

DATA SHEET
380TH BOMB GROUP AIRCRAFT

No. 108

SERIAL NO.: <u>42-73481</u>	MOST POPULAR NOSE ART NAME: <u>ESQUIRE</u>
MODEL: <u>B-24J-50-CO</u>	MFR: <u>Consolidated-San Diego</u>
	CONTRACTOR'S NO.: <u>3051</u>
INITIAL MFG DATE: <u>10/18/1943</u>	MFG COMPLETION DATE: <u>10/25/1943</u>
FIRST FLIGHT DATE: <u>10/28/1943</u>	MOD CENTER DATE: <u>10/29/1943</u>
	MOD CENTER PLACE: <u>Tucson</u>
USAAF ACCEPTANCE DATE: <u>10/29/1943</u>	
TO STAGING AREA DATE: <u>11/09/1943</u>	STAGING PLACE: <u>Topeka</u>
OVERSEAS FLIGHT DATE: <u>11/30/1943</u>	DEPARTURE PLACE: <u>Fairfield, CA</u>
OVERSEAS ARRIVAL DATE: <u>12/03/1943</u>	DESTINATION: <u>Townsville</u>
MOD COMPLETED OVERSEAS: _____	OVERSEAS MOD PLACE: _____
ASSIGNMENT: <u>380/531</u>	ASSIGNMENT DATE: _____
STATION: <u>Long Strip</u>	
FIRST MISSION: <u>02/02/1944</u>	WHERE (1 ST MISSION): <u>Sorong, New Guinea</u>
NO. OF MISSIONS: <u>55 AU + 1 PH = 56</u>	TERMINATION DATE: <u>03/10/1945</u>
WHY TERMINATED: <u>Crash Landed, Out of Gas</u>	
WHERE TERMINATED: <u>Samar Island, Philippines</u>	
STRICKEN OFF CHARGE: <u>03/10/1945</u>	WHERE REMOVED: <u>Biak</u>

NOTES:

Serial No.: 42-73481 **Nose Art:** ESQUIRE

Model: B-24J-50-CO

SERIAL		Condition	LOCATION	DATE		AGE	FLYING TIME						TRANSFERRED			REMARKS
V.	Number			F.Y.	C.Me.		This Month Hours T	Since Last Depot Work Hours T	Since First Commissioned Hours T	TO	Date Shipped Rec'd	AUTHORITY				
														Tucson Mod.Centr.(By air) 10-29-43		
														Topeka, Kans. 11-9-43		
														LEFT A 11/30/43 190943		
														LEFT R 1/20/44 191143		
														CON MISS LEFT 3/10/45 61045		

MAINTENANCE CREW

Serial No.: 42-73481

Nose Art: ESQUIRE

Model: B-24J-50-CO

	SSN	Rank	Name
Crew Chief(s):	35112994	Sgt	James A. Rhem

	SSN	Rank	Name
Mechanic(s):			Not Available in Current Records

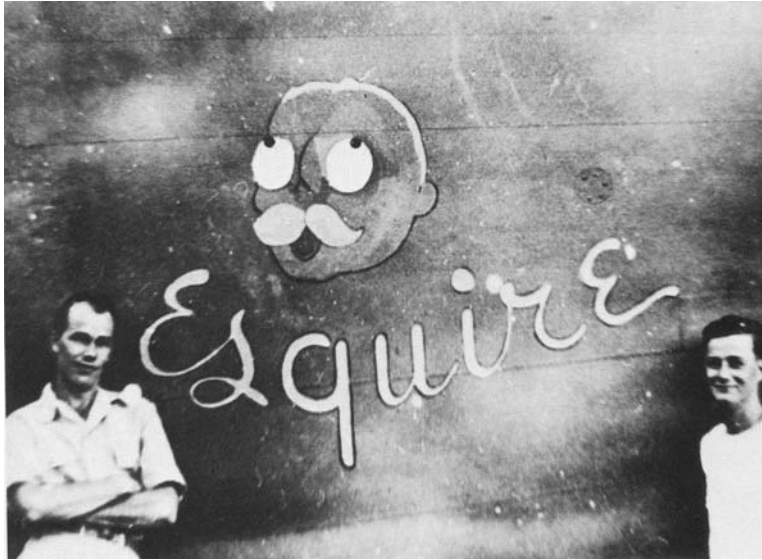
Notes:

