SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
368TH FIGHTER GROUP
APO 141
STRIPE Y-73
RHEIN-MAIN

HISTORY

APRIL 1945

RECORDER:
S/Sgt. Clarence A. Glasrud

TYPIST:
Pfc. Wilbert R. Ahonen

GROUP HISTORICAL OFFICER:
Captain ROBERT L. CLARK
SECRET

HISTORICAL REPORT
1 April to 30 April 1945

Information contained herein, is written in compliance with XIV
Tactical Air Command Memorandum Number 20-1, dated 2 February 1945. It is
a resume of the activities of the 369th Fighter Group Headquarters, for the
month of April 1 to 30, 1945.

1. ORGANIZATION

No Change.

2. STRENGTH AS OF 30 APRIL 1945

Figures shown below are total strength for Group Headquarters and assigned squadrons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designated Personnel</th>
<th>Authorized Personnel</th>
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<tr>
<td>Officers</td>
<td>214</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enlisted Men</td>
<td>295</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Officers</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Enlisted Men</td>
<td>311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1022</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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3. DATE OF ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE FROM EACH STATION IN ETO:

Departed 810, 24 miles SE of Venice, France, 15 April
1945, for 810, 73 miles SE of Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany,
arriving 25 April 1945.

4. AIR IN ACTION:

810 (for Group Headquarters)

5. MEDAL DECORATIONS:

Silver Star
Capt. Frank T. Perchman

Bronze Star
Capt. David T. Feinthal
1 April 1945

This was Easter Sunday—and the fact that it was also April Fool's Day went largely unnoticed. Traditionally a day of horror, Easter this year saw a great wave of optimism on the eastern front—and great faith, as well as hope, that the end of the war was very near. Frankfurt had been captured, Luxembourg threatened, and the whole Ruhr area was about to be encircled and cut off from the rest of Germany.

But the biggest news for our group today was that Major Henry and several of the other pilots who went down with him on January 14th were P.O.W.s. The worst case from one of those 2 pilots who were listed I.T., after 25 planes of the 357th were jumped by 50-51's; on that day, Lt. Hudle, one of the 2, is not in a Paris hospital with a broken arm. He called Group Operations today to say that he had seen 'Major Henry in a German prisoner-of-war camp. Lt. Hudle was released from the camp several days ago.

Our operations today were at least 'satisfactory.' Seventy-three sorties were flown and 59 tons of bombs dropped for the following results: tanks 10-I, 4-7, 25-30. trains, 10-2, freight cars 21-23, plus a couple of buildings, 3 gasoline tanks, and a rail position—all destroyed. Weather caused one mission to be sent to Europe, to chase a 17-22 which proved hopeless.

A series of special 'R'Easter' services were well attended. Chaplain Henry of the 357th held a Protestant sunrise service at 6:30 a.m. in the 'Bade de la Republique,' a 7:30 a.m. service at the Protestant Church of Rue du Faubous, and 9:30 a.m. service at the Field. Chaplain Henry celebrated mass in the vets' chapel at 8:30 a.m. and at the 357th Field at 11:30 and 5:30 p.m. Chaplain W's held an evening service on the field at 6:30 p.m. for those who were unable to attend earlier services.

Special Orders no. 34, dated 1 April 1945 announced the appointment of Lt. Col. Warfield, Jr., to the position of Group Deputy Commander, replacing Lt. Col. Paul P. Pommer, Jr., who becomes CO of the 35th Fighter Group of 1st Div. Warfield, Jr., Balbot is appointed Group 7-3 and Capt. Ryan, Trisell, and Capt. C-1.

Two more letters of commendation came our way, too. Lt. Gen. George C. Patton, Jr., calling attention to the achievements of the Third Army and 4th INF, says, in part:

"In the period from January 20 to March 22, 1945, you've lost 6,484 acres of territory from the enemy. You've taken 2,038 cities, towns, and villages, including among the former: Bielefeld, Kiel, and Kiel, and Neumagen, and Homburg.

You have captured 12,012 enemy soldiers, and have killed or wounded an additional 24,000, thereby eliminating practically all of the German 7th and 18th armies. History records no greater achievement in so limited a time."

(General Orders no. 18, 3rd Div. Third Army, 22 March 1945)
1 April 1945 (contd)

and Gen. "Mar". Bradley sent a letter of congratulation, which came on to us with forwarding endorsements from General Eisenhower and Admiral King. (Subject: Recent Record Established by Units of "Mar" Air Force--503d Wing, 3rd Army, 27 March 1945.


2 April 1945

We were non-operational today, but the war was definitely going our way. The Rumanian army encircled and 10 German divisions cut off, the Russians were nearing Vienna, and the new V. H.7. German army invaded the "Philippine Islands 20 miles from Japan proper.

Group "C" Control has received notification of a change in status of 3 pilots previously listed as "II" and now officially "VI": Capt. James K. Cassll (tent down on 27 June 1944, 2nd Lt. John D. Gartlan Jr. (20 July 44), and 1st Lt. Charles C. Hearn (16 Nov 44).

The new popular pastime--scavenging trips to beat-up "wreckers"--continued unabated, with the loot piling up: family photo albums, "stolen" الألمان and silver money, shooting irons, saddles, vehicles of various descriptions--and plenty of materiel in barrels, boxes, and containers.

2 April 1945

Today's operations were uneventful, though we sent 14 planes on 3 squadron armed reconnaissance missions deep into Germany--to Sinar, Nordhausen, and Heilung in the Thuringian Forest. The mere fact that our planes could fly so far into Germany was something of a fact in itself, an almost solid cloud coverage prevented any strafing attacks--and no bombs were carried. The only targets our planes found to attack were a pair of "P" airplanes which placed hide-and-seek with the 396th over the new airfield. One got away completely in the clouds but swept "Y" at 6000 ft, the other collapsed yet got in good shots on the other. We was an experienced pilot and made the cost of the clouds--so they only share a probable on him.

We received word from the First General Hospital in Paris that Major Leary was there, undergoing some plastic surgery because of severe burns about the face and head. His condition is reported good, and a "detachment" will fly to Paris to see him tomorrow.

4 April 1945

Rain today a very generous cloud coverage made work difficult for our "P-47"s--but 14 planes were dispatched on 5 armed recon and 2 medium bomber escort missions. The 38 Thunderbolts forming escort for the "P-47"s and "B"-26's had completely uneventful missions, the weather cleared the targets bombed. Claims made by the armed recon planes were 33-7 on "P-47"s, 2-1 on "B"-26's, 27-51 on freight cars, besides a railroad car hit by a hell bomb dropped.

Lt. Col. Vernon, Maj. Davis, Capt. Cleary, Capt. Perry, and Capt. Pan of 3rd Army visited Major Leary in the 1st General Hospital in Paris today and learned more of his story. He and 4 broken crew of the German battle with the German aircraft back on January 14, but not to the aid of another pilot who had several "reichs" on his tail. He "dove" behind his plane at the last minute, 2 Messerschmitt planes shot down, when a
4 April 45 (contd)

700-pound deke bomb finally got Leary's plane. The explosion of a 2500-
shell set the "A-17" on fire and he bailed out with slightly burned in the arm and
shoulder and bad burns about the face, neck, and head. He was taken prisoner and
ended up in the hospital at "September" run by the sadistic "Fali" doctor. His eye-
which was saved when he was attended by a fine civilian doctor at Heidelberg,
then his burns healed he went a 17-ga., though his burns were still in bad condi-
tion. However, he took care of 4 American privates who were too undernourished
to eat out of bed, feeding and bathing them. Then in late March the P-80 was
overrun by 5th mining "Feriens" forces, and Major Leary was taken to the "Fali"
hospital. Besides seeing Lt. "Bob" the VA reported that he had seen areas of
"A-17, 5th, 5th, and 5th on the rosters of the "Fali" camp, though these pilots
were evidently removed to some other place before the rear was overrun. "Splintered"
by his burns, Major Leary is expected to recover soon; following some
plastic surgery, he will retain flight vision in both eyes—and will at least be
sent to the "V-17".

5 April 45

One survivor dispatched one 16-plane mission on an escort mission to the "Fali-
Hamburg" area. Main targets were carrier, but strafing claims were 1-1
on tanks, 11-20 on V-17s, 2-1 on locomos, and 1-1 on fire boxes—besides 1
German bomber destroyed.

Eleven pilots were a surprise—and assigned to the same area; 4 enlisted men of
the strafers were placed on flying status in connection with the flights of our "A-17"
units. Out of 3 men assigned to the 35th Group, 1 dead, 1 wounded, 1 "Fali".

Several foreign workers—from nearly every nation of Europe (except Germany)—were
being worked by "Fali" to a wrench to acquire some kitchen help for the
commissary. The food is very popular with all Allied "Fali"s.

But with the 375th already beginning their move to Frankfurt, were wondering
how long we will have to wait. "Out of us had expected to take off before this,
and to some pretty definite that our group will move to another field near Frank-
town. We'll open to move well on the way, most of us are now too anxious to leave
this war-swept—now in Europe—now in atmosphere. Yes, seems a very different place than
the "Fali""—always, always another city to move to early in January.

Capturing German 12, Special Forces 21.

6 April 45

Thirty-five planes took off today on four 8-plane missions in support of the VIII
force. Out, although the "A-17"s carried bombs, the weather made things very tough-
out, and the results generally unspectacular. \(20\) of the bombs had to be jettisoned,
but others destroyed an Anti-Jerry artillery building, cut tracks in 3 places, and
destroyed 2 Fred cars in a "17" near "Breslau".
6 April 1945 (cont'd)

We got the feeling of being left behind by the war even more keenly today when we discovered that our post office had moved and we could not mail any mail until we moved on to catch up with it. And the writing now becomes definite today with the announcement that we would be moving from April 15-16. Small advance groups will leave even before that.

7 April 1945

Seventy-two planes were dispatched to cooperate with the 397th Corps today in the Peabody area. About 65 tons of bombs accounted for at least a dozen rail and road sites, 8 large fires, 4 skeletonized, besides unsatisfied damage to tons holding up the advance of Third Army troops. About 4,000 men were shot down by guns, 6-1 on short, and 11-5 on freight cars. No news out of the city, East. Some of the 396th destroyed a pair of "thick clouds", which was a little like shooting sitting ducks but accounts for 2 more 1/4, anyway.

