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The Reaper's



Harvest



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DEDICATION

To the noblest of them all, our comrades
who fell in battle, lost to the world, but
retained in the hearts of men—to those
who found their greatest glory in defence
of their country—this volume is gratefully
dedicated.

✓

Our Generals



★★★★ General George C. Kenney,
Commanding General, Far East Air Force.



★★ Maj. Gen. Ennis White-
head, Commanding General,
Fifth Air Force.



★ Brig. Gen. Paul B. Wurtsmith, Deputy
Commander, Fifth Air Force.



★ Brig. Gen. Jarred V. Crabb,
Commanding General, Fifth
Bomber Command.





Col. Richard H. Ellis.



Lt. Col. Robert F. Strickland.



Col. John H. Davies.



Col. Donald P. Hall.

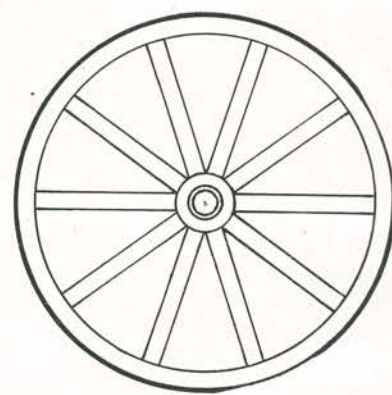
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Lt. Col. James A. Downs.



Col. John P. Henebry.



3rd Group Commanding Officers



The Reaper's Harvest

The Story of The Third Attack Group

IN the spring of 1942 the Japanese were successfully over-running the Pacific, and their tentacles were reaching down to touch the Australian mainland with the threat of invasion. Their eyes were on the strategic base of Port Moresby, and the pitiful Allied forces charged with stemming this tide were in the unenviable position of defending Moresby against attacks by land, sea, and air.

So in April 1942 the Grim Reapers received their baptism of fire and jungle, something that all of them had hoped for and feared since their designation to overseas duty. Powerful Japanese bases were springing up on the east New Guinea coast. Enemy ships plied the once peaceful seas among the southern archipelagos, transporting men and equipment with impunity to the swelling Japanese camps on the beaches of New Guinea. All knew that the time was at hand when the enemy must be stopped or supreme sacrifices made.

The 1st April was the birth of a new saga of bravery, the participation of the Grim Reapers in the Southwest Pacific Campaigns. The target for this first mission was Lae Airdrome. The aircraft were six Dauntless dive bombers. The leader was Lieutenant Bob Ruegg. Famous 75th Squadron Kittyhawks escorted the Grim Reapers. The elements spared Lae that day, but, hampered by the impenetrability of the weather, the Dauntlesses, nevertheless, found a target at the enemy forward base of Salamaua where an ad-

vance airdrome was situated. Only five bombs were dropped, an insignificant number when compared with the aerial bombardment of later days, but those five 500 pound missiles were the most important of them all, for in the dropping of them the knell was sounded for the Japanese of a mighty offensive that the entire strength of their Empire would be unable to combat. The mission to Salamaua on 1st April did little material damage to enemy installations, but it was a message of foreboding to the enemy. And remember the names of the first Americans to fly their warplanes over New Guinea. Lieutenant Bob Ruegg, Sergeant Don Vance, Lieutenant Raymond Wilkins, Lieutenant John Hill, Sergeant Bob Mongrain, Sergeant Rulon Thornock, Lieutenant Jim Holcomb, and others who laid the groundwork for great campaigns.

From dive to medium to light bombardment was the evolution of the Grim Reapers, and many were the growing pains of this group that reached the crest and led them all in the campaigns of the next two years. There was the first Mitchell bomber mission, to Gasmata on 5th April. Remember Colonel John Davies, Lieutenant Gus Heiss, Lieutenant Arden Rulison, Lieutenant Harold Maull and others, the first Americans to bomb Gasmata.

On 7th April they called on the Grim Reapers again for another first penetration deep into enemy territory. And on 11th April men such as Colonel John Davies, Lieutenant Lee Walker,

Sergeant Guy Clanton, Lieutenant John Bevan, Lieutenant Malcolm Petersen, Sergeant Norman Cates, Lieutenant Bob Strickland, and many others took off from Darwin, Australia, to fly the long and hazardous non-stop route to Del Monte, Mindanao, in the Philippines, a last remaining American outpost. From Del Monte daring attacks were carried out by the Grim Reapers. There were strikes against Cebu, Davao, and shipping targets in the Visayas and Mindanao areas. Many ships were sunk, aircraft were destroyed in combat, and damage done to installations. And so successful was this brief campaign—of four days—that not a Mitchell was lost, and all were able to return to Australia at the conclusion of their foray. The small force of bombers flew far and wide over the islands to ferret out shipping in the straits and harbors. The Japs were strong and sent many interceptors into the air to meet them. Anti-aircraft fire was intense and accurate, but this tiny group was undaunted and presumptuously flew where they would. There was the mission of support for Allied ground forces who were making a last-ditch push against Davao, an attack flown with no better guide than a Mobilgas road map with the front lines roughly drawn on it. This was the 13th April. Great damage was wrought on installations, personnel, and airfields in the Davao area. The enemy attacked with seaplanes, scored hits on some of the Mitchells, but paid with one of the four attackers in return. And then the enemy discovered the hidden fields of Del Monte and Valencia on the high Bukidnon Plateau. Many dive-bombing attacks by the Japs were the result. It was no longer safe for the Grim Reapers to remain there, and during the last few days of the brief venture they landed at dusk and took off at dawn to save their planes from destruction. Another final attack was made on Cebu, resulting in the sinking of an enemy transport and the damage to others. And then, on the morning of 14th April, Colonel Davies directed his men to return to Darwin. Their position on Mindanao had become quite untenable and they could no longer safely base their bombers on Del Monte. All the Mitchells reached Darwin again, and though the force had been small, the courage of the Grim Reapers had been great. The satisfaction of partially repaying a debt by men who had been driven from the Philippines could

be marked down high on the list of the damage assessment of the mission.

Meanwhile, the 6th April saw another dive-bombing foray by the Dauntlesses, this time against Lae Airdrome. And again on 11th April, the dive bombers found their target at Lae, both missions resulting in destruction of enemy warplanes on the strip. Remember 19th April when Salamaua was bombed by six Mitchell bombers. Remember the courage of ground crews at Port Moresby, during days when bombing and strafing raids by the enemy were daily occurrences. Moresby was an outpost, and a small force of eighteen Dauntless dive bombers, nineteen



Charters Towers, Australia. From here, Grim Reapers launched famous harassing raids on the Philippines.

pilots, three ground officers, and 77 enlisted men were the American Air Force token complement that meant so much to the free nations of the world at that time. Little was known of their exploits when the eyes of the world should have been focused upon them. Their intrepidity was our salvation. Their honor is the Grim Reapers', to have and to hold as they carry on with a more powerful force in defeating the enemy.

Some of the dive bombers were destroyed by enemy planes that continually bombarded the airdromes at Port Moresby. Harassment by the enemy was a common thing. Nothing was safe or certain then. Men searched the skies daily, looked up to see the enemy planes and hunted cover. They saw their small force of bombers dwindled by enemy aerial attack. But they knew, too, that they could not lose, for theirs was the right, and



Grim Reapers pose with their leader, Col. "Jim" Davies, after return from the Philippines. Men operated from secret base in Mindanao, under very noses of Japs.



Gutted buildings at Salamaua testify to the accuracy of Allied air attacks. Buildings still standing were later demolished.

human instinct told them that their day would come. They slept where they could, their food was inadequate, maintenance of aircraft was hampered by a shortage of the necessary equipment and airplane parts. It took skill to keep an airplane flying then. But unsung heroes of the ground crews kept them flying, just as they do today. But theirs was an exemplary accomplishment, for they worked under fire, without adequate food and living quarters and improvising wherever they could. Too little has been said about them—the grease monkeys of Port Moresby. Too little has been said of all of them that led the way for the rest to follow.

The weather of the tropics was another detrimental factor that the Grim Reapers were unaccustomed to, and the elements claimed their toll of brave men at a time when they were solely needed. Remember the crew of the Mitchell bomber that crashed on Bartle Frere in Australia in April while trying to pierce the wall of cloud surrounding this stern, mist-shrouded mountain. Remember them for they died in defense of their country as much as those who fell to the enemy. Remember Lieutenant John Keeter, Captain Glen Stephenson, Lieutenant Gene Tisonyai, Sergeant Bill Lancaster, Sergeant George DeArmond, Sergeant Jimmie Morris, and Sergeant Jim English.

So materially small was the contribution of the Grim Reapers in the early days that the world has forgotten it as vast armadas of air power provide an umbrella of destruction over the entire enemy world. As Fortresses of the air devastate the industrial cities of Germany and Japan, the few bombs that men dared to cast at enemy outposts in the spring of '42 have slipped from the minds of many to become a part of dust-covered chronicle.

The now historical event of the Coral Sea Battle came and went, and the Grim Reapers played their part, patrolling the long and undefended coast of Australia while danger existed. No one doubted the imminent possibility of an invasion of Australia, and great was the respon-

sibility of the men charged to defend the irregular and prolonged shore. The eyes of the Australian people were upon them, for their homes and lives were at stake. The eyes of the world were upon them, for freedom throughout the world was at stake.

On 14th May, five Mitchell bombers staged out of Port Moresby to strike again at Lae Air-drome. Again on the 23rd May five more Mitchells struck at Lae. The men who participated in this raid shall not soon forget the sadistic cowardice of Japanese fighter pilots who strafed the helpless crew of one of the bombers after they had crashed in the sea and inflated their raft. These men gave their lives. Lieutenant Henry Keel, Lieutenant Durward Reed, Sergeant George Bengel, Sergeant Tom Marsh of the R.A.A.F., and Sergeant Dan Wilkins. One man, Corporal Louis Murphy, of that ill-fated crew escaped to tell the tragic tale of strafing Zeros that patrolled the sea until dark to obliterate every American they could find. And inscribe on the scroll of honor the names of Lieutenant Ted Wuerpel, Corporal Earl Sevene, Corporal Dick Haley, and Sergeant J. A. Gibson of the R.A.A.F. who found their quietus over Lae that day. Again on 9th June, six Mitchells returned to Lae, ran the gauntlet of Japanese fighters, this time to come safely back to base after shooting down two of the enemy. And on the 16th June, the Grim Reapers sowed their seeds on Salamaua, destroying a number of buildings, causing very heavy damage to a Japanese headquarters area. Again on 1st July, a small force of Mitchells attacked Lae, this time bombing shipping in the harbor, including an enemy cruiser.

Remember 29th July and the small force of Dauntless dive bombers that took off from Port Moresby that day. Seven of them had for a target a convoy approaching Gona, on the northeast coast of New Guinea. Escorted by seven

Lae. Grim Reaper wings in low over this once formidable base. Note wrecked plane in foreground behind tree.





Old Third Group men will recognize many of these officers who faced the camera in 1942 at Charters Towers. L. to R. Col. Hall, Major Young, Major Rubenstein, Lt. Col. Strickland, Major Rogers, Col. Davies, Col. Hubbard, Capt. McAfee, Major Gerrity.

P-39s, they took off into the east to surmount the Owen Stanley Range and descend upon the convoy beyond. Somewhere along the line they lost their escorting fighters. Audaciously, they proceeded on alone. Only one Dauntless returned. The names of brave men are all that remain to remind us of that extraordinary heroism of 29th July . . . Major Floyd Rogers, Corporal Nichols, Captain Virgil Schwab, Sergeant Phil Childs, Lieutenant Cassels, Lieutenant Claude Dean, Sergeant Al Larocque, Sergeant Ralph Sam. They gave their lives in a gallant battle with a superior force of Japanese fighters, fighting with the inferior, unwieldy aircraft in a one-sided dogfight over the Bismarck Sea. One enemy destroyer was hit and left burning, but the sacrifice was great . . . one Reaper came back.

In August the Grim Reapers brought their Bostons to Port Moresby and immediately put them to good use. The first mission was flown on 31st August; the strafing of Lae Airdrome. Remember the first men to fly the Bostons in battle . . . Captain Donald Hall, Captain Christian Petri, Lieutenant Tom Talley, Lieutenant Charlie Brown, Lieutenant Don Good, Lieutenant Glen Clark, Captain Jim Smith, Lieutenant George Carter, Lieutenant Howard West. The enemy were introduced to a new method of dealing with a target—low-level strafing by American bombers. The mission was co-ordinated with medium altitude bombing Marauders, and considerable damage was done to important buildings at Lae. Many enemy personnel were caught in the vicious strafing attack and died to the tune of staccato guns. Lieutenant Brown dipped out over the harbor to damage two sloops with his guns, and the Bostons scurried out over the sea, a job well done.

Throughout September the strafing of Lae Airdrome continued as did the bombing and strafing of the enemy forces in the Buna area, and the long, tortuous columns from the east coast to the farthest Japanese penetrations near

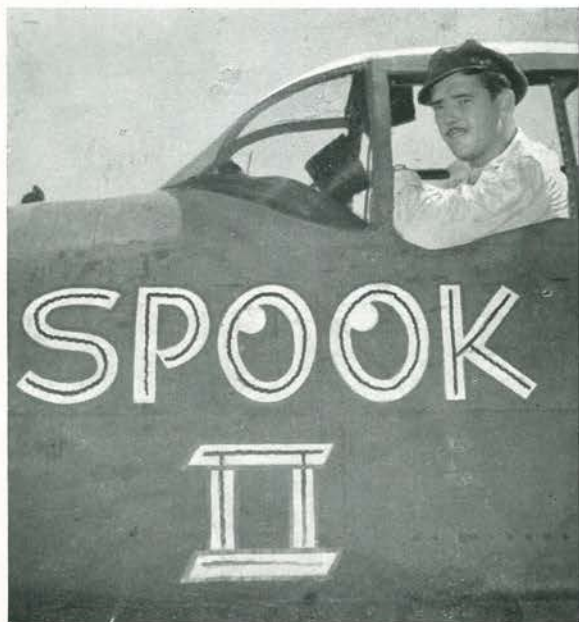
Kokoda in the Owen Stanleys. The latter was difficult work, involving searching for targets in the dense foliage of the rugged mountain ranges, following twisting trails that could hardly be seen, searching out the enemy in his desperate attempt to reach Port Moresby. This campaign continued through October and November, bombing and strafing, searching below for an elusive enemy and driving them eastwards to the sea. Finally, the last remnants of them were pushed by American infantrymen into the sea itself, the final blow of a long and bitter battle, a battle won by the Allied forces because theirs was the superior air power. Remember such names as Lieutenant Fred Klatt, Lieutenant Joe Moore, Lieutenant Ernie Nenneman. And remember Myola, Kokoda, Templeton's Crossing, Wairope . . . these were the place names, names of little isolated villages. And each time the Australian forces, pushing and struggling to get their twenty-five pounders over the hills, captured another objective, they could well afford to look up and smile their thanks to the Boston formations that dipped over the hills above them. Often weather was such that observation of results was impossible, but reports from the Australian ground forces told of the great damage to the enemy from Boston bombing. Thus it was shown that low-level attack was a very effective ground support weapon, one that would win many victories in the future.

Twenty-first November marked another offensive thrust, the part air power played in the final movement to seize Buna from the enemy. It was an all-out offensive, in which the Grim Reapers played a major part, in giving ground support on a grand scale, a scale that was, however, to

Buna, after the battle. Bombing and strafing shredded the jungle, aided the savagely fighting Yanks and Aussies by killing many Japs.



become common procedure in the future. Nine B-25s and eight A-20s, flown by Grim Reapers, participated in the attack, bombing targets at Buna and Sanananda. Many machine gun positions were knocked out. One A-20 crash-landed at Pongani, and the rest of them returned safely to base. That afternoon the Bostons took off again to bomb parked enemy airplanes on Lae



Major Edward L. Larner. In the Bismarck Sea, he showed the world that low-level attack bombing would work.

Airdrome. That night the Mitchells flew into the darkness in the hazardous flight over the Owen Stanley Range to hit shipping off Buna. This was characteristic of their operations these days. Two or three missions per day occurred frequently, a strain on men and aircraft, but they flew with their usual insolence that no amount of hard work or dangerous attack could erase.

Bismarck Sea

The weather of 3rd March, 1943 was in favor of Rear Admiral Kimura and his 22 heavily-laden vessels cutting the waves of Vitiiaz Straits. He hoped to reach Lae before the sun and its attendant bombers could thwart his purpose. This same factor opposed an anxious group of airmen, young men who flew Mitchell and Boston aircraft, men who were searching the skies for some small assurance of fairer weather. If the elements forbade it, aircraft could not fly, but on 3rd of March this grim, dusty group of lads knew that they must take off.

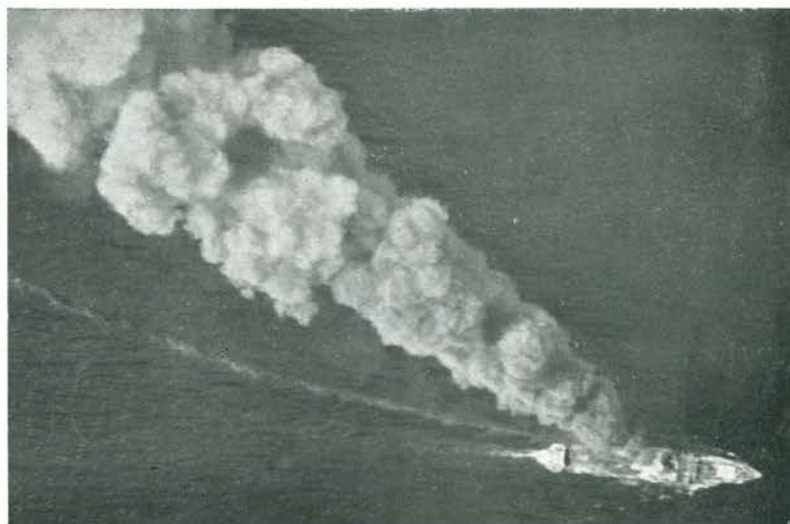
They knew they had to stop that convoy—that

determination, cold courage, the feeling of stark fear that was occasionally felt but always set aside with quiet gallantry—these were weapons that won the day for a little group of airmen known as the Grim Reapers. Set down such names as these for posterity: Major Ed Larner, Captain Ed Chudoba, Captain Glen Clark, Captain Bill Beck, Sergeant Harold Sorenson, Lieutenant Turner Messick, Flight Sergeant Bob Guthrie of the R.A.A.F., Captain John Henebry, and many others. These names made history on the 3rd March 1943.

Through a temporary opening, showing briefly through the bleakness of the sky, hastily fled the small group of bombers which, in a precise, co-ordinated attack of surprise with other bombers of the 5th and Australian Air Forces, was to prove to Admiral Kimura that "whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap". Twelve Bostons and 18 Mitchells of the group joined with other heavy and attack bombers to hit the convoy which already was deploying over a wide area on the Huon Gulf. In the face of excellent co-operation between high, medium level and attack bombers at minimum altitude the enemy anti-aircraft became uncertain and inaccurate. Japanese fighter effectiveness was lost in the confusion of the varied attack. The planes proceeded to peel off when they reached the target. Each one made an individual attack on a vessel or vessels of the group. Swooping in at low level the strafing planes scattered Japanese anti-aircraft gunners with withering fire. Scarcely any damage was done to the bombers that accurately sowed their seeds, leaving burning hulks and submerged hulls behind them.

Major Ed Larner, leading his squadron in to attack, commanded his men to spread out and seek their own targets. He, himself, espied the largest warship of them all, a Teratsuki Class destroyer, and with an anticipatory smile bore down on his target. The radio crackled as Larner chastised his wingmen: "Get off my wing, you guys—get your own damn ships! This one's mine!" With these characteristic words, for Larner was an adventurer, he epitomized a fighting spirit that caused Perry to say: "We have sighted the enemy and they are ours." The destroyer

Bismarck Sea—The Grim Reapers bring back photographic proof of a kill. Freighter is still moving, but sank soon after.





This is minimum altitude. A Grim Reaper on a strafing run grazes the top of a Jap destroyer in the Bismarck Sea battle.

was sunk. Captain Bill Beck sized up another destroyer in the convoy and made his attack, only to find that the release mechanism in his bomb-bay wouldn't function. Not content to let well enough alone, he attacked again and again, to no avail. Someone else got the destroyer, however, and Beck brought back excellent photographs of the vessel, which he had strafed with growing animosity on every run. Lieutenant Bob Reid's Mitchell made a successful run on an 8,000 ton transport, directly hitting it with a

bomb. As he left the convoy area he experienced considerable difficulty in finding his way out of the target, resulting in his flying over, and strafing, five more vessels before he was clear of the area.

The morning of 4th March presented a desolate scene in the Bismarck Sea—the hungry sea swallowed its prey, leaving as a grim reminder the bits of floating debris, the scattered rafts and ship's boats with a few bedraggled survivors. Careful planning, months of preparation, together with men, ships, and materiel were engulfed in a dark and fitting dungeon. The mute story of this scene was that the tide had turned against the Japanese—they had failed, and would continue to fail.

Reapers Get a Sub

An enemy submarine, a large 1900 ton craft, one of the largest underwater raiders in the world, entered Lae Harbor and surfaced just at dusk on the evening of 19th March. Coded messages burned the ether and grimly excited men gathered in operations rooms. Crews stood by as the foundation was laid to get that sub at the exact time and place it reared its ugly head above the surface. Just as the night was spreading its cloak over the base of Lae, a squadron of Mitchell bombers came in, sinister Grim Reapers, dimly silhouetted against the western sky. Five minutes later seven direct bomb hits by three of the bombers had left the submarine in a mass of flame, a gleaming funeral pyre in the night. Triumphant, the bombers made their way home through the darkness.

It was no routine barge hunt that brought the Grim Reapers to Cape Gloucester on the afternoon of 29th July, one plane being loaded with 500-pound bombs and flown by Lieutenant Don

American Medium Bombers Had An Astounding Field Day in Battle

(P. A. RAYNER'S Convoy Story Continued from Page 1.)
Much of the success of the day's operations against the Jap. convoy resulted from the North American medium bombers. It was an astounding field day for them.

While the Fortresses stayed high the North American mediums skimmed at water level beneath the arc of fire of the Japanese ships to drive in a mast height and play hell with most of the convoy.

Here is a plane by plane record of the North American medium bomber unit as each reported back to the base:

Captain Robert Chitt, of Nebraska: Two direct hits on a large destroyer. Superstructure entirely blown away.

Second-Lieutenant Charles Howe, of Ventura, California: Two bombs dropped on large transport. One hit

seemed to blow up amidships. Left in sinking condition.

First-Lieutenant Gordon McCoun, New York City: Two direct hits on 8,000-ton transport. Left in sinking position.

First-Lieutenant Donald McNut, of Shannon, Illinois: Two direct hits on deck of cruiser or large destroyer. Heavy dark smoke rising to 500 feet.

Second-Lieutenant Keith McKee, of Mitchell, South Dakota: Two direct hits on 5,000-ton transport.

First-Lieutenant Hyman Reid, of High Point, North Carolina: One direct hit 3,000-ton to 5,000-ton transport.

First-Lieutenant Robert Reed, of Decorah, Iowa: Two direct hits amidships 5,000-ton transport.

First-Lieutenant John Shisa, of New Orleans: Strafing with 800 .50 calibre shells.

First-Lieutenant Ray Moore, of Texas: Two direct hits on 5,000-ton transport.

Major Edward Lerner, of San Francisco: One direct hit and one near miss on cruiser. Badly damaged, seen rolling sidewise. One direct hit 4,000 to 5,000-ton transport. Burst into flames and sank.

Every man in this squadron but one got at least one hit on different ships.

Captain Robert Chitt had only been promoted from first-lieutenant the same day and he certainly justified his lift-up.

Grim Reapers' success in Bismarck Sea was widely heralded. Story in Brisbane paper at left itemized the destruction wrought by Third Group men. The battle was a severe blow to Japanese military might and sent an electric spark of hope surging through the United Nations.



The Mubo Valley—Here Allied and Japanese troops fought severe and prolonged battles culminating in the capture of Salamaua. Grim Reapers lent close ground support, accounted for hundreds of Japs.

MacClellan. Once again they knew that the "big stuff" was coming down, intent on a desperate reinforcement of the beleaguered New Guinea garrison. The Mitchells attacked two destroyers five miles off the cape, flying through a hail of anti-aircraft fire, and a swarm of determined Zero fighters. Both destroyers were reduced to twisted, burning metal, the ranks of the Zeros were decimated. And as the roster of great soldiers is prepared, put down the names of the hundred men led by Colonel Donald Hall that stretched the operative limit of their Mitchell aircraft to strike at Wewak on the 17th and 18th August. Across the waste of the New Guinea mainland flew the airmen of the Mitchells to destroy 196 aircraft, to sink three vessels and damage others. Add names such as these to the roster—Captain Phil Hawkins, Major Jim Downs, Sergeant Woodrow Butler, Flight Officer Jack Harrington—and many other names—American names that might have been a baseball team, but it was a desperate game they played. Enumerate these names, too, as the honored roll is sounded: Lieutenant Bob Widener, Sergeant Jim Lefler, Sergeant Francis Monahan. They gave their lives at Hansa Bay on 28th August when the terror of low-level attack was introduced to the little men with the clear-cut destinies.

Sweeping in over the coconut fringe of the harbor the Grim Reapers made their attack,

Terribly torn and foundering badly, one of two Jap destroyers caught by the Third Group off Cape Gloucester prepares to sink beneath the sea.



bombing and strafing whatever they found. Many vessels, dotting the harbor that day, were left as isolated masses of flame, and conflagrations from the shore indicated the damage done there to fuel and ammunition dumps. And remember the names of men who scored their hits at Hansa Bay: Captain Curtis Payson, Lieutenant Phil Patton, Captain Ed Sounhein, Sergeant Mike Kischkum, Sergeant Harry Kiser, Lieutenant Vernon Vinson. Remember their names, for it was men like these that, through the four months to come, hurled thousands of tons of explosives on the enemy bastions of Wewak and Hansa Bay in an attempt to neutralize these bases.

Grim Reapers Visit Wewak

Yanks Catch Japs Napping; Destroy Great Air Fleet

THREE of them collected the good body of the enemy in the recent months... (The rest of the text in this block is small and mostly illegible due to the image quality.)

caught with their party down.

Yank magazine told story of sensational Third Group attack on Wewak. Nearly 200 grounded aircraft were destroyed.

In September 1943 it could be clearly seen that the tide was turning as new landings were made on the south coast of Huon Peninsula and American paratroops dropped from the skies over the Markham Valley. The balance of power was changing, and the scales were affected by weight in bombs and ammunition as the Grim Reapers swept the trenches at 50 feet. The grimy, sweating Ninth Division Aussie looked up from his muddy trench in Huon's jungle and saw them . . . four men in a Mitchell, a cumbersome, shark-faced demon, spitting fire at his enemy, and he smiled through the dust and stubble. The little man with the star on his helmet, the cringing figure on the opposite side of the river, too, looked up, and died as lead spit from the shark's



Secure behind a smoke screen laid down by Grim Reapers, American troops parachute into Nadzab, sealing in the enemy at Lae.

teeth. Add to the roster that Grim Reaper crew: Captain Dick Ellis, Lieutenant Bill Pearson, Sergeant Julius Miller, Corporal Bill Coleman, and all the other crews that sowed the seeds of death that felled the bastion of Lae. Add the names of the men that did unheralded, undramatic jobs such as the smoke-laying mission of 5th September that immersed American paratroops in a veil of mystery while they seized the strip at Nadzab. Put down the names of Lieutenant Ed Montagano, Captain Charlie Mayo, Corporal Harold Pelo—inscribe the names of the rest of them, faithful, conscientious men, doing their jobs, be they sensational or routine.

Then on the morning of 27th September the Grim Reapers again ranged far afield to Wewak, growing Japanese base, where a harbor full of enemy merchantmen lay waiting. Three Mitchell squadrons took off from their base that morning, one to rake the harbor of Wewak, another to probe the straits between Kairiru and Muschu Islands and adjacent waters for any shipping anchored there. The third was to sweep into Muschu Harbor, an attack designed to remove all shipping from that base and to discourage the amassing of equipment for the Wewak garrison. Coming in at minimum altitude the Mitchells sprayed the harbor with gunfire as tons of high explosives wrought havoc among the vessels that had no opportunity to scurry in evasion. The anti-aircraft fire was intense, from vessels in the harbor, from the strong defenses on Wewak Peninsula, from the airdromes, and from the two islands to the northwest. A solid wall of fire had to be penetrated to enter the target area. Fighter defense was also there, though the belated Japanese scarcely had time to lift their wheels from the ground at Boram and Wewak dromes before the tornado of steel and fire struck in all its fury. Four merchantmen and a tanker, together with heterogeneous small craft were left burning, broken hulks. Four enemy aircraft fell before the guns of the Mitchells. A scene of devastation was left at Wewak as victorious squadrons, with some

aircraft crippled, but carrying on, departed down the New Guinea coast. Near Murik Lagoon one of the Mitchells fell behind, mortally wounded, and a flash of flame in the jungle was the memorial of four men. Remember their names: Lieutenant Wayne Berta, Lieutenant Miles Green, Sergeant Cliff Hall, Sergeant Lloyd Popwell—they gave their lives and swelled the growing ranks of gallantry. And remember, too, Lieutenant Walter Lee; the gods were with him as 7.7 mm. fire from a Japanese position ripped through his plane to break in two the pistol in his shoulder holster, the gun saving his life but not preventing painful wounds. Trace these names on the plaque of honor: Lieutenant Keith McKee, Lieutenant Roland Nelson, Lieutenant G. W. Kylius, Sergeant D. W. Carpenter, Private J. Gulli—they gave their lives, but not until two vessels had been sunk and buildings destroyed on shore. Add to these the names of leaders: Captain Raymond Wilkins, Major David Conley, Captain Don MacClellan; theirs was the courage to face the wall of fire in leadership of their squadrons; theirs were the steady hands that never swerved or wavered.

