Απώλειες Martin B-26 Marauder στην Ελλάδα 1943-1945

Επιμέλεια: Μανώλης Μπαρδάνης
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Ο κατάλογος αφορά σε αεροσκάφη τύπου Martin B-26 Marauder που απωλέσθηκαν στην Ελληνική επικράτεια. Η περισυλλογή των στοιχείων βασίστηκε στα AB serials και σε αρκετές πληροφορίες από το διαδύκτιο και την βιβλιογραφία που αναφέρεται πιο κάτω.

Επίσης όπου ήταν δυνατόν οι πληροφορίες διασταυρώθηκαν με τις καταρρίψεις που φέρονται να έκαναν οι Γερμανοί πιλότοι, τα ονόματα των οποίων καθώς και οι μοίρες που ανήκαν, μαζί με κάποια ακόμη στοιχεία καταγράφηκαν στον κατάλογο.

Πιθανόν ο κατάλογος να μην είναι πλήρης και κάθε νέα πληροφορία που θα προκύπτει θα προστίθεται σε αυτόν. Οπωσδήποτε κάποια λάθη είναι αναπόφευκτα και ευελπιστούμε σε υποδείξεις και στοιχεία από τον αναγνώστη προκειμένου να ενημερωθούν.

Συνοπτικά οι απώλειες αφορούν σε αεροσκάφη των μοίρων:
14Sqn.RAF. 24SAAF. 25SAAF.

Martin B-26 Marauder variants (Marks) that are mentioned in the catalogue:

B-26. The first 201 planes were ordered based upon design alone. Prototypes were not distinguished with the usual "X" or "Y" designations. Two Pratt & Whitney R-2800-5 engines. The armament consisted of two .30 caliber and two .50 caliber machine guns (The last model was armed with nearly three times that number). Approximate cost then: $80,226.80/aircraft. (201-built)

B-26A. Incorporated changes made on the production line to the B-26, including upgrading the two .30 caliber machine guns in the nose and tail to .50 caliber. A total of 52 B-26As were delivered to the Royal Air Force, which were used as the Marauder Mk I. Approximate cost then: $102,659.33/aircraft (139-built)
B-26B. Model with further improvements on the B-26A, including revised tail gunner’s glazing. Nineteen were delivered to the Royal Air Forces as the Marauder Mk.IA. Production blocks of the 1,883 aircraft built:
- AT-23A or TB-26B-208 B-26Bs converted into target tugs and gunnery trainers designated JN by the Navy.
- B-26B—Single tail gun replaced with twin gun; belly-mounted "tunnel gun" added. (81-built)
- B-26B-1—Improved B-26B. (225-built)
- B-26B-2—Pratt & Whitney R-2800-41 radials. (96-built)
- B-26B-3—Larger carburetor intakes; upgrade to R-2800-43 radials. (28-built)
- B-26B-4—Improved B-26B-3. (211-built)
- B-26B-10 through B-26B-55—Beginning with block 10, the wingspan was increased from 65 feet (20 m) to 71 feet 12 inches (22 m), to improve handling problems during landing caused by a high wing load; flaps were added outboard of the engine nacelles for this purpose also. The vertical stabilizer height was increased from 19 feet 10 inches (6.05 m) to 21 feet 6 inches (6.55 m). The armament was increased from six to twelve .50 caliber machine guns; this was done in the forward section so that the B-26 could perform strafing missions. The tail gun was upgraded from manual to power operated. Armor was added to protect the pilot and copilot. (1,242-built)
- CB-26B—12 B-26Bs were converted into transport aircraft (all were delivered to the US Marine Corps for use in the Philippines).

