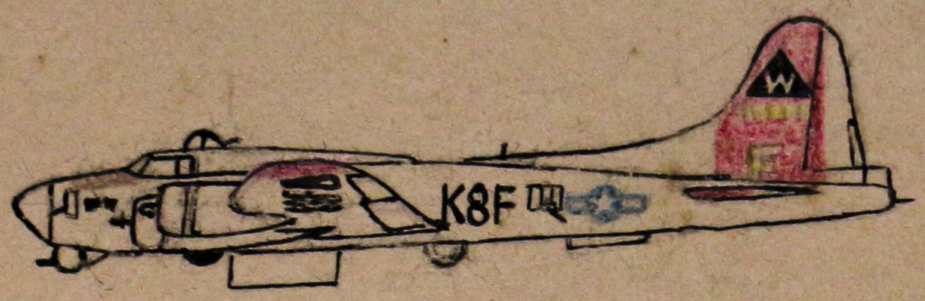
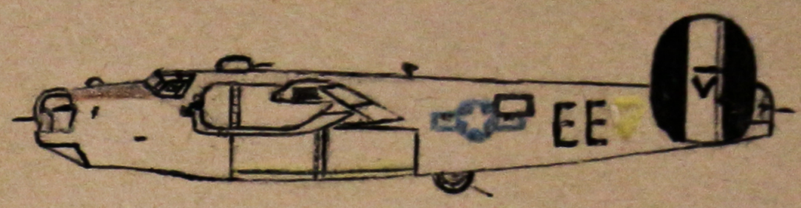
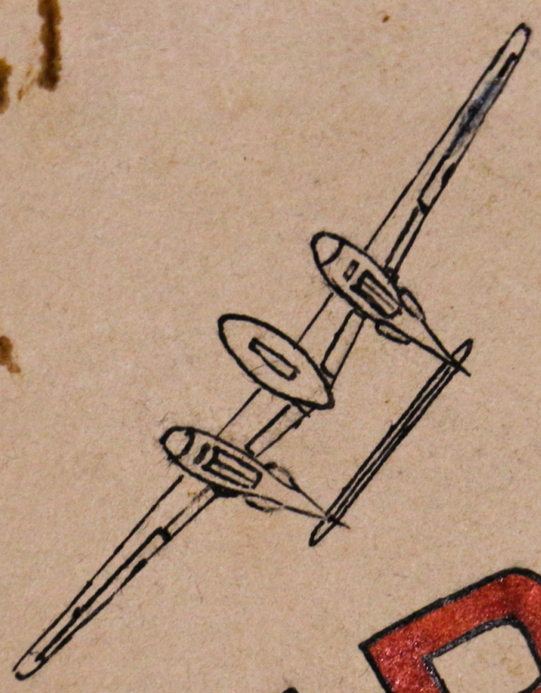




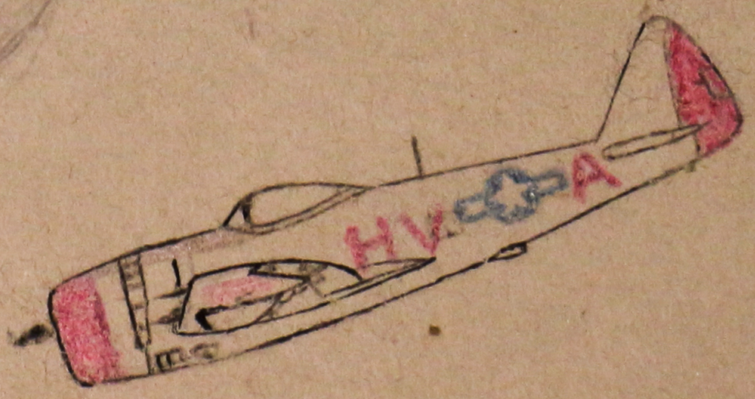


THE 8TH AIR FORCE









The 8th Air Force

By Roy Colchester

Digitization by John Funk

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Roy Colchester and John Funk
November 2014

1ST AIR DIVISION

The 1st Air Division consisted of the 1st, 40th, 41st & 94th Combat Wings & the 67th Fighter Wing.

The Symbol of the 1st Air Division was a triangle

The Headquarters was at Brampton Grange. Norfolk.

1st COMBAT WING

The 1st Combat Wing consisted of the 91st, 381st & 398th Bomb Groups

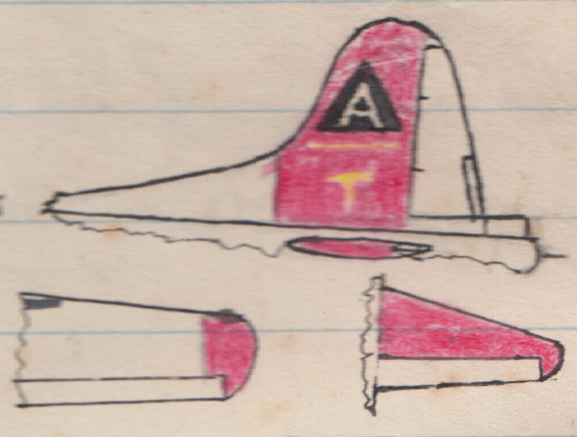
The Markings of the 1st Combat Wing consisted of a broad red stripe down the fin, red wing tips & a red leading edge to the horizontal stabilizer.

The Headquarters was at Bassingbourn. Cambridge.



91st BOMB GROUP

The Markings of the 91st Bomb Group were
firstly  on tail of camouflaged B17's
secondly :



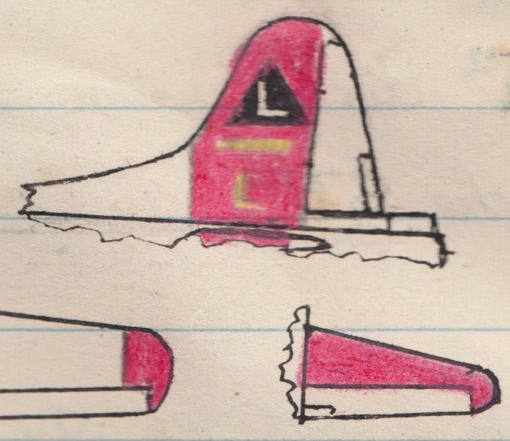
The 91st Bomb Group was based at Bassingbourn. Cambridge

OR ∞ M,Z

LG S

381st BOMB GROUP

The Markings of the 381st Bomb Group were firstly a L on tail of camouflaged B17's secondly :—

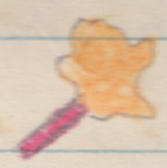


The 381st Bomb Group was based at Ridgewell Essex

UP = I, K, Z,

VE 

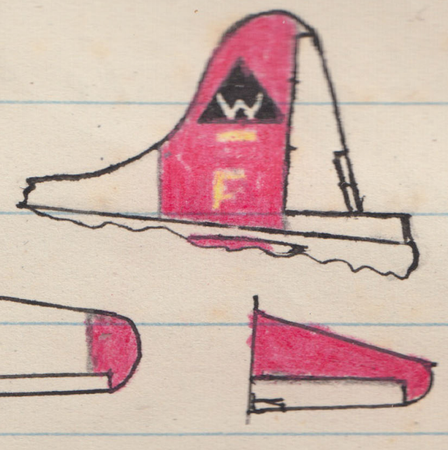
VP = C, D, E, F, I, J, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z,

G on fuselage 48115 



398TH BOMB GROUP

The Markings of 398th Bomb Group were firstly a W on tail of camouflaged B17s secondly :



The 398th Bomb Group was based at Nuthamstead. Herts.

K8A

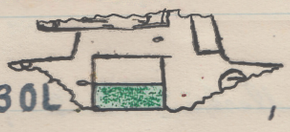
(s) (p)

K8 = F K8F F on tail 48500 1 Raydon

N7U

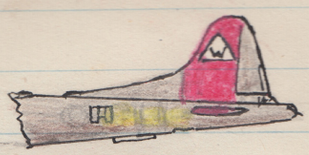
N8W W on tail 46157

LEAGUE CRAZY



30A , 30L , 30W, 30Y,

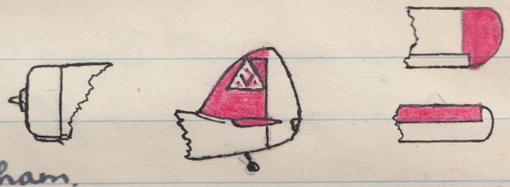
Piper Cub 30 on fuselage



Wing Liason Aircraft

UC 64s (Canadian "Norseman")

Twice landed at Mendlesham.



40TH COMBAT WING

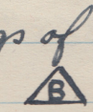
The 40th Combat Wing consisted of the 92nd, 305th & 306th Bomb Groups

The Markings of the 40th Combat Wing consisted of a red, green or yellow band (according to the Group) horizontally through the triangle on the fin.

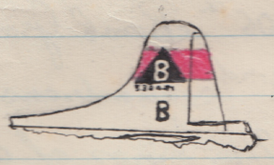
The Headquarters was at Thurleigh. Beds.



92ND BOMB GROUP

The Markings of the 92nd Bomb Group were firstly a 

on tail of camouflaged B17s



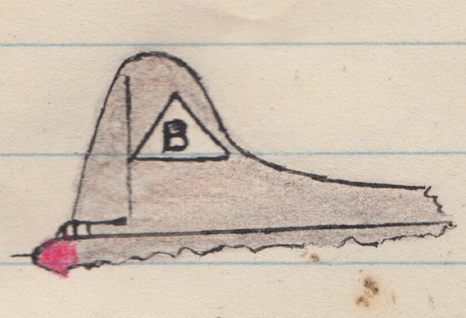
secondly :-

The 92nd Bomb Group was based at Podington. Beds

JW  J, M, P, R , 1st X Landed at Mendlesham.,

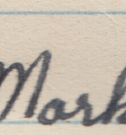
NU 1st J J on tail , 1st X X on tail Landed at Mendlesham.

PI ⊂⊃ B Bontail 338451 Landed at Mendlesham on 24/12/44

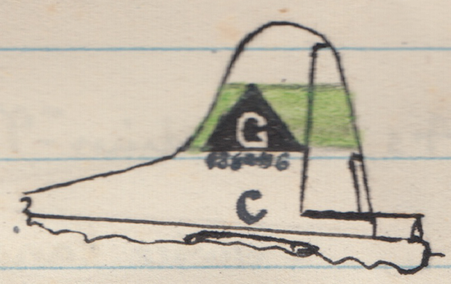




305TH BOMB GROUP

The Markings of the 305th Bomb Group were
firstly 

on fin of camouflaged B17s

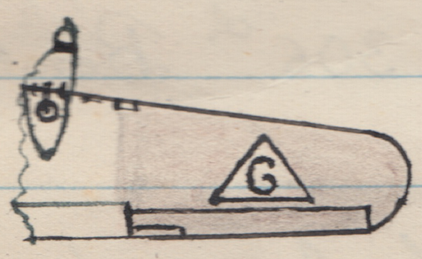


secondly:-

The 305th Bomb Group was based at Chelveston. Northants

JJ ⊂⊃ G, L Landed at Mendlesham.

KY ⊂⊃ C



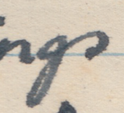
*B17G - guns & turrets

dB17G - guns & turrets, plus lifeboat under bomb bays.

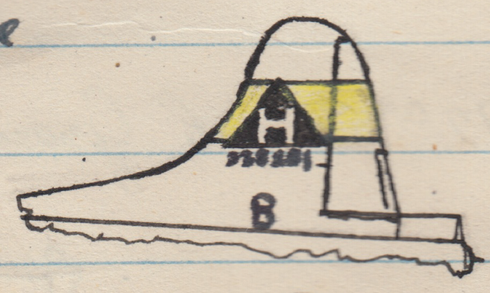


306TH BOMB GROUP

The 306th Bomb Group consisted of the 367th, 368th, 369th & 423rd Squadrons

The Markings of the 306th Bomb Group were
firstly 

on fin of camouflaged B17s



secondly:-

The 306th Bomb Group was based at Thurleigh, Beds
" " " " " one of the last Groups to leave
England & many odd First Air Division B17's were

pooled there.

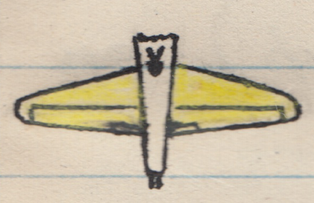
367 (RED) Squadron.



(after) WWF ▲ - guns + turrets

L on tail

(after) WW-P ▲ , X - guns + turrets

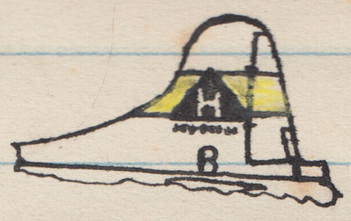


- guns + turrets



~~Monfuselage 48443 - guns + turrets~~

368 (WHITE) Squadron.



(after) 80-B



369 (GREEN) Squadron.



(after) RD-G ▲





(after) RD-P ▲

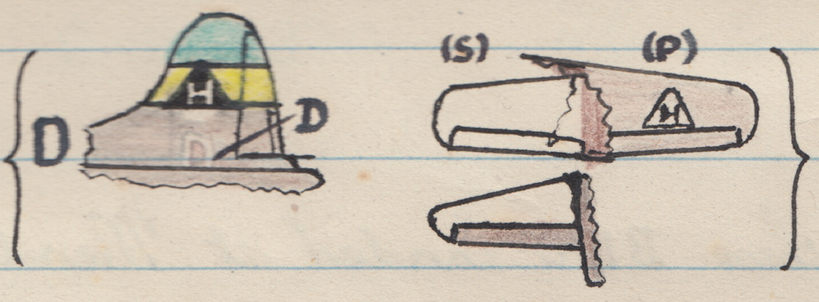
(after) RDR ▲

(after) RD-W ▲



(after) RDY ▲

A, M

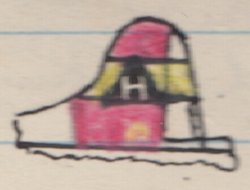


423 (BLUE) Squadron

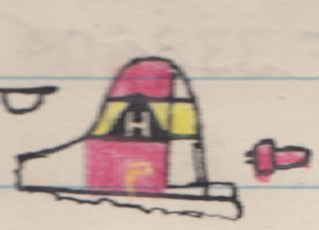


Odd.

(after) GY-A ▲



(after) GY-F ▲



(after) GY-K 48167



(after) GYM ▲ M on fuselage, - guns + turrets,



48443 Landed at Mendlesham.

S

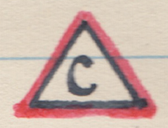


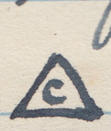
41st COMBAT WING

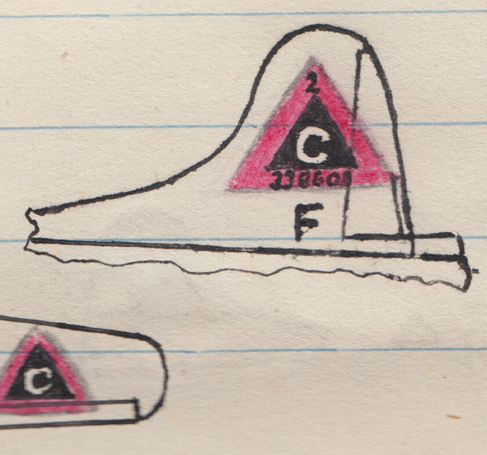
The 41st Combat Wing consisted of the 303rd, 379th + 384th Bomb Groups.

The Markings of the 41st Combat Wing consisted of a red, yellow or black surround to the triangle (according to the Bomb Group) on the fin.
The Headquarters were at Molesworth. Hunts.

303RD BOMB GROUP



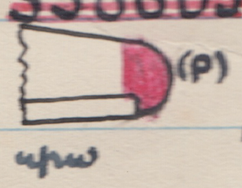
The Markings of 303rd Bomb Group were firstly a  on tail of camouflaged B17s secondly :-



The 303rd Bomb Group was based at Molesworth. Hunts.

1st Squadron

BN A, F 338609

VK H  , V ,

VK B, C VKC, D, F, I, N,  All these B17s landed at Mendlesham.

2 Squadron

BN A, G, I, K, L, P, R, T, U, X, Z

BN D Landed at Rougham, F 338609



Landed at Raydon.



BN V 297058 V Landed at Mendlesham 24/12/44

3 Squadron.

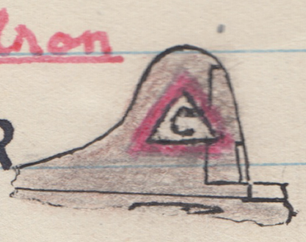
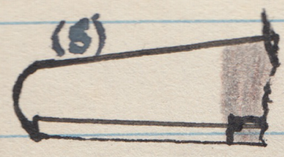
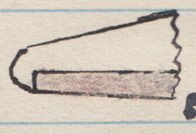


PU E 297546

Landed at Raydon.

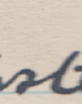
PU N  Landed at Mendlesham.

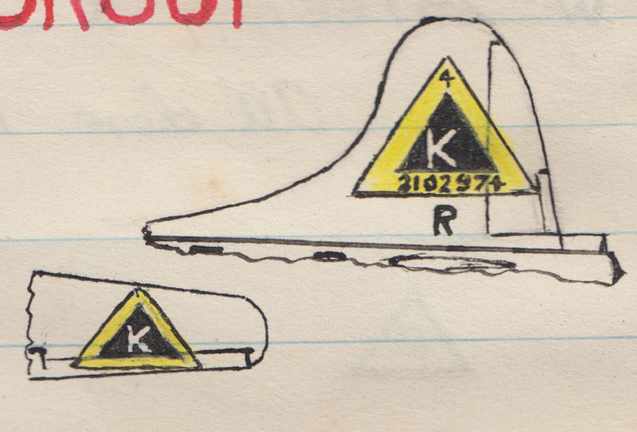
4 Squadron

GN B  (P) , I GNI , R    Landed at Mendlesham

379TH BOMB GROUP



The Markings of the 379th Bomb Group were firstly a  on tail of camouflaged B17o secondly:-



The 379th Bomb Group was based at Kimbolton. Hunts.

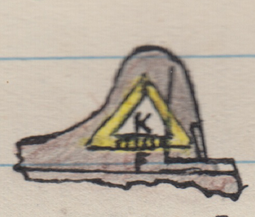
1 Squadron.

K 337570  , F D 338466 , Q 338---

T 48249 , U 338874

All these B17s landed at Mendlesham 24/12/44.

2 Squadron.

d F 231228  , M 46602 , N 48435 , T 338724

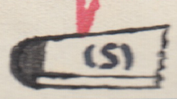
All these B17s landed at Mendlesham 24/12/44

3 Squadron.

D 46314 , G 297370 These landed at Mendlesham 24/12/44

P 46507 Landed at Raydon.

4 Squadron.

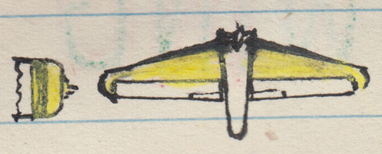
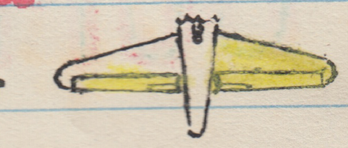
L.F B B , D 338704  , L.F G G , L.F H H ,

J 338237 , O & O 338851 , P 338178 , Q 290627 

L.F R R 2102974 , X 338834 , Y 48451 , Z 48185

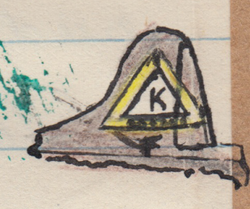
All these B17s landed at Mendlesham 24/12/44

Odd

(ufpw) CQJ  , (ufpw) CQK  , ufpw CQU  , (ufpw) CQV

F.O C, C 48172 , F.O H, H , F.O S, S 338449

d LF W Landed at Mendlesham.

A & F A 337667 , B & F B 297302 , C 46--- , d F 231226 

F , d H 240003  , L 48277 , O 2102713 , O 338379

W 297667 , X 338835 , Y 48110 , Z 48130 , Z 48469 V*

All these B 17's landed at Mendlesham 24/12/44

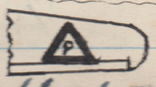


384TH BOMB GROUP

The Markings of the 384th Bomb Group were firstly a △P on the fin of the camouflaged B17s



secondly:-



The 384th Bomb Group was based at Grafton Underwood Northants

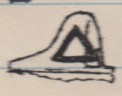
BK∞Q (upwo) BKQ - guns + turrets

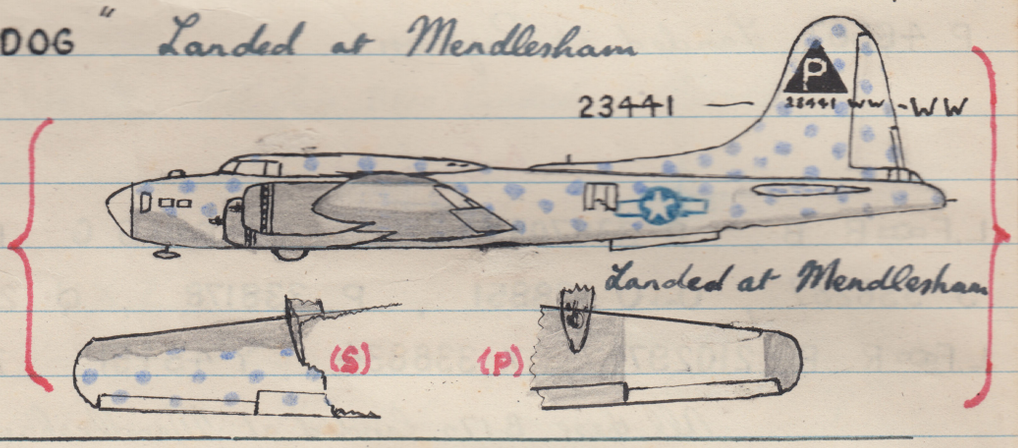
BKZ Z

DJ∞F F 46842 D - guns + turrets. Landed at Mendlesham.

