

CONFIDENTIAL
895TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
Office of the Intelligence Officer

1-2-2

4 141, P. Army
2 March 1945

COMBAT REPORT

- A. Combat
- B. 1 March 1945
- C. 895th Fighter Group, 895th Fighter Squadron
- D. 1140 hours
- E. Langenselbold H65747
- F. 4000-5000 feet overcast, 9/10 coverage
- G. 1200-1300's and 100's
- H. One Me 109 destroyed

I was flight blue three position in 895th Fighter Squadron on 1 March 1945 and we had reached our target at Langenselbold, East of Frankfurt. The flight was in position, as we went down to dive-bomb first. At 1140 hours, about the time I released my bombs, someone called in bandits down there, so I broke left and climbed all the way up to 20,000 feet before I even saw an airplane. My wingman had lost me because he pulled off to the right at 20,000 feet. I found B of our flight orbiting around just a few miles east of Frankfurt and joined them. I then heard my wingman calling for someone to come down and help him out in the dog-fight which I then spotted a bit to the east of our target. I spotted a single enemy aircraft making a very shallow left turn at about 12,000 feet so I made a wingover, coming down behind him from out of the sun. As I came within range I fired a few short bursts until I observed strikes on the fuselage, and then, closing fast, I gave him about 2 or 3 long bursts at 10 degree deflection observing strikes all around the cockpit. All this time he never made any attempt to break, but continued his shallow left turn. About the time I thought I would run into his tail with my propeller, I gave him a final long burst at very close range, striking all around the canopy and fuselage. With that burst, he seemed to snap to the right and start straight down out of control. I lost sight of him for a second as I pulled past him and rolled back over to the right. I didn't go back down after him again because he was smoking then, and going straight down until the last I saw of him he was heading straight down thru the overcast which was at about 5,500 feet at that time. I claim one Me 109 destroyed.

- J. 1400 rounds of 50 cal ammunition expended.
1. Combat film exists
2. Combat film forwarded 2 March 1945

GLEN M. BERGMAN,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Element Leader.

Glen M. Bergman

CONFIDENTIAL
338
Office of the Intelligence Officer

141, 142, 143
8 March 1945

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Combat
2. 1 March 1945
3. South-Linter Group, 398th Fighter Squadron
4. 12:00 hours
5. Personnel No. 888747
6. 4000-5000 feet overcast, 5/10 coverage
7. 100's and 109's
8. Confirming the claims for one (1) destroyed 109

On 1 March 1945 I was flying with my wingman to the south of the South-Linter Group. Shortly after we had finished our combat with a 109, we observed a 109 flying above us. I saw him close in on an 109 between 100 and 120 yards and fire a long burst at this enemy aircraft. The 109 burst into flames, rolled over to the right and went straight down for the ground burning from the cockpit to the nose of the ship. I am convinced that this 109 was destroyed since the last time I saw it, it was heading straight for the ground at 2,000 feet.

James H. [Name],
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot.

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0.027

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3987, 3987-1, 3987-2
Office of the Intelligence Officer

P-V-2

201st, A. C. Army
2 March 1945

COMBAT REPORT

- A. Combat
- B. 1 March 1945
- C. 388th Fighter Group, 88th Fighter Squadron
- D. 1140 hours
- E. Laurensfeld 2958727
- F. 4000-5000 feet overcast, 9/10 coverage
- G. 15 PW 190's and 1 Me 109's
- H. One (1) PW 190 destroyed

I. On 1 March 1945 I was leading the element in fighter Black flight. I was at 20,000 feet over Laurensfeld, Germany when I sighted two PW 190's at about 7,000 feet and climbing up. One PW 190 rolled over at about 10,000 feet, hit the deck while the other continued to climb past two elements of P-47's which were below me. I tagged on and followed the PW 190 to about 16,000 feet and fired a short burst from about 60 degree deflection observing strikes about the canopy and engine. I lowered my deflection to about 20 or 30 degrees and fired several more short bursts observing strikes the entire time. The PW 190 burst into flames around the wing-roots and cockpit and rolled over into a vertical dive. He dropped for about 5000 feet vertically, then did about half turn of a spin and continued straight down and I last saw him in a vertical dive burning and smoking badly at between 4,000 and 5,000 feet. I claim one (1) PW 190 destroyed.

J. 480 - 50 Gal expended.

LOUIS L. WICK,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Element Leader.