B-26C. Designation assigned to those B-26Bs built in Omaha, Nebraska instead of Baltimore, Maryland. Although nominally the B-26B-10 was the first variant to receive the longer wing, it was actually installed on B-26Cs before the B-26B-10, both being in production simultaneously. A total of 123 B-26Cs were used by the RAF and SAAF as the Marauder Mk II. Approximate cost then: $138,551.27/aircraft (1,210-built)

B-26F. Angle-of-incidence of wings increased by 3.5°; fixed .50 caliber machine gun in nose removed; tail turret and associated armour improved. The first B-26F was produced in February 1944. One hundred of these were B-26F-1-MAs. Starting with 42-96231, a revised oil cooler was added, along with wing bottom panels redesigned for easier removal. A total of 200 of the 300 aircraft were B-26F-2s and F-6s, all of which were used by the RAF and SAAF as the Marauder Mk III. The F-2 had the Bell M-6 power turret replaced by an M-6A with a flexible canvas cover over the guns. The T-1 bombsight was installed instead of the M-series sight. British bomb fusing and radio equipment were provided. (300-built)

B-26G and B-26F with standardized interior equipment. A total of 150 bombers were used by the RAF as the Marauder Mk III. (893-built)

Marauder I: British designation for 52 B-26As for the Royal Air Force.
Marauder IA: British designation for 19 B-26Bs for the Royal Air Force.
Marauder II: British designation for 123 B-26Cs for the Royal Air Force and South African Air Force.
Marauder III: British designation for 350 B-26F and B-26Gs for the Royal Air Force and South African Air Force.
SAAF Martin B26C Marauder during WWII. Coded "U"
Ακρωνύμια – Συντομογραφίες

AA Anti-Aircraft
A/C Aircraft
AGS Air Gunnery School
BF-109 or Me-109 German Aircraft type
Messerschmitt
BF-110 or ME-110 German Aircraft type
Messerschmitt
c/n construction number
Cpt. Captain
DBR Damaged Beyond Repair
DFC Distinguished Flying Cross
DFM Distinguished Flying Medal
FAA Fleet Air Arm
Flt Flight
F/L Flight Lieutenant
F/O Flight Officer
F/Sgt. Flight Sergeant
FTR Failed to Return
FTU Ferry Training Unit
Fw. Feldwebel
JG Jagdeschwader

JU.88 German Aircraft type Junkers Ju88
KIA Killed In Action
LAC Leading Aircraftman
LG Landing Ground
Ltn Lieutenant
ME Middle East
MECCU Middle East Central Gunnery School
METS Middle East Torpedo School
MIA Missing In Action
Mk Mark
NAS Naval Air Squadron
OADU Overseas Aircraft Delivery Unit
ObLt Oberleutnant
Obs. Observer
Ofw or Obfw Oberfeldwebel
ORB Operations Record Book
OTU Operational Training Unit
P/O Pilot Officer
POW Prisoner of War
PR Photographic Reconnaissance

PRU Photographic Reconnaissance Unit
RAAF Royal Australian Air Force
RAF Royal Air Force
RAFVR Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve
RDF Radio Direction Finding
RHAF Royal Hellenic Air Force
RNZAF Royal New Zealand Air Force
RTB Return to base
SAAF South African Air Force
Sgt. Sergeant
S/Ldr. Squadron Leader
SOC Struck off Charge
Sqn Squadron
u/c Undercarriage
Uffz Unteroffizier
u/s Unserviceable
W/Ag Wireless operator/Air gunner
W/Cdr. Wing Commander
Wg Wing
W/O Warrant Officer
ZG Zerstörergeschwader
### 1943

**1. 03/01/43**

**FK375/D**

**DOMINION REVENGE**

*Serial/Code: 41-7396*

**Type/Mark:** Marauder Mk.IA

**History/Crew/Remarks:**

14Sqn. Missing from attack on convoy off Ag. Giorgios Island.

Took off at 0905 hours on 3 January 1943 from Shallufa in company of a second Marauder (FK120/X), to carry out a torpedo attack against enemy shipping in the Aegean Sea.

A convoy of 5 ships sighted off Aghios Georgios island. The Marauders going in to attack at 14:15 hours.