Rabaul—Step One

First in the Southwest Pacific, first to blast the outpost stronghold of Lae, first in low-level attack, the Grim Reapers led again on 12th October when three Mitchell squadrons struck at fortress Rabaul to blast a dangerous naval air force being concentrated there. The target was Rapopo Airdrome on the southern shore of Blanche Bay, the newest of the Rabaul airstrips. It was a major bomber base from which the enemy could, and did, strike tellingly at the Allies in the Solomons and New Guinea. The attack was so planned that the runway and re-ventment areas on both sides of it were to be covered with devastating fire and a hail of para-

chute-borne fragmentation bombs, an attack designed to destroy every aircraft hidden among the coconut trees of the plantation through which Rapopo had been cut by the enemy. Other lucrative targets, such as personnel, fuel and supply dumps were scattered throughout this plantation, hidden beneath the umbrella of palms, but not immune to modern lightning from 50 feet. Forty-one Mitchell bombers, nearly 200 air-minded young men, took off that morning to circle over the rendezvous point of Gona Wreck, to form their perfect V-of-Vs, a graceful diagram against the background of the sky. With a roar of sixty thousand horses, modern birds headed into the sun to reap a new and greater harvest. Put down the names of the crew of that leading bomber: Colonel Donald Hall, Flight Officer Abraham Shook, Sergeant Tom Kratz, Sergeant Bob Daems, Lieutenant Lawrence Lowery, inscribe that pilot's name—Lieutenant John Baldwin . . . the co-pilot beside him—Lieutenant George Thomas.

Again on 24th October, the Mitchells returned to Rapopo. This time the enemy was waiting, and when the bombers were winging over Kabanga Plantation there was heroism in the skies as the unswerving formation returned the attackers' fire. Men died over Rapopo that day, victims of enemy bullets, cremations in their own aircraft as they found their glory in a crash. Remember the gunners that fought off the swarms around them, the men whose staccato fire was a comfort to those who relied on them for life . . . men like Sergeant Joe Berube, who died at his guns, Corporal Bill Schnekenburger, Sergeant Mike Kischkum. Put down Lieutenant Dick Greenhalgh and Lieutenant Bill Mackey. While still many miles from their target both were wounded by enemy fighters, their bomber rendered almost unserviceable by the vicious fire from all quarters. Yet that Mitchell flew through the fire of the Rapopo defences to accurately place its bombs in the target. And remember Lieutenant Bob Miller, Lieutenant Bob Hale, and their gunners, Sergeants Glendon Harris and Joe Berube. And remember, too, that Japanese fighter, the inspired fanatic who found a doubt-



Flaming Jap ships lie helpless in Rabaul Harbor after the Grim Reapers had made their run. Cruiser in foreground is desperately heading for open sea to escape destruction.

ful glory in crashing his plane into Bob Miller's Mitchell, bringing death to his enemy and himself.

The two raids on Rapopo left an impressive score, a tale of destruction which told of many aircraft on Rapopo destroyed, fires in supply dumps choked with food, petrol, weapons of war, and parts for aircraft, dead men sprawled on Rapopo Airdrome, little men who died while madly eluding the terror of the forward firing guns of forty Mitchell bombers. The accounts of the heroism of these days live with us, the courage in face of fire, the nonchalance of men who saw their target through a vista of streaking tracers. The challenge was out to the enemy, one that forewarned their certain doom as time went on.

Rabaul—Step Two

In the latter months of 1943 the foundation was laid for the complete neutralization of Rabaul, the major Japanese outpost in the Southwest Pacific. One of the best harbors in the Pacific, Rabaul had been, since January 1942, the chief supply center and naval and air base

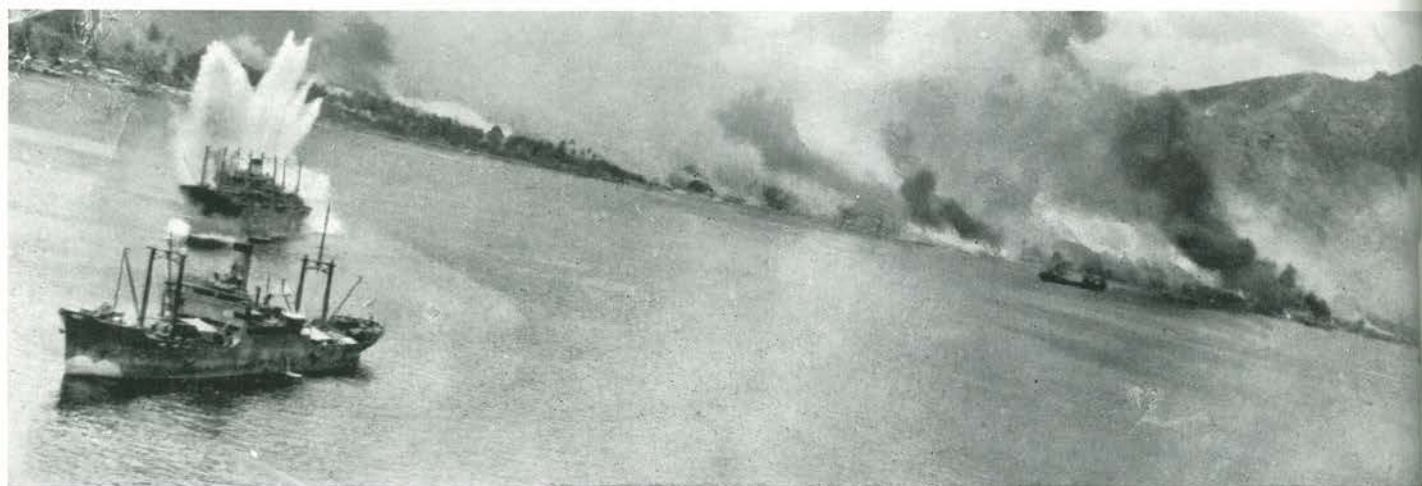
Attack on Rapopo Drome, Rabaul. Circled plane is Jap bomber trying to escape. Grim Reapers shot it down.



for operations against the Solomon Islands and Australia. Skilful planning called for the neutralization of this base through concentrated air attack from the Army forces of the Southwest Pacific and the naval power in the Solomons. When this was accomplished a combined naval and air blockade was to prevent the enemy from ever again using to any advantage the excellent port or the extensive airdrome facilities, thus crippling the Japanese nerve center of the south and opening the way to more northerly advances.

So, on the 2nd November, the greatest blow of all was struck, a low-level bombing and strafing attack on Simpson Harbor at Rabaul, a blow that sent to the bottom 104,000 tons of naval and merchant shipping in the crowded semi-circle of the port of Rabaul. Again, co-ordination and

already maneuvering to evade the bombardment from the sky. Anti-aircraft gunners on the vessels stood ready, and Simpson Harbor was ringed with living steel through which the Mitchells flew. The limited area of Rabaul's bowl became a chaotic scene of confusion, smoke, and flame as aircraft poured through the gap to dip into the mass of shipping and rise again to ascend the mountains to the west. The planes were forced to range out in individual combat, making each of them a vulnerable target for the hail of anti-aircraft shells directed at them by the naval gunners. Each pilot selected his ship, and the Mitchells flew over the harbor in grim pursuit of the madly maneuvering naval vessels and fat, inviting merchantmen and transports. Put down the names of these men: Major John Henebry,



The shoreline of Rabaul Harbor is a crackling inferno from end to end. On the left a freighter-transport shudders under the impact of a 1000 pound bomb.

surprise were weapons of steel, and nine squadrons of Mitchells swooped in over the Nordup Gap between the towering peaks called the Mother and the Daughter, some to attack the city and blind the enemy with screens of smoke, the Grim Reapers to assault the vessels in the harbor. Two enemy destroyers off Gredner Island spotted the formations sweeping up St George's Channel and immediately alerted the naval defences in the harbor. When the bombers swept down over Rabaul and lined their sights on the funnels and masts in the water beyond, naval vessels, including heavy and light cruisers, were

who hit two merchant vessels, fought his way through Japanese fighters, losing an engine and his hydraulic system, and flew his dying aircraft 200 miles to set it down in a watery grave off Kiriwina Island, close enough to save his crew; Lieutenant Ben Burgess who blew up a destroyer, Lieutenant Bob Murphy, who gave his life in the one-sided combat of one Mitchell against two heavy cruisers. Respectfully add the names: Lieutenant Bill Mackey, Lieutenant Jim McCann, Sergeant Harold Corbridge, Sergeant Tom Priddy, Sergeant Miles Rowe, Sergeant George Chamberlain, Lieutenant Howard Bunce. They gave their lives. And honor the name of Major Raymond Wilkins. He sacrificed his life to save the aircraft of his squadron from the murderous fire of two heavy cruisers by directing his bomber directly into the face of the torrent to divert and confuse the enemy gunners so that his fellow-men could pass with safety.

These flights to the Rabaul bastion, with their attendant thrills and dangers, were final, stellar performances for the Mitchells, for during November and December of 1943 they were replaced by the lighter, speedier Boston bomber, the famous A-20 that was to carry on the tradi-





This was Wewak. After months of relentless pounding, the former Jap bastion lies flattened. Half-sunken barges lie in shallow water. The township is a sea of mud and debris.

tions of Grim Reaper courage into new and lucrative fields. The old "workhorse" was discarded, not because of a lack of quality in it, but because future plans called for a bomber that was light for close ground support and thorough strafing and low-level bombing, an aircraft that was fast on the getaway and independent enough to be able to take care of itself against the minor anti-aircraft and fighter opposition that was beginning to characterize the Japanese defense effort. Two men in a Boston—that became a symbol to the enemy, as Kavieng, Hollandia, Wakde, Biak, Manokwari, Babo, Boela, and many others were to feel the sting of death. And these changes took place in December, a month when the Grim Reapers broke all their previous records in the number of sorties and missions flown and tonnage in bombs dropped. It was a hectic month, with Marines and Cavalry forces of the United States invading the island of New Britain at two points, Cape Gloucester and Arawe. These were forerunners of many new amphibious invasions that were to bring the war thousands of miles closer to Japan. On the early morning of 16th December, nine Mitchells circled off Amalut Plantation at Arawe, while below the sea was patterned by swiftly moving landing craft, screened by the maneuvering, vigilant destroyers. It was an efficient landing, reflecting the careful planning of commanders and the perfect co-operation of land-sea-air forces. None of the aircraft were lost, none of the vessels below were at any time in difficulties, and the opposition on shore was greatly decimated by the accurate naval bombardment and the terrorizing bombing and strafing of the Grim Reapers. The Mitchells went in on orders from the force commander, bombed and strafed

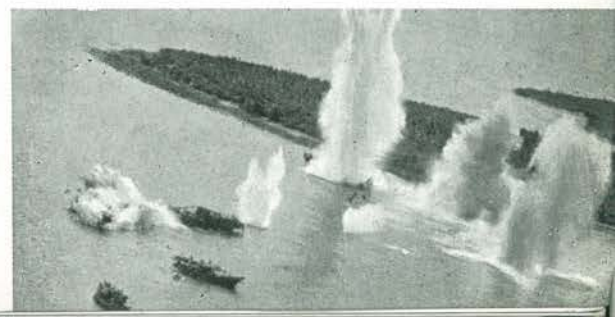


Pounded into a soggy pulp, Gasmata presented this picture after twenty months of continuous bombing, culminating, finally, in the outflanking landing on Cape Gloucester.

accurately, and winged to the west with a job well done. A typical piece of routine work, but it characterized the synchronized efficiency with which these airmen did their work. Put down such names as these, men who did their jobs at Arawe, men whom the Cavalrymen who seized that peninsula will not soon forget. Names such as these: Lieutenant Donald Lees, Sergeant John Kiniry, Sergeant Charlie Ruth, Lieutenant Charlie Smith, Lieutenant Nat Gunter, and many other names, typifying the thorough training of American men, a tradition of striving for perfection exemplified by the ease with which they did their job. And then remember the Christmas celebration of 26th December, when the Grim Reapers supported the landing of the First Marine Division on Cape Gloucester, a bold thrust into the private Japanese waters of the Bismarck Archipelago, in the shadow of Rabaul. Put down the names of men who strafed the Gloucester beaches: Lieutenant David Herrin,

Death of a Grim Reaper. At Hansa Bay the hazards of low-level bombing are graphically illustrated. An over-anxious Grim Reaper follows too closely on the path of the plane that preceded him and receives the full blast

of his bombs. Part of the wing is ripped off and the plane tossed over on its back. In the final photograph of this tragic sequence, the stricken craft strikes the water and is dashed to pieces. The entire crew was instantly killed.





Lined up in an orderly row at Kavieng, Jap floatplanes presented a tempting target for visiting Third Group men. Third plane from top is already burning.

Sergeant Manuel Nevares, Lieutenant Joe Shaltz, Lieutenant Fred Potter, and many other names—the men whose guns the enemy could not escape.

In the midst of the shedding of blood, the sparkle of humanism glimmered through the clouds of war as men remembered a holiday spirit at New Year. Colonel John Henebry remembered, and on the ridges of Cape Gloucester a Marine officer was alone in the mad vortex of battle, and John Henebry wanted him to remember, too. A bottle of good Scotch whiskey, somehow transmitted to this Marine, would help him celebrate, and it remained for the resourceful Henebry to get it to him. The precious cargo was wrapped in sponge rubber, packed in a strong wooden box and attached to the parachute from a fragmentation bomb. It was duly marked "safe-hand" and addressed to Marine Lieutenant Farrell, and dropped from minimum altitude in the best manner of attack; bombs on a pin-pointed position.

The first of the many amphibious operations of 1944 took place at Saidor, a small emergency landing ground on the Rai Coast of New Guinea. It was a movement designed to provide the Allies with a forward airfield and to trap the retreating Japanese forces being pursued around the Huon Peninsula by the Australian forces from Finschhafen. It was morning, the second day of January. Clouds hung over the Rai Coast, pressing down on the shore that was the goal of the blunt-nosed landing craft coming in out of the weather. A few Boston bombers showed their friendly faces through the overcast, snorted a greeting to the men below, and ducked back into the blanket of grey—their ominous roar was a comfort to the crouching infantrymen.

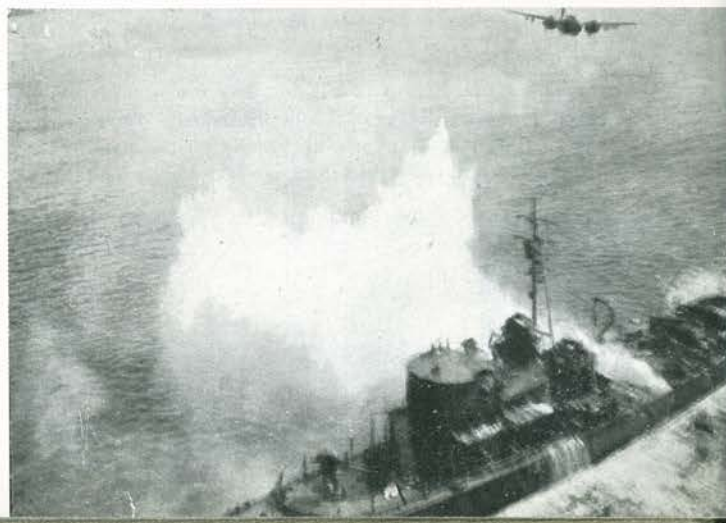
They remembered, and let us remember, these men: names such as these—Captain Ted Fitch, Lieutenant Ansel Boiter, Corporal Don Gamage, Sergeant Otto Jungman, Sergeant Charlie Edwards . . . and many other names, men who flew through the solid front at 6 o'clock in the morning to cover the Saidor landing.

And on the Bogadjim Road, through chasms, and over peaks, through a cloud here and the stinging chatter of a machine gun there, they sowed their high explosives from the Ramu Valley to the sea, a lifeline for the remnants fighting on Shaggy Ridge. Day after day during that January offensive, the Grim Reapers dipped into canyons, twisted past the shoulders of mountains, directing their deadly fire and bombardment at the roadway on the edge of the cliffs. There were truck convoys to harass, troops to bomb, and bridges to knock out, difficult work in close quarters, diving between peaks with just enough room to pull the protesting aircraft over the heights beyond. This was the work done by the Grim Reapers, men such as these—and remember their names—Lieutenant H. D. Brown, Captain Lynn Roberts, Sergeant Billy Darling, Lieutenant Dave Sigismund, Corporal Irving Glick, Lieutenant Woody Keyes . . . and many other names, names that are inscribed today as craters on the ridges and defiles of the Bogadjim Road.

Kavieng

And farther and farther afield they flew, searching beyond horizons for soft spots in the imperial make-up of their enemy. They found their soft spot on 15th February on the north tip of New Ireland where the Japanese had established a major airbase at Kavieng, second only to Rabaul. Kavieng was known to airmen of the Southwest Pacific as a hotspot of anti-aircraft fire, a target reserved for cautious nocturnal calls from high altitude. The airfield, the town, and the sides of the harbor were dotted with lethal weapons, designed to protect the base against any attack at any altitude. But they went in at low level that morning of the 15th, 35 Bos-

Its decks awash and its superstructure blazing, a Jap gunboat lies helpless off Kavieng, as a Grim Reaper comes in for the kill and drops his bombs.





Fragmentation bombs parachute onto Hollandia Drome, while lone Jap next to gas truck frantically hugs the ground. Complete surprise of the attack caught many Japs out of bomb shelters.

tons, and shipping in Kavieng Harbor was the target for the day. Kavieng Harbor was a formidable target. It was flanked on the west by Nusa and Nusalik Islands, on the east by the New Ireland mainland. Both these flanks were covered with guns trained to rake any intruder with murderous fire. But a blow at this shelter for supply vessels to the Bismarck Archipelago was a strike at the vitals of the enemy, and the end justified the losses. The ships in the harbor were sunk, the dock installations were destroyed and the floatplanes of Kavieng seaplane base were left in flames. But a price was paid, and the names of the men who died over Kavieng that day must be remembered—typical Grim Reapers, they were, these men—Lieutenant Bill Pearson, Sergeant Don Gamage, Sergeant Louis Conser, Lieutenant Sam Norris. The world shall never forget. And all future missions were echoes of the first low-level attack on Kavieng, that prototype of future attack which was pioneered by such men as these: Lieutenant Saul Schwartz, Lieutenant Don Dower, Sergeant Paul Willock, Corporal Harold Sonnabend, Corporal George Newcomb, and many other men who led the way.



A Grim Reaper cameraman looked back after a strafing run and recorded this scene of destruction at Hollandia Drome. Liberators, Mitchells and Bostons participated in this great operation.

Go back to two days before, 13th February, when once again the Grim Reapers led in a "first", the initial low-level attack on the new airdrome at Tadj, New Guinea. At Tadj, the enemy had contrived to build a base of threatening proportions, and it was necessary to discourage this effort. Seventeen Japanese aircraft were destroyed that day, four vessels were left in flames and the enemy lost their grip on the plains of Tadj. The Grim Reapers led the way for others to follow in the relentless aerial warfare that furrowed the New Guinea pathway to the northwest. Men such as these blazed a pioneers' trail: Sergeant Eugene Spence, Lieutenant Stanley Kline, Sergeant Ed Parish, Lieutenant Howard Baker, and many others like them who winged their way in parabolic grace to bomb and strafe the strip at Tadj. And remember the courage of Lieutenant Bill Pearson, who was to find his obit in a flash of flame over Kavieng two days later. Taking off later than the rest of his squadron on the mission to Tadj, he was unable to overtake the formation. Most men would have returned to base if in such a predicament as this, but not Bill Pearson. He had to make his contribution that day. When he couldn't find the formation he decided to wage warfare alone. He flew over to Wewak and Boram, the centre of Japanese air concentrations at this time and a redoubtable nest of anti-aircraft defense, where he audaciously strafed both strips in a mad sweep that brought four Japanese fighters on his tail.

Hollandia Holocaust

The next six months were centered around an outpost of civilization, Hollandia, on Humboldt Bay, across the border in Dutch New Guinea. Before the Pacific war, this settlement was little-known and had a hinterland that was noted only for its mystery and lack of exploration. But

Its bomb-bay doors yawning wide, a Boston pulls up sharply after attacking shipping.





Equipment unloading on beach. Ground men performed magnificently in most difficult move in Reaper history.

enemy occupation had changed the face of Hollandia. Three major airfields had sprung up on the plains between the lake of Sentani and the Cyclops Mountains. Ships filled the harbor at Humboldt Bay, as Japanese navies anchored where once the prahus plied their trades. As a base it grew in proportions, but the armada of 400 brightly shining airplanes never served their purpose before the seeds of hatred reduced them to shells of burned metal. Decidedly the enemy was not prepared for the holocaust that caught



Runway on Noemfoor Island is rendered unserviceable. These attacks prevented Jap planes from using strips while American troops landed.

them with their "planes down" during April, a red-letter month for Hollandia. During that period of thirty days the air force reduced the enemy aerial fleet to pitiful nothingness. The Grim Reapers proved to them what they had refused to believe—that they were well within range of the striking power of low-level, strafing bombers—and the base was occupied by General MacArthur's ground forces against virtually no opposition at all.

On the 3rd of the month, four squadrons of Grim Reapers took off to fly the 1100-mile trip to bomb and strafe the Japanese Air Force at Hollandia. Already Fifth Air Force Liberators had been over the target, dropping fragmentation bombs on the closely-crowded airdromes. The Grim Reapers cruised in over the hills surrounding Sentani Lake to "low-level" what the heavies left for them. The inferno resulting was one to delight a modern Dante, as Japanese planes made funeral pyres as far as the eye could see. And these were the type of men who laid waste the coward's might of an air force that never flew: Major Chuck Howe, Sergeant Fred Krause, Sergeant Manuel Nevares, Lieutenant Frank Dixon, Captain Bob Dow, Lieutenant Walter Maddux, Major Ken Rosebush, Sergeant Herbert Hansford, and many other names. Sergeant Fred Smith paid with his life when a 20 mm. shell caught him in the chest. Other aircraft flew back to base with badly shattered control surfaces.

Again on 12th April the Grim Reapers went forth to remove the shipping from Hollandia Bay in one final and deadly sweep. The features of the bay presented a difficult target, for ships could be hidden throughout the coves and under the cliffs that discourage low-level attack. In this strike the versatility of the Boston bomber was demonstrated again as 44 of them swept in over Humboldt Bay to rake ships, shore installations, Hollandia town, and anything else that came within their gunsights. They left a scene of desolation, with the town in flames, the keels of vessels in Hollandia Bay turned to the skies, and fuel dumps flaming. Put down these names as the heroes of the day: Captain Vernon Vinson, Sergeant Harry Kiser, Captain John Baldwin, Sergeant Murrell Hazel, Lieutenant Horace Monroe, Sergeant Paul Willock, Captain John Dean, Lieutenant Bill Tallon . . . and many other Grim Reapers of the same type of stuff that blasted to the death everything Japanese that they could find that day.

On 22nd April American forces landed simultaneously at Tanahmerah Bay, Humboldt Bay, and the beaches at Aitape. The mobility of modern warfare was brilliantly demonstrated as United States infantry swept over the hills guarding Sentani Lake to swoop down upon the major Hollandia airdromes with little trouble and complete efficiency. This operation surpassed anything like it in the Southwest Pacific for the ease with which it was accomplished, and within a few weeks the Grim Reapers were operating from Hollandia strip. The sight that

At Manokwari, Third Attack Group Bostons pulverize dock installations.



Flaming oil tanks dot the fields of Boela. The opportunity to strike an industrial target delighted Grim Reapers.



greeted them at Hollandia was more than the systematic destruction by these airmen—it was an upheaval—it was the greatest loss the Japanese had suffered in New Guinea. Simmering in the blue of midday were the ravaged wrecks of 400 Japanese warplanes, new, shiny planes that had never been used and had fallen victims to American bombs and bullets. And these were the Commanders that brought their squadrons to Hollandia. Remember the leaders, for it was their fortitude that made it possible for the Grim Reapers to move to a newly conquered forward base and undertake more missions than they had ever flown in a comparable time limit before. Remember these names: Colonel John Henebry, Major Chuck Howe, Major Alfred Baucom, Major Bob Dow, and Captain Gerald Prokopovitz. They were the substratum of a great offensive that was to have its culmination in an assault on the Philippine Islands.

Manokwari, Biak Island, Babo, Kokas, Boela, Noemfoor, and others became the targets for the Grim Reapers after they established themselves at Hollandia airbase. From the shores of Sentani Lake the Bostons arose to carry out their missions, sweeping the length of the Dutch New Guinea coast, bewildering and defeating an already psychologically beaten enemy. For the next three months they were busy neutralizing the airdromes in western Dutch New Guinea, supporting new amphibious landings, and searching out shipping in Geelvink Bay. They culminated this offensive with a long-range strike at the Boela oilfields on Ceram Island on 14 July 1944. On this day four squadrons of airmen took off to fly the first low-level attack on an industrial target in the Southwest Pacific and one of the longest over-water flights for this type of aircraft. Great damage was done at the Boela oilfields that day. Leaving behind them the plains of

Boela flowing with burning oil these airmen could consider their job well done: Captain Craig Krayenbuhl, Sergeant Calvin Reed, Sergeant Jim Atkinson, Lieutenant Horace Monroe, Sergeant Joe Sibilia, Sergeant Morris Ether-ton, Colonel Richard Ellis, Sergeant Cornel Biskupski, Sergeant John Shemelyence, and many other men. And remember Captain George Greene, Lieutenant Steve Festini, Lieutenant Frank Pilgrim, Sergeant Leonard Parsons, Sergeant George Rossome who bombed and strafed Ransiki drome, destroying many airplanes there. Sergeant Don Ross, Sergeant Dick Blake, Lieutenant Roger Strasburg, Lieutenant Bill Rupert; these men dared the formidable anti-aircraft defenses of Babo to destroy aircraft and warehouses there. Sergeant Bill Schneckenburger, Sergeant Al Lockwood, Sergeant Hurchel Chapin, Lieutenant John Trzaskowski, Captain Wallace Wright, Lieutenant Bob Dunkel who disrupted and sank the ships in Manokwari Harbor. Captain Andy Weigel, Sergeant Santos Candia, Captain Phil Patton, Lieutenant Ed Suoer, Lieutenant Walter King, Sergeant Harold Sonnabend and other Grim Reapers who strafed the enemy planes on Kamiri Drome. The lists of names could go on, and so could the saga of heroism, for all of them gave full measure of their ability and courage in defense of their country.

And now new horizons are inviting the Grim Reapers. They are eager to be on the offensive, and the future promises to be full of adventure and thrills for them. In the glory of the sweeping offensive operations, as we have them today, it is hard to recall past heroisms, but men must never forget the greatest of them all . . . those who fought so bravely in the early days of the war when they were so few against so many, and when future Grim Reapers go roaring in on their targets that spirit of their honored predecessors shall go riding along.

At Manokwari, four small freighters squat wearily in shallow water after successful attack by low-flying A-20s.



The Years Before

The 3rd Bombardment Group was born at Kelly Field, Texas on 1 July 1919 as the Army Surveillance Group. On the broad and dusty Texas plains and over the rolling hills these early airmen received their training and laid the groundwork for careers that were to be tales of glory. The group was organized because of anti-



The old 104th Aero Squadron, later incorporated into the Third Group. They served in the St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne campaigns.



France, 1918. Early Grim Reapers uneasy took to the air in crates like these.

cipated action on the Mexican border at this time.

The 8th, 13th, 90th, and 104th Aero Squadrons, forerunners of the group, were in active service in France during World War I, and during the limited operations played by air power during this time many heroes, nevertheless, emerged and a chronicle of gallantry is their story of the war.

On 13 August 1919 the group, while stationed at Kelly Field, was redesignated as the 1st Surveillance Group. On 13 October 1919 the 12th Aero Squadron was assigned to the group. This group was sent to the Mexican border for patrol duty, using during this service DH-4-B aircraft. Their tenure of duty on this frontier lasted until 2 July 1921.

On 13 September 1921 the group and squadrons were redesignated as attack units, and the purpose of the organization ever since has been one of attack. At this time the 26th Squadron was assigned to the group.

Barksdale Field, La.—1936.

Third Attack Group, Flying Cyclone-powered Curtiss A-12's, Wins Colombian Safety Trophy

GREATEST safety in flying is the aim of every aircraft organization—commercial or military. To reduce accidents to a minimum three things are required: well-trained personnel; possession of sound, judgmental and directed by experienced executives; modern aircraft equipped with the latest flying aids and dependable engines. The Third Attack Group of the Army G. H. Q. Air Force, commanded by Colonel Earl L. Ninken, and stationed at Barksdale Field, near Shreveport, Louisiana, had all three requisites, made the most of them during the past year. As a result it is now the proud possessor of one of the Air Corps' most coveted awards—the Colombian Trophy presented annually to the Air Corps group which, during the preceding fiscal year, is credited with the smallest number of accidents per flying hour.



THE COLOMBIAN TROPHY. Superimposed on a photograph of a Curtiss A-12 Attack.

evaluation with appropriate ceremonies on December 9, 1936.

The Third Attack Group is equipped entirely with high-speed Curtiss A-12 attack planes powered with 500 to 800 H.P. Wright Cyclone engines. Designed for high performance at sea level, they are capable

of knocking down an adversary in times of war and cutting wide swathes in enemy ranks with high-powered machine guns enclosed within their impermeable wings.

The Colombian Trophy was presented to the Air Corps by the Republic of Colombia to further cement the spirit of friendship between the two American republics. It was brought to this country in 1935 at the time of the Miami Air Races by a delegate of Colombia's Army, headed by Major Mendez, a graduate of the United States Air Corps Training Center at San Antonio, Texas.

In announcing the award of the trophy this year to the Third Attack Group, the War Department said: "The rapid advances in speed and the greater complexity of modern military aircraft require unusual care by all those concerned with aviation to prevent accidents. It is most fitting that the organization which has achieved the greatest safety record should be publicly honored by the presentation of such a trophy."



The members of the Third Attack Group, stationed at Barksdale Field, Louisiana, when on December 9, 1936, received from Major General Edwin W. Ramey, Chief of Base, the Colombian Trophy, awarded annually to the Air Corps group which completes the fiscal year with the least number of accidents per flying hour.

In January 1922 the 1st Photo Section of the group was ordered to Fort Bliss where it remained until 16 October 1931. On 13 October 1931 the 5th Photo Section became assigned to the group. In 1924 two squadrons, the 13th and 26th, were placed on an inactive standing.