- 1. Combat film exists
- 2. Combat film forwarded 2 March 1945

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

3987 F. S. [unclear]
Office of the Intelligence Officer

7-1-2

APO 141, U.S. Army
2 March 1945

W I T N E S S R E P O R T
Supporting Statement

- A. Combat
- B. 1 March 1945
- C. South of [unclear], 295th Fighter Squadron
- D. [unclear]
- E. [unclear]
- F. [unclear]
- G. [unclear]
- H. [unclear]
- I. [unclear]
- J. [unclear]
- K. [unclear]
- L. [unclear]
- M. [unclear]
- N. [unclear]
- O. [unclear]
- P. [unclear]
- Q. [unclear]
- R. [unclear]
- S. [unclear]
- T. [unclear]
- U. [unclear]
- V. [unclear]
- W. [unclear]
- X. [unclear]
- Y. [unclear]
- Z. [unclear]

I was flying number four position in black flight at 17,000 feet over [unclear], Germany. Black number three and I were circling to the left when we sighted a P-109 climbing in a left turn 5,000 feet below us, passing ahead and to the left of us. I fired a burst at the enemy aircraft from 90 degrees, missed, and passed over the P-109. As I looked back I saw [unclear], black number three, pulling up from behind and passing over the P-109. At this point I observed the enemy aircraft burst into flame and roll to the left, diving straight down. This enemy aircraft was positively destroyed in my opinion, as at 2,000 feet he was still heading straight down, pouring black smoke as he plunged through the cloud cover.

Lawrence A. Hatter

LAWRENCE A. HATTER,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot.

CONFIDENTIAL
395TH FIGHTER GROUP
Office of the Intelligence Officer
A-1-2
A-141, C. A. Army
2 March 1945

COMBAT REPORT

- A. Combat
- B. 1 March 1945
- C. 395th Fighter Group, 595th Fighter Squadron
- D. 1140 hours
- E. Dan Caseloid #208747
- F. 4000-5000 feet overcast, 5/10 coverage
- G. 15 FV 190's and 10 Me 109's
- H. One (1) FV 190 destroyed.

I. I was leading Fighter Squadron on the morning of 1 March 1945. I had been climbing for altitude in order to make my bomb-run and had reached only 5,000 feet when I went to attack the enemy aircraft which had bounced LT MATTHEWS' flight. We, my wingman and I, were able to break up the enemy planes, one of them making a pass at my wingman, LT #207005. I called him to break. The enemy aircraft broke off and headed southeast, with LT DEAN taking care of him. While we were still climbing for altitude at 10,000 feet, I spotted another FV 190 above and turning into me. He made a head-on pass and likewise, I did the same thing. I fired a long burst into him as he came in on me. I did not observe strikes but my wingman did and since this enemy aircraft did not fire on me at all, I believe him to be hit from the very first of the pass. He came to within 25-30 feet of my plane, never making an attempt to break off. As the FV 190 didn't, I finally broke down under at the last split second, barely missing him. He went over my ship and to the left of my wingman, and then off to the right in a vertical dive, smoking badly all the time. I claim this FV 190 destroyed as he made no effort to alter his head-on pass which would have resulted in a crash if I hadn't changed my course at the last possible second and also because of the fact that he went off helplessly into a vertical dive from 10,000 to 5,000 feet, where I lost him in the overcast. My wingman can confirm strikes on the enemy aircraft. I claim one (1) FV 190 Destroyed.

- J. 430 rounds of 50 Cal ammunition expended.

- 1. Combat film exists
- 2. Combat film forwarded 2 March

JAMES W. IVEX,
Captain, Air Corps,
Flight Leader.

CONFIDENTIAL

3881
Office of the Intelligence Officer

2-3-2

AWO 141, U.S. Army
8 March 1948

Supporting Statement

- A. Combat
- B. 1 March 1948
- C. 388th Fighter Group, 388th Fighter Squadron
- D. 1140 hours
- E. Base enselbold 288747
- F. 4000-5000 feet overcast, w/10 coverage
- G. 15 PW 180's and 16 189's
- H. Confirmation of PW 189's claim for 1 180 destroyed

I. I was flying as wingman in the 388th Fighter Squadron climbing up from our target, when Blue Flight was bounced. We immediately engaged the bandits in a steep climbing turn. Other members of the Squadron joined us at that time and we found ourselves coming head-on to a PW 180. CAPTAIN JIMMY fired a long burst head-on to him and I saw many definite strikes on the engine and cowling. He came directly on at us without firing and we both had to break down to miss him. As he passed I saw smoke coming from his engine. I was unable to watch him further as he spun into the overcast below.

JAMES T. SKIMM,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

395th Fighter Group
Office of the Intelligence Officer

4-1-2

AWC 1st Lt., U.S. Army
2 March 1945

COMBAT REPORT

- A. Combat
- B. 1 March 1945
- C. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron
- D. 1140 hours
- E. Langenselbold 3338747
- F. 4000-3000 feet overcast, 9/10 coverage
- G. 15 FW 190's and He 109's
- H. One (1) FW 190 Destroyed.

