

DATA SHEET
380TH BOMB GROUP AIRCRAFT

No. 027

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| SERIAL NO.: | <u>42-40515</u> | MOST POPULAR NOSE ART NAME: | <u>"SOOPER DROOPER"</u> |
| MODEL: | <u>B-24D-65-CO</u> | MFR: | <u>Consolidated-San Diego</u> |
| | | CONTRACTOR'S NO.: | <u>1592</u> |
| INITIAL MFG DATE: | <u>03/04/1943</u> | MFG COMPLETION DATE: | <u>03/16/1943</u> |
| FIRST FLIGHT DATE: | <u>03/18/1943</u> | MOD CENTER DATE: | <u>03/21/1943</u> |
| USAAF ACCEPTANCE DATE: | <u>03/19/1943</u> | MOD CENTER PLACE: | <u>Tucson</u> |
| TO STAGING AREA DATE: | <u>04/21/1943</u> | STAGING PLACE: | <u>Topeka</u> |
| OVERSEAS FLIGHT DATE: | <u>04/24/1943</u> | DEPARTURE PLACE: | <u>Hamilton Field, CA</u> |
| OVERSEAS ARRIVAL DATE: | <u>04/29/1943</u> | DESTINATION: | <u>Amberly Field, Brisbane, AUS</u> |
| MOD COMPLETED OVERSEAS: | <u>Nose turret (after transfer)</u> | OVERSEAS MOD PLACE: | <u>Townsville</u> |
| ASSIGNMENT: | <u>380/531</u> | ASSIGNMENT DATE: | <u>Initial Deployment</u> |
| STATION: | <u>Manbulloo/Long</u> | | |
| FIRST MISSION: | <u>Unknown</u> | WHERE (1 ST MISSION): | <u>New Guinea</u> |
| NO. OF MISSIONS: | <u>27</u> | TERMINATION DATE: | <u>12/13/1943</u> |
| WHY TERMINATED: | <u>Nose Turret, Transferred to 43BG</u> | | |
| WHERE TERMINATED: | <u>Townsville, Australia</u> | | |
| STRICKEN OFF CHARGE: | <u>11/07/1944</u> | WHERE REMOVED: | <u>Townsville</u> |

NOTES: No nose turret while with 380th
 Salvaged by 43rd BG, 11/07/1944.

AIRCRAFT RECORD CARD

Serial No.: 42-40515

Nose Art: "SOOPER DROOPER"

Model: B-24D-65-CO

| PLANT | | ORDER NO. | | MODEL | SERIAL NUMBER | | DATE RECEIVED | | MANUFACTURER | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|---------------|--------|--------------|---------------|----------|---------------|----------|--------------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------|-------------------|--------------|
| P-1 | | W535-80-24620 | | B-24D | 42-40515 | | 3-19-43 | | Consolidated | | | | | |
| BRANCH | | RA | STATUS | DATE DROPPED | REASON | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | S | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PLANT NUMBER | CONDITION | LOCATION | DATE | AGE | FLYING TIME | | | | | | TRANSFERRED | | REMARKS | |
| | | | | | THRU MONTH | THRU DAY | THRU HOUR | THRU MIN | SINCE FIRST COMMISSIONED | TO | DATE | AUTHORITY | | |
| FA | CMO | | FA | CMO | THRU HOUR | THRU MIN | THRU HOUR | THRU MIN | THRU HOUR | THRU MIN | TO | DATE | AUTHORITY | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | Tucson (By Air) | 3-21-43 | Med. Proj. #96082 | 4/16 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | Center | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | Hamilton | 4-21-43 | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | Left A | 4-26-43 | 4-29-43 | Proj. #96082 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | LEFT | 2 014 | 30 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | LEFT | 5 543 | 5 543 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | LEFT | 10 314 | 1 945 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | LEFT | 11 744 | 1 2843 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | CON INV | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | CON SAL | | | |

MAINTENANCE CREW

Serial No.: 42-40515

Nose Art: “SOOPER DROOPER”

Model: B-24D-65-CO

| | SSN | Rank | Name |
|-----------------------|------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Crew Chief(s): | 36321335 | M/Sgt | Edmund S. Babinski (531) |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

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

Notes:

"SOOPER DROOPER"

Serial No.: 42-40515

Model: B-24D-65-CO



Source: Horton, *Best in the Southwest*, p 29.