On 28 June 1926 the group left Kelly Field for its new station at Fort Crockett, Galveston, Texas. The two attack and the one service squadrons of the group were redesignated the Third Attack Group, Air Corps, on 8 August 1926.

During April 1929 a detachment of the 90th Squadron was on active duty on the Mexican frontier due to an internal revolution in northern Mexico. On 1 November 1929 the 13th Attack Squadron was placed on active status again and reassigned to the group. On the same date as the return of the 13th Squadron, the 3rd Attack Group band was formed at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. It was in service until 14 July 1932. On 14 February 1933, this group became responsible for the Central Zone of the Air Mail Service which they continued until 1 June 1934.

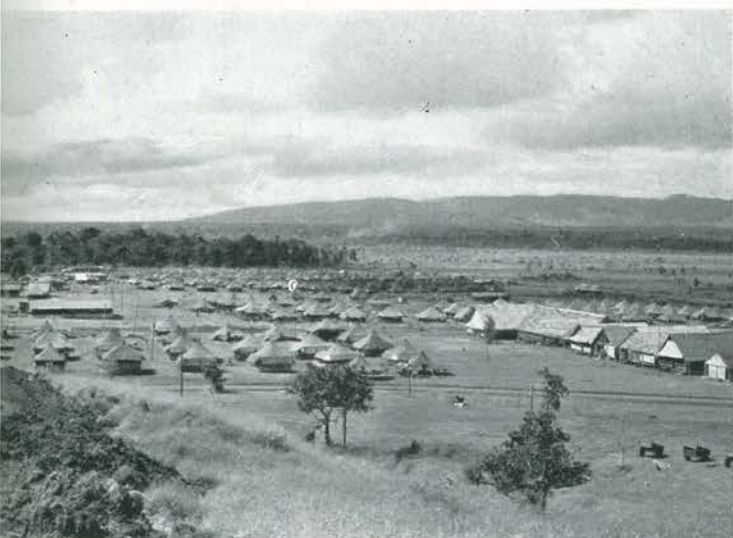
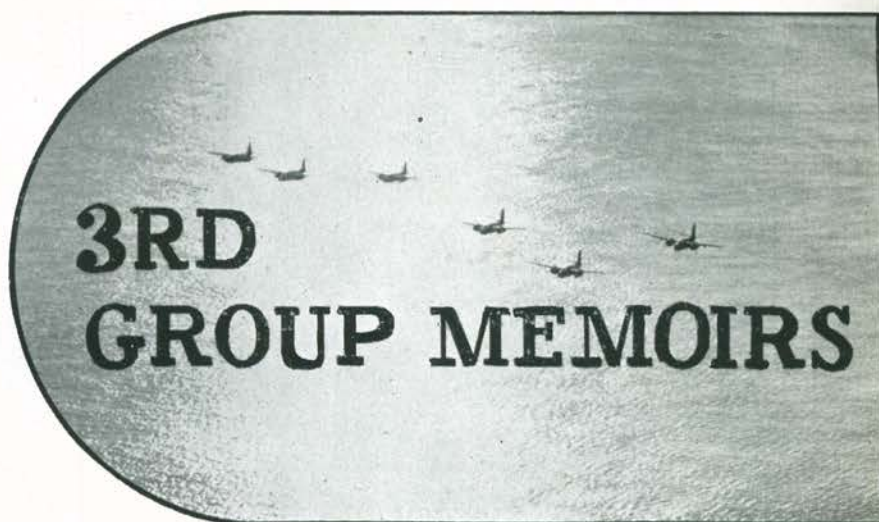
On 27 February 1935 the 3rd Attack Group was sent to Barksdale Field, Louisiana, for station duty and on 1 March was assigned as a unit of the 3rd Wing, G.H.Q. Air Force. For the next five years the group was to remain as a part of the 3rd Wing, becoming well-known members of the Shreveport, Louisiana environment. Here, as at all their stations, they were known as exemplary representatives of our new and growing offensive weapon, air power.

On 11th October 1940, the organization was sent to Savannah, Georgia. The 8th, 13th, 89th, and 90th Squadrons, comprising the 3rd Attack Group, remained at Savannah until Pearl Harbor, and then the Grim Reapers began girding their loins for war. Under the leadership of First Lieutenant Robert F. Strickland, the group departed for service in the Southwest Pacific in January 1942. Through the next two-and-a-half years the 3rd made history.

They're still at it.



Attack!



A.P.O. 713.



Trouble at Tadjj.

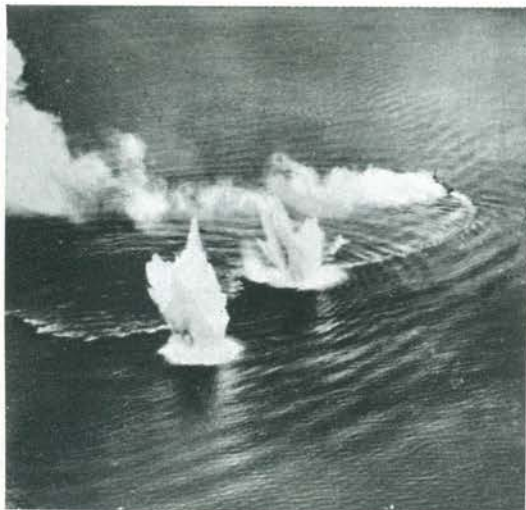


Bob Hope: humor—



Patty Thomas: . . . ! !





Kavieng—He didn't escape . . .



. . . nor did he at Hansa Bay.

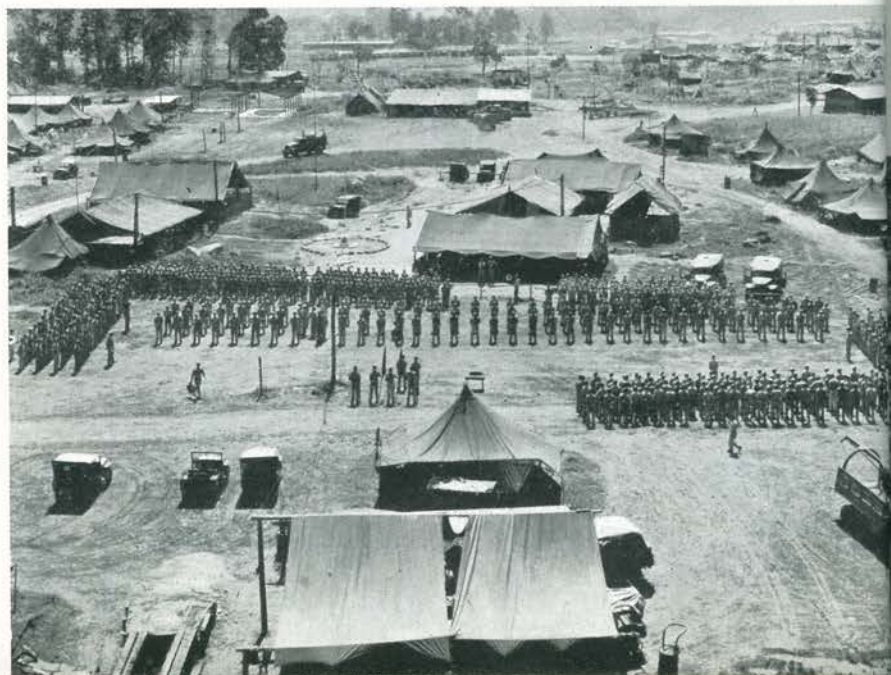


Original
ground
officers.



Did you say red alert?

Decoration ceremony at Hollandia.





Jap Dinah, rebuilt by Grim Reapers.



Mortimer—Old war horse.

YANK
DOWN UNDER

Grim Reapers

TAKE-OFF complete, on a 20 climb over a Dutch New Guinea base. Attack bombers such as this play a leading role in SWPA.

By Sgt. CHARLES PEARSON
YANK Staff Correspondent

DETAILS NEW GUINEA—In the mid-afternoon of the 15th, the Grim Reapers, as they are known, were in the air. They were on a mission to cut off the enemy's supply lines. The group was led by Capt. John C. Bickel, an experienced attack pilot from Florence, Ark. The group was made up of 10 P-40s, and the photographs were taken by Sgt. Sanford Canfield of Tipton, Ark.

Some 10 miles from the island we checked our instruments. The instruments from the support aircraft, however, indicated that we were still on the island. The instruments from the support aircraft, however, indicated that we were still on the island. The instruments from the support aircraft, however, indicated that we were still on the island.

Attack group airmen do a specialized job cutting off Jap supplies and ruining enemy installations as they help smooth the way for infantrymen making new Pacific landings.

The 4th moved off and headed in at the island under the watchful eyes of the air command. The group was led by Capt. Bickel, an experienced attack pilot from Florence, Ark. The group was made up of 10 P-40s, and the photographs were taken by Sgt. Sanford Canfield of Tipton, Ark.

One plane was more strikingly exposed. We were hit above the tail of the plane. The first plane was hit above the tail of the plane. The first plane was hit above the tail of the plane. The first plane was hit above the tail of the plane.

The first plane was hit above the tail of the plane. The first plane was hit above the tail of the plane. The first plane was hit above the tail of the plane. The first plane was hit above the tail of the plane.

Fame.

Wewak Ack-Ack.



Brig. Gen. F. H. Smith,
Lt. Col. "Pappy" Gunn.



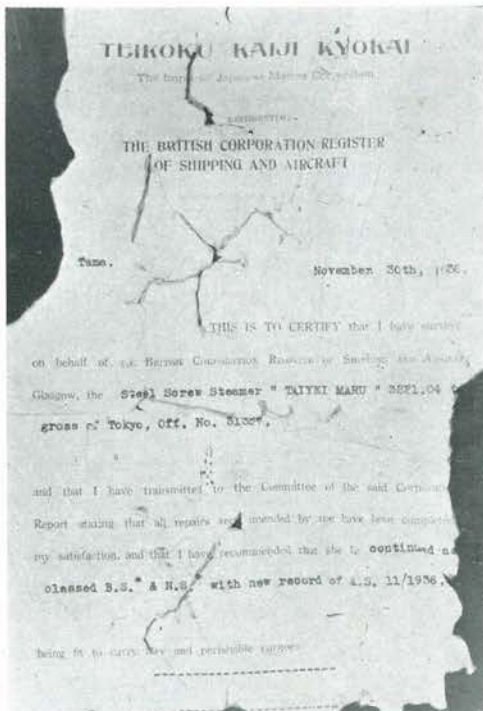
Muschu Harbor—The Japs called us arrogant.



Beauty . . .



. . . and the Beast.



Ship's register was blown into engine of Lt. Vukelic's Boston during bombing run, causing delight among Intelligence Officers.



Jungle Journalism.



Gen. "Ike" Eichelberger, 8th Army Chief.

Hollandia—Debacle would be understatement.





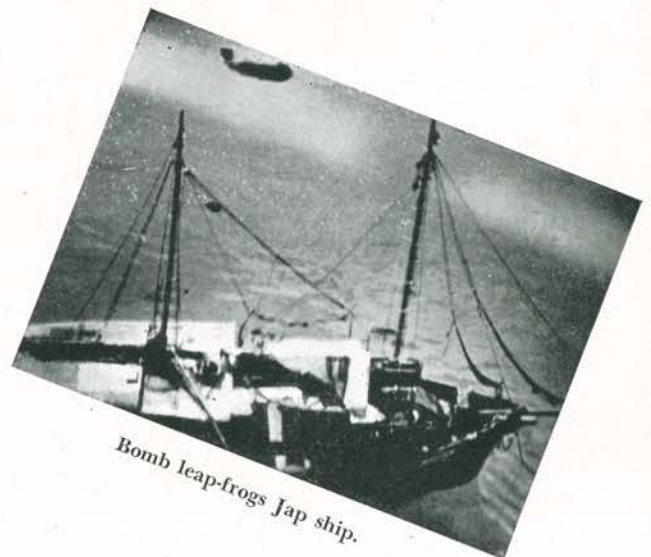
Scoreboard.



Gen. Kenney chats with Col. Ellis.



Japs thought swim at this time just the thing.



Bomb leap-frogs Jap ship.



Officers dance at Dobodura—a slight scarcity of nurses.





WACS arrive at 565.



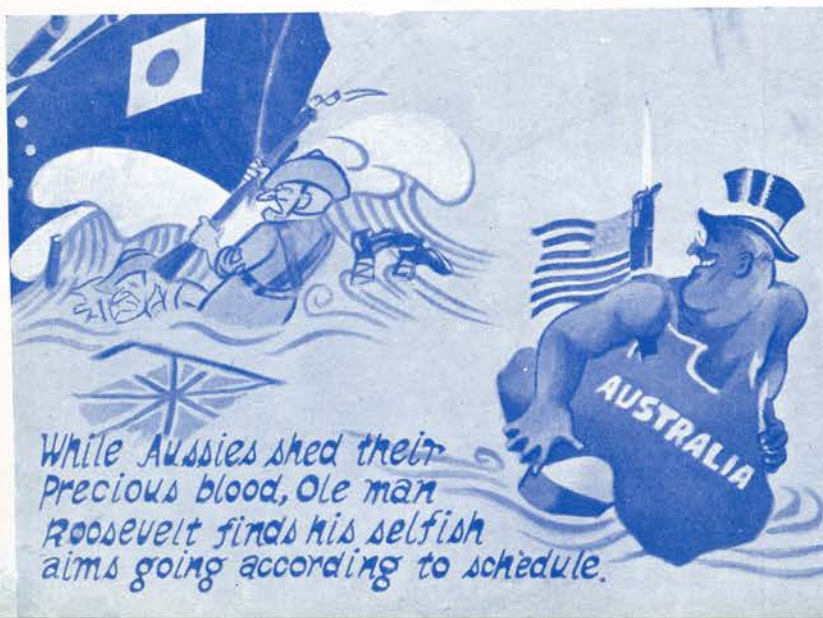
A.P.O. 565.



Jap propaganda . . .



. and even get nasty about it.



A Grim Reaper misses . . . sometimes.

HQ.



SQUADRON



Col. Richard H. Ellis, commanding.



Work Call.



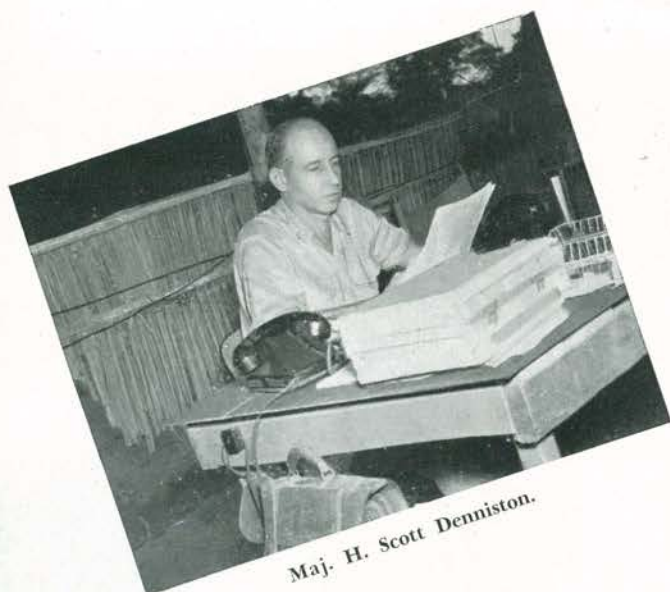
Lt. Col. C. P. Martin,
Executive Officer.



Lt. Col. C. W. Howe,
Deputy Commander.



Maj. O. P. Jones and M/Sgt. Plassman.



Maj. H. Scott Denniston.

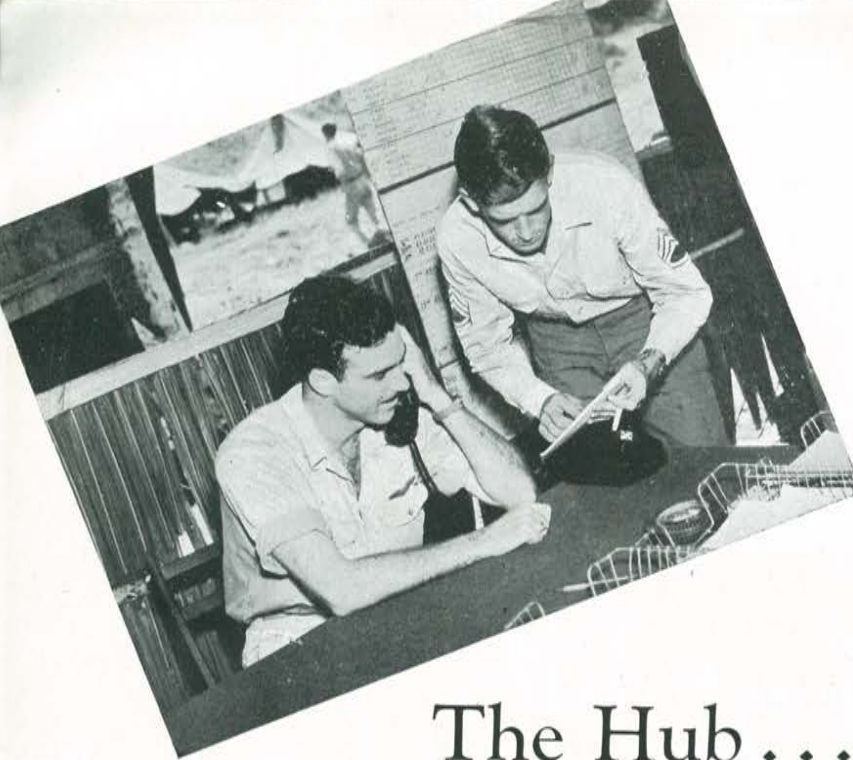
Capt. R. R. Downey.



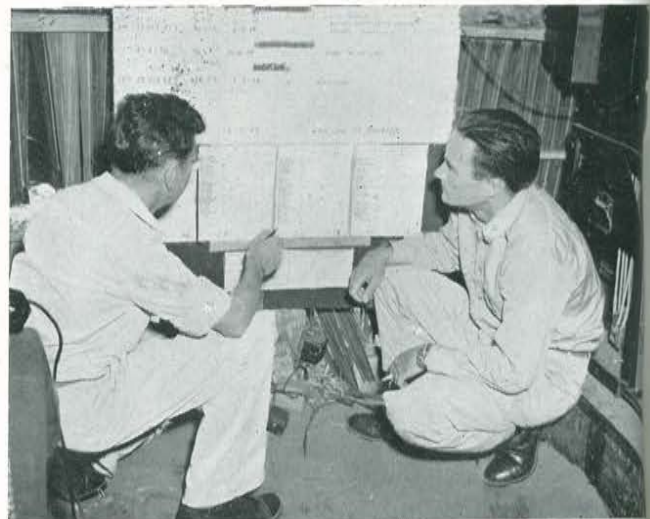


Cogs . . .

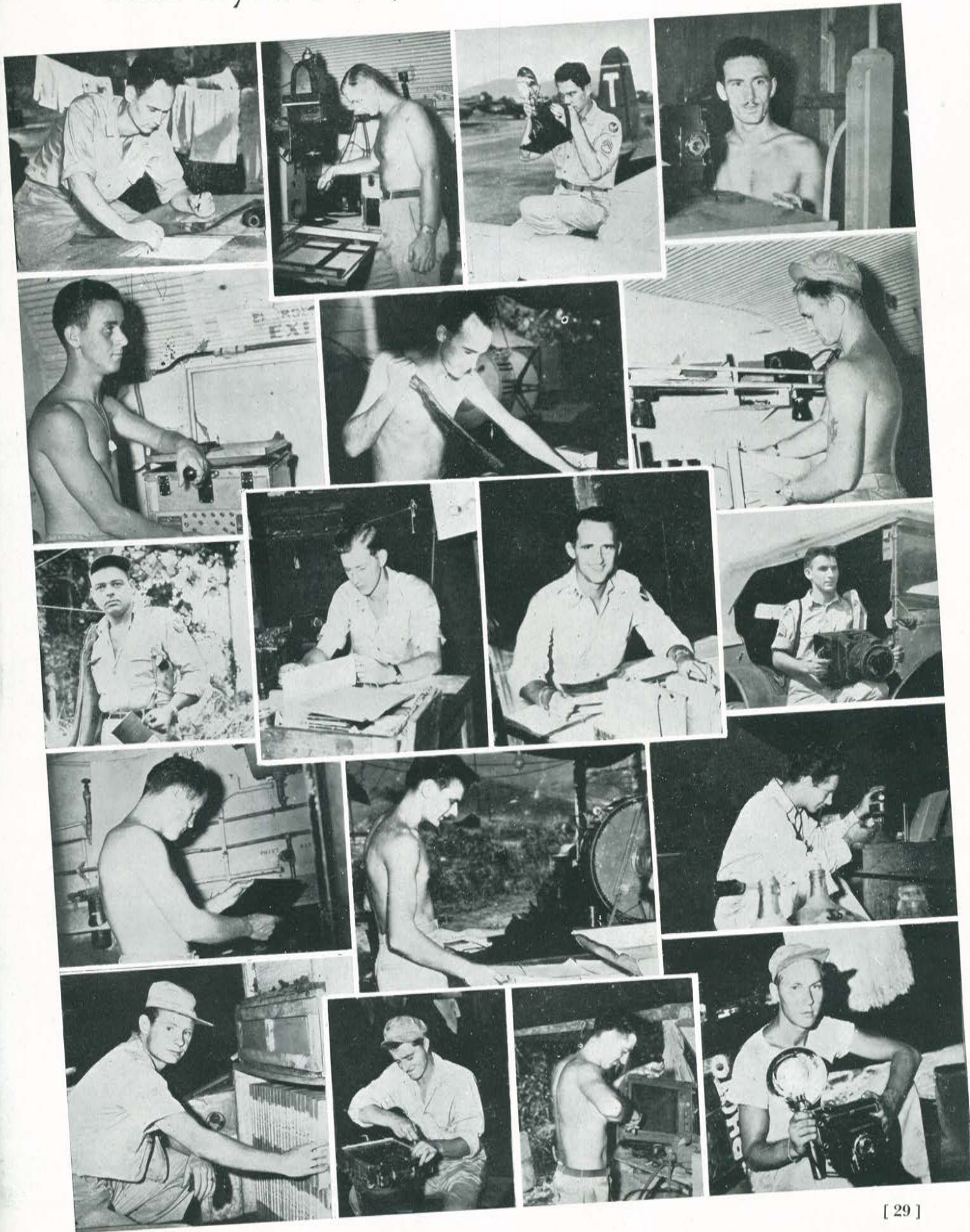




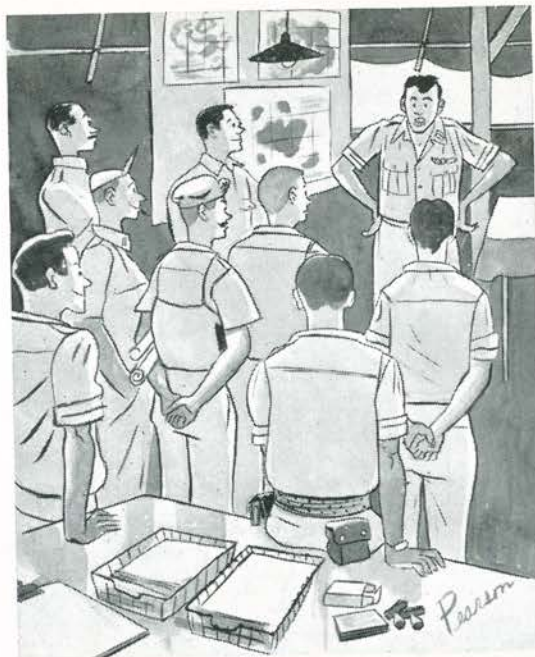
The Hub . . . Operations



The Eyes . . .



Intelligence . . .



*"... and don't hit the Tokyo Hotel.
I'm going there on my next leave."*



. . . and Public Relations



Maj. T. R. Tompkins.



Materiel . . .

requisitioning is
one thing, getting
it another






"TOWER FROM
376"



()(*) L B
()(*) ZACK
()(*) BUZZZ
()(*)



TOWER
FROM 376



"TOWER
FROM 376"



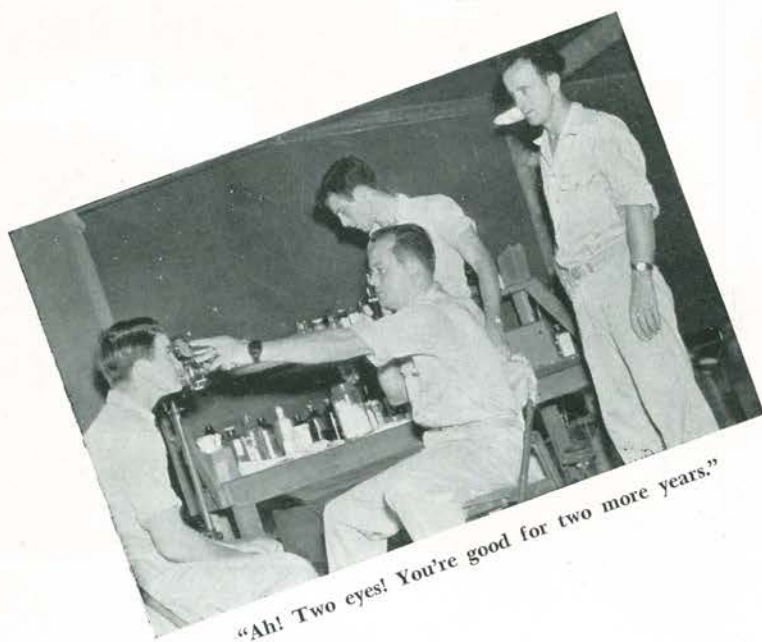
**376 FROM
THE
TOWER**



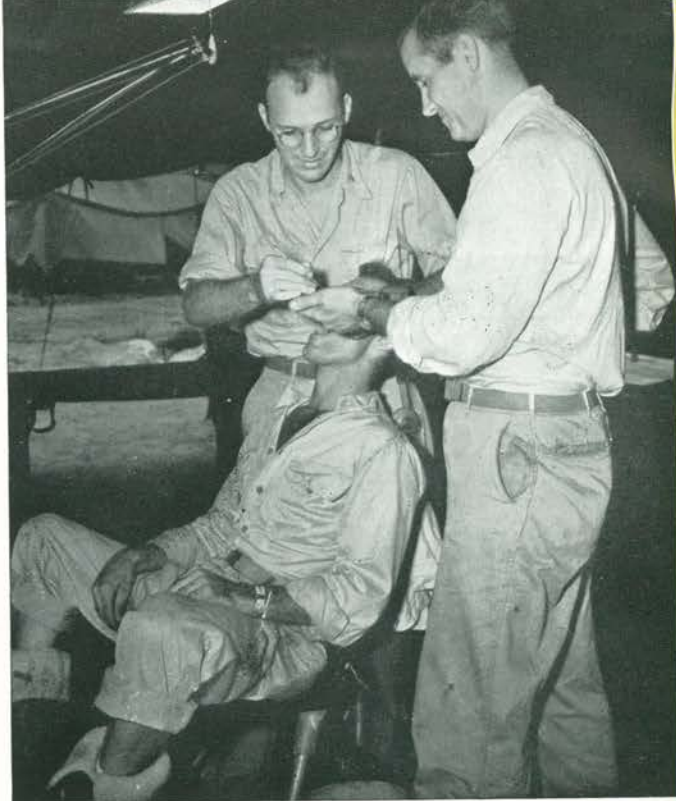
Communications



"Did you bring your ticket with you?"



"Ah! Two eyes! You're good for two more years."



"Don't worry; they'll look almost real."



"Hot dog! Cholera shots tomorrow."



"Sorry, boys, no white Christmas."



"That'll hold 'em for another six months."

Kitchen . . .



Motor Pool . . .



8TH



SQUADRON





Maj. C. C. Smith, commanding.



Old Timers at Charters Towers.



Lt. Trout, Capt. Ransier, Capt. Zane, Capt. Donovan.



Capt. G. R. Greene, Operations Officer.



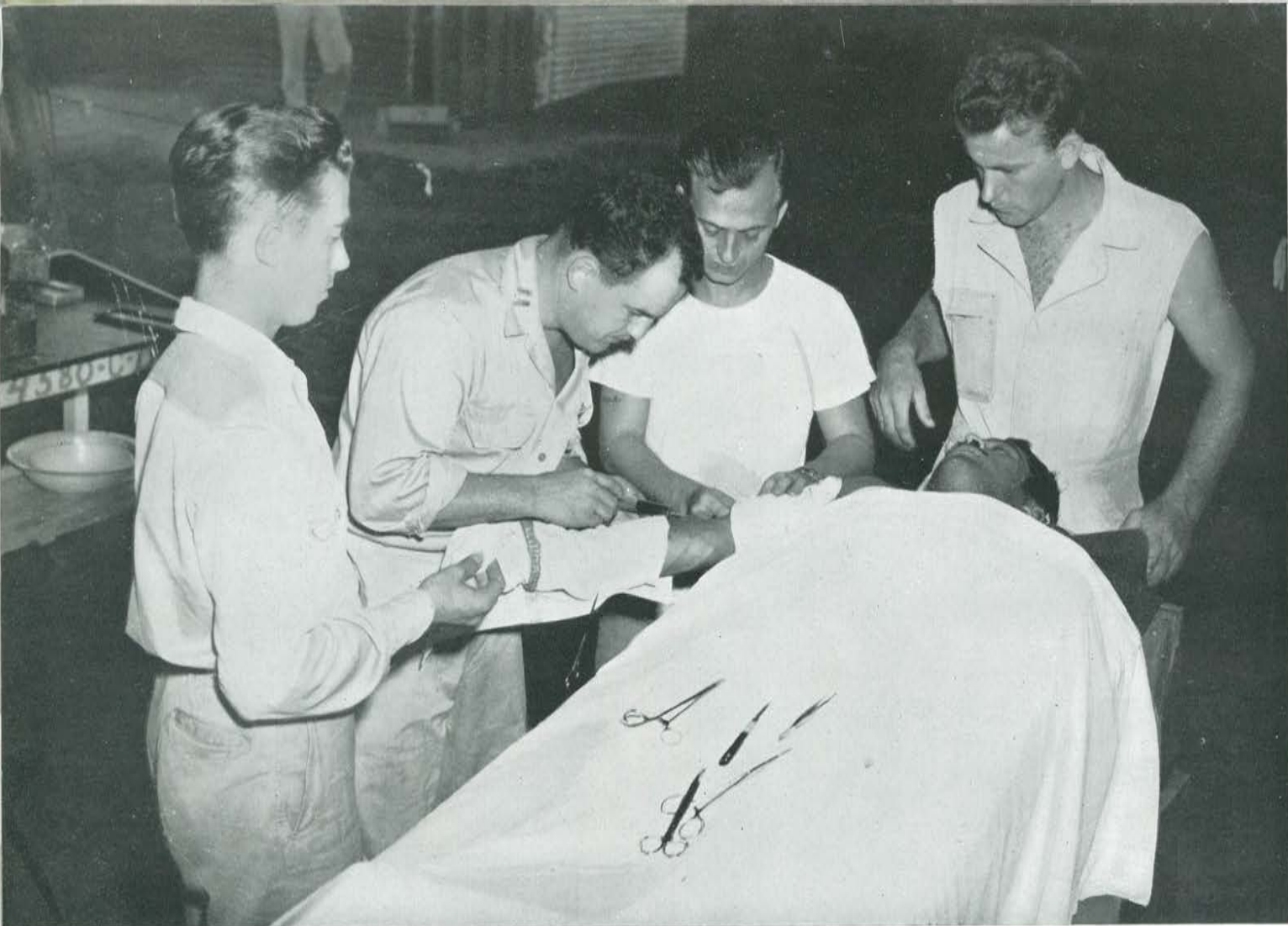
Intelligence.