- I. On 1 March 1945 I was leading Purple flight of the 395th Fighter Squadron. At 1130 over Langenselbold, Germany, Flapper Blue flight was harassed by 3 bandits. These enemy aircraft, FW 190's and He 109's had come from nine o'clock out of the clouds. I was at 19,000 feet when I observed a long-nosed FW 190 and when he saw me coming in from seven o'clock, he broke left and started to climb. I closed in on this enemy aircraft to 200 yards from six o'clock and poured four short bursts into him. The third burst struck the FW 190 on the right wing while the fourth burst raked him from the tail to the engine. The FW 190 exploded into flames and headed for the ground. When I last saw this enemy aircraft, it was heading straight for the ground flaming all the way. My element leader, LT KONGAN, confirms my claim for One (1) FW 190 Destroyed.
- J. 312 rounds of 50 cal ammunition expended.

William C. Blahan
WILLIAM C. BLAHAN,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Flight Leader.

- 1. Combat film exists
- 2. Combat film forwarded 2 March 1945

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

308TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
Office of the Intelligence Officer

D-1-2

AGO 141, U.S. Army
2 March 1945

COMBAT REPORT
Supporting Statement

- A. Combat
- B. 1 March 1945
- C. 368th Fighter Group, 308th Fighter Squadron
- D. 1140 hours
- E. Langenselbold 8988747
- F. 4000-5000 feet overcast, 9/10 coverage
- G. 15 PW 190's and 10's
- H. Confirming LT DEAN'S claim for one (1) PW 190 Destroyed.

I. On 1 March 1945, at approximately 1140 hours, I was flying number Three position in Flapser Purple Flight when LT DEAN, Purple Leader spotted a PW 190 in a tight orbit with a P-47 at 17,000 feet. We got in behind the PW 190 and it started climbing in a circle to the left. LT DEAN pulled in behind the PW 190 and commenced firing. I kept my element behind the flight leader and I saw LT DEAN getting strikes on the PW 190 in the engine and in front of the cockpit. The PW 190 started smoking and burst into flame. It immediately rolled off to the left going straight down. After five or six thousand feet, the PW 190 started spinning. The last I saw of the PW 190, it disappeared through the clouds still spinning and burning.

Sheldon E. Mongar
SHeldon E. MONGAR,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Element Leader.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

CONFIDENTIAL

395TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP
Office of the Intelligence Officer

D-3-2

APO 141, U.S. Army
3 March 1945

COMBAT REPORT
Supporting Statement

- A. Combat
- B. 1 March 1945
- C. 395th Bomber Group, 395th Bomber Squadron
- D. 1140 hours
- E. Langenselbold 2058747
- F. 4000-5000 feet overcast, w/10 coverage
- G. 15 PW 190's and He 109's
- H. Confirming LT DEAN'S claim for one (1) PW 190 destroyed.

I. On 1 March 1945, at approximately 1135 hours, while flying Blomber Purple Two on LT DEAN'S wing, we attacked an PW 190 who was in a climbing loffberry with another PW-47 at about 17,000 feet. We came in and easily got behind the PW 190 who was climbing steeply in a slight turn to the left. LT DEAN closed up within range and fired from approximately 25 degree deflection. I saw red flashes on the engine of the PW 190 as he was hit and immediately afterward, the PW 190 burst into flames and started down in a slight turn to the left with flame and smoke pouring from the plane. I confirm LT DEAN'S claim for one (1) PW 190 destroyed.

HERBERT F. CRUSSETT,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
Office of the Intelligence Officer

B-4-1

APO 141, V. Army
2 March 1945

COMBAT REPORT

- A. Combat
- B. 1 March 1945
- C. 388th Fighter Group, 388th Fighter Squadron
- D. 1140 hours
- E. Lanzenfeld #959747
- F. 6000-6000 feet overcast, 9/10 coverage
- G. 15 PW 190's and 1 He 109's
- H. No (1) PW 190 damaged.

I. On 1 March 1945 I was flying Number Two position in Blue Flight, 388th Fighter Squadron. At about 1140 hours, while our flight was pulling out of its divebombing run after attacking a fuel storage point, we were bounced by 3 PW 190's. As I rolled over, I observed this PW 190 in front of me, so I took off after him. After turning approximately 180 degrees to the left and shooting at him twice with a one radii lead and about 15 degrees deflection, three pieces of material seemed to fall off the left side of this PW 190. I closed in and opened fire again but could not observe any more strikes. The PW 190 dived into the clouds where I lost him.

