

SORTIE REPORT
(Part A)

93

Sheet No. 2	Oprep. Ref. No. 279	Date 29/3/44	Squadron 417 R.O.A.F.
Type of Aircraft Spitfire Mk. VIII-B.	Aircraft No. J.G.240	Aircraft Letter AN-2	Captain GAN, J. 19129 Crew R/O J.J. Doyle
Time Up 14.30 hours.	Time Down 16.15 hours.	Total Time 1 hour 45 mins.	Aerodrome or L.O. Marcianise Airfield.
Type of Cloud HI	Amount of Cloud	Base of Cloud	Map or Chart Reference Italy 1,250,000 Prodnans - Sheet 3.
Visibility Unlimited.	General Weather Fine.	Task or Duty Defensive Patrol over the Anzio Area.	

Time	Height	Place	Narrative
			See sheet No. 1

PART B (on reverse) to be completed according to relevant pro-forms in H.Q. R.A.F. M.E. Instruction 34.

SCOUT REPORT PART "B".

I was flying as Blue leader in a formation of four aircraft, when 20 plus bandits were reported at 13,000 ft. coming in just North of Anzio. We had just completed a turnabout and were approx. one mile East of Anzio when I saw the e/a 600 yds. behind, to starboard and slightly above us. I turned my section to port and climbed for height. We then circled to port and attacked from out of Sun. The e/a who were mixed FW.190's and Me.109's split into two gaggles. I closed in on the formation that were diving for Anzio and as I was about to open my attack when I saw a Me.109 pass in front of me from the starboard side at 150 to 200 yds. range. I attacked this aircraft with a three second burst using about 2 rings deflection. As I broke away I saw the e/a falling away with a large amount of black smoke pouring from it. Blue 2 (P/O Everett) confirms seeing strikes on the leading edge and wing root of this aircraft. During the above attack I was myself attacked from behind, and strikes were scored in the after part of my aircraft which caused a fire to start in the inside of the fuselage. As I broke away from my first attack I sighted another aircraft coming down in front of me from the starboard and above. I recognized it as an enemy aircraft by it's black crosses but am not sure if it was a Me.109 or long nosed FW.190. I slipped in behind this aircraft and attacked from the line astern position, with several short bursts. As the attack developed we dived through the intense flak that was coming up from Anzio. My aircraft was hit four times and one burst which hit my starboard wing also sprayed my right shoulder, side and leg with shell fragments. During my final burst which exhausted my ammunition, I saw strikes on the fuselage of the e/a and black smoke begin to pour from it. My aircraft by this time was slowing up and I broke off the attack to make a force landing at Nettuno. By the time I reached the strip my engine was running very rough and the Red temperature was off the clock. On making my approach the engine cut and I force landed wheels up beside the strip. As my aircraft skidded to a stop the fuselage broke in half behind the cockpit. I was then taken to the 93rd Hospital for treatment.

I claim One Me.109 Destroyed and One F.W.190 Probably Destroyed.
 (First aircraft confirmed destroyed by enemy sources. Camera gun film shows second enemy aircraft as probably destroyed).

(Sgt.) J.J. Doyle R/O

Ammo expenditure:-

1050 rds. 303M.C.A.M., 350 rds. 303M.C.BVLLZ
 120 rds. 20 101.SAP/I, 120 rds. 203M. H/I.