

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

No. 134

SERIAL NO.:	<u>44-40861</u>	MOST POPULAR NOSE ART NAME:	<u>"LIL' NILMERG"</u>
MODEL:	<u>B-24J-185-CO</u>	MFR:	<u>Consolidated-San Diego</u>
		CONTRACTOR'S NO.:	<u>4797</u>
INITIAL MFG DATE:	<u>05/12/1944</u>	MFG COMPLETION DATE:	<u>05/19/1944</u>
FIRST FLIGHT DATE:	<u>05/22/1944</u>	MOD CENTER DATE:	<u>05/26/1944</u>
		MOD CENTER PLACE:	<u>Tucson</u>
USAAF ACCEPTANCE DATE:	<u>05/24/1944</u>		
TO STAGING AREA DATE:	<u>06/08/1944</u>	STAGING PLACE:	<u>Hamilton Field, CA</u>
OVERSEAS FLIGHT DATE:	<u>06/21/1944</u>	DEPARTURE PLACE:	<u>Fairfield, CA</u>
OVERSEAS ARRIVAL DATE:	<u>06/24/1944</u>	DESTINATION:	<u>Townsville</u>
MOD COMPLETED OVERSEAS:	<u></u>	OVERSEAS MOD PLACE:	<u></u>
ASSIGNMENT:	<u>380/529</u>	ASSIGNMENT DATE:	<u>08/13/1944</u>
STATION:	<u>Darwin</u>		
FIRST MISSION:	<u>08/17/1944</u>	WHERE (1 <sup>ST</sup> MISSION):	<u>Namlea</u>
NO. OF MISSIONS:	<u>26 AU + 47 PH = 73</u>	TERMINATION DATE:	<u>09/1945</u>
WHY TERMINATED:	<u>ACFH-RFC, 05/01/1946</u>		
WHERE TERMINATED:	<u>Kingman, AZ</u>		
STRICKEN OFF CHARGE:	<u>05/01/1946</u>	WHERE REMOVED:	<u>Kingman</u>

NOTES:

# AIRCRAFT RECORD CARD

Serial No.: 44-40861      Nose Art: "LIL' NILMERG"  
 Model: B-24J-185-CO

INDIVIDUAL AIRCRAFT RECORD CARD									
TYPE, MODEL, SERIES		A. A. F. SERIAL NUMBER		MANUFACTURER AND LOCATION					
B-24J-185		44-40861		Consolidated, San Diego, Calif.					
CONTRACT NUMBER		FOREIGN SERIAL NUMBER		FINAL DESTINATION IN U. S.					
AC-10033				Fairfield					
ALLOCATION, BLOCK, PRIORITY NUMBER		PROJECT OR LEND LEASE REQUISITION NUMBER		MANUFACTURER'S SERIAL NUMBER					
AAF		Apr 20-1		965890					
UPPER COLUMN HEADINGS ARE FOR HAND-POSTED OPERATION IN KARDER LOWER COLUMN HEADINGS ARE FOR L. B. M. POSTED OPERATION IN VERTICAL CABINET									
LOCATION	ORGANIZATION	RECIPIENT	NEXT DESTINATION	CREATED OR FLY-AWAY	CONDITION	DATE	ACTION	REMARKS	
STATION	COMMAND	PARENT UNIT	SUB-UNIT	GAINED FROM OR LOST TO	SERIAL NUMBER	MO	DA	STATION NO.	
San Diego	Consolidated	Cowles	49 Tucson		Accepted	5-24			
	"	"	"		Available	5-25	5-1952		
Tucson	4th Sq	4th Hamilton	4th Hamilton		Delivered	5-26			
	4th Sq	4th Hamilton	4th Hamilton		5-25	5-1952	Rec only NP,		
Hamilton	"	"	"		6-6	6-5-55	CCP.		
"	"	"	"		6-7	6-7			
Fairfield	"	"	"		6-8	6-8			
	"	"	"		6-18	8-18			
	"	"	"		6-14	6-14			
	"	"	"		6-2	6-2			
LEFT				G 824J	5 44	40861	7 3 44		
LEFT				A 824J	05 44	40861	6 2 144		62444
	EXC	INV	LSF	R 824J	S 05	44	40861		

SIGNAL OVER MONTH, GREEN-U.S., ORANGE-BRITISH, RED-RUSSIA, PURPLE-CHINA, DUTCH-TAN, BISC-PIRE  
 FAC-FACTORY, MOD-MODIFICATION CENTER, DEP-DEPOT, STA-STATION, INS-INSTALLATION, ENR-ENROUTE, PDR-PORT, SRO-GROUNDED  
 AIRCRAFT DISTRIBUTION OFFICE: A. P. W. M. & D. PATTERSON FIELD, OHIO FORM #28 1103  
 PLAN: 1-10-44 SERIAL NO. OTHER SERIAL STATUS DATE REPORTED  
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