I claim one PW 190 damaged.

- J. 1880 rounds of .50 cal ammunition expended.

Robert D. Andrews
ROBERT D. ANDREWS,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot.

- 1. Combat film exists
- 2. Combat film forwarded 2 March 1945

C O N F I D E N T I A L

J O N F I D E N T I A L

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
Office of the Intelligence Officer

D-J-1

APO 141, U. S. Army
24 March 1945

COMBAT REPORT

- A. Combat
- B. 23 March 1945
- C. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron
- D. 0740 hours
- E. South of Oppenheim
- F. Slight haze, otherwise CAVU
- G. 2 FW 190's
- H. One (1) FW 190 Destroyed
- I. On 23 March 1945, I was leading the 395th Fighter Squadron on an Armed Reconnaissance mission. Just southwest of Oppenheim, at 0740 hours, the two bandits were called in at ten o'clock high to Blue and White flights, on my left. The bandits, FW 190's, moved around to the left and made an attack on White flight from six o'clock. White flight broke into them, and they split up, the lead one continuing his dive and veering to the right so he passed under my flight. I split-essed from 10,000 feet and leveled off at 2,500 feet, about 400 yards behind him, with an indicated air-speed of 450 mph. I fired a short burst, getting many strikes, and the FW 190 broke up and to the right. I turned inside him through a full 180° turn, firing three bursts and getting strikes each time. Pieces flew off the FW 190 and on the last burst there were many strikes on the canopy and engine, and the canopy blew off. I pulled up to keep from ramming him just as he snapped into a violent spin at about 3,000 feet. The FW 190 spun two or three turns and crashed in the Rhine River. The pilot did not get out. Lt ANDERSON, flying my wing, and Lt BERGMAN, leading my element, both witnessed this encounter.

I claim one (1) FW 190 Destroyed.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Combat Report (Cont')
JENSEN, HOWARD W. - ,Captain

J. 1057 rounds of ammunition expended.

Howard W. Jensen
HOWARD W. JENSEN,
Captain, Air Corps,
Operations Officer.

1. Combat film on this encounter exists.
2. Combat film forwarded 24 March 1945.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

0037

C O N F I D E N T I A L

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
Office of the Intelligence Officer

D-A-1

APO 141, U. S. Army
24 March 1945

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

- A. Combat
- B. 23 March 1945
- C. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron
- D. 0740 hours
- E. South of Oppenheim
- F. Slight haze, otherwise CAVU
- G. 2 FW 190's
- H. Confirming Captain JENSEN's claim for one (1) FW 190 destroyed

I. On 23 March 1945 I was flying Number Two position on Captain JENSEN's wing. At about 0740 hours, southwest of Oppenheim, two bandits were called in behind and above us. One FW 190 passed below White flight and was under us. Captain JENSEN split-essed from 10,000 feet and leveled off at 2,500 feet. I followed down and to his left side. I saw my leader fire and saw good strikes on the FW 190. After several good strikes, the FW broke up and to the right. Captain JENSEN fired several more bursts and there were many strikes all around the fuselage of the FW 190. Parts of the FW flew off and the canopy blew off. I had gone to the inside of the turn when the FW 190 went into a fast spin. The ship crashed into the Rhine River below. The pilot did not get out. I made pictures of the FW in the spin. My film should be good. I confirm Captain JENSEN's claim for one (1) FW 190 destroyed.

Alfred W. Anderson

ALFRED W. ANDERSON,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
Office of the Intelligence Officer

D-B-1

APO 141, U. S. Army
24 March 1945

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

- A. Combat
- B. 23 March 1945
- C. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron
- D. 0740 hours
- E. South of Oppenheim
- F. Slight haze, otherwise CAVU
- G. 2 FW 190's
- H. Confirming Captain JENSEN's claim for one (1) FW 190 destroyed.
- I. On 23 March 1945 I was flying Flapper Red Three position when at 0740 I heard someone call in two bandits at about ten o'clock to us just as we were crossing the Rhine south of Oppenheim. Flapper Red Leader, Captain JENSEN, started a shallow left turn but I could not spot the bandits myself until we had completed a 180° turn and Captain JENSEN split-essed out. One FW 190 had hit the deck and was headed east. I split-essed right with Captain JENSEN and watched him open fire on the FW from what seemed to be directly astern and a little above. I observed many hits on the fuselage, and the FW 190 broke violently to the right. Captain JENSEN turned inside him and seemed to hit him about two or three times more through about a 180° turn. Then I saw the canopy of the FW 190 fly off and the 190 seemed to snap to the right, and it spun violently until it crashed into the Rhine River between a barge and the shore, almost hitting the barge. I did not observe the pilot get out. I confirm Captain JENSEN's claim for one (1) FW 190 destroyed.