Lt. Jones (FK120/X) releasing his torpedo but results were unobserved. The leading aircraft piloted by Captain B.W. Young did not drop but turned away when within 1000 yards of target and was not seen again. Subsequent W/T message indicates that this aircraft was attacked by fighters and eventually forced to make a crash landing in the sea north of Crete.

Lt Young (Pilot of FK-375) who became a POW later stated...

“ Forced to make landing on sea off Seriphas Island. When he freed himself and got out of the aircraft, Bennett was sitting on top of the fuselage near his escape hatch. He stated that the Observer was still inside and climbed back to try and get him out. No sooner had he climbed back in when the aircraft sank going down nose first in a rush. Bennett never appeared again. He died in a brave attempt to rescue another member of the crew”

**Crew:**

- Lt. B.W YOUNG (Pilot) 103095V SAAF POW # 3223 Stalag Luft III, Germany Sagan & Belaria in Silesia
- F/Sgt. Edward Arthur MEADWELL (Pilot 2) 1066549 RAFVR Age 30 KIA Phaleron War Cemetery, Greece 23. B. 1
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Aircraft Details</th>
<th>Crew Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21/02/43</td>
<td>Aircraft shot down by German minelayer DRACHE.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15/02/43</td>
<td>Two Marauders (FK150 and FK143) took off from Shalufah at 10:45 hours performing a torpedo recce patrol flight over the Aegean Sea.</td>
<td>FK150 c/n 41-7377 Marauder Mk.I</td>
<td>P/O Colin Carl TRUMAN (Pilot) 402766 RAAF. Age 33. F/Sgt Jack Irvine THOMPSON (Pilot 2) 403437 RAAF F/Sgt Robert Edward Herbert HOPE (W/Ag) 407363 RAAF F/O B. T. CONNELL (Obs.) 402853 RNZAF Sgt. K. FIRTH (W/Ag) 1068543 RAF Sgt. W. J. SEMPLE (W/Ag) 542705 RAF All KIA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 21/02/43</td>
<td>Nine Marauders in three formations took off from Shallufah between 12:40 and 13:10 to attack Axis shipping in the harbour of Melos. Arriving just before sunset, the first formation achieved complete surprise and found three ships in the harbour (Artemis Pitta, Olympos and Thisbe). They attacked two of these vessels and</td>
<td>FK139/M c/n 41-7387 Marauder Mk.I</td>
<td>S/15Sqn. Missing from attack on ships Milos Harbour. Nine Marauders in three formations took off from Shallufah between 12:40 and 13:10 to attack Axis shipping in the harbour of Melos. Arriving just before sunset, the first formation achieved complete surprise and found three ships in the harbour (Artemis Pitta, Olympos and Thisbe). They attacked two of these vessels and</td>
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The second formation reached the harbour — though only a few seconds after the first wave had departed from the target area — the defences were awake and two aircraft, (FK139 and FK377) were shot down. However the one remaining Marauder in that wave flown by F/O Ted Donovan bombed the third ship in the harbour.

The final wave of three aircraft dropped their bombs on buildings at east side of bay and managed to escape unscathed.

FK139/M shot by ground AA fire and was seen by FK121/Y to crash in flames on northern tip of eastern tip of Bay.

Crew:

F/Sgt. Basil Herbert YARWOOD (Pilot) 1067455 RAFVR
Sgt. H. WALKER
F/Sgt. E.T.H. MacLEAN
F/Sgt. R.G. DAVIE
Sgt. F. GOTHERIDGE
Sgt. W.J.E. GLENN
All KIA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4</th>
<th>21/02/43</th>
<th>FK377/Y c/n 41-7392</th>
<th>14Sqn. Missing from attack on ships Milos.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Marauder Mk.IA</td>
<td>Nine Marauders in three formations took off from Shallufah between 12:40 and 13:10 to attack Axis shipping in the harbour of Melos. Arriving just before sunset, the first formation achieved complete surprise and found three ships in the harbour (Artemis Pitta, Olympos and Thisbe). They attacked two of these vessels and claimed hits on both. The second formation reached the harbour — though only a few seconds after the first wave had departed from the target area — the defences were awake and two aircraft, (FK139 and FK377) were shot down. However the one remaining Marauder in that wave flown by F/O Ted Donovan bombed the third ship in the harbour.</td>
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</table>
by F/O Ted Donovan bombed the third ship in the harbour.