OH∞O

SU∞L "PIG DOG" Landed at Mendlesham

SUX 



UK∞S



94TH COMBAT WING

The 94th Combat Wing consisted of the 351st, 401st, 457th Bomb Groups

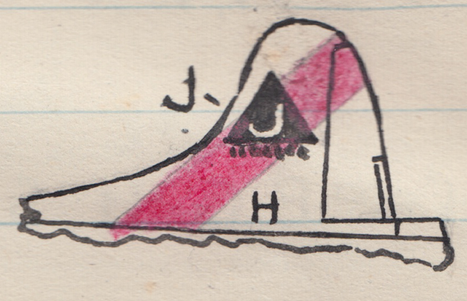
The Markings of the 94th Combat Wing consisted of a broad red, yellow or blue stripe diagonally accross the fin + rudder (according to the Bomb Group)

The Headquarters was at Polebrook. Northants.

351st BOMB GROUP

B17s

The Markings of the 351st Bomb Group were firstly J on the fin of the camouflaged B17s



secondly:—

The 351st Bomb Group was based at- Polebrook Northants

CK C,K,L,N,P,S

RQ O

RQ Z Landed at- Mendlesham

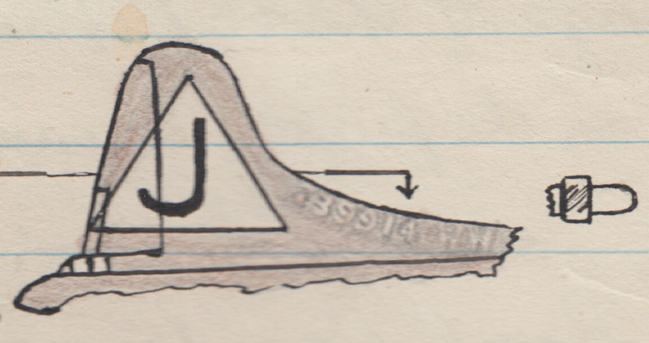
TU B,I,L,M,N,Q,V

TU H L'LLE LADY



US B Landed at- Mendlesham

d B17F - guns 239914 WW

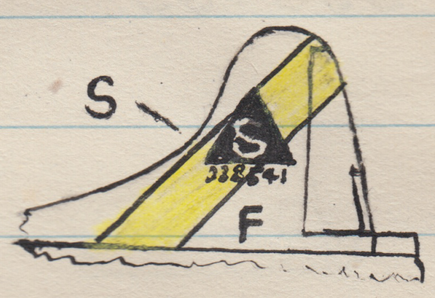


Landed at Mendlesham

401st BOMB GROUP

B17s

The Markings of the 401st Bomb Group were firstly S on the fin of the camouflaged B17s.



secondly:—

The 401st Bomb Group was based at Deenethorpe Northants

IN M 48648

IW M Landed at Mendlesham.

PV — A, B, F, G, H is ∧, K, O, S, X, Z, T

SC — B, C, H, S

SC — A Landed at Mendlesham

SC — F (S) SCF (P) [redacted] 338541 Landed at Eye.

SC — T 338788 Twice landed at Mendlesham.

B17F. TWINKLE Landed at Mendlesham.

B17s

457TH BOMB GROUP

The Markings of the 457th Bomb Group were firstly △ on the fin of the camouflaged B17s



secondly :—

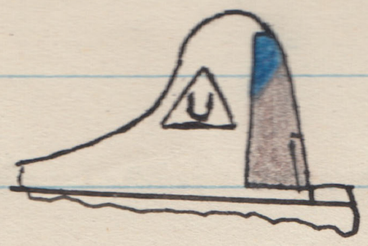
The 457th Bomb Group was based at Glatton. Hunts.

B17F - guns + turrets S (S) V S (P) V

A 338459 Landed at Mendlesham 24/12/44.

V





67TH FIGHTER WING

The 67th Fighter Wing consisted of the 20th, 359th, 356th, 364th & 352nd Fighter Groups

The 67th Fighter Wing's Headquarters was at Wolcot Hall.

P51s

20TH FIGHTER GROUP

The Markings of the 20th Fighter Group were :—



The 20th Fighter Group was based at Kingscliffe Northants

Aircraft :— P51 Mustangs. — formerly P38 Lightnings.

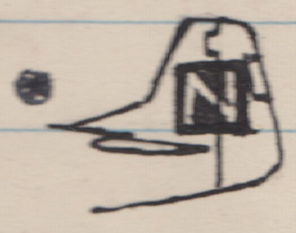
55TH Squadron



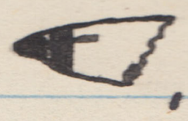
77TH Squadron



79TH Squadron



P38 MC∞Y

MC∞F, O, P, R  , S

MC∞I

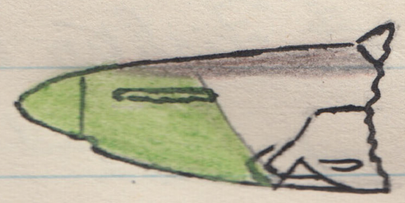
HAPPY JACK'S
GO BUGGY

*XI∞K

*on tail A, B, E, L, N, Q

359TH FIGHTER GROUP

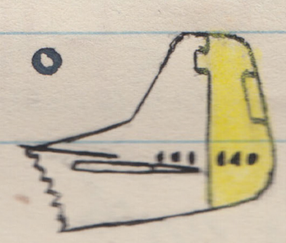
The Markings of the 359th Fighter Group were



The 359th Fighter Group was based at East Wretham, Norfolk.

Aircraft - P51 "Mustangs"

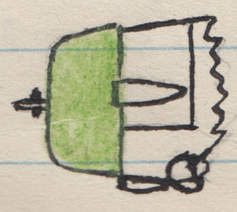
368TH Squadron.



CV - B

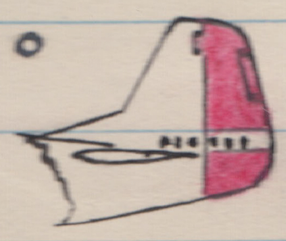
*° CV - F, R, X

AT-6 "Texan"



CV - I

369TH Squadron



*° IV - A, E, G, I, T, Y

370TH Squadron



CS - A

CS - G, W, Z

356TH FIGHTER GROUP

The 356th Fighter Group was based at Martlesham. Suffolk..

Aircraft - Spitfires, P47 Thunderbolts, P51 Mustangs

The 356th Fighters Group was probably the most famous Group in the 8th Air Force, for a long time being the highest scoring Group in the 8th Air Force, this was not all due to its being the first Fighter Group in the field as the following list of aces will show:-

C Anderson (12½), D.W. Beeson (23½), H.J. Biel (10½).
D Blakeslee (5½). R.G. Care (5½), G Carpenter (14½)
A W Chatterly (5½) J.A. Clark (13½) S Edner (5½)
Fiedler (5½) D Gentile (30½) J J Godfrey (14½)
J A Goodson (20½) R K Hofer (9½) N Megura (12½)
W.W. Millikan (5½) Norley (5½) Schlegal (5½)
W B Smith (5½)

In September 1942 the 356th Fighter Group was formed under Colonel Edward M. Anderson, with the Eagle Squadron as its core. The Group was at this time flying Spitfires.

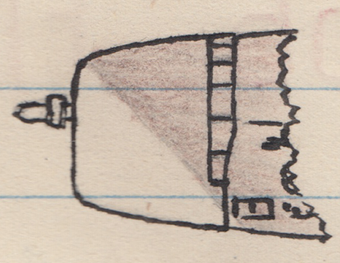
9 Spitfires Vb MY⊙ A,C,L,O,P,R,S,T,U

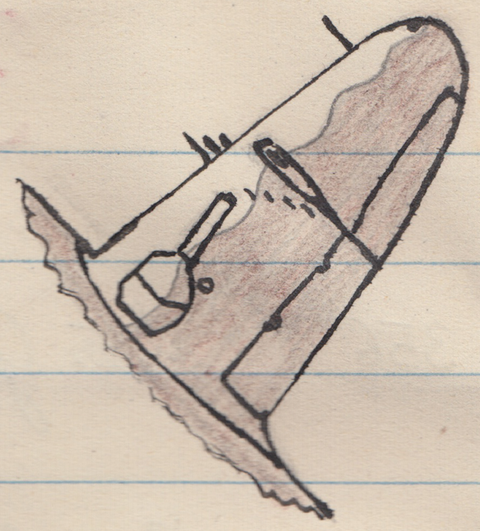
3 Spitfire IX·s MY⊙ W,X,Z

On the 10th of March '43 the P47 Thunderbolts arrived & started to fly missions.

On August 20th Lt Col. Chesley G. Peterson became Group Commander & on Jan 1st '44 Col. J.M. Blakeslee took over.

First P47 markings :—





* Bubble Cockpit-Cover.

359th Squadron

OC ⊸ I, P

360th Squadron

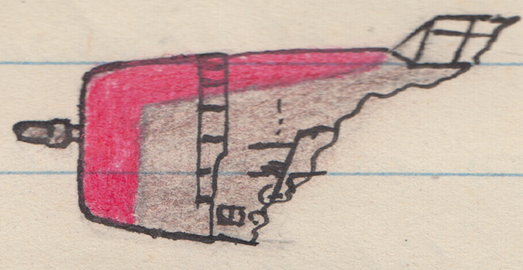
P1⊸F	P1⊸K 222796 Reese
P1⊸H 222786	P1⊸W
P1⊸J 28535 Jeannie Janet	P1⊸Y 226665

361st Squadron

Q1⊸ H, J, N

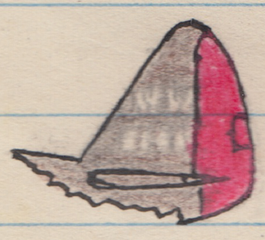
Q1⊸ O, P These landed at Mendlesham.

Second P47 markings.



360th Squadron.

2 W.W. P47s



one :—



~~On February 28th Col. C.G. Peterson again took over~~

Odd.

Names of one Squadron (?) :—

A. Skeeter
B. Angel Eyes
C. Dottie "K"
D. Polly
E. Rosemary
F. Little Nig
G. Swamp Angel

H. Mary "M" I. Devastating Dottie J. Ace of Spades
K. Eerie Eagle L. Busch M. Butch
N. Oil Leakin' Lizzie O. Hanger Queen P. Kay "J"
Q Zombie R. Eager Eagle S. Little Abner

"Shangri-La." Flown by Capt. Don. Gentile (30½)
White scroll on each side of nose with black swastikas on, under the exhaust ports - a red + white checkerboard, between the checkerboard + scrolls a picture of an Eagle with Boxing gloves + underneath it the name.

"Reggie's Reply." Flown by Lt. John T. Godfrey (14½)

"Boise Bee" Flown by Capt. D. W. Beeson (23½) - missing
An side of nose a picture of a bee with a revolver in each hand.

In November 1944 the P51s arrived with Col. Don. Blakeslee Group Commander, in February '45 Col. Chesby G. Peterson again took over as C.O. . Later on, at the ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ cessation of operations Col. P.E. Turkey. was C.O.

Markings of P51 "Mustangs":-



Later the spinner was painted the same colour as the rudder.



359TH Squadron

OC ⌀ B (crashed)	472432
OC ⌀ L	OC ⌀ W Landed at Mendlesham.
OC ⌀ R 472341	OC ⌀ X
Junie	

360th Squadron



P1 B 415189	P1 S
P1 L	P1 U 472377
P1 M 415590	P1 V
Barbara (P)	P1 W
(S) Josephine	

361st Squadron.



Q1 A 415094	Q1 I 473172
The Strat-o-liner	Q1 J 415097 35卐
Q1 B 415080	Q1 M
MIASSIS DRAGON	Q1 N 415585
Q1 C 412155	Jackie
Q1 E 415063	Q1 O 415071
TOOTS	Q1 P 472269
Q1 E 415666	Q1 Q 415089
Q1 F 415083 9卐	CAROLYN'S VERGELTUNSWAFFE
Q1 G 472257	Q1 R 415570
The hump	Lili Belle

QI-V	415290	Swamp Angel (P)
		Lil Joe (S).

Odd

P51B 312151 W.W.	P51B 2906941 W.W. 5H
P51B converted to 2-seater. 312198 W.W.	P47D with bubble cockpit. 16575 WW.
P51B 312423 W.W.	The Old Man
P51B 36870 W.W.	

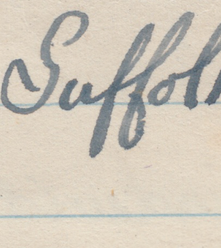
364TH FIGHTER GROUP

The 364th Fighter Group was based at Honington, Suffolk.

Aircraft:: 1) Lightnings (P38s) 3 of 383 Squadron collided in mid-air over Brockford, falling in Cotton, Wetheringsett & Thwaite. The pilot of the P38 which crashed at Thwaite was killed.

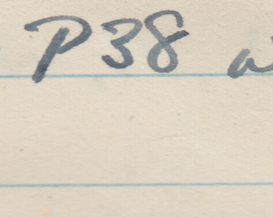
2) P51 Mustangs.

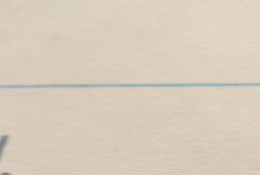
The Markings of the 364th Fighter Group were:—

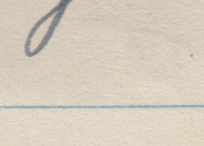


383 Squadron.

The letters of this Squadron were N2 carried on the fuselage & the individual aircraft letters were carried in a ~~triangle~~ circle on the tail :—





B,G,I,J,N,R, A crashed.	
dP51B 	

* Z BUSTER

384 Squadron.

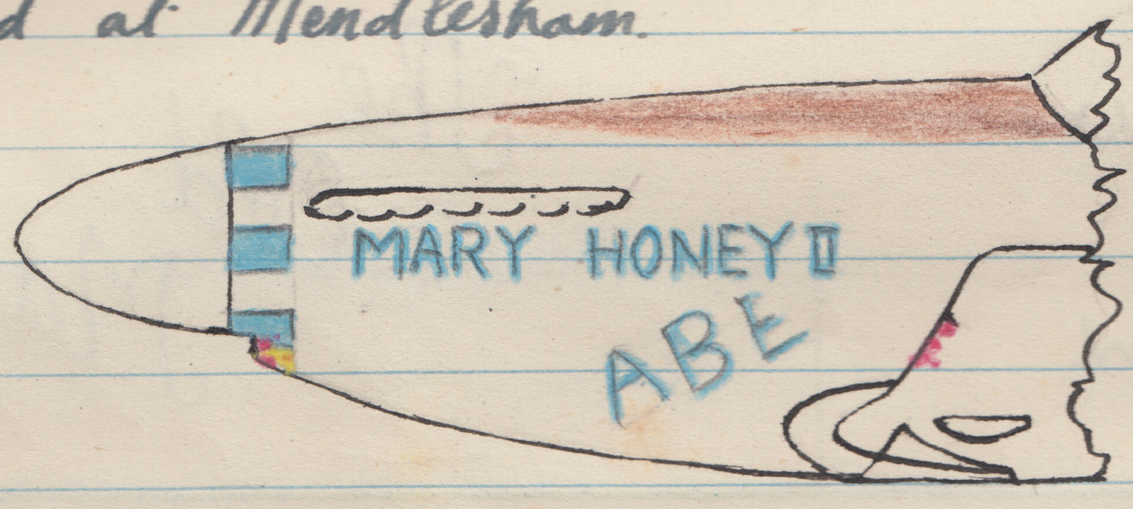
The letters of this Squadron were 5Y carried on the fuselage, the individual aircraft letters were carried.
in a square on the tail :—



* A,D,*I,J,L,O,P,V,Y.	* on trailer after crash.

HI-TOOTS

M 414547
Landed at Mendlesham.



385 Squadron

The letters of this Squadron were SE carried on the fuselage, the individual aircraft letters were carried in a ~~square~~ triangle on the tail :—



* A,L,*M,W, H

364TH FIGHTER GROUP Scouting Force.



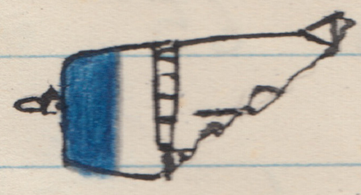
The Markings of the Scouting Force were :—
the individual aircraft letter being carried on the tail

SE on fuselage. E,F,G,J,W.

P51B. 193 on fuselage A
S landed at Mendlesham.

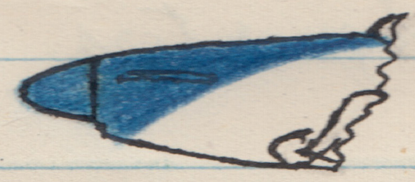
352ND FIGHTER GROUP

The 352nd Fighter Group was based at Bodney Norfolk.



Aircraft:- P47 D's

P51 D's.



The P51 Markings were :—

328 Squadron.



On fuselage. PE on tail 1,0.

486 Squadron.



487 Squadron.

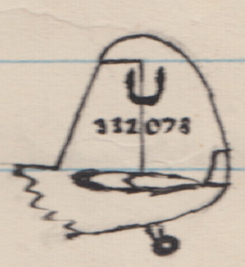


Odd

PZ-B,D,K,W.

Bobcat- 332078 Landed at Mendlesham.





The following were aces Col. J.L. Mason. Maj G.E. Preddy + Capt. D Bryant, who became an ace in one mission (5卐)

2ND AIR DIVISION

The 2nd Air Division consisted of the 2nd, 14th, 20th & 96th Combat Wings & the 65th Fighter Wing.

The symbol of the 2nd Air Division was a circle

The Headquarters was at Ketteringham Hall, Norfolk.

2ND COMBAT WING

The 2nd Combat Wing consisted of the 389th, 445th & 453rd Bomb Groups.

The markings of the 2nd Combat Wing consisted of a black tail with a white stripe

The Headquarters was at Hethel, Norfolk.

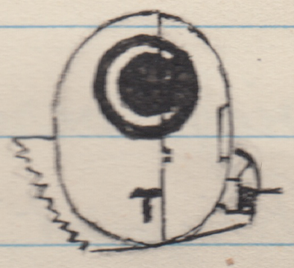
389TH BOMB GROUP

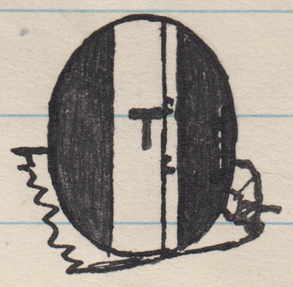
The 389th Bomb Group was based at Hethel, Norfolk.

Aircraft- B24 "Liberators"

Markings :- 1) On camouflaged B24s ©

on the rest :-



2/  with © on top starboard wing

The 564th Bomber Squadron supplied pathfinders for the whole of the 2nd Division from February 1944. to the summer of the same year.

The 389th Bomb Group took part in the Ploesti oil refineries raid.

EE Squadron.

On fuselage	On tail		On fuselage	On tail	
EE	F	Landed at Mendlesham.	EEQ	Q	Landed at Mendlesham.
EEJ	J		EEQ̄	Q̄	
EEO	O		EEV̄	V̄	

HP Squadron.

HP L on fuselage.	L on tail	HP Q on fuselage.	
HP " "	Z " "	Q	on tail

RR Squadron.

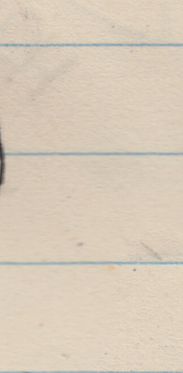
RR D+ on fuselage.	D+ on tail.	RR on fuselage	1 on tail
RR G+ " "	G+ " "	RR L+ " "	L+ " "
RR " "	H+ " "		



B 24 M.

YO Squadron.

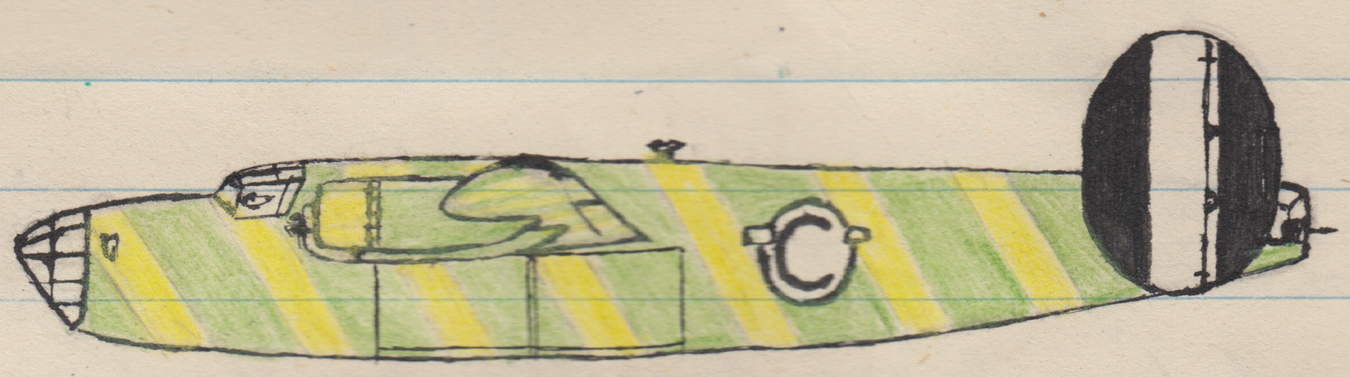
YO on fuselage.	E on tail	
" " "	F " "	854 on nose.
" " "		



Odd

P47D 

Leadship —



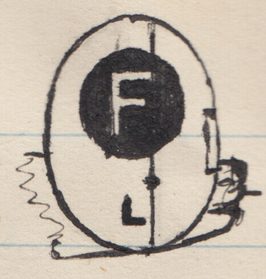
445TH BOMB GROUP

The 445d Bomb Group was based at ~~METFIELD~~ ~~Tibenham~~ Tibenham. Norfolk.

