

**DATA SHEET**  
**380TH BOMB GROUP AIRCRAFT**

No. 074

SERIAL NO.:	<u>42-72801</u>	MOST POPULAR NOSE ART NAME:	<u>BIG ASS BIRD II</u>
MODEL:	<u>B-24D-155-CO</u>	MFR:	<u>Consolidated-San Diego</u>
		CONTRACTOR'S NO.:	<u>2371</u>
INITIAL MFG DATE:	<u>07/17/1943</u>	MFG COMPLETION DATE:	<u>07/26/1943</u>
FIRST FLIGHT DATE:	<u>07/28/1943</u>	MOD CENTER DATE:	<u>07/30/1943</u>
		MOD CENTER PLACE:	<u>Tucson</u>
USAAF ACCEPTANCE DATE:	<u>07/30/1943</u>		
TO STAGING AREA DATE:	<u>08/17/1943</u>	STAGING PLACE:	<u>Topeka</u>
OVERSEAS FLIGHT DATE:	<u>09/09/1943</u>	DEPARTURE PLACE:	<u>Fairfield, CA</u>
OVERSEAS ARRIVAL DATE:	<u>09/17/1943</u>	DESTINATION:	<u>Townsville</u>
MOD COMPLETED OVERSEAS:	<u></u>	OVERSEAS MOD PLACE:	<u></u>
ASSIGNMENT:	<u>380/531/530</u>	ASSIGNMENT DATE:	<u>11/1943</u>
STATION:	<u>Long Strip</u>		
FIRST MISSION:	<u>11/09/1943</u>	WHERE (1 <sup>ST</sup> MISSION):	<u>Sourabaja, Java</u>
NO. OF MISSIONS:	<u>29 AU/NG</u>	TERMINATION DATE:	<u>03/19/1944</u>
WHY TERMINATED:	<u>Hit Mountain, Babo Mission</u>		
WHERE TERMINATED:	<u>Vogelkopf, New Guinea</u>		
STRICKEN OFF CHARGE:	<u>03/20/1944</u>	WHERE REMOVED:	<u>AFMSC</u>

NOTES:

**AIRCRAFT RECORD CARD**

Serial No.: 42-72801

Nose Art: BIG ASS BIRD II

Model: B-24D-155-CO

Fund: **F-1** A. A. F. Order No. AC-30461 Cost \$241,924.00 Model B-24D Serial Number 42-72801  
 Date Received 7-30-43 Manufacturer Consolidated  
 Branch RA Status S Date Dropped \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

SERIAL No.	Condition	LOCATION	DATE		AGE	FLYING TIME				TRANSFERRED		AUTHORITY	REMARKS	
			F. Y.	C. Mo.		This Month Hours	T	Since Last Dept Work Hours	T	Since First Commissioned Hours	T			TO
														Tucson (By Air) 7-30-43 Mod.Center 8-17-43 Topeka Kan 8-17-43
														LEFT A 9-9-43
														91743 92243
	B-24D LEFT	42	72801	K LEFT										
			CON	AFMASC	R	B-24D		5-40		72801		32044		5-644
			CON	LISS	KA	R	B-24D		L	US		72801		32044 101044

## MAINTENANCE CREW

**Serial No.:** 42-72801

**Nose Art:** BIG ASS BIRD II

**Model:** B-24D-155-CO

	<b>SSN</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Crew Chief(s):</b>	17037379	M/Sgt	Robert S. Christison

	<b>SSN</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Mechanic(s):</b>	35112994	Sgt	James A. Rhem
	35379581	Sgt	Warren O. Reed

**Notes:**

## BIG ASS BIRD II

Serial No.: 42-72801

Model: B-24D-155-CO

*Right Side*



*Source:* Horton/Horton, *King of the Heavies*, p. 59; Horton, *Best in the Southwest*, p. 201.