The final wave of three aircraft dropped their bombs on buildings at east side of bay and managed to escape unscathed.

FK123/J reported another Marauder seen in mass of flames heading W. gaining height. Presumed FK377/Y shot by ground AA fire and crashed into a cliff face near the entrance of the harbour.

Crew:
- F/Sgt. Raymond Allan BARTON (Pilot) 407612 RAAF Age 29
- F/Sgt. N. A. MacMILLAN
- F/O Robert Harvey ANNELLS 401292 RAAF Age 26
- Sgt. George ARNOLD 407760 RAAF Age 27
- Sgt. F. J. ARMSTRONG
- Sgt. R. F. BELL

All KIA.

1944

24SAAF. Operation: Bomb Seaplane Base, Suda Bay, Crete, Shot down by flak over Suda Bay, Crete.

Six Marauders took off from Gambut 3 to bomb shipping targets in Suda Bay. At 14:15 hours from 10,000 feet FB478/T received a direct hit and went down out of control. Two parachutes seen hovering over wreckage of a/c.

Lt. Jack N. ROBB (Pilot) DFC 102713V SAAF (baled out) POW.
Lt. R. K. “Dick” TOWNSEND (Pilot 2) 279516V SAAF (baled out) POW.
Capt. Norman Maitland WATERMEYER (Obs.) 207152V SAAF KIA
Lt. Adrian NELSON (W/Ag) DFM 102091V SAAF KIA
Lt. Norman Clarence SCOTT-WINLOW (W/Ag) 104067V SAAF KIA
P/O Joseph Alexander GOYER (W/Ag) CAN J/85926 RCAF KIA

Lt. Robbs and Lt. Townsend reported POWs in Athens hospital on 2 April 1944.

Watermeyer, Nelson, Scott-Winlow & Goyer all buried, Suda Bay War Cemetery.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Aircraft Type</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>21/02/44</td>
<td>FB453/N</td>
<td>Marauder Mk.II</td>
<td>24 SAAF. Crashed in sea, presumed due to icing, off Crete.</td>
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<td>Six Marauders took off from Gambut 3 at 13:50 hours headed by</td>
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<td>Captain A. F. Shuttleworth were sent to attack a ship in Suda Bay, Crete.</td>
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<td>Formation proceeded to target through very bad weather</td>
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<td>10/10 Stratocumulus and after trying to evade Cumulonimbus formation was unable</td>
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<td></td>
<td>to reach objective. At 15:05 hours 14,000 ft</td>
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<td>tail gunner Sgt. Smit from a/c “M” saw co-pilot of FB453/N rubbing off ice</td>
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<td>from windscreen which appeared to be frosted over.</td>
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<td>Formation turned at 15:10 hours 14,000 ft for base.</td>
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<td>In turn FB453/N seen through a cloud gap burning on sea at position 34.18N 24.15E</td>
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<td>Crew:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lt. Alfred Maurice SHEPHERD (Pilot) 103477V SAAF Age 26.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lt. John Francis COWEN (Pilot 2) 205614V SAAF Age 23.</td>
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<td>Lt. Gerald Kitchener HURRY (Obs.) 32594V SAAF Age 28.</td>
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<td>W/O Hendrik Christian UNGERER (W/Ag) 336387V SAAF Age 22.</td>
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<td>W/O John DE GROOT (Mid Gunner) 336430V SAAF Age 19.</td>
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<td>W/O Ronald Richard EVERT (Tail gunner) 328995V SAAF Age 21.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>All KIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>25/02/44</td>
<td>FB491/F</td>
<td>Marauder Mk.II</td>
<td>24 SAAF. Shot down by Fw-190s off Leros.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Five Marauders airborne 11:50 to attack shipping in PortoLago bay.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>One turned back due generator trouble. Formation of four Marauders passed through</td>
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<td>Kaso straights at 13:20 and set course for target.</td>
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<td>Formation attacked by seven Bf-109 and two Fw-190 before reaching the target</td>
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<td>with engagement lasting 15 minutes during and subsequent to bombing. At 14:01</td>
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<td></td>
<td>bombed from 10.500ft. FB491/F shot down after leaving target. 3 parachutes definitely</td>
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<td>seen to open and a/c was ditched in position 36.48N 26.53E at 14:07.</td>
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<td>Crew:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lt. Aubrey Edward LALLYETT 329027V SAAF Age 20.</td>
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<td>Lt. L. VAN BERGEN 329050V SAAF Age 20.</td>
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<td>W/O Lionel LURIE 336390V SAAF Age 20.</td>
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<td>W/O Ronald Bruce BELL 542301V SAAF Age 21.</td>
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<td>W/O Gert Louis DE WAAL 577995V SAAF.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>All KIA</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Presumed shot down by Luftwaffe pilot Uffz. Werner Pflüger, 7/JG-27 on Bf-109, 80km west of Crete on 04/03/44.

