



ENGINEERS MAINTENANCE



ENGINEERS



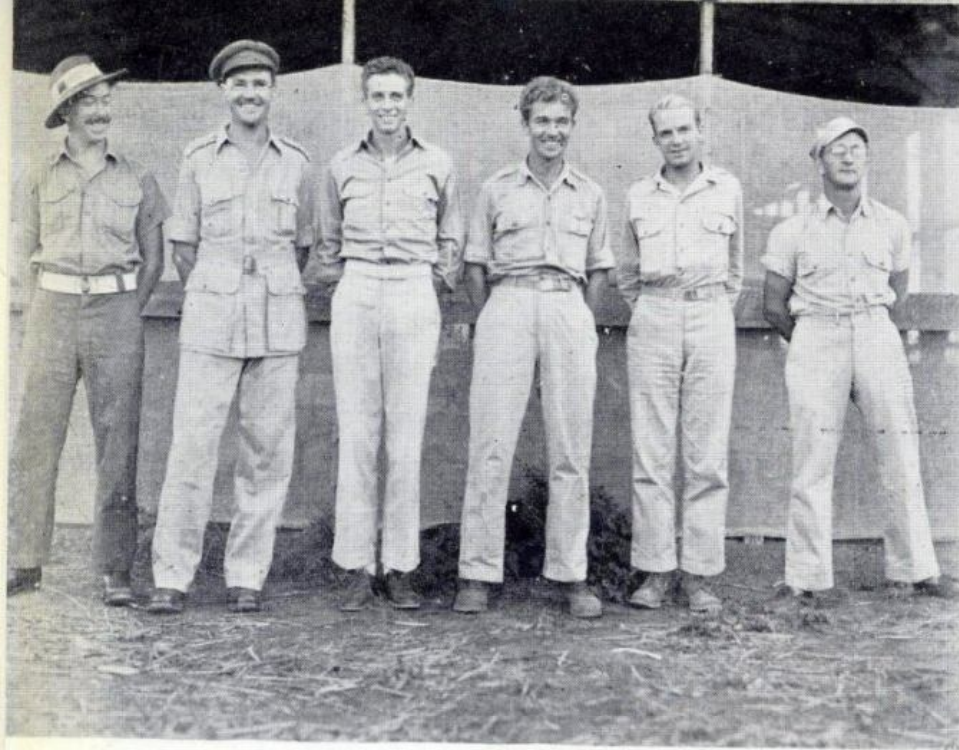


ORDNANCE

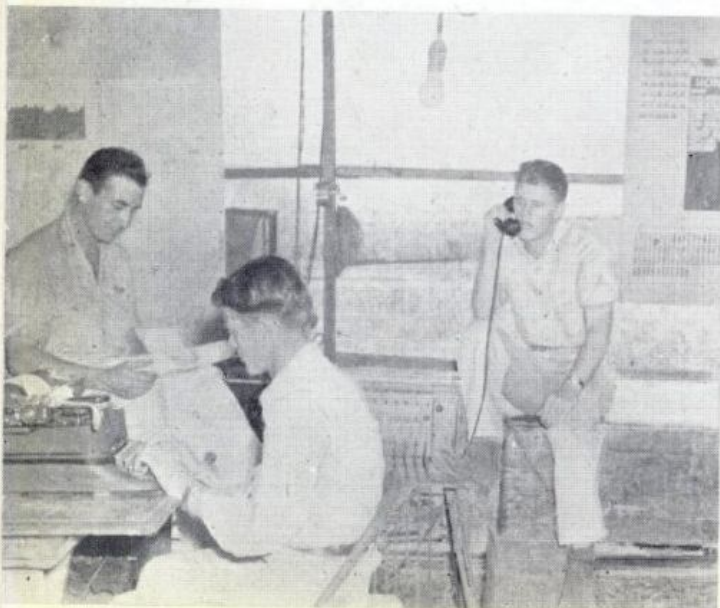


COMMUNICATIONS





The Australian contingent lends a cosmopolitan air to the picture, but we have all agreed, upon previewing the page, that their section was one of determined individualists. There is no other accounting for the various and defiant attitudes. Down below is Operations. The Brain Trust of the Squadron, looking with utter tranquility at the camera, as if it were never faced with the problems raised by combat crews demanding an accounting of their combat time.