Even in 1942, going home was Sweaters' No. 1 objective.





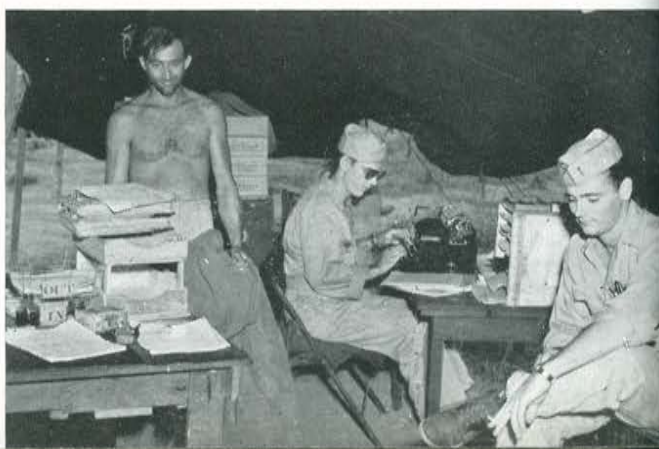
Jungle Surgery . . .



. . . by the medics.



Personnel.



Supply.



Motor
Pool



"FOR A MINUTE I THOUGHT
I HIT HIM"



Operations.



Communications





July, August, September, homeward bound.



Communications.



Kitchen Staff.



Supply and Chemical Warfare





Ordnance . . . bombs and bullets

Armament . . . they load 'em



Engineering . . .





MY MY! 90° IN NEW YORK



Combat



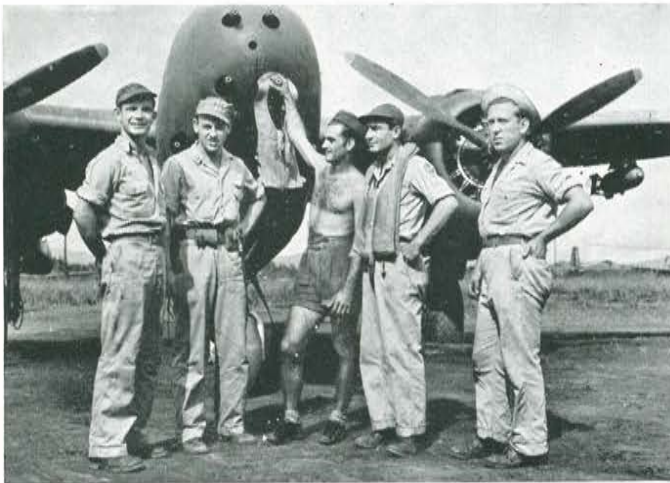
Briefing . . . where
to go—what to do.



Back when the
going . . .

Crews







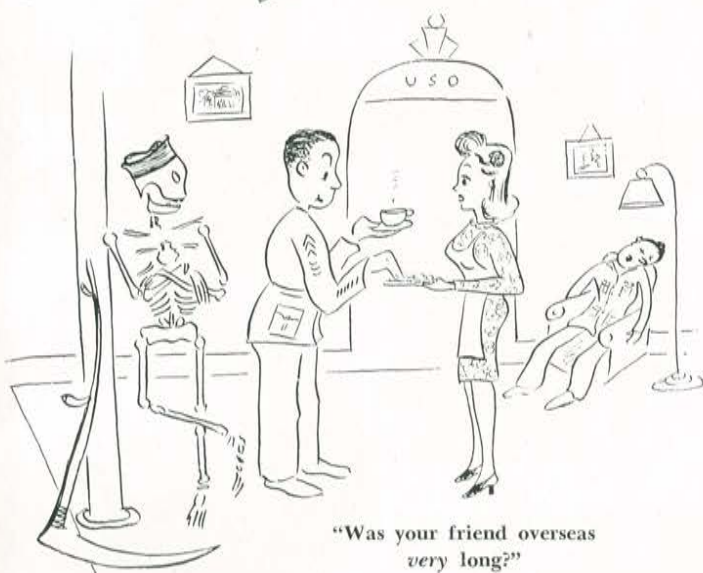
... The Crews



... The Crews



... The Crews



13TH



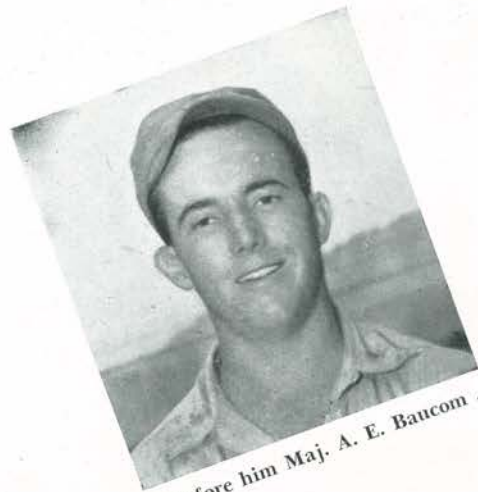
SQUADRON



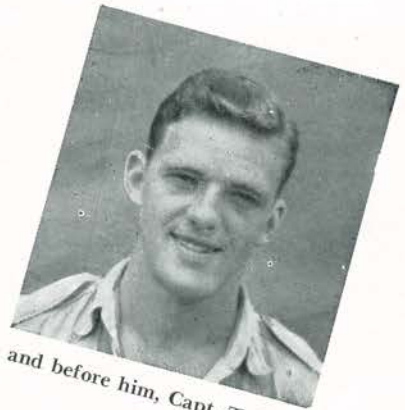
The Commanders...



Capt. R. L. Walker, Commanding.



... before him Maj. A. E. Baucom ...



... and before him, Capt. T. G. Fitch.

... their Headquarters

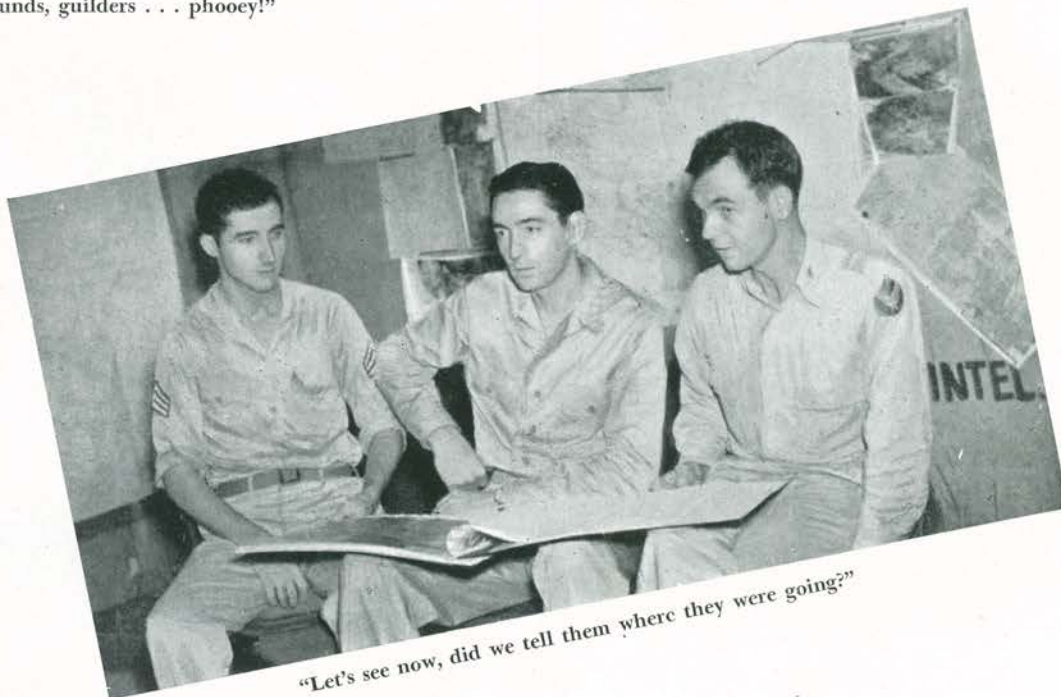




"Dollars, pounds, guilders . . . phooey!"



"But he might need it some day!"



"Let's see now, did we tell them where they were going?"



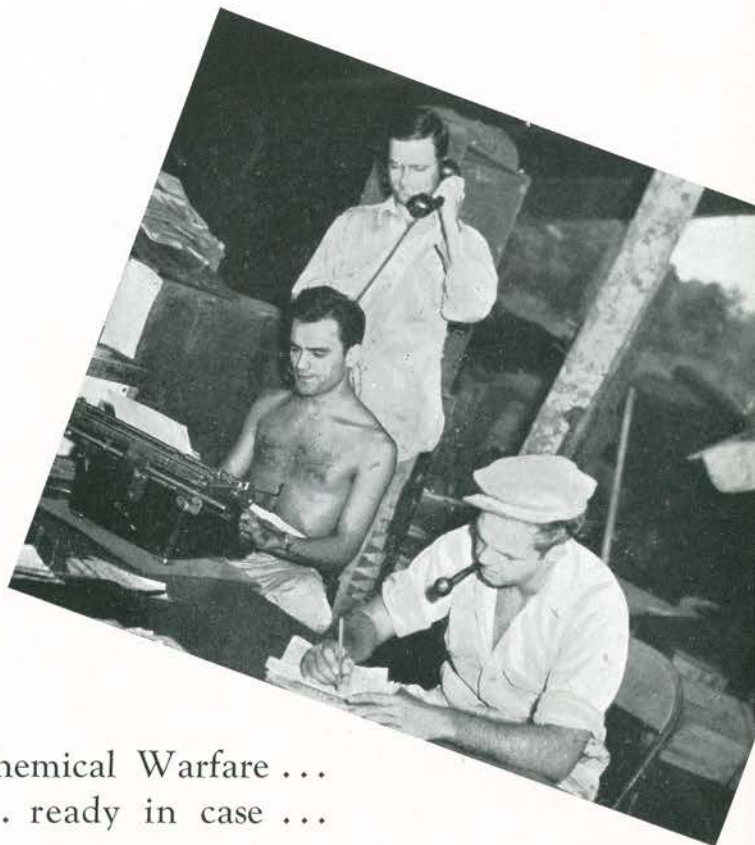
"This is the way he looked before I operated."



Menu Magicians . . .



Supply . . .
get it—give it!

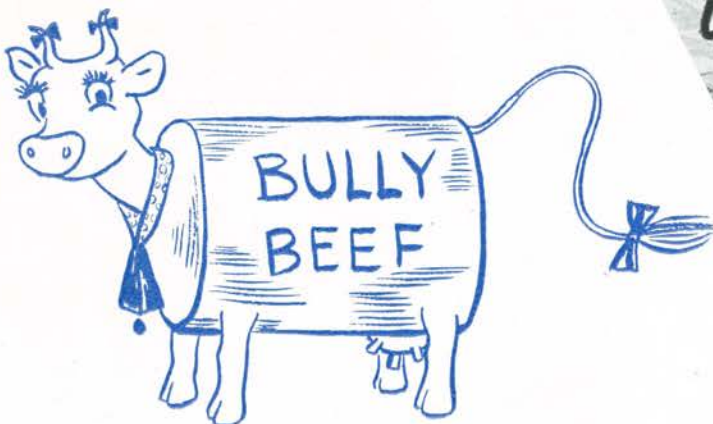


Chemical Warfare . . .
. . . ready in case . . .



Motor Pool . . .

a man needs patience
to keep 'em running



Communications . . .

not only radio, but
lights and telephones
as well





" YOU GUYS SHOULDA BEEN
HERE WHEN IT WAS ROUGH!"



Armament and Ordnance . . .

the 8-hour day?
What's that? . . .





Engineering . . .

The line is their
life, the bombers
their charge



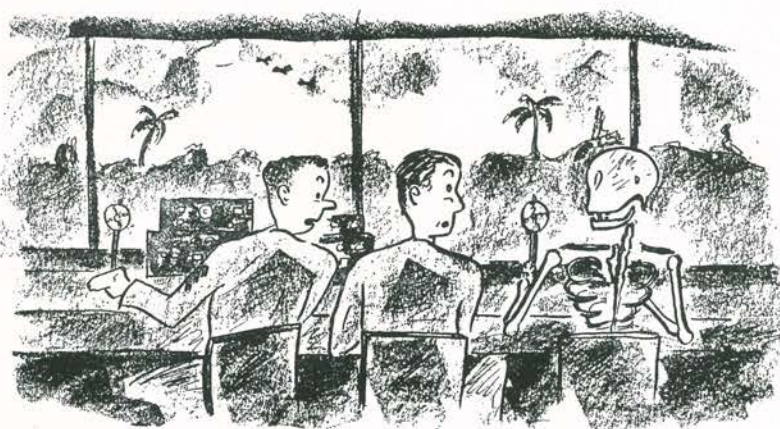
Maintenance



"... today's flight schedule ..."



Tech Supply



"He always takes over when the 3rd Group comes in."





Bismarck Sea veterans pose at Port Moresby. Aussies trained with Squadron.

The Crews



Operations: Nerve center of combat.

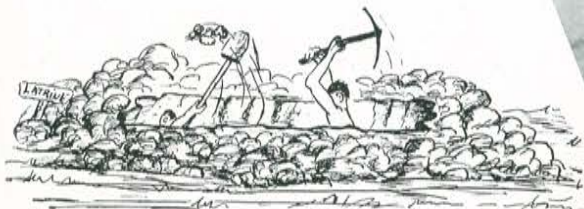
Charters Towers.



... The Crews



Operations Officer, Capt. C. E. Morefield.





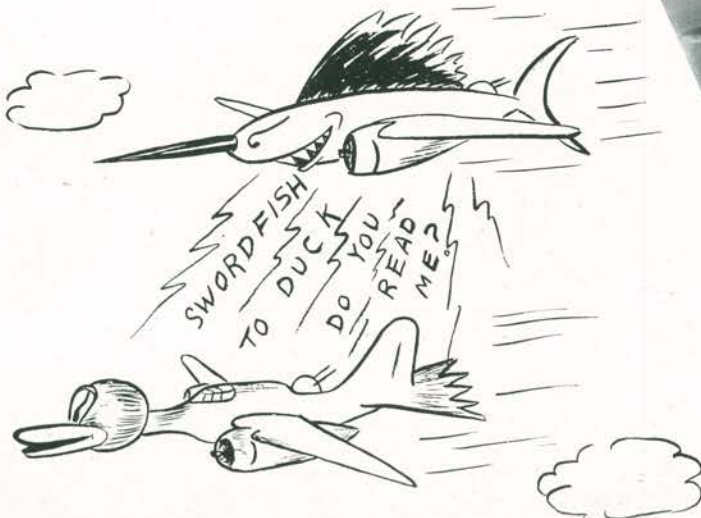
Take-off's set
for seven

We'll hit 'em
hard and low...

We hate this blasted sweatin',
let's wind 'em up and go . . .



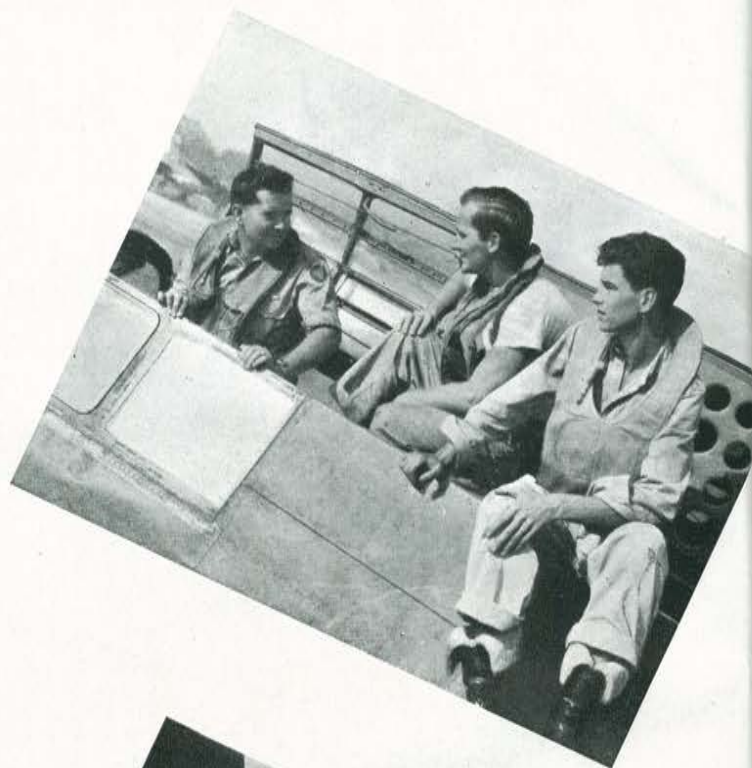
The ack-ack
should be heavy,
The Zeros
hot and fast . . .





Thank God we've got
good ground crews,
and planes we know
will last





WELL BOYS WHAT KIND OF OPPOSITION DID YOU HAVE?"

Jungle Juice . . .



Embarrassing, ain't it?



Moving again, and this isn't Frisco.



"I'm gonna stop my allotment!"



Whoops! No hair!



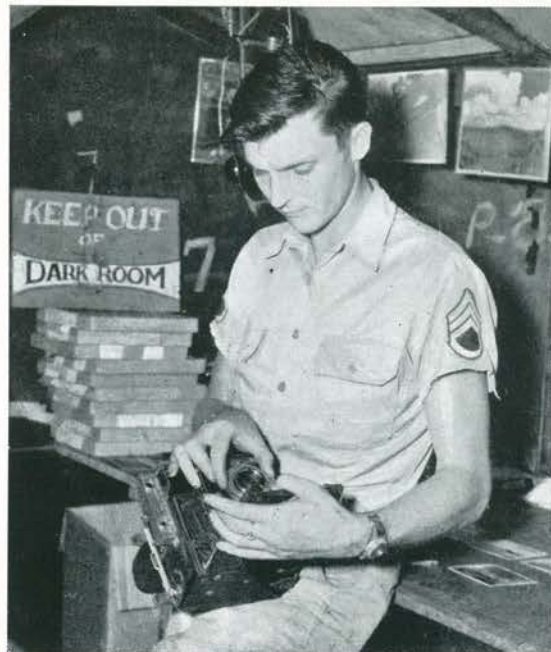
Stork Club? What's the Stork Club?



Chow hounds, senior grade.



It pays to advertise.



Camera kid.



P.X. "O.K. we got steam-rollers and Protex."

New Guinea Chamber of Commerce, please copy.



Naturally, not for keeps.



"We're out of Rinso, dear."

89TH



SQUADRON





Maj. Walter L. Heyer, Commanding.



Lt. C. M. Hatten, Executive Officer.

Leading "Characters"



Capt. M. A. Copeland, Adjutant.



Orderly Room.



Operations.

Kitchen



Sometimes this . . .



. . . but mostly this!



"Add bully beef and stir well."

Supply . . .



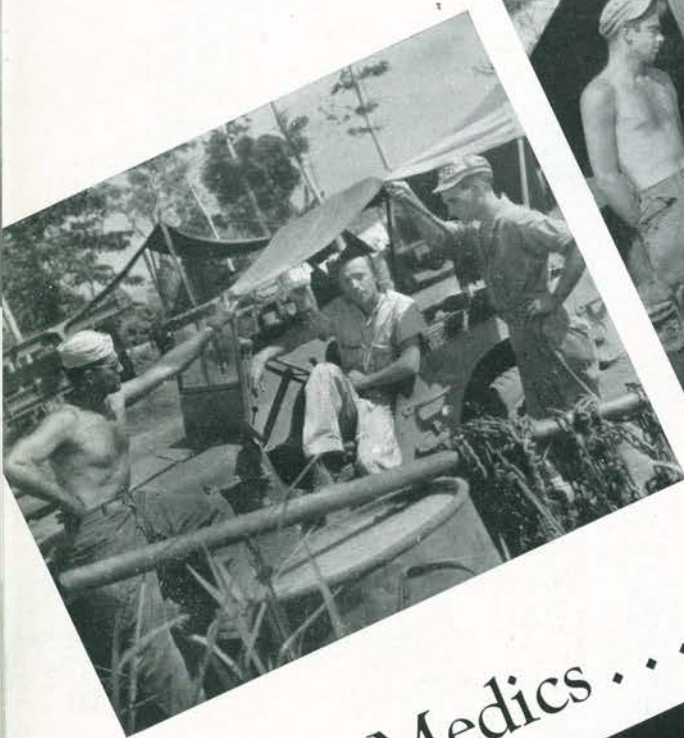
. . . if it fits, it's a mistake.



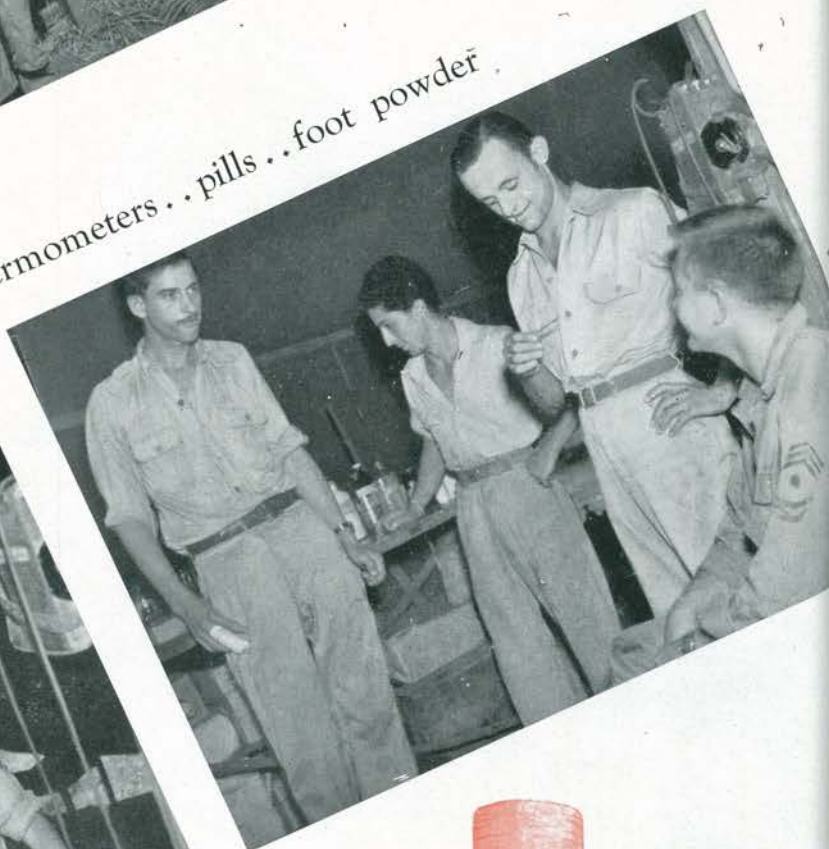
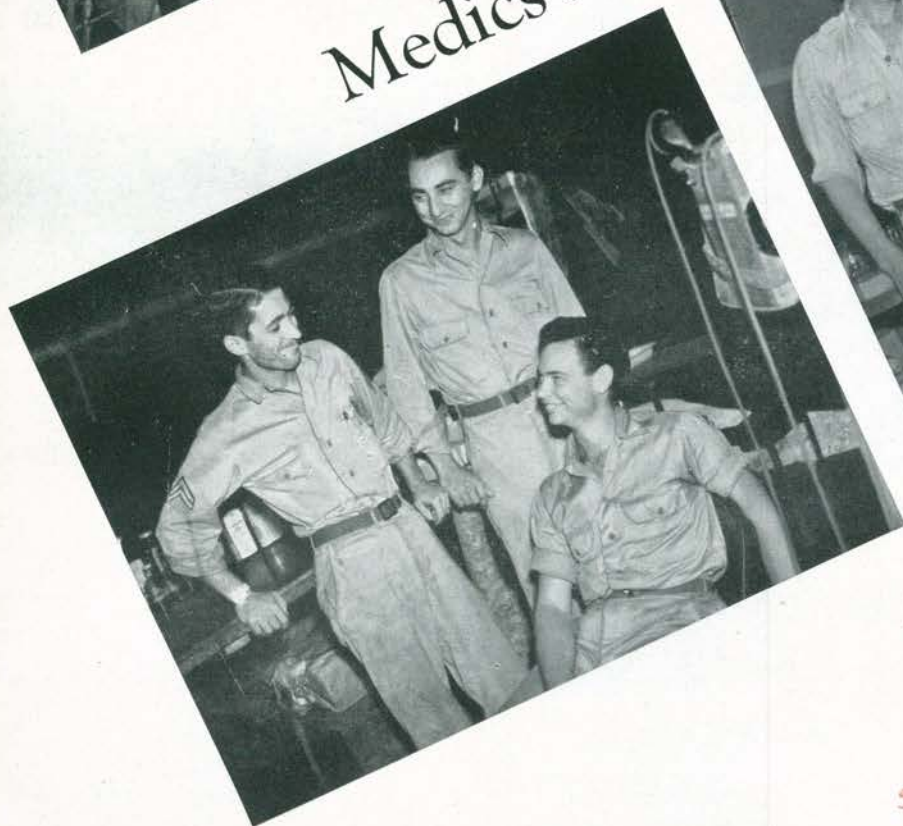
Back from Furlough

Motor Pool...

is there anyone
who doesn't
want a jeep?



Medics . . . thermometers . . . pills . . . foot powder



Ordnance . . .

the experts
who handle
the hot stuff



Engineering . . .

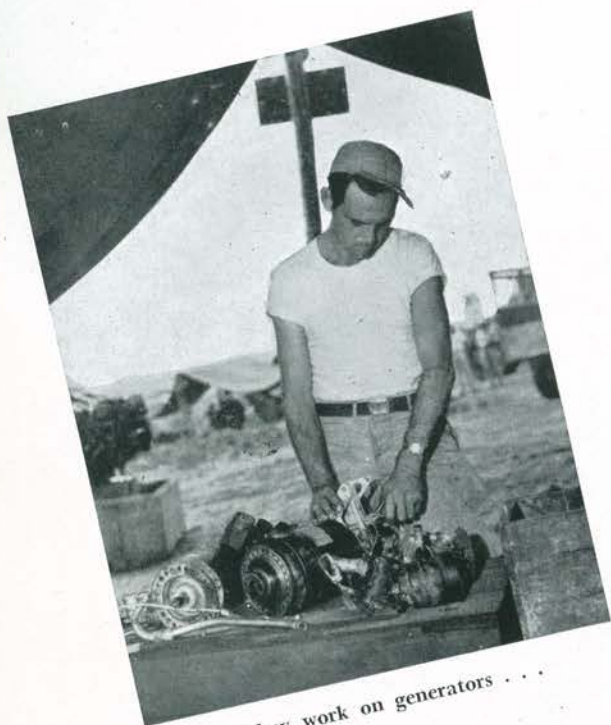


...their work is diverse



"KINDA COLD UP HERE AINT IT?"

Engineering Specialists...



They work on generators . . .



. . . machine parts . . .



. . . weld . . .



. . . chutes . . .



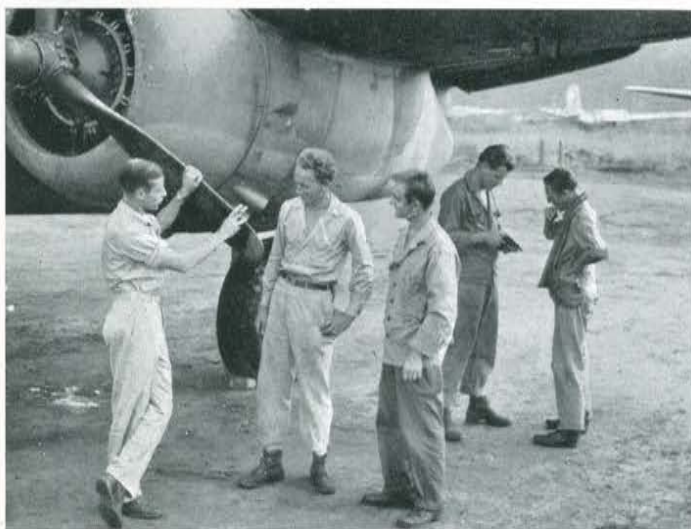
. . . fix props . . .



. . . and stock spares.



The Crews . . .



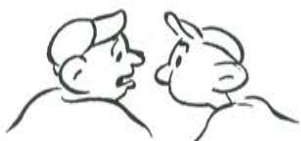
... The Crews





... The Crews





"GETTING 'EM OVER HERE YOUNG AINT THEY!"



... The Crews





... The Crews





Crews who
participated
in Bismarck
Sea Battle





Intelligence—looking the part.



"Papers, papers! How about some letters."