## MAINTENANCE CREW

**Serial No.:** 44-40861

**Nose Art:** "LIL' NILMERG"

**Model:** B-24J-185-CO

	<b>SSN</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Crew Chief(s):</b>	37184599	M/Sgt	Valentine L. Huck

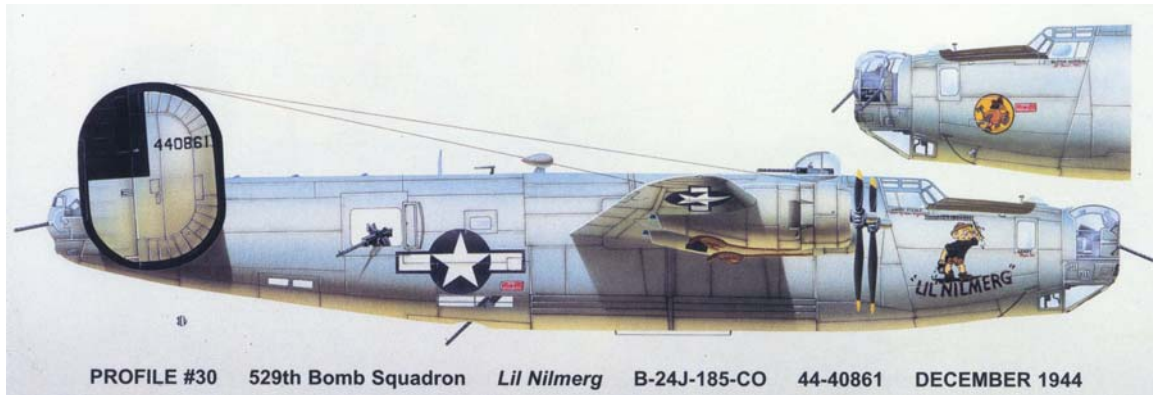
	<b>SSN</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Mechanic(s):</b>	14080093	Sgt	Vernon S. Brown

**Notes:**

# "LIL' NILMERG"

Serial No.: 44-40861

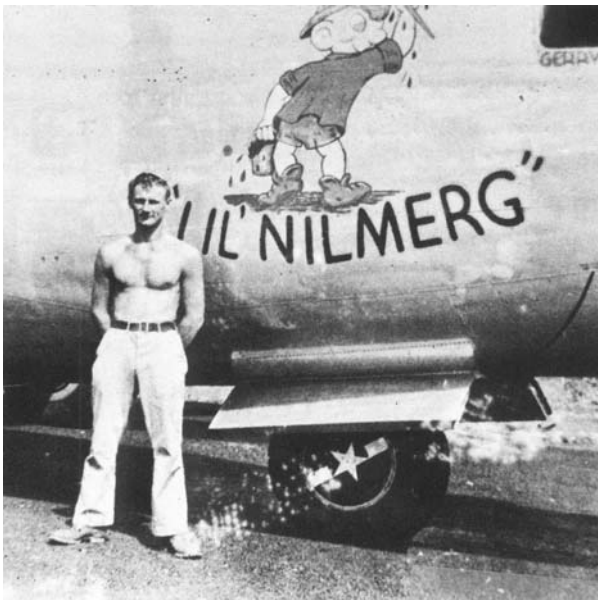
Model: B-24J-185-CO



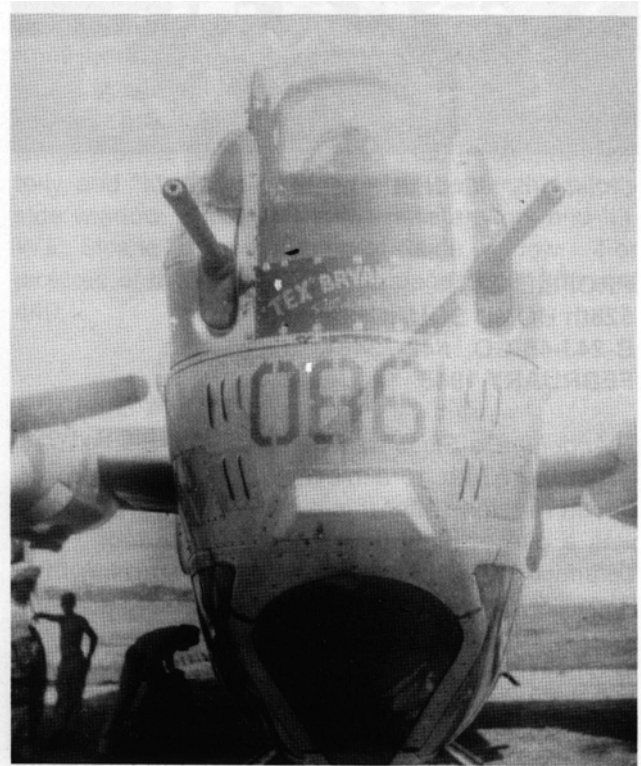
*Source: Horton, Best in the Southwest.*