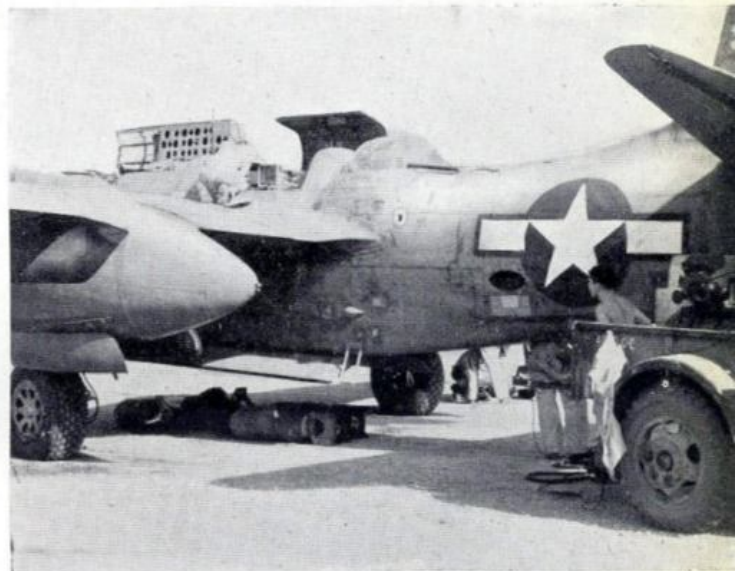
THEY WORK ON THE LINE



THEY SEEM HARMLESS



THE DEACON AND THE MAN WHO  
CAME BACK FOR ANOTHER GO



GETTING THIS ONE READY



ARMORERS



REPRESENTATIVES OF THREE DEPARTMENTS.  
BUTCH AND DURRA





THE WHEELS



LECTURE IN THE FIELD





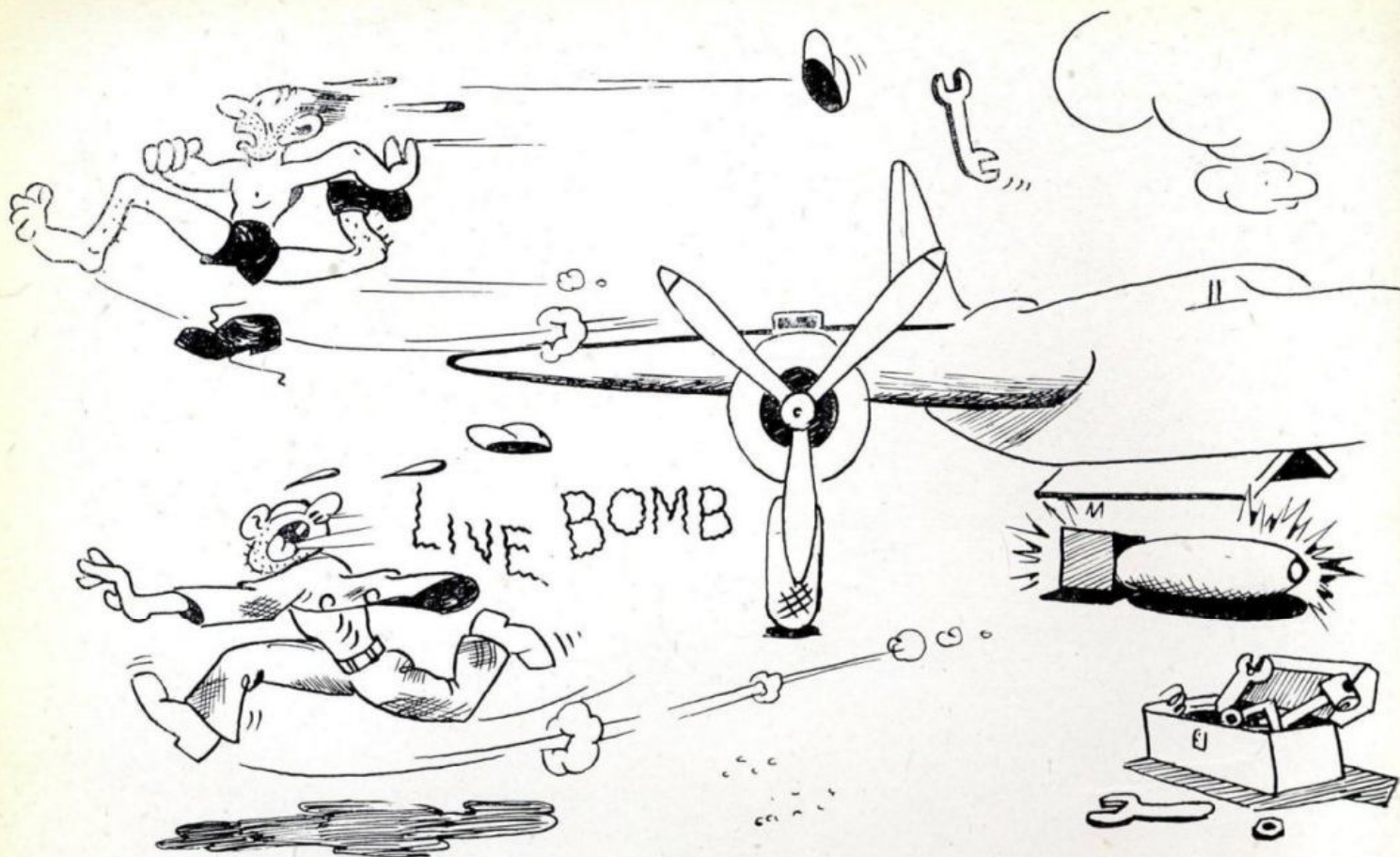
## TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM



