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SQUADRON HISTORY

MISSION REPORTS

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HEADQUARTERS  
368TH FIGHTER GROUPAPO 595, U. S. Army  
20 July 1944

SUBJECT: Operational Statistics.

TO : Commanding Officer, 368th Fighter Group.

1. The following facts and statistics concerning the combat operations of the 368th Fighter Group are respectfully submitted. This data is based on the operational missions executed by the Group from 14 March to 19 July 1944. During this period this Group accomplished the following:

- a. 5,430 A/C were dispatched on combat missions
- 2,342 A/C attacked specific targets.
- 3,813 A/C executed escort, Top cover, sweep missions
- 257 A/C aborted of which 136 were due to weather conditions.
- 2 of our A/C are mission without definite information pertaining to cause.
- 22 of our A/C were lost on combat missions.
- 239 of our A/C sustained battle damage.
- 5,367 sorties were accomplished over enemy territory
- 12,792 Hours of daylight operations
- 545 hours of night operations
- 635,545 rounds of .50 cal ammunition were expended against the enemy.
- 306 250 lb. bombs were dropped on targets.
- 68 incendiary gas tanks were dropped on targets.
- 2,439 500 lb bombs dropped on targets.
- 1,245 1000 lb. bombs dropped on targets
- 1,888 Frag Clusters were dropped on targets.
- 475 of all types of bombs were jettisoned.
- 19 of our personnel are listed as MIA.
- 3 of our personnel are listed as KIA.
- 1 of our personnel is listed as WIA.

Our victories of enemy aircraft are claimed as follows:

- 31 Enemy aircraft destroyed (13 ME 109's and 18 FW 190's)
- 2 FW 190's probably destroyed.
- 20 Enemy aircraft damaged (5 ME 109's and 15 FW 190's)

b. This Group dispatched:

|                  |                             |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 684 A/C in March | 1,837 A/C in June           |
| 679 A/C in April | 723 A/C in July(to 19 July) |
| 1,507 A/C in May |                             |

/s/ Joseph B. Brumfield  
JOSEPH B. BRUMFIELD  
1st Lieut., Air Corps  
Asst Statistical Officer.

A TRUE COPY:

THEODORE F. SKALKO  
2nd Lt., Air Corps

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395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APO 595, U. S. Army  
2 July 1944

MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission No. 1, 2 July 1944
- B. 4 P-47s, Patrol, Nil. Nil.
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's, Patrol, between 1945 and 2145
- E. Nil
- F. - K. Nil
- L. 10/10 Strato Cumulus, 4000 ft. Visibility 5 Miles.
- M. Time Up 1945 Time Down 2145
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Nothing other than the presence of many friendly A/C in the vicinity of CAEN.
- R. Caen, Heavy, Moderate, Inaccurate.
- S. Nil
- T. The mission was an intercep-Patrol that proved uneventful. The flight was vectored from "SWEEPSTAKES CHARLIE" for several different headings, but was unable to contact any enemy aircraft.

ROBERT I. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

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395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APO 595, U. S. Army

4 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission FSB-4, 4 July 1944
- B. 11 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil.
- D. 11 P-47's, T 315754 & T 402678, 0754
- E. 22x500 G.P. Bombs loaded. 19x500 dropped on target 3x500 Jettisoned south of bomb line. Altitude at start of dive 4000 ft. Angle 30° Release 1200 ft.
- F. Fifteen bombs dropped on #1 target and 4 on the second. The results on the first target appeared to be excellent, second target four concentrated hits. No gun emplacement seen/
- G. - K. Nil
- L. Three layers of clouds #1 40 - 1000' 9/10 #27000 - 7500 5/10 #3 7500 - 8000'
- M. Time Up 0745 Time Down 0847
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Convoy spotted at T 404674 10 plus MT's varying altitude from 4000' down. Could not determine whether this convoy was moving or not.
- R. Small arm fire, Light AA and four heavy guns fires in the area between the first and second target. These appeared to be as briefed very intense, inaccurate.
- S. One truck destroyed at T 404674.
- T. Due to weather conditions the Squadron had to glide bomb rather than Dive bomb. Weather considerably poorer than briefed. Bombing results appeared fairly good. The only movement was the convoy reported of which one truck was destroyed.

THEODORE F. SKAIKO  
2nd Lt., Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APO 595, U. S. Army  
5 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission Y 21-52, 5 July 1944
- B. 12 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 12 P-47's, Road Bridge at T249831, 0930
- E. 24x500 Delayed action bombs loaded. 18x500 dropped on target. 5 Jettisoned, 3 in inlet North of here, 2 south of bomb line. 1 brought back to base. Altitude at start of dive, 4000 ft. Angle 30° Release 500 ft.
- F. Bridge was destroyed by two direct hits, several of the bombs were dropped in woods which gave evidence of being gun positions.
- G. Nil
- H. 1 P-47, Cat "A", Light and "heavy AA
- I - K Nil
- L. The front was found as briefed. There were three layers of clouds, one from 3 to 4000 ft 4/10, the others 5000 to 5800 ft 3/10 and from 8 - 10,000 feet 3/10. Visibility unlimited
- M. Time Up 0910 Time Down 1051
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Sweepstakes was not standing by on A Channel and could not be reached on C Channel.
- Q. Nil
- R. Four miles E of Notre Dame which would be 376503, Extremely heavy flak was thrown up at low altitudes at this position. Bursts were moderate but fire was intense.
- NS. Nil
- T. Note 5 trucks were seen on the road at 4556 against a house, not moving, observed from an altitude of 6000 ft at 1005. Throughout the whole area about 15 plus vehicles marked with red crosses were seen from various altitudes at varying times. This was not a convoy, the vehicles were seen individually. The mission was a complete success in that the primary target, the bridge was completely destroyed.

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
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APO 595, U. S. Army  
7 July 1944

MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission KMN-1, 7 July 1944
- B. 12 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 12 P-47's, 3 strong points, 1045
- E. 24x500 G.P. Inst Bombs loaded. 24x500 dropped on target, Nil. Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 7000 ft. Angle 55° Released at 3500
- F. Each flight reported as having dropped their bombs in areas assigned. Flight #1 scored 6 hits in largest area with 2 landing just outside. Flight #2 got 8 hits with confirmation from other flights. Flight #3 tallied 8 strikes in its target area, the strong point.
- G - K. Nil
- L. 10/10 stratus 9000 feet Visibility excellent.
- M. Time Up 1024 Time Down 1140
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. In all the area vicinity of St Lo., Vire, Villedieu there were masses of MT's all marked with red crosses.
- R. Target #2, Light, Meager, Inaccurate. T233681
- S. 2 MT's at T-6035 by Captain T.N. Montag
- T. The mission was marked by a helpful break in the weather which greatly facilitated observations. Unfortunately, there was little to be observed other than the presence of many Red Cross vehicles south of the bomb line. Captain Montag again scored on a couple of MT's and reported them destroyed. The strong points were thought to have been wiped out as ample opportunity was afforded for clear observation of the course and arrival of the bombs.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer.APO 595, U. S. Army  
8 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission Y21-3, 8 July 1944
- B. 11 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 11 P-47's, Targets of Opportunity, 1645
- E. 22x500 G.P. Bombs loaded. 22x500 dropped on target, Nil, Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 5000 ' Angle 45o Released at 1500
- F. 8 bombs dropped in Marshaling yards at St Martin. Yards consisted of 2 tracks only. 2 bombs seen to strike at South end of yards on tracks. 8 bombs on road in woods at 645435. Road was carrying considerable traffic thought to be civilian. Good coverage was achieved. 6 bombs on road traffic at 685425 (Civilian). Road was hit with widespread damage to traffic.
- G. One P-47 was abandoned at 5500 by 1st Lt Irwin M. Pascal. Thought to be caused by flak.
- H. Nil
- I. 1st Lt. Irwin M. Pascal, (MYR) seen to bail out at 654425
- J. Nil
- K. Nil
- L. 10/10 stratus 6 @ 7500 Visibility good
- M. Time Down 1725 Time Up 1634
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Little was seen of any particular interest with the exception of the heavy road traffic caused by the evacuation of civilian personnel in horse-drawn vehicle in all of the roads in the Vire Sector. Traffic appeared to be heading south in all instances.
- R. 5454, Heavy, Moderate, Inaccurate.
- S. Nil
- T. The mission was distinguished from recent operations by the loss of one pilot and the observations relative to the southward flow of civilian traffic on the roads in the Vire sector. Targets of opportunity were

