

Michael Mueslo

MAR 11 - consist
out of 3 men - 1 Pilot -
also, as Paramount
Commander, flight on flying
in 13th AIR.

Excerpts from the
World War II diary
of T Sgt. Michael M. Mueslo
Radio Operator, Waist Gunner
Crew member of the "Red Ace"
B-24 648. Captain Charles
J. Simmons Crew Commander.

JUNE 15, 1943 - MARCH 11, 1944

MAY 2ND TO 16TH.

STAYED AT TOPEKA KAN.
AND ENJOYED STAY. PICKED
UP NEW PLANE AND CHRISTEN
HER "THE RED ASS". ALSO
PICKED UP ONE SWELL FELLA,
LT. LOUIS R. GEORGE, WHO
REPLACED R.H. DUNCAN AS
OUR NAVIGATOR.

06:00 HOURS

LT. LOUIS R. GEORGE, NAVIGATOR
KILLED IN ACTION WHILE IN
ACTION OVER RABUAL. HE WAS
FLYING WITH LT. JOHNS. A SWELL
FOLLA IF THERE EVER WAS ONE. MAY
HE REST IN PEACE. JAN. 1. 1994

Where liberty dwells there is my country.

—Benjamin Franklin

MAY 16th.

LEFT TOPEKA AND
ARRIVED AT ALBUQUERQUE
N.M. SPENT NIGHT HERE.

6: HOURS

It is better to lose a battery than a battle.

—General Zachary Taylor

MAY 17th.

LEFT ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.
AND ARRIVED AT HAMILTON
FIELD, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

6:14 HOURS

He went forth conquering and to conquer.—Rev. VI: 2

MAY 17-18

STAYED HERE AT HAMILTON
FIELD;

Fight the good fight of faith.

—I Tim. VI: 12



MAY 18th. (6:00 A.M.)

TOOK OFF FROM HAMILTON
FIELD, FOR HICKAM FIELD
HAWAII. ARRIVED HERE
13 HOURS AND 15 MIN. LATER.
IMPRESSED WITH HICKAM,
BUT DISAPPOINTED WITH
HONOLULU. STAYED IN
HAWAII FOR 28 DAYS LEFT
HICKAM ON THE 14th OF
JUNE FOR CANTON

13:15

The greater the difficulty, the greater the glory.—Cicero

JUNE 14th.

ARRIVED AT CANTON
ISLAND AND SAW LIFE
IN THE RAW. THE ISLAND
HAS 1 TRANS PLANTED PALM
TREE. LEFT CANTON THE
NEXT DAY

10:15

Do your duty in all things. You cannot do more. You
should never wish to do less.—Robert E. Lee

JUNE 15th.

ARRIVED IN THE FIJI ISLANDS
AND STAYED OVERNIGHT AT
NANDI, NOT BAD.

7:30

JUNE 16th.

ARRIVED AT PLAINES DE
GAICAE, NEW CALEDONIA.
LEFT SAME DAY FOR
TANTONTA, N. CAL. STAYED
HERE TILL THE 24th OF
JUNE. WENT DEER HUNTING.
NOT BAD. 6:45

24th JUNE

ARRIVED IN NEW HEBERDIE
ISLANDS AT ESPIRITO DE
SANTO (BUTTONS). BEEN STATIONED
HERE ASSIGNED TO THE 307th
GROUP + 371st. SQUADRON.

3:00

We have room for but one loyalty, loyalty
to the United States.

—Theodore Roosevelt



PULLING SEARCHES. PUTTING
IN A LOT OF HOURS.

JULY 24th.

WENT UP TO GUADACANAL
ISLAND FERRYING CREWS.

JULY 27th.

MY BIRTHDAY; RECEIVED
2 LOUABLE LETTERS FROM
JHANITA PREVIOUS DAY. A
REAL GIFT. SALE'S CARD ARRIVED
TODAY, WELL TIMED. LEFT
BUTTONS FOR FHNAFHTTI, FROM
WHICH WE ARE TO GO ON OUR
FIRST RAID.

5:45

JULY 28th.

LEFT FHNAFHTTI FOR
TARAWA AND OUR FIRST
TARGET. NO OPPOSITION. FLEW

The cause of freedom is the cause of God.—W. L. Bowles

IN LEAD SHIP WITH LT. COL.
E. D. GREEN. SWELL EGG.
BOMBED TARAWA & RETURNED
SAFELY. 11:30

JULY 30th.

WENT ON SEARCH FOR
CREW MEMBERS WHO WERE
FORCED DOWN. FOUND TWO
LIFE RAFTS, WITH A SAUVIOR
IN EACH. 9:45

AUG. 1st.

ARRIVED AT BUTTONS FROM
FUNAFUTI. DULL TRIP. 5:45

AUG. 25th.

LEFT BUTTONS FOR GHADALCANAL.
TO START FLYING MISSIONS SOON.