## CLOTHES ON THE LINE NEW GUINEA STYLES





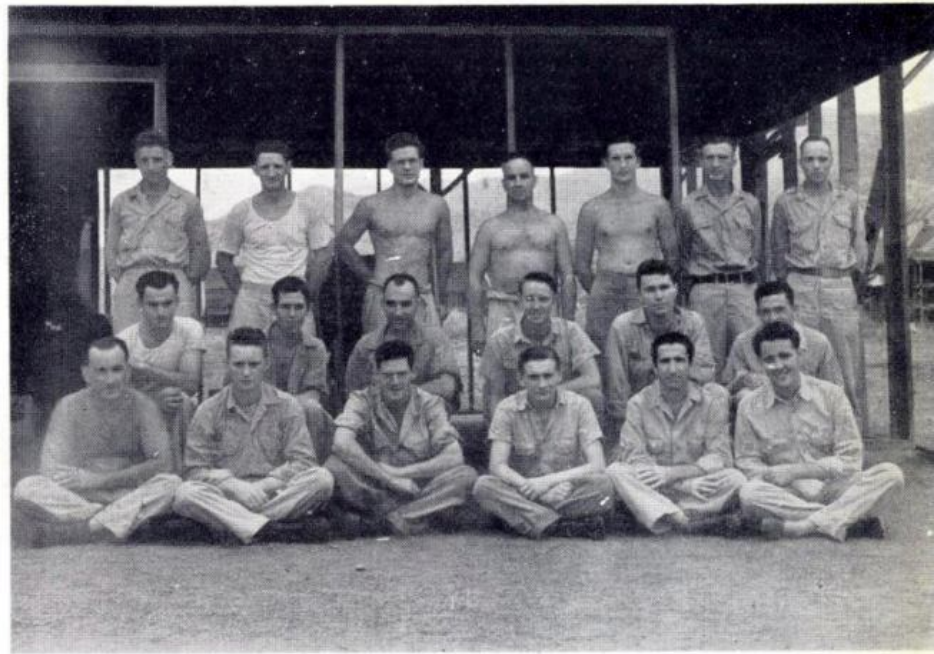


"I'LL WAIT!"





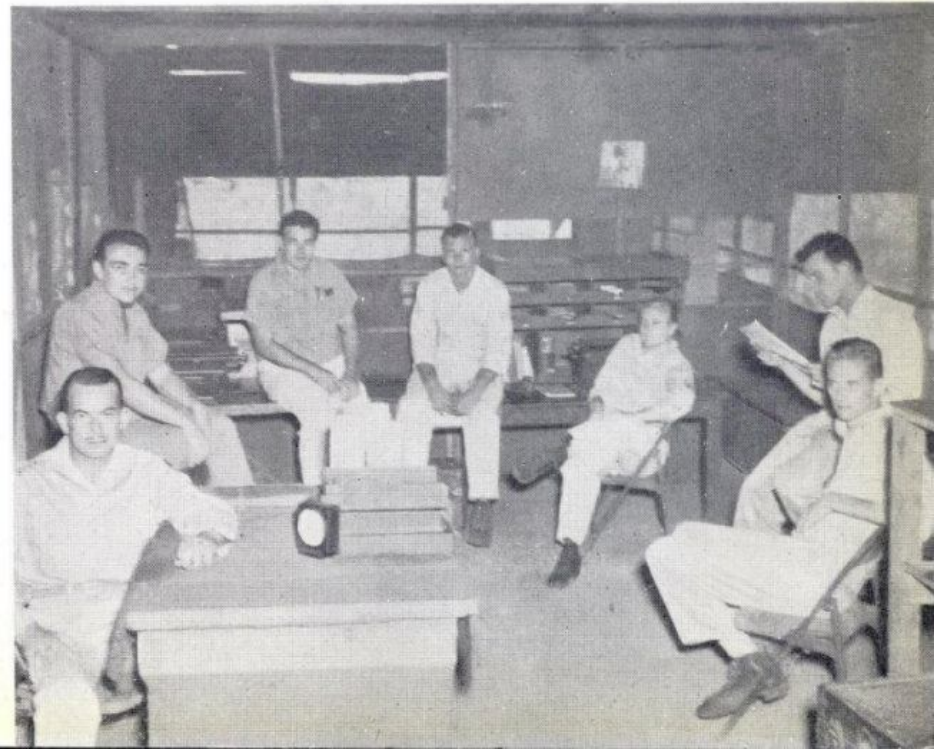
ADMINISTRATION



KITCHEN



"YOU FOUND A HOME IN NEW GUINEA!"







