# 25 Mitchell Units Of The CBI Combat Aircraft 126



The CBI (China-Burma-India) theater of World War II was an important battleground where numerous aircraft played a vital role in combat operations. One such aircraft was the B-25 Mitchell, a versatile bomber that served in various roles during the war. Let's explore 25 Mitchell units that were deployed in the CBI theater, their operations, and their contributions to the war effort.

#### 1. The 16th Bombardment Squadron

The 16th Bombardment Squadron formed part of the 27th Bombardment Group and flew B-25 Mitchell aircraft in the CBI theater. They conducted numerous bombing missions against Japanese forces, targeting their supply lines and key infrastructure.



#### **B-25 Mitchell Units of the CBI (Combat Aircraft**

Book 126) by Lars Andersen(Kindle Edition)

🚖 🚖 🚖 🚖 4.7 out of 5				
Language	: English			
File size	: 30753 KB			
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled			
Screen Reader	: Supported			
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled				
Word Wise	: Enabled			
Print length	: 152 pages			



#### 2. The 11th Bombardment Squadron

Operating under the 341st Bombardment Group, the 11th Bombardment Squadron actively engaged in ground attack missions in the CBI theater. They provided close air support to Allied ground forces, decimating enemy positions and disrupting their communication lines.

#### 3. The 490th Bombardment Squadron

Assigned to the 341st Bombardment Group, the 490th Bombardment Squadron played a crucial role in conducting tactical bombing missions across the CBI

theater. They targeted Japanese positions and their airfields, weakening their air superiority.

#### 4. The 70th Bombardment Squadron

Flying B-25 Mitchell aircraft, the 70th Bombardment Squadron of the 38th Bombardment Group executed strategic bombing missions in the CBI theater. Their operations included long-range raids against enemy strongholds, disrupting enemy supply networks.

#### 5. The 341st Bombardment Group

The 341st Bombardment Group, consisting of multiple squadrons equipped with B-25 Mitchell aircraft, carried out intense bombing campaigns against Japanese targets. They targeted key cities, military installations, and industrial sites, crippling enemy capabilities.



#### 6. The 1st Air Commando Group

Comprising a diverse range of aircraft, including the B-25 Mitchell, the 1st Air Commando Group provided air support to guerrilla forces operating in Burma. They conducted aerial resupply missions, close air support, and medical evacuations, playing an invaluable role in the theater.

#### 7. The 81st Bombardment Squadron

As part of the 12th Bombardment Group, the 81st Bombardment Squadron flew B-25 Mitchell aircraft in the CBI theater. They carried out attacks on Japanese transportation networks, including bridges, railroads, and highways, disrupting enemy logistics.

#### 8. The 341st Medium Bombardment Squadron

The 341st Medium Bombardment Squadron dealt significant damage to Japanese forces in the CBI theater. Equipped with B-25 Mitchell aircraft, they conducted precision bombing raids on enemy airfields, crippling their air capabilities.

#### 9. The 491st Bombardment Squadron

Forming part of the 341st Bombardment Group, the 491st Bombardment Squadron undertook numerous bombing missions, targeting Japanese-held territories in the CBI theater. They inflicted heavy casualties on enemy troops and disrupted their supply lines.

#### 10. The 531st Bombardment Squadron

Deployed in the CBI theater, the 531st Bombardment Squadron effectively hindered Japanese military operations. Flying B-25 Mitchell aircraft, they executed precision bombing runs on enemy ground positions, limiting their maneuverability.

#### 11. The 22nd Bombardment Squadron

The 22nd Bombardment Squadron conducted strategic bombing missions using B-25 Mitchell aircraft in the CBI theater. They targeted Japanese-held ports, destroying vital infrastructure and disrupting enemy naval operations.

#### 12. The 823rd Bombardment Squadron

Deployed in the CBI theater, the 823rd Bombardment Squadron carried out extensive bombing missions against Japanese forces. Equipped with B-25 Mitchell aircraft, they targeted enemy positions in remote areas, hindering their operations.

#### 13. The 14th Bombardment Squadron

Operating under the 341st Bombardment Group, the 14th Bombardment Squadron played a crucial role in disrupting Japanese communication lines. Their B-25 Mitchell aircraft conducted precision bombing runs on enemy telegraph and telephone lines, disrupting enemy command and control.

#### 14. The 377th Bombardment Squadron

Flying B-25 Mitchell aircraft, the 377th Bombardment Squadron executed carpet bombing runs, targeting Japanese-held areas in the CBI theater. They demolished enemy fortifications, providing support to ground troops advancing against fierce resistance.

