

SORTIE REPORT

5

(Part A)

Sheet No. ONE	Oper. Ref. No. 649 Operation No. 710.	Date 26 Mar. 44.	Squadron 145.
Type of Aircraft SPITFIRE F.VIII	Aircraft No. JF.958, JF.962, JF.810, JF.615	Captain F/LT. W.A.R. MACDONALD	Crew W/O. A.S. MARTYN LT. J.C. BOLITHO F/SGT. D.H.X. LORIMER
Aircraft Letter XX- R W N T.			
Time Up 0800		Aerodrome or L.G. MARCIANISE.	
Time Down 0930			
Total Time 6 Hrs.			

Type of Cloud -	Map or Chart
Amount of Cloud -	Reference
Base of Cloud -	ROME: 1/500,000.
Visibility Good.	
General Weather Fine.	

Task or duty Patrol over ANZIO B/A.

Time	Height	Place	Narrative
0850 to 0855	A. 13-0	ANZIO	<p>COMBAT</p> <p>4 Spitfires F.VIII were patrolling ANZIO in box formation at A. 15 when at 0850 hrs. GRUBSTAKE reported 3 then 6 bandits 12 miles W. of ANZIO - at A. 15 flying E. losing height as they approached land. Spitfires therefore patrolled directly over ANZIO at 14,000' and almost at once they saw 2 FW 190's (Long nose) turning N 1,000' directly below them. F/L. W.A.R. MACDONALD (Leader) and W/O. A.S. MARTYN (No. 2) gave chase and share in the destruction of 1 FW 190. (See Part B for claim). The action was witnessed by Lt. BOLITHO and F/Sgt; LORIMER both of whom fired but make no claim.</p> <p>The other FW 190 made off N at a much greater speed than the one destroyed and no contact was made. No other B/A seen.</p> <p>Area was patrolled at the same time by 4 Spitfires F.VIII at A. 16 and 4 at A. 8.</p> <p>No losses to Spitfires.</p>

PART B (on reverse) to be completed according to relevant pro-forms in H.Q., ~~Reference to Part B~~

M.A.A.P. Man. Op. Rep.

PART B.

Combat claim of F/Lt. W.A.R. MACDONALD.

While leading a section of 4 a/c on patrol over ANZIO at A.15 GRUBSTAKE reported 3 then 6 bandits approaching ANZIO at A.15 from the West losing height. I came down to A.14 and saw 2 FW 190's (Long nose) turning to the N 1,000' below us. The first E/A made off N at high speed but the other seemed slower and I closed on to 300 then 100 yards and then to 40 yards astern firing all the time as E/A went down in dive. I saw strikes on the port wing and engine cowling and glycol poured from it. As my ammunition was finished I broke away and told my No.2 (W/O. MARTYN) to go in and finish it off which he did. I fired 1400 x .303, and 240 x 20mm.

I claim 1 FW 190 (L.N.) Destroyed

(Signed) W.A.R. MACDONALD F/Lt.

Combat claim of W/O. A.S. MARTYN.

As F/Lt. MACDONALD broke away I closed in and fired from 300 then 100-75 yards astern and saw strikes on the wings and fuselage. The E/A's engine then stopped. We were now at ground level and the E/A turned over and crashed into the ground at F.7045. I fired 360 x .303, and 80 x 20mm. I claim 1 FW 190 Destroyed.

(Signed) A.S. MARTYN W/O.

Ludlow
Flying Officer,
I.O. 145 SQUADRON.