The roll of honor consists of the names of men who have
squared their conduct by ideals of duty.—Woodrow Wilson

AUG. - 30th.

FIRST MISSION OVER KAHILI,
BOUGANVILLE ISLAND. VERY
EXCITING & DANGEROUS. A A WAS
INTENSE & ACCURATE. ATTACKED
BY 30 ZEROES. OUR BELLY GUNNER
COUSINS GOT CREDIT FOR SHOOTING
DOWN A ZERO. TUCKER, TAIL GUNNER
& I, LEFT WAIST GUNNER HELPED
HIM. OUR NO. 4 ENGINE WAS
SHOT OUT. NO'S 1 & 3 ALSO
HIT. NO. 2. LEAKED OIL. RIGHT
TIRE FLAT, HIT BY 30 CAL. WE
LANDED SAFELY ONLY WITH THE
HELP OF GOD. OUR GROUP (30th)
GOT CREDIT FOR 21 PLANES. TOTAL
OF PLANES SHOT DOWN WERE 39.

Our country! in her intercourse with foreign nations may she always
be in the right; but our country, right or wrong!—Decatur

SEPT. 2ND.

WENT TO BOMB KAHILI WITH 36 B-24'S AND A FIGHTER ESCORT OF 75-100 FIGHTERS. NO OPPOSITION, EXCEPT FOR A ZEKE WHO MADE A PASS AT US FROM 3 O'CLOCK & 6 O'CLOCK. NO DAMAGE AA HEAVY & ACCURATE AS TO ALTITUDE, OFF TO OUR LEFT. AERIAL BOMBS (PHOSPHOROUS) WERE DROPPED BY ZEKES. SCORE - 0 - 0

SEPT. 3RD.

TOOK OFF FOR KAHILI, BUT TURNED BACK. SALVED BOMBS VERY POOR.

SEPT. 4th.

TOOK OFF AT 9:00 A.M. FOR BALLALE. NAYY SHIPS FAILED

The world was never more unsafe for democracy than it is today.—Stanley Baldwin

TO COME WITH US. BOMBED BALLALE AT 1:35 A.M. NO OPPOSITION. VERY GOOD FIGHTER ESCORT. COL. BIRCHARD WAS PILOT & LEAD SHIP.

SEPT. 6th.

TOOK OFF AT 10:30 A.M. AS C-3 IN 9 PLANE FORMATION. 5TH GROUP WAS LEADING THE 33RD. FORMATION. TO BOMB VILA AA POSITIONS WITH FRAG BOMBS. NO OPPOSITION WAS MET. AA FIRE INTENSE, ACCURATE AND ABOVE.

SEPT. 9th.

TOOK OFF AT 7:00 AM IN 3-3 POSITION OF A 9 PLANE FORMATION TARGET - KAHILI; TURNED OUT OF FORMATION

Dare, will, keep silence.

—William Bolitho



BECAUSE OF NO. 3. ENGINE
TROUBLE. Bombed VILA, HAD
NO OPPOSITION. NO ACH ACH.
RETURNED SAFELY.

SEPT. 11th. TARGET - KAHILI
TOOK OFF AT 9:30 A.M. FOR
KAHILI; BOMBED AIRDROME &
INSTALLATIONS, PERSONEL AREA
AND A.A. POSITIONS. GOOD BOMB
RUN. ARRIVED SAFELY AT 2:40 PM.

SEPT. 14th. TARGET - KAHILI
TOOK OFF AT 8:00 A.M. THERE
WERE 12 SHIPS IN TH FORMATION,
AND WE WERE C-3. PICKED UP
24 FIGHTERS. A MINUTES FROM
THE TARGET, THE SUPER CHARGER
ON NO. 2 ENGINE WENT OUT, SO
WE WERE FORCED TO PULL OUT

And you can win, though you face the worst,
If you feel that you're going to do it.—Edgar A. Guest

OF THE FORMATION AND BRING
UP THE REAR WITH 20 MILES
BETWEEN US & FORMATION. GOD
AGAIN HELPED US, FOR THERE
WERE NO ZERO'S TO ATTACK US.
ZERO'S ARE ALWAYS LOOKING
FOR A STRAGGLER. WE WERE
HIT BY A PIECE OF SHRAPNEL
FROM THE ACH-ACH. IT HIT
NEXT TO THE NO. 1. ENGINE.
MISSION SUCCESSFUL, BUT
VERY HAIRY.

NIGHT OF SEPT. 13/14 -
TOJO SENT A FEW PLANES
TO LET US KNOW THAT HE HASN'T
FORGOTTEN GUADALCANAL. HE
DROPPED HIS BOMBS AT
HENRISON FIELD AND A FEW
ON THE LARGE NEW STRIP

What can alone ennoble fight? A noble cause!

—Thomas Campbell

WHICH IS NEAR OUR RESIDENCE.
HERE HE STARTED A LARGE
GRASS FIRE. ABOUT 2 HOURS
OF FOX HOLE TIME. MY FIRST
BOMBING.