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APO 595, U. S. Army  
8 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission Oregon, 8 July 1944
- B. 11 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 11 P-47's, Strong Point, 0925
- E. 22x500 G.P. Bombs loaded. 2 targets were marked 8x500 dropped on one target one target 11x500 dropped on second target. 2 brought back to base. 1 jettisoned south of bomb line.  
Altitude at start of dive 5000' Angle 45o Altitude at release 1500'
- F. Bombing results were very good. Targets were hit were marked and reports to the pilots were that they were successful in hitting their target.
- G. - K. Nil
- L. Clouds at 5000' tops 7000' 10/10 Over Target.
- M. Time Up 0905 Time Down 1048
- N.. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Pilots report that C Channel was being jammed apparently the enemy has it's frequency.
- Q. At T6751 St. Martin the pilots report that in the town there were at least 20 plus white top wagons, horse drawn, not moving. the observation was made at 1000 from an altitude of 6000'. At T6148 about 15 of the same kind of wagons was seen at 0935 from 5000' heading south.
- R. Nil
- S. One truck strafed at T 6522, Destroyed.
- T. From all reports mission was a complete success. Pertinent points covered under appropriate heading. No other movements observed south of the bomb line other than those reported.

THEODORE F. SKALKO  
2nd Lt., Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence OfficerAPO 595, U. S. Army  
9 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission 9 YFV-1, 9 July 1944
- B. 12 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 12 P-47's, T-4174 & T-4756, 2015 & 2045
- E. 24x500 G.P. Inst fuse bombs loaded. 24x500 dropped on target. Nil, Nil  
Altitude at start of Dive 8000 ft. Angle 60°. Released at 3500 ft.
- F. 21 bombs in woods at T-4174 and 2 bombs in woods at T4756. Little could be noted of the results of the bombing because of the dense coverage of trees.
- G. - K. Nil
- L. 3/10 to 5/10 cumulus 3000 feet Visibility good. Scud at 7 - 8000 ft lowering to the south.
- M. Time Up 1945 Time Down 2112
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Interference thought to be code was picked up on "A" Channel at 2050.
- Q. Many red crosses were seen on enemy MT's moving on most of the roads south of St Lo.
- R. Countance, Heavy, Meager, Inaccurate.
- S. One MT destroyed by Captain Montag
- T. The mission was accomplished without incident, but was thought to be successful because of the ease of identifying the target and subsequently scoring many hits within the target area. Captain Montag destroyed one by strafing.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

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395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
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10 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission Y 21-51, 10 July 1944
- B. 12 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 12 P-47's, Targets of Opportunity, 0700 - 0825
- E. 24x500 G.P. Bomb Inst Fuse Loaded. 24x500 Dropped on target, Nil. Nil  
Altitud at start of Dive 3,500 Angle 60o Released at 600 ft.
- F. Target selected were various road bridges on secondary roads. Road and  
Flak position of 4 guns was knocked out. Most of the pilots could not  
report on the accuracy of their bombing due to the intensity of small AA  
in this area and due to the fact that upon releasing their bombs they were  
interested only in getting out of the target area. On the whole the results  
were fairly good.
- G. Nil
- H. 1 P-47's Category "A" Light AA.
- I - K Nil
- L. The ceiling ranged from 500 ft to about 3500 ft in the briefed area., With  
a cloud coverage ranging from 6/10 to 10/10 with a Strato Cumulus
- M. Time Up: 0700 Time Down: 0825
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Weather was too poor for observation. The reports continue to come in  
concerning the number of ambulances south of the bomb line or at least  
vehicles with red cross markings.
- R. T4362, 5356, 5161, Light, Intense, Accurate. There was flak found  
throughout the entire patrol area mostly light stuff with a heavy gun  
here and there.
- S. Nil
- T. From all reports this was an extremely routine mission and a very poor  
one due to bad weather conditions. Targets were selected at random  
and the targets appeared to be mainly roads, Railroads and secondary  
bridges. The four gun flak position at T5161 which was the only const-  
ructive accomplishment.

THEODORE F. SKALKO, 2nd Lt., AC, S\*2

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395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence OfficerAPO 595, U. S. Army  
14 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission EIZ-1 14 July 1944
- B. 12 P-47's, Nil, Nil.
- C. Nil
- D. 12 P-47's , T-233723 and T234683, 1012
- E. 24x500 G.P. Inst Bombs loaded. 8 - 6 - 8 x500 dropped on target.  
2x500 Jettisoned in Channel. Nil.  
Altitude at start of Dive 8000 ft. Angle 45o. Released at 1000 ft.
- F. 8 Bombs dropped on first target T233723, two landing in court Yards. 6 bombs on Cross road target T234683 direct hits destroying it. 8 bombs dropped S.W. of Target with unobserved results.
- G. \*K. Nil
- L. Cumulus Base 1000 ft. tops 3000 ft. 10/10. Visibility Good.
- M. Time Up: 0949 Time Down: 1132
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Fairly Poor.
- Q. Convoy of 5 plus vehicles observed on secondary road at T5449, observed from an altitude of 5500 ft. at 1020, vehicles were stopped.
- R. T235704, Light and Heavy, Intense, Accurate. T237678, Light & Heavy, Intense, Inaccurate.
- S. Nil
- T. Bombing results under appropriate paragraph heading. Weather was extremely poor and bombing had to be done through patches in the clouds. The Church was apparently still standing while the cross roads were completely destroyed. Nothing further to report.