~~First, until the bomb dumps were up, when it was moved to Tibenham, Norfolk.~~

Aircraft. B24 Liberators

Markings 1) On camouflaged B24s (F) on the rest :-



2) 

with (F) on top starboard wing

IS Squadron.

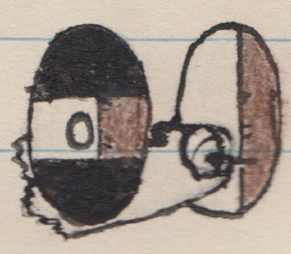
IS B+	on fuselage	B+	on tail	IS N+	on fuselage
IS E+	" "	E+	" "	N+	on tail

(O) on nose.

MK Squadron.

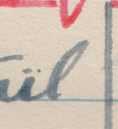
MK E	on fuselage	E	on tail	MK O	on fuselage.
MK I	" "	I	" "		
MK N	" "	N	" "		
MK Q	" "	Q	" "		

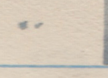
spinner 

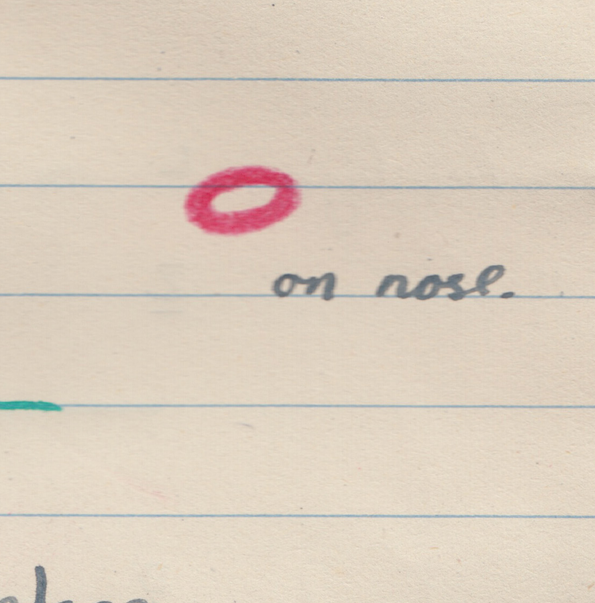


RN Squadron.

RN A	on fuselage	A	on tail	RN P	on fuselage
RN I	" "	I	" "	P	on tail.
RN 5	" "	5	" "		







WV Squadron.

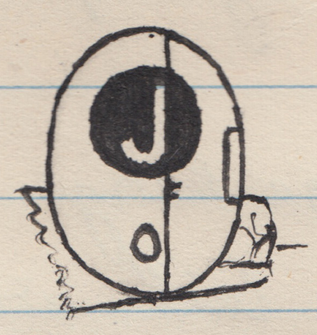
WV C on fuselage C on tail. On a mission the hydraulics were shot out, and to make it possible for the B24 to land, parachutes were released through the waist windows immediately before the touch down.

WV L	on fuselage	L	on tail	WV V	on fuselage	V	on tail.
WV O	" "	O	" "	WV Y	" "	Y	" "

453RD BOMB GROUP

The 453rd Bomb Group was based at Old Buckenham, Norfk.

Aircraft B24 Liberators.

Markings 1, On camouflaged B24s 

on the rest :-

2/  with  on top starboard wing.

E8 Squadron

E8 on fuselage.

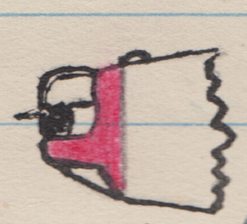
FB Squadron.

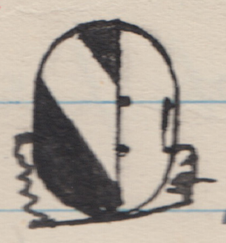
FB on fuselage.

H6 Squadron.

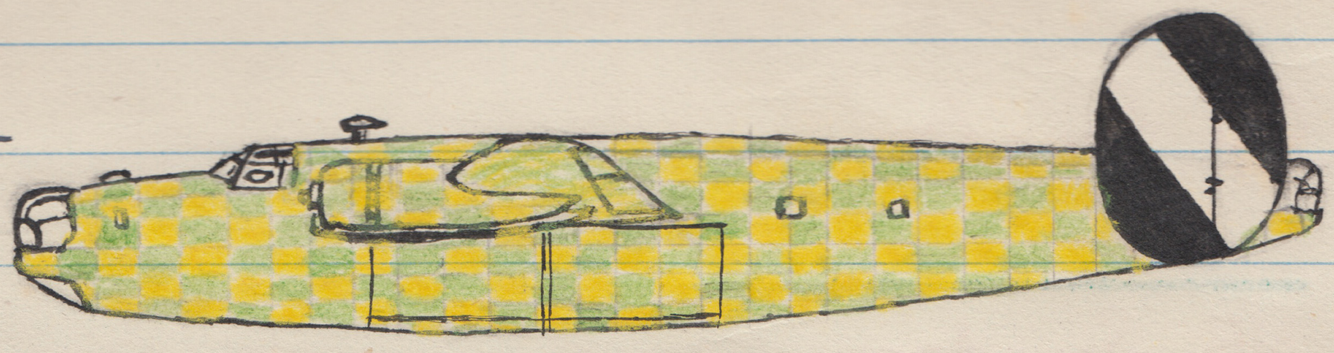
H6 on fuselage. O on tail

Odd




P47D


Leadship :-



14TH COMBAT WING

The 14th Combat Wing consisted of the 44th, 392nd + 491st Bomb Groups.

The markings of the 14th Combat Wing consisted of a white tail with a black stripe.

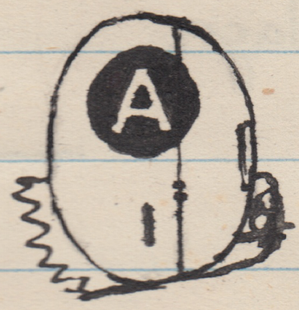
The Headquarters was at Shipdam, Norfolk.

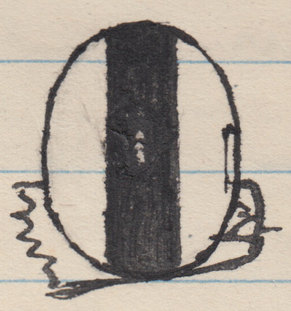
44TH BOMB GROUP

The 44th Bomb Group was based at Shipdam, Norfolk.

Aircraft B 24 Liberators

Markings 1) On camoaflaged B24s Ⓐ on the rest :-



2)  with Ⓐ on top starboard wing.

The 44th Bomb Group took part in the Ploesti oil refineries raid.

GJ Squadron.

O

NB Squadron.

G, N, P

QK Squadron.

K

WEARY

WQ Squadron.

X

Odd.

d Z

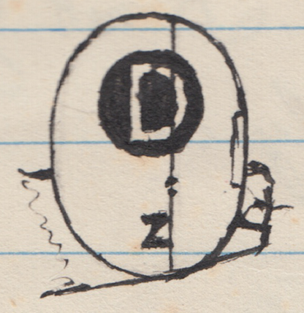
{ (A) H Badly shot up on a mission, but made a successful landing

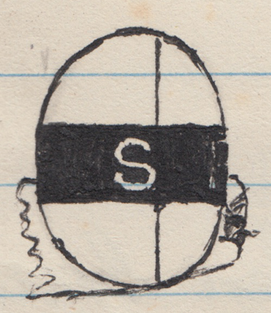
392ND BOMB GROUP

The 392nd Bomb Group was based at Wendling, Norfolk.

Aircraft. B24 Liberators.

Markings. 1) On camouflaged B24s (D) on the rest :—



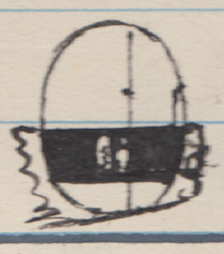
2) 

with (D) on top starboard wing

C1 Squadron.

O 916 on nose., W

DO Squadron.

A+ 

E

F+ 323 on nose.



Doodle Bug

Twice landed at Mendlesham.

EC Squadron.

B 542 on nose.

L

C 450493 
493 on nose.

d Q 772 on nose.

P 476 on nose

R 38 on nose.

GC Squadron

d C 148 on nose.

G

d M

d Q

Caroline

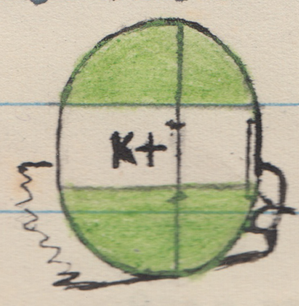
Twice landed at Mendlesham.

491st BOMB GROUP

The 491st Bomb Group was based first at Metfield, Norfolk. secondly at North Pickenham, Norfolk.

Aircraft B24 Liberators.

Markings for 491st Bomb Group when based at Metfield:-



T8 Squadron.

-D

+R

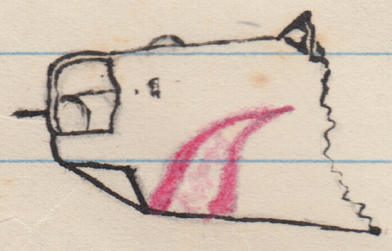


-O

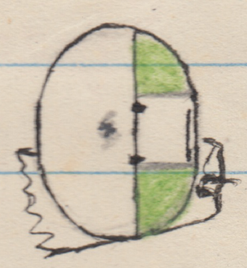
S

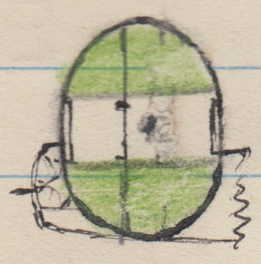
-V

Landed at Mendlesham.



(P)





(S)

V2 Squadron.

F+, K+, V+,  on nose.

V2 on fuselage P+

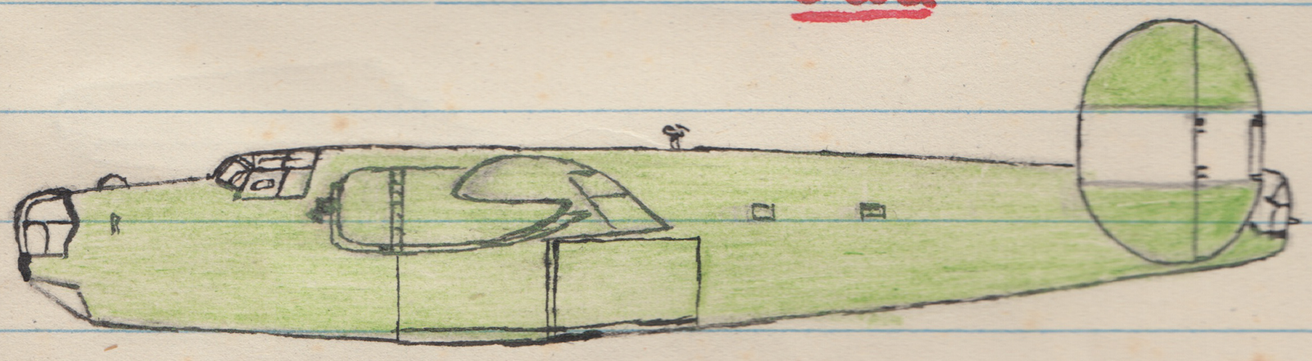
3Q Squadron

I+, W, K, V, 

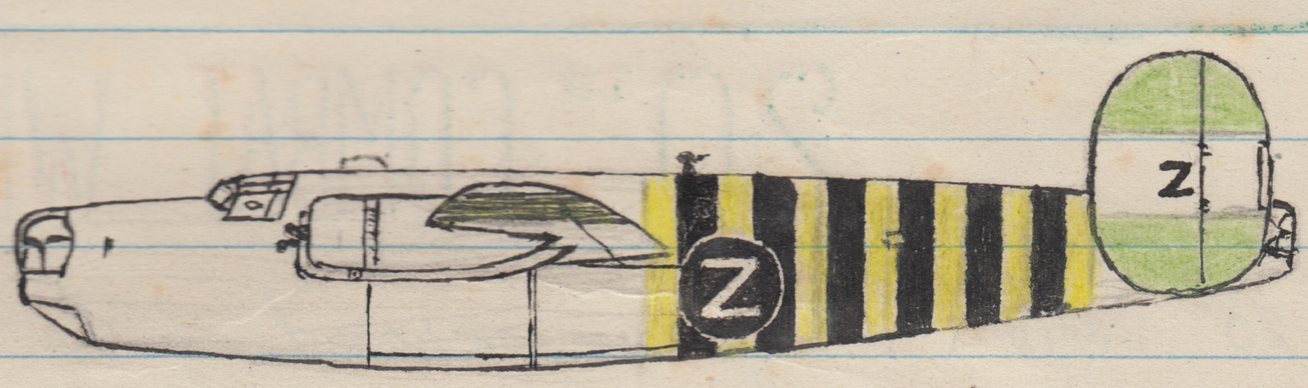
6X Squadron.

I, T

Odd



Leadship :-





Markings for the 491st Bomb Group when based at North Pickenham. Norfolk :-

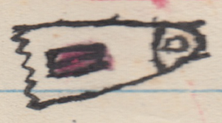


with Z on top starboard wing.

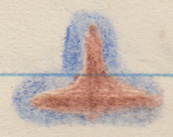
T8 Squadron.

-1

V2 Squadron.

F-, K+, X  ,

3Q Squadron.

A 3QA,	O  (outer P.) 
	Landed at Mendlesham.

6X Squadron.

B  , F- , R-  , X-  ,

Odd

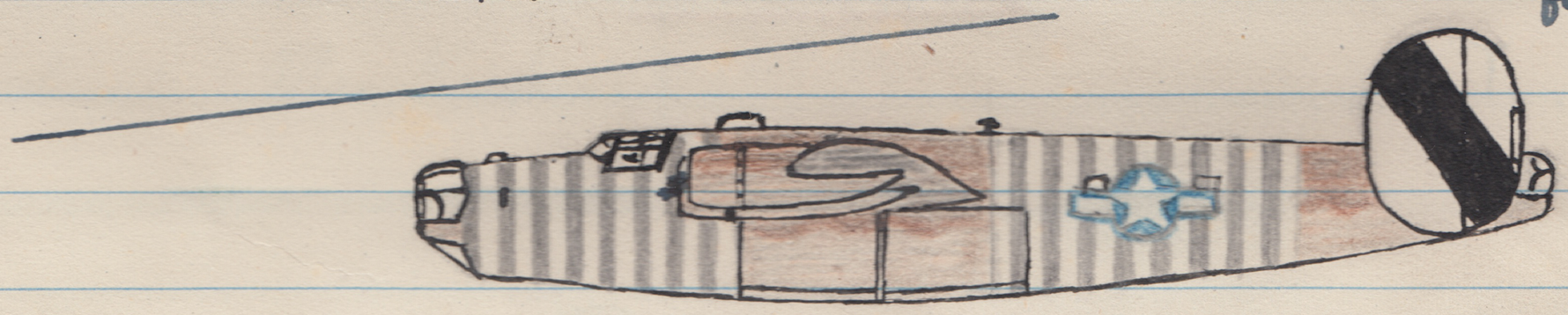
Landed at Mendlesham.



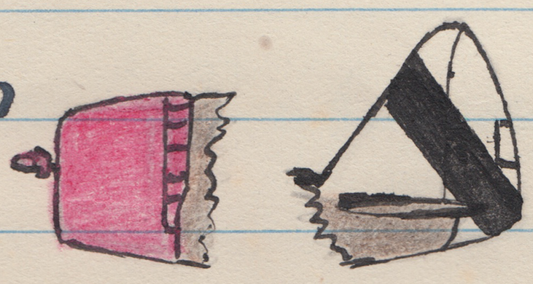
LUBARAO

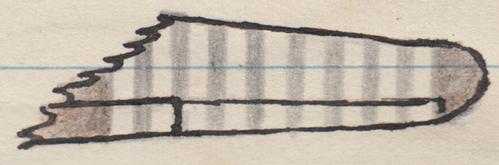


Upper starboard wing other wing surfaces the same except for Ⓩ



d. P47D





20TH COMBAT WING

The 20d Combat Wing was composed of the 93rd, 446d & 448d Bomb Groups.

The Markings of the 20d Combat Wing consisted of - yellow fins & rudders with a black stripe.

The Headquarters was at Hardwick Norfolk.

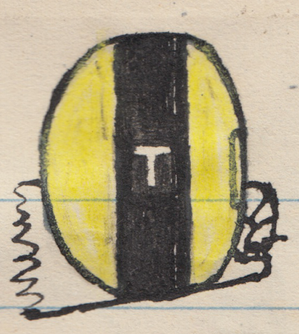
93RD BOMB GROUP

The 93rd Bomb Group was based at Hardwick Norfolk.

Aircraft. B 24 Liberators

Markings i) On camouflaged B24s Ⓑ on the rest:-

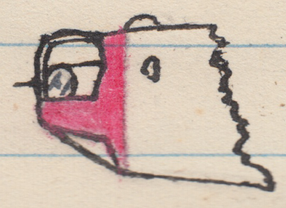


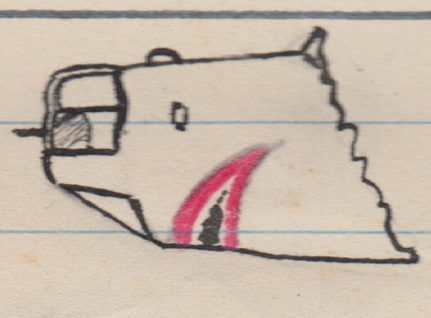
2)  with (B) on top starboard wing

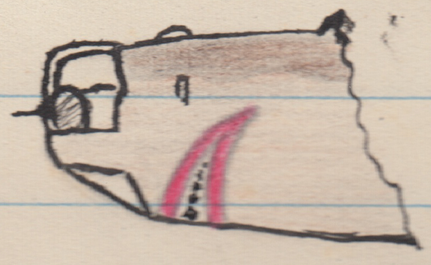
The 93rd Bomb Group took part in the Ploesti oil refineries mission.

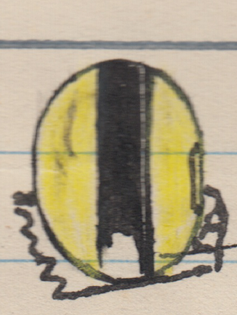
AG Squadron.

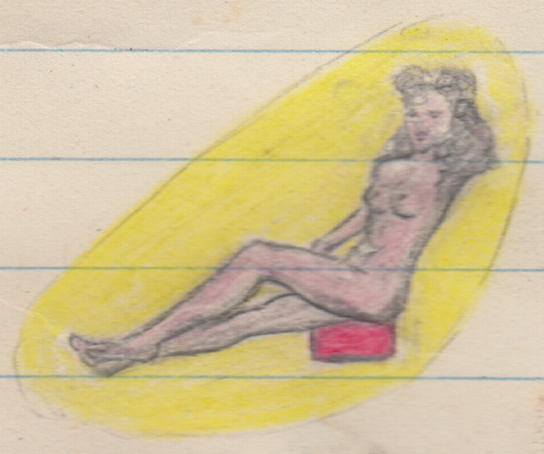
dA, B, D, F, dG, G, dL, N, dP, S, T

C 

E 

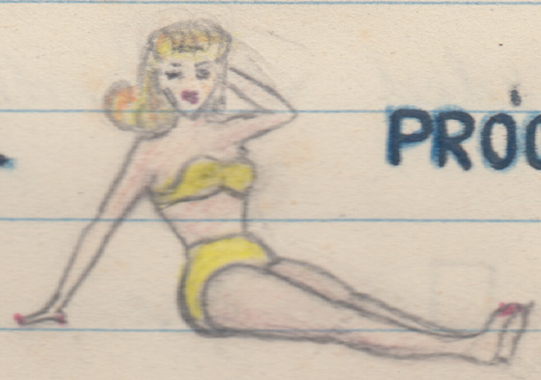
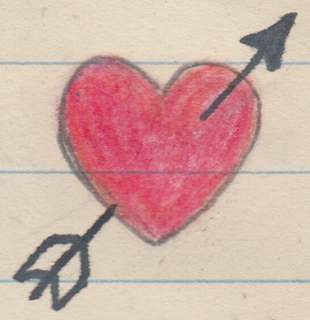
dG 

dK  damaged

M 

O 450534

-R 294805

FOIL  PROOF 

AG

(B) 

"STERILE ERROL"

Landed on Hardwick with starboard and inner starboard engine blazing, after 5 ME 109's had jumped it, knocked out the hydraulic system & punctured a tyre — the tail turret had 40 bullet-holes in it.