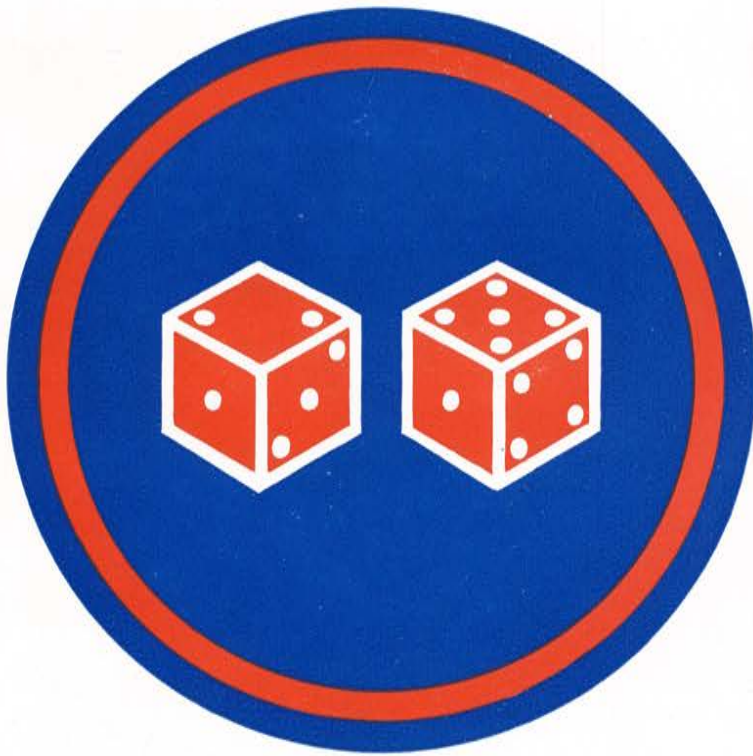
"... and the next time, put film in it!"



The only nice remembrance of Port Moresby.



90TH



SQUADRON





Maj. Stanley D. Kline, commanding.



Maj. K. E. Rosebush, ex-commander.

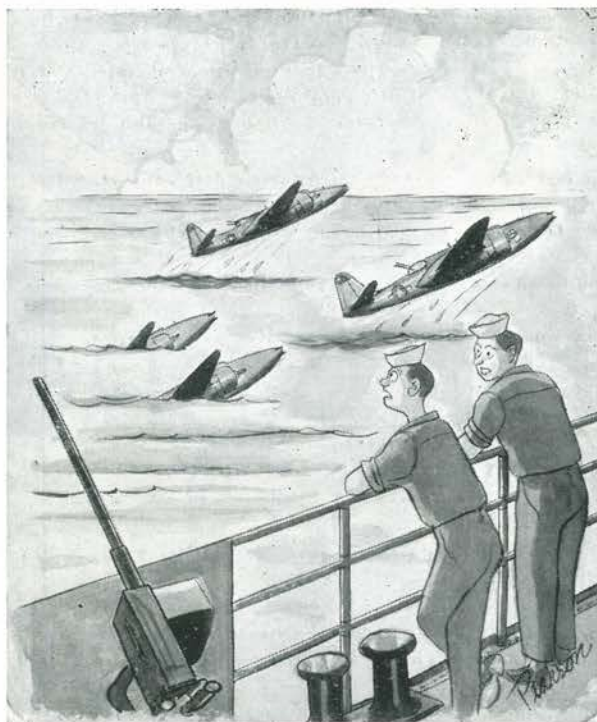


The Commanders . . .

. . . past and present

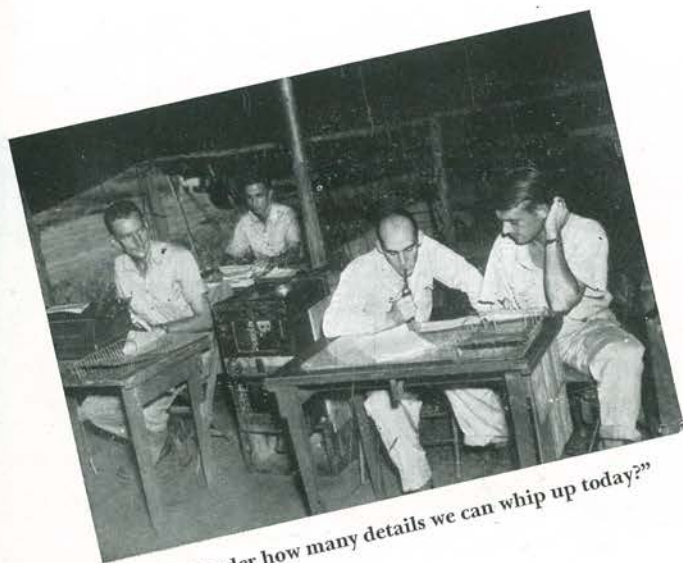


Maj. C. D. Prokopovitz, ex-commander.
Capt. W. T. Robinson, executive officer.



"They're even hunting subs now!"

The Administrators...



"Wonder how many details we can whip up today?"



"Let's red-line the whole outfit this month."

Supply



"They want us to get them 1000 hot water bottles."

Kitchen...the floor runs red with bully beef

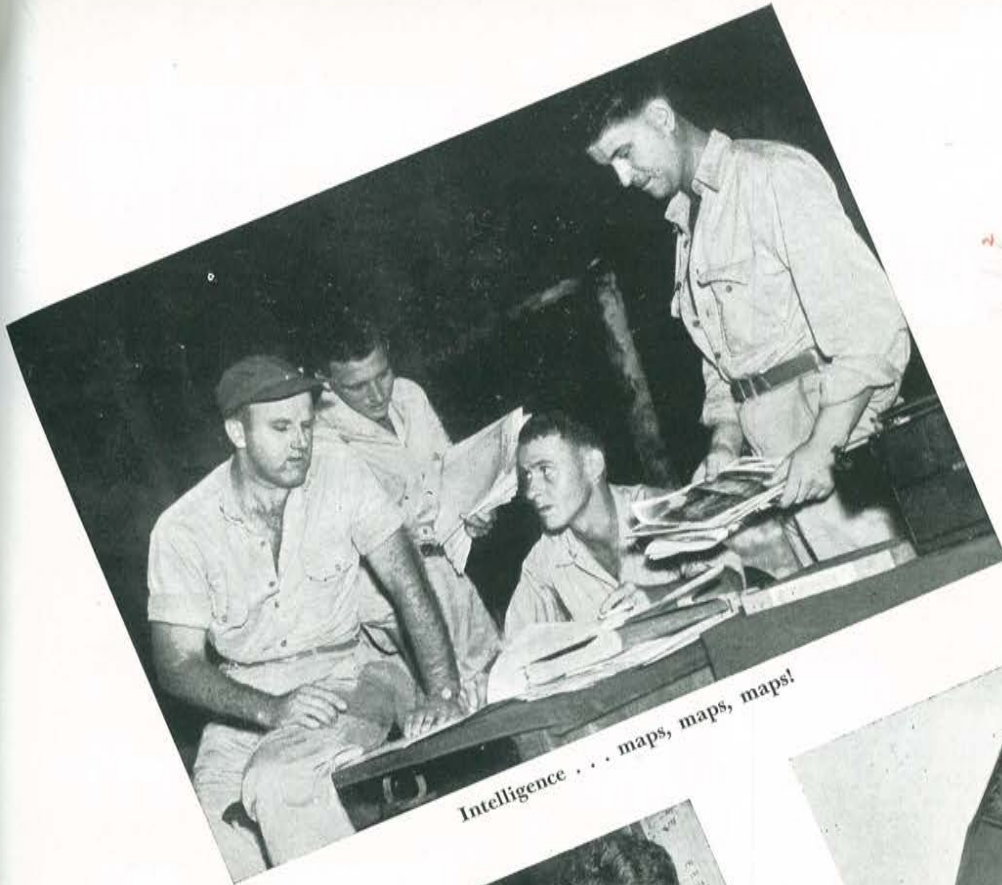


MOTOR POOL...New Guinea roads
can play hell...

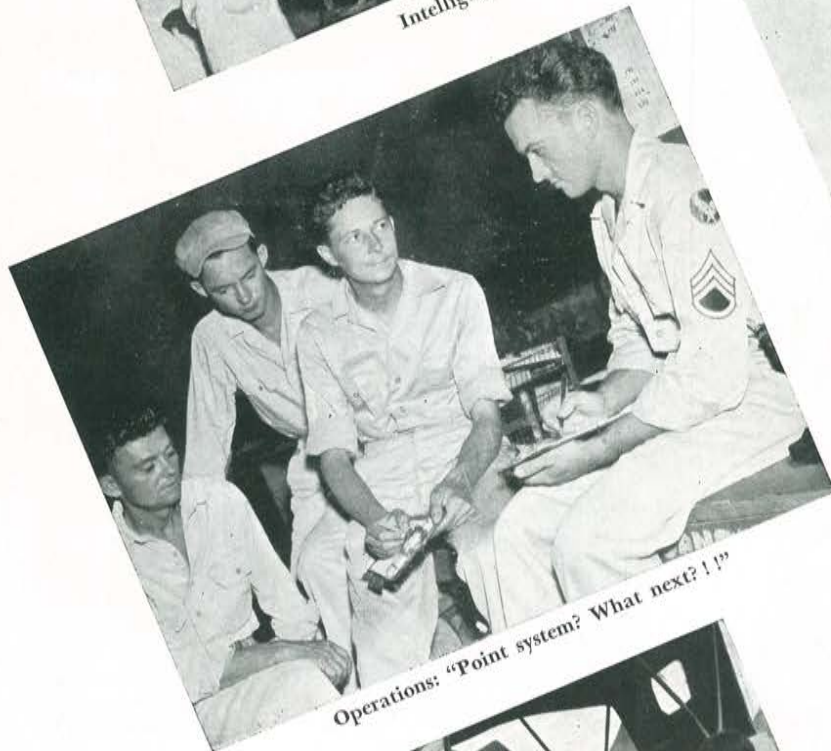


THE MEDS...when in doubt—quinine

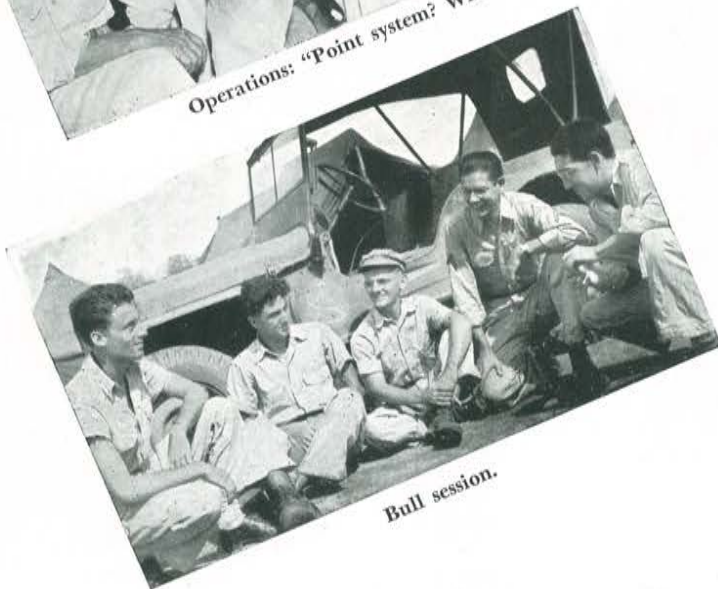




Intelligence . . . maps, maps, maps!



Operations: "Point system? What next?!"



Bull session.



"Someone must have stolen those shirts."



Communications . . .

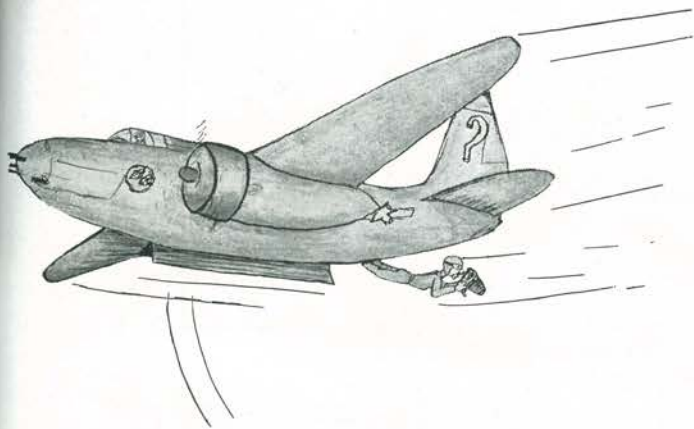
a radio can
save lives



Ordnance . . .

they deal in a useful
war commodity





Engineering



Engine Change.



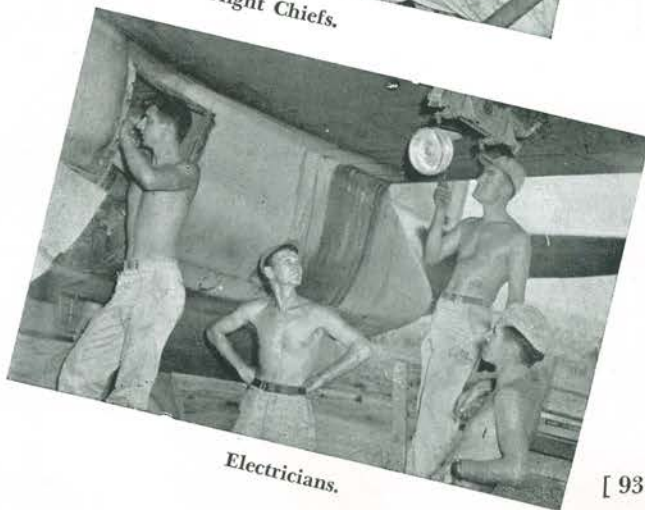
Inspectors.



Flight Chiefs.



The Driver's Seat.



Electricians.

... Engineering





Armament . . .

"Please don't
change that
bomb load
again!"

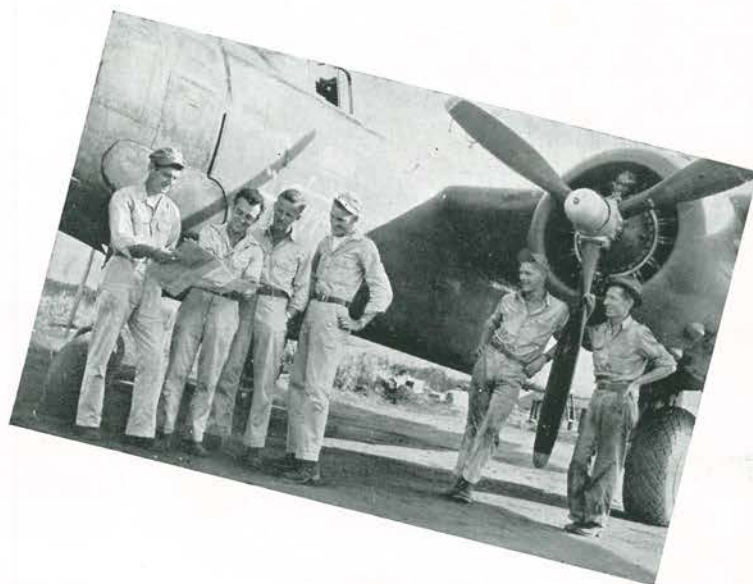


"Oh—er—Hello chaplain!"



90th Squadron men who participated in Bismarck Sea Battle.

The Crews





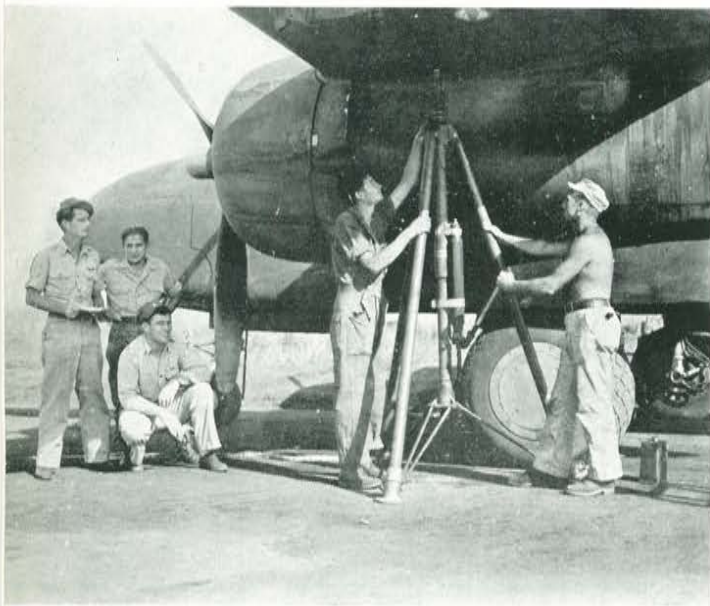
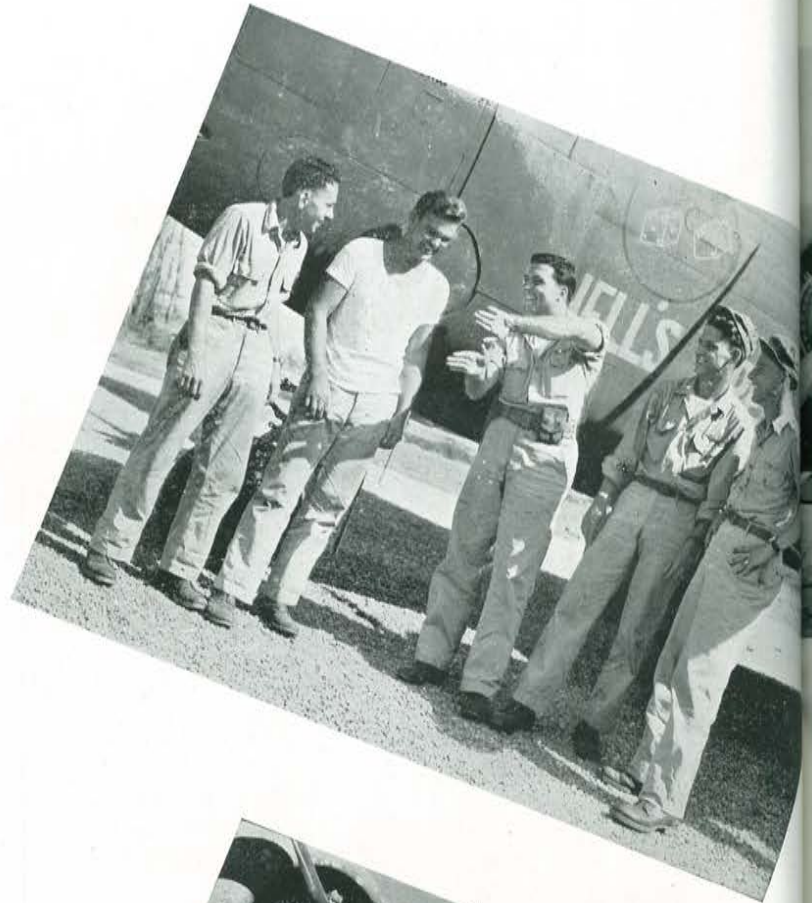
"Gotta comb?"



The Crew
is many things...

The Crew is a plane...

The Crew is a pilot to guide his ship
...a gunner to protect it...

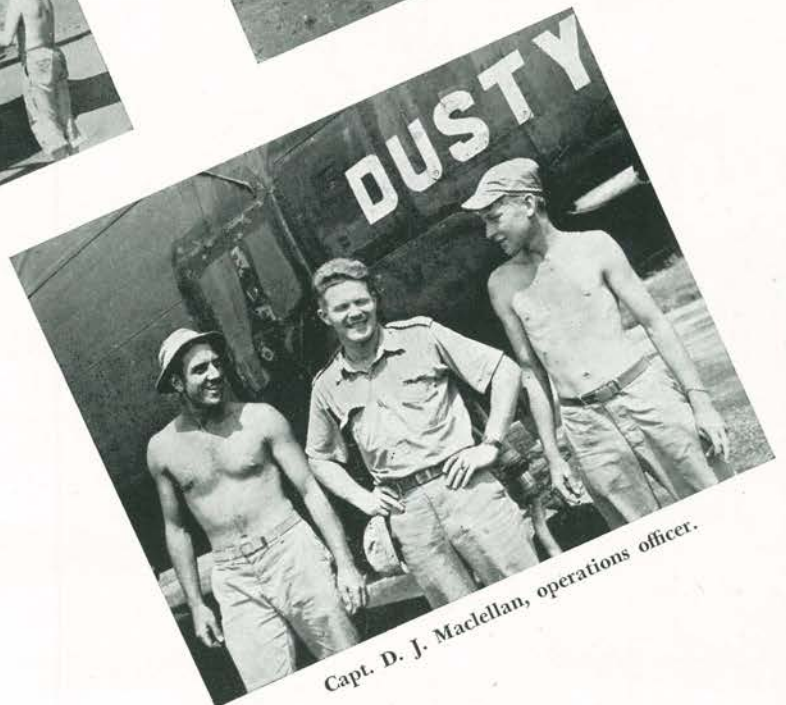


It is a crew chief and his helpers to care for it...

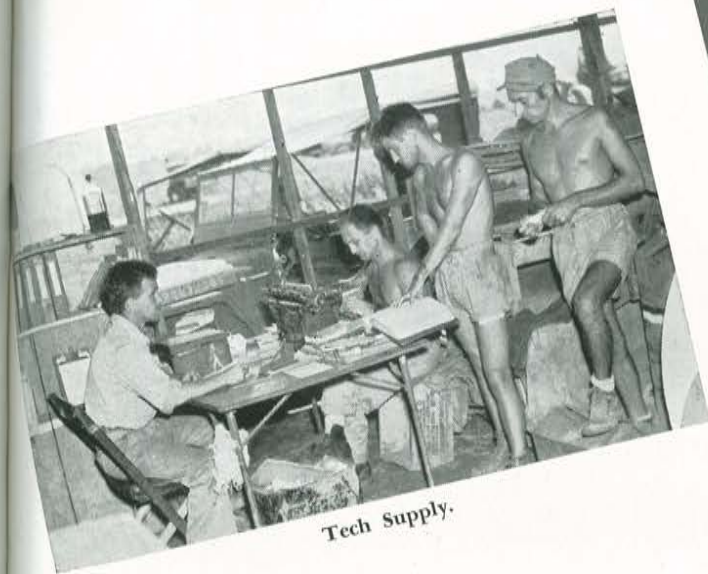


and an armorer to load
its guns and bomb-bays...

These things
make a crew



Capt. D. J. Macdellan, operations officer.



Tech Supply.



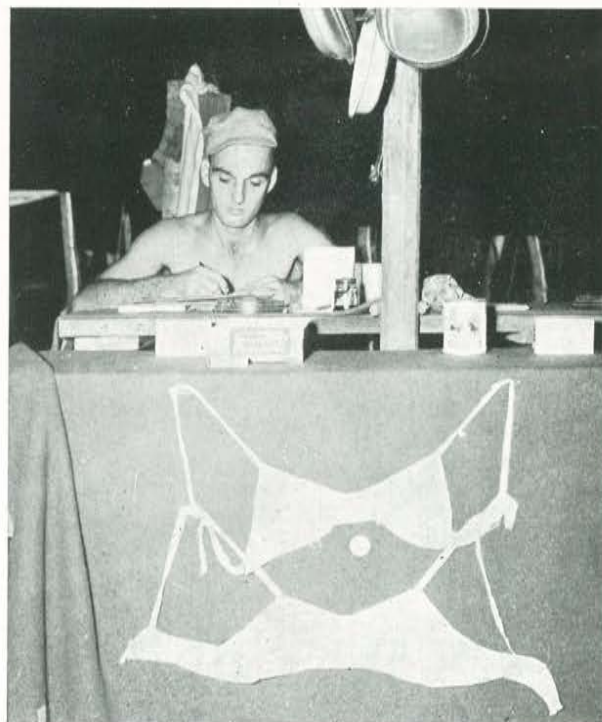
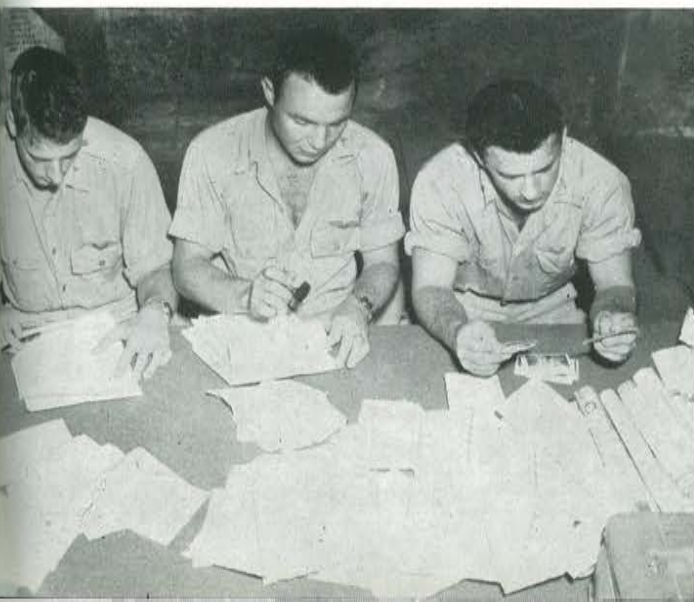
Is it worth it?



For that lovely yellow complexion.



Officers' Mess.



"Dear Sadie . . ."



Victory Garden.



They also serve . . .

Joy in the jungle . . . or . . .



"Glub . . ."



Guinea gophers.



Brooklyn was never like this...



"I hear they've got Q.M. laundries in France."



"Heh-heh, skunked again."



"... O'Reilly's daughter ...!"



" BUT THE TECH ORDER SAID IT WOULDN'T "



"Shoot—shoot baby . . ."



Well-balanced meal.



"Fits like a glove!"

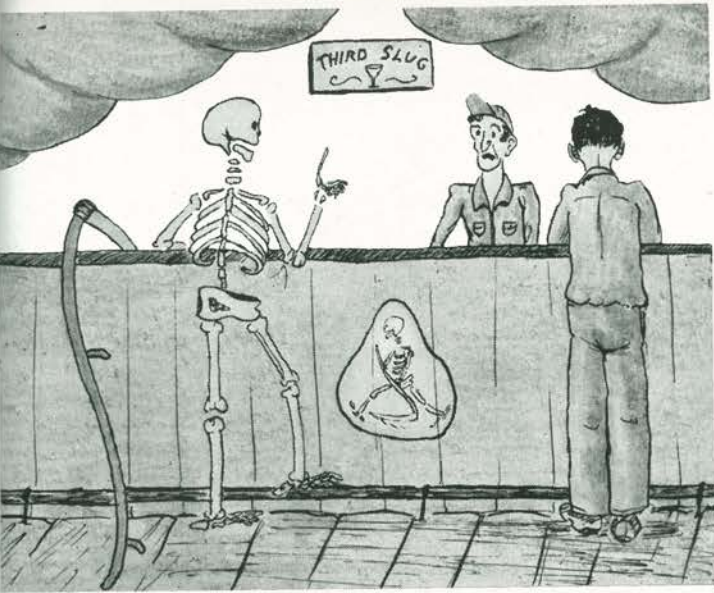


Setting 'em up for the brass.



"Must have been made for a Wac."

Reapers' Cartoons...



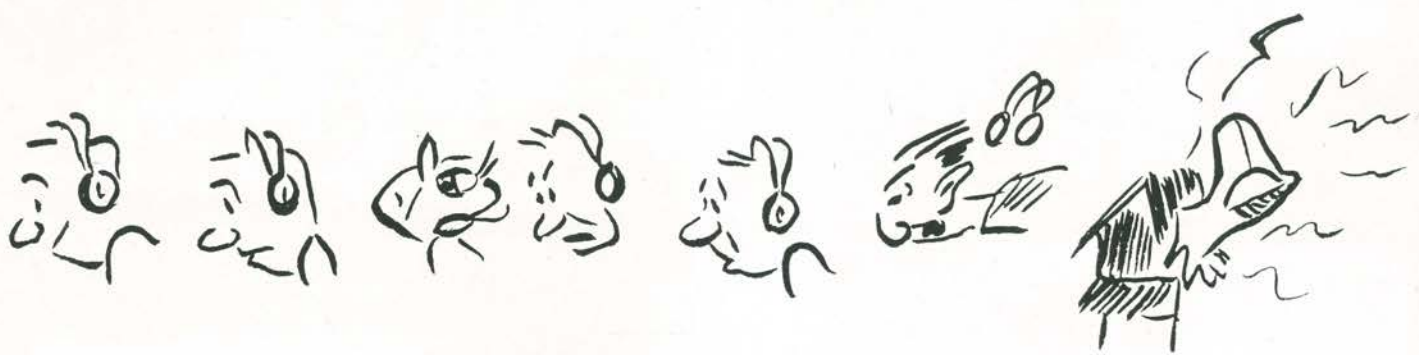
"What would your father in New Guinea think of you?"



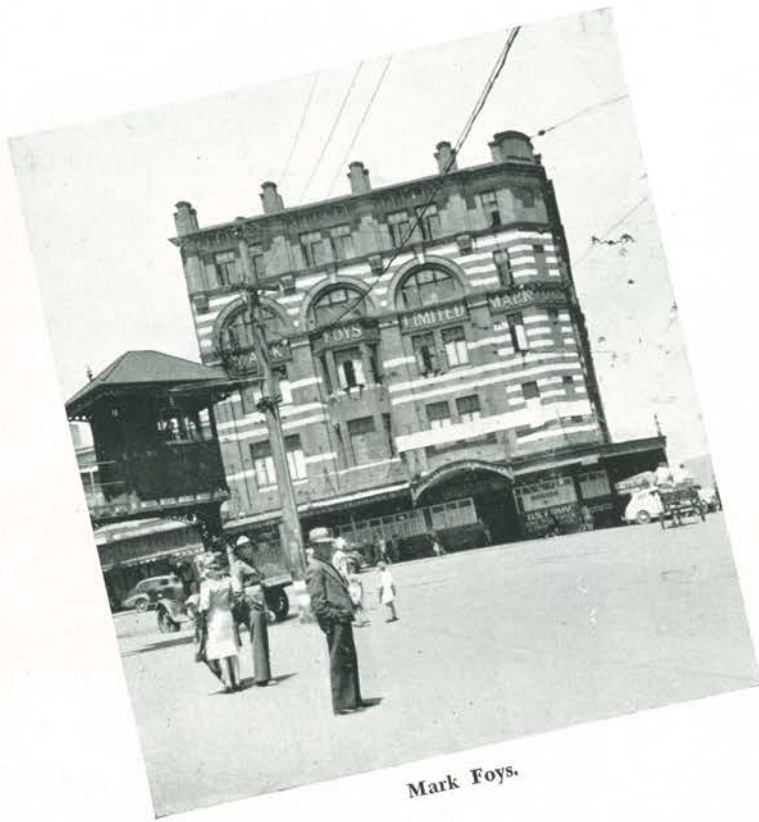
"AW, COME ON FELLOWS STAY IN, LIFE SAYS IT'LL FLY ON ONE ENGINE!"