SEPT. 16th.

TOJO VISITS AGAIN. RUMORED
HE IS DOING IT FOR ELEANOR
ROOSEVELT, WHO IS NOW
ON THE ISLAND. P.S. I WONDER
HOW ELEANOR LIKES IT?

SEPT. 17 & 18 - TOJO BOTHERS
US AGAIN. NO DAMAGE. JUST
SOME MORE FOX HOLE TIME.

SEPT. 19/20th. - TOJO ~~SAWF~~
DID BOTHER EARLY
THIS MORNING. CAMC



And though hard be the task,
Keep a stiff upper lip.—Phoebe Cary

OVER AT 3:15 A.M. AND LEFT
AT 7:30 A.M. DROPPED A TRAIN
OF BOMBS ON CARNEY FIELD
AND HIT A B-24 BLOWING IT
TO BITS. SHRAPNEL DAMAGED
A B-25S NOT SERIOUSLY.

WE EXAMINED BOMB CRATERS
AND FOUND TOJO PUTS RIVETS,
BOLTS, NUTS AND OTHER SCRAPP
WE SOLD HIM YEARS AGO.
P.S. I GOT 1 HR AND 15 MIN
FOX HOLE TIME.

SEPT. 21st. - TOJO CAME OVER
THREE SEPARATE TIMES AND GAVE
US A SLEEPLESS NIGHT. SURPRISINGLY
HE DID NOT DROP ANY BOMBS. THE
THIRD ATTEMPT WAS DONE WITH
3 SHIPS; THE SEARCH LIGHTS
PICKED THEM UP, THE ^{PLANE} ACH-ACH

A republic may be called the climate of civilization.

—Victor Hugo

WAS BREAKING CLOSE, BOLT
OUT OF THE ACH-ACH. A
NIGHT FIGHTERS TRACERS
WERE SEEN HITTING IT. THE
NIGHT FIGHTERS SHOT DOWN
TWO OF THE THREE ATTACKING
BOMBERS. THE THIRD ONE FLED
HOME. BAD NIGHT FOR TOJO.

SEPT. 21 - TOOK OFF AT 07:20 AM. FOR
AN ATTACK ON BAKA AIRDROME.
GOT 33 MILES N.E. OF MAIATA
AND HAD TO RETURN. NO
MISSION. OIL LEAK IN #1
ENGINE AND ELEVATOR CONTROLS
WERE HAYWIRE, WERE THE
REASONS FOR RETURNING.

SEPT. 23RD. TOOK OFF FOR
KAHILI, BUT WE TURNED BACK.
#2 SUPERCHARGER WENT SCREWY.

Sloth, like rust, consumes faster than labor wears.

—Benjamin Franklin

SEPT. 26th. - TOOK OFF FOR KAHILI
AT 11:40 A.M. REACHING TARGET
AT 2:30 P.M. WERE ~~FURK~~ ATTACKED
BY 50-60 ZERO'S AT BOMBERS
AWAY. FIRED APPROXIMATELY
50 ROUNDS. NO CLOSE PASSES
ON MY SIDE. ACH-ACH MODERATE
IN INTENSITY.

SEPT. 27th. - TOOK OFF FOR
KAHILI AT 9:40 A.M. JUST
ABOUT TIME FOR BOMBERS HWAY
ZERO'S ATTACKED US. GOT
SOME GOOD SHOTS AT ZERO'S
WHO WERE BELLY UP AND
40-YDS AWAY FROM ME.
SHOT 75 RDS. ALL TOGETHER.

SEPT. 29th. - GOT UP AT 3:00
AM. TO ATTACK ENEMY TANK

What bosom beats not in his country's cause?

—Alexander Pope

FORCE. TOOK OFF AT 6:04 A.M.
LANDED 10:55 A.M. FORMATION
RETURNED HOME. DID NOT DROP
BOMBS. 3 ZEKE'S WERE SEEN
AND THEY ATTACKED 2ND ELEMENT.
NO CASUALTIES.

SEPT. 30th. - TOOK OFF FOR
KAHILI WITH FIGHTER ESCORT
OF 8 P-40'S AND 16 P-38'S.
TARGET WAS HIT, BUT THE
ZEROS HIT US BEFORE BOMBS
AWAY. 1900 ROUNDS OF 50'S
WERE EXPENDED. TEX CHAMBERS
NOSE GUNNER GOT 1 ZERO. WE
HAD 40 PASSES MADE AT HS.
GOT A 20MM SHELL IN BOMBAY.
IT HIT OUR HYDRAULIC SYSTEM.
GOD AGAIN HELPED US. 60
ZEROS ATTACKED US.

The sound body is a product of the sound mind.

