DATA SHEET 380TH BOMB GROUP AIRCRAFT

			No. 150
SERIAL NO.:	44-42250	MOST POPULAR NOSE ART NAME:	NOCTURNAL 'MISSION
MODEL:	B-24M-25-CO	MFR: Co	onsolidated-San Diego
		CONTRACTOR'S NO.:	6186
INITIAL MFG DATE:	12/31/1944	MFG COMPLETION DAT	ΓΕ: 01/08/1945
FIRST FLIGHT DATE:	01/19/1945	MOD CENTER DATE:	01/19/1945
USAAF ACCEPTANCE	E DATE: 02/21/1945	MOD CENTER PLACE:	Tucson
TO STAGING AREA D		— STAGING PLACE:	Salinas, CA
OVERSEAS FLIGHT D	OATE: 04/09/1945	DEPARTURE PLACE:	San Francisco, CA
OVERSEAS ARRIVAL	DATE:	DESTINATION:	
MOD COMPLETED OVERSEAS:		OVERSEAS MOD PLACE	E:
ASSIGNMENT:	380/529	ASSIGNMENT DATE:	06/1945
STATION:	Murtha Strip, Mindoro		00/1743
FIRST MISSION:	07/24/1945	WHERE (1 ST MISSION):	Kiang-wan A/D, Shanghai
NO. OF MISSIONS:	5 PH	TERMINATION DATE:	10/1945
WHY TERMINATED:	ACFH-RFC		
WHERE TERMINATEI	D:		
STRICKEN OFF CHAR	RGE: 10/25/1945	WHERE REMOVED:	Kingman

See next page for notes on this aircraft.

NOTES:

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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 529th Squadron, 380th 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 n the records. Normal practice in such situations would be to use <u>four</u> numbers, i.e.,

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

This was not done thus leading to the belief that the 529th 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.

AIRCRAFT RECORD CARD

Serial No.: 44-42	Nose Art:	NOCTURNAL 'MISSION
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Model: B-24M-25-CO

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MAINTENANCE CREW

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

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

	SSN	Rank	Name
Mechanic(s):			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.



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