THEODORE F. SKALKO  
2nd Lt., Air Corps  
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395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
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APO 595, U S Army  
14 July 1944

MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission Y21-57, 14 July 1944
- B. 11 P-47s, Nil, Nil
- C. 1 P-47, Radio Out.
- D. 10 P-47s, Railroad and Marshalling Yards at Q9525, 1315-1340
- E. 22x500 G.P. Inst Bombs loaded. 20x500 dropped on target. 2 jettisoned in Channel. Nil.  
Altitude at start of Dive 8000 ft. Angle 90°. Release 1500 ft.
- F. 2 bombs cut tracks at Q9525. 8 Cut tracks at Q7040. 6 in Marshalling Yards at Aube-Sur-Rile Q7241. 4 Cut tracks just north of Laigle at Q7945.
- G - K. Nil
- L. 10/10 coverage Startis at 2 - 6000 ft Visibility good.
- M. Time Up 1225 Time Down 1418
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. 50 plus Goods Wagons seen in the vicinity of Aube-Sur-Rile Q7241 at 1330 observed from an altitude of 2000 feet.
- R. Aube-Sur-Rile, Light and Heavy, Intense, Accurate
- S. One Staff Car strafed and destroyed near Notre Dame Q7535
- T. The mission was marked by continued unfavorable weather conditions which made for extreme difficulty in location the assigned target. The Flights finally concentrated on a R/R and Marshalling Yards as targets of opportunity. Many strikes were scored in spite of the handicaps in the form of low ceiling and concentrated flak.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer

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395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APO 595, U. S. ARMY  
15 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission Y21-52, 15 July 1944.
- B. 12 P-47's, Nil, Nil.
- C. Nil
- D. 12-P-47's, Mants Gassicourt, 2050
- E. 24x500 G.P. Inst fuse Bomb loaded. 24x500 dropped on target. Nil, Nil  
Altitude at start of Dive 10,000 feet. Angle 70° Altitude at release 3000'
- F. 24 bombs dropped in target area surrounding two bridges at R612593 and R607599 reports indicate that both bridges were knocked out completely. Impression I gained was that our Group constated on Bridge at R612593 as the original target gave evidence of being demolished previously.
- G. Nil
- H. Two P-47's, Cat "A", Heavy AA.
- I - K. Nil
- L. Overcast over target from 11,500 ft to 14,000 ft 10/10. Scud from 4 - 6000 feet 2 - 3/10. Visibility 5 Miles.
- M. Time Up: 2007 Time Down 2210
- N. Nil
- O. R/V over Strip #3 2010 1500 ft. with a flight of 8 P-51's acting as top cover.
- P. Sweepstakes came in very faintly.
- Q. 8 Unidentified aircraft were seen heading north at 2035 at 10,000 ft N of Elbeuf. These A/C approached from the east and veered to the N when just barely in sight of our Group. Extremely intense Artillery battle going on SW of CAMN. A barge was seen heading W from Vernon 2100 7000 ft. On a road between R2085 and R2588 a pilot reports on this road heading NW at 2110 he saw in what appeared to be the middle of the road a consintration of 10 then 3 then 1 object which gave the appearance of looking like trees might easily be camouflaged enemy units, observed from an altitude of 7000 ft. A foot bridge was seen across the River Seine just north of Elbeuf, observation made from 7000 ft at 2115. A Marshalling Yards at R7562, Evequemont 20 plus goods wagons were seen not moving at an altitude of 7000 ft.
- R. Tronvillen, Intense, Light, Inaccurate.  
Louvier, Intense, Heavy, Accurate.

Trougvilleu, Light and heavy, Moderate, Inaccurate.  
Our pilots also report that they were fired upon by the British upon  
approaching the Bomb Line.

S. Nil

T. The general opinoin is that the two bridges were knocked completely  
out of the picutre. Apparently some sort of inflammable substance was  
in or about the bridge located at R607599 because a fire was observed  
and the bombs upon striking resulted in flashed and smoke. This Area  
was generally well clo bered. Pilots also reported that anything which  
looked like a briage along the Seine appeared to be cut in half or other-  
wise damaged. All movements of any and every description observed have  
been covered under appropriate headings. This gives evidence of being  
a successful mission.

THEODORE F. SKALKO  
2nd Lt., Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

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395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence OfficerAPO 595, U. S. Army  
16 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission ZMH-4, 16 July 1944
- B. 11 P-47's, Nil, Nil.
- C. Nil.
- D. 11 P-47's, T546616, 1300.
- E. 22x500 G.P. Inst fuse Bombs loaded. 22x500 dropped on target. Nil. Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 8000' Angle 450. Released at 2000'.
- F. Reports indicate that bombing results were <sup>good</sup> in as much as all the Squadron's  
bombs landed in and about the East, South East portion of the woods.
- G. - K. Nil
- L. 5/10 Cumulus, Base up to 6000 ft. Visibility 20 Miles
- M. Time Up 1244 Time Down 1348
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Sweepstakes could not be contacted on A or C Channel at any time.
- Q. Nil
- R. T7430 - Heavy-Intense-Inaccurate. T6047 - Heavy-Moderate-Accurate.
- S. Nil
- T. From a 1 reports bombing results were extremely good. One Flight's bombs  
landed a trifle short but the distance was so small that it would have  
been damaging to anything in the woods. The two other flights reported  
hitting the target squarely. There was not a movement of any kind south  
of the bomb line according to all reports.

THEODORE F. SKALKO  
2nd Lt., Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence OfficerAPO 595, U. S. Army  
16 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission Y21-59, 16 July 1944
- B. 12 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 12 P-47(s)
- E. 24x500 G.P. Inst 1/40 Bomb loaded. 24x500 G.P. Bombs dropped on target Nil. Nil. Altitude at start of dive. 9000 ft. Angle 70o. Release 3000
- F. 8 bombs in Marshalling yards at Argentan, U2648, 40 to 50 freight cars damaged and 20 destroyed. 3 bombs in Marshalling yards at Laigle, Q7843 results unobserved. 2 on road 1 mile north of Laigle. 4 on R/R tracks at Q5938. 2 wide, 4 cut embankment blocking tracks near bridge, 1 on bridge damaging it.
- G. Nil
- H. 1 P-47, Cat "A", Light AA
- I - K. Nil
- L. 10/10 strato Cumulus 3 - 7000 feet, Visibility good.
- M. Time Up 1845 Time Down 2019
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P, Clear
- Q. 150 goods wagon in Marshalling Yards at Argentan, U2648
- R. Argences, U1887, Light and Heavy, Meager, Accurate. Lincaux, Q5488, Light and Heavy, Meager, and accurate.
- S. Nil
- T. The primary and alternate targets were not attacked because of unfavorable weather encountered W of the target as assigned. Targets of opportunity were selected and attack with reasonable gratifying results in that many hits were registered on MYs and RR tracks in addition to a hit on a bridge.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

AFPO 595, U. S. Army  
17 July 1944

MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission OKX-3, 17 July 1944
- B. 12 P-47's, Nil, Nil.
- C. Nil
- D. 12 P-47's, T-430689 & T-429687, 1800
- E. 21x500 G.P. Inst 1/40 tail, bombs loaded. 22x500 dropped on target. 1x500 dettisoned at T-1834. 1x500 brought back to base. Altitude at start of dive 7000 ft. Angle 60c. Released at 3,000 ft.
- F. 22x500 Bombs were dropped on the first 2 targets extending along the road running almost due North and South. T-430689 and T-429687, The targets consisted of small buildings and were easily distinguished by the red smoke laid down by friendly artillery.
- G - K. Nil
- L. 2/10 Haze 4,000 ft Visibility 2 Miles.
- M. Time Up: 1738 Time Down 1916
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Nil
- R. T-4459, Heavy, Moderate, Inaccurate. T5364, Heavy, Intense, Accuarte
- S. Nil
- T. The mission was accomplished with a marked degree of efficiency through the timing and colperation of the ground forces which lit the targets with colored smoke at the appointed moment. Of the 4 buildings singled out for the attentions of the A/C, all were well covered with bombs. Increasingly favorable weather greatly facilitated the operation's effectiveness, as the pilots were able to identify the targets with a minimum of delay.

