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SECRET - 300-111
APRIL 1944

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* A HISTORY OF THE *
* 597TH FIGHTER SQUADRON *
* THIRD INSTALLMENT *
* (Covering the Month of April, 1944) *

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SECRET

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* * * * *

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HISTORY OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON **SECRET** Installation III - Section A

1. ORGANIZATION (e.g., changes effected by the transfer of the unit or by new T/O's).

N E G A T I V E

2. STRENGTH ON THE LAST DAY OF THE MONTH:

Strength (Assigned Personnel) on 30 April 1944 --- 43 Officers, 249 Enlisted Men.

3. DATE OF ARRIVAL AT AND DEPARTURE FROM EACH STATION OCCUPIED IN THE ETO:

N E G A T I V E

4. LOSSES IN ACTION:

N E G A T I V E

5. AWARDS TO AND DECORATIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON:

Air Medals awarded to: Major JOHN D. W. HASSLER
Captain JOSEPH MARINI
Captain EUGENE M. POTTER
Second Lieutenant GEORGE L. SUTOLIFFE

~~TOP SECRET~~

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* * * * *
* SECTION B *
* * * * *
* Narrative Diary of the Period. *
* * * * *

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 * SECTION B *
 * NARRATIVE DIARY *
 * Covering the Month *
 * of April, 1944 *

**TWENTY-FOUR 397TH PILOTS
 ATTAIN COMBAT DISTINCTION**

**Air Medal Recommendations
 Are Submitted
 To Group**

USAF STATION 404, CHILBOLTON, Hants, UK--(April 1)--Twenty-four 'eager-beaver' pilots of the hard-hitting 397th Fighter Squadron have attained combat distinction, despite the fact that they became operational only slightly more than two weeks ago.

Recommendations for 24 Air Medals and seven Oak Leaf Clusters to this decoration have been submitted, through 368th Group Headquarters, to the Ninth Air Support Command for approval, it was revealed here today by the squadron operations office. Actual awarding of the medals and clusters will occur upon receipt of the approval.

- The Major Doesn't Stand Short -

Most apparent during these first operational weeks was the impossibility of keeping the 'old man' (he'll be 28 this summer) on the ground. As completely separate as sauerkraut and ice cream is Major Haesler and the 'swivel chair and desk' type of leaders. He flew every mission, has been officially credited with one damaged ME-109, and has chalked up eligibility for an Air Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters. Also slated to receive the award and a pair of clusters for his work with this squadron is Captain Eugene M. Potter, an RAF Eagle Squadron and ETOUSA veteran before joining the organization last month. Potter is now assistant operations officer.

Following is the complete list of recommendations, as submitted by operations to date:

Air Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters: Major John D. W. Haesler and Captain Eugene M. Potter.

Air Medal with One Oak Leaf Cluster: Captains Marini, Gibson and Talbott.

Air Medal: Captain Hendricks, First Lieutenants Anderson, O'Donnell, Lougee, Carlson and Fry, and Second Lieutenants Sutcliffe, Roovoid, Driscoll, Brown, Sharp, Horlacher, Marko, Burney, Howard, Foltz, Langmaid, Dams and Hamilton.

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 * "...for that *
 * 'mission over' *
 * feeling - - - *
 * PILOTS' SNACK *
 * BAR COMPLETED *

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 2)--"What'll it be, sir?" asks the GI chef, in strict Coney Island lunch wagon style --- and a minute later a hungry pilot just back from a trip over the continent is set up to an attractive array of victuals that will include almost any rarity from a

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fresh egg to a sample of sirloin. Recently completed, the pilots' snack bar is located adjacent to the pilots' lounge and is maintained by Staff Sergeant Orville Griffith, squadron mess sergeant, and his capable staff of caterers. (NOTE: 'Grif' has been satisfying GI appetites for nearly 18 years.) Gandy and gun rations are provided by B-2 and the Medics supply the final touch -- a shot of Scotch Whisky.