-G. B. Shaw

OCT. 4th. - AFTER A LAY OFF OF
A FEW DAYS, DUE TO WEATHER,
WE TOOK OFF FOR KAHILI. WE
HIT THE TARGET AT 23,000 FT.
AT 1330. COVERED TARGET
& NORTHERN END OF RUNWAY
WELL. ZEROS ATTACKED BEFORE
BOMBS AWAY. I HAD SEVERAL
GOOD BURST AT 3 ZEKE'S. ALL
TALK I FIRED 200 RND. OF 50'S.
HAD A 25-30 MIN. RUNNING
FLIGHT. ALT-ACH MODERATE
BUT ACCURATE.

OCT. 7th. - TOOK OFF FOR BAKA
AT 7:30 A.M. FLEW OVER BONGA-
NVILLE, BUT COULDN'T BOMB
DUE TO WEATHER.

Let brotherly love continue.

-New Testament



OCT. 10th. - TOOK OFF FOR
KIHILI, BUT TURNED BACK
WHEN WE REACHED THE
RUSSELLS. TODAY'S RAID WAS
MET BY ZERO'S. LT. W. H. GAYLON
AND CREW CRASH LANDED AT
MUNDA, AFTER THEY WERE WELL
SHOT UP. OUTCOME IS NOT
KNOWN, AS YET. RESULTS OF
THE ABOVE MENTIONED CRASH
HAVE ARRIVED TODAY. 3 DEAD
1 LIVING. LT. W. H. GAYLON, PILOT,
LT. IDE CO-PILOT AND MY VERY
BEST FRIEND, WILLIAM H. PURDIN,
GROVE CITY, OREGON; DID NOT
SURVIVE THE CRASH. HARRY P.
HALL, CAME OUT ALL RIGHT AND
I TALKED WITH HIM THIS P.M.
GOOD TO SEE HIM. MAY THE
SOULS OF GAYLON, IDE, & PURDIN
ASCEND TO HEAVEN, LET THEM

To God, thy country, and thy friend be true.

—Henry Vaughan

REST IN PEACE.

OCT. 11 - TOOK OFF FOR
KIHILI AT 6:50 AND BOMBED
GIVEN TARGET. VERY GOOD RESULTS
SPD'S & TBF'S WERE ALSO BOMBING
KIHILI AT THE SAME TIME. SAW
TWO ZERO'S, BUT HAD NO PASSES
MADE AT US. A U. S. O. MISSION.
TWO GAVE US AN AIR RAID ALERT
RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF OUR
MOVIE, SO FOX HOLE TIME IS
AGAIN PRESENT.

OCT. 15 - RETURNED TO
BUTTONS FOR 40 DAY RELIEF
REST.

OCT. 16-26th. - WENT TO
AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND FOR
REST. HAD MARIELOW'S TIME.
MET, JOAN BRABANT, BEVERLEY

The right is more precious than peace.—Woodrow Wilson

BLAKEE, JOAN WHITE, "HONEY"
HALL (A.R.C.), CAROL STROUD (A.R.C.)
AND ANNETTE TURNIDGE. THE
TURNIDGE FAMILY SHOWED ME
HOSPITALITY UNBEATABLE. MRS.
BRABANT IS TOPS. VERY NICE
TRIP.

OCT. 28th. - TOOK OFF AT
1:00 P.M. TO GO SUB MANTUA.
NO CONTACTS. SWEATED OUT
RETURN, DUE TO WEATHER.

NOV. 2ND. - CONVOY PATROL
FOR 14 HOURS. RETURNING
TO FIELD, NAVIGATOR, PILOT,
AND RADIO OPERATOR WORKED AS
TEAM. RADAR DOES NICE JOB IN
AIDING NAVIGATOR.



Democracy is better than tyranny.

-Periander

NOV. 25th. - BACK AT GHAD-
AL CANAL TO PHLL MISSIONS.
TOOK OFF FOR BUKA AT 7:00 A.M.
BUT COULD NOT FIND TARGET
DUE TO BAD WEATHER. RETURNED
TO BASE 12:37. BAD AND
DANGEROUS FLYING IN WEATHER.

NOV
~~Dec~~. 26th. - LARGE AMMUNITION
DUMP ON FIRE NEAR HENDRESON
FIELD. BURNING ALMOST ALL
DAY.

NOV
~~Dec~~. 27th. - BONIS PLANTATION
IS OUR TARGET. THE RUNWAY
TO BE MADE UNSERVICABLE.
TOOK OFF AT 9:05 LANDED
4:35, STRAPED COMPLETE
EAST COAST OF BULGANVILLE.
H. S. O. MISSION.

He who is not prepared today, will be less so tomorrow.

-Ovid

NOV. 29th. - TOOK OFF AT 10:25 FOR KEITA TO BOMB TROOP CONSERTRATION. FLEW IN D-L POSITION. HAD 1 DRY RUN OVER TARGET THEN WE DROPPED BOMBS ON SECOND RUN, STARTING FIRES. TOOK PICTURES. NO OPPOSITION. U.S.O. MISSION.