*Source: Horton/Horton, King of the Heavies, p. 144.*

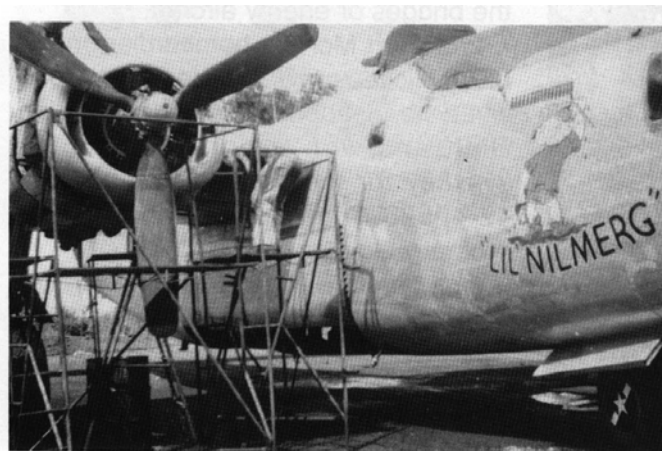


*Source: Horton/Horton, King of the Heavies, p. 177.*



The nose of *Lil Nilmerg*, showing the abbreviated serial number and Tex Bryan's personal markings on his turret.  
*William O'Sullivan Collection*

*. Source: Horton, Best in the Southwest, p. 487.*



#861 having some work done on its #3 engine prior to the mission of 11 May 1945.

*William O'Sullivan Collection*

*. Source: Horton, Best in the Southwest, p. 353.*



*Source: Unknown*



**GLENN HORTON'S 529th CREW**

Standing, L to R: Joe DeMaria-ENG/WG, George Hewett-TOP, Ernie Butkovic-TAIL, C.J. "Tex" Bryans-NOSE, Les Kiggins-R/O, Bill O'Sullivan-WG.  
Kneeling: Larry Steele-CP, Bill Krakovitz-BOMB, Gerry Cohen-NAV, Horton-P.

*G. R. Horton Collection*

*Source: Horton/Horton, King of the Heavies, p. 5; Horton, Best in the Southwest, p. 289.*



Glenn R. Horton, the author's father standing beside his plane, *Lil Nilmerg* [Gremlin spelled backwards].  
G. R. Horton Collection

. Source: Horton, *Best in the Southwest*, p. 277.





#861's maintenance crew, L to R: Clarence Schumaker, Vernon Brown, Hall Jones, Valentine Huck and Eddie Jensen. The plane has flown 79 of its 83 mission career.  
*Vernon Brown Collection*

. Source: Horton, *Best in the Southwest*, p. 487.