250501 

GO Squadron

B, dE, E, H, I, N, R

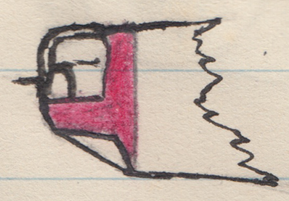
A 250594

dG 252669

Q 2100427

HE Squadron

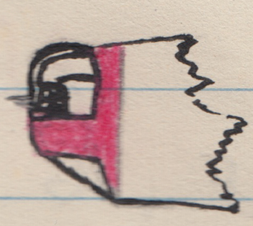
A, C, K, M, P, S, T, X



RE Squadron

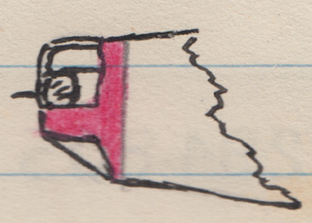
G 291594

R



-J

448840



S

Thrice landed at Mendlesham

Z



-N ☐ on nose.

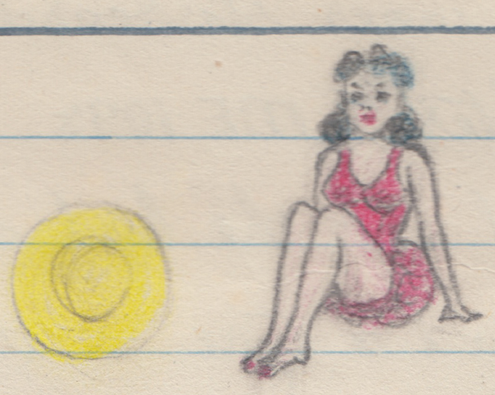
dR



YM Squadron.

H, L, N, O, R, W

dY



410578

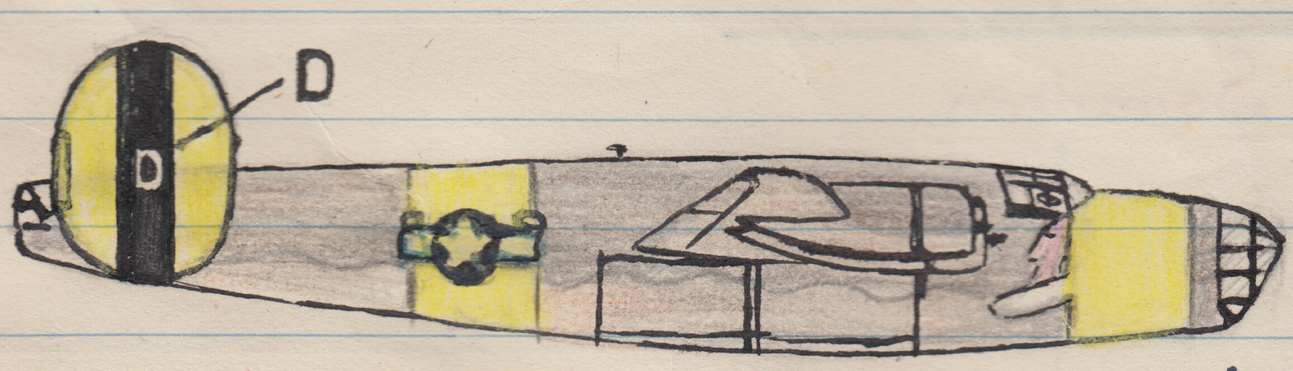
Odd.

dO B24D Ⓑ

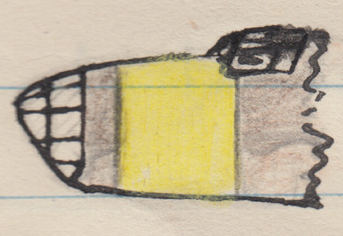




291
under port wing

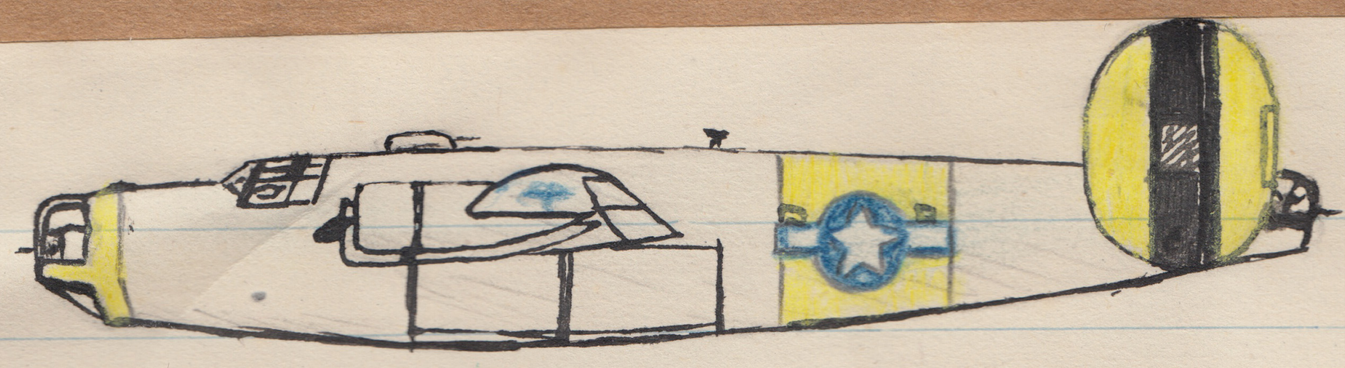


dB 24 D





2 dP47D's.



446TH BOMB GROUP

The 446th Bomb Group was based at Bungay, Suffolk.

Aircraft :- B24 Liberators.

Markings :- On camouflaged B24s Ⓗ
on the rest :-

2/ with on top starboard wing

WATTISHAM (479th U.S.A.A.F. Fighter Group).

I Bleriem I's and V's + 3 Bostons No Letters. + 3 Harvards:- painted blue with yellow wings

II About 60 P38 Lightnings + 60 P51 Mustangs

Lightning names:- Clara, Bula "B" IV, Bella "B" II

Tarzana, * = scrapped.

III 100+ P51 Mustangs, also a few Cranes, Norsemans. Arguses & 1 Black Widow.

1st C.O. Col. Hubert Zemke (missing).

2nd C.O. Col. Kyle L. Riddle

Yellow Squadron.

J2⊖A	411163	LITTLE JOAN	upw J2A
J2⊖B	414345		upw J2B
J2⊖D			upw J2D
J2⊖F	414341	Fast Company.	upw J2F
J2⊖G	414263	"ROARIN' ROSE"	upw J2G
J2⊖H	414392	APPLE KNOCKER.	upw J2H
J2⊖K	28500 WW	d P47D	OSW C upw J2K
J2⊖M			
J2⊖O	414354	VAL	upw J2O
J2⊖P	414406	MUGS	upw J2P
J2⊖Q	436865	J2 Q	upw J2Q
J2⊖R	414327	PILOT COL. K. L. RIDDLE CREW CHIEF T/SGT H. W. LEACHMAN	upw J2R

J2⊖S

J2⊖T 411346



upw J2S

upw J2T

J2⊖V 472802

upw J2V

J2⊖W 414366



J2⊖X 312408 TOMMIE

upw J2W

upw J2X

J2⊖Y 414371 Edith

upw J2Y on cockpit Lt. C. W Getz.

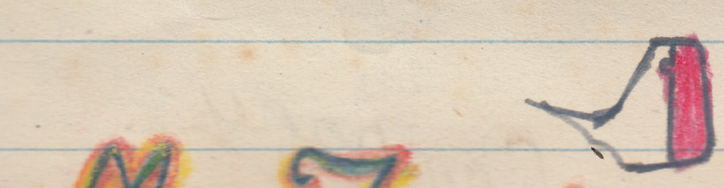
WW

J2⊖Z 436875

upw J2Z

Red Squadron

L2⊖A 414645



upw L2A

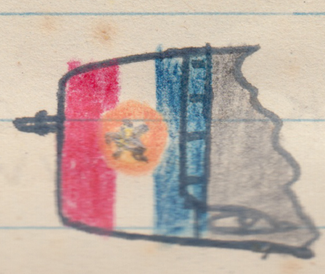
L2⊖B 414391

Beautiful Jan

L2⊖F ∝P47D WW



upw L2E







L2⊖H 421113 P47D

upw L2H

L2⊖J 414507 Satan's AGENT on cockpit

upw L2J

L2⊖K 411215

upw L2K

L2⊖L 415381

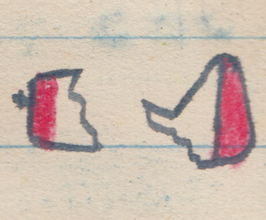
Super Wabbit



upw
L2L

L2⊖M 414395

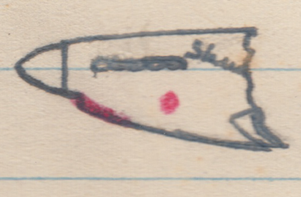
L2⊖M 421236 P47D



upw.
L2M
upw
L2M

L2⊖N 414373

Skunk Chaser



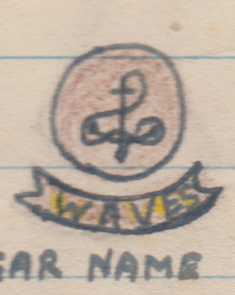
upw
L2N

L2⊖R

L2⊖S 414846



Pauline



NEAR NAME

upw
L2S

L2⊖U 415317
upw
L2U
W.W.

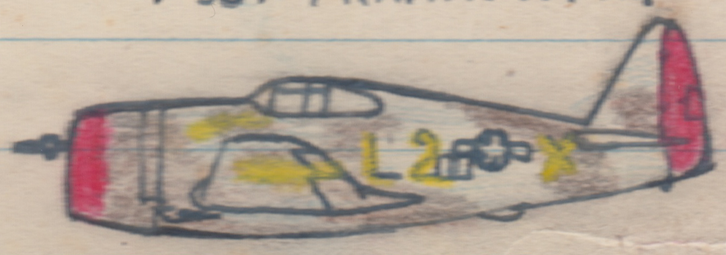
"American MAID"

L2⊖W 2109492 P51C



MAJ. ROBIN OLDS. Pilot.
T'SGT. FRANKOVITCH. C.Chief.

L2⊖X 42117 P47D



Teddy



Pilot. M. J. Joes.
C. Chief. W.O. Noah S. Sgt.
Asst: A J Price
Asst B Bert Helbury

L2⊖Y

L2⊖2



L2⊖3

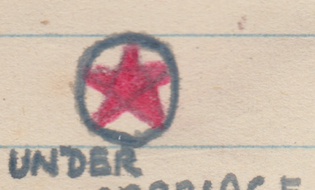
L2⊖4

Argus.

14603

? I DON'T KNOW





Black Squadron.

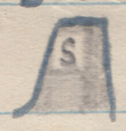


9B○A

9B○B+3 P51B's  later 

9B○D 

9B○S



d/ Invader 

upw 9BS

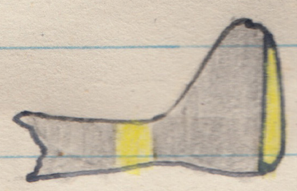
9B○Y

9B○X

9B○O

9B○Z

9B○ 

DH○K d Black Widow 

"Flittin'

"Fannie

Other Names.

Impatient Virgin, Goldie Locks, The Brat, Mac's Hack, The Sluggah, Selonia 3rd, Lady Jean, Lil' Rusty, Rebelious Rebel, Butch, Ann, Betty Jean, Joan, Ann, The Porail.

(10)

MENDLESHAM.

34TH BOMB GROUP (H)

AERODROME LETTERS MZ

The 34th Bomb Group is an old organisation & is formed of 4 very old Bombardment Squadrons, — the 4th the 7th, the 18th & the 391st formed from the 1st reconnaisance Squadron.

The activation of the 34th Bomb Group took place at Langley Field, Virginia. From Langley the unit moved to Pendleton, Ohio. & from there to Tucson, Arizona. After a short stay at Tucson the Group moved to Geiger Field, at Spokane, Washington, one of the main Bombardment Group home bases, and then went on to Euphrate, also in Washington. Blythe, California, another home Bombardment base, was next on the list; it was here that several other 8th A.F. Groups were formed later. The period spent at Blythe was more prolonged, and after moving to Salinas for a short time, the unit returned to Blythe. All this time the Group was engaged in training crews for heavy bombers, and up to the time it went to Salinas was flying Boeing B17 Fortresses, but at Salinas, a conversion course was held, and when the 34th returned to Blythe it was using Consolidated B24 Liberators. Not until July, 1944, did the Group change back to Fortresses.

At Blythe the 34th Bombardment Group was disbanded and formed into the 358th Combat Crew Training School. A tremendous amount of training was done at this stage and it can be fairly stated that most Bombardment Groups in the 8th Air Force originated in the 34th Bomb Group or 358th Training School.

After a long time the decision was made to reinstate the 34th Bombardment Group & place it on operational status for service overseas. A cadre was formed, & in December 1943, the 34th Bomb Group was reborn.

The Group flew from Blythe via Salinas to England, arriving near Liverpool on April 21st, 1944, & from there flew to Mendlesham, Suffolk, which was the base for this unit until June, 1945. When the Group arrived in England it was commanded by Col. E.F. Wachwitz, who had been appointed C.O. when the 34th had been reformed. After retaining his post in England for some months, he was withdrawn for other duties & Col W.E. Creer took his place. After the Group had ceased operations, Col. Creer returned to the U.S.A. on May 29th, 1945, to be replaced by Lt-Col. Le Bailly.

OPERATIONS

Flying its first mission on May 23rd, 1944, to attack ~~Plauen~~ Estampes & Mondesir, & its last operation on April 20th, 1945, to attack Mauer, the 34th Bomb Group has had less than a year of operations over Europe & has participated in no really outstanding attacks apart from one on the Plauer tank factory early ~~this~~ in 1945. For several months forces of 8th Air Force bombers had been attacking this plant with poor results. Then in the attack of March 25th, 1945, the 34th Group laid a neat pattern of high explosives right across the factory. Other Groups took part in the mission, but only the 34th made a successful bombing attack. This action was typical of the accuracy record of the 34th, for this unit led the 8th Air Force in bombing accuracy during the first few months in which it operated. Also, during the period it was operational, it flew more sorties than were flown by any other Group during the same time. A total of 170 operational missions, 6 food missions & many repatriated prisoner flights is no mean effort in a period of 11 months. During this time the Group dropped many 1000s of bombs, 13,045 tons of which were certified as having hit their intended targets. The highest tonnage to hit a single target was 133 short tons

on Bielefeld on March 3rd.

Because of its relatively short period of active service, claims of enemy aircraft destroyed by the Group are small, amounting to only 8 destroyed, 4 probably destroyed, + 13 damaged, while 52 of the Groups bombers were lost. The latter figure may seem out of proportion to the claims made, but during 1944 fighter opposition steadily decreased, while enemy flak was on the increase. Indeed other crews reported that the period between June 1943, and March, 1944, was the worst for fighter attacks, while from this time on the escort fighters further reduced an already waning menace & flak was the bombers' worst enemy.

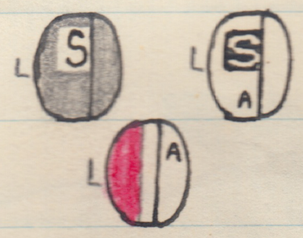
Although it was "over here" too late to participate in some of the pioneer battles of the 8th Air Force, 3rd Air Division, the 34th Bomb Group started with a tradition born of long home service, & has since shown itself in action to be more than a match for any adversary.

The 34th Group left for the U.S.A. in June 1945, where, with other 8th Air Force Groups, it was to be re-equipped with Boeing B29 Superfortresses. These Groups were then to be sent to the Pacific to form part of the Strategic Air Force, commanded by Gen. Carl Spaatz.

Before the 34th was based at Mendlesham, three Squadrons of Czech flown Spitfire IX's (DU, RY & NN) were operating from here following its completion in the early months of 1944

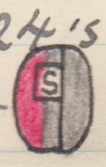
DUOB stalled & crash landed

B 24 Liberators Tail Markings 1



II

Whilst the Group Markings were being altered some 4th B 24's flew with tails :—



After the Group Markings had been altered, 2 B 24J's of the 4th

Squadron Flew with tails :—

L -+s

4th Squadron (White) spinners

440443

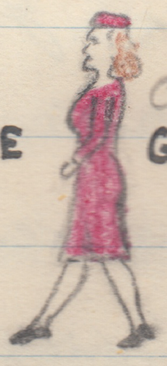
D JERKS BERSERK (s)

Q THE WRANGLER (s) | THE WRANGLER (P)

F DYNAMITE 'N DODO | DYNAMITE'N DODO

Q  PICCADILLY Lucy

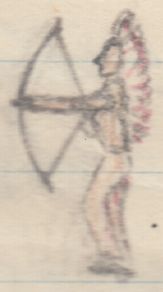
I Ann (s)

J  MALE GIRL (S) | MALE  CALL GIRL (P)

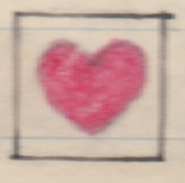
S  129567 BAMBI (S)

人 TOMMY
K THUMPER II (P)

U WEARY WILLIE (S)

人 L  WAR EAGLE (S)

TOMMY THUMPER Scrapped (P)

Z  centre of nose.

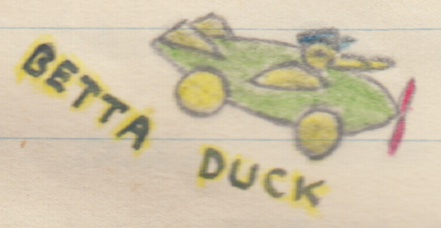
7th (Yellow) Squadron. spinners

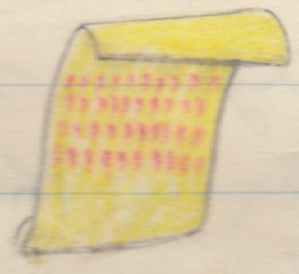
A  CAPTAIN 'John Silver'

I  Tiger Rag (s) | Tiger Rag (P)

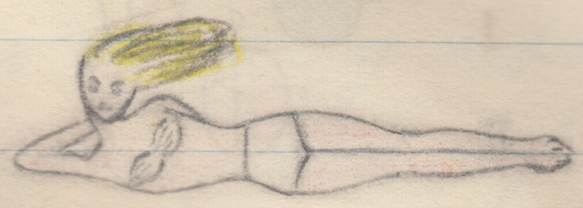
B   BETTA DUCK (P)

L Shadrach 129557

 BETTA DUCK (S)



L COCKEY FLO 

G  MISCHIEF (P)

N (S) ME WORRY II (P) ME WORRY II

R Umbago (P) — starboard outer — Umbriago

PAPER DOLL (P)

"Belchin' Bessie" (P) + (S)



Crashed at the end of the main runway. on Aug 11th 1944 at 9.15 A.M with a full load of bombs. The crew escaped with bruises.

129559

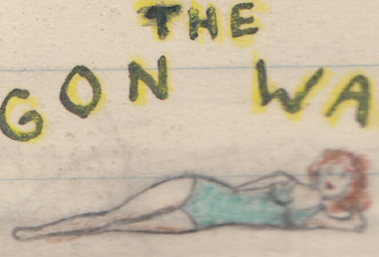
440320

18th (Red) Squadron — spinners

A FAST COMPANY (P)



B THE DUGON WAGGON (P)





THE DUGON WAGGON (S)

D GENERATOR JENNY (P)

H Smokey (P)



251180

391st (Green) Squadron — spinners

A Holy Joe (P) 250613



B THIS ABOVE ALL (P)

C Duchess (P)

D SMALL CHANGE

H SunShine Rose (P)

P



FLOOGIE BOO (P)

FLOOGIE BOO (S)

T

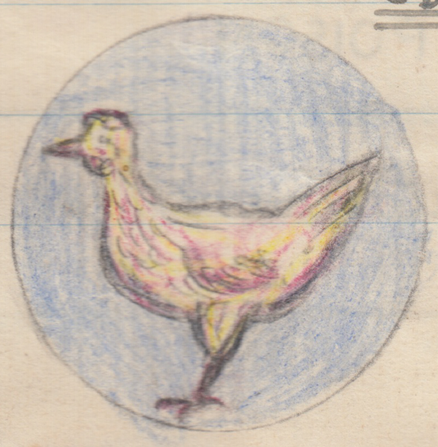


BOOTS (S)

Z BELLE OF THE BRAWL

ODD - ALL SQUADRONS

C



M Collapsible Susy

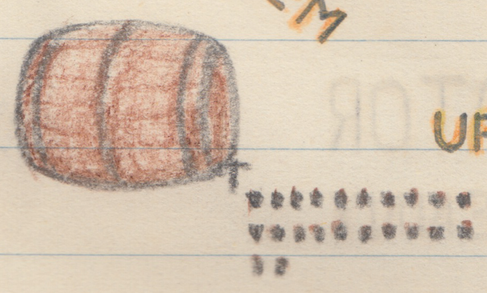
18th

LC

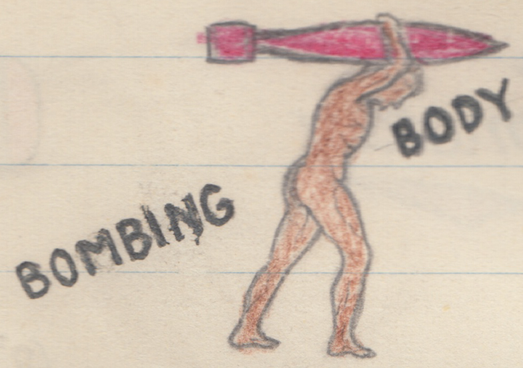
M SMITTY 294-780 (P)

O LUCIE (S)

T SET 'EM UP



Y

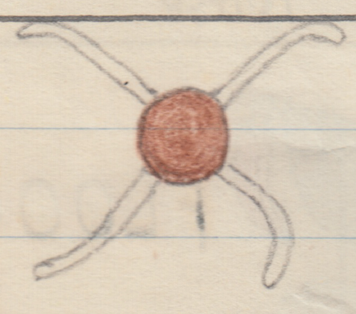


(S)

Y FRIVOLOUS SAL 18th

AI

BAD PENNY



(P)

BAD PENNY IV

Betty B.