High drama above Ambon harbor, 19 January 1944. With one engine feathered and smoking, Gorman Smith is protected by Carl Magee on the right and Bill Zagrobski on the left. Joe Wells, Magee's right waist gunner, is in the process of shooting down the Nick that is flying in the slot position.

*Source: Horton, Best in the Southwest.*

## MISSION RECORD

**SN** 42-72801      **NOSE ART** BIG ASS BIRD II      **MODEL** D-155-CO  
**SQDN ASSGD** 531      **MFR** Consolidated-San Diego      **M#** 801

**LOCATION:** Australia

**NOTES:** Missions 6-12: New Guinea Deployment III

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
1	11/09/1943	FEN III-21	Strike	Sourabaja	84	Manley	531	First Mission for this Crew
2	11/17/1943	FEN III-24	Strike	Tjepoe, Java	86	Bruce	531	First Mission for this Crew
3	11/21/1943	FEN III-28	Strike	Maikoor	86	Bruce	531	
4	11/22/1943	FEN III-29	Strike	Morotai Straits	86	Bruce	531	
5	12/03/1943	FEN III-33	Strike	Koepang	86	Bruce	531	
6	12/18/1943	351DD	Strike	Cape Hoskins Airdrome	21	Bratton	530	
7	12/19/1943	352GG	Strike	Cape Gloucester Strip #2	21	Bratton	530	
8	12/20/1943	353GG	Strike	Gloucester Target #3	21	Henschke	530	Bratton Crew
9	12/21/1943	354FF	Strike	Gloucester	21	Bratton	530	
10	12/22/1943	355JJ	Strike	Gloucester	21	Henschke	530	Bratton Crew
11	12/23/1943	356FF	Strike	Gloucester	21	Henschke	530	Bratton Crew
12	12/24/1943	357EE	Strike	Gloucester	21	Henschke	530	Bratton Crew

## MISSION RECORD

SN 42-72801 NOSE ART BIG ASS BIRD II MODEL D-155-CO

SQDN ASSGD 531 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 801

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: Missions 13-20: New Guinea Deployment III

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
13	12/25/1943	358EE	Strike	Cape Gloucester	21	Henschke	530	Bratton Crew
14	12/26/1943	359HH	Strike	Cape Gloucester	21	Henschke	530	Bratton Crew
15	12/26/1943	359MM	Strike	Cape Gloucester	20	Cunningham	530	
16	12/29/1943	362DD	Strike	Cape Gloucester	59	Mulhollen	530	
17	12/30/1943	363DD	Strike	Alexishafen	21	Henschke	530	Bratton Crew
18	12/31/1943	364CC	Strike	Alexishafen	42	Taylor	530	
19	01/01/1944	1AA	Strike	Saidor	42	Taylor	530	
20	01/02/1944	2A-1	Strike	Saidor	42	Taylor	530	
21	01/08/1944	FEN IV-1	Strike	Kendari	86	Bruce	531	
22	01/12/1944	FEN IV-3	Strike	Balikpapan	94	G. Smith	531	First Mission for this Crew
23	01/19/1944	FEN IV-11	Strike	Halong	91	Magee	531	

## MISSION RECORD

SN 42-72801 NOSE ART BIG ASS BIRD II MODEL D-155-CO

SQDN ASSGD 531 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 801

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: Missions 27-28: New Guinea Deployment IV

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
24	01/24/1944	FEN IV-15	Recce	Sorong	86	Bruce	531	Abort, Engine Out
25	02/02/1944	FEN IV-21	Strike	Sorong	86	Bruce	531	
26	02/05/1944	FEN IV-24	Recce	Shipping, Geelvink Bay, Japen Island	86	Bruce	531	
27	03/03/1944	64-C	Strike	Hollandia	86	Bruce	531	
28	03/05/1944	65-K	Strike	Los Negros	86	Bruce	531	
29	03/18/1944	FEN V-28	Special	Special Spy Drop Mission "Hawk"	16	Martens	528	Aircraft Crashed into Mountain During Mission