Now we were rather hopefully officially authorized our third battle star, for the battle of "extra" of more immediate interest to all concerned was the "French" show put on tonight at our "phantom" gym. Except for a "U", the show was all "French", featuring a variety show and stars, and a ball for riders. It was good and a sellout.

8 April 1945

Some 78 planes again supported the 397th on the rear supply area, south of "D", and 44-1 of the 397th squadron escorted a group of 15-1s on a bombing mission to "Darnell". The other 11 missions dropped 12 tons of bombs, getting generally good results on targets assigned by the controllers or, failing that, targets of opportunity. Sometimes the damage on these controller-assigned targets could not be assessed beyond "town hit" or "burned woods". But 3 large fires were set in different places, at 16 buildings were hit, and tracks were cut in 12 places, at least 5 runs were destroyed and a number of other run positions well burned, a total dock damaged and 20 soldiers destroyed. The vehicle score was: M8s 75-9, Jeeps 22-7, and freight cars 62-12. A lone F-100 got in the rear of the 397th near town, but was "strafed" and "gunned" out in flames and destroyed.

There was another sign of things to come: Maj. Louis "Red" Heide of the 397th was among the new "city" people of the 396th, both "arm-borne", were called up to "IX CO" for three days to attend a language course.

The weather turned sunny again, and the regular evening volleyball games became more popular than ever. Tonight a "crew" team lost to the 397th in a play-off to represent the 396th in a "ring" volleyball tournament, but with some fever on, the tourney is likely to be postponed indefinitely. "We may be playing the same game in the "Phantom", but we're not likely to find another dance court like the concrete building floor (minus the building) next to our "Phantom".

Still more regular was our "cookie-toy" and dance at the gym tonight. The band "saw" this would be their last dance for quite a while and made the most of it.
April 45 (cont'd)

...and an advance was made left for our new strip "H-72 at Frankfurt..."

April 1945

A total of 130 missions were flown by the Group today. While the 395th attacked 10, mainly dive-bombers, with the 494th Corps, the other 2 squadrons were used mainly against the US, concentrating on the bunker-buster. Most crews, 11 of the 15 and 34 tons of bombs were dropped and results were similar to those of the last 3 days: at least 10 large fires started, 23 buildings destroyed or damaged, 9 oil tanks and 12 arm stores destroyed, 11 trucks and 100 positions of troops, and 6 troops killed. In vehicles the score was: tanks 5-0, trucks 173, and 600 arm cars 3-0-21. Another unit, 8th Armored Division because of weather during the bomb mission dropped 220 tons.

In almost all areas, I believe, efforts are made to do that which will aid all like to but 1.0 per cent. I believe this is what we want to know. The 10th Army, while 1/4 of the 345th is a small portion, are in the army operation.


April 1945

In area No. 1, the 376th started at 10 A.M., 514th Group started at 11 A.M., and the 376th started at 3 P.M. The 376th started 11 A. M. near the 376th and damaged 1 very near Oblur.

April 45 (cont'd)

April 45 (cont'd)

April 45 (cont'd)
new task of finding out women and children. The women who had children to take care of and no men to help them, got the help they needed, and the job was done. The fine rockin' houses, fully equipped for something else to us, and we moved in rather clumsily at first, as though we were trespassing. But we found the new quarters uneventfully comfortable and today almost convinced ourselves that we were civilians again. Group officers moved into individual homes, the officers sharing each bedroom or living room, and one to each dining room. Group staff and moved into an apartment building 7 men being assigned to each small apartment. Prices realized to get a little crowded later on, but while there were only a few of us at the new base and only 2 men to each apartment, we were really fat. And to prove the men back at Fort Sill holds any of the stories that once passing back, when the stories came back from living in apartments with bathrooms, radiators, and electric stoves, they were pretty sure that the move to temporary field camps, hooches again, or at least improvised tent.

"Let's get making off, pay off, for the trucks which we'll need. To transport this morning's new unloaded and back at Fort this evening, to Fort to give us, which is expected to leave on April 17, loaded their trucks tonight and get ready to leave in the morning.

II: 11:31-12:15

Each squadron drew an armed peace area today, the 39th going to Hero and Lenz, the 62nd to Platte and Peoria, and the 29th to McCook and Idaho. In Honolulu 150 sailors were flown on 24 tons of bombs dropped in midst and were at each of the attention today, with few deaths and strafing leaving plenty of damage in the wake of our A-67's. Major Butler of the 40th spotted a 5-15 on the deck and shot it down, the first building out. This was our only claim in the city, but on the ground our assaults destroyed 24 assorted munition planes, with a couple of more destroyed and 2 damaged. "Mines" reports ranged from a huge explosion, a large fire and explosion in a different area, a whole town on fire, and many small fires--each of these reports by a different mission. Then there were 4 rail cars, a warehouse destroyed and 2 stories hit, a hangar and a supply shed damaged, more buildings destroyed and 2 damaged, 10 personnel and 16 horses killed. Yestery, vessels strike was 24-16 on I/1's, 27-0 on looms, and 10-10 on freight cars.

William J. Phillips, of the 29th is listed "WIA" after his squadron was crossed by 8 "Torpedo's" over the "Islands", but Valentine was seen to bail out and hang on the side. His companion plane was also damaged and he had to land at night, but there was sure evidence that both planes may have been damaged by same fire. He claim was made after the 10-minute dogfight.

Our Fort fot brigandage over the Rhine was becoming more secure. Tents were up for the "men of war" and 15 I which even got a floor out of the plentiful new terrain. Here's the headquarters building was being rapidly repaired by "Pappy" officers and his able chief - "Comfort," and others, and of course the latrines were quite. We ate at the same "for eat" and Liet. Spath made his runners take our mail. There was even a little mail, nor that we had caught up without infitting hands, or fairly fresh pans and stripes. The unpleasant side of the situation, besides plenty of hard work, was that we drew guard duty at our headquarters all day, while we can and to sleep each night at the de luxe.
11 April 1945 (cont'd)

chicken farm to guard our unarmed medics. The elaborate "farmhouse" nearly a half mile through the pine forest from the field, was to be our new dispensary. And in the woods near the farm we found the prison camp; it was empty now but there was enough of it remaining (including the smell) to remind us that the "Azis" were not nice people.

S-2 received a new man today to fill its quota. He is Pvt. Jerald Colleen and from all appearances he promises to be a capable and welcome addition to the section.

Supporting Document 4, Special Orders...

12 April 1945

Today's operations were not as successful as the past few days, due chiefly to the weather. Though 72 planes took off on six squadron missions, 4 of these missions were bomber escort missions for B-26's, however, and reported that the "Azis" did a good job of bombing. These missions almost got us into real trouble, too, for they took our planes into southeastern Germany, almost to the Russian border. On the other 2 missions, the 357th flew up to Premnitz, destroyed 2 "Yak" and killed 50 troops, and the 372nd had an a/f to near, damaged 2 tanks, destroyed 7 and damaged 8 J/Us, and started 5 fires.

At our new strip we found a new job in clearing the headquarters area. We pulled out stumps and strips of narrow-gauge track in clearing out a parking lot. By this evening the headquarters building was ready for occupancy and though there was still work to be done on it, some of the offices were already ready to operate. After our little affair in taking over Zeppelinheim, we have seen little of the "Azis", but in attempting to get some electric power for the dispensary, we had some dealings in the town of "Alldorf", about a mile or so past the farm. So far the people have proven to be very polite, cooperative, and very anxious to be friendly. They are not "Azis", of course, there was no "Yaks" in "Alldorf", and so many of the people have relatives in the...

13 April 1945

I learned this morning that President Roosevelt had died yesterday, and that made Tuesday the Thirteenth a "black" Friday for all of us.

Only 35 planes were dispatched on 3 missions because of the weather, and 2 of these missions were fighter sweeps to Dresden and Frank. Entirely uneventful. That is, they were uneventful, except for the weather which was so bad that we lost one plane and a pilot—though only temporarily, we found later. The "O"-plane met with a bad storm cloud and had to bail out of his plane, but no harm met in friendly territory and he returned to us in a couple of days with a repaired plane. The 366th, flying to Palle on an armed recce, turned in an uneventful mission. Two tons of frag bombs, plus strafing, got 17-26 on J/Us, 4-0 on J/Us, and 30-0 on freight cars, besides 4 large fires in the "e-

J 5 8 9
13 April 1945 (cont’d)

In those cases, the work of checking and testing the German equipment began to come in and be put to use.

The 5th Air Force had a large number of personnel and equipment on hand. The German equipment was tested and found to be in good condition. The German telephones and typewriters, and even a machine, worked, and were bartered for.

The German planes were being repaired and many Flak guns were still in operation. But the planes were still being used.

The operation of a German airplane was really a matter of life and death. The planes were due to leave the following day.

14 April 1945

The operation of the planes was almost a total loss. Only one plane came out of all the missions. The other planes and their missions were unaccounted for. The German planes were dropped on the country.

The operation of the planes has been stopped due to a lack of fuel. The next plane is scheduled to leave at 10 a.m. today.

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15 April 1945

This was the first day for our planes and after the first set of missions the planes landed at Trip Y-79. The move was nearly all that was accomplished today, too. The planes and equipment made the trip by “G7” and “E7.” The next mission is scheduled for tomorrow morning. The planes are due to leave at 10 a.m. today.

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15 April 1945 (cont'd)

G. Elliot are listed MIA, though one man was seen to bail out and was later observed on the ground waving his arms. Lt. Wright has since been reported in hospital, but Lt. Elliot is presumed to have been killed. The 396th finally got in a good strafing mission, 10 planes working over fuel storage tanks and assorted vehicles in and around Wendisch; one locomotive was damaged and 14 M/Ts destroyed and 4 damaged, besides 2 horses killed.