BRAWL (S)

Q. A. Toni

Cock of the Sky



Embassy

Fightin' Rebel

FRIVOL

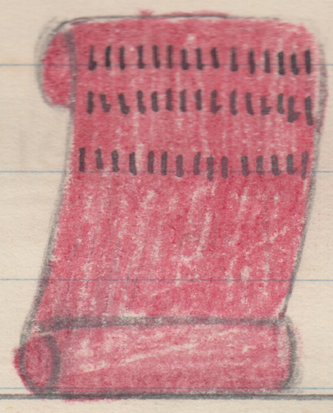


(P)

Glamour Girl
Shot down June 7th 1944 by Me 210 crashed Hitcham

HELL'S BELL'S (S)
BELLES

Hell's Bible



MAID of FURY

440468 Mean Kid
H

MIKE the IKE

MUM-A SHOO-SHOO

Q QUEENIE

RAT POISON

Salutation Rose

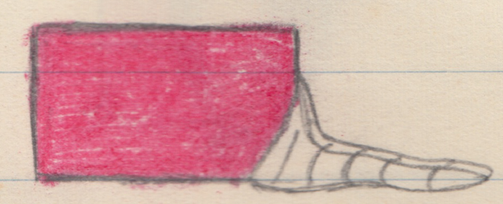


SHADY LADY

The Squadrons Boy

The Sweetheart of Harlech

THE UNINVITED



SKOTTY (S)

Shot down onto Mendlesham Aerodrome by a Me 210 at 11.30 A.M. Only member of crew who managed to parachute and escape, landed here - name Edward Erwin - top gunner. Plane totally destroyed. Rest of crew killed. One other Liberator was shot down.

June 7th 1944.



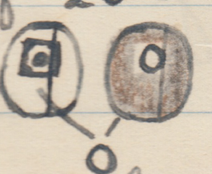


Striptease

B24H 4N⊖F ant. E ant.

The Bold Sea Rover

The Flying Devil

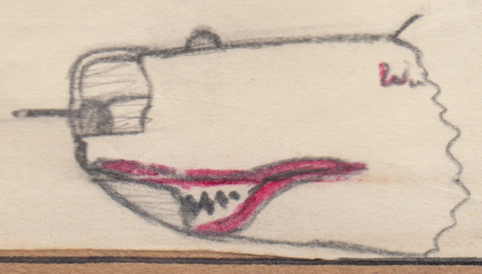
When the Bomb Group stationed at Acton-Suffolk, took a conversion course to B17's, some of the B24's of 25⊖ squadron were placed in red squadron. Their tails () were painted red () with the tail letters were in white. The spinners were painted red. The fuselage letters were painted out

N Hit Parade (P)



R GEMINI II (P)

S formerly 25⊖R Winnie (P)



The Shark

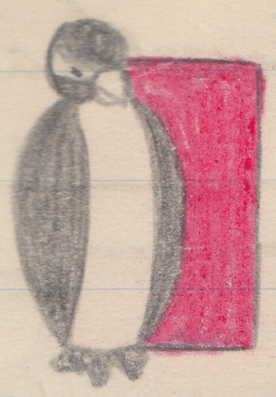
Y



(P)

2S⊖C

2S⊖N



Rat Poison

180 LEO



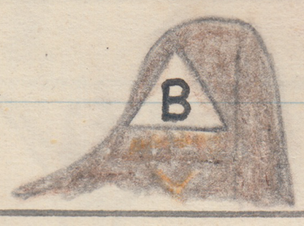
(P)

With the B 24's was 1 Boston which left them



In August 1944 a number of War Weary B 17 F's were sent to the aerodrome for the conversion course to B 17's :-

NU⊖X



R on tail

P on tail

JJ⊖G

G on tail. also W.W.

MONKEY'S UNCLE

(P)

W on tail

P on tail

KENTUCKY KERNEL

S on tail

TWINKLE

JJ⊖L

G on tail also W.W.

Flak Alley Lil'



(S)

MI⊖HX

WW on tail

FLAK

WK

B on t

H on tail B 17G

later .. .. ..

2 .. ..



LF⊖W

K on tail B17G.

VE⊖PY (P)

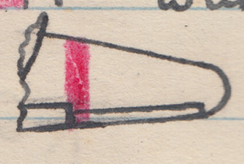
PY⊖VE (S)

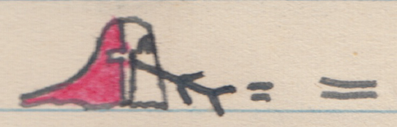
P painted out.

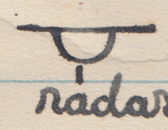
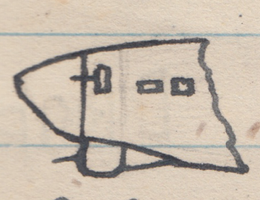
L on tail also G

MIDWAY

At the end of August the B 24's left, presumably for the Far East; then the B17's arrived & were then given the Group markings

The Group markings of the Fortresses consisted of a red fin (the same as the markings of the Liberators) e.g.  with later red chord-wise stripes across the wings & tailplane eg.  

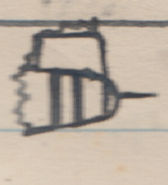
NB  = =

4th (White) Squadron  radar nose  spinners 

C.O Maj. Coles. letters 3L

A 48482   - chin turret

Hellgate Lady (P)

B 338325 

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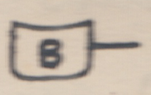
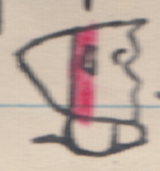
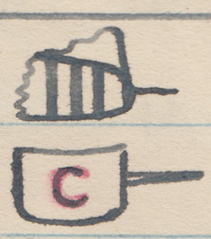
B 48829 

Later - after VE day - placed with the 18th Squadron.  nose 

C ~~48157~~

C 338820 

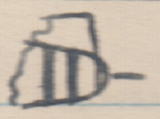
=

C 46820 

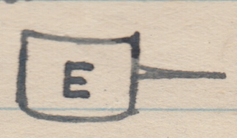
After VE-day placed with the 7th Squadron upw

nose -  spinners R2C

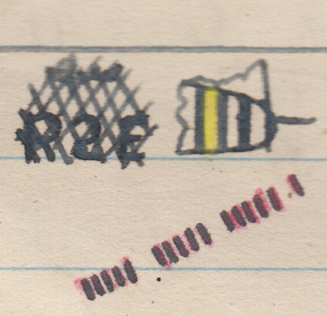
MISS Purty (P)

D 48112  5 

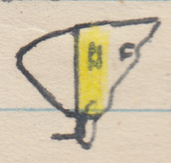
After VE day placed with the 18th Squadron 

as E nose -  spinners 

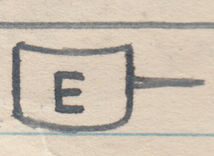
D 48629

E 46822 

After VE day placed with the 7th Squadron upw

nose  spinners  R2E

=

E 48921 4  

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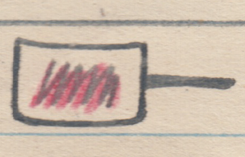
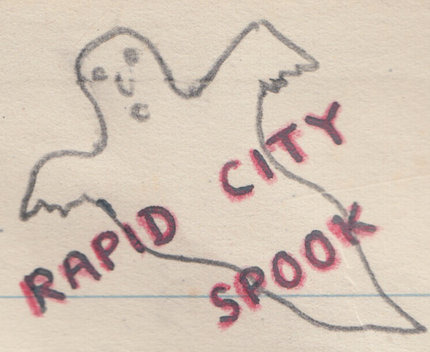
F 48556 

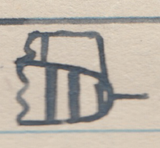
G 48457 RAPID CITY SPOOK later  (P)

H = 48731 

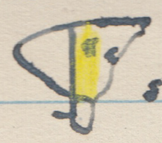
KONNIVV KNOCKOUT



DROPPER (S)

H = 338959 

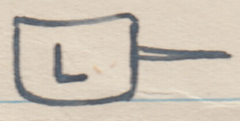
I 48237  After VE day placed with the 7th Squadron

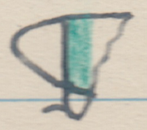
nose  spinners

Dallas Doll (P)

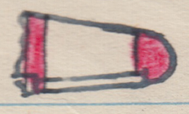
J 

K 48731

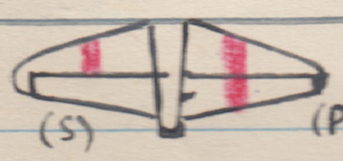
L = 48839  After VE day placed with the 391st Squadron

nose  spinners

M (P)

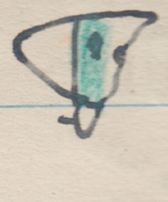
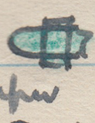
N 48356  (P) After VE day placed with the 7th Squadron

nose  spinners 

Q 48176  Starb.  (S) (P) Ditto

R = 338959 

After VE day placed with the 391st Squadron

as H  nose  spinners  Ditto

upw

Q6H

SHORT and SWEET (P)

S 48441 After VE day placed with the 7th Squadron as □ nose spinners

S

T 48882

V

X 48235 X After VE day placed with the 18th Squadron upw 81X nose spinners

Z upw 3LZ

7th (Yellow) Squadron. C.O. Maj. A. Breunk. Letters R2
nose spinners

A

A 48598 Overshot runway on returning from mission with full load of bombs in Dec. 1944. Crew escaped uninjured.

A 339179

Asphodel

(P) □ (S)
SHAKY

B 338325 later upw R2B starb waist position
Frost

After VE day placed with the 4th Squadron.
nose spinners

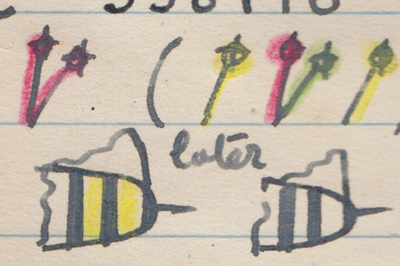
1st name "Flying Fish" - see overleaf. 2nd. :- (P)

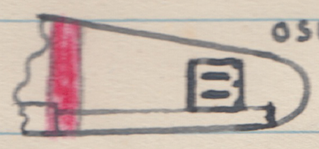
Flying Fish

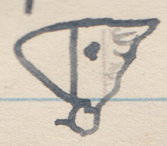
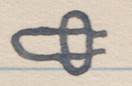


(P)

C 338416 1Y After VE day placed with the 4th Squadron

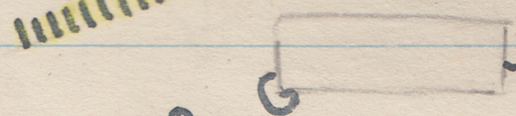




Nose  spinners  

SKEETER (S)

over ball turret



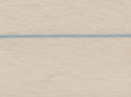
(P)

C 48559

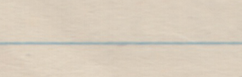
D  

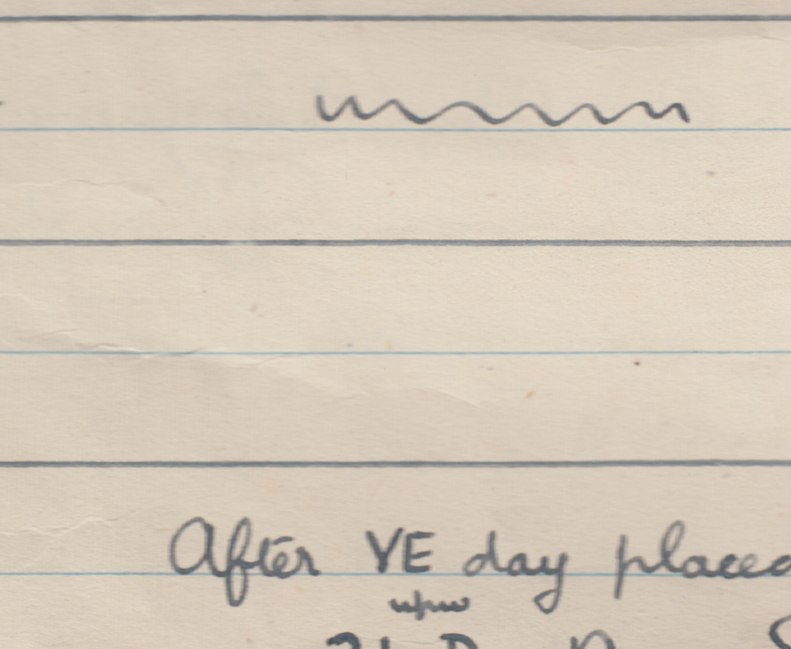
D 46465

D 46826 After VE day placed with the 4th Squadron

3LD Nose  spinners 

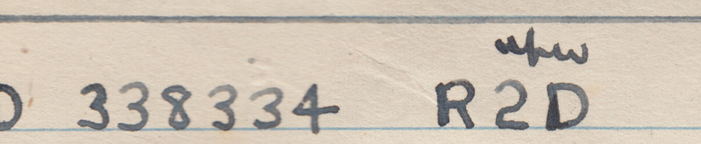
D 338334 R2D

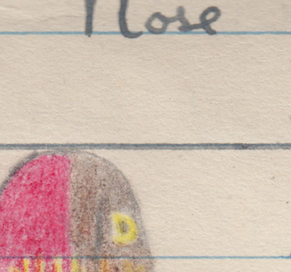




(P)

E 338419  

()



(P)

E 337664

F 338363 人

F 338987 (人 VVVV) 1

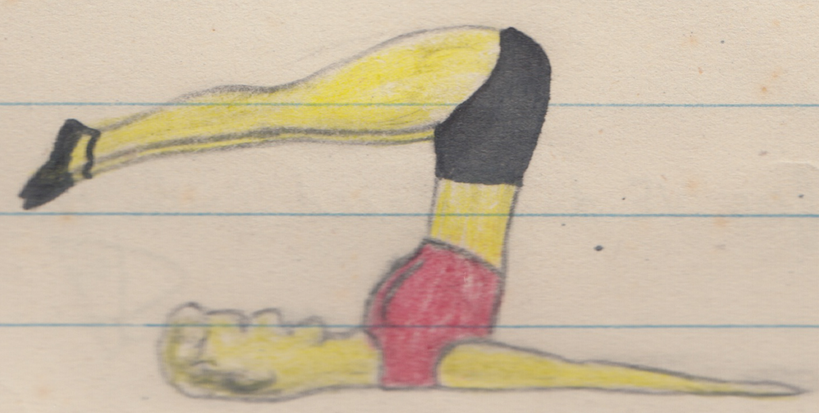
KATIE (P)
under löp turret.



tail position (P)

G 48326 人人 (人 V)

1 1



BOTTOMS UP (P)

H 48309 人人 VVVV

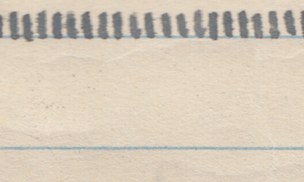
1 1 1

Or Buddy

Completed 79 missions

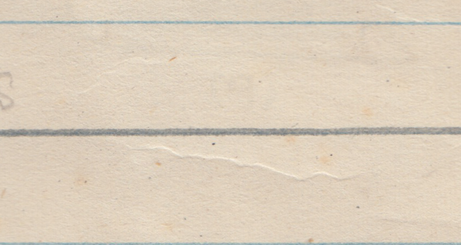
1

J 338391 人 HIT AND RUN (P)



J 338981 R2J HIT AND RUN (P)

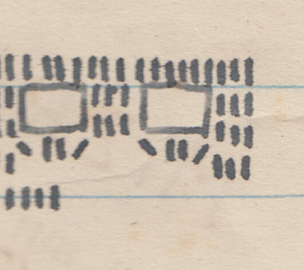
(S) Willie tail position



(S)

J 46822 door (P)

Blind Date



(P)

K 338386 人

L 338367 人, 𐌅, 𐌅 ,





BOTTA HAVER

(P)

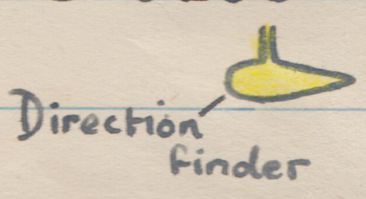
M 338280 人  R2M ufpw

MISBEHAVIN' RAVEN

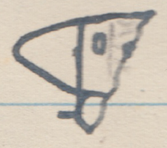


(P)

N 338263 1 



After VE day placed with the 4th Squadron

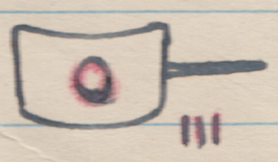
Nose 

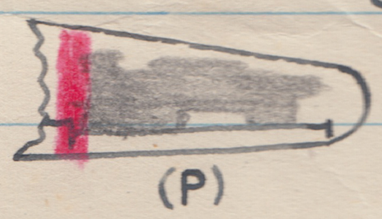


spinners 

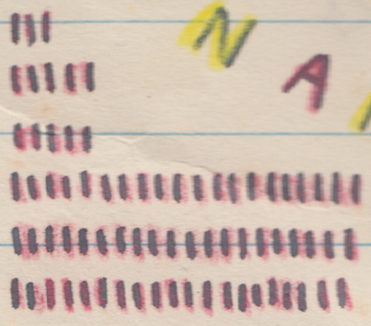
Dies irae (S) (Day of Wrath)

O 46465 





(P)



(P)

THE KANSAS TWISTER

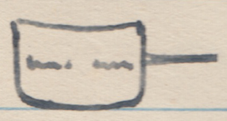
(S) above ball turret

= ufpw

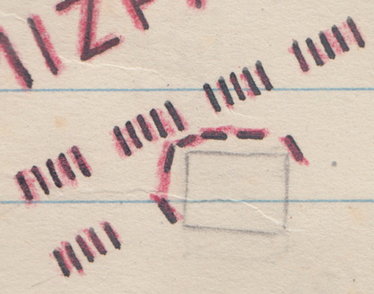
P 46939 R2P

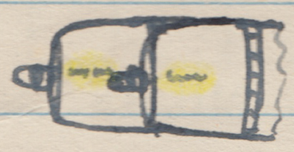
(P)

BETS (S)
Waist Position

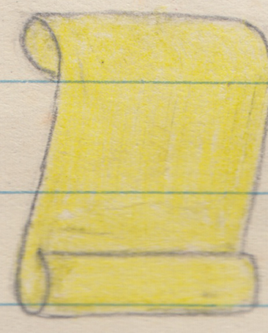


MIZPAH





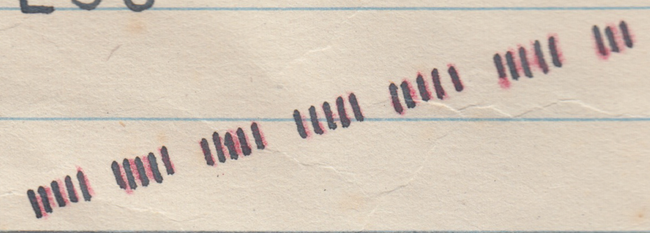
(P) engines



later changed to :-



~~R~~ R 46296

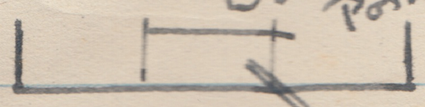


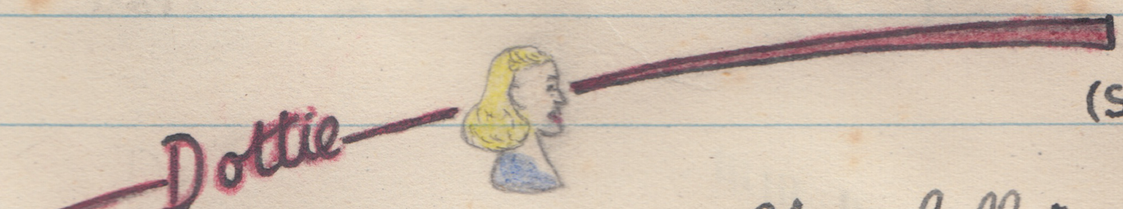
Scrapped.

S 338113 人, 人Y, 人Y, 人 + a one wheel landing. During the 1st 33 missions, "Wee Willies Wolves" was piloted by Lt "Willie" Windsor with the loss of 2 men. Windsor was later promoted to Capt. During the next missions the chief pilot was Capt "Red"

Martin; another excellent pilot.

upw
R2S





WEE WILLIE'S WOLVES

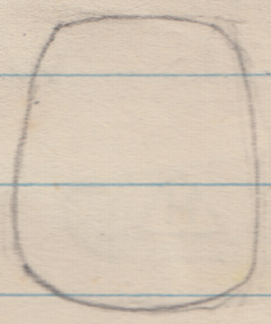
WEE WILLIE'S WOLVES

later :-



WEE WILLIE'S

later :-



T 338286 - Probably the leader for the Holland food-dropping sorties.

