



A 1943 view of Jackson's air strip, looking out to sea (top photo). The site is now that of Port Moresby International Airport. Better known to 32 Squadron as "their" Seven Mile airfield, it was renamed in honour of the well-known CO of No. 75 Squadron, Sqn Ldr John Jackson, who was killed in action on 28th April 1942. A newly-completed Mk III coming in to land at Seven Mile, reportedly after a raid on Lae and Salamaua, whilst the next two photos show what is believed to be the main mess hut after the raid of 24th February 1942 and the subsequent use of tents - in this case by squadron armourers. Lastly can be seen the remains of A16-167, another loss from 24th February. One of four Hudson Mk IIIs issued to No. 23 Squadron in January 1942, this Hudson apparently replaced A16-88 which was allotted from No. 23 Squadron to No. 1 OTU on 21st January 1942. With no turrets to spare, though, A16-167 had to first be made operational by fitting it with A16-88's turret. The four Mk IIIs served with the Composite Squadron in January and were transferred over to No. 32 Squadron upon its formation on 21st February, but three days later the aircraft was caught on the ground at Seven Mile, one of the bombs dropped exploding approximately 10 yards from the aircraft and setting it on fire. (Jackson's photo courtesy John Healey, Hudson landing courtesy AWM, ID number 025897, building damage courtesy Ted Liefman, armourers courtesy Bert Downes and remains of A16-167 courtesy Arthur Dean)