MEDICAL

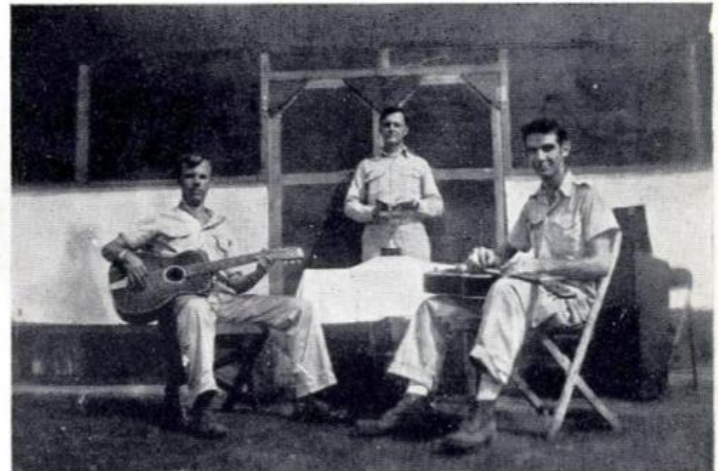


TRANSPORTATION

QUARTERMASTER SUPPLY







Services, for all faiths, were held regularly, and received good attendance. If a picture was shown on church night, services were held first, before the show began and the projector broke down for the first time.





The primary purpose of the album was to give each man a visual proof that he had been with the Squadron during its overseas service. It seemed simple enough to make out the shooting schedule, because it permitted the premise that if a carefully-planned schedule was followed, the job would be completed and each man in the Squadron would be represented with his proper department.

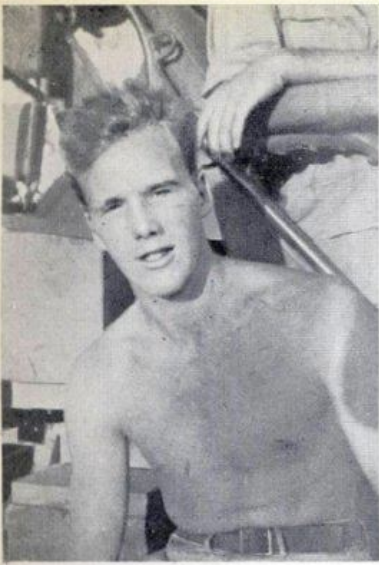
It didn't work out that way. The first day of shooting went off perfectly, with the efficient men of the Group Photo Lab hard at it. Then the roster was checked against the groups photographed. It was discovered that at least fifty men were still standing short. Where were they? A hard question to answer. The hospital . . . because this is a companionable island, in at least its own way. On the mainland in Sydney, Cairns, Townsville, Mackay. They were scattered over the island at Port Moresby, Milne Bay, Dobodura, and at other APO's not approved by the censor for this volume. They were on duty, on leave, in forward staging areas, in rest camps and in hospitals. . . . It meant that notices were posted on the bulletin board, requesting that the men who had not had their pictures taken for the Squadron album report in front of the orderly room . . . and the notice became almost as affectionately regarded as any of the



