

SORTIE REPORT
(Part A)

86

Sheet No. 1	Oprep. Ref. No. 269	Date 19/3/44.	Squadron 417 RCAF
Type of Aircraft Spitfire Mk. VIII	Aircraft No. J.F. 956	Aircraft Letter AN-B	Captain GAI. J. 17096 P/L B. J. Ingalls Crew
Time Up 15.15	Time Down 17.10	Total Time 1 hour 55 mins.	Aerodrome or L.O. Marcianise Airfield.

Type of Cloud Clear	Amount of Cloud	Base of Cloud 30 miles	Visibility	General Weather Fine	Map or Chart Reference Italy, 1.250,000 Sheet No. 28
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Task or Duty Defensive patrol over the Anzio area.

Time	Height	Place	Narrative
15.15	"0"	Base.	Four aircraft airborne to patrol the Anzio area.
15.40	1 1/2,000	Anzio	Four aircraft (Blue Section) on patrol.
16.30	1 1/2,000	Anzio	Two aircraft sighted south of Rome. Blue 1 and 2 went to investigate while Blue 3 and four remained on patrol. On reaching the outskirts of Rome lost contact with the two aircraft, but on looking down they sighted three Me.109's at 3,000 ft. and dived to attack them. Blue 1 (P/L Ingalls) closed in on the e/a on the port side and attacked from 900 yds. with three short bursts. Strikes were observed on the rear portion of the fuselage and pieces started to fly off and smoke appear. The e/a then went into steep dive and almost immediately pulled up again. Blue 1 attacked again and while he was firing the pilot of the e/a baled out. The Me.109 then crashed in flames at P.6785. Blue 2 (W/O Johnson) turned into the Me.109 which was about to attack Blue 1 from the starboard side but was unable to get in a burst before the e/a dived away in a northerly direction. Blue 1 and 2 then returned to base. COMBAT CLAIM SEE PART "B".
17.10	"0"	Base.	Blue section landed. CLAIM 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.

PAGE "B"

I was flying as Blue I in a four aircraft formation at 14,000 ft. At approximately 16.30 hours I sighted two aircraft at my own level just south of Rome. With my No.2 I went to investigate but lost contact with them on the outskirts of the city. On looking down I saw three Me.109's at 3,000 ft. flying North over the city. I told my No.2 to fall in behind me and dived down behind the e/a. I closed to within 200 yds. of the 109 on the port side and attacked with three short bursts from dead astern and slightly below. During my attack I saw strikes on the rear portion of the e/a's fuselage and pieces started to fly off, the aircraft then started to smoke and went into a steep dive. As I was about to break off to attack one of the other 109's, the aircraft that I had attacked pulled out of it's dive and started to climb. I closed in again and as I attacked with a short burst the pilot of the e/a. baled out. The 109 then went into a dive and crashed in flames at P.6785.

I claim one Me.109 Destroyed.

(Sgd.) B.J. Ingalls P/Lt.

AMMUNITION EXPENDITURE.

20 MM. Cannon - 90 rds. HE/I
90 rds. SAP/I

303 M.G. 300 rds. A.P.
100 rds. BVIZ

Distribution:- H.Q., H.A.A.P. (S.C.O.R.U.) (2)
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