APR 3 1944

CAPTAIN HENDRICKS TALKS
TO ENLISTED MEN ABOUT
RECENT DUTY IN ITALY

Operations Officer Back
From Interesting
Combat Tour

GHILSONTON, Hants--(April 3, 1944)--Captain Randall W. Hendricks, 397th Operations Officer and one of the squadron's 'hotter' pilots, talked to the squadron's enlisted personnel here today relative to his experiences while on detached service with a dive-bombing unit in Italy.

Weather conditions held the Captain grounded to about six brief missions during his stay in Il Duce's old stamping ground, eliminating the possibility of passing on much technical information. His detailed account of the conditions that are now confronting troops stationed on the continent, however, was a subject replacement of equivalent value to the men -- who hope to set up housekeeping some place over there themselves before very long.

Making the trip itself in a C-47 'Dakota', the Captain observed conditions in many sectors now under Allied occupation, including Algiers, Oran, Casablanca and Naples. His report was of a favorable nature. Living conditions, food and the like are ample; in fact, good, considering the circumstances. Civilians, too, seem to be without urgent want, enjoying good food and dress -- especially the French girls, who, according to Captain Hendricks, are surprisingly attractive and well dressed for residents of a war-torn nation.

APR 3 1944

"Cuehi" -- GHILSONTON, Hants--(April 3, 1944)--Tetanus, Typhoid and Typhus
* NEEDLE CORPS * inoculations were administered here today to 53 officers and
* IN ACTION * 189 enlisted men by Captain F. F. Baker, squadron surgeon, and
* AGAIN! * his staff of technicians. The event was one of the inaugural
* ***** * phases of a new, stepped-up inoculation program that will feature
more frequent engagements with the needle. Typhus inoculations, for example, will
now be given every three months.

Orders were received today assigning Opl (747) Cecil F. Glaney, 36507748, to the organization, having been transferred from the 73rd Station Complement to the 368th Fighter Group on April 2nd. (per par 1, S. O. 30, Hq 368th F Gp, 2 Apr 44)

APR 4 1944

'Wheels' Go Soft --TWENTY-ONE ENLISTED
MEN ADVANCED A STEPApprove Promotions
To Five Higher
Grades

GUILDBOLTON, Hants--(April 4, 1944)--Special Orders appearing today promoted 21 of the squadron's enlisted personnel to the next higher grade, effective April 1st.

Paragraph three of Special Orders Number 29, Headquarters 368th Fighter Group, approved the squadron commander's recommendations as follows:

S/Sgt (911) Werner (AMI) Lehman, 38062051, promoted to Technical Sergeant; Sgt (747) Norbert P. Billinger, 33187905, Sgt (747) Charles G. Miller, 33493960, Sgt (673) Paul P. Power-

cmak, 12016843, and Sgt (685) Joseph D. Wyah, 37437407, promoted to Staff Sergeant; Opl (911) Walter B. Grader, 31287351, Opl (667) John J. Jones, Jr., 39106800, Opl (405) Francis T. Lenahan, 32333948, and Opl (747) John (AMI) Myers, 32398967, promoted to Sergeant.

Pfc (861) Charles E. Gneak, 31329091, Pfc (405) Merlin J. Dickross, 36817894, Pfc (405) Harry W. Heath, 32577230, Pfc (932) Manuel (AMI) Guerra, 38455756, Pfc (911) Michael T. Baydon, 32666587, Pfc (911) Harrison L. Nawi, 14175084, Pfc (056) Archie (AMI) McNeil, 32285946, and Pfc (945) Thomas H. Manker, 31090880, promoted to Corporal; and Pvt (014) Marvin L. Adams, 33242324, Pvt (911) Edward H. Oenicker, 33668676, Pvt (345) Ralph H. May, 34624936, and Pvt (759) Clarence D. Parrish, 39827477, promoted to Private First Class.