Flying Dutchmen

After VE day placed with the 4th upw Squadron as D with 3LD nose spinners

U

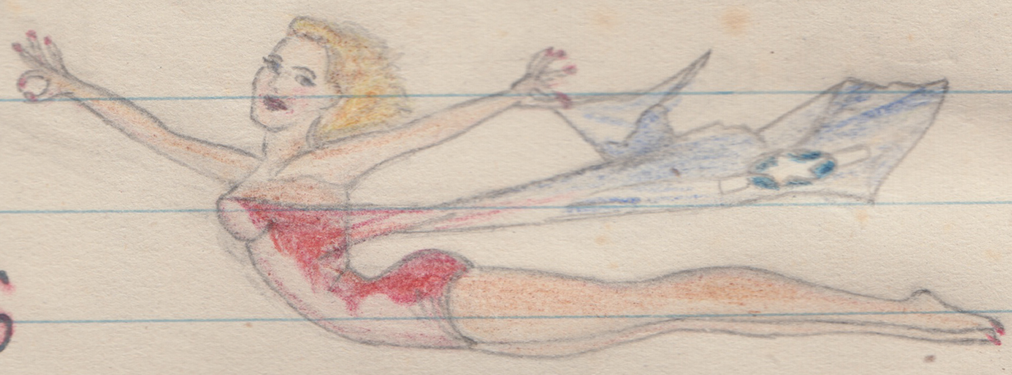
X

Y 48263

Z 338403

Z 338991 After VE day placed with the 4th Squadron

3LZ Nose. spinners

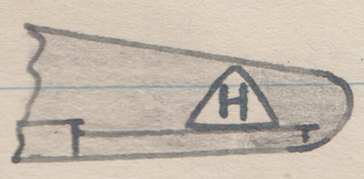


START SWIMMING (P)

later no drawing – later still no name.

B17F – guns + turrets

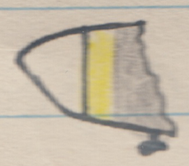
230431 WW H on tail F on tail



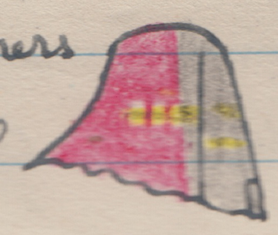


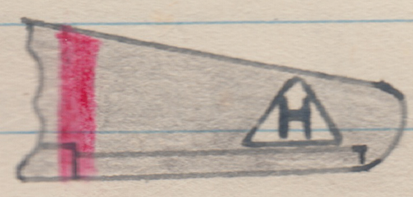
MAIL (P)

later spinners



nose tail

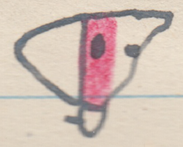




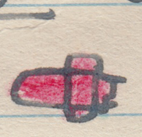
upw R2W

18d (Red) Squadron. C.O. Lr. Col Crabtree. Letters 81

nose



spinners



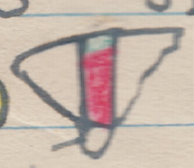
A 338292 ⅄



upw

A 338415 8IA

3 1



Under waist position

PLANE JANE (S)

A 48529

A 338971 (S)

Over ball turret

ANNS MAN (S)

Under waist position

B 338409

1 1 1

later 2 1

N

BETTY

spinners

Under Waist position (S)

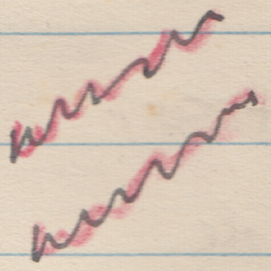
(P)



C 338410  1

C 46938 人 (VVVVVVVVV)

1 3 E (P)



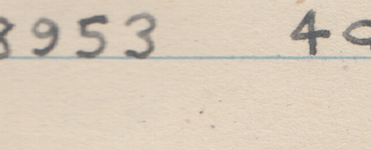


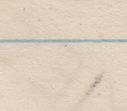
D 338953 4

E 338392 人 

OLJ CROW

OLD CROW

E 46840 4  (P)

After VE day placed with the 4th Squadron upw 3LE Nose  spinners

Under. Waist-Position (S)

MARGE (P)

F 48321 later 321 人人 Seen with holes through wings.

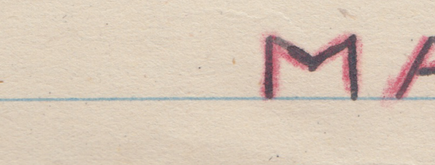
1 later 2

Under Waist Position IRMA (P)

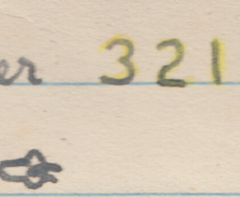
on tail position (S)

11

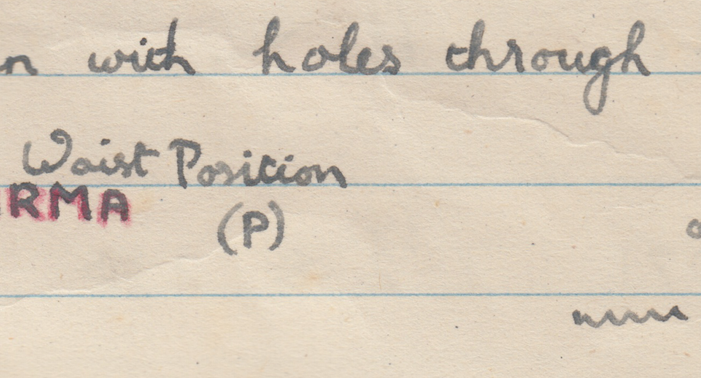
F 33897-

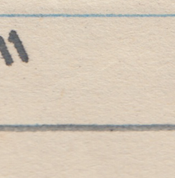
G 48283 

1 1

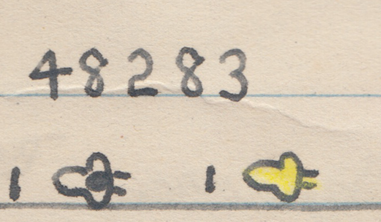
G 338332 人  later silver rudder.

1 G



H 338410 人人  Above H on tail - painted out.

J

 (P)

The Sex Maniacs (P)

H 48605 4

I 338138 人 1

I 338912 4

Seen with 6" hole in rudder below the I

After VE day placed with the 4th Squadron Nose spinners

(P)

OLD TIMES



OLE TIMER?

J 338373 人 81J

K 48140

K 339071 2 2

R

K 339183 81K 4

L 338304

L 46960

After VE day placed with the 4th Squadron Nose spinners

3LL



(S)

Bella

On chin turret.

M 338338

MAID of ILLUS. FORT (P)

MANDA (P)

On tail position

N

O 338216 810

1

C on fuselage.

MAXIE (P)

Under waist position

Tempest Turner



(P)

P 4

Q 338332 1

Q 46929 4

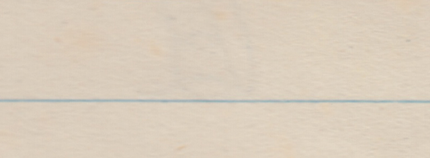
Evadin' Maiden

Seen with flak holes through the rear fuselage.

(P)

R 338433 1

2 1



(P)

U 338326 810 2 1

M

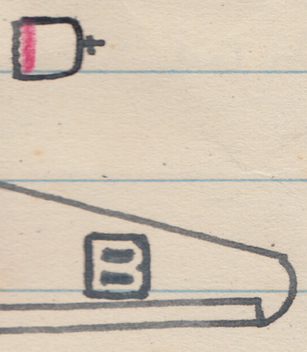
V 48282 (S)

1 later 2 later still

AGETS (P)

V 338331 4

W

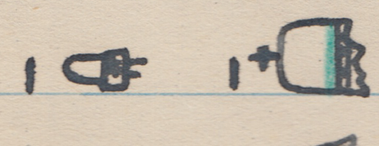
X 338374 4 

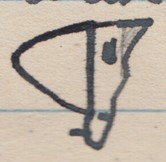
Crashed on taking off during night-landing practice on some fields in East Stonham at 9.30 P.M on Jan 18th 1945. 7 of the crew were killed, 2 were badly injured, 1 escaped uninjured. 1 House was burnt, when flares from the completely destroyed Fortress. fell on its roof.



X 48670

Y 338331 ⅄⅄. After VE day placed with the 4th Squadron 

1 

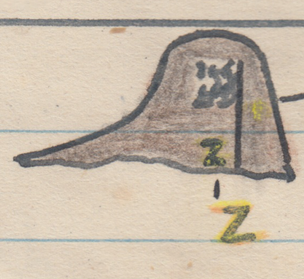
Nose  spinners 

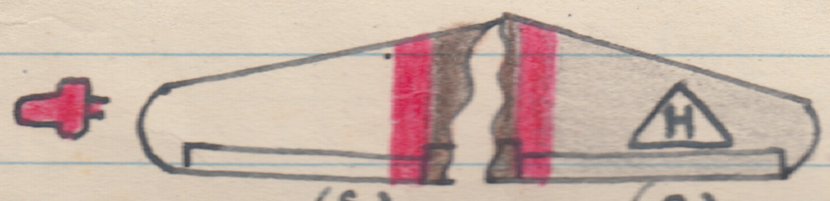


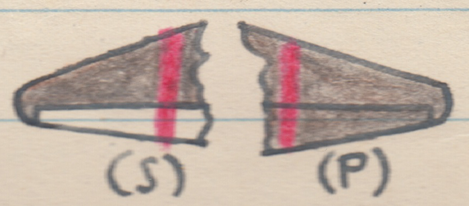
B

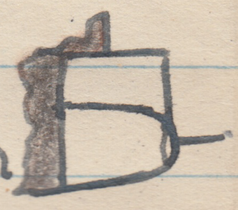
Z 230198 ⅄ QJ⊖L on fuselage.

B17F - guns + turrets - Weather Fortress



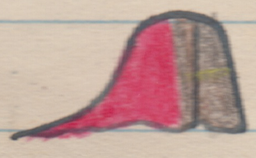
later + guns + turrets  



later 

WW
81Z

Wildfire (P+S)



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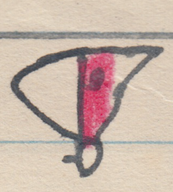
4  Crashed to the south-west at the end of the main runway at 4 A.M. on Jan 5th 1945, + came to rest on the Ipswich to Norwich road. CAUSE:- Overshot runway after landing. 'Plane not badly damaged

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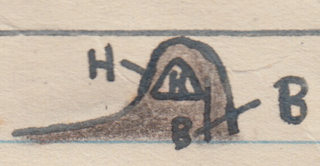
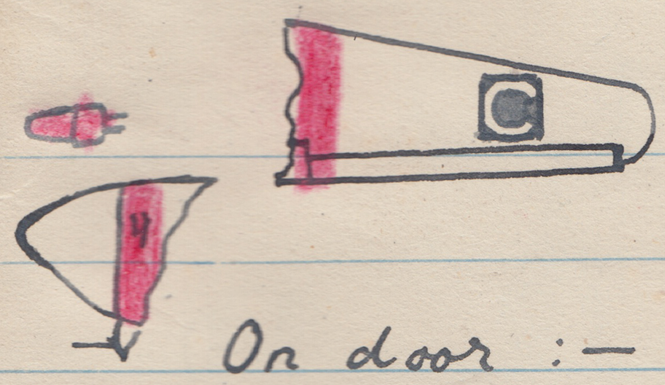
PC⊖V 

later 

(S)



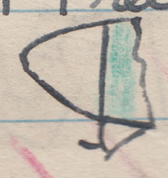
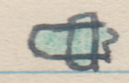


On door :—

W.F. Nugent
E. Hintz
A. Schlom
W. Nicks
H. Whetsell
H. Ponikowski
R. Early
S. Armour
H. Petty
R. Mehler.

Crashed after taking off too soon, the B17 careered over the aerodrome, skidded over a meadow & smashed through a group of large trees. The pieces were scattered over a field, where 3-4 bombs blew up, whilst the B17 was burning. 4 of the crew were rescued, but the pilot who had had both his legs severed, died. The crash occured at 530 A.M. on October 15th '44

391st (Green) Squadron. C.O Lt. Col. P Freeman. Letters Q6

nose  spinners 

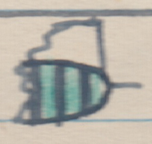
A 338372 Q6A 



(P)



(S)

B 338380 

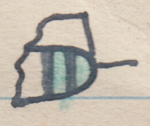
TONI 7th

(P)

Under waist position.

PLAIN JOE (S)

B ~~48829~~ =

C 338416 

C 338972 Q6C

LUCIE

(P)

see overleaf.

THE SPOOK (S)

D 48112

D 48629 Q6D ⅄, ı

Lee E Harkleroads BIT.

D

LOYA (S)
Under waist position

PURTY Chili (P)

E 337864 | | | |

(P)

Seen with holes through fuselage immediately behind the wings

PENNY JANE (P)

F 338351 ⅄ (□-⅄)

F 338789

(P)

After VE day placed with the 4th Squadron
Nose spinners

FAST COMPANY (P)

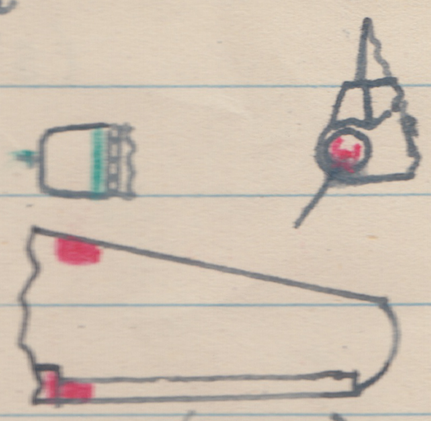
G 338415 ⊛, ⅄

SMOKEY JOE

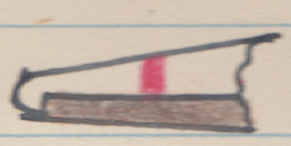
G 46887 Q6G (VV)
| |

H

I 338343 ufw QGI



(P+S)

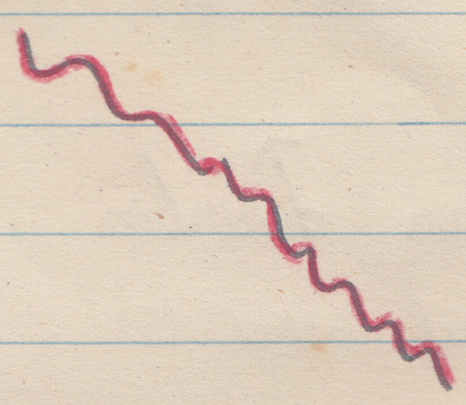


(S)



(S)

THE



(P)

KARL

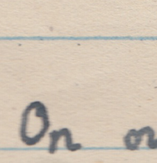
BETTY On outer starboard engine - seen stopped

J 338422 I

J 338719 BOMBS above ball turret.

J 338138 After VE day placed with the 4th Squadron

Nose



spinners

K 338378 ufw QGK

LITTLE KING



(P)

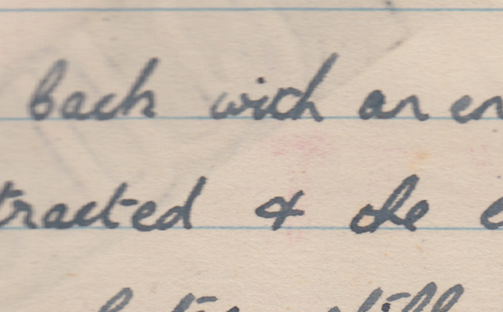
(S)

I

On Feb. 25d 1945 turned back with an engine stopped & 1 wheel down, later the wheel was retracted & the engine restarted but with smoke pouring from it, later still the engine stopped, the propeller was feathered & the B17 landed.

K 338364

M



N 338423

O 48271 Q60 ⅄ upw

(P)

Deanna Durbin

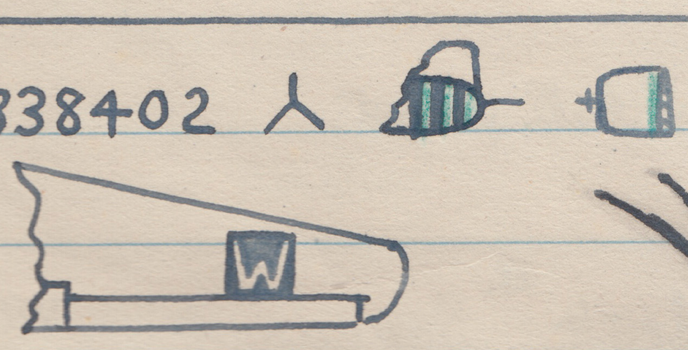
On tail turret (S)

Butch (S

later



P 338402 ⅄



Facing opposite on Starboard side.

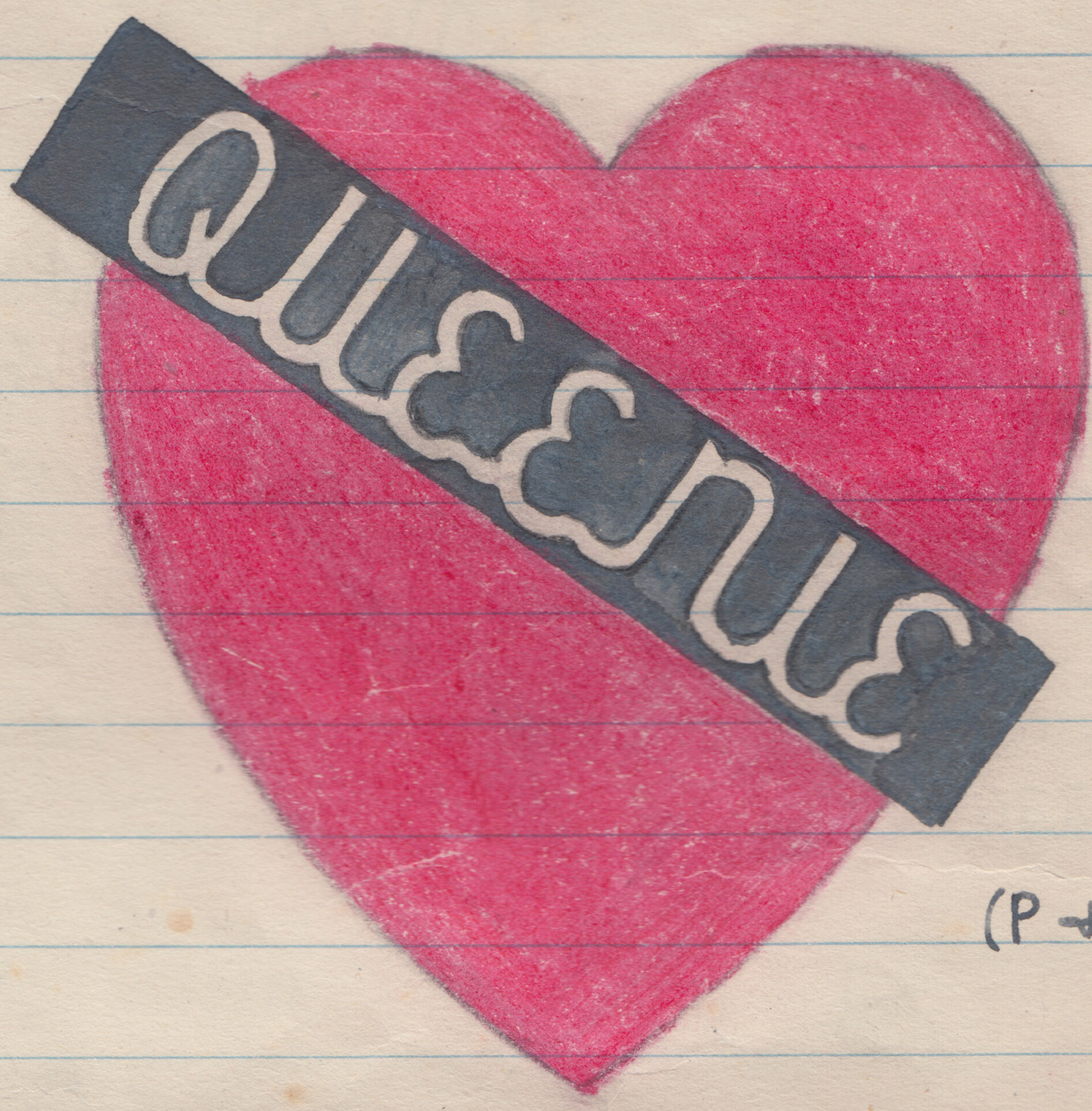


(P)

Q 338332 (I V VV)

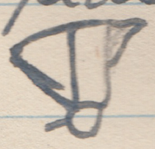


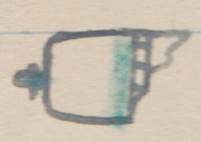
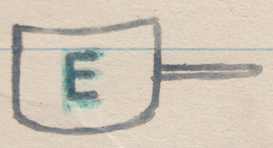
On nose turret

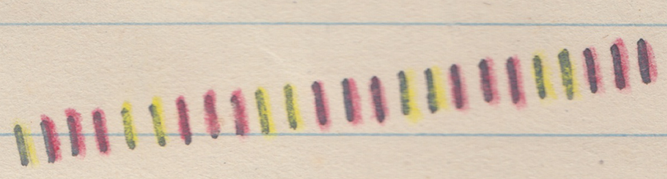


(P + S)

R 48327 later 327 After VE day placed with the 4th Squadron

Nose  spinners 

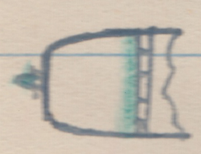
 



GOOM BAH!!!

(P)

S 338365 



SUGAH



Scrapped.