ROBERT L. CLAM  
Captain, Air Corps  
Air Corps S-2

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395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence OfficerAPO 595, U. S. Army  
18 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Mission Y2-153, 18 July 1944
- B. 12 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. 1 P-47, Oil Leak
- D. 11 P-47's, T971555, 0645
- E. 24x500 G.P. Inst 1/40 Bomb loaded. 22x500 dropped on target, 2 Jettisoned in Channel. Nil  
Altitude at start of Dive 8000 ft. Angle 70°. Released at 3000 ft.
- F. All bombs were dropped in target area. Target was well covered by smoke of first A/C releasing bombs. One pilot dropped his bombs on the bridge at T 965555 because of inability to see the Primary target hidden by smoke. Primary target was thought to be destroyed.
- G. - K. Nil
- L. Haze up to 8000 feet, Thin Cirrus at 20,000 feet, Visibility 5 miles.
- M. Time Up: 0617 Time Down 0705
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Nil
- R. T-991520, Light, Moderate, Inaccurate. T9653, Light & Heavy, Moderate Inaccurate.
- S. Nil
- T. Bombing results reported to be good and because of the flak in the area the pilots did not tarry long in the vicinity to seek further evidence of their efforts. General opinoin was that the target was probably destroyed because most of the bombs appeared to be striking the assigned area. No enemy movement was observed.

THEODORE F. SKAIKO  
2nd Lt., Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

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## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Y 21-57 21 July 1944 1
- B. 12 P47s NIL NIL
- C. 1 P47 Oil Leaks
- D. 11 P47s LE MANS 1446
- E. 24 X 500 GP Inc. 1/40  
 14 X 500  
 7/4 2x 500 in channel  
 NIL  
 4,500  
 45  
 1,000
- F. Reports indicate the target area already well clobbered. Our squadron aimed at center point and most hits concentrated in and about the NE choke-point with excellent results attained inasmuch as many of the bombs were seen to strike at the above indicated point.
- G. 4 P47s Returned pilots report that the MEs landed at another strip to the west. LT STATION, LT HAYES, LT DEWAN, and LT KLEINKLAUS..NYRs.
- H. through K NIL
- L. 9/10 Cirrus 4,500 to 6,000 High thin Cirrus at 20,000 Vis good.
- M. 1405 1634
- N. NIL
- O. NIL
- P. Clear
- Q. see narrative
- R. LE MANS light weager inaccurate
- S. LT COLS JIMMY and PARAGO each destroyed 1 truck at Z-3233.
- T. The pilots report that the Primary Target gives all indications of having been hit very heavily in previous attacks. They observed about 100 G/Ws, well dispersed, and all of these appeared to be damaged as evidenced by many bomb centers distributed throughout the M/Y. The choke-point was ~~destroyed~~ heavily bombed by our squadron. Alternate target was not attacked because bombs were expended on P/T. Squadron flew the aimed Recoy area as signed, but encountered only 2 trucks mentioned above.

THEODORE F. SKALKO  
 LT A.C.  
 3-2

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

APO 595, U. S. Army  
24 July 1944

MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y21-10 24 July 1944 Mission No. 2
- B. 12 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 12 P-47's, Ambrieres, 2023
- E. Nil
- F. Pilots report the target as being hit with at least 2 clusters of bombs.
- G - K. Nil
- L. 3/10 Stratus cumulus over target 4-5500' Vis: 4 Miles
- M. Time UP; 1926 Time Down 2130
- N. Landfall In 2010 as briefed 19000 feet  
Landfall Out 2037 as briefed 19,000 feet
- O. As briefed 1947 18,00 feet
- P. Clear
- Q. Nil
- R. Nil
- S. Nil
- T. The escort mission was accomplished without incident. The H/V was reached as briefed and cover was maintained throughout. The bombers split into two boxes as the formation made landfall, but soon closed in again and returned by the same route that applied on the way in.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence OfficerAPO 595, U. S. Army  
25 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y 21-4, 25 July 1944, Mission No. 1
- B. 9 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 9 P-47's, T329561, T301528, T274532, 2132
- E. 5x500 12 Hr delay, 8x500 6 Hr. delay, 5x500 1 Hr. delay G.P.  
bombs loaded.  
On target T274532 2x500 1 Hr delay, 2x500 12 hr delay  
2x500 6 Hr. delay.  
On target T301528, 2x500 6 Hr. delay, 2x500 1 hr delay  
On target T329561, 3x500 12 Hr delay, 2x500 6 Hr. delay  
1x500 1 Hr. delay.  
Altitude at start of dive 6000' Angle 60o. Released at 1000'  
These figures strike a general average for all three flights.
- F. The three flights report aiming and striking their individual targets.
- G. \* K. Nil
- L. 10/10 Stratus, 10,000 feet, Visibility 10 miles.
- M. Time Up: 2110 Time Down: 2215
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Nil
- R. T287538, Light, Moderate, Inaccurate.
- S. Nil
- T. Due to the nature of the mission I cannot report anything but that the pilots feel they found their targets and had excellent bomb runs. Nothing further to report.

THEODORE F. SKALKO  
2nd Lt., Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

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Office of the Intelligence OfficerAPO 595, U. S. Army  
25 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, DZK-8, 25 July 1944, Mission No. 1
- B. 12 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 12 P-47's, Fuel Dump (T-458533) to (T-458537) 1242
- E. 12 x 500 G.P. Inst bombs loaded. 12 x 500 dropped on target  
Nil. Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 8500' Angle 70°. Released at 2500
- F. All bombs, with the exception of two very near misses, were laid down the length of the target. The first 2 bombs were observed to create a large flash, but further observations were obscured by smoke of exploding bombs.
- G. - K. Nil
- L. 10/10 Alto stratus 12,000 feet Visibility 4 Miles.
- M. Time Up: 1226 Time Down: 1342
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. All roads leading south from St Lo were choked with traffic of French civilians evacuating the area under attack.
- R. ~~4~~58533 (Target area) Light & Heavy, Intense, Inaccurate.  
T5345, Heavy, Intense, Accurate.
- S. Nil
- T. The target was reached and attacked without incident with the exception of surprisingly intense flak in the immediate area. The last two flights on the bombing run were particularly troubled by enemy fire. All pilots reported seeing the bombs covering the target area from north to south. There was little indication of the existence of large fuel supplies, for there was a dearth of explosions and heavy smoke normally resulting from such installations.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

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26 July 1944

MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y21-55, 26 July 1944, Mission No. 1
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's, T416423, 0930
- E. 8x500 G.P. Inst bombs loaded. 8x500 dropped on target. Nil. Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 5500', Nil. Nil
- F. Unobserved.
- G - K. Nil
- L. Strato Cumulus, 800 - 2500 feet, 10/10 7 Miles Visibility  
Cirrus at 5000 3/10  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile visibility.
- M. Time Up 0853 Time Down 0946
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Nil
- R. Nil
- S. Nil
- T. Due to extremely poor weather targets of opportunity were limited  
Bombs were dropped 40 miles south of the bomb line through  
overcast. Tank radio called out flight over for top cover but  
they were not encountering any mechanized opposition. Upon  
being relieved our flight returned to their strip.