Our new strip is now in full operations, and the rest of the men and equipment at Natz was expected to come in within 2 days. Headquarters was again eating at the 395th mess hall, and our small Zeppelinheim apartments were getting more crowded. The people we had ousted were coming back, too, wanting to get things from their apartments or ex-homes. Escorted by MP's they were allowed to take out potatoes and other food-- and sometimes to search for their ration books! We had no desire to keep them away from any food they had left behind, in fact we were anxious to see them take the food, but we were a little bored and entirely unconvinced when their representatives tried to make us believe there had been no Nazi sympathizers in Zeppelinheim, for all of the houses and apartments housed a plentiful supply of pictures and other material which indicated past allegiance with the Nazi party.

16 April 1945

Operations got into high gear again to-day, with 104 sorties being flown on 9 armed recce missions to the Prague area. The fact that our planes were flying all of the way across South Germany to attack airfields and rail and road traffic in Czechoslovakia indicated that we wouldn't be able to enjoy our Zeppelinheim "homes" very long. Our only hope was that the war might end while we were still here, for if any resistance continues it is inevitable that we would move again to keep up with Patton's fast moving columns, now turning south. The 396th and 397th each accounted for planes on the ground and in the air to-day. Some E/A attempted to take off as our P-47s attacked their A/Ds; Lts. Tandel and Paul of the 397th each destroyed an ME262 in this way and Lt. Col. Carline damaged a Ju-52; and on 2 396th missions Lt. Dumber got a ME109 and Lt. Mitchell a ME108.

Ground claims were varied as the two squadrons worked over nearly every type of A/C in the Luftwaffe on the Prague airfields. Total claims for the day were 22 destroyed and 35 damaged. Other claims for the day were equally impressive, especially on locomotives. The total are: tanks 0-1, M/T's 201-77, locos 36-31, and freight cars 18-97. In addition, 2 guns and a building were destroyed, a town left burning, and 46 troops killed. The rear echelon continues to come in to-day, along with the rumor that we would move to Gothic (in Thurigia) as soon as they were all here. But we continued to set up more substantially than ever before, with the help of our seemingly inexhaustible supply of German furniture.

17 April 1945

Eight more armed recce missions to Prague, Pilzen, and Dresden were flown to-day, a total of 94 sorties. This time our total of aircraft clobered on the ground dropped to only 1 destroyed and 7 damaged. Again 1 tank was damaged, 86 M/Ts destroyed and 88 damaged, and 12 freight cars destroyed and 43 damaged. Other claims were in proportion: steamshovel, 1 roundhouse, 2 buildings, and 3 guns destroyed, 4 fires started, 6 gas tanks damaged, and 30 troops killed. The last of the rear echelon came in from Natz today and we are reunited once more.
18 April 1945

In addition to 6 more armed recce to the Prague area, we drew 2 special missions to drop 15 tons of Napalm on a reported concentration of 100 tanks northwest of Regensburg. They never located the tanks and attacked targets of opportunity. The 90 planes dispatched made the following claims: tanks 3-3, M/Ts 84-21, locos 19-1, and freight cars 15-45. Lt. Dixson and Taubert of the 396th found and destroyed 3 Ju-52's on a small airfield northeast of Prague. In addition, they killed 20 Germans in one area and an unestimated number in another place, killed 2 horses, started 4 fires, destroyed a bridge, and damaged a gun and 4 buildings.

Tonight the first movie was shown on our new field. The theater, too, is "de Luxe" here; the seats have backs on them!

It was evident today that the long awaited Russian drive on Berlin was finally underway, and we confidently watched the advance which most of us expected to be the "crusher".

19 April 1945

After 16 days of uninterrupted flying our record string of flights was broken today - intentionally. We were released for maintenance work.

We were really getting well settled at Strip Y-73; the PX opened for business (even though there were only 3 packs of cigarettes and tropical chocolate) and negotiations were completed to have our laundry done by a civilian laundry in Darmstadt (U.S. Military Government approved).

At roll call this morning Major Rice read the regulations on our conduct in Germany for the second time, for the benefit of those who were not here to hear it the first time.

At about 1900 hours this evening we had our most exciting incident in some time. An Fw190 came over the field as if it were about to land, pulled up again, and then came in the second time. This time the ack-ack opened up, but the plane landed safely. The pilot was interrogated by the 362nd Fighter Group and told the following story: he had been based on the Finow A/D, northeast of Berlin, but was acquainted with the Frankfurt field since he had been based here previously; when his CO told him that the ground crews would be transferred to the Infantry after the day's operations because there was no more gasoline, the pilot (the equivalent of a flying sergeant) decided he had had enough.

Supporting Document #5, Copy, "Results of Interrogation of GAF Pilot Who Landed at Y-73.
Supporting Document #6, General Order #3.
Supporting Document #7, Memorandum #11.

20 April 1945

Operational again today we dispatched 106 P-47's on 9 armed recce to the Beroun-Klatovy-Strasburg area, and on the last mission of the day the 396th destroyed 5 and damaged 6 enemy planes on the A/D at Gancack. Lt. Dunbar, Gannoy, Boss and Soderlund worked over the ME109's, 1100's and ME262's. Other claims for the day are: tanks 0-6, M/T's 38-10, locos 25-6 and freight cars 12-150. One gun and 4 horses were destroyed, one building destroyed and 9 damaged, fires were started and no claims were made on a single straffing pass on the Pilsen A/D. That airfield at Gancacker was spotted by Lt. Col. Spence, Deputy CO, who flew along with the 396th on the
20 April 1945 (cont'd)

Last mission with Major East, Group S-2, riding "piggy-back". Major East is ready to hit again "after a while", but he said the 3 hour ride in a cramped position was plenty rough.

From XIV Tac came several reports of battle casualties today. 2nd Lt. Clarence B. Palmer, KIA on 12 June 1944, is now KIA; 2nd Lt. Robert M. Pace, MIA on 17 December 1944, is now SIA (in the 9th Field Hospital with burns about the head, eyelids, and hands; 2nd Lt. Walter W. Soott, SIA on 8 March 1945 to EUS (evacuated to the U.S.); and 2nd Lt. Charles J. Hocke, MIA 14 January 1945, LIA.

21 April 1945

Again today our missions followed the same pattern: 72 planes were dispatched on 6 armed recce missions to the Beroun-Klatovy-Straubing area. And results, too, were similar: M/T's 10-30, locos 23-4, freight cars 20-10, and E/A 6-0-1. The 397th found the enemy planes at the Cheb a/d, again as assorted lot of planes-bombers, fighter, and trainers. Further claims were 70 troops killed; 14 fires started; 3 guns, 3 houses, and 4 searchlights destroyed and a radio shack and tower damaged.

There was a 3 way shift in command today: Major Talbott went back to the States for a 45 day leave, Lt. Col. Carbine became Group Operations Officer, and Major Tutte took over as CO of the 397th Squadron.

Moving rumors took on a really definite turn today. Our new base is supposed to be Nuremberg, just liberated by the Seventh Army. The payoff is that this is supposed to be our permanent base, for we are reputedly earmarked for the Army of Occupation.

Six new pilots joined the 368th Group today and were divided equally among the squadrons.

Capt. Cleary went to the Riviera today to perform the first American marriage at Cannes. Miss Lorretha Stanley, USO entertainer, and Capt. Woodrow Giordano, 4443 CQ, will be married 24 April 1945.

Supporting Document #8, Special Orders #39.

22 April 1945

Though bad weather cut short operations and we were released early today, each squadron got in a mission - 30 sorties being flown. The 397th drew area cover near Nuremberg and reported nothing happened except that the weather was bad. The other two squadrons, on armed recce to the Prague area, got 65-20 on M/T's 10-5 on locos, and 0-70 on freight cars. The 399th got in some target practice too. An old Fokker bi-plane, evidently used for observation, was strafed in the air and forced to land. Then, after the pilot had limped away, the planes was strafed on the ground until it exploded. Lt Kyrich got in most of the hits and is credited with I E/A shot down.

There was weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth among the officers today; all civilian cars were grounded. The case is being appealed.

Three pilots were acquired today and assigned to the 396th and 397th Squadrons.
22 April 1945 (cont'd)

The headquarters softball season got off to a flying start tonight when the enlisted men finally nixed out the officers 12-11, after tracking 11-5 late in the game.

Supporting Document #9, Special Order #40.

23 April 1945

Again today operations were something less than spectacular; 30 sorties were flown, each squadron going out on one mission. The 395th flew area cover around Bayreuth and had nothing to report. The 397th went out to look for road and rail movement in the Prague-Pilsen area and destroyed 8 M/Ts with their 16 frags (260 lbs) bombs. The 396th worked with the III Corps. They dropped their 12 frags on a pair of M/T's; a warehouse was set on fire in one and the results could not be measured in the other. Later 8 more M/T's were destroyed by straffing and 2 locos were destroyed and 15 more damaged.

Capt. Quinan was forced to return to Paris to attend athletic school for 7 days; days off started again, and we acquired a bus to make the regular run from Zeppelinheim, to show to the headquarters area and theater.

But the highlight of the day was the visit of Major General Wayland, XIX TAC, CG, who presented 3 Silver Stars, 14 Distinguished Flying Crosses (and two Oak Leaf Clusters), 22 Bronze Stars, and 27 Air Medals. From the Group Headquarters Capt. Frank S. Kerchner of S-3 received the Silver Star and Capt. David F. Reinthal of S-2 the Bronze Star.

The 368th Group baseball team played and won their opening game, beating the 840th Engineers 10-5. Members of the squad from Gp. Hq. are coach-catcher Rotan, Pitchers Ahonen and Malensheim, and second baseman Ueno. Hq. enlisted men and officers both won their softball games tonight, the EM beating the 1222CM 4-1 and the officers turning back the 395th pilots 5-4.

24 April 1945

Operations picked up again today, with 96 sorties flown and 11,75 tons of frag bombs dropped. The 395 drew the Area Cover mission over Bayreuth today and had "uneventful" reports to turn in. The 396th flew 3 armed recces against rail and road traffic in the Ingolstadt-Munchen area and the 397th drew similar assignments to Prague. These missions accounted for a town flattened, big explosions as an ammo dump blew up, 10 revetments destroyed, 1 boiler and 4 gun destroyed, 18 buildings destroyed or damaged, 100 troops killed (or damaged) and tracks and roads out in several places. The vehicle count was: M/T's 106-62, locos 24-1, and freight cars 30-82. The 396th also straffed an A/D near Wiener and reported the enemy aircraft in the woods well clobbered; but the only claim submitted was for one HEII1 damaged.