ESQUIRE

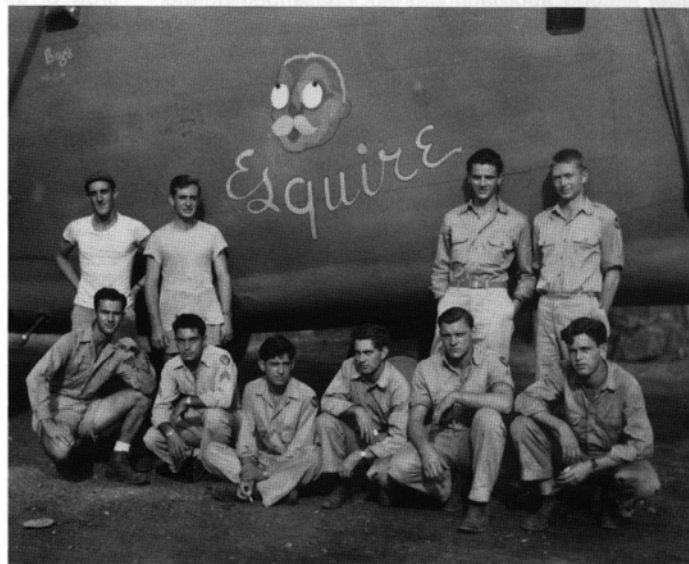
Serial No.: 42-73481

Model: B-24J-50-CO

First Nose Art – OD



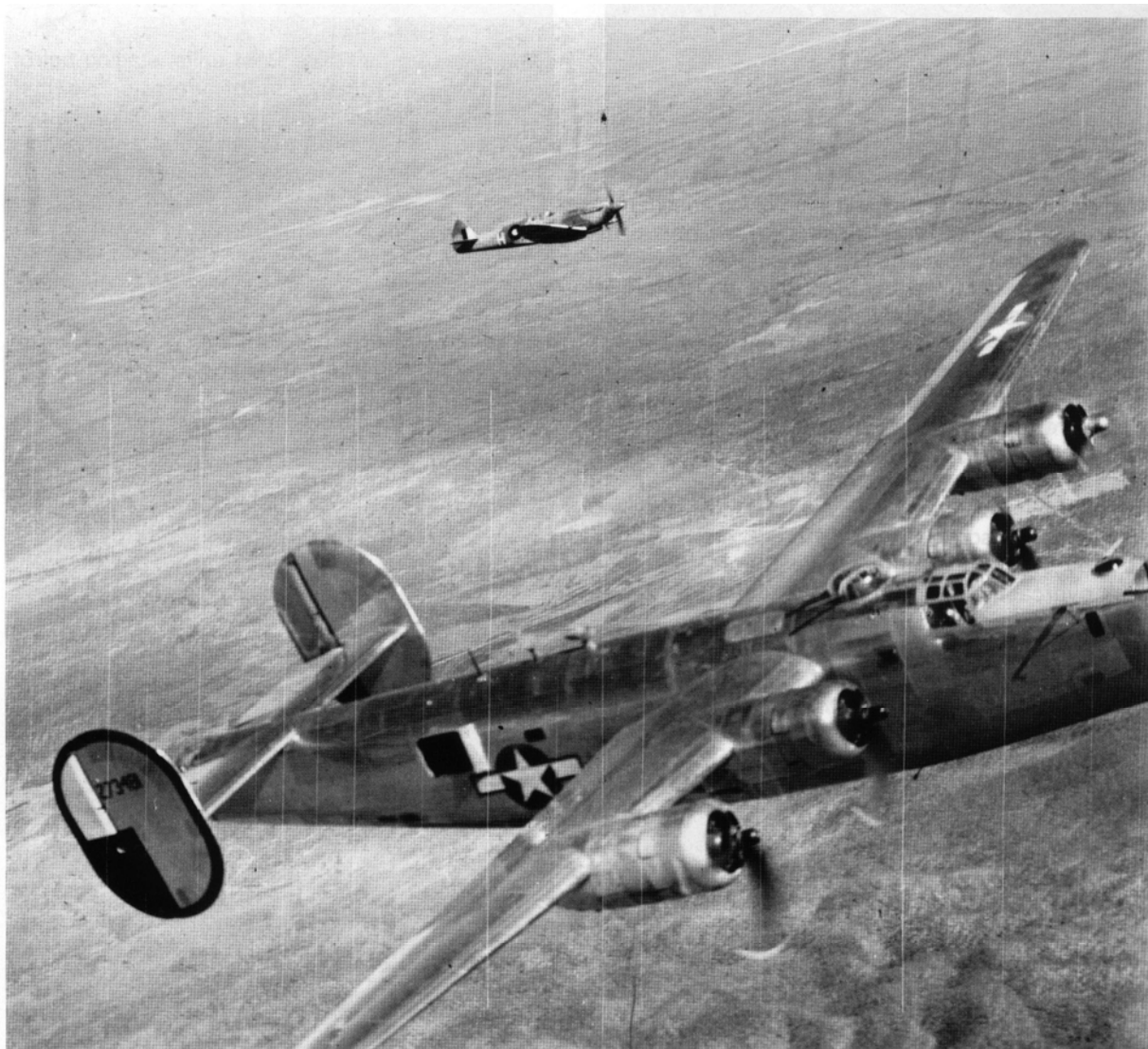
Source: Horton/Horton, *King of the Heavies*, p. 155.



