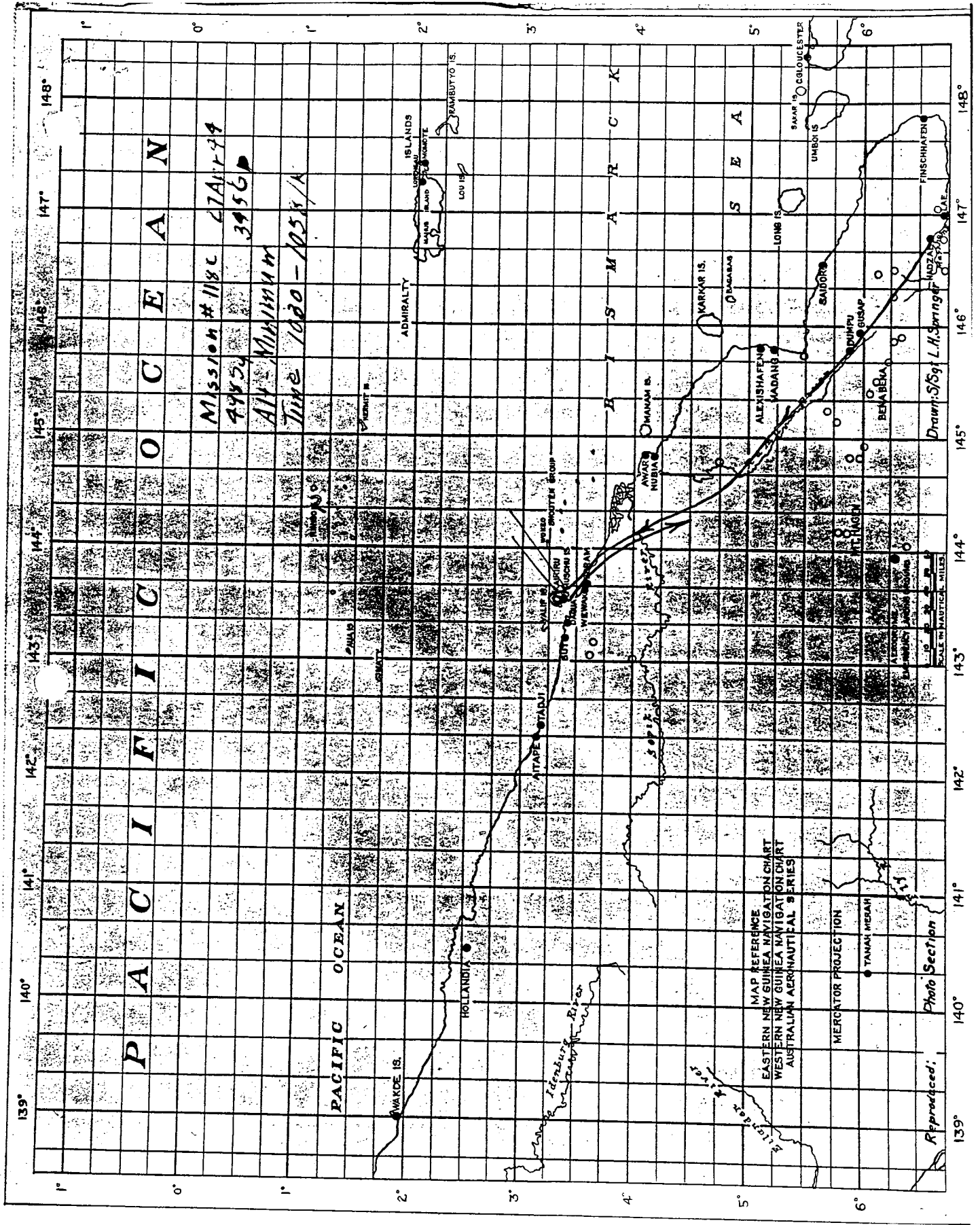


X19 —  
Y19

14 SA  
Overlay: Kairiru West (NE New Guinea)  
Provisional Map-Scale 1:63360

~~4 Bombs~~

Alt — Minimum  
Order — 50 Only  
Bomb Load 90x500; 4-5 Sec  
54 Releases  
9AB-25H's



By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

498  
119-B  
28 Apr 44

CONFIDENTIAL

498TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
345TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
Office of the Intelligence Officer  
A.P.C. #713 - 1

SLS/fo

29 April, 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative report on mission 119-B, performed 28 April, 1944, by six airplanes of the 498th Squadron.  
Objective - Sawar Airdrome.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fifth Air Force, APO 925.

1. GENERAL

(a) On the morning of 28 April, 1944 four Squadrons of the 345th Group were ordered to bomb and strafe Sawar A/D.

(b) Rendezvous - The 345th Group were to assemble at Gusap and rendezvous with two Squadrons of P-38's at Hollandia.

