

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

No. 150

SERIAL NO.: <u>44-42250</u>	MOST POPULAR NOSE ART NAME: <u>NOCTURNAL 'MISSION</u>
MODEL: <u>B-24M-25-CO</u>	MFR: <u>Consolidated-San Diego</u>
	CONTRACTOR'S NO.: <u>6186</u>
INITIAL MFG DATE: <u>12/31/1944</u>	MFG COMPLETION DATE: <u>01/08/1945</u>
FIRST FLIGHT DATE: <u>01/19/1945</u>	MOD CENTER DATE: <u>01/19/1945</u>
	MOD CENTER PLACE: <u>Tucson</u>
USAAF ACCEPTANCE DATE: <u>02/21/1945</u>	
TO STAGING AREA DATE: <u>03/06/1945</u>	STAGING PLACE: <u>Salinas, CA</u>
OVERSEAS FLIGHT DATE: <u>04/09/1945</u>	DEPARTURE PLACE: <u>San Francisco, CA</u>
OVERSEAS ARRIVAL DATE: _____	DESTINATION: _____
MOD COMPLETED OVERSEAS: _____	OVERSEAS MOD PLACE: _____
ASSIGNMENT: <u>380/529</u>	ASSIGNMENT DATE: <u>06/1945</u>
STATION: <u>Murtha Strip, Mindoro</u>	
FIRST MISSION: <u>07/24/1945</u>	WHERE (1 <sup>ST</sup> MISSION): <u>Kiang-wan A/D, Shanghai</u>
NO. OF MISSIONS: <u>5 PH</u>	TERMINATION DATE: <u>10/1945</u>
WHY TERMINATED: <u>ACFH-RFC</u>	
WHERE TERMINATED: _____	
STRICKEN OFF CHARGE: <u>10/25/1945</u>	WHERE REMOVED: <u>Kingman</u>

NOTES: See next page for notes on this aircraft.

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

**Serial No.:** 44-42250                      **Nose Art:** NOCTURNAL 'MISSION  
**Model:** B-24M-25-CO

**NOTES:**

Several publications list the following aircraft and related serial numbers as assigned to the 529<sup>th</sup> Squadron, 380<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group:

NOCTURNAL 'MISSION	B-24J-25-CO	S/N	44-41263
LUVABLASS	B-24M-25-CO	S/N	44-42263

First mission for M-263 is given as April 22, 1945. Only a three-digit M number is given, thus allowing no distinction between these two aircraft in the records. Normal practice in such situations would be to use four numbers, i.e.,

NOCTURNAL 'MISSION	is	M-1263
LUVABLASS	is	M-2263

This was not done thus leading to the belief that the 529<sup>th</sup> had only one M-263.

Since NOCTURNAL 'MISSION is prominently featured in nose art literature as assigned to the 380/529, then another assignment must be investigated.

Wally Forman has suggested that NOCTURNAL 'MISSION was another B-24M-25-CO and carried the serial number 44-42250.

Since Glenn Horton carries 44-42250 as 380/529, but without nose art, this name will be assigned here unless more exact data can be uncovered.

Aircraft with the three serial numbers listed here are essentially identical in appearance when viewed from the front right-hand side of the aircraft.



## MAINTENANCE CREW

**Serial No.:** 44-42250

**Nose Art:** NOCTURNAL 'MISSION

**Model:** B-24M-25-CO

	<b>SSN</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Crew Chief(s):</b>			Not Available in Current Records

	<b>SSN</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Mechanic(s):</b>			Not Available in Current Records

**Notes:**

## NOCTURNAL 'MISSION

Serial No.: 44-42250

Model: B-24-25-CO



*Source: Horton, Best in the Southwest.*



*Source: Horton/Horton, King of the Heavies, p. 139.*



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



Source: Horton/Horton, *King of the Heavies*, p. 119;  
Horton, *Best in the Southwest*.



*Nocturnal Mission* spending its last days basking in the sun of Arizona. John Campbell Archives

Source: Horton, *Best in the Southwest*.

## MISSION RECORD

SN 44-42250 NOSE ART NOCTURNAL 'MISSION MODEL M-25-CO

SQDN ASSGD 529 MFR Consolidated-San Diego M# 250

LOCATION: Philippines

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

NO.	DATE (M/D/Y)	MISSION #	MISSION TYPE	TARGET	CREW #	ACFT CMDR	SQDN	RESULTS/NOTES
1	07/22/1945			Transit to Okinawa	50	McDonald	529	
2	07/24/1945	205-C-1E	Strike	Kiang-wan A/D, Shanghai	50	McDonald	529	
3	07/25/1945			Transit to Mindoro	50	McDonald	529	
4	08/14- 15/1945			Transit to Okinawa, Change of Station			529	
5	08/25/1945	237-A7	Recce	Armed Patrol, Southern Japan	50	McDonald	529	
								ACFH-RFC