THEODORE F. SKALKO  
2nd Lt., Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

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MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y21-55, 26 July 1944, Mission 2
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's, Woods at T-437654, Lane concealing 2 tanks 1050
- E. 8x500 G.P. Inst Bombs loaded. 8x500 Dropped on target, NIL, NIL,  
Altitude at start of dive 1500' Angle 10° Released at 1000'
- F. 1 bomb was seen to strike on small patch of woods indicates  
on R/T by Ground Forces. 7 bombs were seen to strike on wooded  
lane into which 2 tanks has just disappeared.
- G - K. Nil
- L. 10/10 Stratus 400 to 2000' Vis: 6 Miles
- M. Time Up: 0945 Down: 1115
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Nil
- R. Nil
- S. Nil
- T. The flight encountered unfavorable weather which obviated the  
possibility of advantageous attack upon targets of opportunity  
Orbiting while awaiting instructions by R/T from the Ground  
Forces, considerable time was consumed until the flight was  
directed to attack a position at T-437645. 1 bomb struck the  
target which revealed nothing more than a clump of woods. 2  
tanks were seen entering a wooded lane at T-425625. 7 bombs  
were laid in the lane with unobserved results.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395 Y21-55 26 July 1944 3
- B. 4 P47s NIL NIL
- C. NIL
- D. 4 P47s T-448479 1415
- E. 8 X 500 inst. 1/40 GP  
8 X 500  
NIL  
NIL  
3000  
60°  
1100  
(F)
- All bombs were dropped at T-448479, at flight leader's discretion.  
See narrative.
- G. through K NIL
- L. 5/10 cumulus 3,000 10 miles plus  
Cirrus 15,000
- M. 1330 1450
- N. NIL
- O. NIL
- P. Clear
- Q. NIL
- R. T-447507 light and heavy intense accurate
- S. NIL
- T. Flight Leader's radio, was out. No suggestion made by ground forces for disposition of bombs. Flight Leader selected woods at T-448479 where previous bomb craters were seen as well as vehicle tracks. All bombs on target area, but with unobserved results. Nothing further to report.

~~ROBERT #11#011111~~

THEODORE F. SKALKO  
LT. A.C.  
S-2

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

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26 July 1944

MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y 21-55, 26 July 1944, Mission No.4
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's, Gun Positions, T469558, 1500
- E. 8x500 G.P. Inst bombs loaded. 8x500 G.P. Inst bomb dropped on target. Nil Jettisoned, Nil brought back to base. Altitude at start of dive 5000' Angle 45° Released at 1000'
- F. A gun position at T 469558 was hit with 2 bombs and was thought to be destroyed as the bombs were seen to hit within 5 to 10 yards of the position. 6 bombs were dropped a few yards west of the gun position among the buildings of the town St Sampson with most of the bombs striking in the eastern portion of the buildings.
- G. Nil
- H. 1 P-47's, Category "B", Light AA.
- I. - K. Nil
- L. 5/10 cumulus 3,000 feet to 4500 feet visibility excellent
- M. Time Up: 1417 Time Down: 1530
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. A few light vehicles seen on roads south of St Lo.
- R. T469558, Light, and Heavy, Moderate Accuracy.
- S. 1 Jeep destroyed by Lt Staton at 426558
- T. The mission was sent out on tank cover, but foraged about on instructions from Ground Forces to strike targets of opportunity. The flight sighted a gun position at T469558 and upon receiving fire from the enemy, dive-bombed the position with excellent accuracy. Buildings in immediate vicinity were also attacked with direct hits resulting. One jeep was destroyed.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Capt. A.C. S-2

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MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y 21-55, 26 July 1944, Mission No. 5
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's, T 424548, 1610
- E. 8x500 G.P. Bombs loaded. 8x500 dropped on target, Nil Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 8000' Angle 60o Released at 1000'
- F. Results wer unobserved. 8 bombs landed in area which appeared  
to be used as abivouac area. Vehicles and troop movement was observ  
prior to the attack.
- G. Nil
- H. 1 P-47, Cat "A", Light AA
- I - K. Nil
- L. 3/10 cumulus 3500 Visibility excellent.
- M. Time Up: 1520 Time Down: 1626
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Nil
- R. T-555432, Light, Moderate, Accurate
- S. Nil
- T. Upon release, the flight bombed the wooded area at T-424548  
as a target of opportunity. It appeared an advantageous  
target because of movement observed. (See "F" above)

THEODORE F. SKALKO  
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MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y21-55, 26 July 1944, Mission No. 6
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's, Church T-437578, and 3 tanks T-435596, 1700
- E. 8x500 G.P. Inst bombs loaded. 8x500 dropped on target. Nil, Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 1500 Angle 600 Released at 800'
- F. 2 bombs struck the church, as ordered by Ground Forces R/T.  
resulting in the through collapse of the structure. The 3  
tanks did not receive direct hits, but the bombs struck suff-  
iciently close to ensure damage.
- G - K. Nil
- L. 7/10 Cumulus 3500' Visibility excellent.
- M. Time Up: 1616 Time Down: 1750
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Several cargo carriers were seen just south of St Gilles and  
reported to Ground Forces by R/T.
- R. Canisy, T-435591, Light, Meager, Inaccurate.
- S. 1 Armored cargo carrier damaged at T-435578 by Captain Montag.
- T. Considerable confusion attended the singling out of profitable  
targets because of the close proximity of friendly and enemy ar-  
mored vehicles. Enemy crews appeared to be attempting to surrender  
to advanced patrols while others continued to resist. 3 tanks were  
identified as enemy and were attack with bombs as they drove  
under a R/R underpass at T-435596. The church was attack and  
demolished because of presence of enemy snipers and artillery  
located in steeples.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

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## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y 21-55, 26 July 1944, Mission No. 8
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's Gun positions at T-423548, 1915
- E. 8x500 G.P. Inst bombs loaded. 8x500 Dropped on target. Nil. Nil.  
Altitude at start of dive 4500' Angle 45° Released at 1000'
- F. 6 bombs dropped on gun position at Northern tip of wooded area.  
Attack was unsuccessful as gun continued to fire at friendly  
A/C and destroyed 2 of them. The M/I was attacked and  
destroyed at T-490520.
- G. - K. Nil
- L. 8/10 cumulus 4500 to 8000' & visibility excellent.
- M. Time Up: 1818 Time Down 1942
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear, but entirely too much chatter on "C" channel.
- Q. Many Red cross vehicles seen heading south on road leading  
from St Lo. All vehicles carried red crosses.
- R. T-5253, Heavy, Moderate, Inaccurate
- S. 1 M/T destroyed by Captain Mumaw aided by Lt Johnson's bombs.
- T. The mission was the first unsuccessful attack of the day in that  
the gun position continued to fire after the bombing run was  
completed. The flight leader was unable to give adequate  
directions to his flight because of the extreme interference  
encountered on "C" channel through the continuous chatter  
maintained by the several squadrons using it. Pilots noted 2 friendly  
planes shot down by the gun position attacked.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

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26 July 1944

Mission Report

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y21-55, 26 July 1944, Mission No. 9
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's , Targets of Opportunity, 2000
- E. 8x500 G.P. Inst bombs loaded. 8x500 dropped on target. Nil, 11  
Altitude at start of dive 4500' Angle 45o Released at 1000'
- F. Targets of opportunity bombed and according to reports results  
appear extremely poor. See Narrative.
- G - K. Nil
- L. 5/10 4 - 5000 cumulus Visibility good
- M. Time Up: 1920 Time Down 2046
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. See T.
- R. T436588, Heavy, Meager Inaccurate.
- S. Lt Caldwell got a M/T at T290591
- T. Two bombs were dropped on T 435559 which is a road junction  
and the bombs landed 25 yards chort of several trucks in that  
area. The other targets of opportunity were road junctions and  
misses were reported on them all. Very Unprofitable mission.