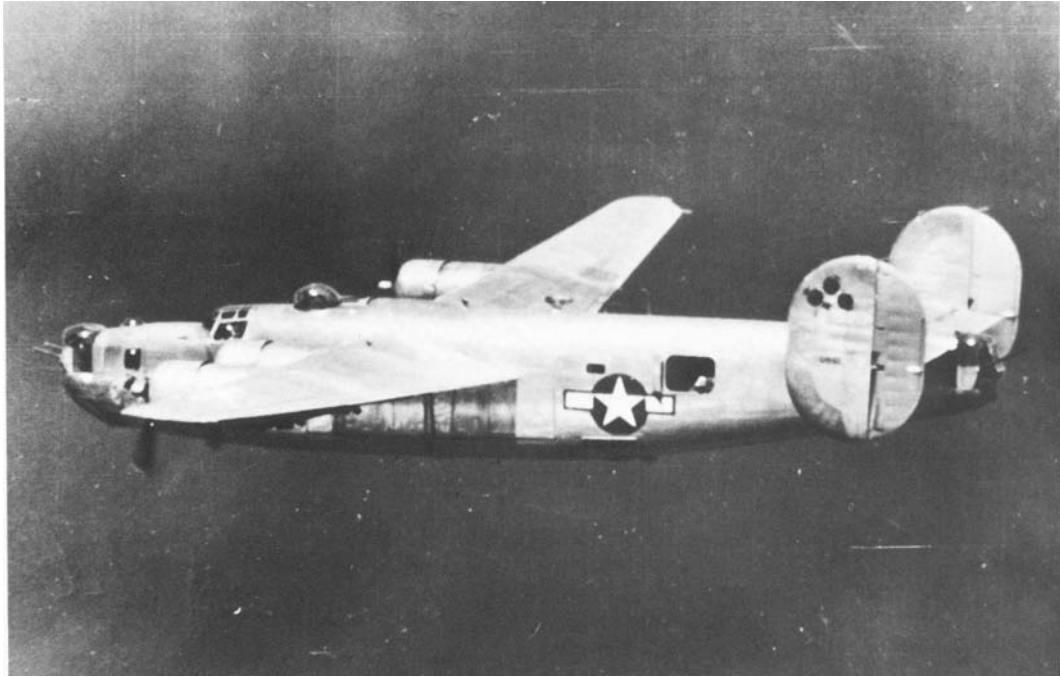


#861 *Lil Nilmerg*, Glenn Horton's regular aircraft. The "Gerry" is for navigator, Gerald Cohen, of Minneapolis, a fellow Minnesotan with Horton.  
*James Clark Collection*

Source: Horton, *Best in the Southwest*, p. 339.



*Left Side*



*Source: Horton/Horton, King of the Heavies, p. 92.*

## MISSION RECORD

**SN** 44-40861      **NOSE ART** "LIL' NILMERG"      **MODEL** J-185-CO  
**SQDN ASSGD** 529      **MFR** Consolidated-San Diego      **M#** 861

**LOCATION:** Australia

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
1	08/17/1944	FEN IX-36	Strike	Namlea	34	Bilotti	529	
2	08/25/1944	FEN IX-47	Strike	Laha	34	Bilotti	529	
3	08/31/1944	FEN X-3	Strike	Liang	34	Bilotti	529	
4	09/21/1944	FEN XI-3	Strike	Laha	27	Daffer	529	
5	09/24/1944	FEN XI-8	Strike	Haroekoe	26	Van Pelt	529	Trimble Crew
6	09/27/1944	FEN XI-19	Strike	Haroekoe	26	Huet	529	Trimble Crew
7	10/02/1944	DAR I-4	Strike	Macassar	26	Van Pelt	529	Trimble Crew
8	10/06/1944	DAR I-11	Search H-2	Molucca Sea	34	Horton	529	
9	10/12/1944	DAR I-30	Strike	Ambesia	31	Rollings	529	First Mission for this Crew
10	10/16/1944	DAR I-41	Strike	Macassar	34	Horton	529	
11	10/19/1944	DAR II-2	Search G-1-Red	Banda Sea	43	MacKellar (RAAF)	529	

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SQDN ASSGD 529 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 861

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
12	10/30/1944	DAR II-36	Strike	Macassar	34	Horton	529	
13	11/05/1944	DAR III-1	Strike	Bima	34	Horton	529	
14	11/07/1944	DAR III-6	Strike	Raba	26	Cox	529	Trimble Crew
15	11/14/1944	DAR III-27	Strike	Macassar	34	Horton	529	
16	11/21/1944	DAR III-47	Strike	Ambesia	31	Rollings	529	
17	11/27/1944	DAR IV-12	Strike	Kendari and Boro Boro	33	Davis	529	
18	12/01/1944	DAR IV-29	Strike	Flores Sea	28	Fry	529	
19	12/05/1944	DAR IV-41	Search I-1-Red	Banda and Molucca Seas	45	Dixon (RAAF)	529	
20	12/07/1944	DAR IV-46	Strike	Ambesia	34	Horton	529	
21	12/11/1944	DAR V-11	Recce	Shipping, Banda Sea	33	Boyle	529	

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SQDN ASSGD 529 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 861

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
22	12/18/1944	DAR V-21	Strike	Bima	34	Horton	529	
23	12/21/1944	DAR V-32	Search G-1- Red	Flores Sea	40	Carmichael	529	
24	12/30/1944	DAR VI-9	Strike	Limboeng A/D, Celebes	34	Horton	529	
25	01/07/1945	DAR VI-34	Strike	Guns, Lombok Straits	34	Horton	529	
26	01/12/1945	DAR VII-1	Strike	Ampenam, Soemba	34	Horton	529	
								Transfer, Mindoro, Philippines