FRED MOODY'S 531st CREW

Standing, L to R: Moody-P, Art Chapman-CP, Henry Cicciollo-BOMB, Tom Calloway-NAV. Kneeling: Norm Wachtel-R/O, Jim Banos-NOSE, Roger Douglas-WG, Roger Smith-WG, Boyd Beatty-TAIL, Jasper Hatfield-ENG/TOP
Travis Brasfield Collection

Source: *Flying Circus*, p. 173; Horton/Horton, *King of the Heavies*, p. 170; Horton, *Best in the Southwest*, p. 282.



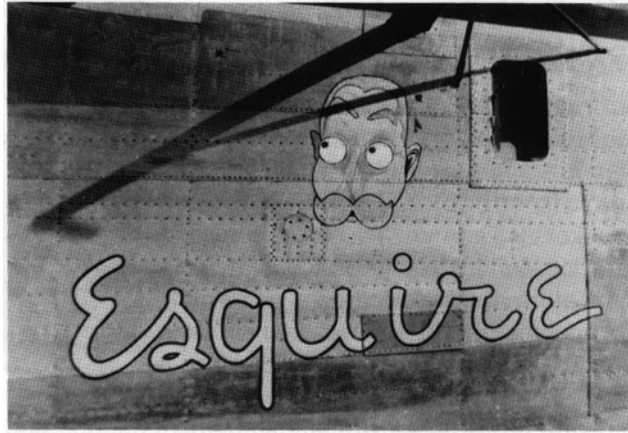
A Spitfire Mk. VIII cruising off to the left of #481 *Esquire* of the 531st. Note the top turret is not tracking him so this wasn't an interception pass. At the time of the photo, the B-24 was having its artwork redone so none appears on the right side of the fuselage. A. V. Connery Collection

Source: Horton, *Best in the Southwest*, p. 266.

Revised Nose Art When Paint Stripped



Source: <http://www.halun.com/images/dal37.JPG>



#481 *Esquire* was almost rammed by Prest's uncontrollable airplane. *James Clark Collection*

Source: Horton/Horton, *King of the Heavies*, p. 155; Horton, *Best in the Southwest*, p. 274.



Source: <http://oldcmp.net>

Third Form of Nose Art



Source: Pete Burris Collection.



Source: Horton/Horton, King of the Heavies, p. 85.



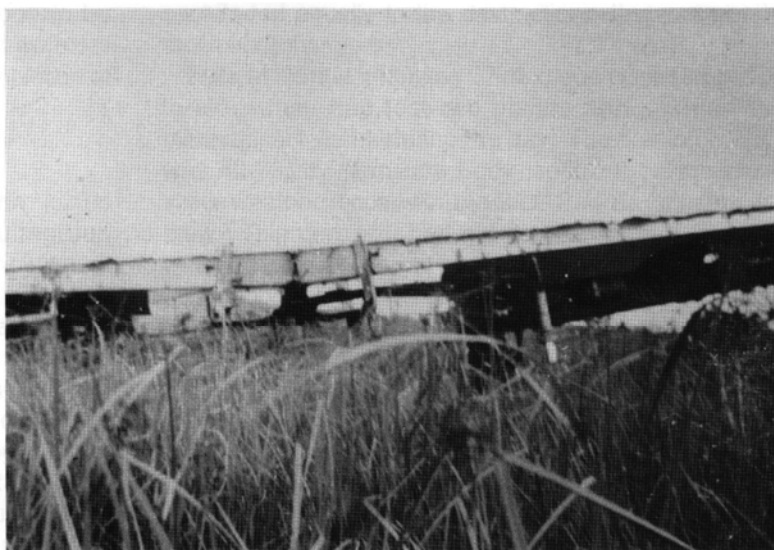
*#481 Esquire with its second rendition of nose art.
Robert Wilkinson Collection*

Source: Horton, Best in the Southwest, p. 316.