The most spectacular results of the day also cost us a pilot. The 396th attacked underground installations at Saar and Ebenhausen and got by far the largest explosion the pilots have ever seen, dust and debris coming up to 7,000 feet. 2ndLt. Jack H. Sharp was caught by these explosions and his plane crashed and exploded after being blasted straight up a thousand feet. He is listed MIA.

The Group officers won their second softball game today, getting a forfeit from the 397th pilots and then defeating a pickup team from the same squadron 11-8.
25 April 1945

Locomotives and planes on the ground again came in for plenty of attention today, as 112 sorties were flown and 15 3/4 tons of frags were dropped. This time the 397th drew 5 area cover missions to Bayreuth and Wurzburg, still entirely uneventful. The other two squadrons flew armed recce to Munich and Wasserburg, to cooperate with the III Corps. Each of the squadrons worked over an airfield; the 395th destroyed 2 twin-engined E/A and damaged another with frags and destroyed an He111 by strafing at the Erding A/D; and the 396th, dropping frags on the Eberding, A/D, estimate that 6 single-engined E/A were destroyed and 12 damaged. Vehicle claims were: 12 tanks 63-15, locos 14-0, and freight cars 15-15. Other damage for the day included 7 soldiers killed, 7 flak positions destroyed, road cuts in 3 places, and 54 buildings destroyed. Two 395th pilots were lost today and are listed MIA; 2ndLt. Russel L Grubbs, on his first mission, bailed out of his flak riddled P-47 over the Erding A/D; and 2nd Lt Thomas H. Moore, failed to recover from his bomb run at Ingolstadt and went straight in with his bombs.

26 April 1945

Continued good weather permitted the performance of 10 missions totalling 98 sorties - six missions on armed recce in the Munich-Staueuleng and Geisenfeld-Munich areas, three missions on airfield patrol in the Bayreuth-Nurnburg area and one FW mission. Fifteen and three-quarters tons of bombs and 64 rockets were dropped or launched against targets on airfields and in towns resulting in claims of: 0-3 tanks, 37-9 M/7's and vehicles, 8-2 locomotives, 15-49 HR cars, (1-0-0(air))(0-0-4)ground) aircraft, 15-20 buildings and 1 hangar destroyed or damaged. Four rail cuts were effected and several fires started. While on armed recce in the Munich area and support of III Corps units railways and towns were hit hard. Ground Controller Hopcroft assigned the towns of Mavron and Gaden as targets for the 396th when they were on their 3rd mission. - results of the bombing were excellent with the destruction of many buildings and 59 German soldiers. The 395th dropped FW leaflet bombs on designated areas and flew uneventful Area Cover over A/Ds in the Bayreuth area. Armed recce in the Marktl area by the 397th resulted in several fires and the destruction of damage of 35 buildings and 1 hangar.

Special Order #42 announced the appointment of Capt. Wayne H. Driscoll as Hq Group Air Inspector with Capt. James M. Ivey as Assistant Group Air Inspector. Three Captains arrived from XIX TAC and were assigned by the same order to Squadrons: Capt. William O. Ross to the 395th, Capt. Ross Smith Jr. to the 396th, and Capt. William H. Nelson to the 397th Squadrons. It also announced the assignment of 1st Lt Oran L. Higgins to the 396th Squadron.

Supporting Document # 12, Special Order #42.

27 April 1945

Operations took a slump today due to low clouds, haze, and thundershowers in the target area and at the base. Three missions totalling 36 sorties were flown in the Sudomer, Traun and Linz areas. The 397th Squadron carried 16 rockets and 1 3/4 tons of bombs; claims resulting from the mission were: 17-25 HR cars, 3-0 buildings destroyed or damaged and 4 rail cuts. The 396th claimed 3-0-13 aircraft and 0-3 hangars destroyed or damaged after bombing and strafing the Horsching A/F. 16 rockets and 2 tons of bombs were carried on the mission. The 395th Squadron with 8 rockets and 2 tons of bombs came away with claims of 10 aircraft damaged, 2 hangars
27 April 1945 (cont'd)

destroyed and 4 fires started. Lt. Hays was reported IIA after his plane nosed over on landing.

Boys from XIX TAC came down tonight and put on a fairly good "All GI" show for us. Most of the boys got a belly-full of laughs and considered the evening well spent. They should drop around again some time.

28 April 1945

Rain and low clouds prevented operations today but news from the Third Army front was so good that we could still feel reasonable well about the situation. Elements of the Third Army were reported advancing into Austria and Czechoslovakia with one spearhead 25 miles from Munich. BEC had announced the link-up of Russian and American forces at Torgau and read statements by President Truman, Marshal Stalin and Mr. Churchill. Mussolini and Grazoni were also reported captured by Italian patriots. Not even rain could dampen our spirits when the radio was putting forth such good news.

HQs Officers beat the EM 9-5 in an evening game. Someone said that the umpire was afraid of rank! Under other circumstances it could have led to bloodshed but all differences were soon settled and bets were being made that the next time, etc!

We had a French show tonight. A five piece band made an attempt to play the hit tunes but didn't come up to par with the American jive-bands. But the girls were pretty! They danced well and the audience roared and wanted more.

The only depressing news arrived in the form of a rumor that our new field will have no barracks and after having lived a couple of weeks in the solid comforts of apartments and houses none of us are in any mood to move into tents again. The only consoling thought lies in the fact that our move brings us near the Nazi's last hangout.

Special Order #43 confirms the assignment of Capt. Otis J. Foster to the 396th Squadron.

Supporting Document #13, Special Order #43.

29 April 1945

A slight improvement in the weather permitted the Group to perform 3 missions totaling 34 sorties, dropping 11 3/4 tons of GP's and 88X bombs and launched 24 with resultant claims of 12-10 M/T's and vehicles, 13-4 locos, 29-94 RR cars and 6 buildings destroyed or damaged plus 5 troops killed, 5 rail cars effected and 2 fires started in a 1/4. All missions were on armed recon—the 395th and 396th Squadrons in the Strakonice Pisek area and the 398th in the Landshut area.

It became increasingly evident today that the Nazi war machine is about to crack wide open. BEC announced that President Truman denied any foundation to the report that the United Nations had accepted a German unconditional surrender to all three major powers. Continued reports of an impending collapse of the German army has brought about no change in our plans to move. The first party, two enlisted men, departed for Nurnburg today.

Sooooooo—-—Nurneerg here we come!!!
Operations continued on a small scale today due to unfavorable weather in the recce area. Three 12-plane missions were flown on armed recce — the 396th and 397th Squadrons in the Pisek-Lina areas and the 395th in the Wassenburg area. Eleven tons of bombs and 28 rockets used in attacks on M/T's led to strafing and bombing claims of: 7-8 tanks, 64-7 M/T's and vehicles, 11-0 locos, 58-128 RR cars, 2-8 buildings destroyed or damaged and 5 RR cuts effected. The 396th Squadron flew a P/W mission but they reported they believed Allied troops were at some of the places where leaflet bombs dropped.

The weather during the past 10 days has been surprising and rather unpleasant. The first few days at this base were warm and we all felt that Spring was here to stay, but a cold, rainy spell put an end to all such thoughts.

Section V, General Order #22, XXI TAC, authorizes nine lead combat pilots of this Group to wear 1/8th inch gold border around blue patch now authorized by the War Department for combat flying personnel. Of those nine officers three are assigned to Headquarters. They are: Col. Frank S. Perego, Lt. Col. Harold P. Sparks and Major Carlos M. Talbott. Special Order #64 gives Capt. Cleary an extension on his TBY noted on 21 April 1945.

Peace rumors continued to mount in intensity. The Swedish Count Bernadotte is reported to have conveyed the surrender offer to Britain and America from Himmler. The Third Army is continuing its advance beyond the Danube — but against stiff opposition. One of the best news reports is on the release of many thousands of Allied prisoners. US troops are reported one mile from the Dachau concentration camp. Recently an agreement was reached between Germany and the United States whereby the Germany will leave prisoners of war in camps about to be overrun by Allied troops; the Allies are obligated not to return the men to combat duty in this theater. Good news is pouring in from all fronts as we bring this month to a close. In our section the Third Army is encountering stiff to moderate resistance except in the central position near Platting where the enemy is more disorganized. The month of May should show the end of all organized resistance.

A glance at the following Summary of Operations for the month of April will assist one in determining one of the reasons why the German is due to go into retirement soon — for good we hope!

Summary of Operations for month of April

Sorties flown ———— 1,847
Tons of bombs dropped ———— 304,75
Rockets launched ———— 172
Rounds of 50 cal ammo, fired ———— 853,851

Target Claims for month of April

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Destroyed</th>
<th>Damaged</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tanks</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M/T's and Vehicles</td>
<td>1,340</td>
<td>609</td>
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<tr>
<td>Locos</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>94</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freight Cars</td>
<td>841</td>
<td>1,420</td>
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<tr>
<td>Buildings</td>
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SECRET
30 April 1945 (cont'd)

Target Claims for month of April (Cont'd)

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<th>Object</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gunpositions</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ammunition Sheds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gas and Oil Tanks</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>Hangars</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>Factories</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radio Shack and Tower</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Searchlights</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steamshovel</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rail Cuts Effected</td>
<td></td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Road Cuts Effected</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enemy Troops Killed or Wounded</td>
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<td>399</td>
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<tr>
<td>Horses Killed or Wounded</td>
<td></td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fires Started in Factories, Warehouses, Buildings, N/V's, etc., resulting in explosions and/or damage.</td>
<td></td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towns Flattened</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
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Aircraft Claims for month of April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Destroyed</th>
<th>Probable</th>
<th>Damaged</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Air</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ground</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100</td>
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</table>

Supporting Document #14, General Order #28
Supporting Document #15, Special Order #44
SPECIAL ORDERS

NUMBER 34

1. Under the provisions of AR 615-5, 30 June 43, and upon the recommendation of their Ocm Commanding Officer, the following named EE, 396th Fighter Group, are promoted to grades as indicated:

TO 33 STAFF SERGEANT (TSG)
Sgt (686) Samuel J. Valenza 12162330

TO 33 SERGEANT (TSG)
Opl (560) Ralph Sill 32966424
Opl (603) John T. Connelly 31230432
Opl (911) Robert A. Browning 33590921

TO 33 CORPORAL (TCP)
Pfc (932) Thomas Z. Lynch 37329021
Pfc (911) Earl J. Bailey 17034247
Pfc (561) Joseph H. Daniel 34729079

TO 33 PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (TPF)
Pvt (932) Harry J. Jackson 33390026
Pvt (560) Jose C. De Los Reyes 33383846

2. Under the provisions of AR 615-5, 30 June 43, and upon the recommendation of their Ocm Commanding Officer, the following named EE, 396th Fighter Group, are promoted to grades as indicated:

TO 33 STAFF SERGEANT (TSG)
Sgt (911) Clarence H. Fowler 14133819
Sgt (760) Raymond Stempfer 35468686
Sgt (747) John A. Upham 31065359
Sgt (911) John C. Wood Jr 14053200

TO 33 SERGEANT (TSG)
Opl (911) William E. Hare 19087611

TO 33 PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (TPF)
Pvt (901) Adolph H. Zenke 36281432
Pvt (911) Kenneth J. Haley 13141948
Pvt (911) Ian J. McEwan 11115917
3. Under the provisions of AR 615-5, 31 June 43, and upon the recommendation of their Orgn Comdr, the following named En, 397th Ftr Sq, are promoted to grades as indicated:

**TO 31 SSGT AF (FAC)**
- Cpl (747) Stanley Berkovitz 12448575

**TO 31 CCTRL (FAC)**
- Pfc (932) John C. Ramsdell 31084018

**TO 31 PRIVATE 1ST CL (FAC)**
- Pvt (565) Ivan J. Piansen 36549327
- Pvt (901) Lewis J. Eadge 33529600
- Pvt (345) Cecil C. Hubbard 16080064

4. Lt Col HAROLD P. SPARKS, 0463728, AC, is ap’d Deputy Commander vice Lt Col PAUL P. DOUGLAS JR, 1453187, AC, retd, eff 3 April 45.

5. Major CARLOS K. TILLOT, 025792, AC, is ap’d op S-3, vice Lt Col HAROLD P. SPARKS, 0463728, AC, retd, eff 3 April 45.

6. Capt TAYLOR H. BIZZOLI, 0745333, AC, is ap’d Asst op S-3, prnc dy, eff 3 April 45.

BY ORDER OF LT COLONEL FERGO:

OFFICIAL:

Hugh L. Rice
Major, Air Corps
Adjutant.

DISSIPATION: "A"

-2-

RESTRICTED
RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS

368TH FIGHTER GROUP

APO 111, U.S. Army
5 April 1945

SPECIAL ORDERS

NUMBER 35

1. Pvt (596) "Lumberjack", 3305506, 396th FTR Sq, is placed on TDY for this sta on 5 Apr 1945 to Reims, France, for a period of approximately two (2) days, for the purpose of procuring and checking on American Red Cross supplies. Upon completion of this TDY, he will return to proper sta and orgn. TDY by "T", 60-114 432-02 212/50425.

2. Having been asgd this orgn per Par 1 of 90 Hq 134th Reinforcement on (AF), dtd 31 Mar 1945, the following named officers are further asgd to Sea as indicated. TDY 5 Apr 45:

   2d Lt (1055) DONALD R. FIERING          0831619 AC  395th Fighter Sq
   2d Lt (1055) ROGER L. CRUMMS           02659823 AC  395th Fighter Sq
   2d Lt (1055) JAMES G. HURST           0831895 AC  395th Fighter Sq
   2d Lt (1055) THOMAS W. TILS          0680875 AC  395th Fighter Sq
   2d Lt (1055) ANGELA G. AUSTIN       0730608 AC  395th Fighter Sq
   2d Lt (1055) GEORGE R. CONKLINGER  0263882 AC  396th Fighter Sq
   2d Lt (1055) JOHN N. STAPLE         0634029 AC  396th Fighter Sq
   2d Lt (1055) ROBERT S. SIMPSON   0834310 AC  396th Fighter Sq
   lstLt (1055) CLIFFORD H. ECKELIN  0766610 AC  397th Fighter Sq
   2d Lt (1055) ROBERT V. ARRINGTON  02605775 AC  397th Fighter Sq
   2d Lt (1055) JOHN W. BUTTS, III  20263779 AC  397th Fighter Sq

3. The following named officers are placed on TDY, from this sta on 6 Apr 1945, for a period of approx two (2) days, to Hq Ninth AF (AFO), reporting upon arrival to col Miller, for the purpose of presentation of awards. Upon completion of this TDY, he will return to proper sta and orgn. TDY by "T", 60-114 F 432-02 A 212/50425. TDY by "T".

   2d Lt "YLLIN" J. CANDY         0679056 AC
   lst Lt "YLLIN" J. "PVT"        0818172 AC

4. Capt JOHN R. KAY, 0250922, AC, is placed on TDY for a period of approximately nine (9) days, will proceed fr this sta of a 6 Apr 1945, to cite "universitaire", 7, Boulevard Jourdan, Paris, for the purpose of attending Information Education Staff School. Upon completion of this TDY, he will return to proper sta and orgn. TDY by "T" or mail. 60-114 F 432-02 A 212/50425.

5. The WCO, 368th FTR Sq, of 25 Mar 1945, under exigencies which prevented the issuance of advance orders, are hereby confirmed and made of record:

   "having been asgd this orgn per Par 8 80 24 Hq Ninth AF dtd 25 Mar 45, 2d Lt (1055) JOHN R. KAY, 0260579, AC, is further asgd 395th FTR Sq."
6. The FPO 368th Ftr Gp of 1 Apr 1945 under exigencies which prevented the issuance of advance orders are hereby confirmed and made of record:

under the provisions of AR 351200, 10 Oct 42, and AAF Regulations 35-29, 20 Jul 42, as amended by AAF Regulations 35-29A, 9 Mar 43, the following named enlisted men who are required to participate in regular and frequent aerial flights are placed on flying status for the period 1 Apr 1945 to 30 Apr 1945:

Sgt J. R. McDaniel 34343459 Aerial Engineer
Sgt Anthony P. Jawick 32504294 Aerial Engineer (Asst)
Sgt Robert T. Barnard 31144999 Radio Operator and Tech
Capt John F. Barnard 37461374 Radio Operator and Tech (Asst)

7. Under the provisions of AR 615-5 the following named enlisted men, Hq 368th Ftr Gp, is apt Private First Class, effective this date: Pvt Edward H. Smith, 31056667, T/O.

8. The following named officers are granted seven (7) days leave of absence 'T o/a 8 Apr 1945 to Nice, France. Upon arrival at Nice Strip, officers will report to CO, VP-64, Martinez Hotel. Upon completion of this leave, they will ret to proper orgn. DN by 'T, mil asct or rail. 60-114 P 432-02 A 212/50425. NOTH: 1) Lt Hq VP-64, file AR 354.1, subj: "United States Riviera Recreational Area," 8 Jan 45.

9. The FPO 368th Ftr Gp of 3 Apr 1945, under exigencies which prevented the issuance of adv orders are hereby confirmed and made of record:

Having been said this orgn per Far 100.26 F. HSACTAC Air Cmd dtd 2 Apr 1945, the PN RN are further said to orgns as indicated: FPO 3 Apr 45:

Pfc (657) Vinal R. Smith 39527829 Hq 368th Ftr Gp
Pvt Robert H. Watson (825) 19083991 Hq 368th Ftr Gp
Pvt Jolene S. Gray (850) 35592939 368th Ftr Sq

By order of Lt. Colonel, USAF:

PARK, USAF, Major, Air Corps, Adjutant.

Hugh H. Rice /s/
Hugh H. Rice, USAF
Major, Air Corps, Adjutant.

REMARKS: "\"
DISTRIBUTED

HEADQUARTERS
326TH FIGHTER GROUP

APO 143, U. S. Army
3 April 1945

SPECIAL ORDERS

NUMBER 32

1. 2d Lt Glen E. Bergman, 07394732, 40, is granted seven (7) days leave of absence, 12 of a 3 Apr 1945 to Nice, Fr. Upon arriving at Nice Strip, Off will report to USRA Operations Tent for transportation to Cannes, Fr, where he will report to CC, USRA, Martines Hotel. Upon completion of this leave, he will return to proper org. TIN by MT, mail a/c for rail, 60-114-432-02 & 212/50.45. AUSH: Ltr Hq USRA, file AG 354.1, subj: "United States Riviera Recreational area," 3 Jan 45.

2. So much of par 8, 30 35, this Hq, os, as reads "2d Lt Robert L. Hicks, 0359763, 40," as deleted.

3. All named Ths, Sq indicated, are placed on TDY, TP XIX Tactical Air Cmp (2), reporting to Sgt Lawrence, 4-1 Section on 10 April 45, for a period of three (3) days, to attend a language instructor course. Mass kit and bedding will accompany Ths. Upon completion of this TDY Ths will return to proper org. TIN by MT, mail a/c for rail, 60-114-432-02 & 212/50.45. AUSH: TPX XIX 90 R-63-G.