" 'E'S A "DIGGER 'E 'IS! "



Seven passes over the target



Mark Foy's.



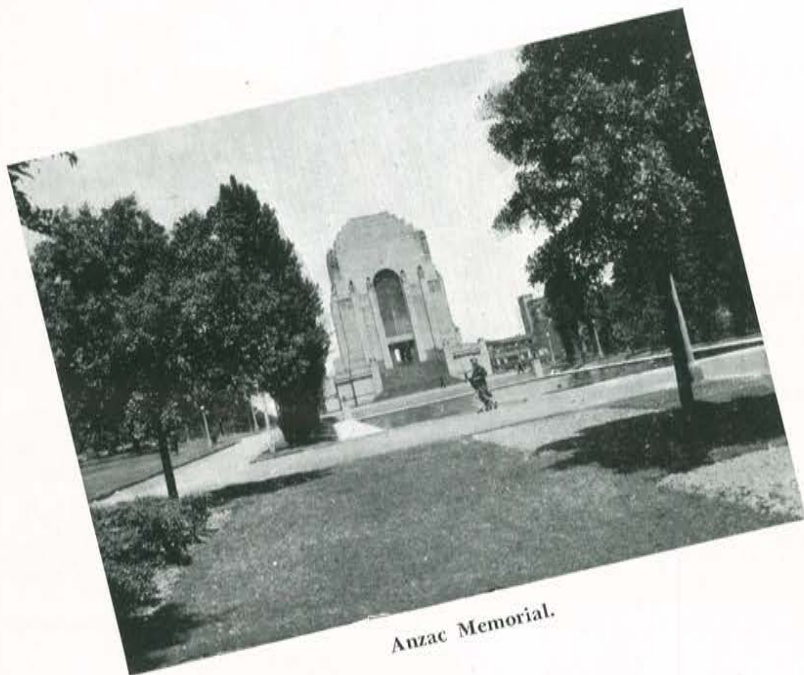
Australia Hotel.

Sydney Leave . . .

Harbor Bridge.



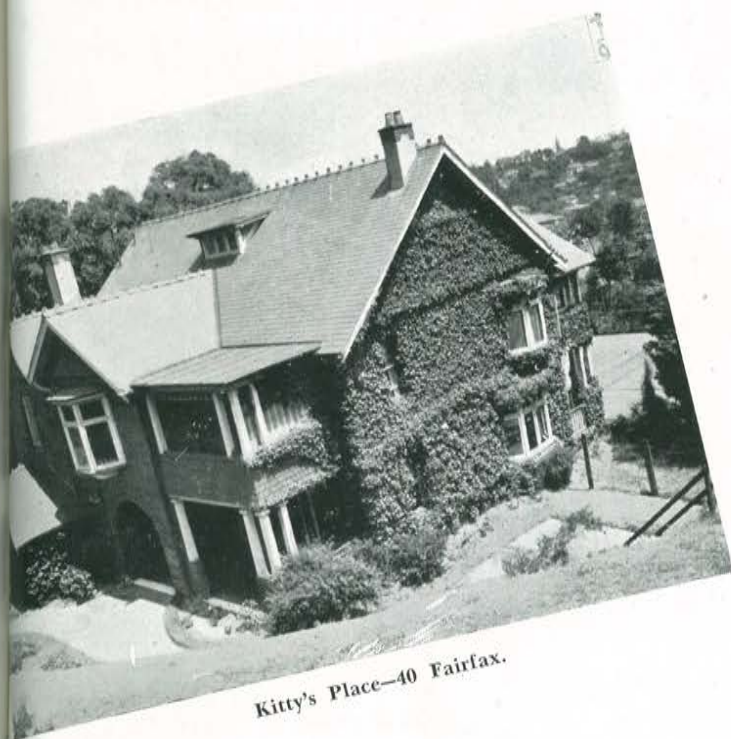
Floral Clock.



Anzac Memorial.



York Street.



Kitty's Place—40 Fairfax.



Target for tonight—the Cross.

TO: 3RD ATTACK GROUP, Thru FIFTH AIR FORCE.

"HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS FROM AN OLD AIR FORCE COMMANDER TO YOU AND ALL RANKS ON THE WONDERFUL VICTORY OF BISMARCK SEA WHICH RESULTED IN THE SINKING OF THE WHOLE ENEMY CONVOY AND ESCORT. YOU HAVE SHOWN WONDERFUL APPRECIATION OF HOW AIR FORCES AND AIR POWER SHOULD BE USED.

TRENCHARD
Marshal of RAF"

TO: 3RD ATTACK GROUP, Thru COMAFADVON FIVE.
FM: MACARTHUR
YESTERDAY'S DECISIVE STRIKE AT HOLLANDIA AIDS IMMENSE GLORY TO THE NAME OF YOUR AIR COMMAND. PLEASE EXPRESS TO ALL CONCERNED MY ADMIRATION AND GRATITUDE.
/S/ MACARTHUR

3RD ATTACK GROUP, Thru CG ADVON FIVE
FROM: ADVANCED COMMAND POST, 6TH ARMY

MY HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS TO YOU AND THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF YOUR COMMAND FOR A SUPERB PERFORMANCE IN SUPPORT OF THE OPERATIONS AGAINST MONOTE, LORENGAU AND THE SEADLER HARBOR. THE GALLANTRY AND INDOMITABLE SPIRIT DISPLAYED BY ALL RANKS MERIT THE HIGHEST PRAISE. THE CONDUCT OF ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IS IN KEEPING WITH THE FINEST TRADITIONS OF OUR ARMY.

SIGNED: KNUDSEN

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED AIR FORCES
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER

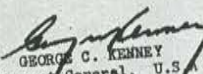
12th October, 1944

/S/ DAVIES

"TO: CG 3RD ATTACK GROUP, AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMAFADVON FIVE.
FM: COMBOMCOM FIVE.
FIFTH BOMBER COMMAND CONGRATULATES YOU ON THE EFFICIENCY AND THOROUGHNESS OF YOUR STRIKE AGAINST THE ENEMY THIS MORNING. THE DISTRUST OF YOUR STRIKE COMPLETION, WHICH WILL HAVE A DIRECT BEARING ON THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF OUR MISSION IN THIS THEATRE. FROM THE MANNER IN WHICH YOUR UNIT CARRIED OUT THIS STRIKE, FROM THE TIME IT RECEIVED ITS ORDERS UNTIL ITS RETURN TO BASE, INDICATES A HIGH DEGREE OF ORGANIZATION AND TRAINING. GENERAL WHITEHEAD REQUESTS THAT HIS PERSONAL CONGRATULATIONS FOR YOUR SUCCESSFUL OPERATION BE PASSED ON TO YOU."

As the original attack group the 3rd had an enviable record before the Southwest Pacific Area was ever heard of.

The post war 3rd Attack Group will have a glorious tradition of victory to look back on and to inspire future members of the organization. The contribution of the "Grim Reapers" during this war has been outstanding. I have the utmost confidence that they will continue to maintain that reputation for daring and brilliant achievement.


GEORGE C. KENNEY
Lieutenant General, U.S.
Commanding General.

TO: 3RD ATTACK GROUP, Thru COMAFADVON FIVE.
FM: KENNY
CONGRATULATIONS ON SPLENDID SHOW AS MATTERS ON 15. PASS MY PERSONAL APPRECIATION OF THEIR EFFORTS TO THE UNITS INVOLVED."
KENNY

TO: 3RD ATTACK GROUP, Thru COMAFADVON FIVE.
FM: KENNY
"PERSONAL FOR GENERAL WHITEHEAD "TO GENERAL KENNY. PLEASE ACCEPT MY HEARTIEST CONGRATULATION FOR YOURSELF, GENERAL WHITEHEAD AND ALL FORCES INVOLVED ON THE SUPERB DOUBLE STRIKE AT RABUL. IT GIVES ME A SENSE OF GREAT SECURITY TO HAVE SUCH AN INDOMITABLE UNIT IN MY COMMAND MACARTHUR" A SWEET JOB. NEVER GIVE A SUCKER A BREAK. KEEP IT UP"

KENNY

TO: 3RD ATTACK GROUP, Thru FIFTH AIR FORCE.

"MY HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU AND THE AIR FORCES UNDER YOUR COMMAND FOR THE BRILLIANT PART TAKEN IN THE CAPTURE OF CAPE GLOUCESTER. THE COOL EFFICIENCY, THE RESOURCEFUL DETERMINATION AND THE SPLENDID COURAGE DISPLAYED BY ALL RANKS FULLY MAINTAINED THE MOBLEST STANDARDS OF THE AIR SERVICE. NOTHING COULD HAVE BEEN FINER.

SIGNED MACARTHUR".

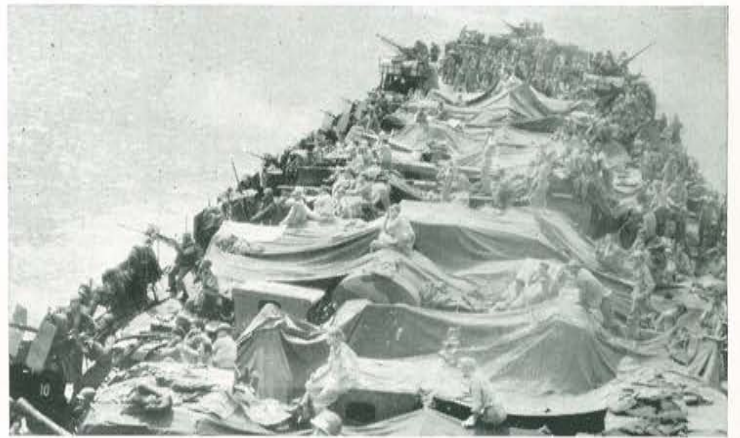
3RD ATTACK GROUP, Thru COMAFADVON FIVE.
FM: KENNY
FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM GENERAL MACARTHUR "PLEASE ACCEPT FOR YOURSELF AND CONVEY TO ALL OFFICERS AND MEN ENGAGED MY SATISFACTION AT THEIR SPLENDID EFFICIENCY IN DESTROYING THE ENEMY CONVOY OFF NEUAL. IT MAINTAINS THE HIGH TRADITION OF THE FIFTH AIR FORCE".

TO: 3RD ATTACK GROUP, Thru COMAFADVON FIVE.
FM: KENNY
FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM GENERAL MACARTHUR "PLEASE ACCEPT FOR YOURSELF AND CONVEY TO ALL OFFICERS AND MEN ENGAGED MY SATISFACTION AT THEIR SPLENDID EFFICIENCY IN DESTROYING THE ENEMY CONVOY OFF NEUAL. IT MAINTAINS THE HIGH TRADITION OF THE FIFTH AIR FORCE".

SUBJECT: Air Strike, Sawdgi Village.
TO: Commanding General, 310th Bomb Wing, APO 565.
1. On 8 August 1944, A-20's from the 310th Bomb Wing and the 3rd Attack Group conducted two strikes on Sawdgi Village area. The missions were requested by the Commanding General, I Corps, to neutralize an enemy radio station and enemy troops reported in that area.
2. Reports of the strike reaching this headquarters indicate excellent results were obtained.
3. I desire to express to all personnel involved, my appreciation of the prompt cooperation rendered by the Air Force in this instance and to commend the efficiency displayed.

/s/ R. L. KICHBERGER
Lt. Gen., U. S. Army
Commanding.

We move by
L.S.T...





New Guinea

YOU are wild and untamed, a forbidden zone of ancient civilization, resting on no laurels, having a reputation for death and terror. Your jungles are haphazard, your hills are impenetrable and scattered carelessly, the source of the vast streams that make morasses of the lowlands and homes for crocodiles. You have taken a toll in the lives of men, repelling all those who have tried to tap your untold treasures and failed. And particularly does your sprawling mass on the southern sea lie in a deep sleep that began centuries ago and from which you've never awakened. In the words of an Australian officer of the force which crossed the mountain ranges behind Salamaua, "It must have been a very angry God that shaped these hills."

Your jungle is a thick green carpet cut to jigsaw patterns by wide and muddy streams. There is no primeval law to govern the unfettered, rushing rivers that inundate what they will and render a large percentage of your massive body a malarial swampland. Your towering mountain summits are symbols of hatred to all men who have tried to pierce that wall of rock and vegetation, men who died on a jungle trail while the peaks glowered with hate. But inside this wall, in valleys of neanderthal civilization, people thrive on ignorance and hunt for food, and war among each other.

There is rare beauty in seeing a purple Owen Stanley peak against a gayly pasteled sunset, colors unimaginable and inherent to this tropic island. There is romance in a swaying palm that flirts with the sea as the wind tips its shapely head to listen

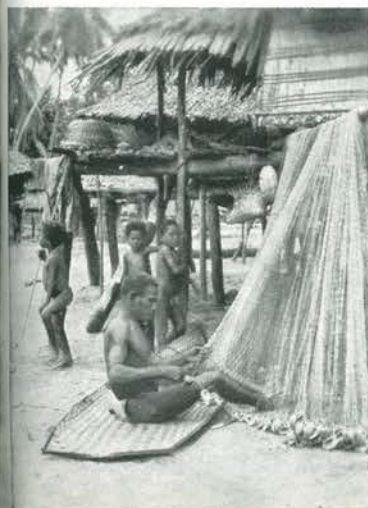




to the softly humming waves. And that sea is a sepulchre for ships of the many ages since first the mariners dared to look upon these untamed shores.

You represent the last frontier of man, the last haven of the stone age beast. You are a geographical miscarriage, something hastily made from left-over elements of the world. Your people are our ancestors, centuries old and content to be that way. They live their primitive lives from the snows of the Nassau Range to the steaming swamps of the Fly and Sepik Rivers, knowing nothing better and happy in their bestial, undeveloped existence. These are men forgotten by man, a race to be studied by anthropologists and talked about in the class rooms of the north. They eat their snakes and grubs and lizards and relish what they eat, and so we look upon them as beasts of the jungle. And beasts they are, closely relating their lives to the trees, the tubers, and crawling things of the wilderness.

For aeons you slept until the twentieth century disturbed your rest and startled you with its smoke and metal. And when your blue hot skies were filled with the warplanes of three nations, you looked up, and wondered, but were too indolent to think what it meant. Your people must have known something was amiss, but they couldn't comprehend the message brought by whirring propellers and the staccato fire of guns. But then the invader came, and they met him on the beaches and found that he was cruel and sadistic. He was a yellow man, and they looked about for the protection of their white exploiter and found him gone. You knew, too, that these men were of low demeanor, and you held your mountain head high and thought of the glorious quiet past. And then one day the white man returned, and new sounds were brought; the American banter and the busy hum of mechanical industry. You reached down to shake the debris from your tattered forest limbs and then lay back to sleep, content that all would again be quiet and primeval for centuries to come.



In Memoriam

All that I have I give.

*Yet all the world's abounding
words cannot decrease my wonderment unending,
as death, my sole release,
buys your salvation:
peace.*

EDWARD FENTON.

1st Lt. Warren O. Andres
2nd Lt. John E. Albaugh
Cpl. Lowell A. Anderson
Sgt. Daniel W. Atkins
Sgt. Edward Ayres
S/Sgt. Alexander J. Baggenstoss
S/Sgt. Howard R. Ball
2nd Lt. William R. Barker
Sgt. Hurlan H. Becuman
S/Sgt. Albert Belcher
Cpl. Howard R. Benson
2nd Lt. Wayne M. Berta
S/Sgt. Joseph A. Berube
1st Lt. Richard R. Birn
2nd Lt. Jarvis E. Bishop
Capt. Neville D. Blakemore
2nd Lt. Howard L. Blessington
S/Sgt. Raymond J. Boucher
S/Sgt. Donald L. Bradley
1st Lt. John S. Bromage
1st Lt. David W. Brown
2nd Lt. Howard R. Bunce
T/Sgt. John P. Butler
T/Sgt. Ashford H. Cardwell
Sgt. James A. Carter
1st Lt. Joseph H. Castelli
S/Sgt. George H. Chamberlain
Cpl. Lloyd O. Chambers
S/Sgt. Richard E. Chapman
2nd Lt. Robert H. Chapin
Sgt. Guy E. Clanton
1st Lt. John J. Clarke
Sgt. Wallace O. Cloy
Sgt. James F. Cochran
Sgt. Harris H. Coffey
S/Sgt. Carl E. Collins
S/Sgt. Lewis B. Conser
2nd Lt. Robert J. Conway
S/Sgt. Lawrence H. Cooper
S/Sgt. Harold J. Corbridge
2nd Lt. Norman L. Craig
Sgt. Glenn F. Crawford, Jr.
2nd Lt. Alfred P. Crosswhite
S/Sgt. Ottis Cunnagin
S/Sgt. Billy R. Darling
2nd Lt. Norman J. Davidson
Sgt. Alfred C. Davis
S/Sgt. George C. DeArmond
M/Sgt. Shepherd G. Decker
1st Lt. Charles F. Dolan
1st Lt. Donald K. Emerson
S/Sgt. James P. English
2nd Lt. Frederick H. Ensminger
T/Sgt. Paul R. Ervin
Sgt. Eugene J. Esposito
S/Sgt. Eugene L. Evans
S/Sgt. Thomas O. Evers
Sgt. Robert L. Fecitt
2nd Lt. Adeline D. Flores
Sgt. Francis M. Fowler
1st Lt. Joseph R. Fox
S/Sgt. James E. Foxworth
S/Sgt. Richard G. Frankforter
Cpl. Noah Fresquez

Cpl. Willie C. Fudge
S/Sgt. Gardner F. Galeucia
Sgt. Donald N. Gamage
T/Sgt. Archibald B. Gibson
S/Sgt. Lawrence M. Giles
Capt. Nathan J. Goldberg
Cpl. Isadore Goldstick
Pvt. Alexander J. Gow, Jr.
1st Lt. Miles L. Green
2nd Lt. Robert L. Hale
S/Sgt. Clifford R. Hall
1st Lt. Harry G. Hamilton
Cpl. Lowell K. Hammond
2nd Lt. Robert D. Hand
S/Sgt. Glendon Harris
2nd Lt. Jack Harris
Sgt. Wesley J. Hayes
2nd Lt. Vernon A. Heidinger
2nd Lt. Harold J. Heinbuch
Capt. Gustave M. Heiss, Jr.
Capt. John W. Herbert
2nd Lt. James T. Holcomb
2nd Lt. Charles J. Houser
T/Sgt. Delbert E. Houston
S/Sgt. John C. Hunter
Sgt. Warren E. Huston
Capt. A. Leonard Hymes
2nd Lt. Sidney W. Jacobson
2nd Lt. Harvey E. Johnson
M/Sgt. Norman M. Johnson
2nd Lt. Raymond E. Johnson
Capt. William R. Johnson
2nd Lt. Robert F. Keeler
2nd Lt. John J. Keeter, Jr.
Sgt. George F. Kehoe
S/Sgt. Jack R. Keith
T/Sgt. Arthur G. Kelly
1st Lt. Paul Kendrach
S/Sgt. Walter J. Kennedy
S/Sgt. Karl R. Kerger
T/Sgt. John S. Kerstetter
2nd Lt. Gus Kitchens
Pfc. Delmar A. Klemmer
Sgt. Bernard Komm
S/Sgt. Harold M. Koplan
T/Sgt. Byron Krisle
Sgt. William C. Krueger
T/Sgt. William H. Lancaster, Jr.
Sgt. Robert M. Landry
Maj. Edward L. Lamer
1st Lt. Walter S. Lee
T/5 Albert V. Lehr
Pvt. Andrew Lelik, Jr.
Cpl. Robert L. Lemons
2nd Lt. Aloys F. Liepold
2nd Lt. Kenneth W. Lindsay
1st Lt. Robert V. Lockhart
2nd Lt. George Q. Lockwood, Jr.
Maj. Herman F. Lowery
S/Sgt. Orville E. Luallen
T/5 John M. Lucas
Sgt. James R. Lynch
1st Lt. William C. Mackey
1st Lt. John F. Madden

2nd Lt. Glenn H. Maddox
S/Sgt. Henry J. Malicki
Sgt. Berj Manuellian
Sgt. William T. Marnell, Jr.
Sgt. Richard R. Martin
S/Sgt. Roger S. Martin
S/Sgt. Clair E. Mattoon
Sgt. Vernon McBroom
2nd Lt. James W. McCann, Jr.
Sgt. Raymond E. McGill
1st Lt. John J. McKeown
Cpl. Leo J. McMahon
Sgt. Gilliam R. Mefford
2nd Lt. Glen E. Mellgren
Sgt. Robert T. Middleton
1st Lt. Loyd C. Miller
1st Lt. Robert E. Miller
S/Sgt. Robert C. Mongrain
S/Sgt. James W. Montgomery
S/Sgt. Vernon Moore
Sgt. Jimmie D. Morris
2nd Lt. Charles C. Morrison
1st Lt. Edward A. Murphy, Jr.
2nd Lt. Robert E. Murphy
Cpl. William A. Mutch, Jr.
Cpl. Wavard J. Myers
T/Sgt. Kirby W. Neal
T/Sgt. Mack H. Nealy
Capt. William W. Neel
Sgt. Henry Nerone, Jr.
1st Lt. Birge A. Neumann
Cpl. Robert E. Nichols
Cpl. Albert W. Niedzwicki
S/Sgt. Eugene F. Nordstrom
2nd Lt. Sam L. Norris
S/Sgt. Roland C. Noyes, Jr.
2nd Lt. William L. Nuchols
1st Lt. John P. O'Flahavan
2nd Lt. Cornelius F. O'Leary
M/Sgt. Ray A. Oliver
S/Sgt. Norbert W. Pansier
Sgt. Joseph A. Paradiso
1st Lt. William T. Pearson
S/Sgt. Columbus G. Pelham
Maj. Raymond T. Petersen
2nd Lt. Hugh A. Phelps
S/Sgt. Otha M. Pierce
2nd Lt. Theron G. Platt
S/Sgt. Lloyd G. Popwell
Sgt. Thomas E. Priddy
1st Lt. Harold R. Prince
1st Lt. Francis Pruitt
Sgt. Francis H. Pryor
1st Lt. Hubert J. Rapp
2nd Lt. Charles D. Reeve
1st Lt. Charles L. Richards
2nd Lt. Wilbur B. Ridout
2nd Lt. Earl S. Ripley
Maj. Floyd W. Rogers
1st Lt. Herbert E. Rothery
T/Sgt. Miles L. Rowe
T/Sgt. Albert L. Rowley
Maj. Sam I. Rubenstein
1st Lt. Arden M. Rulison

Sgt. Donald D. Ruth
 Sgt. Ralph Sam
 S/Sgt. Leo G. Sarkisian
 Sgt. Richard H. St Sauveur
 2nd Lt. Frederick W. Schierloh
 S/Sgt. Michael P. Schussman
 S/Sgt. Carl A. Schwab
 Cpl. Earl R. Sevene
 2nd Lt. Clarence M. Shull
 Sgt. Harry Slaby
 S/Sgt. Fred J. Smith
 Sgt. Marlon K. Smith
 Sgt. Raymond E. Smith
 1st Lt. Abraham Soffer
 S/Sgt. Charles M. Sotelo
 S/Sgt. George L. Spangle

Pvt. Harry J. Spies
 Sgt. Carlos E. Spillers
 Capt. Glenwood G. Stephenson
 Sgt. Raymond E. Stricklin
 F/O Robert L. Sturm
 T/Sgt. Victor N. Taber
 Sgt. Stephen L. Taylor
 2nd Lt. Edward C. Thayer
 Capt. George S. Thomas
 S/Sgt. Franklyn L. Timberlake
 2nd Lt. Eugene T. Tisonyai
 2nd Lt. Edwin C. Townsend
 S/Sgt. Frank E. Turpin
 S/Sgt. Waythe Van Hoy
 Pvt. William S. Vidmar
 S/Sgt. Everett E. Walker

2nd Lt. Francis I. Wallace
 F/O Ira James Weidler
 2nd Lt. William R. Werden, Jr.
 Capt. Oscar L. Wertz
 Sgt. Norman S. Wheeler
 T/Sgt. William B. Wherry
 Sgt. Merritt A. Whimsett
 Sgt. Edward R. White
 Maj. Raymond H. Wilkins
 2nd Lt. Norman H. Williams
 1st Lt. Turner Williamson
 S/Sgt. Sil Winfrey
 S/Sgt. William A. Wright
 2nd Lt. Theodore G. Wuerpel
 1st Lt. Richard O. Yeager
 Sgt. Harry G. Young
 S/Sgt. Edgard A. Zeller

Missing

S/Sgt. Edward A. Adams
 T/Sgt. Robert L. Barlow
 S/Sgt. Jack E. Beals
 S/Sgt. Warren D. Bell
 T/Sgt. George H. Bengel
 2nd Lt. Charles V. Berdine
 S/Sgt. Oscar H. Biddle
 2nd Lt. Vernal J. Bird
 Sgt. Nelson A. Boyd
 S/Sgt. Harvel D. Brown
 1st Lt. Albert F. Burke
 S/Sgt. William Byrket
 S/Sgt. Dwight W. Carpenter
 S/Sgt. Joseph P. Casillas
 1st Lt. Robert E. Cassels
 Sgt. Philip H. Childs
 S/Sgt. Adolphus T. Clements
 S/Sgt. Walter F. Clifford
 Cpl. Walter N. Cook
 S/Sgt. Lyle W. Crovisier
 S/Sgt. Marvin E. Culbreth
 1st Lt. John Cunningham
 Sgt. Harold B. Davis
 S/Sgt. Roy F. Davis
 2nd Lt. Claude L. Dean
 1st Lt. Angelo C. Dellisante
 S/Sgt. Herbert W. Divers
 Cpl. Hugh W. Douglas
 Sgt. Stanley D. Emmick
 S/Sgt. Bennie Estep
 S/Sgt. Charlie L. Fann
 2nd Lt. Joseph W. Ferguson
 2nd Lt. Charles W. Fick
 S/Sgt. Joseph Fox
 2nd Lt. Francis H. Frey
 2nd Lt. Allan W. Garlick
 1st Lt. Walter R. Gerry
 S/Sgt. Thomas D. Goodman
 Pfc. Clifford O. Govier

Sgt. Raymond F. Greene
 1st Lt. Richard Greenhalgh
 Pvt. Joseph Guilli
 Cpl. Richard M. Haley
 S/Sgt. Redus W. Harrell
 S/Sgt. George D. Henderson
 1st Lt. Richard C. Henrich
 2nd Lt. John E. Hesselbarth
 Cpl. Leslie D. Herbert
 S/Sgt. John L. Hill
 S/Sgt. Harry K. Hinkle
 Sgt. Franklyn R. Hoppe
 Cpl. Edward R. Howard
 2nd Lt. Mark P. Hubert
 1st Lt. James L. Hughes
 W/O Ralph E. Hughes
 S/Sgt. Donald W. Huempfer
 1st Lt. Nelson P. Ingram, Jr.
 S/Sgt. Edward L. Kearney
 2nd Lt. Henry A. Keel
 1st Lt. Milton T. Kellum
 2nd Lt. John A. Key
 S/Sgt. Robert F. Kraeger
 2nd Lt. George W. Kylius
 Sgt. Allan W. La Rocque
 2nd Lt. Bernard Lazarus
 Sgt. Loree L. Le Boeuf
 Sgt. James W. Lefler
 2nd Lt. Archibald Lindsay
 S/Sgt. John A. Manconi
 Cpl. Richard J. McCarthy
 1st Lt. Keith A. McKee
 S/Sgt. Milton S. Miller
 2nd Lt. Norman K. Miller
 1st Lt. Robert F. Miller
 Sgt. Francis M. Monahan
 S/Sgt. Charles A. Moore
 1st Lt. Roy J. Moore
 Cpl. Leaburn D. Myers

1st Lt. Ronald B. Nelson
 Sgt. George A. Newcomb
 T/Sgt. Charlton Norton
 S/Sgt. Daniel G. O'Connell
 Capt. James L. Orr
 2nd Lt. Joseph C. Parker
 Capt. Ralph C. Payne
 Pvt. William M. Ramsey
 2nd Lt. Durward R. Reed
 1st Lt. Harlan L. Reid
 1st Lt. Glen O. Richardson
 1st Lt. Walter A. Riordan
 1st Lt. Richard G. Ruby
 Capt. Lamar S. Russell
 Sgt. Edward C. Ryan
 1st Lt. James L. Scarlott
 1st Lt. Ralph L. L. Schmidt
 Capt. Virgil A. Schwab
 1st Lt. Saul Schwartz
 2nd Lt. Donald L. Scott
 2nd Lt. Robert W. Shepherd
 Cpl. Henry T. Sheppard
 S/Sgt. Robert Small
 Cpl. Albert H. Smith
 2nd Lt. Luther P. Smith, Jr.
 Sgt. Ray E. Smith
 Sgt. John J. Stephenson
 S/Sgt. Robert W. Stockstill
 2nd Lt. Henry Swartz
 1st Lt. Raymond A. Tabb
 Cpl. George E. Thigpin
 2nd Lt. Charles R. Thomas
 S/Sgt. Clinton W. Thompson
 Cpl. Richard M. Wallace
 2nd Lt. Walter D. Weeks
 1st Lt. Robert B. Widener
 Sgt. Danforth E. Wilkins
 1st Lt. Bennett G. Wilson
 T/Sgt. Luther P. Word
 T/Sgt. Ivan M. Wright

Prisoner of war

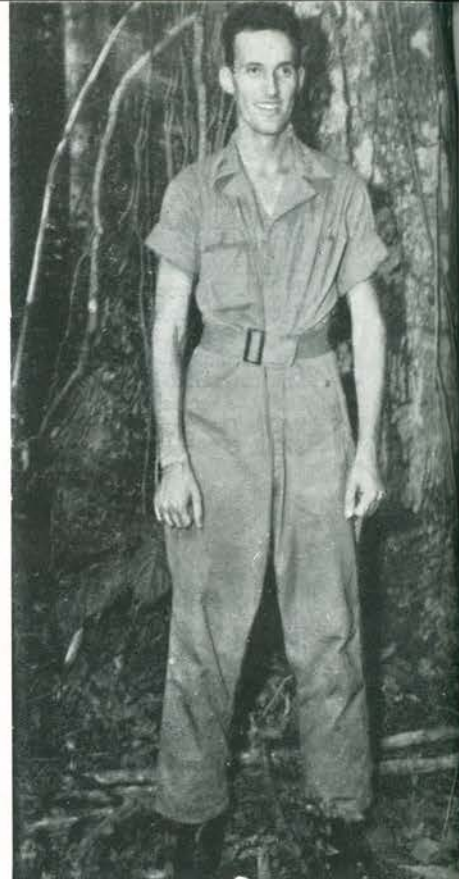
S/Sgt. Ernest R. Fanta

THIRD GROUP DECORATIONS AND CITATIONS



Congressional Medal of Honor

- For gallantry above and beyond the call of duty.