(S)

(P)

T 338257  30P (P) 30F (S)

 4 later 4

TYSON'S (P)

BETTY (P)
JANE

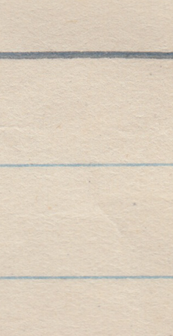
On tail position

RUTHS (P)

above name

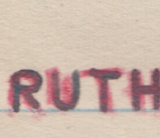
TRAMPS

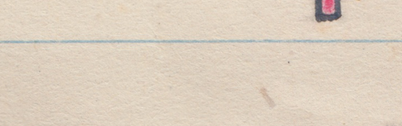
under waist position
under 1st pilots ..
under top turret
(P)

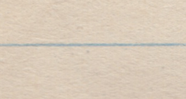


(S)

U Q6U 338289 人 1 

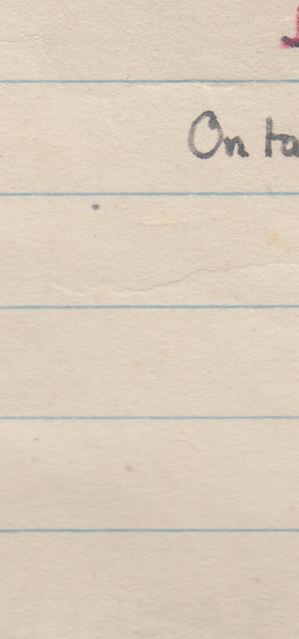






1/1 (S)
Under Waist position

Roger's DODGERS



V

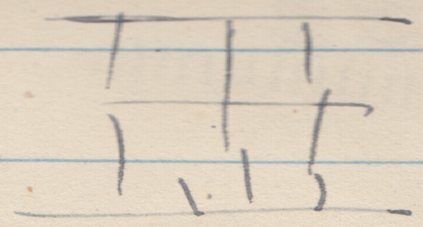
W

X ~~ 5

Y

Z 792 W.W.

B 17 F - guns + turrets

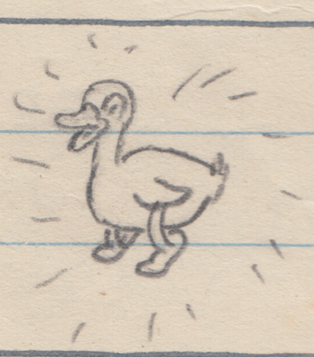


(s)

Agnes

ODD - SQUADRONS UNKNOWN

Gallopin' Ghost



No FLAK

HEY

THE UGLY DUCKLING

YANKEE DOODLE ANGEL



— Uncle Sam

CRASHES - SQUADRONS UNKNOWN

Dec 24th 1944 At end of North runway at 10 AM.

" " .... 2 collided at end of North runway at 6 PM.

Jan 20th 1945 After taking off near the Mid. Suffolk Light Railway in Gipping at 7 AM. 1 killed.

Feb 1945 At end of South Runway at 7 AM.

NEW B17's

Escorted by Red U on Dec 31st 1944

48629 (White D) 338972 (Green C) 46826 (Yellow D)

46822 (Yellow J)

Escorted by Red M on Dec 31st 1944

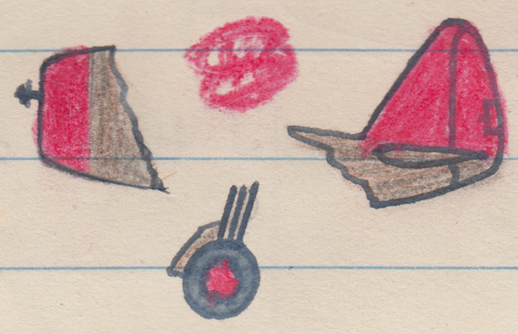
48529 (Red A) 338785

Jan 14th 1945 48556 (White F)

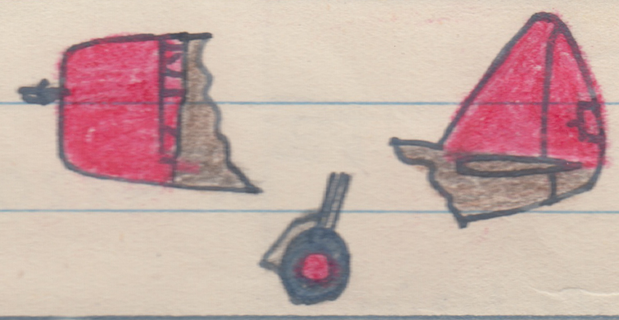
Feb 25th 1945 48734

OTHER TYPES OF AIRCRAFT WITH THE B17's

P47D 52370



P47D 7U ~~o~~ F

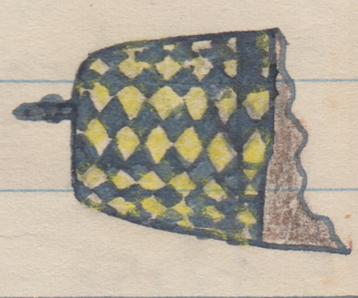




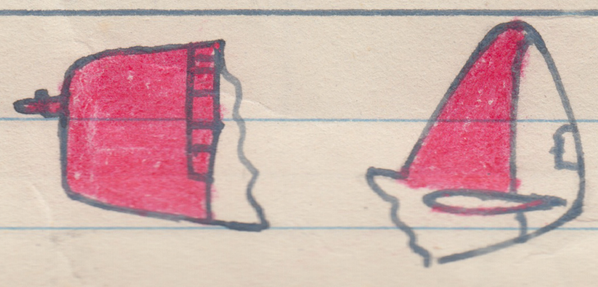
P47D YJ ~~o~~ V
then
YJV

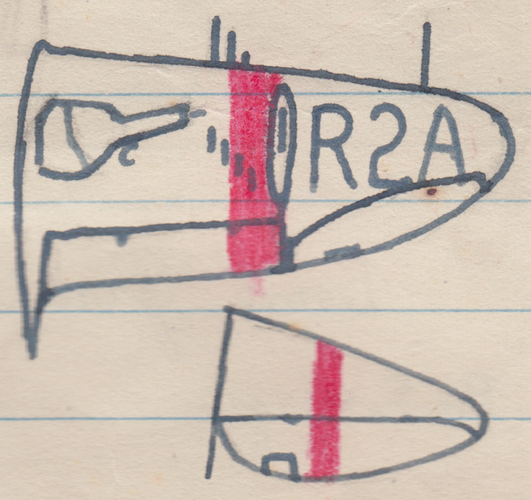
275583

Zine



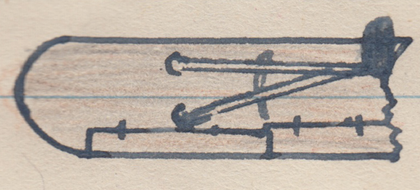
P47D
then
R2A





Piper Cub 50

UC 64A Norseman. 335383
then
R2B



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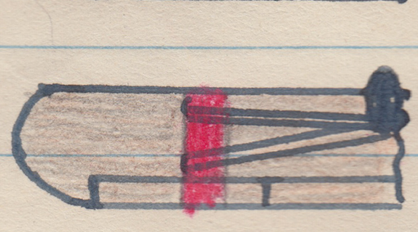
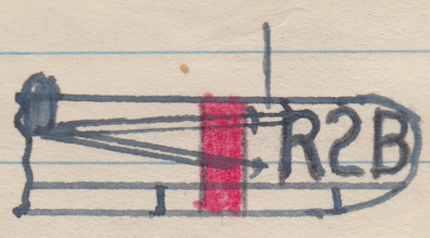
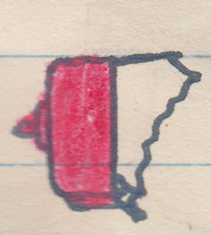
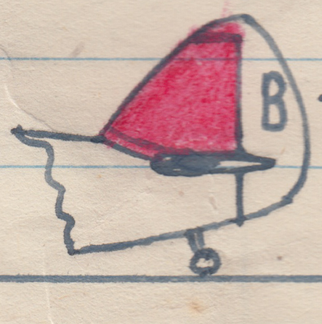




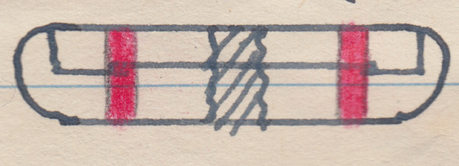
Later



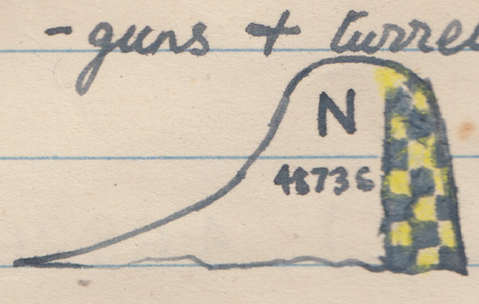


(P) only.

(S) (P)



B 17 G Fortress - guns + turrets ufw R2N 48736



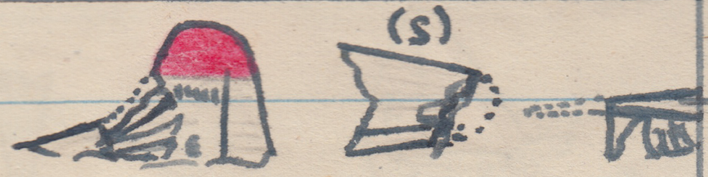
H on fuselage

P51D Mustang SX◇Q 411624 Dynamite

During the first few months of B17 missions from Mendlesham a number of B 17's from the 490th Bomb Group based at Brome, + the Bomb Group based at Debach were operating with the 4th Squadron from Mendlesham

The 490th Bomb Group.



B 48212 later - ᚢ	J 48252
	M 48170 - ᚢ
E 48397 	N 48202
Seen being pulled round the perimeter track by a tractor in above condition	R 48150 ⅄
F 48158	Y 48375

The 493 Bomb Group. 

B Ponfuselage.	M
E 48246	P 48448
G 48352 ⅄,⅄	R S on fuselage.
H 48200	T 48138
L ⅄  (P)	V 48156
	Y

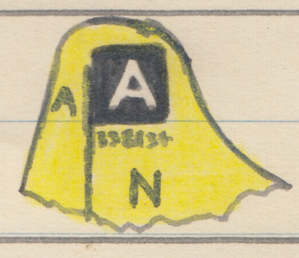
After VE day a number of B17's from the 94th Bomb Group based at Rougham, were based on Mendlesham with the four squadrons. – Chin, top & ball turrets

332nd Squadron

G 338714 G on f.

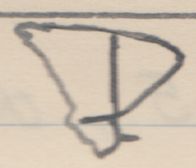
N XMN 338834 N on f.





O XMO 48690 O on f.

Q 46920 Q on f.



U XMU U on f. 37637

331st Squadron

G G on f.

333rd Squadron.

G TSG White rudder.

N 337960 N on f.

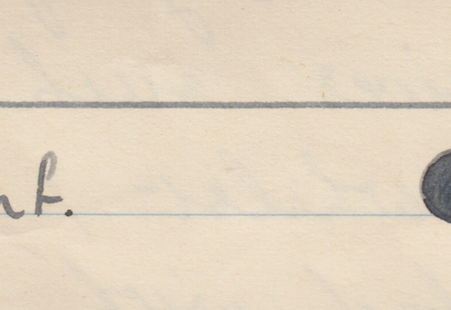
Q 338890 Q on f.

R TSR 338820 R on f. on nose.

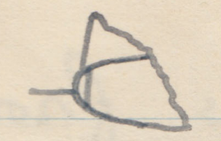
410th Squadron

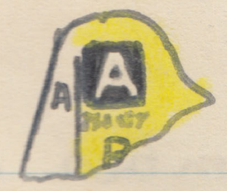
E 338590 L on f.

P 2102523 QE⊖P

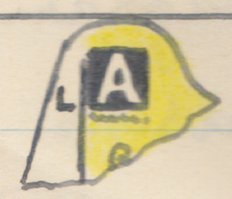


Starboard tailplane silver

R 338987 R on f 



R 338357 R on f 



Z 297268 Z on f + chin turret

Mellow Dollar

Baby

About 6 A.M. one day in June 1945, the B 17's departed for the United States, flying singly they crossed the Atlantic without mishap; they left behind them only the Thunderbolt & the Norseman, which had the Group markings, & the B 17 with the yellow & black chequered rudder. After these & the Ground personnel ~~had~~ had left Mendlesham was used as a dispersel point for U.S. troops on their way back to the States.

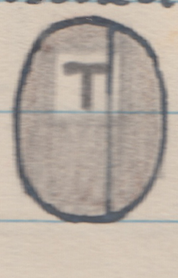
In November 1945 the aerodrome was handed over to the RAF, and was placed under the supervision of the 94th Maintenance Unit as No 2 satellite. The Hangers, ~~some of the~~ Perimeter ~~track~~ & many of the huts, were filled with explosives such as bombs, rockets & belt ammunition, whilst parts of the perimeter track were ~~co~~ stacked with piles of bombs.

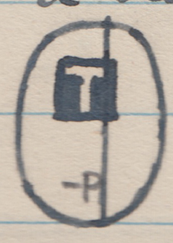
BROME Suffolk

The 490th Bomb Group arrived at Brome in April 1944, flying B 24 Liberators. The 490th started offerational flying on May 31st 1944; after flying some 40 missions a conversion course was taken to be B 17 Fortresses

In July 1945 the B 17's were flown back to the States.

B 24's The tail markings consisted of a dark T in a white square or vice versa eg.

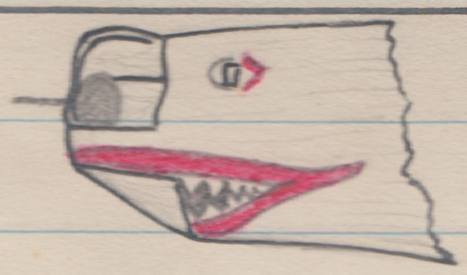




These markings were later changed to a red top to the fin and rudder eg.



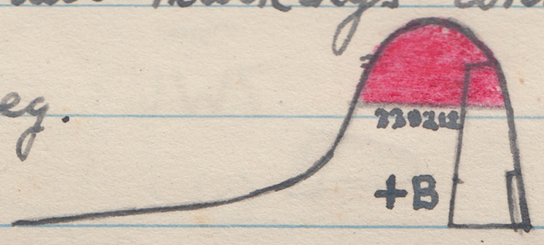
"SNOTTIE DOTTIE"



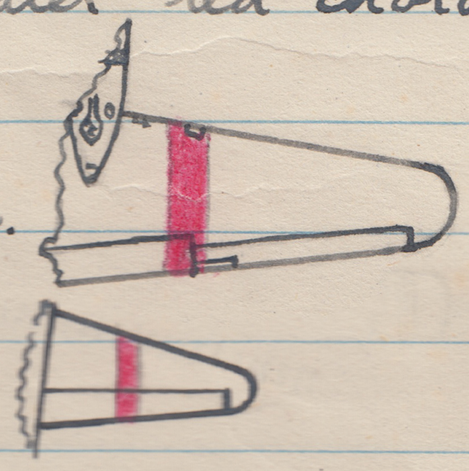
THE CHERUB



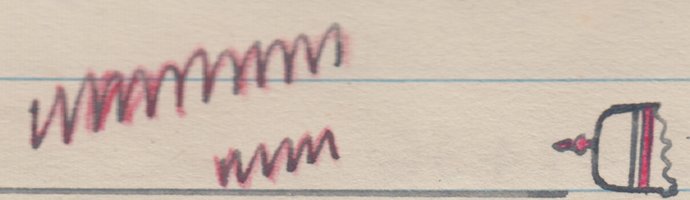
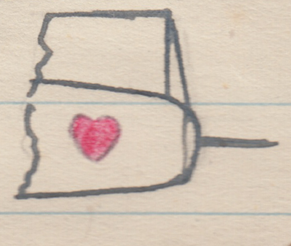
B 17's The tail markings consisted of a red top to the fin and rudder eg.



with later red chordwise bands round the wings & tailplanes eg.



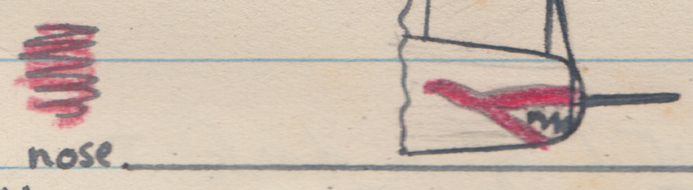
S3 Squadron

+A		with later still, Squadron letters painted under the port wing + under the starboard wing	
+B	339212		
+C	S3C	+G	S3G
+D		+H 338101	S3H - guns + turrets
+F	338709 	+J	S3J Under Starboard Waist position 

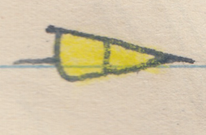
+K 46893

+L 338400

+M ufw S3M

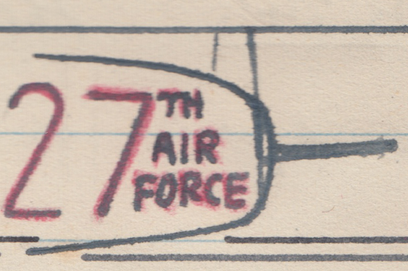
+R  on nose.

+S ufw S3S 

+U 338788  Seen with one wheel down.

+V 338728 ufw S3V 

+W ufw S9W LITTLE PAPPAH

+X 338018  (P) 

7W Squadron

-A 46303

-A 48929 U-radar.

-B 48659

-C 48773 U-radar.

KANSAS (P)

-C 339161

-D 

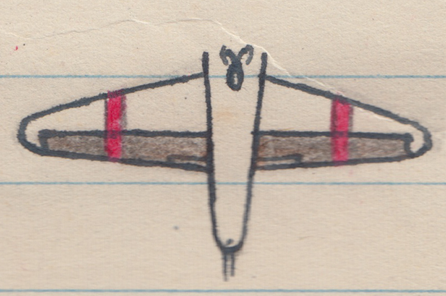
-E 48375

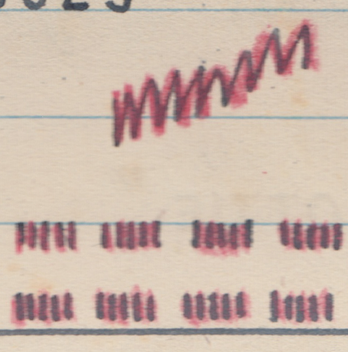
-F 48807 ufw 7WF

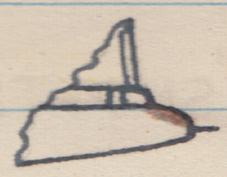
-F 338834

-H 48158

(S) 

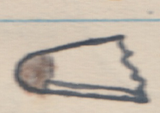
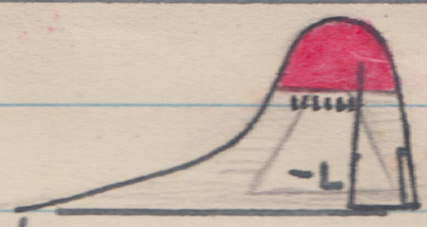
-I 46829 





-J 48150

-L 48492 U

-L ufw 7WL  (S) 

-P 338182 ufw 7WP

-P 48579 U

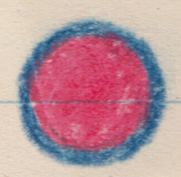
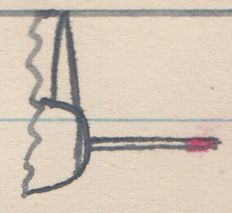
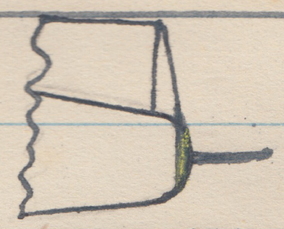
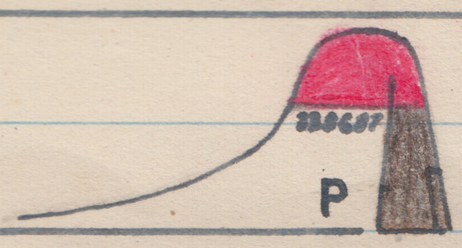
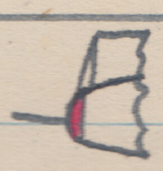
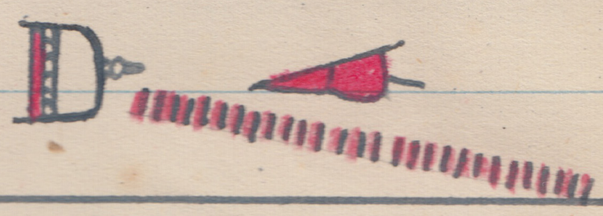
-Q 48496

-S 338886

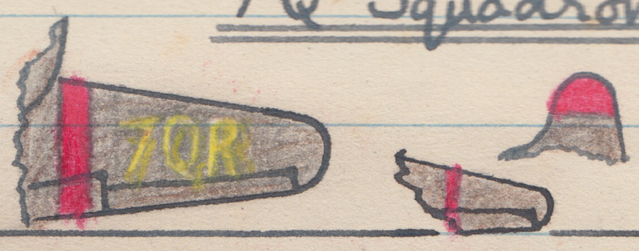
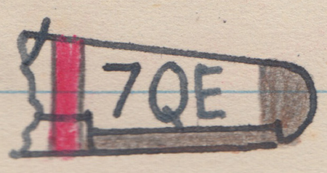
-T 48872

-X ufw 7WX

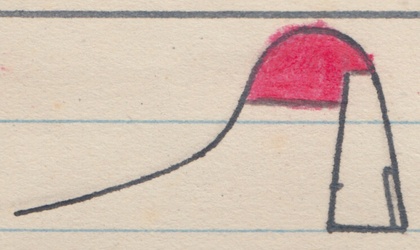
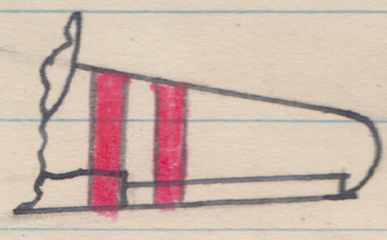
W8 Squadron

A  upw W8A 	K 48696  on nose
C 338143	N 48202 
E  	O upw W80
F upw W8F	P 338687 
J	V  

7Q Squadron

Camoflaged B17 7QR 	J- 46584
	N- 299017

Odd.