DEC. 1st. - TOOK OFF FOR CHABAI, BUT COULD NOT REACH TARGET DUE TO BAD WEATHER. TOOK SECONDARY TARGET AND BOMBED KEITA. MISSION EASY. HOPE THEY STAY THAT WAY.

DEC. 3rd. - TOOK OFF TO BOMB TARGET (SUPPLIES & DISPERSAL AREA)

Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God.

—Thomas Jefferson

1700 YDS SOUTH OF BONIS. FLEW WITH MAJOR BILLINGS IN A-1. MAJOR GENERAL HARMON, HEAD OF 13th. AIR FORCE, WAS TO GO WITH US, BUT WENT IN LEAD SHIP OF 372nd. FLIGHT. A.A. WAS OF HEAVY CALIBER, MEDIUM IN INTENSITY BUT VERY ACCURATE. COULD HEAR PUFFS BURST OUTSIDE OF PLANE.

DEC. 5th - TOOK OFF FOR A DISPERSAL AREA & OIL, GAS DUMP SOUTH OF BONIS. WEATHER WAS BAD, TARGETS ALL CLOSED IN. TURNED BACK.

DEC. 9th. - TOOK OFF FOR RUN ON OIL DUMP SOUTH OF BONIS, TURNED BACK DUE TO WEATHER.

Give obedience where 'tis truly owed.—Shakespeare

DEC. 10th. - TOOK OFF FOR
SOHANA BUT WERE TURNED
BACK BY WEATHER.

DEC. 12th. - TOOK OFF FOR SOHANA
BUT WAS CLOSED. BOMBED
POPO RANG. NO ACH ACH.
THOUGHT WE HAD A FLAT
TIRE ON TAKE OFF, BUT
JUST SWEATED IT OUT, NO
FLAT.

DEC. 14th. - TOOK OFF FOR
SOHANA. REACHED TARGET AND
DROPPED 500 LB. BOMBS. GOOD
HITS. NO. A.A. UNEVENTFUL.

DEC. 16th. - TOOK OFF TO HIT
WHING TH, BUT BOMBED
SOHANA INSTEAD. BOMBARDIER
DID A PISS POOR JOB OF IT.
UNEVENTFUL.

Democracy's ceremonial, its feast, its great function, is
the election.—H. G. Wells

DEC. 21st / 22ND - OUR FIRST
NIGHT HARASSING MISSION.
FLEW OVER KAHILI, BALLALE,
SHORTLAND ISLANDS AND
KIETA. THIS IS OUR JOB
WHILE HERE AT MUNDA,
NEW GEORGIA. HAD ACHACH
AND SEARCHLIGHTS.

DEC. 24th / 25th - TOOK OFF
TO HARASS THE JAPS ON
BOUGANVILLE, AND DIDN'T DO
MUCH GOOD FOR OUR BOMB
ARDEER GOT SICK FROM
THE LIQUOR HE CONSUMED
EARLIER THAT DAY. DROPPED
FULL LOAD IN JUNGLE OFF
KAHILI. PISS POOR.

I have not yet begun to fight.

—John Paul Jones



DEC. 26th/27th. - Took off
for a harassing job, but
due to some very bad
weather, turned back.

DEC. 29th. - Another night
job of harassing, made
two attempts to hit Ballale
and the Shortlands, but each
time were driven off by
fighters (night). Finally got
up to Baka, where we dropped
full load. Ach Ach was of
heavy caliber, light in int-
ensity. Worked off very
successfully.

JAN. 4th. - Left Guadalcanal
on the 3rd. and landed at
Munda. We took off at 6:05
A.M. to bomb Rabaul. Fighter

Heroism feels and never reasons and therefore is always
right. —Emerson

escort could not meet
our formation. So the
load of 1000 lbs. were
dumped on Sohana. No
ach-ach. This brings us
to the end of our second
six week period in combat.

FEB. 1st. - Took off to bomb
Bonis runway to have it
rendered unserviceable for
the invasion of Green Island.
Weather very bad so the
formation turned back.

FEB. 13th. - Took off from
Guadalcanal to go to Taro, New
Hebrides. Landed here
and were just 7 miles
from the front lines.

Patriotism is a lively sense of collective responsibility.
—Richard Aldington

FEB. 14th. - TOOK OFF FROM MUNDA AT 7:30 TO GO ON A 5 SQUADRON STRIKE ON VNAKHA OR RAPPO AIRDROMES AT RABUAK. WHILE AWAITING FIGHTERS AT TOROKINA, WE DROPPED OUT OF FORMATION FOR WE LOST NO. 2. ENGINE. BOMBS WERE SALVED. MISSED OUT ON A H.S.O. MISSION.