Maj. Raymond H. Wilkins



Distinguished Service Cross

- For extraordinary heroism.

Maj. George H. Bengel
Col. John H. Davies
Col. Donald P. Hall
Col. John P. Henebry
Lt. Col. Ronald D. Hubbard
T/Sgt. Arthur G. Kelly
Maj. Herman F. Lowery
Capt. Robert G. Oestreicher
2nd Lt. William L. Nuchols

2nd Lt. Henry J. Rose
Capt. Robert G. Ruegg
Capt. James R. Smith
Lt. Col. Robert F. Strickland
Sgt. Andrew J. Swain
Capt. Leland A. Walker
T/Sgt. William B. Wherry
Sgt. Clifton J. Wright



Silver Star

- For gallantry in action.

M/Sgt. Firman S. Adams
S/Sgt. Jack H. Agee
Sgt. E. H. Allan (RAAF)
S/Sgt. Ronald J. Allsop

2nd Lt. Donald E. Anderson
Cpl. Lowell A. Anderson
1st Lt. Theodore Arter, III
T/Sgt. Robert L. Barlow ★
Cpl. Gordon W. Barton
Capt. Charles A. Baumhauer
1st Lt. Joe M. Bean
Maj. Frank P. Bender ★
2nd Lt. Wayne M. Bertram
S/Sgt. Oscar C. Biddle
T/Sgt. Hilroy M. Boswell
Capt. Charles S. Brown
T/Sgt. Frederick A. Bumgardner
Sgt. Junia D. Bryning
S/Sgt. James O. Cannady
Capt. George A. Carter
Sgt. James A. Carter
S/Sgt. Victor J. Ceryanec
2nd Lt. Arthur L. Chambers
S/Sgt. Julian J. Champagne
M/Sgt. John B. Chesson
Sgt. Philip H. Childs
Capt. Edward J. Chudoba
1st Lt. William C. Clapp
Maj. Glenn W. Clark
Maj. David M. Conley
S/Sgt. Edward P. Connor, Jr.
S/Sgt. O. C. Cook
Cpl. Walter N. Cook
T/Sgt. William T. Corbitt
S/Sgt. William E. Cory
Col. John H. Davies
2nd Lt. Claude L. Dean
Sgt. Walter A. Doiron
1st Lt. Charles F. Dolan
Col. James A. Downs
Sgt. Bernard V. Dulcos

Lt. Col. Richard H. Ellis
 2nd Lt. Donald K. Emerson
 Maj. Alexander G. Evanoff
 1st Lt. George C. Farr
 Sgt. Alfred H. Fawe
 1st Lt. John D. Feltham
 2nd Lt. Joseph W. Ferguson
 Sgt. Francis M. Fowler
 Sgt. Charles D. Franklin
 Sgt. Glenn R. Frizzle
 Sgt. John P. Gaydos
 Maj. Thomas P. Gerrity
 2nd Lt. Walter R. Gerry
 Maj. Donald E. Good ★
 2nd Lt. Miles L. Green
 Capt. George R. Greene
 1st Lt. Richard Greenhalgh
 Lt. Col. Paul I. Gunn
 Col. Donald P. Hall
 Capt. Robert F. Hambrough
 Cpl. Lowell K. Hammond
 Sgt. Alvin L. Hartman
 M/Sgt. Henry A. Hartman
 Capt. Phil H. Hawkins
 2nd Lt. Vernon A. Heidinger
 Capt. Gustave M. Heiss ★
 Col. John P. Henebry
 1st Lt. Richard C. Henrich
 2nd Lt. John E. Hesselbarth
 1st Lt. Alfred A. Heyman ★
 Capt. John M. Hill
 2nd Lt. James T. Holcomb
 Maj. Charles W. Howe
 Lt. Col. Ronald D. Hubbard ★
 S/Sgt. James N. Hume
 1st Lt. Jacob A. Hutchison
 2nd Lt. Sidney W. Jacobson
 Capt. William R. Johnson ★
 1st Lt. Wilfred B. Jones
 2nd Lt. Henry A. Keel
 2nd Lt. John J. Keeter, Jr.
 Sgt. George F. Kehoe
 1st Lt. Milton T. Kellum
 1st Lt. Woody H. Keyes, Jr.
 Sgt. Wilmer L. Kidd
 2nd Lt. Gus Kitchens
 Capt. Fred W. Klatt, Jr.
 1st Lt. Kenneth R. Ladd ★
 S/Sgt. Brewster M. Land
 Maj. Edward L. Larnier
 Sgt. Allan W. La Rocque
 S/Sgt. Felix H. Larronde
 2nd Lt. James P. Larronde
 Capt. R. H. Launder
 1st Lt. Walter S. Lee
 Sgt. Paul R. Lennon
 Capt. John R. Linn ★
 Sgt. Irving W. Lnenicka
 Sgt. Donald S. Mackay
 1st Lt. William C. Mackey ★
 Capt. James H. Mangan
 Maj. Harold V. Maull ★
 Capt. Charley H. Mayo
 Capt. James B. McAfee
 Sgt. Vernon McBroom
 2nd Lt. James W. McCann, Jr.
 Sgt. Dallis W. McGill
 S/Sgt. Jack O. Methvin

Sgt. Robert T. Middleton
 S/Sgt. James W. Miller
 1st Lt. Robert H. Miller
 1st Lt. Donald C. Mitchell
 Sgt. Robert C. Mongrain
 1st Lt. Edmund D. Montagano
 2nd Lt. Robert E. Murphy
 T/Sgt. Kirby W. Neal ★
 S/Sgt. Mack H. Nealy
 Maj. Ernest B. Nennemann
 Cpl. S. P. Newell
 Sgt. Robert H. Newman
 T/Sgt. Albert C. Nichols
 Capt. Marne Noelke
 T/Sgt. Quentin Pardue
 S/Sgt. Leonard A. Parsons
 1st Lt. William T. Pearson
 S/Sgt. Michael Pecosky
 S/Sgt. Holly Perkins
 Maj. Malcom E. Petersen
 Maj. Christian Petri, Jr.
 Capt. Robert A. Price
 Sgt. Francis H. Pryor
 1st Lt. Charles L. Richards
 Sgt. Bufford D. Robin
 Capt. Henry J. Rose ★
 S/Sgt. David H. Runager
 1st Lt. Alexander R. Salvatore
 Sgt. Ralph Sam
 T/Sgt. Forrest O. Sampson
 1st Lt. Jack S. Saunders ★
 1st Lt. Ralph L. Schmidt ★
 1st Lt. Virgil A. Schwab
 Capt. George F. Schwartz, Jr.
 Maj. Irvine H. Shearer
 2nd Lt. Robert W. Shepherd
 Cpl. Henry R. Sheppard
 1st Lt. Jay I. Shoop
 Cpl. John H. Simon
 Sgt. Doyle H. Simpson
 Capt. James R. Smith
 2nd Lt. Luther P. Smith, Jr.
 Sgt. Raymond E. Smith
 T/Sgt. Everett W. Snyder
 1st Lt. John Soloc
 1st Lt. Edward T. Solomon
 Sgt. John J. Stephenson
 Sgt. George C. Stevens
 S/Sgt. Andrew J. Swain
 2nd Lt. Henry G. Swartz
 Capt. Thomas P. Talley ★
 T/Sgt. Arnold M. Thompson
 Sgt. Rulon E. Thornock
 S/Sgt. Franklyn L. Timberlake
 Capt. Francis E. Timlin
 2nd Lt. Edwin C. Townsend
 Sgt. Donald R. Vance
 Capt. Leland A. Walker
 Cpl. Richard M. Wallace ★
 Sgt. James H. Webb
 Capt. William H. Webster, Jr.
 Capt. Howard B. West
 2nd Lt. Robert B. Widener
 Maj. Raymond H. Wilkins
 1st Lt. Bennett G. Wilson ★
 T/Sgt. Luther B. Word
 Sgt. Howard C. Worden
 T/Sgt. Ivan M. Wright



M/Sgt. Louis F. Carpenter
 W/O Theodore J. Caruzzi
 M/Sgt. Orville Casteel
 Lt. Col. Paul I. Gunn



Distinguished Flying Cross

- For extraordinary achievement in flight.

S/Sgt. Ronald J. Allsop
 T/Sgt. Perry C. Alford, Jr.
 Capt. James A. Angel
 1st Lt. Urban L. Arens
 S/Sgt. Harold Axt

Legion of Merit

- For outstanding service.

Capt. John Hamilton
 M/Sgt. Archie B. Hill
 W/O Ralph E. Hughes
 Capt. John E. Karol
 T/Sgt. Benhart H. Kero
 Maj. Edward A. Keszler
 Maj. Edward L. Larnier
 Capt. Robert D. Lauer
 W/O Jack Morgan
 Maj. Garland J. Robinson
 S/Sgt. Ernest V. Roy
 Capt. Lamar S. Russell
 M/Sgt. Barvin D. Seen
 M/Sgt. Louis F. Sevcik
 Maj. Walter W. Shegda
 Capt. James T. Swann, Jr.
 M/Sgt. Toby Tucker
 S/Sgt. Kenneth G. Ward
 Capt. John J. Wood

T/Sgt. Robert L. Barlow
 S/Sgt. William A. Barrow
 Maj. Alfred E. Baucom ★
 S/Sgt. Richard L. Baumgardner
 1st Lt. Joe M. Bean
 S/Sgt. Joseph R. Beatty
 Capt. William J. Beck, Jr.
 S/Sgt. Curtis E. Benefield
 1st Lt. Edward E. Benham
 Sgt. Joseph A. Berube
 1st Lt. John R. Bevan
 2nd Lt. Richard R. Birnn
 S/Sgt. Cornel J. Biskupski
 T/Sgt. Shannon W. Bohrer
 Capt. Robert L. Boydston
 1st Lt. George J. Breindel
 S/Sgt. John D. Brackett
 T/Sgt. Wayland E. Braswell
 Capt. Willis H. Bridges
 Capt. Hayes D. Brown ★
 1st Lt. James L. Brown
 1st Lt. Joseph C. Brown, Jr.
 T/Sgt. Trencie Brumley
 2nd Lt. Howard R. Bunce
 1st Lt. Benjamin F. Burgess
 S/Sgt. Grealie A. Burk
 2nd Lt. George P. Caldwell
 S/Sgt. George H. Chamberlain
 Capt. Robert D. Chatt ★
 T/Sgt. Cyril M. Christensen
 1st Lt. Kenneth P. Christiansen
 Capt. Edward J. Chudoba
 1st Lt. William C. Clapp
 Maj. Glenn W. Clark
 S/Sgt. Joseph H. Clark
 Capt. Thomas H. Cline
 Maj. David M. Conley
 1st Lt. John C. Conn
 S/Sgt. Edward D. Connor, Jr.
 Cpl. Walter N. Cook
 S/Sgt. Kenneth A. Cooper
 S/Sgt. Harold J. Corbridge
 1st Lt. James B. Criswell ★
 Capt. William K. Culp
 Capt. John J. Dean ★
 S/Sgt. Joe P. Dickerson

1st Lt. Charles F. Dolan
 Maj. Robert N. Dow, Jr. ★
 Col. James A. Downs
 S/Sgt. Bernard V. Dulcos
 Capt. Roger D. Dunbar
 1st Lt. Leonard T. Duval
 2nd Lt. Arthur G. Ebeling
 Lt. Col. Richard H. Ellis
 Maj. Alexander G. Evanoff
 S/Sgt. Omar N. Ferguson
 2nd Lt. Charles W. Fick
 1st Lt. Melville W. Fisher
 Capt. Theodore G. Fitch
 Capt. James L. Folse
 1st Lt. Donald O. Frey
 Sgt. George L. Gann
 Maj. Donald E. Good ★
 1st Lt. Charles S. Grant
 Lt. Col. Paul I. Gunn ★
 Capt. Nat Gunter, Jr.
 S/Sgt. Joe Hagan
 Col. Donald P. Hall ★★
 1st Lt. John W. Hanson
 F/O Jack K. Harrington
 2nd Lt. Jack Harris
 Sgt. Wesley J. Hayes
 Capt. Walter J. Hearn
 Capt. Joseph H. Helbert
 Col. John P. Henebry ★★★
 Capt. Charles D. Hewes
 S/Sgt. Victor A. Hoffacker
 2nd Lt. George L. Howard
 Maj. Charles W. Howe ★
 Lt. Col. Ronald D. Hubbard
 S/Sgt. James N. Hume
 Capt. William R. Johnson
 1st Lt. Ernest C. Jones, Jr.
 1st Lt. Lee H. Jones
 Capt. John G. Kelley, Jr.
 T/Sgt. John S. Kerstetter
 1st Lt. Woody H. Keyes, Jr. ★
 1st Lt. Sam H. Killebrew
 1st Lt. Kenneth R. Ladd
 Maj. Edward L. Lamer
 Capt. Richard H. Lander
 S/Sgt. James F. Lott
 Sgt. Howard E. Macdonald
 Capt. Donald J. Maclellan ★
 S/Sgt. Paul W. Malito
 Capt. James H. Mangan
 Capt. Clarence L. Martindale
 1st Lt. Gilbert A. Masden
 Maj. Harold V. Maull
 Capt. Charley H. Mayo ★
 Capt. James B. McAfee
 2nd Lt. Gordon K. McCoun
 2nd Lt. Keith A. McKee
 Capt. Donald M. McNutt
 Capt. Joseph R. McWhirt
 1st Lt. Turner P. Messick
 S/Sgt. Jack O. Methvin
 S/Sgt. James W. Miller ★
 1st Lt. Robert H. Miller
 Capt. Harvy F. Minor
 Capt. Horace B. Monroe ★
 1st Lt. Edmund D. Montagano
 S/Sgt. James U. Moore
 Maj. Joseph E. Moore ★

S/Sgt. Louis E. Murphy
 S/Sgt. Charles R. Narducci
 T/Sgt. Kirby W. Neal ★
 1st Lt. William W. Neel ★
 2nd Lt. Roland B. Nelson
 Maj. Ernest B. Nennemann
 2nd Lt. Birge A. Neuman
 Capt. Marne Noelke
 Capt. Mac C. Norwood
 Maj. Robert G. Oestreicher
 M/Sgt. Ray A. Oliver
 1st Lt. George F. O'Neal
 M/Sgt. Melvin E. Owens
 T/Sgt. Quentin Pardue
 S/Sgt. Holly Perkins, Jr.
 Maj. Christian Petri, Jr.
 S/Sgt. Ernest Phillips
 Capt. Fred T. Potter
 S/Sgt. Eugene F. Powers
 Capt. Robert A. Price
 Sgt. Thomas E. Priddy
 F/O Harold R. Prince
 1st Lt. James W. Pryor
 Capt. Martin J. Radnik ★
 1st Lt. Robert W. Reed
 1st Lt. Harlen L. Reid
 1st Lt. Edward R. Richardson
 Capt. Lynn K. Roberts
 Capt. Henry J. Rose
 Maj. Kenneth E. Rosebush ★
 1st Lt. Herbert E. Rothery
 T/Sgt. Miles L. Rowe
 1st Lt. Richard G. Ruby
 1st Lt. Arden M. Rulison
 1st Lt. Henry G. Rust
 2nd Lt. Mis Rutland
 2nd Lt. Herbert F. Rutters
 1st Lt. Jack S. Saunders
 Capt. John E. Sbisra
 1st Lt. Ralph L. Schmidt ★
 S/Sgt. Harold D. Sechrest
 S/Sgt. Donald J. Setterstedt
 Capt. William H. Shaw
 S/Sgt. William W. Sherman
 1st Lt. Jay I. Shoop ★
 Capt. David Sigismund ★
 S/Sgt. Sylvester B. Silva
 Sgt. Stiles A. Simpson
 Capt. Arthur Small ★
 Capt. John W. Smallwood
 1st Lt. Albert W. Smith, Jr.
 S/Sgt. Edward B. Smith, Jr.
 Capt. James R. Smith
 S/Sgt. Kenneth L. Smith
 1st Lt. Edward T. Solomon
 S/Sgt. Hubert P. Sorenson
 1st Lt. Norman J. Spitzer ★
 Capt. Roger E. Strasburg
 S/Sgt. Robert L. Strom
 T/Sgt. Leslie A. Sucker
 S/Sgt. Archie H. Taylor
 1st Lt. John F. Taylor
 S/Sgt. Franklyn L. Timberlake
 1st Lt. Eugene T. Tisonyci
 1st Lt. Darvin L. Trout
 T/O Dwight E. Turner
 Capt. Lilius M. Virden
 2nd Lt. Rade Vukelic

1st Lt. Thomas R. Waddell
 Cpl. Richard M. Wallace
 2nd Lt. Richard C. Wein
 1st Lt. Robert G. Widener
 Maj. Raymond H. Wilkins ★★★
 1st Lt. Clifford L. Wonderly
 T/Sgt. Verlon E. Woodard
 1st Lt. John B. Wright



Soldier's Medal

- For heroism not involving actual conflict with the enemy.

Pfc. Russel J. Ackerman
 Capt. Alonzo J. Beavers, Jr.
 S/Sgt. Thomas J. Cervenak
 S/Sgt. Alfred E. Clark
 Capt. George R. Connor
 S/Sgt. Albert C. Corbello
 T/Sgt. Edgar E. Crist
 M/Sgt. Howard W. Deal
 T/4 Frank A. Derosa
 T/4 Edward J. Dowling
 Sgt. Acy B. Duhon
 Sgt. Glenn R. Frizzle
 Lt. Col. John E. Gilmore
 S/Sgt. George W. Gun
 Cpl. Abney C. Hines
 Lt. Col. William C. Hood, Jr.
 T/Sgt. Alonzo J. Jones
 S/Sgt. Louis Kaufman
 Pfc. Edward J. Ksiezyk
 Capt. Robert D. Lauer
 Cpl. John Leclair
 S/Sgt. Owen M. Reynolds
 T/Sgt. M. C. Shelnut
 T/5 Louis W. Sigrist
 T/Sgt. James D. Warrington
 Cpl. Harry L. White



Bronze Star Medal

- For heroic or meritorious achievement.

T/Sgt. James H. Barlow
 T/Sgt. Eugene P. Gannon
 W/O Harry V. Harby
 Capt. Charles A. Jones
 T/Sgt. Glenn M. Lower
 T/Sgt. Stancell L. Norwood, Jr.
 T/Sgt. Peter D. Ricardi
 T/Sgt. Robert R. Royle
 Capt. Ogden M. Short
 1st Sgt. Ralph I. Simpson
 M/Sgt. Pershing L. Trembath
 T/Sgt. James D. Warrington



Air Medal

- For meritorious achievement in flight.

S/Sgt. Edward A. Adams
 S/Sgt. Jack H. Agee
 1st Lt. George M. Akers ★

Sgt. Stanley G. Akers ★
 Sgt. Lawrence W. Allport
 S/Sgt. Ronald J. Allsop
 Sgt. Perry C. Alford, Jr.
 1st Lt. Charles J. Anderson
 1st Lt. Edward J. Angiel
 1st Lt. Urban L. Arens
 Capt. Theodore Arter, III
 S/Sgt. James E. Atkinson
 S/Sgt. Harold Axt
 M/Sgt. Clifford R. Baird
 1st Lt. Harold W. Baker ★
 1st Lt. Howard R. Baker ★
 Capt. John C. Baldwin ★
 T/Sgt. William A. Barrow ★
 S/Sgt. George F. Bass, Jr.
 Maj. Alfred E. Baucom ★
 S/Sgt. Richard L. Baumgardner
 S/Sgt. Gordon D. Bawsel ★
 1st Lt. Joe M. Bean
 Capt. William J. Beck
 Sgt. Everett F. Beecher
 S/Sgt. Charles E. Bell
 Maj. Frank P. Bender
 S/Sgt. George K. Benfer
 1st Lt. William L. Bersch ★
 2nd Lt. John Bertram
 T/Sgt. Robert E. Berube ★
 S/Sgt. Oscar H. Biddle
 S/Sgt. Cornel J. Biskupski ★
 Sgt. William F. Black
 T/Sgt. Harry P. Blackburn, Jr.
 S/Sgt. Richard F. Blake
 S/Sgt. Ceasar F. Bocchino ★
 Pvt. John C. Boggs
 S/Sgt. Henry A. Bogucke
 T/Sgt. Shannon W. Bohrer
 1st Lt. Ansel L. Boiter
 2nd Lt. Charles T. Boldin
 T/Sgt. Hilroy M. Boswell
 T/Sgt. James Bowling ★
 S/Sgt. Andrew Boychak
 S/Sgt. Gettys F. Braswell ★
 Capt. Willis H. Bridges
 2nd Lt. John S. Bromage
 Capt. Charles S. Brown
 Capt. Hayes D. Brown ***
 Capt. Harvey N. Brown
 1st Lt. David W. Brown
 1st Lt. James L. Brown
 1st Lt. Joseph C. Brown
 S/Sgt. Meredith F. Bryant
 S/Sgt. Sammel B. Burch
 S/Sgt. Marion J. Burcham
 1st Lt. Benjamin F. Burgess ★
 S/Sgt. Grealie A. Burk
 2nd Lt. Albert G. Burke, Jr.
 S/Sgt. John C. Burniston
 S/Sgt. Woodrow W. Butler ***
 Pfc. William K. Byrkett
 Sgt. William R. Campbell ★

S/Sgt. Santos Candia
 S/Sgt. Ashford H. Cardwell ★
 Sgt. John W. Carper
 Sgt. James A. Carter
 S/Sgt. Edward N. Casarino
 S/Sgt. Joseph P. Casillas ★
 1st Lt. Joseph H. Castelli
 M/Sgt. Norman L. Cates
 S/Sgt. Thomas J. Cervenak ★
 S/Sgt. Benney C. Cessna ***
 T/Sgt. Hurchel B. Chapin
 M/Sgt. John B. Chesson
 S/Sgt. John M. Chiapilla
 1st Lt. William C. Clapp
 S/Sgt. Alfred E. Clark ★
 S/Sgt. Joseph H. Clark ★
 2nd Lt. John J. Clarke ★
 Sgt. Adolphus T. Clements
 Pvt. Walter F. Clifford
 Sgt. Harris N. Coffey
 1st Lt. Henry F. Coghill
 S/Sgt. William R. Coleman **
 S/Sgt. Carl E. Collins
 S/Sgt. Ralph H. Combs
 Maj. David M. Conley
 Capt. John C. Conn ★
 S/Sgt. Edward D. Connor, Jr.
 T/Sgt. O. C. Cook
 S/Sgt. John E. Corbin ★
 S/Sgt. Harold J. Corbridge
 S/Sgt. William E. Cory
 S/Sgt. William T. Covington **
 1st Lt. Jack B. Craig ★
 S/Sgt. George E. Craig
 2nd Lt. Norman L. Craig
 T/Sgt. William A. Creel, Jr.
 1st Lt. Robert T. Crosby
 S/Sgt. Lyle W. Crovisier
 S/Sgt. Ottis Cunningham
 Pfc. Mack Cunningham
 T/Sgt. Robert J. Daems **
 M/Sgt. Joseph E. Daniel
 S/Sgt. Billy R. Darling
 1st Lt. Richard H. Davis ★
 S/Sgt. Samuel Davis
 Capt. John J. Dean **
 S/Sgt. William H. DeWeese
 Maj. Wesley E. Dickinson
 T/Sgt. Romaine J. Diemert ★
 T/Sgt. Frank T. Dietz **
 S/Sgt. Herbert W. Divers
 1st Lt. Frank L. Dixon ★
 S/Sgt. Richard J. Dodge
 Maj. Robert N. Dow, Jr.
 Capt. Donald W. Dower
 Col. James A. Downs
 2nd Lt. John P. Downs
 1st Lt. R. A. Duckett
 Capt. Roger D. Dunbar
 S/Sgt. Irwin W. Dufour ★
 1st Lt. Robert F. Dunkel

1st Lt. Leonard T. Duval
 Sgt. William L. Eason ★
 2nd Lt. Warren G. Edgemam
 S/Sgt. Charles E. Edwards ★
 S/Sgt. Edward O. Edwards
 S/Sgt. Bennie Estep
 Lt. Col. Richard H. Ellis ★
 S/Sgt. William H. Epperson ★
 S/Sgt. Leslie M. Erickson
 Maj. Alexander G. Evanoff
 S/Sgt. Eugene L. Evans
 1st Lt. George C. Farr
 S/Sgt. Ernest R. Fanta
 1st Lt. Steve J. Festini
 1st Lt. John D. Field
 1st Lt. Melville W. Fisher ★
 Capt. Theodore G. Fitch
 S/Sgt. Thomas Fizzano
 Capt. James L. Folse
 1st Lt. William H. D. Fones ★
 S/Sgt. Olyus L. Ford
 1st Lt. Avril L. Foreman
 S/Sgt. Vernon T. Forman
 S/Sgt. John D. Foss, Jr.
 1st Lt. William A. Fowler
 S/Sgt. Joseph Fox
 S/Sgt. James E. Foxworth
 S/Sgt. Charles D. Franklin, Jr.
 1st Lt. Donald O. Frey ★
 S/Sgt. Louis A. Funds
 S/Sgt. Joe P. Fury
 Maj. Harry L. Galusha
 Cpl. George L. Gann
 S/Sgt. Joseph M. Garber **
 S/Sgt. Alfred J. Gates ★
 T/Sgt. Kenneth W. Gatewood
 S/Sgt. John P. Gaydos ★
 S/Sgt. Kenneth J. Gellins
 S/Sgt. Joseph A. Gerchow
 Maj. Thomas P. Gerrity
 1st Lt. Walter R. Gerry
 1st Lt. David M. Gilliam
 S/Sgt. John I. Gilson
 T/Sgt. Gerald P. Gise
 Cpl. Irving Glick
 S/Sgt. Robert R. Glosup, Jr.
 1st Lt. George H. Gmitro **
 Sgt. Samuel Goldstein
 1st Lt. Thomas A. Gormely **
 1st Lt. George H. Gossom ★
 Capt. George R. Greene ***
 1st Lt. Richard Greenhalgh
 S/Sgt. Ivan O. Griffiths **
 S/Sgt. Joe Hagan
 F/O Joseph P. Haley
 Col. Donald P. Hall
 S/Sgt. Clifford R. Hall
 Sgt. George J. Hall ★
 1st Lt. Harry G. Hamilton
 S/Sgt. John J. Hammel ★
 S/Sgt. Herbert Hansford

T/Sgt. Joe S. Harrell
 S/Sgt. Redus W. Harrell ★
 1st Lt. Jack K. Harrington ★
 S/Sgt. Art C. Haught
 Capt. Phil H. Hawkins **
 Sgt. Wesley J. Hayes
 T/Sgt. Edward G. Haynes
 S/Sgt. Murrell E. Hazel
 Capt. Joseph E. Helbert
 1st Lt. William C. Hellriegel
 Sgt. William L. Hendren
 Col. John P. Henebry ★
 1st Lt. David G. Herrin
 Capt. Charles C. Hewes
 Capt. Walter L. Heyer ★
 1st Lt. Alfred A. Heyman
 1st Lt. Royal F. Hibblen ★
 2nd Lt. Elliott Hickam
 2nd Lt. Alden L. Hicks
 S/Sgt. John K. Higgins
 S/Sgt. Harry K. Hinkle **
 S/Sgt. Gordon B. Hoar
 S/Sgt. Victor A. Hoffacker
 1st Lt. William H. Hofmeier, Jr.
 T/Sgt. Robert C. Hooley ★
 1st Lt. Raymond C. Hosback
 1st Lt. George L. Howard
 Maj. Charles W. Howe **
 S/Sgt. Donald W. Huempfner
 M/Sgt. Jimmie L. Humphrey
 Capt. Jacob A. Hutchison ★
 Sgt. Robert Jensen
 S/Sgt. David B. Johnson ★
 S/Sgt. George L. Johnson
 S/Sgt. Glenn E. Johnson
 S/Sgt. George W. Johnson ★
 S/Sgt. Melvin A. Johnston
 2nd Lt. Lee H. Jones
 1st Lt. Wilfred B. Jones
 S/Sgt. Otto Jungman
 S/Sgt. Merle A. Kasiah **
 S/Sgt. Edward D. Kasper **
 S/Sgt. Louis Kaufman
 1st Lt. Milton T. Kellum
 1st Lt. John G. Kelly, Jr.
 1st Lt. Paul Kendrach
 T/Sgt. John S. Kerstetter
 1st Lt. Woody H. Keyes, Jr.
 1st Lt. Lawrence H. Keys
 S/Sgt. Wilmer L. Kidd
 1st Lt. Sam H. Killebrew
 2nd Lt. Walter S. King
 S/Sgt. John M. Kiniry **
 Sgt. Michael Kischkum ****
 S/Sgt. Harry L. Kiser ★
 Capt. Fred W. Klatt, Jr.
 S/Sgt. John Klatt ★
 Capt. Stanley D. Kline
 Sgt. Stanley J. Kolonoski
 S/Sgt. Robert F. Kraeger
 S/Sgt. Westel B. Koup