Col Louis W. Heidelberger 33194778 395th Ftr Sq
Pvt Adolph H. Benge 36221452 395th Ftr Sq

BY ORDER OF LT COL BRENGO:

OFFICIAL:

Hugh L. Rice
Hugh L. Rice,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant

DISTRIBUTION:

Hugh L. Rice,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant.
SPECIAL ORDERS

NUMBER 37

1. All named EM, 368th FG, are placed on TDY, WP Rems, France, o/a 12 Apr 1945, for a period of two (2) days, for the purpose of procuring supplies. Upon completion of this TDY, EM will report to proper orgs, TIN by MT, maf aero or rail. 60-114 P 432-02 A 23/51425

2. Lt. J. Blackman, 368th FG, 397th Ft Sq, is placed on TDY, WP Ninth Air Force ContinentalStockade, o/a 16 Apr 1945, for a period of two (2) days, for the purpose of picking up Pvt Charles L. Endsley, 15334853, and returning him to this station. TIN by MT, maf aero or rail. 60-114 P 432-02 A 23/51425

3. All named officers are granted seven (7) days leave, o/a 16 Apr 1945 to Nice, France. Upon arriving at Nice Strip, officers will report to USAF Operations Tent for transportation to Cumes, France, where they will report to CO, USAF, Marines Hotel. Upon completion of this leave, they will report to proper orgs. TIN by MT, maf aero or rail. 60-114 P 432-02 A 23/51425

4. Lt. William S. Lott 073003 AC (In charge) 0828686 AC

5. Lt. Albert F. Brunner 0820684 AC


7. Lt. Joseph T. Sprung 0827639 AC

8. Lt. Robert E. Kingman 0827649 AC


10. Lt. Joseph H. Simpson 0827000 AC
RESTRICTED

837, Hq 388th Ftr Cp, 11 Apr 45, Cont'd.

6. The VOGO, 388th Ftr Cp, of 10 Apr 45, under exigencies which prevented
the issuance of advance orders, are hereby confirmed and made of record.
"Having been asgd this orgn per par 1, 80 91, XIX Tactical Air Comd,
dated 7 Apr 45, the fol named EM are further asgd to Sq as indicated:

Pvt George B. Speers Jr (628) 33322376 388th Ftr Sq
Pvt Wilfred F. White Jr (932) 31161361 397th Ftr Sq

EDORM 10 Apr 45,"

7. Under the provisions of AR 615-5, 20 Jun 43 and upon the recommendation
of their Orgn Comdr, the following named EM, 397th Ftr Sq, are promoted to grades
as indicated:

TO BE TECHNICAL SERGEANT (TEMP)
Sgt (014) Walter F. Szymkowski 33390620

TO BE STAFF SERGEANT (TEMP)
Sgt (014) Harry J. Heide Jr 35572320

(Travel dir is pursuant to auth contained in Ltr, Hq European Ftr, USA, file 300.4
MPH, 22 Nov 44)

BY ORDER OF COLONEL PECHGO:

OFFICIAL:

HUGH L. MC
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant

DISTRIBUTION:

RESTRICTED

2

(RESTRICTED)
RESULT OF INTERROGATION OF GAF PILOT WHO LANDED AT V-73

Unter-Offiziere Gerhardt Fuerschner, born 10-3-1920, with four years service in
the German Army and the holder of the Iron Cross first class and another decoration
comparable to our D.F.C., was a member of the 4th Staffel of Stabgeschwader 20 J.

This Gruppe had been based at Finow A/D, located at coordinate V-0470, twenty-six
miles north-northeast of Berlin, since 7 Feb 45 where the entire Gruppe was based
together with A Fighter Gruppe consisting of about 20 Me109's. This A/D came under
the jurisdiction of the Berlin area. The Gruppe Commander was Hauptmann Hinlich,
and the Geschwader Commander was Major Hamster. The aircraft Fw was flying was an FV-
190 F-8 marked with a yellow number 14 and a yellow rectangle; the Staffel or Squadron
marking was yellow, which would correspond with our 379 Squadron.

At the time of interrogation the Fw stated that there were about 7 or 8 aircraft per
Staffel with six serviceable. In the Gruppe there were 30 to 33 aircraft of which about
25 were serviceable. In each Staffel there were 10 pilots, of whom seven were on duty
and in the Gruppe there were 35 to 36 pilots, of whom 28 were on duty.

On the 19th of April, after running three close support missions on the Eastern Front
against the Russian ground forces, the fourth mission for the day was laid on. This
mission was as follows: several Truppe were to dive-bomb and ack positions east of
the Oder River bridgehead at "Rossendorf near Ruestran and the Truppe was to attack
the bridge itself. For this mission Fw's plane was loaded with A.S.03001 (containing
1 V-16 bombs). The unit took off from Finow A/D at 1745 hours and Fw jettisoned his
bombs and deserted with his aircraft, landing at V-73 at 1900 hours.

Fw stated that at the time of this mission there were only 60,000 liters of gasoline
left for his Truppe and that then this was finished there would be no more. He also
stated that all members of the command had been told this before the mission, with
the additional information that when the gasoline was gone the ground crews would be
transferred to the Infantry. His Commanding Officer, Oberleutnant Ruller, made this
statement.

Further information from Fw indicated that on the mission mentioned above the bombers
were escorted by 8-12 fighterm.

In Fw's opinion Russian fighters are superior to F-190 F-8 and P-39 and the Me109, but
the bombers of the Russians are not up to scratch in their formations.

Some of the pilot replacements for this unit had been obtained from 31151 which was
located in the vicinity of Nurnberg.

James C. Kessling, Jr. /s/
JAMES C. KESSLING, JR.
Major, Air Corps
Group S-2
RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
268TH FIGHTER GROUP

APO 141, U.S. Army
17 April 1945

GENERAL ORDERS

NUMBER 3

RELATIONS BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THIS ORGANIZATION AND INHABITANTS OF GERMANY

All personnel of this organization will be informed as to the contents of Ninth Air Force General Orders No. 228, dated 10 October 1944 and Annex "A" attached thereto.

Policies and principles as outlined therein, will be followed and enforced. Continuous inspections will be made by unit commanders or authorized representatives to insure compliance.

Personnel of this organization will not fraternize with inhabitants of Germany. The definition of "Non-Fraternization" as given by Annex "A" to General Orders No. 228, Ninth Air Force, dated 10 October 1944 is as follows:

"Non-fraternization" is the avoidance of mingling with Germans upon terms of friendliness, familiarity or intimacy, whether individually or in groups, in official or unofficial dealings. However, non-fraternization does not demand much, undignified or aggressive conduct, nor the insolent overbearance which has characterized Nazi leadership.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL HEBEJO:

HUGH L. RICE, Major, Air Corps, Adjutant.

OFFICIALS

HUGH L. RICE, Major, Air Corps, Adjutant.

DISTRIBUTION:

"A"

- 1 -

RESTRICTED
HEADQUARTERS
366TH FIGHTER GROUP

C-2

APO 141, U. S. Army
18 April 1945

MEMORANDUM

NUMBER 11

I - USE OF H2O

Water that has not been properly chlorinated locally, or obtained from an approved Army water point, will not be used for drinking, cooking, or brushing of teeth.

II - LOOTING AND PILLAGING

Your attention is directed to Sec III, Memo No. 21, this Hq, dated 24 June 44, and to XIX Tactical Air Comd Memorandum, dated 12 April 45, which is hereby quoted for your information and strict compliance.

1. With the movement of units of this Command into Germany some individuals are inclined to disregard the provisions of RH 27-10, "Rules of Land Occupied", which specifically denounce looting and pillaging. Instances of the looting and pillaging of private homes, billets, and buildings of furnishings and contents by U. S. Army units have been reported. We have come into this country as conquerors and not as vandals, huns or looters.

2. All personnel of this Command are cautioned that such conduct as mentioned above will not be tolerated, and constitutes a violation of the Articles of War.

3. Prompt and vigorous corrective measures, where indicated, will be instituted by commanders of all echelons, and offenders will be made the subject of appropriate disciplinary action.

4. The provisions of this letter will be brought to the attention of all personnel under your command.

III - VOTING BY PERSONNEL
OF THE ARMED FORCES IN ELECTIONS IN 1945

Your attention is directed to EXO Letter, subject as above, file 614, 35, dated 7 March 45.

Contents of subject directive will be disseminated to all personnel. Voting Officers will be appointed on the basis of ability and will where ever possible be the same officer that was appointed for 1944.

IV - CASUALTY REPORTING

USSTAF Regulations No. 80-15 is hereby quoted for your information and strict compliance.

36. Recent War Department cables indicate that there is a general lack of attention being given the preparation of letters of condolence. Members of Congress and families are forwarding letters to the War Department which are merely form letters of sympathy, containing little or no information concerning the death or burial of the soldier. In many instances the brevity is being excused by "Security Regulations". Immediate action will be taken by all commanders concerned to insure that this type of letter receives the attention that is warranted.
Memo No. 11, Hq. 368th Fighter Grp., 18 April 45.

2. Attention is directed to Circular 104, Hq. European T of Ops., USA, 1944, as amended, with particular reference to paragraph 130 (1) (d). The mention of security regulations will not be incorporated in letters of condolence.

3. The Commanding General, European T of Ops., USA, is issuing a new circular on casualty reporting to authorize reference to specific places of burial, except where the burial is in a temporary grave— for instance, "battle field burials", in which case a general area location only, such as Norway, France, will be given. The new circular authorizes the release of all available information which does not specifically violate security regulations.

V. MAINTENANCE OF SERVICE RECORDS

Your attention is directed to letter, Ninth Air Force, subject as above, file 201.30, dated 29 March 1945.

All personnel concerned with maintenance of service records will familiarize themselves with subject letter.

VI. SABOTAGE

The following extract from Ninth Air Force directive, dated 27 March 1945, is quoted for your information and compliance:

1. Recent information received indicates that the Germans are using camouflaged high explosive, and oxygen cylinders similar to those normally used in acetylene gas torches but filled with high explosive, in electricity generating stations in Germany. These bombs have been found and were to be initiated by stealth behind agents.

2. It is recommended that public utilities, including electricity stations, coal gas generating stations and water pumping plants should be carefully examined for such material after occupation. Any suspicious object not required for the functioning of the plant should be checked by a Bomb Disposal Officer and removed to a safe place.

3. Interrogation of German saboteurs recently captured indicate the German battery are contemplating poisoning, or have prepared poisoned Nasco tea, sugar, German cigarettes, and German chocolate. The German brand of chocolate SADMITI was specially mentioned.

