

November 1944 Mission Reports - Rescues. (contd)

17 November 1944. (contd)

- 0800: Searched around islands NW of Talaud, a white man was thought to have been seen.
- 0900: Searched SW coast of Mindanao. No sightings.
- 1000: Circled contact pt, dropped a message proceeded Contact Pt 2.
- 1100: Followed the coast of Negros until we located our party standing on shore waving American flag. We landed just off shore and the survivors were taken out the ship by natives in canoes. The Survivors were T/Sgt Robert H Mahanes, 23rd Bomb Sq, S/Sgt John Duarte, 23rd Bomb Sq, Ensign John W Brex USNR VF15-CV9.
- 1130: Were airborne and returning to contact point #1, where we landed, unloaded supplies and took off again.
- 1745: Landed at Morotai.
- DAYLIGHT 23: OA-10A #876, P 1st Lt Remington, CP 1st Lt Holbrook, Nav 2nd Lt Booth; Eng T/Sgt Hundley; Radio Sgt Bean; Radar Cpl Spaulding; ST S/Sgt Besse
- 0750: Took off, Pitoe strip.
- 0920: Arrived Sangihe Is. Grp and instituted a search of the islands and water area around them.
- 0945: Sighted 1 man in a single life raft.
- 0950: Landed and picked up survivor, 1st Lt Edwin C Buchanan, 8th Fighter Gp, 80th Fighter Sq (P-38) who was apparently in very good condition. The rescued man was sighted and rescued at 03°52'N, 125°20'E. East of Lipang Island.
- 1005: Took off for home base.
- 1210: Landed at Pitoe strip.

18 November 1944

- DAYLIGHT 21: OA-10A #885, P 1st Lt Kathman, CP 2nd Lt Kissel; Nav 2nd Lt Naylor; Eng Pfc Rowe; Radio Sgt Bean; Radar Cpl Holley; ST S/Sgt Lobdell.
- 0800: Took off Pitoe strip, with purpose of rear guard for fighter and bomber strike. Orbit place to be Sangihe Is from 1500 to 1800.
- 1115: Arrived at and searched area from 4°10'N, 123°30'E to 3°50'N, 123°57'E. Found no traces of missing crew.
- 1430: Proceeded to Siaoe Island to search for B-24 crew and to keep our orbit date.
- 1500: Circled orbit point until a P-47 waved his wings, indicating that we should follow him. Followed P-47 to Biaro Island.
- 1645: Landed at Biaro Island where we rescued 1st Lt Henry E Storino, 0748831 of the 44th Fighter Sq, 18th Fighter Grp. He had bailed out of his P-38 on Nov 15. He was in good shape and said the natives were very friendly. He also mentioned the fact that the natives said there were Japs on Taboelandang Is. but none on Biaro (sighted 3 barges on SW side) We found no trace of 6 B-24 crew members who bailed out on the 16th.
- 1830: Landed at Pitoe strip.

22 November 1944

- PLAYMATE-21: OA-10A #880, 1st Lt Remington, Pilot.
- 0435: Take-off, to cover strike on Negros.
- 0900: Arrived search area, around Tagolo Pt.
- 0905: Sighted mirror flashes from beach at Baylimango.
- 0907: Sighted 5 men on beach 4 miles west of Baylimango.
- 0925: Landed. Picked up 2 men at Baylimango, then taxied to the other beach for 5 men. All brought to plane by natives.

November 1944, Mission Reports - Rescues (contd)

22 November 1944 (contd)

- 1020: Took off and headed for home base.  
1035: Sighted two more men on beach waving to us 4 miles east of Baylimango.  
1040: Landed and picked up the two survivors.  
1110: Took off and headed for home base.  
1540: Zorina 1 B called: 5 men in water at 03°05'N, 127°25'E.  
1550: Zorina 3 A called: 11 men Goodyear 31 Preston.  
1555: Landed, Morotai.

Remarks: No contact on radio was made with Rainbow 1. At 1000, a PVI buzzed us twice and left at 1010, a P-38 hovered over us at about 3000' and left. Original mission was to cover strike on Negros but we were unable to carry through because of rescues. All survivors rescued were members of the 5th Bomb Gp, 72nd Bomb Sq (B-24) and were in good physical condition when rescued. Names of the rescued are: 2nd Lt Luther Dew, Jr, 0813674, Co-Pilot; 2nd Lt Norman O. Saarheim, 0706277, Navigator; S/Sgt Nolan S Hughes, 19172936, Asst Engineer; T/Sgt George K. Knight, 37661197, Engineer; S/Sgt Robert J. Mitchell, 11103665, Gunner; 2nd Lt Duncan G. Ingraham, 0709385, Navigator; T/Sgt Joseph P. Iaria, Radio Operator; S/Sgt J. C. Hooker, 38541481, Gunner; S/Sgt P. J. Van Dyke, 17147175, Gunner. The rescued men mentioned the fact that four men (2 P-38 Pilots, one Captain, one enlisted man) are in the town of Dipolog, awaiting rescue. Natives say no Japs left in Dipolog. Special aid in effecting the rescue was given by Artemir C. Adasa, Special agent, Rep. to Mayor, Baylimango, Dapitan and Lt Cesar Montebon, 101st Division, 102nd Infantry, USAFFE. Members of this organization making the rescue were: 1st Lt H. C. Remington, Pilot; 1st Lt W.C. Holbrook, Co-pilot; 2nd Lt R.A. Booth, Navigator; T/Sgt R. H. Hundley, Engineer; Sgt R. B. Bean, Radio Opr; Cpl G. L. Spaulding, Radar; Captain Nicholas Bailey, Flight Surgeon.

PLAYMATE 22: OA-10A #884, 1st Lt Bormann, Pilot.

- 1450: Take-off to pick up survivor at East Borneo.  
1700: Position, 02°20'N, 124°30'E. Weather: Rainqualls, overcast with strata cumulus, wind 320°8K, visibility 10 miles.  
1800: Weather improving. Position, 02°20'N, 122°37'E.  
1020: Contacted Rainbow Special.  
1030: Met Rainbow Special 30 miles NW of rendezvous.  
1045: Landed 02°33½'N, 118°52'E. The survivor was brought out by 4 natives in a canoe. The natives seemed very friendly. The survivor, 1st Lt Joe K. Owens (P-38) 0754181 of the 68th Fighter Squadron (Middleburg), was in good condition when rescued.  
1100: Left above position for base.  
1125: Dismissed Rainbow Special.  
1300: Weather clear, sea calm.  
1400: Weather: rain squalls, visibility 10 to 12 miles, wind 140°8K, low stratus 2000 to 4000 ft.  
1500: Weather: Clear, visibility restricted to 10 miles, haze.  
1545: Received call from Zorina 1 Baker: 5 men bailing out 310° and 60' from Race Island, Zorina 1 B circling with emergency IFF on, and have picked him up on radar and proceeding to his position.  
1600: Met Zorina 1 B, saw 2 life rafts and some sea dye.  
1605: Landed. 2 life rafts were empty but spotted one with 1 survivor. Could see no more so took off again after picking up the one survivor. Then spotted 2 survivors in liferaft. Picked them up and then spotted 1 more survivor in another life raft. Picked him up and took off for base at 1725. We had only 200 gallons of gas left. Approximate position of rescue was 03°9'N, 127°21'E. All survivors were in good physical condition. They had bailed out at 1530 so were only in the water 1 to 2 hours. Rescued men were all members of 394th Bomb Sqdn (H), APO 719. Names of the rescued men were Lt John E.