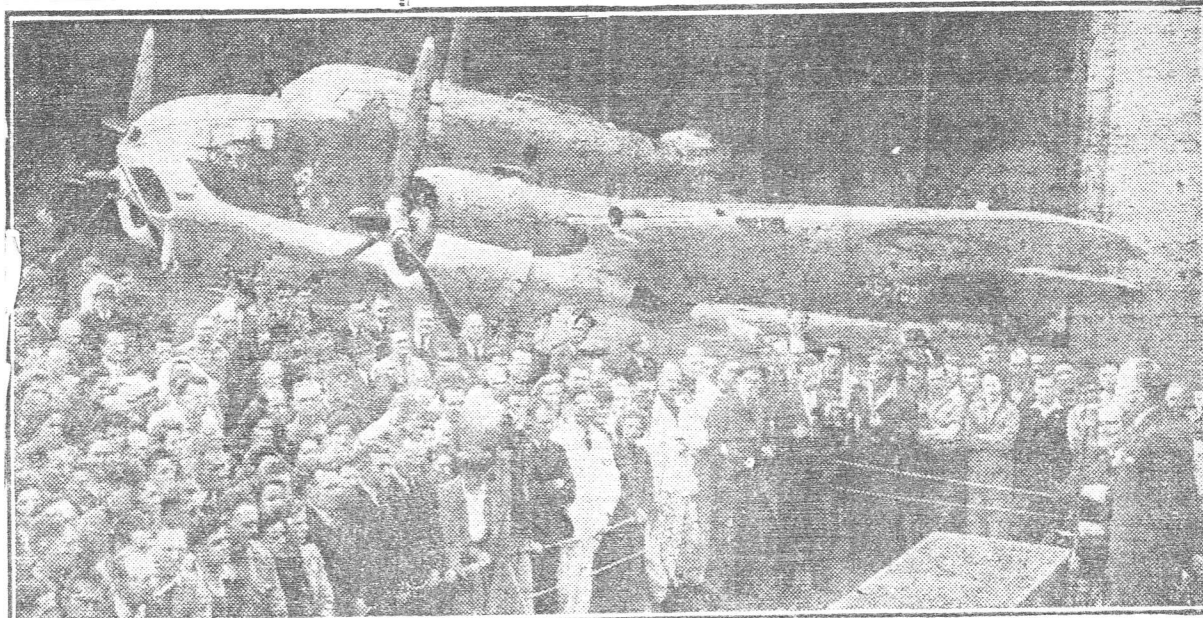


700th Sydney-Built Beaufort

THE 700th BEAUFORT TORPEDO BOMBER BUILT AT A MASCOT (SYDNEY) PLANT was handed to the R.A.A.F. this week at a special gathering at the works. The plant is now free to concentrate on the manufacture of Australian Beaufighters and to plan production of Lancasters. With Beaufort No. 700 in the background, Mr. F. Wheeler, N.S.W. zone manager of the Beaufort Division, addresses the staff and visitors.