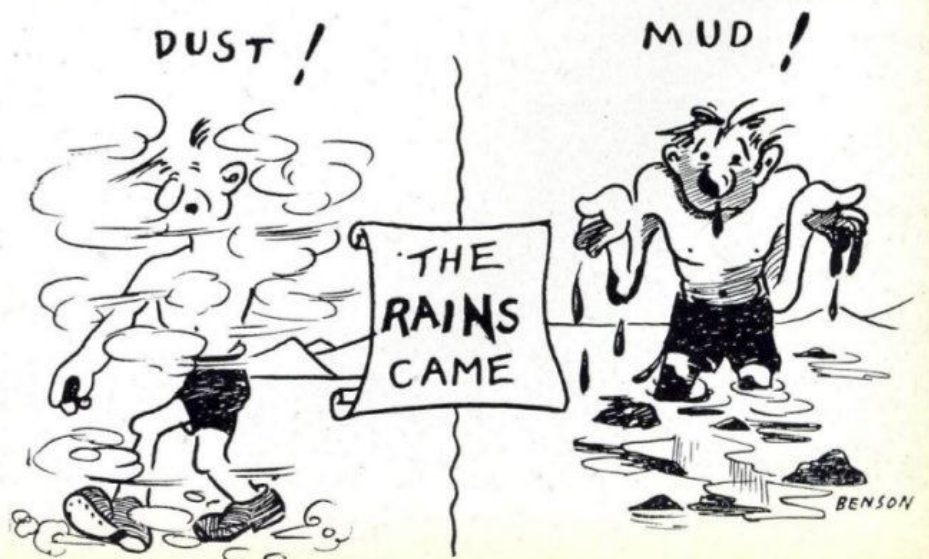
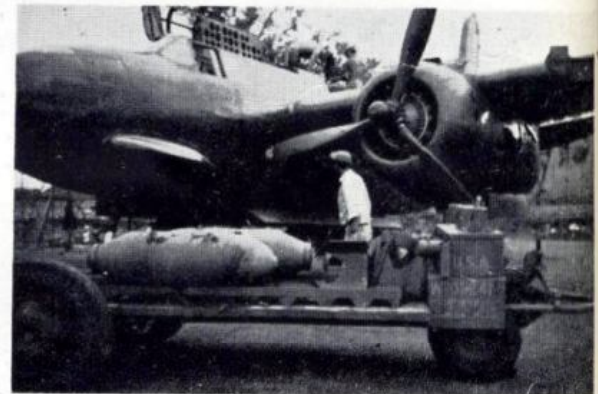
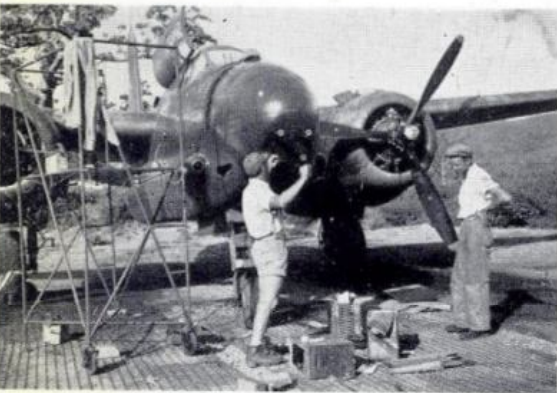
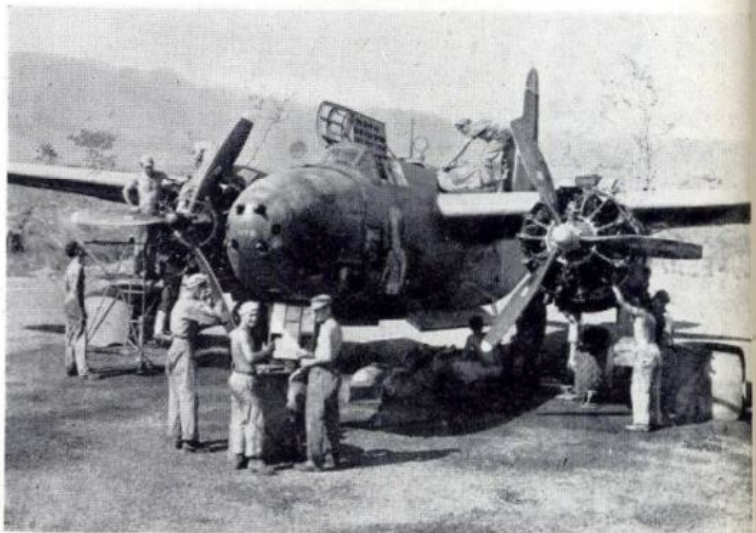
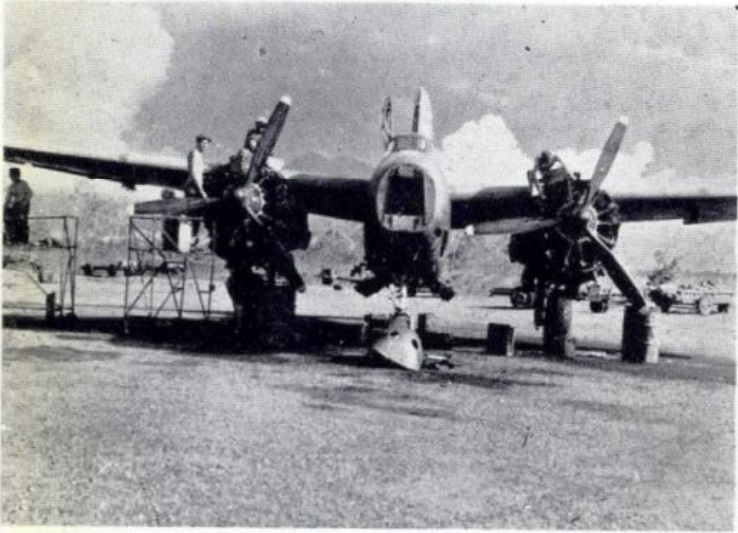
permanent notices required by the highest of headquarters, because it appeared, time and again, until the most lenient of men were heard to remark about it in the most derogatory of phrases.