FEB. 15th. - TOOK OFF AT 7:30 A.M. TO HIT BORPOP AIRFIELD AT NEW IRELAND. MISSION WAS EASY. SAW 1 PUFF OF ACH-ACH. WORKED GROUND STATION OF BA AND HAD HIM RELAY FLASH REPORT TO OOB.



Americanism consists in utterly believing in the principles of America.

—Woodrow Wilson

FEB. 18th. - TOOK OFF FOR VNAKANAH AIRDROME TO BOMB RUNWAY. FLEW IN A-2 POSITION. HAD A BEAUTIFUL FIGHTER ESCORT. THE BOMB PATTERN WAS EXTRA GOOD. ACH-ACH WAS OF HEAVY CALIBER AND HEAVY INTENSITY. A DARNED GOOD MISSION. SAW ENEMY PLANE, BUT THEY DID NOT CLOSE.

FEB. 21st. - TOOK OFF FOR LAKHNAI DISPERSAL AREA IN RABUAK AND COVERED TARGET AREA PRETTY WELL. ACH-ACH WAS ACCURATE AND INTENSE. GOOD MISSION.

FEB. 23rd - TOOK OFF TO HIT TECH. SUPPLY SOUTH OF LAKHAI, RABUAK. COULD

They never sought in vain that sought the Lord aright!

—R. Burns

NOT PICK UP FIGHTERS, NOR
COULD WE FORM OUR FORM-
ATION, SO WE TURNED BACK.

FEB. 25th. - TOOK OFF TO
HIT DWAR PURPOSE AA
AND COASTAL GUNS. WEATHER
CLOSED TARGET AREA, SO RAPPO
WAS HIT. OUR SHIP WAS
CAUGHT TWICE BY THE PROP
WASH OF 1ST. SQUADRON, SO
WE SALVED OUR BOMBS
SOUTH OF KERIAT. SURE
HAD ME WORRIED.

FEB. 27th. - TOOK OFF TO BOMB
VUNAPOPO, 1/2 MILES WEST OF
RAPPO. ONE OF THE BEST
RUNS I'VE WITNESSED AND
WE REALLY BURECKETED HELL

Thy honor, thy name and thy praises shall endure forever.—Virgil

OUT OF THIS DIVERSAL
AREA AND SUPPLY DUMP.
AAH-AAH WAS HEAVY,
INTENSE, BUT DID NO
DAMAGE.

FEB. 29th. - TOOK OFF FOR
RABUAL CITY, BUT WHEN
ABOUT 4 MINUTES OUT
FROM TARGET, WE HAD TO
TURN BACK ON ACCOUNT
OF FRONT.

MARCH 2ND - STARTED THIS
NEW MONTH WITH A VERY
GOOD RUN ON RABUAL CITY.
THE ASSIGNED TARGET WAS
WELL SPLATTERED. SEVERAL
LARGE FIRES WERE OBSERVED.
AAH-AAH WAS INTENSE & FAIRLY
ACCURATE.

Loyalty is the holiest good in the human heart.—Seneca

MARCH 4th - TARGET NO. 7 OF RABAUH CITY IS OUR TARGET FOR TODAY. TOOK OFF AT 7:40 AND BATTLED WEATHER ALL THE WAY UP. TARGET WAS OPEN UP UNTIL 10 SECONDS FROM END OF BOMB RUN. CLOUDS, A SOLID OVERCAST, WAS SO BAD YOU COULD NOT SEE THE REST OF THE FORMATION AT BOMB AWAY. PRETTY HAIRY, FOR AFTER WE DROPPED OUR BOMBS WE WENT OVER THE TARGET AGAIN. ACH-ACH WAS PRESENT, BUT NOT CLOSE.

MARCH 6th, - TODAY WE REACHED OUT A BIT FURTHER AND BOMBED THE NORTHERN TIP OF NEW IRELAND. KAVIENG AIRDROME WAS THE

Nothing is impossible to a valiant heart.

-Motto of Henry IV

TARGET. THE 371ST B. SQDN. HAD SOME VERY GOOD HITS. DAMN THE CENTER OF THE RUNWAY. OUR PLANE, THE REL ASS, HAD 3 OF ITS 6 BOMBS ON THE RUNWAY.

MARCH 8th - THE CITY OF RABAUH WAS OUR TARGET FOR TODAY. FLYING A-2 WE HIT IT WITH TWO F4U SQUADRONS (24 SHIPS) AND DID SOME DAMAGE. ACH-ACH WAS INTENSE AND FAIRLY ACCURATE. ONE SMALL SHRAPNEL IN THE RIGHT HORIZONTAL STABILIZER.

MARCH 10th - ONCE AGAIN THE CITY OF RABAUH WAS OUR TARGET.



Ideals are the world's masters.

-J. G. Holland

WE DROPPED OUT OF THE FORMATION WHEN A SHOT FROM THE LEAD PLANE HIT OUR WINDSHIELD AND GLASS HIT THE PILOT IN THE FACE. WE THEN WENT UP AND HIT THE TARGET BY OURSELVES. NO ACH-ACH, DUE TO A HEAVY CLOUD COVER. VERY POOR.