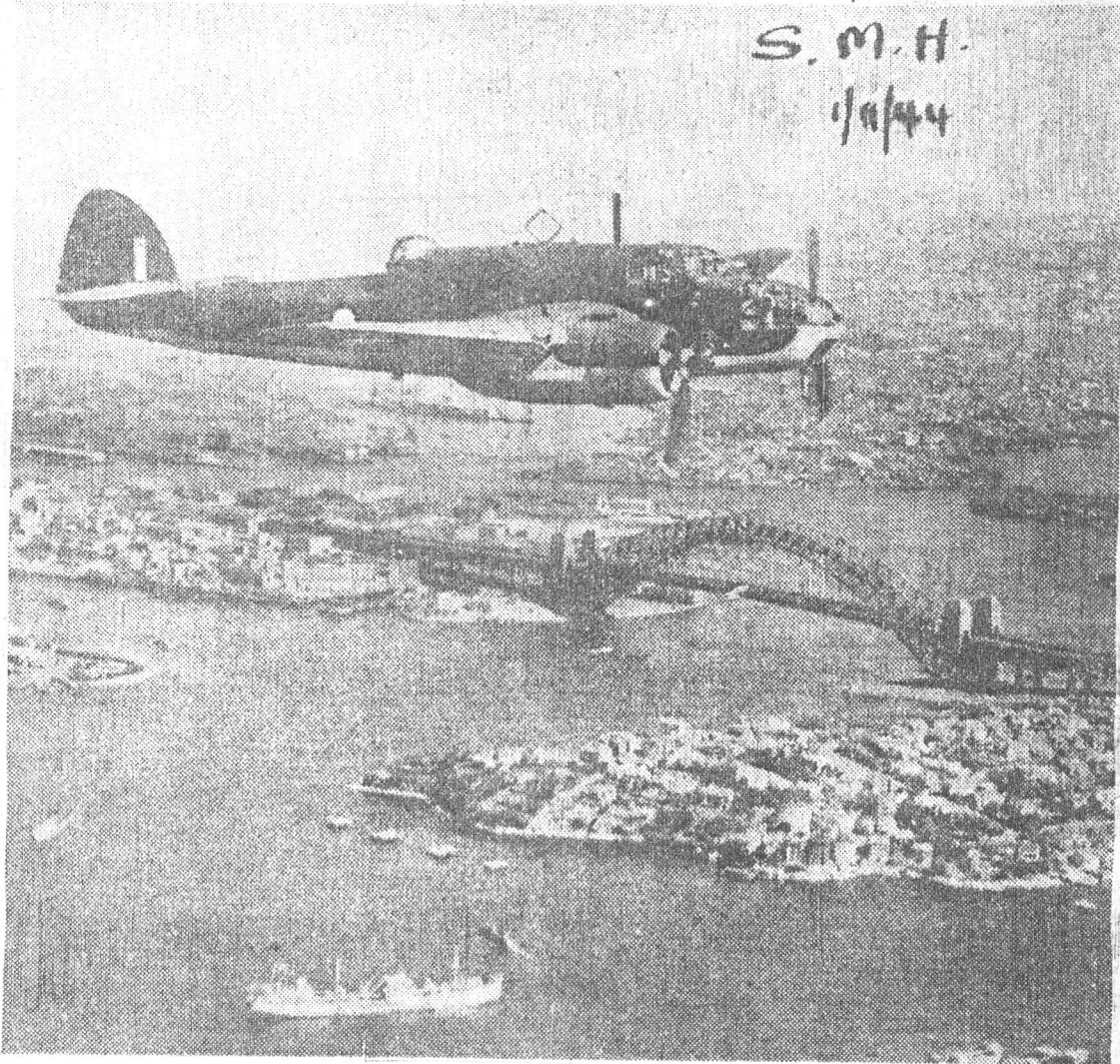
DAILY TELEGRAPH SEPTEMBER 1, 1944

AUSTRALIAN PLANT DELIVERS 700th BEAUFORT BOMBER



R.A.A.F. taking delivery yesterday of 700th Beaufort bomber assembled in a Mascot plant. Completion of this plane leaves the plant free to concentrate on the manufacture of Australian Beaufighters and to plan production of Lancasters. N.S.W. zone manager of Beaufort Division (Mr. F. Wheeler) addresses staff.

AUSTRALIAN-BUILT BEAUFORT OVER HARBOUR



The 700th Beaufort bomber produced in Australia flying over Sydney Harbour Bridge. Beaufort production is under the control of Mr. John Storey, whose father, when Premier of New South Wales, authorised the calling of contracts for building the bridge.

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD
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700th Beaufort Now Serving With R.A.A.F.

The 700th Beaufort bomber built in Australia is now in the service of the R.A.A.F. It had been seen recently flying over Sydney.

The Beaufort division of the Aircraft Production Directorate, which built these 700 bombers, including the engines, is now engaged on the production of Beaufighters. The first Beaufighter made its maiden flight 14 months after the drawings and data began to arrive from the Bristol Aeroplane Company in England.

The Aircraft Production Directorate revealed yesterday that the Australian programme for the production of Lancaster aircraft has also been entrusted to the Beaufort division. Other branches of the Australian aircraft industry, which produced the Tiger Moth, Wirraway, Wackett trainer, and Boomerang interceptor, are now engaged in the manufacture of advanced

types such as the Mosquito and Mustang.

Australian-built Beauforts have now been in operation in the South-west Pacific for more than two years, and have a fine record of successes against enemy naval and supply vessels and land bases.

Between January, 1943, and July, 1944, R.A.A.F. Beaufort squadrons had flown 54,766 hours, during which they covered no fewer than 10,000,000 miles. They were sent on 12,476 sorties, dropped more than 2,000 tons of bombs on enemy shipping, troop concentrations, and installations, and fired 1,377,100 rounds of ammunition at similar targets.

One Beaufort, caught at a disadvantage off the south coast of New Britain by six Zeros, withstood attacks lasting for more than half an hour. The Beaufort, fighting alone, destroyed one enemy machine, damaged two, and forced the remaining three to break away.

SYDNEY MORNING HERALD 1-11-44