It is the reason why several pages of mixed departments appear. A man would prefer to be with his own section, but it was manifestly impractical, particularly when the last photographs were taken only hours before the album went south to the printers. It is not of importance, when we consider that we are all members of the Squadron.

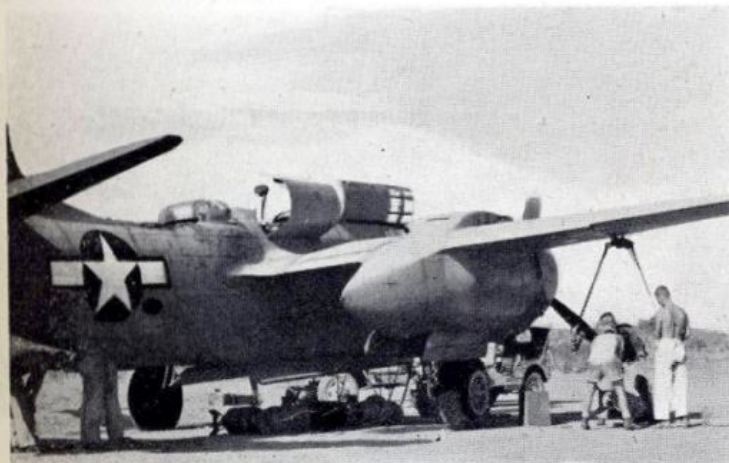
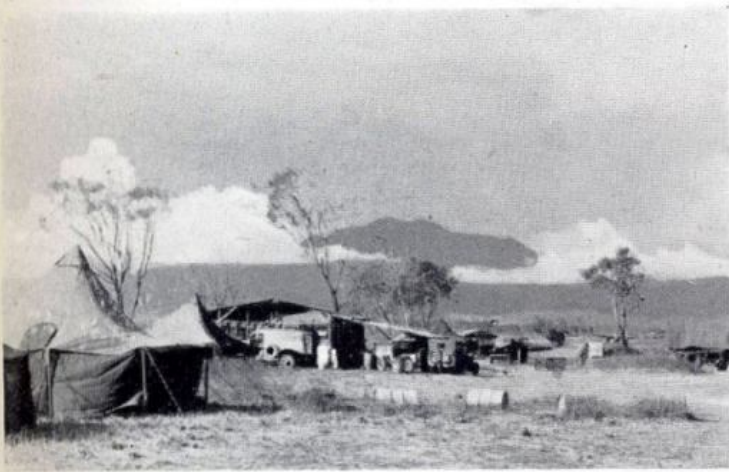




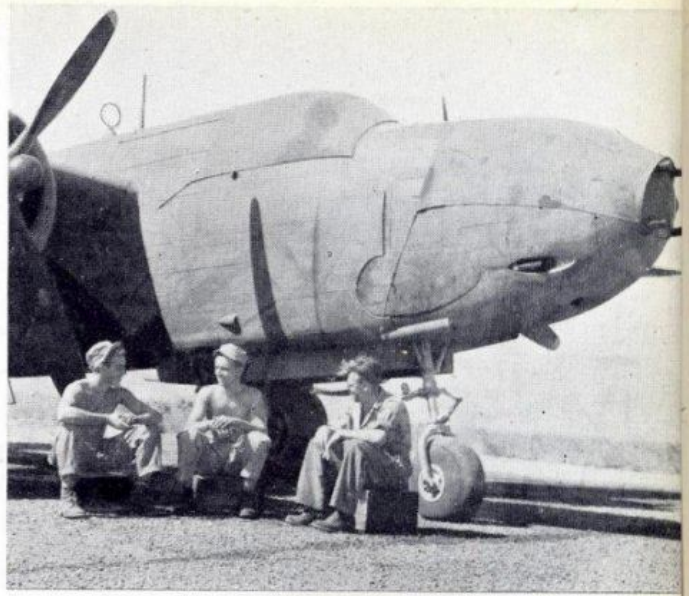
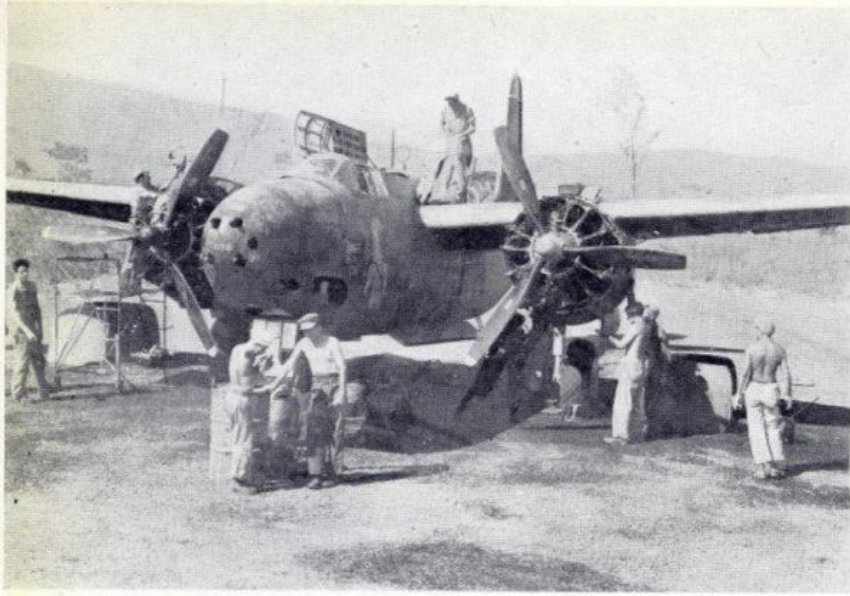




