

Throughout November and December the heavies concentrated on targets in the Southern and Central Philippines, while the mediums and fighters continued their campaign to neutralize enemy air facilities in portions of the Netherlands East Indies and cut enemy supply lines in the adjacent waters from their base in Western New Guinea. Part of the fighter strength, however, was no longer needed for the latter campaign and moved up to the Moluccas in November to join the heavies, which were stationed there, in their strikes against the Philippines. While the heavies concentrated on the Philippines, targets in Borneo and elsewhere. Enemy shipping and naval forces felt the weight of their bombs.

On 6 January the heavies extended the scope of their operations in the Philippines to include the heart, the Manila defense ring, striking Nichols and Nielson airdromes, in support of amphibious operations against Luzon.

In this brief history we have stressed operations.

The full history of the Thirteenth Air Force records the achievements of all members of the Thirteenth Air Force team -- ground crews, mess men, administrative personnel and special technicians. We must never forget that the operational achievements of the air force have been and will be dependent upon their sweat and toil to serve the flying crews.