Glenn M. Bergman

GLENN M. BERGMAN,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Element Leader.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
Office of the Intelligence Officer

D-S-1

APO 141, U. S. Army
24 March 1945

COMBAT REPORT

- A. Combat
- B. 23 March 1945
- C. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron
- D. 0740 hours
- E. South of Oppenheim
- F. Slight haze, otherwise CAVU
- G. 2 FW 190's
- H. One (1) FW 190 destroyed

I. On 23 March 1945 I was flying the element of Flapper Blue flight, when at 0740 hours I spotted two planes coming down from ten o'clock high. I identified them as enemy and they went underneath us to bounce Flapper White flight. We dropped our bombs and broke down on them from behind. They then split up, one to the left and down and the other right and up. I and my wing-man went up with the second. He started to turn and for several minutes it was pretty even, then I started to pull a little lead and fired several short bursts. I observed no strikes at this time. From this tight turn he rolled over and split-essed. I followed through, getting a slight high speed stall, but found him immediately and closed to within 300 yards of him on the deck heading east across the Rhine. I started to fire short bursts and observed many strikes on both wing roots and in the fuselage. I noticed several small explosions and pieces flying off. My wing-man called us as he led us across the Darmstadt airdrome. The flak was so intense that we had to pull up and I thought I had lost him. But as I went into a climbing turn I saw him turn too, evidently hurt and trying to make the field. I was getting set for another pass, flak or no flak, when as he turned into the field he spun into the ground in flames. My wing-man was with me throughout the entire flight and saw him crash. I claim one FW 190 destroyed.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Combat Report (Con't)
SNYDER, KENNETH R. - 1st Lt

J. 1200 rounds of ammunition expended.

Kenneth R. Snyder
KENNETH R. SNYDER,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Element Leader.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
Office of the Intelligence Officer

D-A-1

APO 141, U. S. Army
24 March 1945

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

- A. Combat
- B. 23 March 1945
- C. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron
- D. 0740 hours
- E. South of Oppenheim
- F. Slight haze, otherwise CAVU
- G. 2 FW 190's
- H. Confirming Lieutenant SNYDER's claim for one (1) FW190 destroyed
- I. On 23 March 1945 I was flying wing-man to Lt SNYDER. At approximately 0740 hours two FW 190's came into us at ten o'clock and a little high. After calling them in to Flapper Blue leader, my element leader broke into them. Each enemy airplane broke in a different direction. The FW 190 on the left, being the nearest, my element leader took chase. The FW 190 split-essed after making a short but futile attempt at a Lufberry. Both of us followed through on the split-ess and closed in on the enemy on the deck. My element leader closed to within 300 yards and opened fire. I observed strikes on the wing roots and the fuselage, also several small explosions. At this time flak came at us from the Darmstadt airdrome so intense that we broke off. The FW 190, trying to tighten his turn, spun in from tree top level. I certify to Lt SNYDER's claim of one FW 190 destroyed.

Robert D. Andrus
ROBERT D. ANDRUS,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

- 1. First
- 2. In the air
- 3. 1000 ft. per second, 1000 ft. per second
- 4. 1000 ft. per second
- 5. 1000 ft. per second
- 6. 1000 ft. per second - 1000 ft. per second, 1000 ft. per second.
- 7. 1000 ft. per second
- 8. 1000 ft. per second.

On March 1st, I was loading the bombs in the hangar when a reconnaissance mission to a target about 100 miles west of Manila was being flown by a B-24. I started a flight of the target to observe the bombing results. After the completion of the first orbit, I saw the B-24's over the target at a height of about 10,000 feet at about 10:00 hours. I noticed the bombs in my line of sight as they fell in the air. In the enemy aircraft climbed out of the haze, the B-24's turned out to be B-24's. The B-24's and the B-24's carrying bombs and belly tanks when they jettisoned them they observed an attacking B-24 as soon as the enemy aircraft jettisoned their loads, they started climbing but leveled off at 7 or 8 thousand feet. After the B-24's water injection, I managed to stay close to the B-24's but there were so many of them I didn't know where to start shooting. However, as I closed, I saw a B-24 of the B-24's a little to the left and I started to go in, behind. As I did not want them to get on my tail, I started to move towards them and they came for the ground. I followed them down firing a few rounds at about 1000 ft. from a 50 cal. gun and then turned on to 100 cal. This B-24 made a turn to the right and I fired two short bursts from 45 degrees elevation. One of the bombs and the canopy. The B-24 continued towards the right and I could not continue. Again to keep on firing. I fired my machine gun but to turn to the enemy's direction and to watch him. He did this and