AFTER SHOWERING, B. J. GASSEN AND I WERE ON ORDERS TO RETURN TO THE STATES. CAPT. SIMMONS FLEW ALL RETURNING MEN TO GUADALCANAL TO RETURN TO STATES.

With firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right.—Abraham Lincoln

MAR. 11. I WAS ASKED TO FLY ON AN EGG & MUTTON RUN TO AUSTRALIA AS RADIO OPERATOR. I REFUSED FOR I HAD A C-47 RIDE TO HAWAII. THE C-47 RIDE WAS LONG. WE STOPPED ON HOWLAND ISLAND TO REFUEL. I RODE ALONG SIDE OF FRANK LLOYD ~~HAND~~ A PARAMOUNT CAMERA MAN WHO MADE A DOCUMENTARY OF THE FLYING WAR IN THE 13th AIR FORCE.

Obedience alone gives the right to command.—Emerson

MISSION TIME

TARGET	HOURS	TIME	BOX SCORE
✓ TIRAWA	- 11:30	7/28/43	- 0 lost 0 S.D.
✓ KAHILI	- 6:00	8/30/43	- 7 " 39....
✓ KAHILI	- 6:00	9/2/43	- 0 " 0 "
✓ KAHILI	- 4:00 ³⁰	9/2/43	- TURNED BACK
✓ BARRAKE	- 4:50	9/4/43	- 0 " 0 "
✓ VILA	- 8:00	9/6/43	- 0 " 0 "
✓ VILA	- 4:00	9/9/43	- 0 " 0 "
✓ KAHILI	- 5:30	9/11/43	- 0 " 0 "
✓ KAHILI	- 4:30	9/14/43	- 0 " 0 "
* (BARRAKE)	- 3:25	9/31/43	- TURNED BACK
• (KAHILI)	- 1:30	9/31/43	- TURNED BACK
✓ KAHILI	- 5:00	9/30/43	- ATTACKED BY 05-00-050
✓ KAHILI	- 5:00	9/27/43	- ATTACKED BY 15-00-050
✓ SHIPPING	- 4:30	9/29/43	- STEERED NO ATTACK
✓ KAHILI	- 5:30	9/30/43	- ATTACKED BY 60-20-050. COOP.
✓ KAHILI	- 5:00	9/4/43	- WITH 21-00-050
✓ BARRAKE	- 7:00	10/7/43	- TURNED BACK
✓ KAHILI	- 8:30	10/10/43	- TURNED BACK
✓ KAHILI	- 5:00	10/11/43	- NO 05 POSITIONING 15-00-050 ATTACKED



Courage in danger is half the battle.
—Plautus

The fight is over when the enemy is down.—Ovid

* BNKA - 8:50 11/25/43 - WEATHER RETURNED
 ✓ BONIS - 7:30 11/27/43 - STRAFED HSP MISSION
 ✓ KEITA - 5:15 11/29/43 - HSO MISSION
 ✓ KEITA - 5:50 12/1/43 - HSO MISSION
 ✓ SOUTH OF BONIS - 6:05 12/3/43 - AA SHARP.
 * SOUTH OF BONIS - 5:00 12/5/43 - WEATHER TURN BACK
 SOUTH OF BONIS - 2:00 12/9/43 - WEATHER TURNED BACK
 SOUTH OF BONIS - 4:00 12/10/43 - WEATHER TURNED BACK
 ✓ POPORANG - 6:45 12/12/43 - HSO MISSION NO AA.
 ✓ SOHANA 6:30 12/14/43 - NO AA UNEVENTFUL
 ✓ SOHANA 6:50 12/16/43 - HEAVY AA
 ✓ HARASSING 5:15 12/22/43 - A.A. LIGHT
 ✓ HARASSING 3:15 12/24/43 - A.A. LIGHT
 ✓ HARASSING 3:00 12/26/43 - TURNED BACK
 ✓ HARASSING 5:15 12/29/43 - AA + RAIN
 ✓ SOHANA 8:00 1/1/44 - NO AA
 ✓ BORPOP 6:40 2/15/44 - HSO MISSION
 ✓ RAPORO 4:45 2/14/44 - TURNED BACK
 ✓ VUNAKINAH 6:40 2/18/44 - OS.
 ✓ KAKUNAN 6:50 2/21/44 - HOT AA

✓ VUNAKINAH (RAPORO) 6:00 2/27/44 (GOOD KIN)
 ✓ RABAH CITY 6:45 2/21/44 (GOOD KIN)
 ✓ RABAH CITY 6:50 3/2/44 (P.P.)
 * RABAH CITY 6:00 2/24/44 (LORTIE)
 RABAH CITY -
 ✓ RAVIENG 8:20 3/16/44 (OK)
 ✓ RABAH CITY 2:35 3/17/44 (17 IT)
 ✓ RABAH CITY 6:15 3/18/44 (P.P.)