All promotions were of a temporary nature and approved under the provisions of AR 619-5, 30 Jun 43.

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LIEUTENANT ANDERSON AND
HIS CREW 'OFF TO SCHOOL'Red Flight Leader Will
Study Dive-Bombing
and Strafing

GUILDBOLTON, Hants--(April 4, 1944)--First Lieutenant Robert S. Anderson, newly appointed leader of the Red Flight, and Staff Sergeant Foster, Corporals James Nelson and Sullivan and Pfc Facer, will be among the delegates from operational units who will attend a course in ground support, dive-bombing and strafing at Milfield during the next three weeks.

The enlisted men departed today. The lieutenant is awaiting a break in the current unfavorable weather and will then make the trip via squadron aircraft.

Lieutenant Anderson assumed leadership of the Red Flight last month, when Captain Goodwin was switched to the 396th as operations officer.

* * * * *
* LIEUTENANT DUNCAN OF THE 430TH *
* STUDIES OUR 'BLAINS' SECTION * APR 5 1944
* * * * *

GUILDBOLTON, Hants--(April 5, 1944)--First Lieutenant Clifford F. Duncan, Intelligence Officer of the 430th Fighter Squadron, arrived here today to observe the current work of the 397th's B-2 section. The lieutenant's unit, one of the three squadrons comprising the 474th Fighter Group, is a new member of the ETO family and anticipates becoming operational within the near future. They are now stationed at the Warrwell RAF Station.

 * SERGEANT HOFFMAN COMPLETES *
 * TELETYPE MAINTENANCE COURSE *

APR 5th 1944

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 5, 1944)--Sergeant Elwood D. Hoffman, 36362301, returned to the squadron today after completing a two weeks' course in teletype maintenance conducted by the IX Air Support Command at U. S. A. F. Station 449. Hoffman, who has served as teletype maintenance NCO with this organization for several months, is in charge of the squadron's staff of three TWE operators.

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 * "...take a break!" *
 * SQUADRON RELEASED *
 * FROM OPERATIONAL *
 * DUTY FOR TWO DAYS *

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 5, 1944)--Orders were received here late this afternoon to release the squadron from its operational status until daybreak of April 8th, there being no indication of a break in the prevailing inclement weather. Weather conditions have held the squadron grounded to date this month, although several missions were scheduled, and scrubbed only at the last minute. Practice dive-bombing missions will be flown during these two days, weather permitting.

- * * * -

 * "...a small world!" --- *
 * LIEUTENANT CARLSON, FLIES ESCORT TO *
 * FORTRESS CARRYING HIS GUNNER BROTHER *

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 5, 1944)--Fate and the War Department have apparently heard that a couple of brothers from Omaha, Nebr., like to work as a team. First Lieutenant Ray D. Carlson, a young pilot stationed here with the 397th Fighter Squadron, and his brother, Staff Sergeant Roland Carlson of the 412th Bombardment Squadron, also stationed in England, discovered while enjoying a recent reunion that they had both participated in the same raid on March 27th. The sergeant, a waist gunner on a Flying Fortress, that date took part in a raid over France and the lieutenant's mission of the same date was to aid in the provision of fighter escort for his brother's group, the 97th Bombardment. The event went off as scheduled, but unknown to both brothers at the time.

The 'fighting Carlsons' enjoyed a leave together in Omaha last fall. Both knew at the time that overseas duty would be an event of the near future, and, neither of them knowing where, they bid their 'duration farewells' --- never anticipating the coincidence in store for them.

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HISTORY OF THE 397th FIGHTER SQUADRON **SECRET** Installation III - Section B

FOUR FIGHTER PILOTS
FROM 410TH SQUADRON
FINISH BS WORK HERE

Were Sent Here For
Pre-Operational
Training

APR 6 1944

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 6, 1944)--Four fighter pilots from the 410th Fighter Squadron returned to their outfit today following several days of detached service to this unit for pre-operational training. The flyers, Captains Taylor and Jenkins and First Lieutenants Curran and Johnston, observed operational procedure and accompanied the squadron on one actual combat tour of the continent.