THEODORE F. SKALKO  
2nd Lt., Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395 Y21-55 26 July 1944 10
- B. 4 P47s NIL NIL
- C. NIL
- D. 4 P47s. Targets of opportunity, church, tower, armored car, gun positions, and a jeep. 2100 to 2130.
- E. 8 X 500 GP inst 1/40  
8 X 500  
NIL  
NIL  
3000  
30°  
1200
- F. 2 bombs near jeep at road junction at T-382525 near misses; 1 bomb on gun position at T-425452 results unobserved; 1 bomb near 50 foot tower at T-422521, results unobserved; 2 bombs on church at T- 576537 (TORIGNI-SUR-VIRE), destroyed; 2 bombs on Gun Position at T-582538, results unobserved.
- G. through K NIL
- H. 4/10 cumulus 3-3500 unlimited
- I. 2014 1155
- J. NIL
- K. NIL
- L. CLEAR
- M. Many Red Cross vehicles seen moving South on road from le MESNIL HERMAN to LA DENISIERE.
- N. TORIGNI-SUR-VIRE (T-576537), light & heavy, intense, inaccurate.
- O. 1 armored car destroyed, 4 Germans killed by LT GARRY at T-455535.
- P. Many targets of opportunity were attacked by the flight with generally gratifying results. (See ##### F) LT SCHULTE destroyed a church; LT ELLIOTT scored a Probable on a jeep; LT GARRY destroyed an armored car and 4 enemy soldiers; LT GARRY scored a probable on a gun position; and LT McMILLAN tallied a probable on a gun position. Many targets were presented and were duly recorded in the sights of P47s.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, A.C.  
S-2

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MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y21-55, 26 July 1944, Mission N<sup>o</sup>.11.
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil. Nil.
- C. 1 P-47 Abortied jettisoned bombs unarmed in swamp
- D. 3 P-47's, T492505, T 421521, T439528, 2130
- E. 3x500 G.P. Inst Bombs loaded. 6x600 dropped on target. 2x500 jettisoned in swamp. Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 2000' Angle 55o Released at 1000'
- F. Targets of opportunity bombed, T492505, T421521, T437528, unobserved results.
- G. Nil
- H. 1 P-47's, Cat B, Light AA.
- I - K. Nil
- L. Clear over targets of opportunity.
- M. Time Up 2040 Time Down 2200
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear.
- Q. The enemy seems to be using every type of vehicle for ambulances for it has been noted that jeeps, weapons carriers have been marked with red crosses.
- R. T492506, Light, Moderate, Accurate . T421521, Light, Moderate, Inaccurate. T437528, Light Moderate, Inaccurate
- S. Lt Kesting destroyed one truck.
- T. This 4 ship flight had very little success with targets of opportunity, so consintrated on woods and roads only. One pilot jettisoned his bombs for it was too drk and he wasn't sure where he was. Otherwise flight was uneventful.

THEODORE F. SKALKO  
2nd Lt., Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer,

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

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## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y 21-55, 26 July 1944, Mission No. 10
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's Targets of Opportunity, Church, Tower, Armored car, Gun Positions, and a jeep, 2100 to 2130
- E. 8x500 G.P. Inst bombs loaded. 8x500 dropped on targets. Nil, Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 3000' Angle 300 Released at 12000'
- F. 2 bombs near jeep at road junction at T 382525 near Misses:  
1 bomb on gun position at T425452 results unobserved: 1 bomb  
near 50 feet tower at T422521 results unobserved: 2 bombs  
on church at T 576537 destroyed: 2 bombs on Gun position  
at T-582538, results unobserved.
- G - K. Nil
- L. 4/10 cumulus 3-3500 visibility unlimited.
- M. Time Up: 2014 Time Down 2155
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Many red cross vehicles seen moving south on road from Le Mesnil Herman to La Denisiere.
- R. Worigni-Sur-Vire (T-576537). Light & Heavy, Intense, Inaccurate
- S. 1 armored car destroyed, 4 Germans killed by Lt Garry at T455535
- T. Many targets of opportunity were attacked by the flight with generally gratifying results. Lt Schulte destroyed a church: Lt Elliott scored a probable on a jeep: Lt Garry destroyed an armored car and 4 enemy soldiers: Lt Garry scored a probable gun position: and Lt McMilliam tallied a probable on a gun position  
Many targets were presented and were duly recorded in the sights of P-47's.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

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## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y21-51, 27 July 1944 Mission No.1
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's, T-442418, 0810
- E. 8x500 G.P. Inst Bombs loaded. 8x500 dropped on target, Nil, Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 3500' Angle 350 Released at 1000'
- F. Sweepstakes recalled our flight so at the flight leaders discretion  
our flight picked out the intersection at T442418 and all 8 bombs  
were dropped on that target.
- G - K. Nil
- L. Ceiling of a 1000 feet cumulus 7/10. Another layer from 25 - 2800'  
7/10. Layer from 3 - 4000' 10/10 Vis: 10 plus miles
- M. Time Up: 0752 Time Down: 0824
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. - S. Nil
- T. Sweepstakes called our flight told them to go home that the weather  
was closing in. Captain Mumaw picked the intersection at T442418  
and all 8 bombs went on this target blowing up a truck and men  
who seemed to be repairing holes in the road. Nothing further  
to report.

THEODORE F. SKALKO  
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Intelligence Officer.