**24 SAAF**. Shot down by fighters, off Milos, 80km south of Milos. Object approx. 12ft. by 4ft. sighted in sea in position 30.30N 23.30E resembling dinghy.

**Crew:**
Lt. L. L. DOVETON (Pilot) 82205V SAAF safe
Lt. A. N. STEENKAMP (Pilot 2) 95945V SAAF safe
Lt. F. W. PHILLIPS (Obs.) 97351V SAAF KIA
Lt. Sam RUTKIN (W/Ag) 328498V SAAF Age 35 KIA
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>FB496/V</th>
<th>W/O Donovan Hugh COLLINS (W/Ag) 328417V SAAF Age 32 KIA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06/03/44</td>
<td>Marauder Mk.II</td>
<td>W/O John Frederick FOURIE (W/Ag) 542386V SAAF Age 28 KIA</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Lt. Doveton and Lt. Steenkamp reported both safe and well at Aydin, Turkey on 14 March 1944.</td>
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<td>24SAAF. Shot down by fighters, off Milos.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>4 miles South of West coast of Milos.</td>
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<td>Crew:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lt. George Alexander BOWLES (Pilot) 102497V SAAF Age 30</td>
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<td>Lt. G. P. ROWE (Pilot 2) 102456V SAAF Age 26</td>
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<td>Lt. J. VAN EDEN (Obs.) 205847V Age 28</td>
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<td></td>
<td>W/O Kenneth Robert HEALY (W/Ag) 578146V Age 21</td>
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<td>W/O Roy R. JOHNSON (W/Ag) 572383V SAAF</td>
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<td>W/O S. SMITH (W/Ag) 328332V SAAF Age 19</td>
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<td>All KIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>FB504/L</td>
<td>24SAAF. Shot down by fighters off Milos.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/03/44</td>
<td>Marauder Mk.II</td>
<td>4 miles South of West coast of Milos.</td>
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<td>Crew:</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Cpt. George FROLICH (Pilot) 102774V SAAF Age 31</td>
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<td>Lt. George Martinus Hattingh DU PLESSIS (Pilot 2) 104033V SAAF</td>
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<td>Lt. Arthur Matthew BAIN (Ops.) 328927V SAAF Age 28</td>
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<td>W/O George Alfred DINGLE (W/Ag) 336750V SAAF Age 25</td>
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<td>W/O Alan Bertram AIKEN (W/Ag) 327879V SAAF Age 19</td>
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<td>W/O P. J. PRETORIUS (W/Ag) 305576V SAAF</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>All KIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>FB507/W</td>
<td>24SAAF. Shot down by fighters, off Santorini.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06/03/44</td>
<td>Marauder Mk.II</td>
<td>Briefed to attack shipping in Scala Bay (Santorini Island), Greece. Attacked by fighters and shot down at 14:29 hours in position 35.50N, 22.28E.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>6 parachutes definitely seen to open, one of which burnt at 3000ft above sea level.</td>
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<td>Crew:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lt. George Robert BELL (Pilot) 99208V SAAF Age 25</td>
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<td>Lt. V. L. Marcel QUENON (Pilot 2) Belgian in SAAF</td>
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<td>Lt Robert Alfred ZIMMERMAN (Obs.) 328768V SAAF</td>
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<td>W/O Trevor TRELEAVEN (W/Ag) 542828V SAAF</td>
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<td>W/O Jacobus Phillipus Lourens SNYMAN (W/Ag) 542802V SAAF</td>
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</table>
Short story for the previous four aircrafts.