Their squadron, one of the three comprising the 407th Fighter Group, anticipates becoming operational soon and detached the four pilots here as a preparatory measure.

Eight enlisted men from the same organization, who were here as their ground crew, also returned today.

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• TWO 'IRACIDIAN' • CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 6, 1944)--Two practice dive-bombing
• MISSIONS FLOWN • missions were flown by the squadron today, Pepperbox Hill Range
• ***** • being the objective.

- * * *

WEATHER AND COMMUNICATIONS
DETACHMENTS ARE RELIEVED

Have Been Attached to the
397th for Five
Weeks

APR 7 1944

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 7, 1944)--Detachment 'B' of the 21st Weather and 40th Mobile Communication Squadrons were relieved from attached here today after being with the 397th on a quarters, rations and administration basis for five weeks. The men were attached to the squadron March 1, per Special Orders Number 17, Headquarters 368th Fighter Group, appearing on that date, and were relieved per WOCO, 368th.

Comprising the detachments were Second Lieutenant Anthony Erries (Det CO), T/Sgt Jack B. Kellan, S/Sgt Jacob M. Oppenheim, Sgt Donald C. Stewart, Sgt George F. Stork, Sgt William S. Bayanski and Opl James W. Leeperre, all of the 21st Weather Squadron, and T/Sgt Edmund H. Bayler, Sgt Salvatore J. Vitale, Sgt Dennis A. Frazier, Opl Robert L. Gordon, Opl Dennis W. Fowler, Opl James L. Hendrix, Pvt Evan R. Cox, Pvt Thomas E. Flanagan and Pvt George A. Harvin of the 40th Mobile Communications Squadron.

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LIEUTENANT MAGNUS
TALKS TO ENLISTED
MEN ON NAZI ARMY

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 7, 1944)--Second Lieutenant Merton E. Magnus, assistant squadron intelligence officer, delivered a training lecture here tonight to all enlisted men of the unit. His subject was the German Army, its men, equipment, weapons, etc., and he spoke for more than an hour, following the lecture with an open forum discussion and question period.

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SQUADRON FEATURED IN EASTER EVE VISIT --- DROPS 30 EGGS IN A NAZI NEST

**HASSELT, BELGIUM,
MARSHALLING YARDS
BECOME PAST TARGET**

**Dive Bombing One Phase
of Dual Role Played
In Daylight Raid**

GILBOLTON, Hants--(April 8, 1944)--The squadron played Easter Bunny today and dropped thirty 250 pound eggs in a Nazi nest --- a grim holiday gesture, but an appropriate reminder to a certain guy who thinks that things like Easter have no place in the world. Getting back into action after an intermission of over a week due to inclement weather, the squadron's first mission of the month was of a dual nature. Secret provision for B-25's was the first purpose; dive bombing secondary --- but conditions over the target called for a reverse, as the Marauders needed but little help and a good target can always use a few more hits.

Taking off at 1209, the squadron joined a group formation and flew to a rendezvous with the B-25's off Dunkirk. From there the route was to Nieupert, then to Enghien, and then to a point 18 miles south of Hasselt, where they turned north for the bomb run. Their work completed, they flew to Malines and then to Knoke, where landfall out occurred. They arrived home at 1520, returning via North Friesland.

The weather was generally good and there was no icing. Flak opposition caused but little worry, although encountered in several areas. It was heavy and intense but most of it was not accurate.

Participating in the mission, the squadron's fifteenth, were Major Haseler, Captains Hendricks, Marini, Fetter and Gibson, First Lieutenants Lougee, Fry and Carlson, and Second Lieutenants Roosevelt, Brown, Horlacher, Sharp, Dams, Langmaid, Howard and Sutcliffe. Second Lieutenant Marks flew as a spare.