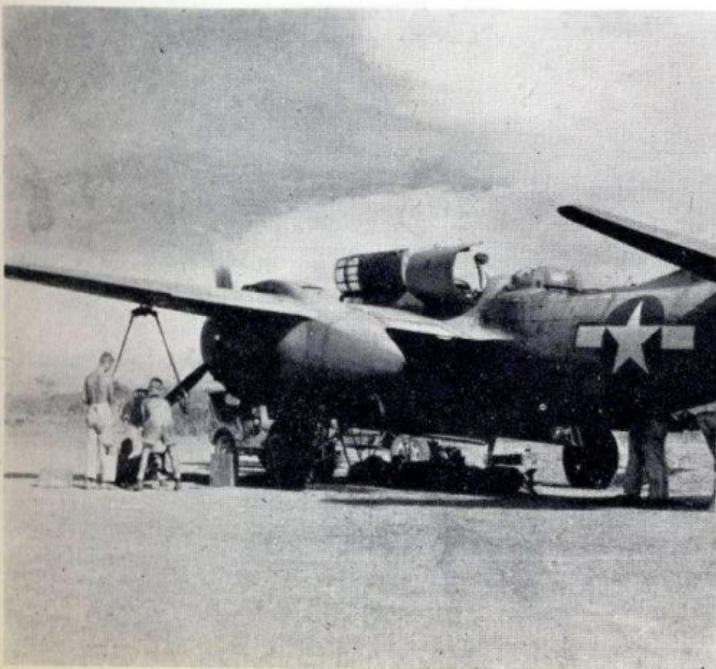
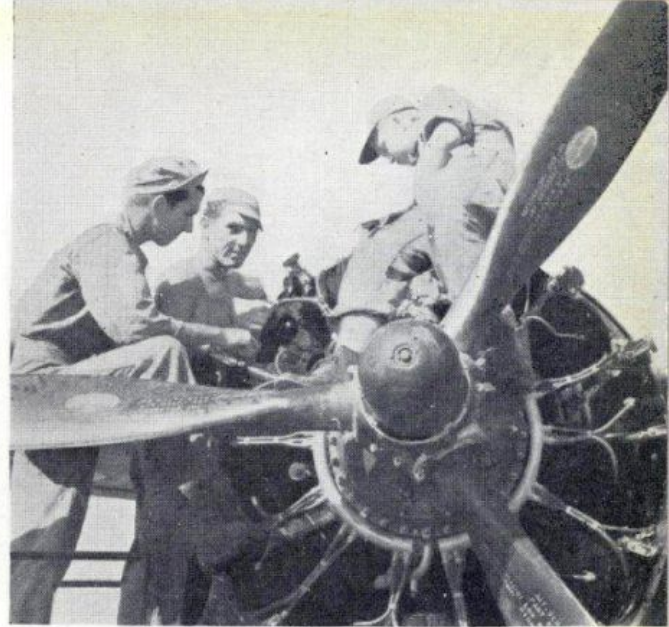