The above information, in general terms, has been reported in the press with regard to the Russian Front and should be given the widest publicity within the Allied armed Forces. It is further advised that the eating of German food or the smoking of German cigarettes should be completely prohibited.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL BRYSON:

HUGH L. HIDE,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjunct

OFFICIAL:

HUGH L. HIDE,
Major, Air Corps,

ADJUNT

DISTRIBUTION:

2
SPECIAL ORDERS

NUMBER 29

1. All named officers are granted seven (7) days leave of absence, WP Nice, Fr., o/a 22 Apr 45. Upon arriving at Nice airport, officers will report to USAF Operations Tent for transportation to Toulon, Fr., whereat they will report to CQ, USHRA, Martinez Hotel. Upon completion of this leave, they will return to proper orgs. TDY by MT, mil acct or rail. 60-11P 433-03 A 212/25428. AUTH: Lt, Hq UKUSA, file 40 354.1, Subj: "United States Riviera Recreational Area," 8 Jan 45.

   Major Horris CALL OF 42763 40 (in charge)
   1st Lt James E. FALEY 07674 45
   1st Lt Edwin M. McCLELLAN 048734 40
   2d Lt Leon H. COHEN 0829823 40
   2d Lt Donald D. CAMBELL 077404 40
   2d Lt Charles E. LEGRAND 0829023 40
   2d Lt John W. RUSSELL 0209580 40
   Pfc Harold M. HIRSCH 312734 40

2. Capt Donald H. CALL OF 048362. Ch G is placed on TDY, WP Nice, Fr., o/a 22 Apr 45, for approximately three (3) days, for the purpose of performing a marriage ceremony. Upon completion of this TDY, off will return to proper org. TDY by MT, mil acct or rail. 60-11P 433-03 A 212/25428. AUTH: VQG IX Tactical Air Comd.

3. Having been asked this org per para 1 and 107, Eq 134th Reinforcement Squadron (AAF), 17 Apr 45, the following named officers are further asked to sq as indicated, EDCM 21 Apr 45.

   1st Lt (1029) Cullen J. DOUGLAS 137010 40 997th Ftr Sq
   2d Lt (1-195) George H. M. J. W. 1398764 40 997th Ftr Sq
   2d Lt (195) Robert J. DOERR 0209755 40 336th Ftr Sq
   2d Lt (156) Eugene J. GROSS 1381506 40 336th Ftr Sq
   2d Lt (105) Edmund MONROE 1380574 40 336th Ftr Sq
   2d Lt (105) Frank C. CRIBBS 0224039 40 336th Ftr Sq

4. All named off and Ch are placed on TDY, WP Exposition Bldg, Beresford, Belgium, o/a 22 Apr 45. For a period of four (4) days for the purpose of picking up rations. Upon completion of this TDY, they will return to proper orgs. TDY by MT, mil acct or rail. 60-11P 433-03 A 212/25428.

   1st Lt John F. REGAN 0539087 40
   Pfc. Jules Lorson 3471564 2499th QM Trk Co

   1
RESTRICTED

S0 29, Hq 368th Ftr Gp, 21 Apr 45, Cont'd.

5. Lt Col THOMAS J. CARBINE, 032748, AC, is aptd Cp S-3 Officer vice Major CARLOS M. TALBOT, 026797, AC, retd.

6. Major CARLOS M. TALBOT, 026797, AC, is aptd Asst Cp S-3 Officer.

(Travel dir is pursuant to auth contained in Ltr, Hq European TO, USA, file 300.4
MM, 22 Nov 1944)

BY ORDER OF COLONEL FEZED:

HUGH L. RICE,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

HUGH L. RICE,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

DISTRIBUTION:

"A"
RESTRICTED
HEADQUARTERS
366TH FIGHTER GROUP
APO 143, U.S. Army
22 April 1945

SPECIAL ORDERS

NUMBER 40

1. 1st Lt DAVID E. FINGER, 0635761, AC, is granted seven (7) days leave of absence, WP Rice, Fr c/o 22 Apr 45. Upon arriving at Nice Strip he will report to USRA Operations Tent for transportation to Cannes, Fr, where he will report to CO, USRA, Martinez Hotel. Upon completion of this leave, he will return to proper orgn. TEN by MT, rail, naf or rail, 60-115 P 433-02 4 212/53435. AUTH: Ltr, Hq 366Th, file 35541, Subj: "United States Riviera Recreational Area," 8 Jan 45.

2. Having been asgd this orgn per par 1, SO 106, Hq 134th Reinforcement Bn (AA) 18 Apr 45, the following named officers are further asgd Sq as indicated:

1st Lt (1063) LLOYD CAREER 042517 40 396th Ftr Sq
2d Lt (1035) WILLIAM A. WATTERS 0851273 40 397th Ftr Sq
2d Lt (1062) KENNETH G. WEKEL 0846231 40 397th Ftr Sq

3. The named EM, 397th Ftr Sq, are placed on TDY, to Ninth Air Force Continental Stockade, c/o 24 Apr 45, for a period of four (4) days, for the purpose of bringing back Pvt Thomas K. Miller, 1813466, confined thereat. Upon completion of this TDY, they will return to proper orgn. TEN by MT, rail, naf or rail, 60-115 P 433-02 4 212/53435.

Opl Walter J. Gatz 12193389 Driver
Pfc Edward F. Neary 33666621 Asst Driver

(Travel dir is pursuant to auth contained in Ltr, Hq European TO, USA, file 300.4 MFM, 22 Nov 44)

BY ORDER OF COLONEL PEESO:

HUGH L. RICE
Major, Air Corps
Adjutant

HUGH L. RICE
Major, Air Corps
Adjutant

IN SORPTION:

-1-

RESTRICTED
HEADQUARTERS
368TH FIGHTER GROUP

AP0 141, U. S. Army
20 April 1945

MEMORANDUM

NUMBER 12

I -- RESCSSION OF LETTERS AND UNNUMERATED MEMORANDA

Letters and unnumbered memoranda, this Hq, are rescinded as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
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<tr>
<td>Letter</td>
<td>5 Sept 44</td>
<td>&quot;368th Ftr Gp Policy for Return of Combat Personnel to the Z of I for Reassignment.&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Letter</td>
<td>10 Dec 44</td>
<td>&quot;Carrying of Weapons&quot;</td>
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<td>Letter</td>
<td>10 Jan 45</td>
<td>&quot;Fath Facilities&quot;</td>
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<td>Letter</td>
<td>Not dated</td>
<td>&quot;Civilians at Officers' Club&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Letter</td>
<td>19 Mar 45</td>
<td>&quot;Passes to Nancy&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter</td>
<td>20 Mar 45</td>
<td>&quot;Transportation to Nancy&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Letter</td>
<td>20 Mar 45</td>
<td>&quot;Leaves to Paris&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter</td>
<td>1 Apr 45</td>
<td>&quot;Transportation Schedule to Paris&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorandum</td>
<td>15 Nov 44</td>
<td>&quot;Day Off Policy&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorandum</td>
<td>10 Dec 44</td>
<td>&quot;Passes to Lille, France&quot;</td>
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<td>Memorandum</td>
<td>11 Dec 44</td>
<td>&quot;Cafe in Mons Off Limits&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorandum</td>
<td>18 Dec 44</td>
<td>&quot;Day Off Policy&quot;</td>
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<td>Memorandum</td>
<td>5 Feb 45</td>
<td>&quot;Overnight Accommodations&quot;</td>
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<td>Memorandum</td>
<td>15 Feb 45</td>
<td>&quot;Pro Stations&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorandum</td>
<td>24 Feb 45</td>
<td>&quot;Structural Fires&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorandum</td>
<td>18 Mar 45</td>
<td>&quot;Days Off&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memorandum</td>
<td>9 Feb 45</td>
<td>&quot;Coal Bation&quot;</td>
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</tbody>
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II -- DAYS OFF

Effective 23 April 45 personnel of this organization and attached units are authorized one day off each week. No more than one-seventh of duty strength will be absent from duty at any one time. Personnel absent from duty on a day off will not be issued a pass and will not leave the confines of the Base.

III -- WEARING OF GAS MASK, HELMET AND WEAPON

Effective this date, the gas mask and steel helmet need not be worn while on the Base. Steel helmet will be worn off the Base. All officers are authorized to wear the .45 automatic revolver. Weapons will be worn to work, to mess hall, and from work. While at place of duty weapons may be placed in racks so long as they are immediately available.
IV - PROMOTION OF OFFICERS

Effective 1 May 45, officers' promotions will be submitted 2nd and 15th of each month, dated 1st and 14th respectively.
Promotions may be submitted on other dates only for exceptional cases.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL FINCO:

HUGH L. HIGE,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

ASSISTANT:

HUGH L. HIGE,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant.
SPECIAL ORDERS

NUMBER: 41

1. Under the provisions of par 3a, AR 35-320, 16 Jun 43, the fol. named officers are ept Class "A" agent En Officers, for orgn indicated, to Maj ALAN M. LERNARD, 039232, TD, Accountable disbursing Sgt, for the pay of officers and EM regular and supplemental P/R for the month of April 1945:

Capt ROBERT G. BERGMAN 057398 4C
1st Lt SAMUEL R. SHEFFIELD 057392 4C
1st Lt JAMES E. MILLER 069137 4C
1st Lt GEORGE F. GILL 069373 4C
1st Lt JOHN N. QUEEN 0108542 0C
1st Lt ROBERT L. STAUDT 0110634 0C
Capt ROBERT G. BERGMAN 057286 4C
1st Lt GEORGE F. GILL 069373 4C
1st Lt GEORGE F. GILL 069373 4C
Capt WALTER J. RIESEN 0163828 0C
1st Lt JAMES J. WOODS 0163828 0C
1st Lt JOHN B. MAGILL 0132857 0C
1st Lt JOHN R. KEMP 0135540 0C
1st Lt JULIUS W. BROWN 0136139 0C
1st Lt WALTER M. BROWN 0136139 0C
Capt ROBERT G. MORGAN 0103529 0C
Capt ROBERT G. MORGAN 0103529 0C

Hq 36th Fighter Group
36th Fighter Squadron
36th Fighter Squadron
36th Fighter Squadron
1283rd MP Co (Av) Los Det 4
217th Engr Avn F/E Platoon
9th Flying Control Sq Prov Det F
81st Weather Sq Det R
40th Mobile Comm Sq Det 3
Hq & Sq Hq, Team 4th
1076th Signal Co Det 4
362nd Air Service Squadron
163rd Ord Sq Hq (Av)
122d QM Co Det 4
245th QM Co Det 4
39th CSS Sq Det L
85th QM Co Det 4
819th CSS Sq Det 4

2. All named off and EM are placed on TDY, TF Hq Ninth Air Force, for a period of seven (7) days, reporting to Madison Sq Area prior to 1400 hours, 23 Apr 45, for the purpose of attending Athletic School. Upon completion of this TDY, they will return to proper orgn. TF by air, rail, sea or ship, 60-115 P 437-02 21A/0425 GTH: Ltr Hq XX Tactical Air Command, subj: "School for Athletic Officers," dated 25 Mar 45.