Encounter Report (cont.)
Colonel, Lt. Colonel

when the Hun saw that he was boxed, he pulled up and bailed out at about 1500 feet. His chute did not open and I saw his plane roll to the left and dive straight to the earth. It did not explode when it hit. I claim this P-100 destroyed. My wingman and I started climbing until we reached 7000 feet. I observed another flight of 4 P-100's just below us. As I broke toward them, they immediately headed for the deck and since I was attacking from above, I easily closed on number four man. I gave him one short burst at 500 yards observing hits all over the fuselage and as I closed I fired a long burst which caused a large explosion around his cockpit. The plane started to burn fiercely, rolled to the left, and exploded when it struck the ground. I claim this P-100 destroyed. He started climbing again until we reached an altitude of 6 or 7 thousand feet. I spotted a flight of 4 P-100's just below us. When I broke into them, they also headed for the deck and since I was above them again, I had no trouble catching number four P-100 which received a short burst from my guns at 300 yards. I fired a long burst into him from 150 yards and emptied my guns just as he started a very gentle roll to the left. This P-100 went straight into the ground from 300 feet. I claim this P-100 destroyed. W/O Russell, my wingman, stayed with me during the entire encounter and can verify my claims. I claim three (3) P-100's destroyed.

C. 1785 rounds of 30 cal ammunition expended.

FRANK P. RICHARDS,
Lt. Colonel, Air Corps,
Deputy Group Commander.

1. Combat film exists
2. Combat film forwarded 15 March 1945

C O N F I D E N T I A L

CONFIDENTIAL
Office of the Special Agent in Charge

1-1-2

Atlanta, Georgia
March 1948

- a. Combat
 - b. 14 March 1948
 - c. 1st Lt. James H. ...
 - d. ...
 - e. ...
 - f. ...
 - g. ...
 - h. ...
 - i. ...
- On 14 March 1948, ... was flying in the position to ...
... was leading the ... Squadron.
... did not release, ...
... while I was ... the target, Colonel ...
... at about 1000 feet ...
... we started after them, four of ...
... and we followed. ...
... Number four ...
... fired a few bursts scoring many hits on
... until the enemy pilot called out. ...
... at about 15,000 feet ...
... when the Colonel spotted ...
... for the deck. ...
... the Colonel caught up to Number
... a little behind the other three ...
... in a short time the ...
... to the left and headed straight
... at an altitude of below 500 feet. ...
... and this time got to an altitude
... before the Colonel saw another group
... and they too
... with no trouble as all we overtook
... and Colonel ... again fired at Number

CONFIDENTIAL

0045

44th Fighter Squadron
Office of the Intelligence Officer

1111, 1111, 1111
11 March 1968

COMBAT REPORT

1. Combat
2. 14 March 1968
3. 368th Fighter Group, 44th Fighter Squadron.
4. 1845 hours
5. Air Base 1111
6. Flight base up to 8000 feet - visibility up-sun 10 miles, down-sun 6 miles.
7. 20 F-105's and 10 F-100's
8. One F-100 destroyed and one F-100 damaged

I was flying Fucker Three in Visoper green flight. We were divebombing a target in the outskirts of Frankfurt, Germany. Our last flight was just pulling up off the target when Lt. Colonel [REDACTED] who was leading the Squadron called in bandits over the Southeast part of the city. They were at approximately 8000 feet when first sighted and appeared to be forming up after take-off. They had bombs on and when we gave chase, they jettisoned them and headed North. We had altitude on them and were closing in fast. There were forty or fifty F-105's and F-100's. They all started for the deck and then pulled up again. I pulled up on the tail of two F-100's at the extreme right of the formation. When I was in range, I opened fire on the one on the right. I just gave him a short burst and observed a few strikes on the right wing and tail surface. He pulled straight up and I thought he was going over into a loop. I found out later that he spun-out. I gave him another short burst on the way up. My aircraft was falling off and I observed the other F-100 to the left and below me so I left the other one and gave chase to this one. I pulled into good position and he started a tight climbing turn to the left. I could turn with him but couldn't pull enough deflection to get a shot. He pulled up into one of our other flights and fired a short burst at one of our planes. I was a little out of range but I fired a short burst to scare him off. I must have hit him because he evidently figured I was right on his tail and cut everything back. I quickly cut my power partially off and pulled up to the right, not

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Recorder Report (cont'd)
Serial, 100, 101, 102

fire at all. Seeing that I was still in an adverse combat position, he broke left coming around on the tail of nose of our own plane. I cut him off and by this time was in good position. I gave him a short burst getting good strikes on the right wing and fuselage. He lightened up his turn so I pulled through to my lead again and opened fire. His plane burst into flames and fell off into a spin. The pilot bailed out. The plane went straight on in. The enemy as a whole was very non-combative and their tactics were also very poor. I am claiming one P-51 destroyed and one P-51 damaged.