S/Sgt. Thomas F. Kratz ***
 S/Sgt. Frederick J. Krause
 Capt. Craigie J. Krayenbuhl *
 S/Sgt. Doc C. Kunze
 1st Lt. Kenneth R. Ladd
 S/Sgt. Brewster M. Land, Jr. *
 1st Lt. William J. Langley *
 S/Sgt. Francis J. Larkin
 Maj. Edward L. Larner
 T/Sgt. Felix Larronde
 2nd Lt. Walter S. Lee **
 Capt. Donald T. Lees *
 Sgt. James W. Lefler
 S/Sgt. James H. Lemoyne
 S/Sgt. Warren K. Lettsome
 S/Sgt. Carl J. Lewis
 2nd Lt. Cecil N. Liles *
 2nd Lt. Kenneth Lindsay
 S/Sgt. Sidney F. Lindsley
 S/Sgt. Irvin W. Lnenicka
 1st Lt. Robert V. Lockhart *
 S/Sgt. Alfred B. Lockwood **
 1st Lt. Richard H. Loftus *
 2nd Lt. William P. Long
 S/Sgt. James F. Lott
 1st Lt. Lawrence L. Lowery ****
 S/Sgt. Chester A. Lukaszak **
 S/Sgt. Howard W. Lundgren
 S/Sgt. James E. Lutterell
 1st Lt. Risdan A. Lyon *
 Capt. Donald J. Maclellan **
 Capt. Finlay Macgillivray
 S/Sgt. Peter Mackes *
 1st Lt. Robert D. Mackoy
 1st Lt. John F. Madden *
 1st Lt. Walter K. Maddux
 S/Sgt. Robert F. Mahoney
 T/Sgt. Vernon J. Main, Jr.
 1st Lt. George A. Maki *
 2nd Lt. Jesus M. Maldonado
 S/Sgt. Henry J. Malicki **
 Sgt. Paul W. Malito
 T/Sgt. Robert S. Mallard
 S/Sgt. John Manovich **
 S/Sgt. Herbert A. Marion *

S/Sgt. Harry N. Marlar
 S/Sgt. Joseph M. Maroney
 S/Sgt. Lewis R. Marrelli
 S/Sgt. Thomas W. Marricle
 S/Sgt. Steve Marsinek
 Capt. Wendell J. Martin
 1st Lt. Everett L. Martin
 S/Sgt. Virgil H. Martin
 Sgt. Richard A. Martin
 2nd Lt. Richard R. Martin
 Capt. Clarence L. Martindale **
 S/Sgt. Charles H. Maupin **
 Capt. Charley H. Mayo
 Capt. Claud McAden
 T/Sgt. Richard W. McAlear *
 S/Sgt. Arthur W. McCain
 Sgt. Milo J. McClernon
 1st Lt. Gordon K. McCoun *
 S/Sgt. Joseph T. McDermott
 1st Lt. James T. McEvoy
 1st Lt. Edward A. McFadden
 Pvt. Dallis W. McGill
 1st Lt. Keith A. McKee
 S/Sgt. Richard S. McKinney *
 Capt. Donald M. McNutt
 Capt. Joseph R. McWhirt
 S/Sgt. Milton B. Meadows *
 1st Lt. Turner P. Messick *
 T/Sgt. Jack O. Methvin
 S/Sgt. Julius Miller *
 2nd Lt. Lynus P. Miller
 1st Lt. Raymond Miller **
 2nd Lt. Robert H. Miller
 1st Lt. Robert F. Miller
 Capt. Harvey R. Minor
 Sgt. Francis M. Monahan
 Capt. Horace S. Monroe *
 1st Lt. Edmund D. Montagano
 S/Sgt. Charles A. Moore
 T/Sgt. Cyrial A. Moore
 Maj. Joseph E. Moore *
 S/Sgt. Julius R. Moore **
 Capt. Charles E. Moorefield
 S/Sgt. Clarence C. Moreau *
 T/Sgt. Edward F. Morman *

S/Sgt. George E. Morris
 S/Sgt. Emmor B. Mullenhour *
 S/Sgt. Richard A. Murphy
 S/Sgt. Lawrence W. Muscott
 Capt. William W. Neel *
 Maj. Ernest B. Nennemann
 S/Sgt. Manuel W. Nevares
 Cpl. S. P. Newell
 2nd Lt. Earl F. Nickerson, Jr.
 2nd Lt. Sam L. Norris *
 Capt. Mac C. Norwood *
 Cpl. Norman Norwood
 2nd Lt. William L. Nuchols
 Pfc. Robert K. Nycum
 S/Sgt. Thomas F. O'Conner **
 1st Lt. John P. O'Flahavan
 1st Lt. George F. O'Neal *
 M/Sgt. Will J. Orr *
 1st Lt. John R. Owen
 1st Lt. William G. Paine
 Capt. Herman P. Pancher
 Sgt. Joseph A. Paradiso
 T/Sgt. Edgar L. Parish
 S/Sgt. Leonard A. Parsons
 T/Sgt. Vernon C. Patterson *
 Capt. Phil M. Patton **
 1st Lt. Curtis M. Payson *
 1st Lt. William T. Pearson
 S/Sgt. Michael Pecosky
 S/Sgt. Harold I. Pelo *
 S/Sgt. Augustine Perez *
 S/Sgt. Frank M. Phillips
 Cpl. James C. Phillips, Jr. *
 1st Lt. Franklin C. Pilgrim *
 T/Sgt. Edgar L. Pillard
 S/Sgt. Herschel C. Piper
 1st Lt. Joseph C. Poire
 S/Sgt. Damon C. Poole
 S/Sgt. Loyd G. Popwell
 S/Sgt. Darrell L. Powell
 S/Sgt. Eugene F. Powers
 1st Lt. Harold R. Prince **
 S/Sgt. Joseph L. Prochnicki
 Maj. Gerald J. Prokopovitz *
 Sgt. Francis H. Pryor
 Capt. Martin J. Radnik **
 T/Sgt. William C. Ralis
 1st Lt. Orval A. Randerson
 S/Sgt. Thomas G. Randolph *
 F/O Hobart T. Rankin *
 Capt. Robert W. Reed
 S/Sgt. Calvin W. Reed
 S/Sgt. Olan W. Reeves
 S/Sgt. Owen M. Reynolds *
 S/Sgt. Raymond L. Rich
 Capt. Edward R. Richardson *
 1st Lt. William F. Rickord
 S/Sgt. Raymond J. Ripkowski
 Capt. Jarret B. Roan *
 Capt. Lynn K. Roberts **
 Sgt. David R. Rogers *

S/Sgt. William B. Roof
 Capt. Henry J. Rose
 Maj. Kenneth E. Rosebush **
 S/Sgt. Donald L. Ross
 S/Sgt. George E. Rossomme
 S/Sgt. Jess W. Rowland **
 S/Sgt. Raymond G. Rowland
 T/Sgt. Miles L. Rowe *
 S/Sgt. Harry E. Rucker **
 S/Sgt. David H. Runager
 1st Lt. William L. Rupert *
 1st Lt. William O. Ruse *
 T/Sgt. Charles F. Ruth
 1st Lt. Rix Rutland *
 T/Sgt. Norman H. Salles
 1st Lt. Alexander R. Salvatore
 Sgt. Forrest O. Sampson *
 1st Lt. Billy D. Sanders
 1st Lt. Jack S. Saunders
 Capt. John E. Sbisa
 1st Lt. James L. Scarlott *
 1st Lt. Ralph L. Schmidt
 S/Sgt. William J. Schneken-
 burger *
 Capt. George F. Schwartz, Jr.
 1st Lt. Saul Schwartz **
 S/Sgt. Donato Sciscento **
 Capt. Gordon A. Seeberg
 Sgt. Donald J. Setterstedt
 S/Sgt. Clark B. Shallenberger
 1st Lt. Joseph M. Shaltz
 Capt. William H. Shaw **
 Maj. Walter W. Shegda
 T/Sgt. Mozell C. Shelnett
 Sgt. John Shemelynce
 2nd Lt. Robert W. Shepherd
 Sgt. William M. Sherman
 Cpl. Paul A. Shingledecker
 S/Sgt. Charles S. Shipley *
 1st Lt. Abraham E. Shook **
 1st Lt. Jay I. Shoop
 S/Sgt. Joseph F. Sibilia
 Capt. David Sigismund *
 S/Sgt. Sylvester B. Silva
 M/Sgt. Aden L. Simmons
 S/Sgt. John H. Simon
 S/Sgt. Reeder C. Singler
 S/Sgt. Raymond E. Siple, Jr.
 Sgt. Harry Slaby
 Maj. Arthur Small
 Maj. Charles C. Smith **
 1st Lt. Abraham Soffer
 Capt. John Soloc
 Capt. Clint L. Solomon
 1st Lt. Edward T. Solomon *
 S/Sgt. Harold W. Sonnabend
 S/Sgt. Hubert P. Sorenson *
 S/Sgt. Charles M. Sotelo
 Capt. Edward M. Sounhein ***
 1st Lt. Emmet L. Spence, III *
 S/Sgt. Eugene Spence



1st Lt. Norman J. Spitzer
 S/Sgt. Floyd G. Stephens
 S/Sgt. George C. Stevens, Jr. ★
 1st Lt. Gilbert S. Stiles
 S/Sgt. Thomas A. Story ★★
 Capt. Roger E. Strasburg ★
 S/Sgt. Robert L. Strom
 1st Lt. Richard J. Sturla ★
 T/Sgt. Leslie A. Sucker
 Capt. Edmund C. Suor
 S/Sgt. Frank B. Susarrey ★★★
 S/Sgt. Andres J. Swain
 Cpl. William Swain
 T/Sgt. Victor N. Taber ★
 Capt. Thomas P. Talley ★
 1st Lt. William Tallon
 Sgt. Archie H. Taylor
 S/Sgt. Floyd E. Taylor ★
 S/Sgt. Herman S. Taylor ★★
 1st Lt. John F. Taylor ★
 S/Sgt. Mark W. Taylor
 1st Lt. Clifford P. Taylor ★★
 Capt. George S. Thomas
 S/Sgt. Charles C. Thompson ★
 T/Sgt. Rulon E. Thornock ★★
 S/Sgt. Franklyn L. Timberlake ★
 1st Lt. Richard F. Tobin
 M/Sgt. Pershing L. Trembath
 1st Lt. Darwin L. Troup ★
 1st Lt. John L. Trzaskowski ★
 1st Lt. Dwight E. Turner ★★
 1st Lt. Robert J. Tyrell ★
 S/Sgt. Phillander R. Villany ★
 1st Lt. Vernon F. Vinson
 1st Lt. Rade Vukelic
 Sgt. Arthur L. Waddle ★
 S/Sgt. Mitchell Wakem
 Capt. Richard L. Walker ★★★
 S/Sgt. Kenneth G. Ward
 Capt. Leland H. Waters, Jr.
 Capt. William H. Webster, Jr. ★
 Capt. Andrew H. Weigel ★
 Sgt. Frank H. Wentz
 S/Sgt. James W. West
 T/Sgt. James G. Westbrook
 S/Sgt. Arthur J. White
 2nd Lt. Thomas L. White
 2nd Lt. Robert B. Widener
 Maj. Raymond H. Wilkins ★
 Sgt. William P. Williams ★
 T/Sgt. Willis J. Williams
 2nd Lt. Robert S. Williamson
 S/Sgt. Paul M. Willock
 Sgt. Eugene F. Witeck ★
 S/Sgt. Willard C. Wolfer ★
 Capt. Clifford L. Wonderly
 T/Sgt. Verlon E. Woodard ★
 T/Sgt. Luther B. Word ★
 S/Sgt. Clifton J. Wright
 1st Lt. John H. Wright
 S/Sgt. Richard H. Wright

T/Sgt. Wade H. Wright ★
 Capt. Wallace L. Wright ★★★
 S/Sgt. Andrew B. Yaniga
 Cpl. Mitchell G. Yanoski
 T/Sgt. Mitchell J. Yelverton
 S/Sgt. Edwin J. Yerger
 T/Sgt. James E. Young
 S/Sgt. Lionel G. Young



Purple Heart

- For wounds received in action.

M/Sgt. Firman S. Adams
 F/O Jack H. Agee
 Sgt. Gordon C. Aldrich
 2nd Lt. Donald E. Anderson
 Cpl. Lowell A. Anderson
 Cpl. Frank S. Banach
 Sgt. Gordon W. Barton
 1st Lt. Joe M. Bean
 S/Sgt. Joseph R. Beatty
 Sgt. Harlen H. Beauman
 Sgt. Everett F. Beecher
 Maj. Frank P. Bender
 T/Sgt. George H. Bengal
 1st Lt. Edward D. Benham
 Sgt. Robert E. Berube
 S/Sgt. Cornel J. Biskupski
 S/Sgt. Ceasar R. Bocchino
 1st Lt. Charles S. Brown
 T/Sgt. John P. Butler
 S/Sgt. Santos Candia
 S/Sgt. Ashford H. Cardwell
 Sgt. James A. Carter
 T/Sgt. Norman L. Cates
 Sgt. Guy E. Clanton

S/Sgt. Joseph H. Clark
 Sgt. Adolphus T. Clements
 S/Sgt. Burke L. Cock ★
 Sgt. Ralph H. Combs
 Maj. David M. Conley
 T/Sgt. O. C. Cook
 S/Sgt. Kenneth A. Cooper
 S/Sgt. Lawrence H. Cooper
 S/Sgt. Murray Cooper
 S/Sgt. William E. Cory
 T/Sgt. William R. Crutchfield
 Cpl. Mack Cunningham
 S/Sgt. Samuel Davis
 S/Sgt. John Deckelman
 Maj. Wesley E. Dickinson
 Capt. Oliver C. Doan
 S/Sgt. Ace B. Duhon
 1st Lt. Leonard T. Duval
 S/Sgt. Edward O. Edwards
 Lt. Col. Richard H. Ellis
 M/Sgt. Jack G. Evans
 Cpl. Alfred A. Fawe
 1st Lt. Melville W. Fisher
 Capt. James L. Folse ★
 S/Sgt. Olyus L. Ford
 S/Sgt. Vernon T. Forman
 Pfc. Francis M. Fowler
 Cpl. Noah Frequez
 Sgt. Glenn R. Frizzle
 S/Sgt. Joseph M. Garber
 T/Sgt. Kenneth W. Gatewood
 S/Sgt. Joseph A. Gerchow
 Maj. Thomas P. Gerrity
 1st Lt. Walter R. Gerry ★
 Cpl. Irving Glick ★
 Capt. George H. Gmitro
 Cpl. Thomas D. Goodman
 1st Lt. Richard Greenhalgh
 S/Sgt. Joe Hagan
 Col. Donald P. Hall
 Cpl. Lowell K. Hammond
 S/Sgt. Herbert Hansford
 Sgt. Alvin L. Hartman
 Sgt. Joseph E. Hartman
 Cpl. Chester L. Hatcher ★
 S/Sgt. Art C. Haught
 Col. John P. Henebry
 1st Lt. David C. Herrin
 Capt. John M. Hill
 M/Sgt. Jimmie L. Humphrey
 Sgt. Merle A. Kasiah
 Cpl. Louis Kaufman
 1st Lt. Woody H. Keyes
 1st Lt. Sam H. Killebrew ★
 S/Sgt. Frederick J. Krause
 1st Lt. Craigie J. Krayenbuhl
 S/Sgt. Doc C. Kunze
 S/Sgt. Francis J. Larkin
 2nd Lt. Kenneth W. Lindsay
 2nd Lt. Robert V. Lockhart
 S/Sgt. Alfred B. Lockwood

S/Sgt. James F. Lott
 1st Lt. William C. Mackey
 Sgt. Steve Marsinek
 Capt. Charley H. Mayo
 1st Lt. Turner P. Messick
 1st Lt. Edward A. McFadden
 S/Sgt. Richard S. McKinney
 S/Sgt. James W. Miller
 Capt. Donald C. Mitchell
 Capt. Horace B. Monroe
 1st Lt. Edmund D. Montagano
 T/Sgt. Cyrial Moore
 S/Sgt. James U. Moore
 S/Sgt. George E. Morris
 Sgt. Jimmy D. Morris
 T/Sgt. Emmor B. Mullenhour ★
 Capt. Francis G. Murphy
 S/Sgt. Richard A. Murphy
 2nd Lt. Rowland B. Nelson
 Cpl. George H. Nelson
 Maj. Ernest B. Nennemann
 Cpl. Robert H. Newman
 1st Lt. John P. O'Flahavan
 M/Sgt. Ray A. Oliver
 1st Lt. George F. O'Neal
 Pfc. Claude Owens
 T/Sgt. Melvin E. Owens
 Sgt. Joseph A. Paradiso
 Cpl. George F. Parma
 S/Sgt. Harold I. Pelo
 T/Sgt. Henry S. Perkins
 S/Sgt. Holly Perkins
 S/Sgt. James D. Phillips
 S/Sgt. Lee W. Phillips
 1st Lt. Joseph C. Poire
 S/Sgt. Darrell L. Powell
 S/Sgt. Eugene F. Powers
 Sgt. Francis H. Pryor
 1st Lt. Thomas J. Reading
 S/Sgt. Owen M. Reynolds
 1st Lt. Charles L. Richards
 1st Lt. William F. Rickord
 Cpl. Hodges K. Rigdon
 2nd Lt. Earl S. Ripley
 Maj. Floyd W. Rogers
 S/Sgt. Raymond G. Rowland
 S/Sgt. Ernest V. Roy
 S/Sgt. David H. Runager
 F/O William O. Ruse
 Sgt. Edgar S. Rush
 1st Lt. Rix Rutland
 S/Sgt. Norman H. Salles
 Capt. William H. Shaw
 Sgt. Fred L. Shinkle
 S/Sgt. Sylvester B. Silva
 T/Sgt. Aden L. Simmons
 Cpl. John H. Simon
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 Capt. John W. Smallwood
 S/Sgt. Kenneth L. Smith
 Sgt. Marion K. Smith

Capt. John Soloc
S/Sgt. Harold W. Sonnabend
1st Lt. Norman J. Spitzer **
Cpl. Charles F. Suit
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Sgt. Archie H. Taylor
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T/Sgt. Arnold M. Thompson
2nd Lt. Francis R. Thompson
1st Lt. Rade Vukelic
Capt. Leland A. Walker

Capt. William H. Webster, Jr. *
T/Sgt. William B. Wherry
S/Sgt. Merritt S. Whimsett
Pfc. Arthur J. White
S/Sgt. Paul M. Willock *
S/Sgt. Verlon E. Woodard

T/Sgt. Luther D. Word
1st Lt. Wallace L. Wright
2nd Lt. Theodore G. Wuerple
T/Sgt. James E. Young
S/Sgt. Lionel G. Young *

* Indicates clusters awarded.



Citation

"... In the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction this citation is made.

"The Papuan Forces, United States Army, South-West Pacific Area, are cited for outstanding performance of action during the period July 23, 1942 to January 23, 1943. When a bold and aggressive enemy invaded Papua in strength, the combined action of the ground and air units of these forces . . . drove the enemy back to the seacoast and . . . utterly destroyed him. . . . Air Forces, by repeatedly attacking the enemy ground forces and installations and by destroying his convoys made possible the success of ground operations. . . . The courage, spirit and devotion to duty of all elements of the command made possible the complete victory attained."

By order of the Secretary of War,
GEORGE C. MARSHALL,
Chief of Staff.

The following men have served as Third Group Squadron Commanders during the period about which this book is written: 8th Bomb Squadron, Maj. Charles C. Smith, Maj. Charles W. Howe, Capt. Martin J. Radnik, Maj. Raymond H. Wilkins, Maj. James A. Downs, Maj. Holden F. Ellison, Maj. Harry L. Galusha, Maj. Floyd W. Rogers, Capt. V. A. Schwab, 1st Lt. A. G. Evanoff, 1st Lt. R. F. Strickland; 13th Bomb Squadron, Maj. Alfred E. Baucom, Capt. Theodore G. Fitch, Maj. Arthur Small, Maj. David M. Conley, Maj. Harold V. Maull, Maj. Alexander G. Evanoff, Maj. Herman F. Lowery, Capt. James L. Orr; 89th Bomb Squadron, Maj. Robert N. Dow, Maj. Joseph E. Moore, Maj. Ernest B. Nennemann, Maj. Donald E. Good, Maj. Glenn W. Clark, Maj. Christian Petri, Jr., Maj. Donald P. Hall, Capt. James R. Smith; 90th Bomb Squadron, Maj. Gerald J. Prokopovitz, Maj. Kenneth E. Rosebush, Maj. Richard H. Ellis, Maj. John P. Henebry, Maj. Edward L. Lerner, Maj. Wesley E. Dickinson, Maj. Raymond T. Peterson, Maj. Thomas P. Gerrity, Maj. Ronald D. Hubbard, 1st Lt. Bennett G. Wilson.



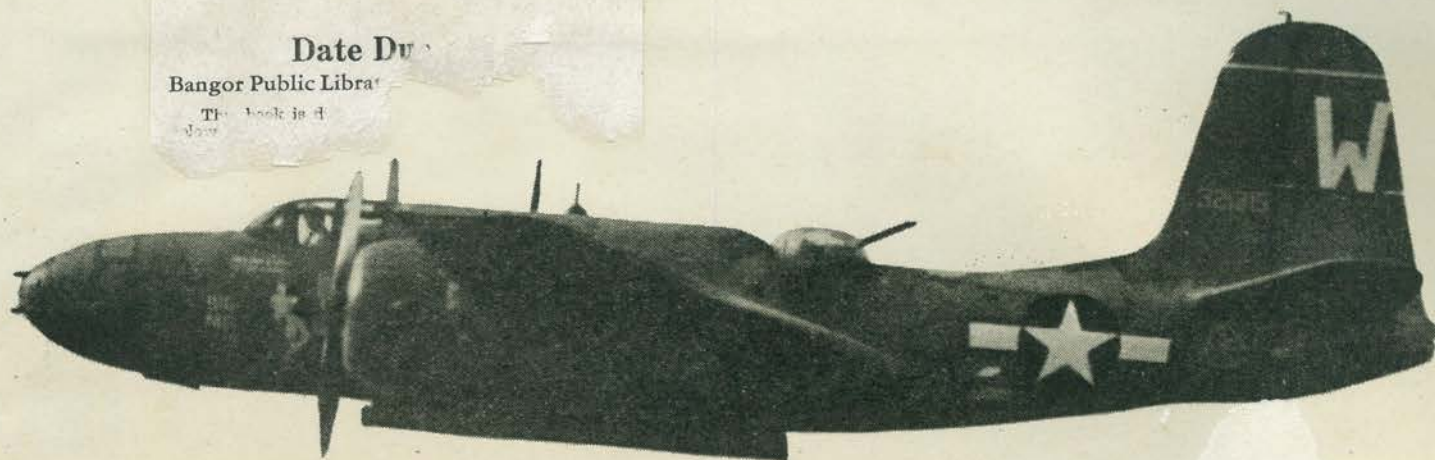
"The Reaper's Harvest"

Produced in New Guinea by Lt. Col. Charles P. Martin, Capt. Frederick L. Newmeyer, Jr., Capt. Edward Mandell and T/Sgt. Harold A. Larsen.

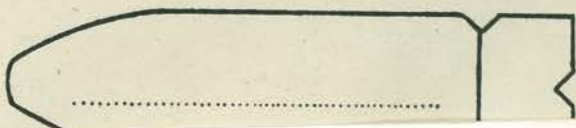
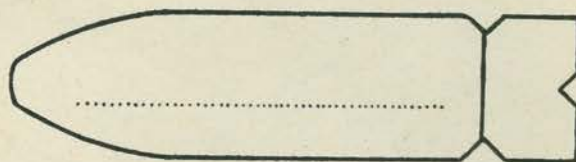
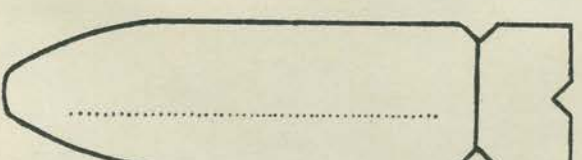
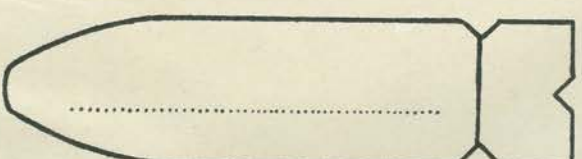
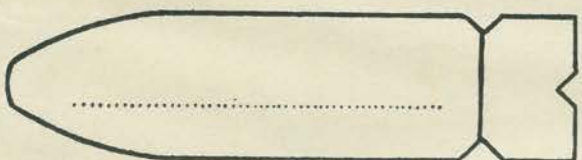
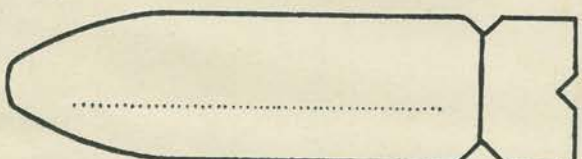
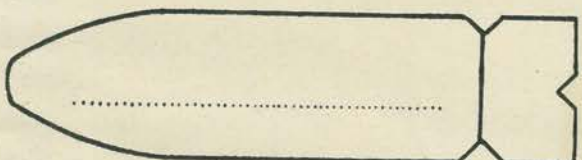
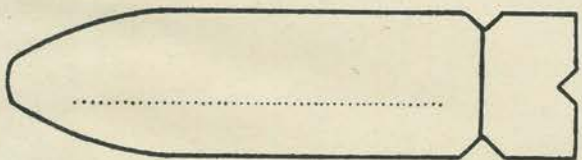
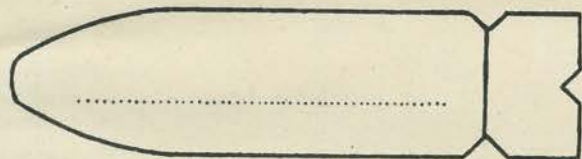
Grateful appreciation to Col. Richard H. Ellis for his sponsorship, to Capt. Robert Spieth and Group Photography for outstanding camera work, to the late Lt. Kenneth W. Lindsay, to Sgt. Peter Catizone, Cpl. Frank G. Farina and Cpl. George H. Dernoeden for their excellent art work and cartooning and to Maj. Ivan P. Head for his combat information.



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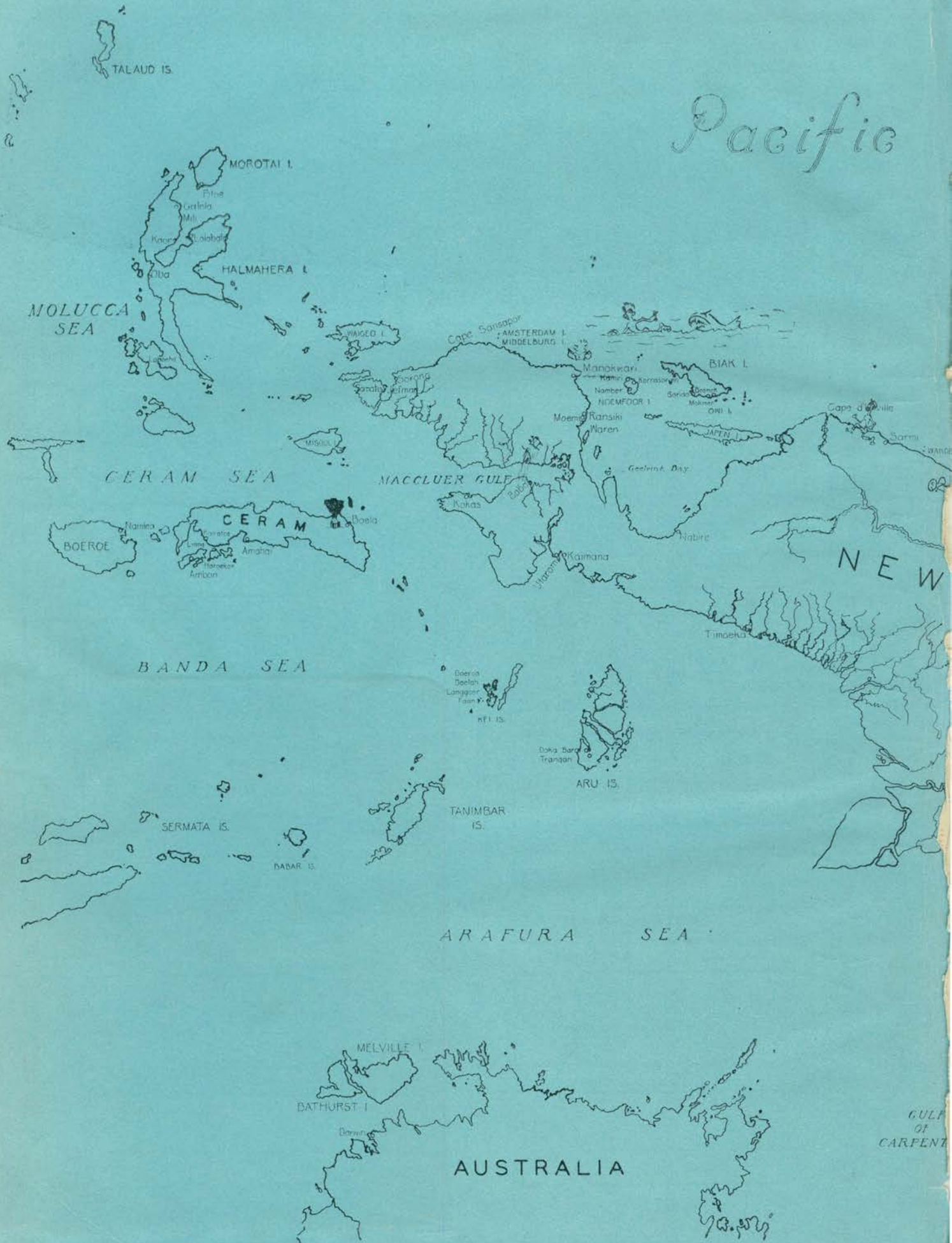


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