WE WENT TO WAR

Part X: Why We Were There

The Background of Our Service,
Why We Were in the Southwest Pacific Area:
A Review

380th Bomb Group - World War II



Theodore J. Williams

Barbara J. Gotham

ISBN 0-9672447-9-X

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 99-73366

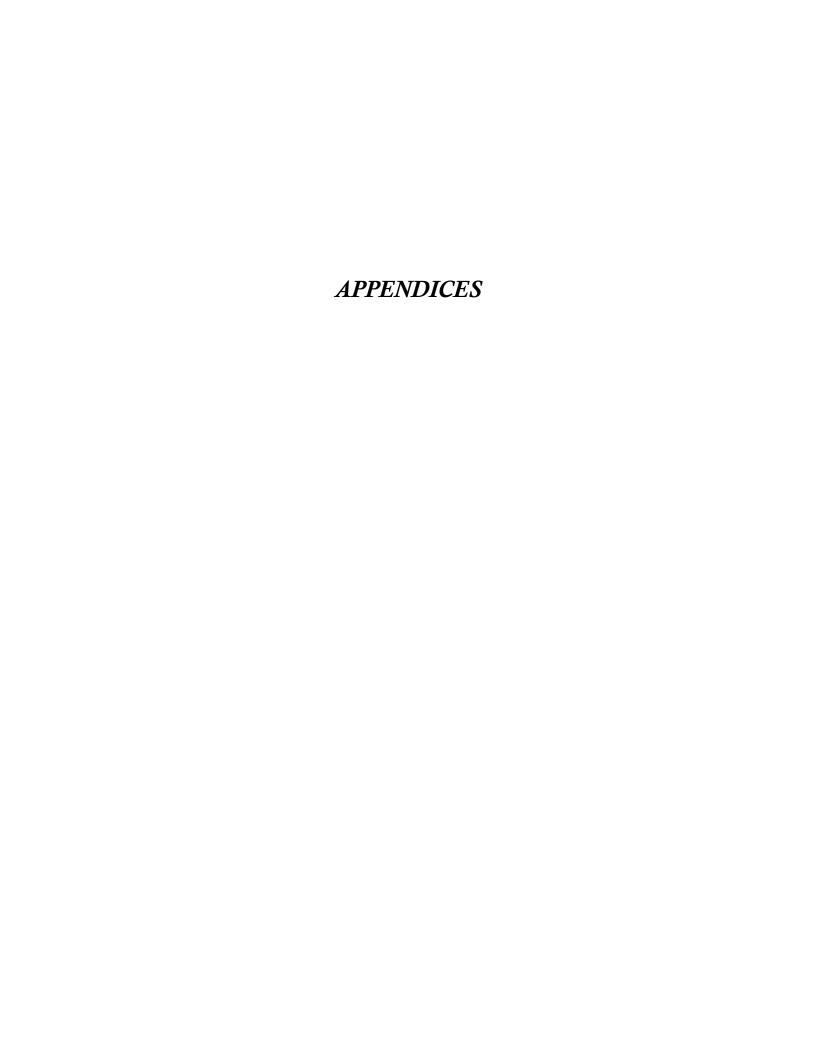
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Published by:

Theodore J. Williams 208 Chippewa Street West Lafayette, IN 47906-2123 USA

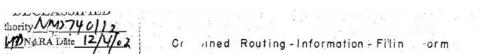
Printed in the United States of America by Purdue University Printing Services.



APPENDIX IV

Change Directive Letters for Transferring the 380th Bomb Group to the Southwest Pacific instead of the European Theatre out of England.

Note that the aircraft for the 380th are handled separately.



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MAR 3 0 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, OPERATIONS DIVISION, WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF:

Subject: Diversion of Bombardment Group.

- 1. It is recommended that the following diversion be accomplished:
- a. Diversion of the 380th Bombardment Group (Heavy) from scheduled movement to United Kingdom in April, 1943 to movement to Australia in May, 1943.
- b. Diversion of the 345th Bemberdment Group (Medium) from scheduled mov ement to United Kingdom in March and April, 1943 to movement to Australia in May, 1943.
- 2. It is requested that a directive be issued to effect the above diversions.

For the Commanding General, Army Air Forces:

JOHN B. COOLEY, Colonel, A.G.D., Assistant Air Adjutant General.



(173)

TROUBLE BOOK

3/30/93

MEDICHARDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, OPERATIONS DIVISION, WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF:

Subject: Diversion of Bombardment Group.

- It is recommended that the following diversion be accomplished:
- g. Diversion of the 380th Bombardment Group (Heavy) from scheduled movement to United Kingdom in April, 1943 to movement to Australia in April, 1943.
- b. Diversion of the 345th Bombardment Group (Medium) from scheduled movement to United Kingdom in March and April, 1943 to movement to Australia in April, 1943.
- 2. It is requested that a directive be issued to effect the above diversions.

For the Commanding General, Army Air Forces:

MEMO FOR RECORD: This action is initiated upon receipt of an R & R
from Director of Bombardment to AFROM, Subject: Diversion of Heavy
Bombardment Group from UK to Australia, dated 3-29-43, which states
that a directive from Joint Chiefs of Staff and also General Arnold requests
the diversions of the units. Paragraph 1b. above says "United Kingdom
in March and April" because Air echelon of 345th Bomb Group (M) was scheduled
for March and Ground Echelon of the Groupwas scheduled for April.

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Change in destination of 360th group and resultant change in modifications.

War Organization & Movement, Aircraft Division (Atten: Maj-Bletcher) THRU A-3, Asst. C of A/S.

Mar. 27, 1945.

Bombardment

1. It is requested that the modification for the 38 airplanes for the 380th b bomb group - heavy - receive modification suitable for the Australian Theatre, instead of the Bolero modification which the airplanes for this group had been scheduled to receive.

- 2. The change in the destination of this group is in accordance with directive from Major Ceneral Stratemayer.
- 3. It is the understanding of this office that none of the airplanes for this group have as yet been completed and indicated as available for movement from modification center.

E. L. EUBANK Brig. General, U. S. A.

Coordinated by: OPO - V.F.U.

MAR 28 P.M.

TO AAF (Capt Valk, Room 4-E-116)

OPD.

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Authority NND 73006	
By K NARA Date 12/02	

HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES

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SECRET

SUBJECT:

Diversion of 380th Bemb. Group (H)

TO: Materiel Division

FROM: Bombardment Branch, Requirements Division.

1. It is desired to inform your office that subject Group comprising 38 B-24 airplanes, project Number 36 B-24, now at the modification center, Tuscon, Arizona, (Pst. date completion, April 18) has been diverted from United Kingdom, Eighth Air Force, to the Australian theater, Fifth Air Force.

2. In view of the above, immediate action must be taken to provide in the air plane the following equipment.

a. SCR 535 IFF radio equipment.

b. Two leak proof bomb bay tanks instead of one.

c. SCR 522 VHF is a new requirement for Australia. No doubt, this is installed in most of the subject airplanes. If this assumption is correct it should remain installed in the airplanes having same. This item is classified as "desirable" for this project in those airplanes which do not now have the SCR 522 installed.

3. The project number of this movement to the Fifth Air Force is \$6082; before the change of theater assignment, the number was as is indicated above. Weather

Concurrence:

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Communications J. R. Movement and Operations

AMERED R. MAXWELL, colonel, Air Corps, Bombardment Branch.

APR 543 PM



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