

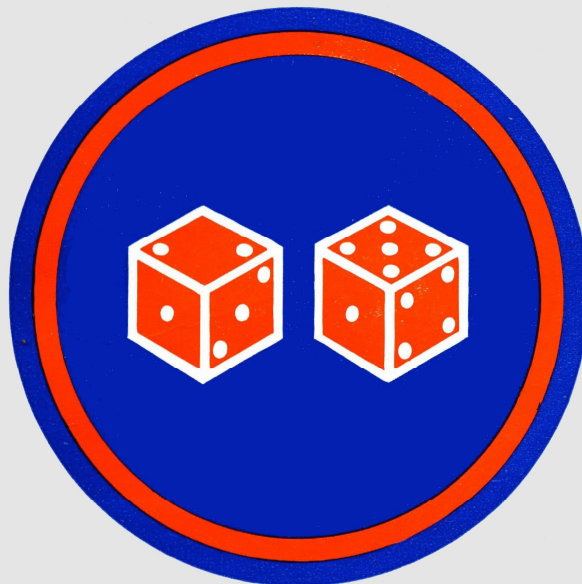
90<sup>TH</sup>  
BOMB  
SQUADRON

HISTORY

LIGHT

3<sup>RD</sup>  
BOMB  
GROUP

MARCH 1944



90TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L)  
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

FHM/wfm

AFPO 713, Unit 1,  
6 April, 1944.

SUBJECT: Unit History.

TO : Commanding Officer, 3rd Bombardment Group (L), AFPO 713, Unit 1.

1. In compliance with Memorandum, V Bomber Command, dated 29 February, 1944, Subject; Unit History, the following report is submitted for this organization for the period 1 March - 31 March, 1944.

a. Designation: 90th Bombardment Squadron (L).  
T/O: 1-127, dated 26 March, 1943.

b. Strength; Commissioned and Enlisted:  
March 1, 1944: Commissioned - 46  
Enlisted - 257.  
Net decrease - 3  
March 31, 1944: Commissioned - 41  
Enlisted - 259.

c. Station: AFPO 713, Unit 1 for the entire period.

d. Training:

Aircraft: 1 March, 1944, 9 A-20G-20's serviceable.  
None unserviceable.  
31 March, 1944, 13 A-20G-20's serviceable.  
None unserviceable.

Number of trained combat crews: 25  
Number of trained pilots: 27  
All pilots and combat crews are trained.

Training Policies:

1. Navigation course and familiarization with terrain and weather conditions.
2. Flight Operations Instruction Book is studied and understood by all pilots.
3. Instructions in the firing of machine guns and releasing of bombs.
4. Cockpit check.
5. Transition and formation flying, including the releasing of 18 practice bombs and firing 3000 rounds of ammunition on practice targets.
6. Familiarization by all pilots with the Pilots Information File.
7. All new gunners are assigned to ships with experienced gunners.
8. Instruction on turret guns and their operation and maintenance.

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9. Firing of turret on practice target.
  10. Aircraft identification course presented to all combat crew members.
  11. All new gunners work in the Armament Section for a period of one month prior to assignment to a permanent combat crew.
- e. Group Commanding Officer: No change.
- f. Squadron Commanding Officer: No change.
- g. Outstanding Missions:
- (1) Type: Destruction of enemy convoy off Wewak, N.G.
  - (2) Target & Location: Three Japanese ships 50 miles off Northwest coast of Wewak, N.G.
  - (3) Supporting What Campaign: New Guinea Campaign.
  - (4) Date: 19 March, 1944.
  - (5) Number and Type of Aircraft Used: 8 A-20G-20.
  - (6) Number & Weight of Bombs and Ammo Expended:  
21 x 500lb bombs dropped.  
10 x 500lb bombs returned.  
7050 rounds of .50 calibre ammo expended.
  - (7) Interception: Nil.
  - (8) Results Obtained: The entire convoy of 3 ships was completely destroyed. The 90th Sq. scored 10 direct hits and 7 near misses on the 3 ships. One freighter transport of 3500 tons was definitely destroyed by 90th Squadron bombs. Four other bombs were dropped on a large European house at Marienburg, N.G. completely destroying it.
- h. Enemy Aircraft & Shipping Destroyed or Damaged.
- 1 Freighter Transport of 3500 tons destroyed.  
1 Supply Barge destroyed.  
21 Barges probably destroyed.
- i. Losses in Action, Officers, E.M., and Aircraft.
- (1) Mission: Strike on Yakumul Village, off coast of N.G.
  - (2) Names: 2nd Lt. Garlick, Allan W., Pilot.  
S/Sgt Adams, Edward A., Turret Gunner.
  - (3) Circumstances: Missing In Action since 12 March, 1944 when aircraft failed to return to home base after engaging in strike against But Airdrome, Wewak, N.G.
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- (1) Mission: Strike on Yakumul Village off N.E. coast of N.G.
  - (2) Names: Capt. Richardson, Glen O., Pilot.  
S/Sgt Casillas, Joseph P., Turret gunner.  
S/Sgt Divers, Herbert W., Photographer-gunner.
  - (3) Circumstances: Missing In Action since 26 March, 1944 when plane flew into water spout caused by bomb blast of preceding plane, causing plane to hit the water.

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- j. Member of organization who distinguished themselves in Action:  
1st Lt. Kenneth R. Ladd; raid on Boram Strip, Wewak, N.G. Awarded D.F.C.
- k. Photographs of personnel, important scenes of airdromes, aircraft etc., not available.
- l. See attached sheet for narrative report.

For the Squadron Commander:

*Frederic M. Mead*

FREDERIC M. MEAD,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Adjutant.

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Narrative Report for Unit History

The general nature of operations of this Squadron during the month of March consisted of Ground Support, Supply Dumps, Personnel areas, Shipping and Air Strips. During this period we dropped 80 100lb Parachute demolition bombs, scoring 75 direct hits. 528 500lb demolition bombs were dropped scoring 424 direct hits. 122,900 rounds of .50 cal. ammo was expended and 2,900 rounds of .30 cal. ammo was expended. We flew 15 missions and 132 sorties, totalling 522.8 combat flying hours.

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