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## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y21-51, 27 July 1944, Mission 3
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil. Nil.
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's, Targets of Opportunity T-244544, T-272523, 1235
- E. 8x500 G.P. Inst bomb loaded. 4x500 Dropped on target. 4x500 jettisoned when jumped by E/A. Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 4000' Angle 45° Released at 1500'
- F. 2 bombs by Lt Stetson destroyed armored vehicles and cross-road intersection at T-244544. 2 near misses by truck at T-272523.
- G - I. Nil
- J. T-255575 (3 miles east of Coutances) ME 109's and FW 190's  
Time 1250 12 to 20 in number  
1 ME 109 claimed destroyed by Lt Clarence Stetson  
1 FW 190 claimed destroyed by Lt Robert A. Caldwell  
2 ME 190's claimed damaged by Lt Robert A. Caldwell
- K. Nil
- L. 7/10 Cumulus at 4000' Vis: good
- M. Time Up 11/6 Time Down: 1313
- N. - R. Nil
- S. 1 M/T damaged by Lt Caldwell at T-273522.
- T. The mission resulted in the destruction of an A/V and road intersection by bombing with claims for 2 enemy A/C destroyed and 2 damaged.  
The flight surprised about 12 to 20 enemy A/C 2 to 3 miles east of Coutances while flying just under the cloud cover of 2000 feet at 1250 hours. The enemy A/C immediately jettisoned their belly tanks and took evasive action. Lt Stetson got on the tail of one ME 109 closed to 400 yards and got a one second burst into the right wing root of the plane, see it lighting up with at least 50 strikes before it passed out of sight into the clouds. Claims 1 Destroyed. Lt Caldwell in same engagement scored deflection shots on 2 ME 109's claiming 2 damaged before they broke away as he turned his attention to two FW 190's. The latter were turning into him and presented almost head-on targets. Lt Caldwell made a head-on pass at one of the FW 190's opening fire at 400 yards and closing to 100 yards as the enemy A/C passed over head.

The target was pouring black smoke from its engine during the period immediately following Lt Caldwell's initial attack until the plane passed out of sight into the overcast. Claim 1 FW 190 Destroyed.

The other 2 members of our squadron jettisoned their bombs upon sighting the enemy A/C but did not participate in the encounter.

Length of the engagement was approximately 1 minute. Enemy A/C did not take offensive action, but sought safety in the cloud cover, and did not reappear.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps

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MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y 21-51, 27 July 1944, Mission No. 4
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's, Targets of Opportunity, 1310
- E. 8x500 G.P. Inst bombs loaded. 8x500 dropped on targets. Nil, Nil.  
Altitude at start of dive 3000' Angle 40o Released at 1000'
- F. 2 bombs on T 418521, tank in wooded area, unobserved results  
6 bombs on T 426622 where vehicles were seen in wooded lane,  
unobserved results.
- G. - K. Nil.
- L. 8/10 Cumulus 1200 to 3000' rainsheets, Visibility poor.
- M. Time Up: 1248 Time Down: 1335
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. See T
- R. T-418521, Light Meager, Inaccurate  
T-426522, Light Meager, Inaccurate  
T-522472, Heavy, Meager, Inaccurate.
- S. See T.
- T. The two targets listed above were bombed and strafed because of the presence of vehicles and a tank. Results were unobserved because a rocket squadron was operating against the same target resulting in general confusion. Our Pilots vacated the area to avoid collisions with friendly aircraft.

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395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

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27 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y21-51, 27 July 1944, Mission 5.
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's, Targets of opportunity, 1445  
8x500 G.P. Inst bomb loaded. 8x500 Dropped on target, Nil, Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 2000' Angle 200 Released at 800'
- F. 2 bombs dropped neat a tank at T-2837, near misses. 6 bombs  
scored near misses on crossroads at T-4837, but damaged a truck.
- G - K. Nil
- L. 9/10 Cumulus 1500-2000 Vis: good
- M. Time Up: 1352 Time Down: 1508
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. 40 to 50 allied tanks under enemy artillery fire at T-4459.
- R. T-4450, Light, Meager, Inaccurate
- S. 4 strafing attacks on Tank at T-2837. Damaged.
- T. Targets of opportunity were attack from directions given by Ground  
Forces R/T, with little to be found in the way of profitable targets.  
The crossroads was not hit, but near-misses were registered on it  
and the truck on the road just south of the intersection. Four passes  
at the tank failed to ignite it, but probable damage resulted.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
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## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y 21-51, 27 July 1944, Mission 6.
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 2x500 at T258425, Road intersection and buildings  
2x500 at T-273422 Road intersection and buildings  
2x500 at T-444391, Tank position  
2x500 at T-486503, 2 tanks  
Time of attack 1605.
- E. 8x500 G.P. Inst bombs loaded. 8x500 dropped on target. Nil, Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 3000' angle 40° Released at 1000'
- F. Bombing results. The first two targets listed in D, were hit and unobserved results on the next two targets.
- G. Nil
- H. 1 P-47 Cat "A" Light AA
- I - K. Nil
- L. 1800 to 3300, cumulus, 7/10 Vis: excellent. Rain at intervals
- M. Time Up; 1452 Time Down 1625
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. The pilots report that the enemy marks out tanks with yellow smoke as soon as they see our planes orbiting in the area. This is obviously an attempt to make our own planes strafing our own tanks.
- R. T-443522, Light, Moderate, Inaccurate  
T-461539, Light, Moderate, Inaccurate.
- S. Lt Grny destroyed 1 staff car at T425535 and one weapons carrier at T-471539.
- T. Outbreak called our flight and ask them to orbit the area around Le Mesnil Herman (T4654) in an attempt to locate artillery positions This was done unsuccessfully and upon being relieved our flight went seeking targets of opportunity. The intersections were bombed with success and T486503 where two tanks were seen to be on fire from an attack from another flight indicated a fire in the woods.

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395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence OfficerAPO 595, U. S. Army  
27 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y21-51, No. 8, 27 July 1944
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's, Targets of Opportunity, Road intersection at T346469, 1745 to 1800
- E. 8x500 G.P. Inst bombs loaded. 8x500 dropped on target, Nil, Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 2300' Angle 45° Released at 1200
- F. 4 bombs at road intersection T-346469 landed 100 yards south among a group of buildings with much damage resulting to them. 2 bombs at Road junction T-188578 overshot landed in field.
- G. Nil
- H. 2 P-37's, CAT "A", Light AA
- I - K. Nil
- L. 7/10 cumulus 1500 to 4000 feet Visibility good.
- M. Time Up: 1654 Down: 1835
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Nil
- R. T-390477, Light Meager, Inaccurate
- S. Nil
- T. Mission attacked targets of opportunity upon R/T instruction from Ground forces. Only one successful attack by Lt Staton. Much flak encountered with damage to two P-47's.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
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27 July 1944

## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y21-51, 27 July 1944, Mission 10.
- B. 3 P-47's, Nil Nil,
- C. Nil
- D. 3 P-47's, Targets of Opportunity, 1930
- E. 6x500 G.P. Inst Bombs loaded, 6x500 dropped on target, Nil, Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 3500' Angle 40o Released at 1000'
- F. Two bombs dropped at T249583 destroying building and landing on road. Two bombs dropped on intersection at T-269569. Two bombs used on tanks and jeeps on the main highway which runs NE out of Coutances
- G. - K. Nil
- L. 3/10 ceiling 4000', scattered cumulus tops 3200' Vis: 10 Miles
- M. Time Up: 1852 Time Down: 2008
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. About 20 plus individual vehicles including tanks and motor trucks were seen on the main highway which runs NE of Coutances which left the highway upon being attack this observation was made from a 1000 feet at about 1930. These were called in over R/T.
- R. T-269569, Light, Meager, Inaccurate
- S. Lt Miller and Col Quinby share a damaged two tanks at T276586.
- T. Bombing results were fairly good on targets of opportunity after release. Cutbreak did not offer any targets, Lt Ivey destroyed 1 tank, 2 trucks, 1 jeep with his bombs. Total for this mission 2 tanks damaged, 1 tank destroyed, 2 trucks destroyed, 1 jeep destroyed, 1 intersection destroyed, 1 house and road blown up.

