



Three No. 6 Squadron Hudson Mk IIIs used in New Guinea. Top, A16-211. As mentioned in Book One, this aircraft was named *The Tojo Busters* and one and a half Japanese flags added to its nose in recognition of anti-ship attacks made in September 1942, although only one small merchant vessel was actually sunk. The crew in the photo are from left to right, Flt Lt "Thanny" Straus (captain) Sgt W. R. Flanagan (WAG), FO Lindsay Carroll (second pilot) and Sgt J. W. Hursthouse (WAG), but according to Carroll's log book they never flew this particular Hudson, so the combination of men and machine was apparently simply as chosen by the photographer. The location and date of the photo are not known. A16-211 was noted as unserviceable as at 5th January 1943 and was flown south to No. 12 RSU at Breddan, near Charters Towers, Queensland, by the Stutt crew a few days later. It was later issued to No. 2 Squadron, still retaining the nose insignia. Straus's crew remained with 6 Squadron until posted south in March 1943. Middle, A16-220. This aircraft was issued to No. 6 Squadron in July 1942, noted as serviceable on 3rd August 1942 but, one month later, was lost in Beagle Bay. Again, the location and date of the photo are unknown. Bottom, A16-225, photographed on 21st November 1942 whilst flying to or returning from supply dropping work at Buna. Note that the cabin door can be seen to have been removed, extra gun positions have been added to the top of the fuselage and side windows whilst, under the nose, the hydraulics access door has been inadvertently left open. Three days later A16-225 swung on take-off and was completely destroyed by fire, but without injury or loss of life. (Lindsay Carroll collection [top], courtesy Don Hulbert [middle] and Bill Hilliard from *The Eight Ballers: Eyes of the Fifth Air Force* [bottom].)