1. 1240 rounds of 50 cal ammunition expended.

John V. ...
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Element Leader.

1. Combat film exists
2. Combat film forwarded 16 March 1945

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- 1. [Illegible]
 - 2. [Illegible]
 - 3. [Illegible]
 - 4. [Illegible]
 - 5. [Illegible]
 - 6. [Illegible]
 - 7. [Illegible]
 - 8. [Illegible]
 - 9. [Illegible]
 - 10. [Illegible]
- [Illegible paragraph of text]

[Illegible signature]

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF
FOR PERSONNEL
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF
FOR PERSONNEL

100-101, 102, 103
10 March 1946

1. Combat
2. 14 March 1946
3. 368th Fighter Group, 88th Fighter Squadron
4. 1545 hours
5. AF Serial 4547
6. Slight haze up to 5000 feet - visibility up-sun 1 1/2 miles, down-sun 3 miles.
7. 50 PW 109's and one 109's
8. Confirming AF Serial claim for one (1) He 109 destroyed.

1. On 14 March 1946, at approximately 1545 hours, I was flying Number Four position in Purple flight and witnessed LT JAMES destroy an He 109. The action took place approximately fifteen miles southwest of Frankfurt. After divebombing our target near Frankfurt, I was climbing to rejoin my flight when I heard the Squadron leader call in bandits, stating that he was chasing them. In the next few minutes I lost sight of my own flight, and when I arrived in the area where the action was taking place, I joined with a P-47 in front of me mistaking him for my element leader. This was LT JAMES' ship, the one I joined and he was chasing a He 109 and was flying in a small circle. There were 6 ships in the circle, one He 109 and five P-47's. I saw LT JAMES open fire on the He 109 and observed strikes all around the cockpit and on both wings. The He 109 began smoking badly and went into a flat spin at about 7000 feet heading for the ground. I am definitely convinced that this He 109 was destroyed and I learned later that several pilots in our Squadron saw the enemy pilot bail out.

ROBERT L. LAWRENCE,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot.

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HEADQUARTERS (ADVANCED)
IX TACTICAL AIR COMMAND

APO 141, U.S. Army
27 February 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Commanding Officer, 368th Fighter Group, APO 141, U.S. Army.

1. In operations ranging from the immediate front of the Third US Army to beyond the RHINE, fighter-bombers of this Command on 23 February dealt the most destructive blows they have yet inflicted upon the enemy's armor and rail transport, thus directly affecting his ability to resist the Allied offensive toward the Rhineland.

2. Your Group played an outstanding and brilliant part in the achievements of that decisive day, destroying or damaging 210 tanks or other armored vehicles, 331 motor transport, 70 RR cars, 12 field guns and many other installations or items of heavy equipment. An attack on an enemy fuel dump caused numerous explosions and fires, and in aerial combat your pilots shot down three German fighters, also probably destroying one and damaging another.

3. For these achievements I take pleasure in commending highly the entire personnel of your Group, and I do so with full confidence that the 368th Fighter Group will continue to carry the battle to the enemy with every resource at its command until the final victory is won.

O. P. WEYLAND /s/
O. P. WEYLAND,
Maj. Gen., Air Corps,
Commanding.

1st Ind. A-1
HEADQUARTERS 368TH FIGHTER GROUP, APO 141, U S Army, 5 Mar 1945

To: Commanding Officers, all Squadrons 368th Fighter Group.

Well, fellows, you have done it again!! I can't begin to tell you how much pride it gives me to receive letters like this from the Commanding General in recognition of your abilities. However, I realize I'm prejudiced, because I already know that you're the best damn Group in the whole Army Air Forces.

FRANK S. PEREGO /s/
FRANK S. PEREGO
Lt Colonel, Air Corps,
Commanding.

A TRUE COPY:

William S. Blagen
WILLIAM S. BLAGEN,
1st Lt., Air Corps.