THEODORE F. SKALKO  
2nd Lt., Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

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Office of the Intelligence Officer

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## MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y21-51, 27 Jul 1944, Mission 11
- B. 4 P-47's, Nil, Nil
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's, Church steeple T-435460 and enemy M/T's in area extending east, south and west in radius of 4 miles from town of Souilles T-422522. Time 2000 to 2045
- F. 4 bombs near misses by tanks (2) at T-405517. 2 cut road at T-418519. 2 destroyed house at T-412515.
- G. Nil
- H. 1 P-47, CAT "A", Light flak.
- I. - K. Nil
- L. 6/10 stratus 1000-3500 visibility good.
- M. Time Up: 1915 Time Down: 2058
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Many enemy vehicles seen. See "D" above.
- R. T-435460, Light, Meager, Accurate
- S. Destroyed 10 M/T's; damaged 11 M/T's. Area generally south of Souilles within 4 miles radius. Church steeple at T-435460 was destroyed.
- T. Church steeple was attacked and destroyed on instructions of Ground Forces M/T. A house was destroyed by bombing: overshoot tank target. Road cut at T-418519, by bombing. Capt Mumaw destroyed 5 M/T's and damaged 3. Lt Williams destroyed 3 M/T's and damaged 3. Lt Geanetti damaged 4 M/Ts. F/O Rife destroyed 2 M/Ts and damaged 1. Many vehicles in area and attack 10 only because ammunition was exhausted.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer

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Office of the Intelligence Officer

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MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, Y 21-51, 27 July 1944, Mission 12.
- B. 4 P-47's
- C. Nil
- D. 4 P-47's, Bridge T-192540, 2120
- E. 8x500 G.P. Inst Bombs loaded. 8x500 Dropped on target, Nil, Nil  
Altitude at start of dive 3500' Angle 45° Released at 1000'
- F. All 8 bombs were released over the bridge at T-192540 with  
no hits obtained. All near misses.
- G. - K. Nil
- L. 6/10 Cumulus 1500-2500 Feet, Vis: good
- M. Time Up: 2051 Down: 2213
- N. Nil
- O. Nil
- P. Clear
- Q. Nil
- R. Nil
- S. Nil
- T. The flight was engaged in reconnaissance in the Coutance sector,  
but observed no activity with the exception of 2 M/Ts crossing  
the bridge attacked by bombing. There was no flak or ground  
movement encountered. Peccy was carried out in the sector south  
of the bomb line as far east as Tessy with no activity seen with  
the exception of many fires from burning M/Ts attacked by previous  
flights from this unit.

ROBERT L. CLARK  
Captain, Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

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28 July 1944

MISSION REPORT

- A. 395th Fighter Squadron, X 51-56, 28 July 1944, Mission No. 1.
- B. 12 P-47's, Nil, Nil.
- C. Nil.
- D. 12 P-47's, escort mission.
- E. Nil.
- F. See T.
- G. - K. Nil.
- L.2 ~~XXXX~~ Two layers of clouds throughout flight. One layer at 2000 ft which went up to 5000 ft cumulus 8/10. Second layer from 7500-8000 10/10 stratus.
- M. Time up: 1507, Time down: 1655
- N. Nil.
- O. R/V 1534, 12000 ft Briefed point.
- P. Clear
- Q. Turned in as Flash News. Twenty plus boats of various description anchored in the harbor at St. Malo from 18,000' 1615. S 7913
- X. XXXX
- R. Nil
- S. Nil
- T. R/V was made as briefed. Three boxes of B-26s and A-20s picked up and escorted to target area. There is a great deal of question as to whether target was attacked. One flight stated that it's box made a bomb-run but did not see bombs dropped. Second flight says that their box jettisoned their bombs into the sea. Third flight stated that it could not tell what disposition had been made of the bombs. The bombers were escorted north along the coast and were left at 1635 at which time our Squadron returned to it's strip.

THEODORE F SKALKO  
2nd Lt., Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
Office of the Intelligence Officer

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27 July 1944

ENCOUNTER REPORT

- A. Combat
- B. 27-7-44
- C. 395th Fighter Squadron, 368th Fighter Group
- D. 1250
- E. East of Coutances
- F. Overcast at 2000 feet.
- G. Eight plus ME 109's and FW 190's.
- H. 1 FW 190 destroyed, 2 ME 109's damaged.
- I. I was flying number three position in Black Flight east of Coutances. We were flying in string formation about a mile apart after strafing ground targets in this vicinity. Circling at an altitude of about 1800 feet, below the overcast, I sighted 2 ME 109's coming out of the overcast at my level from two o'clock. I was flying southeast, they were coming from the south towards me at about a distance of 600 to 800 yards. Turning to make a head-on pass, I called these airplanes to my Flight Leader. I turned into the nearest ME 109 firing. While turning and firing, I saw this plane drop its belly tank and other pieces seemed to fall off the same time. These two ME 109's passed to the left of me, climbing into the overcast, and immediately behind them and from the same spot came two more ME 109's. When they saw me, they turned to my right. I pulled on around and spotted two more ME 109's climbing towards the clouds about 300 yards away at 90 degrees. I gave them approximately a two to three radii lead firing from 70 degrees from 300 to 400 yards down to 30 degrees when they disappeared into the overcast.

I did a turn to the right to clear my tail and ran head-on into two FW 190's approaching out of the cloud bank from the northwest and about 800 yards away. I fired a quick burst on the lead ship which was going under my nose and then pulled up into the second FW 190. When I opened fire, he gave off a lot of black smoke and flames and I kept firing and climbing into him until I was about 250 to 300 feet from him. He passed slightly to the right and above still pouring smoke and flames. I then pulled off to regain my speed which had dropped to 150 MPH. My Flight Leader called me to head the enemy aircraft north. My wingman called that he was joining me at the same time. I headed north, did a turn covering my Flight Leader's tail. By this time all the planes disappeared into the overcast and we did not see them again.

I claim 1 FW 190 destroyed, 2 ME 109's damaged.

ROBERT E. CALDWELL;  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Element Leader.

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395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
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APO 595, U.S. Army  
27 July 1944

ENCOUNTER REPORT

- A. Combat
- B. 27-7-44
- C. 395th Fighter Squadron, 368th Fighter Group
- D. 1250
- E. East of Coutances
- F. Overcast at 2000 feet.
- G. ME 109
- H. 1 ME 109 probably destroyed.

I. I was leading Black Flight in string formation looking for ground targets east of Coutances at about 1250. Black number three called me over the radio to report ME 109's at six o'clock. I broke to my left, noticed three airplanes on my level at 1800 feet from nine o'clock. These ME 109's were painted a dark olive drab with the Swastikas evident as their marking. I followed them closing in as they headed for the overcast which was at 2000 feet. Two of them started into the overcast and the third broke to the left apparently trying to get on my tail. As I closed to four hundred yards, I gave the ME 109 on the right a full second burst. I observed strikes and flashes all over the right wing root of this airplane as it went into the overcast. At this point I was forced to take evasive action to avoid the ME 109 which had turned left to get on my tail and could not observe much more because of the number of airplanes in the sky.

I claim 1 ME 109 probably destroyed.

CLARENCE STATON,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Flight Leader.