#### 15. The 446th Bombardment Squadron

Assigned to the 321st Bombardment Group, the 446th Bombardment Squadron conducted interdiction missions in the CBI theater. Their B-25 Mitchell aircraft attacked Japanese supply convoys, preventing the enemy from reinforcing their frontline troops.

#### 16. The 20th Bombardment Squadron

Operating under the 341st Bombardment Group, the 20th Bombardment Squadron flew B-25 Mitchell aircraft on a variety of missions. They targeted enemy airfields, ensuring Japanese aerial supremacy was consistently challenged.

#### 17. The 489th Bombardment Squadron

Forming part of the 341st Bombardment Group, the 489th Bombardment Squadron flew B-25 Mitchell aircraft in the CBI theater. They focused on neutralizing enemy anti-aircraft positions, safeguarding Allied air superiority.

#### 18. The 33rd Bombardment Squadron

The 33rd Bombardment Squadron played an integral role in ground attack missions against Japanese forces. Their B-25 Mitchell aircraft strafed enemy positions, providing invaluable support to Allied ground troops.

#### 19. The 349th Bombardment Squadron

Deployed in the CBI theater, the 349th Bombardment Squadron carried out extensive bombing missions using B-25 Mitchell aircraft. They targeted Japanese supply depots and ammunition dumps, crippling enemy logistics.

#### 20. The 341st Photographic Squadron

Operating alongside other bomb squadrons, the 341st Photographic Squadron provided invaluable reconnaissance capabilities. Their B-25 Mitchell aircraft captured aerial images, assisting in identifying enemy positions and planning subsequent operations.

#### 21. The 14th Bombardment Squadron (Light)

The 14th Bombardment Squadron (Light) undertook numerous low-level bombing missions using B-25 Mitchell aircraft. They targeted enemy troop concentrations, hampering Japanese offensive capabilities.

#### 22. The 499th Bombardment Squadron

Assigned to the 345th Bombardment Group, the 499th Bombardment Squadron flew B-25 Mitchell aircraft in the CBI theater. They conducted nighttime bombing missions, exploiting the cover of darkness to surprise and disorient the enemy.

#### 23. The 36th Bombardment Squadron

Operating under the 345th Bombardment Group, the 36th Bombardment Squadron carried out numerous interdiction missions against Japanese forces. Their B-25 Mitchell aircraft attacked enemy supply routes, hindering enemy movement.

#### 24. The 19th Bombardment Squadron

The 19th Bombardment Squadron played a significant role in disrupting Japanese naval operations in the CBI theater. Equipped with B-25 Mitchell aircraft, they targeted enemy ships, crippling Japanese efforts to resupply their troops.

#### 25. The 500th Bombardment Squadron

Assigned to the 345th Bombardment Group, the 500th Bombardment Squadron carried out extensive bombing missions against Japanese targets. They focused on destroying enemy airfields, rendering them inaccessible to Japanese aircraft.

, the B-25 Mitchell aircraft served admirably in the CBI theater during World War II. These 25 units showcased the aircraft's versatility and effectiveness in carrying out various missions, from strategic bombing to ground attacks and reconnaissance. Their contributions played a pivotal role in the Allied victory in the China-Burma-India theater.



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**Book 126)** by Lars Andersen(Kindle Edition)

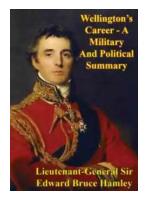
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File size	;	30753 KB	
Text-to-Speech	;	Enabled	
Screen Reader	;	Supported	
Enhanced typesetting	;	Enabled	
Word Wise	;	Enabled	
Print length	:	152 pages	



Flying from and between bases in China and India, the B-25s bombed every type of Japanese target during World War 2 in the China-Burma-India (CBI) Theatre, ultimately dropping more ordinance than their larger four-engined B-24 Liberator brethren.

Mitchell bombers took on the task of disrupting the flow of Japanese supplies to the frontlines at medium ranges, bombing Japanese supply centres, railway depots and bridges. It was in this last capacity that the B-25 established a unique role as a 'bridge-buster'. This provided significant support for the British Fourteenth Army as they advanced into Burma.

Fully illustrated with detailed cutaway artwork, this book tells the important, yet forgotten story of B-25 operations in the CBI Theatre and the important role that this aircraft played on the road to victory.



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