20 Mar 45

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NINTH AF 2ND PHASE INTERPRETATION REPORT US10/D 898

- (a) LOCALITY: WERHEIM MILITARY INSTALLATION (GSGS 4416/S 3 - M/603886)
 (b) SORTIE: US 12/4299 - 5034-36. SORTIE SCALE: 8,000
 (c) TOT: 19 Mar 45, 1600A P.L.: 12" ANNOTATED PRINT: 5035
 (d) PERIOD UNDER REVIEW: This report covers damage to the target (US10/T 538) since 25.2.45.
 (e) COVER: The installation is covered on prints of excellent quality.
 (f) STATEMENT:
 A. Five of the 16 similar small buildings have been severely damaged and one is slightly damaged. One of the five large buildings has been severely damaged and one has suffered minor damage. Of the 7 miscellaneous buildings one is destroyed and one is slightly damaged. One of the 10 conical towers is destroyed. No indication of a large explosion, reported during the attack, is visible.
 B. Two craters and very slight damage are visible within the target area.
 (g) ACTIVITY: Two M/T are at (B). No activity is visible.

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20th P.I.D. at Hq. 10th P.G.

DISTRIBUTION "D"

IYR JJI V IUE NR30 OP OP
IYR T-SELF
JJI T-SELF

FROM: HQ XIX TAC (ADV) 041405A
TO : (1) CG, XIX TAC, ATTN: CHIEF OF STAFF
(2) 368 FIGHTER GROUP, ATTN: GLO

SECRET SEND IN CLEAR VIA LANDLINE ONLY. AUTH: MAJOR PAGE

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM CG, VIII, CORPS, THROUGH G-3 AIR,
IS RELAYED FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

1. WITH THE FULLEST COOPERATION FROM RIP 2 AND WITH FIGHTER BOMBERS
OF THE 395 SQUADRON, 368 GROUP, DODGING SNOW SHOWERS AND HUNTING HOLES
IN THE CLOUD COVER, A NUMBER OF GOOD AIR STRIKES WERE MADE 3 MARCH.

2. A STRIKE BY "FLAPPER PURPLE" AT 1720 HOURS IS OF INTEREST. AFTER
BEING VECTORED TO MURLENEACH THE FLIGHT LEADER FOUND ENEMY VEHICLES ON
ALL ROADS MOVING EAST. THE INTELLIGENCE WHICH HE DEVELOPED, WHILE
MAKING THE STRIKE CAUSED INTERDICTING ARTILLERY FIRE TO BE BROUGHT TO
BEAR ON THESE ROADS. THE ROAD BLOCKS, WHICH THE FLIGHT LEADER EFFECTED
THROUGH THE DESTRUCTION OF ENEMY EQUIPMENT CREATED A MOST FAVORABLE
SITUATION FOR THIS FIRE. THIS ADDED FURTHER TO THE VERY PROFITABLE
ATTACK BY "FLAPPER PURPLE."

GF 041405AYR (AR JJI)
JJI R.... IMI LAST BT AND FOLLOWING LINE VPTD
WHAT LINE AFTER LAST BE UR INI. K
BT 041405A
GF
JJI R.....04/1590A HH AR
IYR R.....& IV

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

WILLIAM S. BLAGEN
1ST LT. AIR CORPS

HEAD QUARTERS
368TH FIGHTER GROUP

A-1

Air Mail, U S Army,
14 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Letter of Appreciation.

TO: All Personnel, Assigned and Attached Units, 368th Fighter Group.

1. One year ago today the 368th Fighter Group flew its first operational mission, and while that mission, in itself, was completely uneventful, it marked the first step toward a great record. Today every member of this Group and all its attached units may look at this record with a very complete sense of pride, because you are the people who have built that record.

2. This record is not a product of our collective imaginations. It stands in black and white for all to see. Tactically our record may be found in the monthly summaries of the Ninth Air Force and the XIX Tactical Air Command. Administratively and technically, the inspection reports show that the Group has never been rated below "Excellent" in any inspection conducted by our higher headquarters. In addition, a more than ample file of commendations from higher headquarters covering tactical, technical and administrative phases of our work further substantiates the record.

3. Considerable responsibility must be accorded Col Gilbert L. Meyers, the first Group Commander, who so carefully picked and trained the original cadre.

4. The work of the combat pilots of the Group has been conscientious and unswerving and is widely recognized throughout this theater, and also at home in the States. However, these pilots have not forgotten that it takes the complete cooperation of every member of the Group and all attached units to build this record. They all thank you!

5. As the present Commanding Officer, I wish to extend my sincere gratitude for the cooperation and help of every member of the 368th Fighter Group Team B of the 84th Service Group, the 1293rd Military Police Company (Avn) Less Det A, the 2137th Engr Fire Fighting Platoon, Det F 9th Flying Control Squadron (Prov), Det R 21st Weather Squadron, Det R 40th Mobile Communication Squadron, and the 45th Ordnance Bomb Disposal Squad. Congratulations on the great record you have all helped to build!

Frank S. Fregó
FRANK S. FREGÓ,
Lt Colonel, Air Corps,
Commanding.