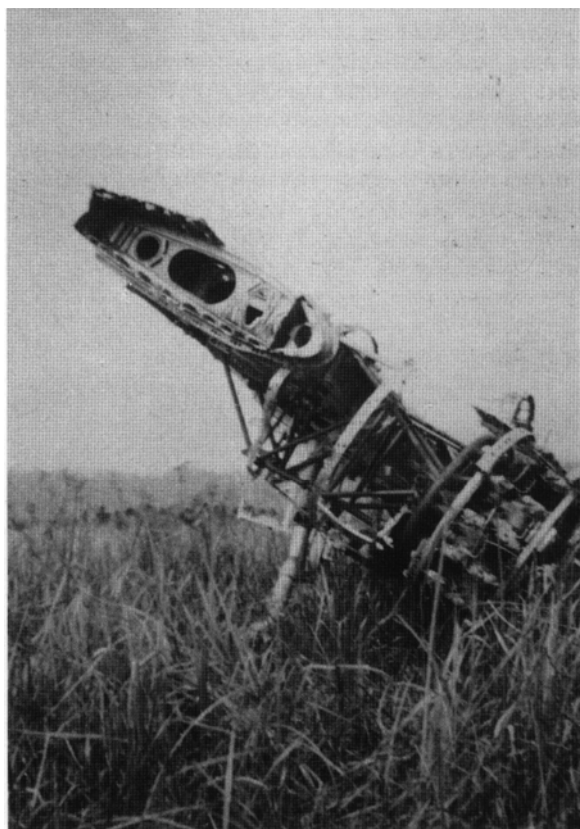
Source: <http://www.b24bestweb.com/esquire.htm>

Wreck in Samar Island on Way to Mindoro for Change of Station



Esquire in 1947. Looking at the main spar and right wing with its landing gear
Ralph Swanson Collection

Source: Horton, Best in the Southwest, p. 317.



*Another view of Esquire in 1947, this time looking at the
left wing, #2 engine and left main gear.*
Ralph Swanson Collection

Source: Horton, Best in the Southwest, p. 317.

MISSION RECORD

SN 42-73481 **NOSE ART** ESQUIRE **MODEL** J-50-CO
SQDN ASSGD 531 **MFR** Consolidated-San Diego **M#** 481
LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: _____

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
1	02/02/1944	FEN IV-21	Strike	Sorong	93	Moody	531	
2	02/11/1944	FEN IV-28	Strike	Kendari	93	Moody	531	
3	02/20/1944	FEN IV-33	Strike	Laha	93	Moody	531	
4	03/11/1944	FEN V-8	Recce	Tri-Met, Geelvink Bay	93	Moody	531	
5	03/25/1944	FEN VI-3	Recce	Photo, Geelvink Bay	76	Hahn	531	Seale Crew; Abort, Guns Did Not Work
6	03/28/1944	FEN VI-7	Strike	Penfoei A/D, Timor	93	Moody	531	
7	03/30/1944	FEN VI-8	Strike	Kai Islands	93	Moody	531	
8	04/01/1944	FEN VI-9	Recce	Shipping	85	Lasko	531	
9	04/03/1944	FEN VI-11	Strike	Langgoer A/D, Kai Islands	93	Moody	531	
10	04/06/1944	FEN VI-15	Recce	Tri-Met, Tanimbar Island	93	Moody	531	Mission Aborted by Other Planes
11	04/07/1944	FEN VI-16	Strike	Langgoer A/D	93	Moody	531	

MISSION RECORD

SN 42-73481 NOSE ART ESQUIRE MODEL J-50-CO

SQDN ASSGD 531 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 481

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: _____

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
12	04/09/1944	FEN VI-20	Strike	Shipping, Manipa Straits, Ceram	93	Moody	531	
13	04/17/1944	FEN VI-22	Strike	Kai Islands	93	Moody	531	
14	04/21/1944	FEN VI-30	Strike	Noemfoor Island	93	Moody	531	
15	04/22/1944	FEN VI-31	Strike	Noemfoor Island	84	Manley	531	Abort, #3 Oil Leak
16	04/24/1944	FEN VI-36	Strike	Kamiri A/D, Noemfoor Island	84	Moody	531	
17	04/26/1944	FEN VI-39	Strike	Jefman A/D	87	Smith	531	Baptist Crew; Abort, Blew Cylinder Head
18	05/03/1944	FEN VI-49	Recce	Shipping, Geelvink Bay	78	Deaton	531	Mission Abandoned, Too Few Aircraft
19	05/06/1944	FEN VII-3	Strike	Penfoei A/D, Timor	81	Lenihan	531	
20	05/09/1944	FEN VII-11	Strike	Langgoer A/D, Kai Islands	78	Deaton	531	
21	05/11/1944	FEN VII-12	Strike	Ambon, Amboinia Island	88	Hamilton	531	Zagrobski Crew