Source: Horton/Horton, *King of the Heavies*, p. 157.



Source: Horton, *Best in the Southwest*, p 73.



Source: Frank Cooper Collection (via Craig Bellamy).



Source: Albert Nielson Collection.

Change in Nose Art When Turret Installed



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

MISSION RECORD

SN 42-40515 NOSE ART "SOOPER DROOPER" MODEL D-65-CO

SQDN ASSGD 531 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 515

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: Average of 6 missions carried out by New Guinea Deployment Group during May/June 1943, No Complete Record by Plane Available

| NO. | DATE (M/D/Y) | MISSION # | MISSION TYPE | TARGET | CREW # | ACFT CMDR | SQDN | RESULTS/NOTES |
|-----|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------|--------------|------|------------------|
| 7 | 07/08/1943 | FEN I-48 | Strike | Penfoei A/D, Koepang | 50 | Paul | 531 | |
| 8 | 07/18/1943 | FEN II-4 | Strike | Macassar, Celebes | 50 | Paul | 531 | |
| 9 | 07/20/1943 | FEN II-6 | Recce | Sorong, New Guinea | 15 | Brissey | 529 | J. Thompson Crew |
| 10 | 07/28/1943 | FEN II-12 | Strike | Boela, Ceram | 34 | Thomas | 531 | |
| 11 | 08/13/1943 | FEN II-21 | Strike | Balikpapan | 34 | Brissey | 531 | W. Thomas Crew |
| 12 | 08/29/1943 | FEN II-29 | Strike | Babo | 50 | Paul | 531 | |
| 13 | 09/03/1943 | FEN II-33 | Strike | Ambon | 50 | Paul | 531 | |
| 14 | 09/11/1943 | FEN II-38 | Strike | Macassar | 50 | Paul | 531 | |
| 15 | 09/14/1943 | FEN II-40 | Recce | Sorong | 50 | Paul | 531 | |
| 16 | 09/22/1943 | FEN II-45 | Strike | Ambon | 50 | Paul | 531 | |
| 17 | 09/24/1943 | FEN II-46 | Recce | Nabire, Manokwari, Sorong | 48 | Farrington | 531 | |

MISSION RECORD

SN 42-40515 NOSE ART "SOOPER DROOPER" MODEL D-65-CO

SQDN ASSGD 531 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 515

LOCATION: Australia

NOTES: Missions 19-20: Second Deployment to New Guinea with 43rd BG

| NO. | DATE (M/D/Y) | MISSION # | MISSION TYPE | TARGET | CREW # | ACFT CMDR | SQDN | RESULTS/NOTES |
|-----|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------|-------|--|
| 18 | 10/09/1943 | FEN III-2 | Strike | Macassar | 50 | Paul | 531 | |
| 19 | 10/13/1943 | 285-L | Strike | Rabaul | 50 | Paul | 531 | Abort, Weather |
| 20 | 10/17/1943 | 290-L | Strike | Vunakanau A/D, Rabaul | 50 | Paul | 531 | Abort, Weather |
| 21 | 10/22/1943 | FEN III-10 | Strike | Pomelaa | 50 | Paul | 531 | |
| 22 | 11/01/1943 | FEN III-17 | Strike | Pomelaa | 53 | Z. Smith | Staff | |
| 23 | 11/02/1943 | FEN III-18 | Search | Missing B-24, Celebes | 31 | Brissey | 531 | |
| 24 | 11/21/1943 | FEN III-28 | Strike | Maikoor | 50 | Paul | 531 | |
| 25 | 11/22/1943 | FEN III-29 | Strike | Morotai Straits | 50 | Paul | 531 | |
| 26 | 11/25/1943 | FEN III-31 | Strike | Shipping, Ambon | 89 | Bates | 531 | First Mission for this Crew |
| 27 | 12/10/1943 | FEN III-36 | Strike | Balikpapan | 50 | Paul | 531 | |
| | 12/13/1943 | | | | | | | To Townsville for Nose Turret and Transferred to 43rd BG |