

SORTIE REPORT
(Part A)

80

Sheet No. 1	Oprep. Ref. No. 258	Date 8/3/44.	Squadron 417 RCAF
Type of Aircraft Spitfire Mk.VIII		Captain GAN.J.15045/ F/Lt. L.A. Hall	
Aircraft No. J.P.931		Crew .	
Aircraft Letter AM-X			
Time Up 06.35 hours.			
Time Down 08.30 hours			
Total Time 1 hour 55 mins.		Aerodrome or L.O. Marcianise L.G.(Italy).	

Type of Cloud Broken Cumulus (Layers)	Map or Chart
Amount of Cloud 5 to 10/10	Reference
Base of Cloud 1500 feet	Roma
Visibility Pair.	1,500,000
General Weather Pair with patches of low cloud.	N/E-10/10

Task or Duty **Defensive patrol over the Anzio area.**

Time	Height	Place	Narrative
06.35	"0"	Base.	8 aircraft airborne to patrol the Anzio Area.
07.05	1,500'	Anzio Area.	Green Section (4 a/c) on patrol 1,500 ft. over "D" Area, and Yellow Section also four aircraft on patrol at the same height over "C" area.
07.30	1,500'	P.9730	2 Bogies reported coming in from the North, yellow section were detailed to provide protection for an Observation aircraft operating with the Artillery. Yellow I (F/L Hall) ordered yellow 3 & 4 to remain on patrol, and his No.2 went down to patrol the Observation aircraft. Approx. 3 to 4 minutes later Yellow 3 was jumped by an Me.109 which scored a cannon strike on his Starboard intermediate cock wing, Yellow 3 immediately turned into the attacker but lost contact as the e/a went into cloud. The Me.109 then came out below cloud and made a quick attack at the Observation aircraft without results. Yellow I saw the e/a immediately and closed into attack. On seeing Yellow I the e/a broke off and climbed through a hole in the cloud, Yellow I followed and closing to 200 yds. attacked with a 3 to 4 second burst. The result was a large belch of flame and smoke, after which the e/a rolled over to the left and spiraled down through cloud in flames. (COMBAT CLAIM SEE PART "B") Yellow one and two then returned to patrol.
08.30	"0"	Base.	Yellow and Green sections landed. <u>CLAIM</u> One Me.109 DESTROYED.

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

PROGRESS REPORT
PART "B"

While patrolling at approximately 7 miles north of P.9730, two bogies were reported coming from the North. As Yellow 1, I detailed Yellow 3-4 to continue normal patrol while Yellow 2 and I went to cover a Cub that was directing artillery fire.

Soon after leaving, an Me.109 jumped Yellow 3-4 damaging Yellow 3. The Me.109 then made a fast pass at the Cub then climbed away north through a break in the clouds. Yellow 2 and I chased it up, using about plus 12 boost, and 2600 revs. We overtook the 109 easily, closed to less than 200 yds. and gave him a 3-4 second burst of both cannon and machine guns, from dead line astern and a little below. The 109 gave out a high belch of flame and smoke, rolled over to the left and spiraled down into the cloud on fire. As we circled the spot to return back to the patrol line I saw a bright fire through a hole in the cloud. Whether it was where the aircraft crashed, I could not say. On the way back to the coast we experienced heavy accurate flack from enemy batteries behind the lines.

I claim one Me.109 Destroyed.

(Sgt.) L.A. Hall P/Lt.

WWIIaircraftperformance.org