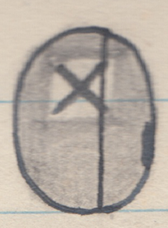
Alice Blue Gown 	 (P)

DEBACH (DC) Suffolk

The 493rd Bomb Group started operating with B 24 Liberators at the same time as the 34th & 490th Bomb Groups, and took a conversion course to B 17 Fortresses in August 1944.

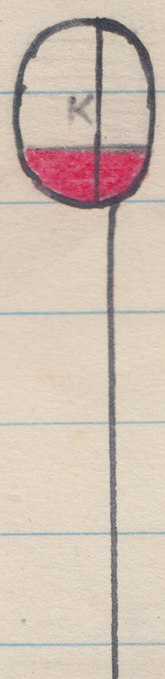
In July 1945 the B 17's were flown back to the States. At one period the B 17's were operating from another Midland aerodrome, whilst the runways were under repair.

B 24's The tail markings consisted of a dark x in a white square or vice versa eg.





These markings were later changed to a red bottom to the fin and rudder eg.

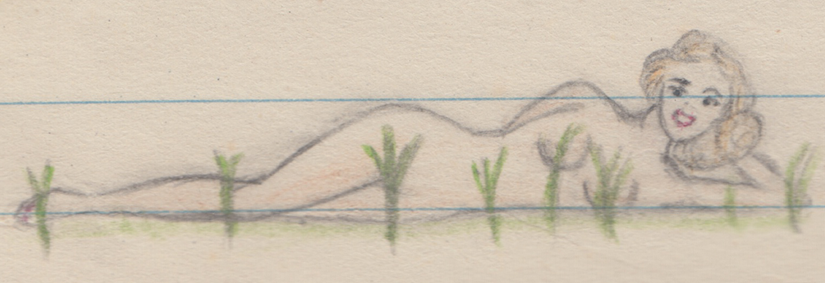


MISSISSIPPI STEAMBOAT

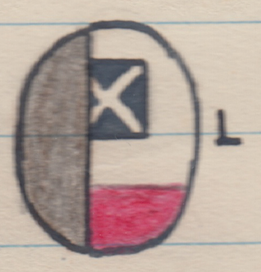


WOLF

S (G) landed
G (P) on
Merdlesham
474

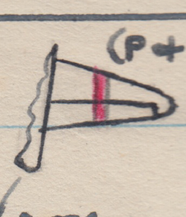


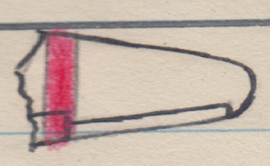
SHADY LADY



landed on
Merdlesham.

B 17's

Tail   (P+S)

Wings  (P+S)

B on fuselage

White Squadron

spinners 

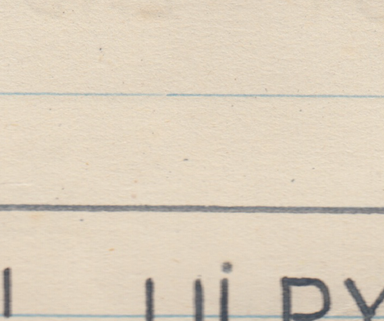
A 338344	E 338224
B 338226 Q4B upw	F 338244
"SPOILT BABY" o.p. engine LAURA	G 3383--
Landed on Merdlesham.	L 48200

N 338340	T 338253 ufpw Q4T
O ufpw Q40	V 48156
P 48448	V 230--- 
S 48180 ufpw Q4S	

C on fuselage — Red Squadron. — spinners

B	L 338314
C 338903	P 338613
E 48304	S 46477
H 338262	V 46917 ufpw BMV
K 46496 ufpw BMK	

P on fuselage — Blue Squadron — spinners

A 338242	H 338266
B 338216	K 46467
B 338568	L 338395
E 338271	M 338241 ULPY
F 48288	N 338366
F 48691	
G 48314 MIKE	O 

S 33829

Y 48440

B 17 F - guns + turrets - camoflaged

26151

S on fuselage

B 338243

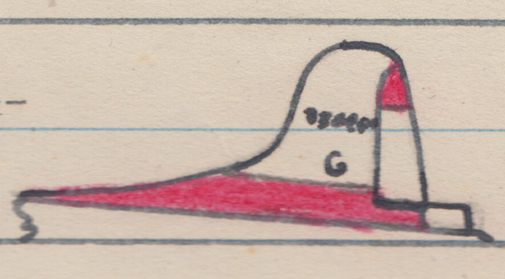
Wild Jacko

C

E 338371

E 48765

G 338---



G 338297

CAPT. J. P. RIECK.

H 338285

J 338269

N

Yellow Squadron

spinners

O 48138

P 48473

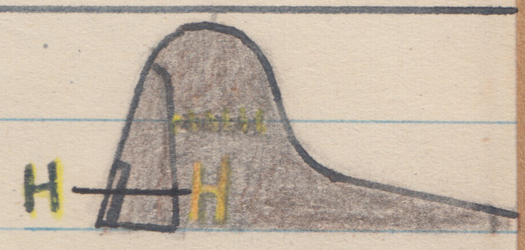
R 46513

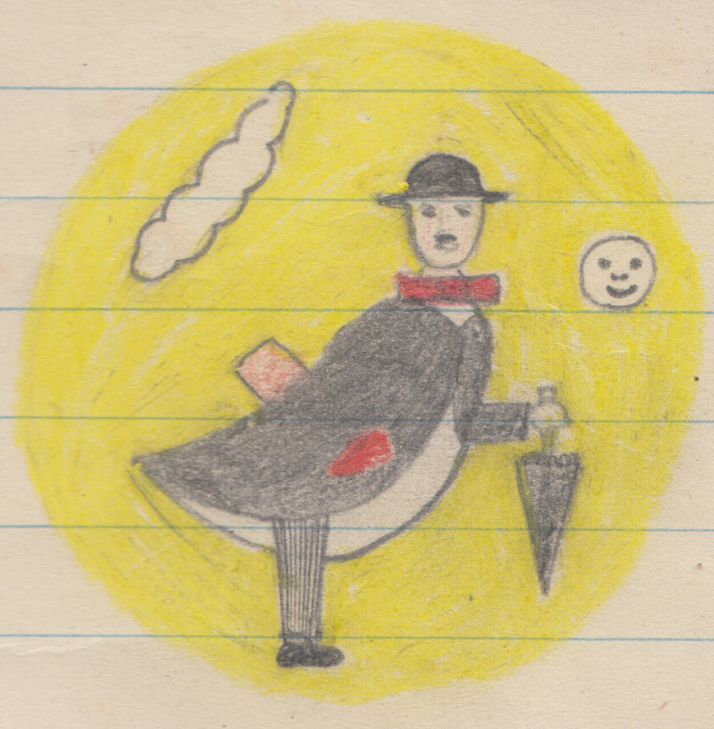
S 48160

V 41467

B-17G - camoflaged

239871





Odd

NGB

B-17F - guns + turrets 237793

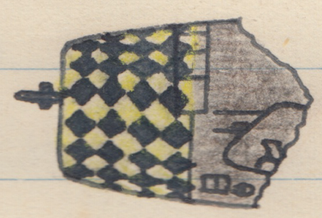
RAYDON

353rd (20)

[redacted] Fighter Group.

I P47 D's. (Thunderbolts) CH⊖, CP⊖, IA⊖, QP⊖, WD⊖, C2⊖, OC⊖, O1⊖ A5⊖, A6⊖

205 P51 C→D's. (Mustangs). CR⊖, C5⊖, C4⊖, G4⊖, B6⊖, VF⊖, WD⊖, FT⊖ G5⊖ {C5⊖ B6⊖ moved to Langham}

1005 P47 D's SX⊖, LH⊖, YJ⊖ with noses.  Some had spinners.

* Scrapped or Missing



SX Squadron.

* A Little Hadsy.

B BUTCH II

* E Mary Jaine

• E Lady Louise

F Betty

G Jenny

H Honey

I Agony Waggon.

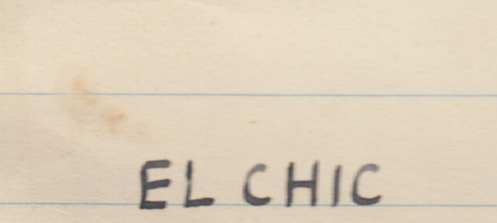
• I BUTCH

J EL CHIC

* K FLYING FLEA II (Finn)

K Purtan Maid

* K CUTIE



•-Unpainted.

• L Anne

• M Ivy Lee.

• M Gloria Ann.

N Relfa

Q Underworld

R Marie

S Snuffles

T Lucky

U Love Lifelong

U Lovely Lola 225957

Y The FLYING RUSSIAN

* W DETROIT TORPEDO

• W LITTLE BILLIE

*Z Big Zolsy

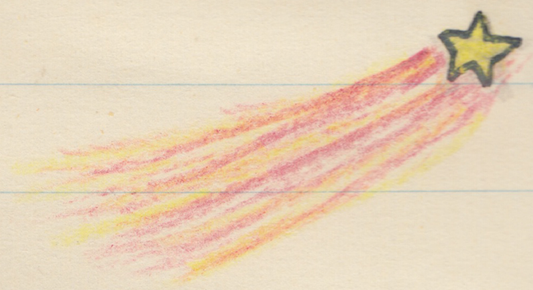
LH

*A Texas Ranger.

THE
B NEW YORKER

•D Ernestyne

G SHOOTING STAR



G Texas Ranger. II

•H SKIPPER

I El Shafto

L Jeanne

L Maggie

*M Merry Widow

*M Fern Mairie

•M Fern Mairie II

Z Ree.

YJ

A MAN MADE MONSTER

A Caroline II

B Trisha

•Z Eager Eddie.

Squadron.

N Whem-Whan

•N National Ann

•O Prudence

Q Akranas Trailer

T DORIS

*T Fatty Patty

T Carol

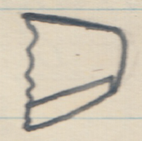
U Sour Brette

W Plane Jane 276085

*•

X Dove of Peace.





Y Brooklyn
Babe

•Y Pass Buffet

Squadron.

K Joyce

•N Liberty Run

*S COOKIE



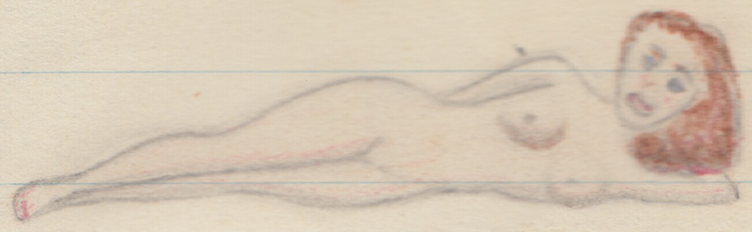
'S COOKIE II



T Jaine

ODD NAMES

MISS GEORGINA PEACH



Sour Bight

Jane

• Miss Mardi

• Plane Jane

Y Caroline

·Z Little Lynn

• Miss Illine

David III

Jayne

Elizabeth

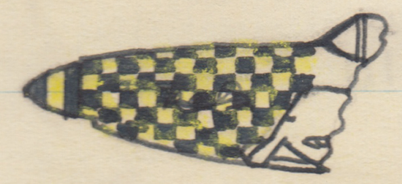


• Ann

1944 P51 Muslangs SX⊖, LH⊖, YJ⊖ with noses.

卐 - on cockpit cover slides.

I) 

II) 

III) letters under port wing

SX Squadron.

A 414642

B 414604

B 414095 Little Midget (P)
&
B II 473107 Missy (S)

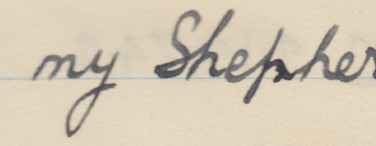
D 414963 Miss Jackie 卐

E 472113 The Lord is my Shepherd

F 414694 (6) Elinor

G 472106 LITTLE Jo

G (later G) 472408 " "

G 414720 Lovely Lola 

H 414679

H 414739 The Hurlens 

I 414494 Dallas Doll 

I 414673 Gallopin' Ghost

I 414728

I (later J) 414495 Jeannie

J 364777

J 414746 Sydney Slup 

K 472754 Snuggle Bunny 6½

L 414805 

M 210363

M 414620 ~~Davey Don chariot~~ Daisy Dunn Chemist.

M 414742 Gloria Hun 2nd.

N 414712 Little Chun. 

O 472254

P 414196 Rita

Q P47D 225959 7½

2/Q 411624 Dynamite

Q 414696 Miss Maureen 

R 414804 Honey Bee II

S 414039 

S 415319

T 472466

T 414631 Lady Iwa

U 472101 Coming Kid

U 472106 Lovely Lou

U 472374 Dolores Betty 10½

U 414301

U— 

V 472392

V 414791 Little

W P47D 274680 W.W

X 411565 2½

X 414802 Miss Illine 3rd 12½

Y 352037

Y 472926 Lulu Belle (P) St. Louis Woman (S)

Y 414131

Y 414719

Z 414295

Z 414805

2 36860 W.W.

414945 Arkansas Travels 2-51

YJ

A

A 414124 ROAMER

B P51c

B

D 463887

E 414573 Sig II

F 414689 Bobby J.C.

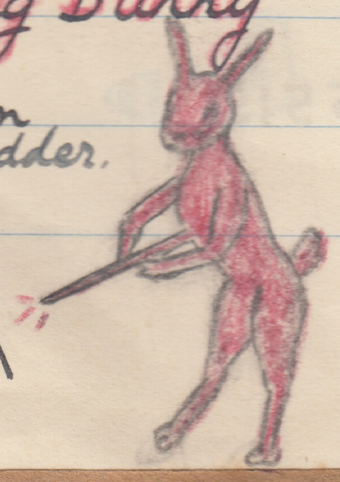
G 414796

G 473048 Wichita Wagon Warrior II

H

d P51c

I 414728 1) Shooting Bunny on rudder.



2) Persuader

Squadron

J

K 411333 Lady Mary

L 472231

M 472320

M crashed landed

N 312433 W.W. 2 Seater

N 324781 Merry Mac

O P47D 274621 W.W.

Old 97

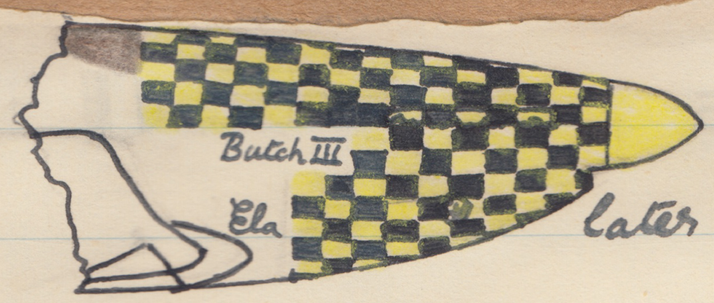
O

P 472267

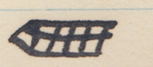
Q

R 464122 KANSAS CITY KITTY II

S 472174

T  414774 later no name

V 414593 Rena (S) Kitten (P)

V P47D 275445  
The Flying Russian

W P51c

W 413978 Dolores (S)
Butch n' Babe (P) }

LH

A 472168

B P51c 414700

B ? (P)

D 414707

D 414945 Rhodot too 25

E 25

F 

F 472096 Baltimore Belle.

G 414529 Lady Grace 3rd

H 415519

X 472157

Y 411197 Deborah Clarke

Y 414616 Sweet Marie

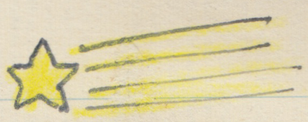
Z 

3 2106450 VINNY J.R.  nose 1)

5 2106617 W.W. Gloria " "

Squadron 

1

J 411160 Stardust  15

K 

K 472163 MONTY

K 414676

L P51c 463197

L 2106675 W.W. 2 Seater

L 411353 JAY HAWK JALLOPY

L 414337

L 415519

M 2103302 W.W. 2 Seater

M 472163

M 472399 Holy Bols II

N 472292 Miss Florida

O 472212 dark wings

P 414727 Bee Jay

P 414971 Wiggle Worm

P 415078 Miss Ellen

P 415671 " "

Q 472263 COZY Rosie 25卐

Q 414698 Marie pilot Lt. Lee. 45卐

R 414425 Baby Duck II 105卐

S 463879

S 472737 Miss Carnille II. Lt. Col Elder

S 414249 nude woman (P)

S —

T 414572 Carol 115卐

T 414686 Doris

T

T Brown Eyes

T silver fuselage.

U 414726

V 411646

V 472374 Betty E 105卐

V 415516 Mary Jane.

W 472175

W 414810 Plane Jane

W Elizabeth

X 414167 Danny Boy

X 415516 Danny Boy II

X 473060 Dove of Peace 285卐

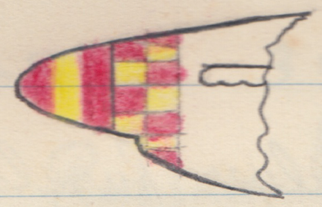
Y 411193 Kewpie (P) Marlyn (S).

Y

Z 411535

5 38466 W.W.

After V.E. day. odd P.51s were based on Raydon. :—



C 463747

D 473125 PRINCESS PAT II

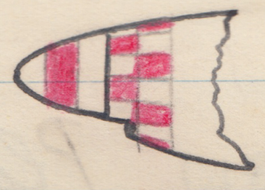
H

nose - same as last

M 473361 PAT AN' MIKE

nose same

T 473026 Helen Mae the Mad



A

E 411640 Keen's Folle

Blue flaps

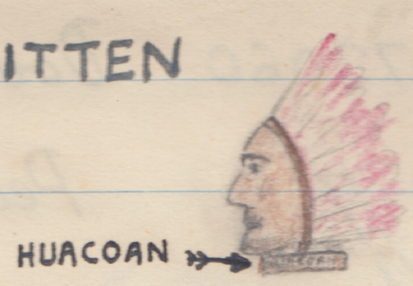
G 2106933 Polly

nose - same as last.

E 413627 SPAR



U 415492 MY KITTEN



Q 412163

473 156

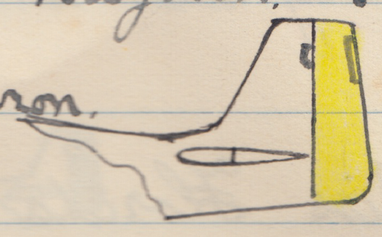
P 47D 16528 W.W. J & A

6 P47D ~~RAF~~ 16573 WW



8 2106912 W.W.

C5 Squadron.

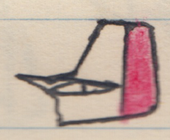


N 47211

T 473219

X MILADY DIANE II

B6 Squadron.



G4 Squadron.

5Q Squadron



J 413330

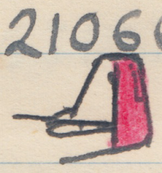
T 411684 White Puddin'

U 412157 Hermes



D7 Squadron.

M P51c 2106659 W.W.

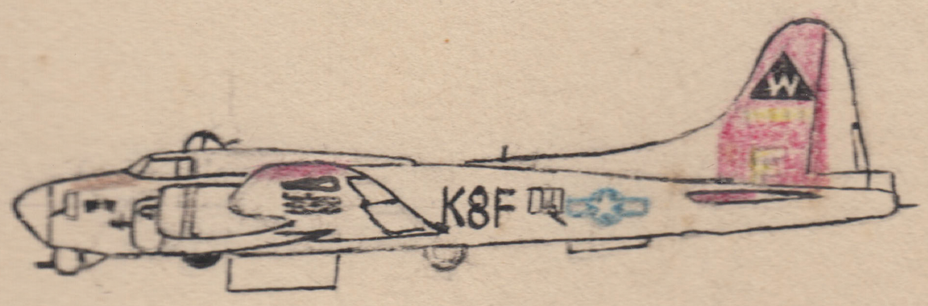


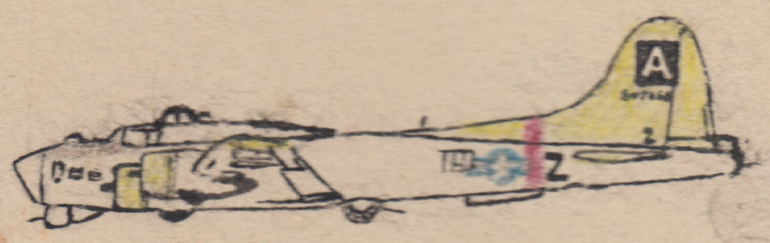
CQ Squadron

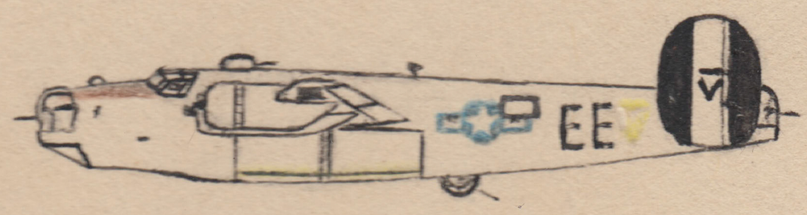
1145

CL Squadron.

Odd







THE 8TH AIR FORCE