(c) Attack - The Squadron went across the target on a heading of 308 degrees at an altitude of 150 feet in two flights abreast. 258 x 23 lb. parafrag bombs were released on target. 72 bombs were salvaged west of runway. Fires were started amongst huts on both sides of the drome. A large fuel fire was started on South side of the middle of the strip. 8400 x .50 cal. and 300 x .30 cal. rounds of ammo were expended in strafing target. Bombing was excellent.

(d) Interception and A/P's destroyed.  
(1) Nil enemy aircraft interception.  
(2) Nil Allied A/P's observed lost.  
(3) Nil enemy A/P's destroyed in air by Squadron.

(e) Time and location of:

Take off: strip #5, GUSAP, 0830/K to 0832/K.

Rendezvous: HOLLANDIA, 1103/K, fighters were not seen.

Attack: SAWAR A/D, 1145/K to 1150/K.

Landing: strip #5, GUSAP, 1435/K; BASE, strips #3 & #4, 1600/K to 1605/K.

(f) Route: GUSAP, ANNENBERG, HOLLANDIA, TARGET, HOLLANDIA, ANNENBERG, GUSAP, BASE.

OK  
VCH

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## 2. A/P's OF THE 498TH SQUADRON IN THE ATTACK.

<u>FIRST FLIGHT</u>		<u>SECOND FLIGHT</u>	
Lt. McCall	518	Lt. Browne	426
Lt. Girdler	078	Lt. Nutting	443
Lt. Best	078	Lt. Kirkland	414

The 498th Squadron was the third squadron going over the target and was led by Lt. McCall. Major Marston flying in the lead plane of the 500th Squadron led the attack and was Strike Force Commander.

## 3. DETAILS OF THE MISSION.

(a) The five planes of the 498th Squadron, flying abreast on a heading of 305 degrees at an altitude of 150 ft., bombed and strafed the target. Lt. Kirkland in A/P 414 did not reach the target and had to return to base after flying to Nawak because of mechanical difficulties. Lt. McCall in A/P 518 flew down the center of the strip releasing his bombs in trail from the East end to the West end of the strip. Lt. Girdler in A/P 078 flying in number two position on Lt. McCall's wing released his bombs in trail amongst huts along the North side of the strip destroying a number of huts and starting some small fires. Lt. Best in A/P 078 flying in the number three position on Lt. McCall's wing released his bombs in trail along the Southerly side of the strip destroying a number of huts and started a large oil fire on the Southerly side of the center of the strip. Lt. Browne in A/P 426 released his bombs in trail in the revetment area on the Southerly side of the strip. Lt. Nutting in A/P 443 was unable to release his bombs on Sagar Strip due to rack malfunction and he salvaged his bombs about 1000 ft. West of the West end of the strip. All planes in addition to bombing thoroughly strafed the target. The planes on return stopped at Gusap to refuel.

(b) Anti-aircraft fire - Small ground fire from both sides of strip. Small ground fire from huts about 8000 feet East of West end of runway. Four bursts of light A/A was observed from position about 500 ft. East of East end of strip. Light heavy bursts were observed from position on NE end of runway. A/A was inaccurate, altitude of bursts 300 ft. and wide.

(c) Fighter cover - None observed.

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(d) Details of damage to aircraft in the air.

(1) Nil enemy planes destroyed in air.

(2) A/P 414 returned to base before reaching target because of mechanical difficulties.

(e) Personnel injured - Nil personnel injured on this mission.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARDS - From information present available nil personnel will be recommended for an award.

5. APPENDICES

(a) Appendix "A" shows bombing table, strafing table and photographic table.

(b) Appendix "B" shows map of bomb hits and bomb run.

(c) Appendix "C" shows route to and from target.

6. ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS - Two unidentified u/s planes were observed on the runway. Two unidentified u/s planes were observed just off the South side of the strip, one of these planes had twin engines. Nil activity was observed at or near the strip. Hats were observed on both sides of the strip. Just off both ends of the strip stores were observed. Before approaching target Wake Island was entirely covered by smoke as a result of bombing.

7. PHOTO INTERPRETATION - photos show one single seat fighter, apparently serviceable, burning and one large fire south of the center of the runway. Other planes shown are unserviceable. A/A position at West end of drome contained no guns and had sticks propped up to resemble gun positions.

For the Squadron Commander:

SAMUEL R. SLUTZKY,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/20/91

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## APPENDIX "A"

## BOMBING TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>No. of bombs</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>No. dropped</u>
078	66	parafrag	23 lb.	66
518	66	parafrag	23 lb.	66
443	66	parafrag	23 lb.	60
426	66	parafrag	23 lb.	66
414	66	parafrag	23 lb.	00
076	66	parafrag	23 lb.	60
	<u>396</u>			<u>258</u>

A/P 443 salvaged his bombs because of malrack function.

A/P 414 returned bombs to Gusap - ship had to return because of mechanical difficulties.

A/P 076 salvaged 6 bombs because of malrack function.