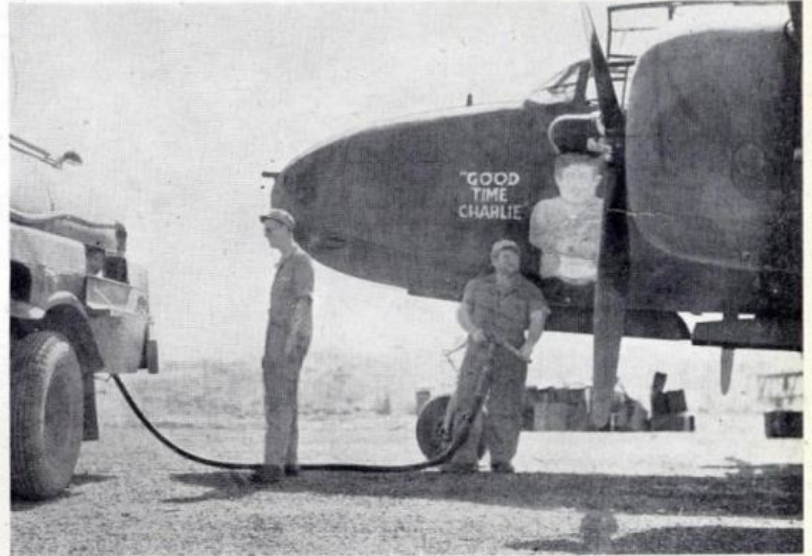
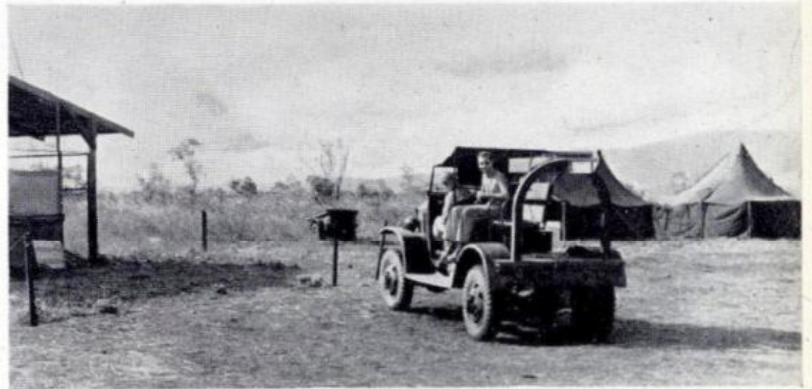




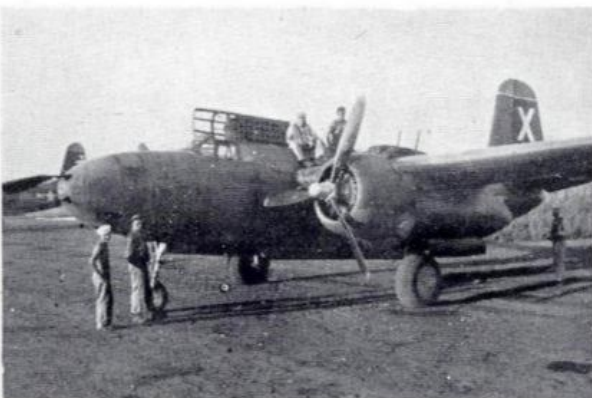












This is a page of pictures at random which will awaken the memory. The open cockpit will speak of our own original ships which went out into the first missions over the Kokoda trail . . . the Farmall will remind us of jolting trips down through revetments thick and heavy with red dust . . . there's a load of iron for the Mikado . . . then, too, you will look at that kunai grass behind Cole and begin to rebuild that camp in the blazing heat of the Valley. Those deeply comfortable chairs, racked from the cockpit of a ship gone to a better and easier life where the warriors rest. . . .



HEADQUARTERS  
FIFTH AIR FORCE  
APO 925

12 March, 1943.

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : All Organizations, Fifth Air Force.

1. The recent spectacular action against enemy shipping in the Bismarck Sea was the result of a concerted and determined effort on the part of all elements of the Fifth Air Force.

2. That enough airplanes were in commission to carry out the attack in sufficient strength to achieve the marked degree of success which was attained, reflects credit of the highest degree upon the maintenance personnel of both the tactical units and the service units of our Air Force.

3. That all classes of supplies necessary to make the attack successful were delivered at the time and at the places required, is an indication of the high standard of service constantly being rendered by the supply services of the Air Force.

4. The effectiveness of the forward fire of the airplanes making the low level attacks on the Japanese convoy is ample testimony of the skilful workmanship of the personnel responsible for the design and installation of the forward firing fixed guns in these airplanes.

5. A field modification of bomb fuzes carried out within a very short time prior to the attack proved eminently successful for low altitude bombing and exemplifies the tireless energy and ceaseless effort on the part of the services to make available to our combat units the very best possible means of prosecuting the war.

6. The results which were attained by our combat crews were made possible by the efficiency of our ground elements, without whose complete cooperation successful operations against our enemy cannot be accomplished.

7. It is the desire of the Commanding General to express his appreciation of the fine work done by all units of the Fifth Air Force, which so enabled the combat crews to carry out their most difficult missions. This same spirit of cooperation assures us of continued successful air operations against the Japanese.

By command of Lieutenant General KENNEY:

DONALD WILSON,  
Brigadier General, A.U.S.,  
Chief of Staff.





THE BISMARCK SEA BATTLE