A faithful friend is the medicine of life.
 —Ecclesiasticus VI: 16

Remember this—that very little is needed to make a
 happy life.—Marcus Aurelius

MISSIONS

DATE	PLACE	TIME
9/28/43	TARAWA	11:30
8/00/43	KAHILI	6:00
9/2/43	KAHILI	6:00
9/3/43	KAHILI	3:30
9/4/43	BALLABE	5:00
9/6/43	VILLA	5:00
9/9/43	VILLA	4:00
9/11/43	KAHILI	5:30
9/14/43	KAHILI	4:30
9/26/43	KAHILI	5:40
9/27/43	KAHILI	5:50
9/29/43	SHIPPING	4:30
9/30/43	KAHILI	5:30
10/4/43	KAHILI	5:00
10/7/43	BHKA	7:00
10/11/43	KAHILI	5:00
11/27/43	BONIS	7:30
11/29/43	KIETA	5:15

It is for us and our time . . . to say that right makes might.
—Lincoln

Paddle your own canoe.—F. Marryat



MISSIONS

DATE	PLACE	TIME
12/1/43	KIETA	5:50
12/3/43	BONIS	6:00
12/12/43	POPORANG	6:45
12/14/43	SOHANA	6:30
12/16/43	SOHANA	6:50
12/21/43	HARASSING	5:15
12/24/43	HARASSING	3:15
12/26/43	HARASSING	3:00
12/29/43	HARASSING	5:15
1/4/44	SOHANA	9:00
2/15/44	BORPOP	6:40
2/18/44	VHNAKANAN	6:40
2/21/44	LAKUNAI	6:50
2/25/44	LAKUNAI AA.	6:50
2/27/44	VHNAPOPE	6:30
3/2/44	RABAH CITY	6:45
3/4/44	RABAH CITY	6:50
3/6/44	KAVIENGA (NEO IRUANG)	8:25
3/8/44	RABAH CITY	6:35
3/10/44	RABAH CITY	6:15

To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace.—G. Washington

Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life.—Proverbs IV: 13

OHAW TIME 46:00

HOURS

12/10/43	-	411:55	CARRIED OVER
12/12/43	-	418:40	6:45
12/14/43	-	425:10	6:30
12/16/43	-	432:00	6:50
12/20/43	-	433:45	1:45
12/21/43	-	439:00	5:15
12/24/43	-	442:15	3:15
12/26/43	-	446:15	4:00
12/26/43	-	449:15	3:00
12/29/43	-	454:30	5:15
1/3/44	-	456:45	2:15
1/4/44	-	463:30	6:45
1/7/44	-	467:15	3:45
1/25/44	-	475:15	8:00
1/30/44	-	479:15	4:00
2/5/44	-	482:30	3:15
2/6/44	-	485:30	3:00
2/7/44	-	489:30	4:00
2/9/44	-	493:00	3:30
2/10/44	-	496:15	3:15

8/31/43 - 246:10 O KODATI FORWARD
 9/30/43 - 277:55 " "
 10/31/43 - 311:00 " "
 11/30/43 - 383:05 " "
 12/10/43 - 411:55 " "



Liberty means responsibility.

-G. B. Shaw

In a democracy only will the freeman of nature deign to dwell.—Plato

2/11/44	-	498:30	2:15
2/12/44	-	502:30	4:10
2/13/44	-	508:30	6:00
2/14/44	-	513:15	4:45
2/15/44	-	519:55	6:00
2/16/44	-	523:35	3:40
2/18/44	-	530:15	6:00
2/21/44	-	537:05	6:50
2/23/44	-	542:50	5:45
2/25/44	-	549:40	6:50
2/27/44	-	556:15	6:30
2/29/44	-	562:15	6:00
3/2/44	-	569:00	2:45
3/4/44	-	575:50	6:50
3/6/44	-	583:55	8:45
3/8/44	-	590:30	6:00
3/10/44	-	596:45	6:15

If a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.—Mark III: 25

MISSIONS

7/28/43

Who hath not served can not command.—John Florio

MISSIONS

DATE	PLACE	TIME
9/28/43	FARAWA	11:30
8/20/43	KAHILI	6:00
9/2/43	KAHILI	6:00
9/3/43	KAHILI	8:30
9/4/43	BALLAWA	5:00
9/6/43	VILLA	5:00
9/9/43	VILLA	4:00
9/11/43	KAHILI	5:30
9/14/43	KAHILI	4:30
9/26/43	KAHILI	5:40
9/27/43	KAHILI	5:50
9/29/43	SHIPPING	4:30
9/30/43	KAHILI	5:30
10/4/43	KAHILI	5:00
10/7/43	BHKA	7:00
10/11/43	KAHILI	5:00
11/27/43	BONIS	7:30
11/29/43	KIETA	5:25



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