## STRAFING TABLE

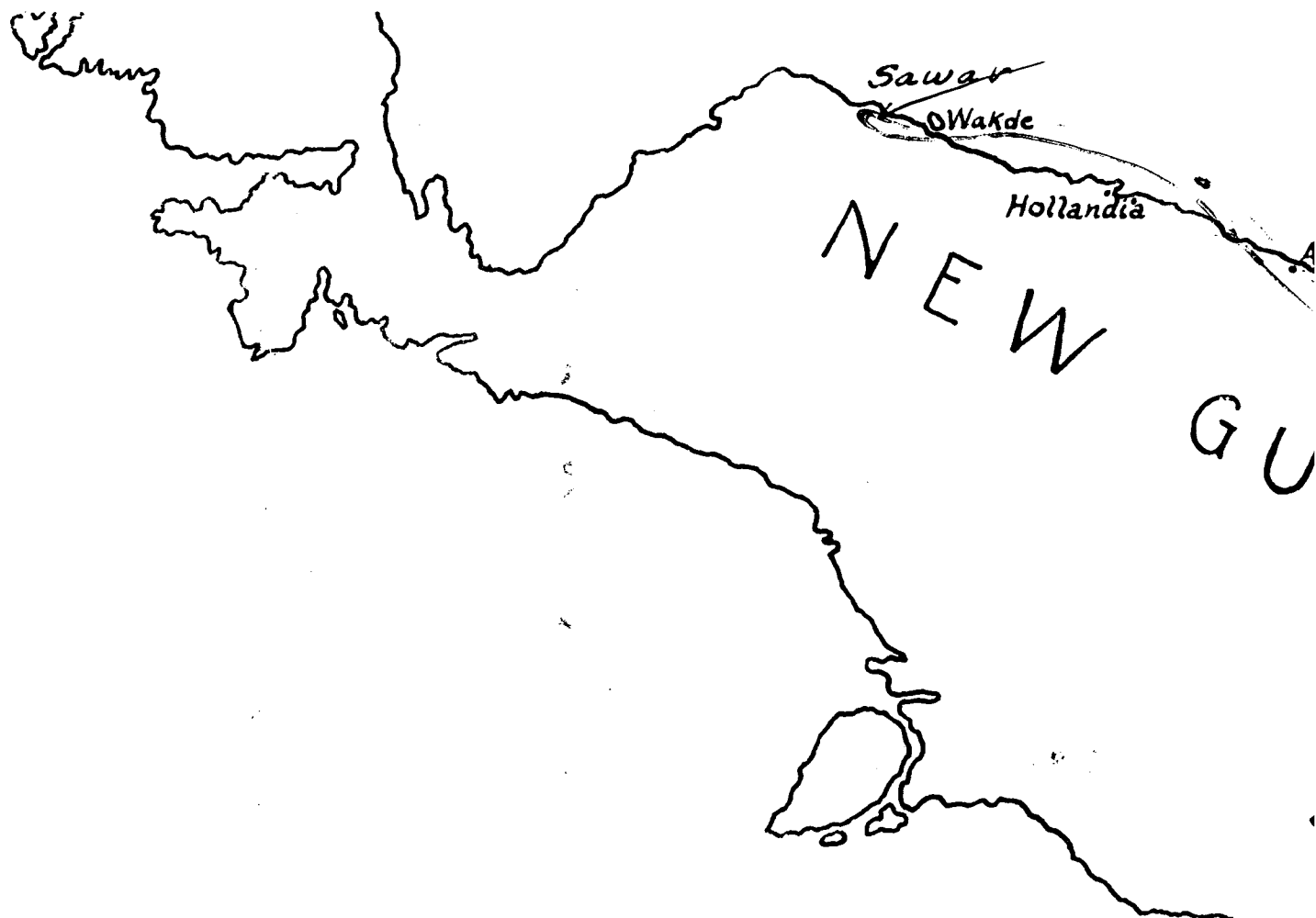
<u>A/P</u>	<u>.50 cal. Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>	<u>.30 cal. Rds car'd</u>	<u>Rds Ex.</u>
078	4600	2000	4000	100
518	4600	1400	4000	---
443	4600	800	4000	---
426	4600	1400	4000	---
414	4600	----	4000	---
076	4600	800	4000	2000
		<u>6400</u>		<u>300</u>

## PHOTO TABLE

<u>A/P</u>	<u>Time of photo</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of camera</u>	<u>Ex.made</u>	<u>prints rec'd</u>
078	1147/K	Sawar A/D	K-21	20	10
518	1147/K	Sawar A/D	K-21	25	2

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**ROUTE TO & FROM TARGET**

FFO: 1/14/53 DATE: 6/10/53  
 345th BOMB GROUP  
 1st BOMB SQUADRON  
 TIME OVER TARGET: 10:00  
 ALTITUDE: 10,000

DRAWN BY- GROUP PHOTO  
 Cpl. ADAM A. GWIAZDA

DECLASSIFIED PER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356, Section 3.3, NND 745005  
 By RLB/IM NARA, Date 5/30/91