MISSION RECORD

SN 42-73481 NOSE ART ESQUIRE MODEL J-50-CO

SQDN ASSGD 531 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 481

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: _____

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
22	05/13/1944	FEN VII-13	Strike	Kamiri and Namber A/D, Noemfoor	78	Deaton	531	
23	05/17/1944	FEN VII-14	Strike	Soerabaja	78	Deaton	531	
24	05/25/1944	FEN VII-22	Recce	Shipping, Halmahera	90	Brody	531	
25	05/27/1944	FEN VII-24	Strike	Babo	81	Lenihan	531	
26	06/06/1944	FEN VI-31	Strike	Shipping, Waigeo Island	93	Moody	531	
27	06/27/1944	FEN VII-43	Strike	Babo	86	Bruce	531	
28	06/29/1944	FEN VII-45	Strike	Babo	82	Parker (RAAF)	531	
29	07/04/1944	FEN VIII-6	Strike	Namlea	85	Lasko	531	Abort, Prop Governor Out
30	07/18/1944	FEN VIII-30	Recce	Shipping, Flores	79	Grover	531	
31	07/20/1944	FEN VIII-35	Strike	Amahai	76	Boyd	531	

MISSION RECORD

SN 42-73481 NOSE ART ESQUIRE MODEL J-50-CO

SQDN ASSGD 531 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 481

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: _____

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
32	07/31/1944	FEN IX-5	Strike	Namlea	90	Brody	531	
33	08/10/1944	FEN IX-25	Strike	Laha	96	Bowman (RAAF)	531	
34	08/10/1944	FEN IX-27	Strike	Amahai	93	Moody	531	
35	08/25/1944	FEN IX-47	Strike	Laha	84	Hinman	531	
36	08/31/1944	FEN X-3	Strike	Liang	80	Hamilton	531	
37	09/04/1944	FEN X-9	Strike	Kendari	82	Finlayson (RAAF)	531	
38	09/08/1944	FEN X-15	Strike	Kai Islands	86	Brasfield	531	
39	09/16/1944	FEN X-35	Strike	Kendari	96	Bowman (RAAF)	531	
40	09/20/1944	FEN X-45	Strike	Haroekoe	91	Moore (RAAF)	531	

MISSION RECORD

SN 42-73481 NOSE ART ESQUIRE MODEL J-50-CO

SQDN ASSGD 531 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 481

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: _____

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
41	09/24/1944	FEN XI-9	Search I	Ceram Sea	87	Stephens	531	Upgrade Copilot, Baptist Crew
42	09/27/1944	FEN XI-18	Search H-1	Banda Sea	91	Moore (RAAF)	531	
43	09/29/1944	FEN XI-23	Strike	Liang	91	Moore (RAAF)	531	
44	10/02/1944	DAR I-2	Search H-1	Banda Sea	96	Bowman (RAAF)	531	
45	10/05/1944	DAR I-10	Strike	Macassar	89	Swain (RAAF)	531	First Mission for this Crew
46	10/09/1944	DAR I-22	Strike	Koepang	82	Finlayson (RAAF)	531	
47	11/11/1944	DAR III-17	Strike	Pinrang	95	Biggs	531	
48	11/14/1944	DAR III-27	Strike	Macassar	82	Hulsey	531	

MISSION RECORD

SN 42-73481 NOSE ART ESQUIRE MODEL J-50-CO

SQDN ASSGD 531 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 481

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: _____

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
49	11/21/1944	DAR III-47	Strike	Ambesia	82	Hulsey	531	
50	11/30/1944	DAR IV-24	Strike	Kendari, Harass	82	Van Pelt	531	Hulsey Crew
51	12/09/1944	DAR V-7	Search I-1- Red	Banda and Molucca Seas	82	Hulsey	531	
52	12/12/1944	DAR V-13	Search I-2- Green	Banda and Molucca Seas	85	Sears	531	
53	12/20/1944	DAR V-25	Strike	Malang A/D, Java	94	Swanson (RAAF)	531	
54	12/30/1944	DAR VI-9	Strike	Limboeng A/D, Celebes	82	Hulsey	531	Abort, Engine Out
55	01/28/1945	DAR VII-6	Strike	Lembar, Soemba	82	Hulsey	531	
								Transfer, Mindoro, Philippines