On 6th March 1944 six Marauders airborne 11:15 hours from Gambut 3 to attack ships in Scala Bay, Santorini island. At 12:15 the position 36.20N 24.00E formation was attacked by five Bf-109′s and three Fw-190 operating with long range tanks. Attacking in groups of four. Engagement lasted 01:45 hours up to and subsequent to bombing. Three Marauders (FB481/E, FB496/V, FB504/L) shot down before reaching target at 13:05, 4 miles South of the west coast of Milos island. The remaining a/c’s (“M”, FB507/W, FB508/T) carried on and bombed at 13:25 hours from 9.000ft course 050° Bombs fell 3/400ft to the west of target with unobserved results. FB507/W shot down. The two remaining Marauders FB508/T and “M” landed safely back at 16:15. This event became known as the "Marauder Massacre"

Three Bf-109 and one Fw-190 destroyed. Probably two more Bf-109 destroyed.

The above Marauders shot down by Luftwaffe pilots listed below

One by Fw. Karl Schaffhauser, of 7/JG-27 on a Bf-109 a B-26 on 6 March, 1944 SE of Insel Lower Andros Greece.

24SAAF. Missing presumed shot down by flak at Maleme.
On a night bombing raid on Maleme aerodrome CRETE on 7/5/44
Crew:
Lt. R. O. Deryk BROOKSBANK (Pilot) 206602V SAAF Age 21
Lt. John Kapel Hyde GUEST (Pilot) 206154V SAAF Age 21
Lt. Harry F. WELLS (Obs.) 94436V SAAF Age 28
Lt. Max FRIEDLAND (W/Ag) 96919V SAAF Age 27
W/O Frank RICE (W/Ag) 207374V SAAF Age 30 KIA
W/O James Vivian HAMILTON (W/Ag) 100414V SAAF Age 19
All KIA

1945

25SAAF. Engine cut on takeoff; staled and crashed 4m NW of Hassani.
Crew:
Lt. E. C. MARTIN (Pilot) 207202V SAAF
Lt. O. C. MEIKLEJOHN (Pilot) 581361V SAAF Age 19
Lt. James SUTHERLAND (Pilot) 206417V SAAF Age 27
Lt. Jack Beecraft LOCKWOOD (W/Ag) 47229V SAAF
Lt. E. H. WELLS (Obs.) 243153V SAAF Age 25
Cpt. D. C. GREEFF (W/Ag) 205418V SAAF Age 24
W. D. MORICE (Air mechanic) 208355V SAAF Age 29
M. M. PRETORIUS (Air mechanic) 313600V SAAF Age 20
All KIA
All buried at Phaleron war cemetery.

SOURCES:

Dimitris Galon - Ιστορικός, ερευνητής. Αρχεία από το Ημερολόγιο Πολέμου της Ναυτικής Διοίκησης Αττικής στην οποία υπαγόταν και η ναυτική διοίκηση Μήλου. (προσωπική επικοινωνία).

NARA archives: AIR 27/300/2, AIR 27/300/3, AIR 27/194/7


Ιωάννης Μυλωνάς - Hellenic AF Museum Technician Ex-Army Aviation/ Aero-Engines / Quality Control / Technical Inspector / Member of Air Britain AB 19752 (προσωπική επικοινωνία)


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