Capt WILLIAM D. QUINLAN 056474 4C
Org Earl Noy 16393963 (Driver) Hq 36th Ftr Grp

3. Par 5, 80-147, this Hq, dated 13 Dec 44, pertaining to Special Courts-Martial, is rescinded.

4. Par 1, 80-18, this Hq, cs, pertaining to Special Courts-Martial, is rescinded.

1

RESTRICTED
5. A Special Court Martial is to be held at such time and place as may be designated by the senior member thereof, for the trial of such persons as may be properly brought before it.

DETAL OF THE COURT

Major JAMES R. WAYSIL 036975 4D
Capt. WILLIAM T. McGANN 010389 4D
Capt. AARON J. RESSLER 026140 4D
Capt. ROBERT G. BERNARD 036928 4D
Capt. WINSTON L. SEERS JR 028565 4D
Capt. CARL H. CUNILACH 062886 4D
1st Lt. SAMUEL R. SCHOFIELD 036294 4D
1st Lt. JOHN P. BANDH 0155284 03D

Capt. MAURICE P. ROBLE 062048 4D (Trial Judge Advocate)
1st Lt. SAMUEL HUNGER 0616309 4D (Defended Counsel)

(Trial is pursuant to auth contained in Ltr. Hq. European TQ, USA, file 300-4
MPA, 22 Nov 44)

BY ORDER OF COLONEL REESE:

HUGH L. HOG,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

DISTRIBUTION:

4
SOCIAL ORDER

HEADQUARTERS
36TH FG

APO 1-A, U.S. Army
26 April 1945

SOCIAL ORDER

1. Under the provisions of Part 4(b), AR 35-1100, 12 May 42, all named officers are apted to witness and verify the exact balance of Major ALLAN H. LEMOND, 0362601, FP, Accountable Disbursing Officer as of 0000 hours, 30 Apr 45

   1st Lt MILNER BLOBSKY 0169999 QC
   1st Lt EDIN M. HARVEY 0158982 QC

2. 1Lt RALPH L. HUBERT Jr. 0850000, AC, is detailed to conduct the monthly inventory of the Group Post Exchange on 30 Apr 45.

3. Having been apptd this orgn per par 5, 50-103, Hq XIX Tactical Air Comd, 23 Apr 45, the following named officers (now DS w/ Hq, XIX Tactical Air Comd) are further apptd to Sq as indicated, ESB 26 Apr 45.

   Capt WILLIAM O. DOLL 0860744 AC 330th Prf Sq
   Capt DDES Smith Jr. 0875345 AC 330th Prf Sq

4. Having been apptd this orgn per par 6, 50-103, Hq XIX Tactical Air Comd, 23 Apr 45, Capt WILLIAM H. NELSON, 0433522, AC (now DS w/ Hq, XIX Tactical Air Comd) is further apptd 897th Prf Sq. ESB 26 Apr 45.

5. Par 8, 50-22, this Sq, as pertaining to Aircraft Accident Investigating Board, is rescinded.

6. Under the provisions of Part IV, USSAF Reg 62-1, 20 Feb 45, an Aircraft Accident Investigating Board is established with members as follows:

   Lt Col HARRIS F. SMITH 0423728 AC President
   Lt Col THOMAS J. CARRIES 0392744 AC Aircraft Accident Off
   1st Lt JOHN M. CONOLLY 0863990 AC Member
   Major HENRY W. SMITH 0427282 AC Alternate member
   Capt WALTER H. DAVIS 0743829 AC Alternate member
   Lt JAMES H. MURPHY 0193287 AC Alternate member
   Major GEORGE A. BLYSS 0677995 AC Ex-officio non-voting member
   Capt ERWIN L. BOSMAN Jr 0858804 AC Ex-officio non-voting member

7. Capt JAMES H. DAVIS 0743829 AC is apptd to Air Inspector, prcny, w/ Lt Col PAUL B. DOUGLAS Jr. 0433522 AC for

8. Capt JAMES M. IVES Jr. 0850009, AC, is apptd Bust Cp Air Inspector, prcny.
RESTRICTED

SO 42, Hq 368th Ftr Gr, 26 Apr 45, Cont'd.

9. Having been assd this orgn per par 17, SO 114, Hq 134th Reinforcement Bn (AIF), 24 Apr 45, 1st Lt (1055) OGDEN L. HIGGINS, 061820, AC, is further assd 368th Ftr Gr, SDCA 27 Apr 45.

[Travel by air is pursuant to auth contained in Ltr, Hq European TQ, USA, file 300.4 MM, 22 Nov 44]

BY ORDER OF COLONEL FIDUCIO:

HUGH L. HIGGS,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

OFFICIAL

[Signature]

HUGH L. HIGGS,
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

DISTRIBUTION:

[Signature]
HEADQUARTERS
358TH FIGHTER GROUP

ARC 161, U. S. Army
23 April 1945

SUBJECT: ORDERS

NUMBER 43

1. The VQCO 368th Pk Co., of 27 Apr 45, under agencies which prevented the issuance of advance orders, are hereby confirmed and made of record.

   Having been signed this order per para 3, SO 125 Hq XIX Tactical Air Cmd. 28 Apr 45, Capt (1005) OTIS J. FOSTER, OP4525; 42. is further signed 368th Pk Sq. EDCMR 27 Apr 45.

2. So much of para 1, SO 41 this Hq oz. as reads, "Capt RAYMOND G. LERNHEIM, 01036396, OTS 269th Inf Co 40, Det A," and Capt RAYMOND G. LERNHEIM, 01036396, OTS 269th Inf Co 40, Det A," is amended to read, "Lt. WALTER B. HUGHES, 01036374, OTS 269th Inf Co 40, Det A," and "Lt. WALTER B. HUGHES, 01036374, OTS 269th Inf Co 40, Det A."

3. All named officers are granted seven (7) days leave, 28 Apr 45 to 4 May 45 to Hq, Fr. Upon arrival at Hq, Str B, officers will report to USAF Operations Tent for transportation to Omaha, Fr., whereafter they will report to CO, USAF, Martinez Hotel. Upon completion of this leave, they will return to proper org. TOM by MT, mil rate or mil. 60.105 P 485 32 A 12/2/6025. AHA 11 Ltr, HQ USA, file 40 354.1, subj: "United Statesdiversa Recreational Area." 6 Jan 45:

   1st Lt. LAVERNE P. MARCH 0830204 40 (In charge)
   2d Lt. HERLITZ J. ONSMITH 0827839 40
   2d Lt. JOSEPH K. JENSEN 08303 40
   2d Lt. JOSEPH H. HAYS 08300 40
   2d Lt. HERLITZ J. MARCH 08304 40
   2d Lt. HERLITZ J. MARCH 08304 40
   2d Lt. HERLITZ J. MARCH 08304 40
   2d Lt. JOHN R. KELLY 08252 40

4. So much of para 4, SO 39, this Hq oz. continuing to Lt. JOHN R. KELLY, 08598, 40, on TOE at USAF B, as reads, "for a period of four (4) days," is amended to read, "for a period of five (5) days."

   (Travel dir is pursuant to auth contained in Ltr, HQ European TO USA, file 300, 4 MPH, 22 May 46)

BY ORDER OF COLONEL PEDDO

OFFICIAL:

HUGH L. KES
Major, Air Corps; Adjutant.

DISTRIBUTION: "A"
SECTION V

5. In accordance with T. Year 464-15-48, 28 February 1942, the following named officers, heads of current pilots of organizations indicated, are authorized to wear a 1/4th inch gold braid around blue patch non-authored by the Air Department for combat flying personnel.


table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Headquarters</th>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Number</th>
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276th Fighter Squadron

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296th Fighter Squadron

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27th Fighter Squadron

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</table>

By command of Major General [Signature]

C. F. T. [Signature, Name]

Colonel, Air Corps,
Deputy Chief of Staff

ENDNOTES
RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
358TH FIGHTER GROUP

APR 14L, US Army
30 April 1945

SPECIAL ORDERS

NUMBER 44

1. All named off and EM, 21st Fie Sq, Det "A", are placed on TDY, TP Lamps, Charleroi, Belgium, and Cambrai, France, o/a 2 May 45, for a period of three (3) days, for the purpose of picking up equipment. Upon completion of this TDY, they will return to proper org, TDY by MT, mil acct or rail. 60-115 P 432-02 A 212/50-22.

1st Lt Norbert H. Husky 0973563 4G
Sgt James L. Hendrix 19128491

2. Under the provisions of AR 35-1490, 10 Oct 42, and AAF Regulations 25-29, 20 Jul 43, as amended by AAF Regulations 35-29A, 9 Mar 43, all named EM are required to participate in regular and frequent aerial flights are placed on flying status for the period 1 May 45 to 31 May 45.

Sgt El F. McDaniels 34343439 Aerial Engineer
Sgt Anthony P. Lenicki 3239424 Aerial Engineer (Asst)
Sgt Robert L. Barnard 12244225 Radio Operator and Mach
Cpl John R. Barnard 37521274 Radio Operator and Mach (Asst)

3. So much of par 2, SC 29, this Eq. os, pertaining to TDY of Capt Donald M., CLEAR, OHH0621, on 0, as reads, "for approximately three (3) days," is amended to read, "for a period of seven (7) days."

(Travel dir is pursuant to such contained in Ltr, HQ European Troops, USA, file 300.4 MP, 22 Nov 44)

BY ORDER OF COLONEL PERGO:

OFFICIAL:

Hugh L. HGE
Major, Air Corps
Adjutant

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