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* No More 'Shave-tail Shams'--- *

LIEUTENANT BROWN *

AND DAMS PROMOTED *

* Join Silver Bar Oligue Today *

* * * * *

GILBOLTON, Hants--(April 8, 1944)--Orders were received here today advancing Second Lieutenants Robert S. Brown and Edward W. Dams to the rank of first lieutenant. Lieutenant Brown is a Yellow Flight element leader and Lieutenant Dams serves the Green Flight in the same capacity. Both promotions were approved per paragraph 12, Special Orders Number 22, Headquarters HTOUSA.

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**CAPTAIN TALBOTT IS
ATTACHED TO GROUP**

**Will Learn How to
Plan Operational
Missions**

GILBOLTON, Hants--(April 9, 1944)--An informal memorandum today attached Captain Charles M. Talbott, leader of Green Flight, to Group Headquarters for the purpose of studying the procedures of planning operational missions. He will be attached there for about two weeks.

HISTORY OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON **SECRET** Installation III - Section B

**THREE NEW FIGHTER PILOTS
ARE ASSIGNED TO SQUADRON**

Second Lieutenants Bates,
See and Stoll Are
Ready for Action

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 10, 1944)--Three new Thunderbolt pilots, fresh from the 'States' and eager for their first taste of action, joined the squadron today. They are Second Lieutenants Euel W. Bates (O-686786), Manuel K. See (O-815497), and Frederick G. Stoll, Jr. (O-815497). Twenty five years old and married, Lieutenant Bates is from Olympia, Washington. He served with the Washington State Liquor Control Board before entering the air corps. Youngest of the new trio, Lieutenant See is 23 --- comes from Berkeley, California, and was employed by the civil service commission as an army ordnance mechanical inspector before entering the service. Lieutenant Stoll, 24, is from Youngstown, Ohio; received his formal education at Youngstown College and Ohio Wesleyan University being an active track man as a freshman; was affiliated with Sigma Alpha Epsilon and, upon completion of his schooling, joined the Hoover Company as a salesman. Their assignment to the 397th was per WCOO, Headquarters 368th Fighter Group.

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**CAPTAIN HENDRICKS AND
LIEUTENANT LOUGESE WILL
CONDUCT C. T. U. SCHOOL**

Newly Assigned Pilots
From Three Squadrons
Will Attend

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 11, 1944)--Captain Randall W. Hendricks, squadron operations officer, and First Lieutenant John H. Lougese have been selected to conduct a group C. T. U. School for newly assigned pilots. Classes were started today and will continue for about two weeks. Corporal Robert Chestler, a squadron operations clerk, will assist them with the program.

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* SQUADRON DRAGSTICES. *
* LANDINGS ON A NEW *
* TYPE MOBILE STRIP *
* * * * *

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 11, 1944)--Four practice missions were flown today at Kingston for the purpose of familiarization with the mobile, steel mesh landing strip

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**PENETRATION SUPPORT
FOR HEAVY BOMBERS IS
PURPOSE OF 16TH TOUR**

Escorted B-24's to
Germany; Turned
Back Early

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 12, 1944)--Provision of penetration support for the bases of Liberators enroute to targets in Germany was the purpose of the squadron's 16th operational mission.

Taking off from Chilbolton at 1143, the squadron joined a group formation, left the English coast at Deal, crossed the channel and made landfall in at Nieuport, Belg. Rendezvous

with the bombers, who were flying 33 to the box, was established slightly west of Brussels at 1310. The squadron accompanied the Liberators as far as Liège, where they turned back on a group recall after encountering bad weather and poor visibility. Heavy, accurate and intense flak was observed at Ostend.

In the squadron formation were Lt Col Myers, group commander, Maj Ferege, deputy group commander, Maj Macoler, Captains Marini and Potter, First Lieutenants Brown, O'Connell, Fry and Lougese and Second Lieutenants Roosevelt, Harlacher, Sharp, Beckold, Driscoll, Arps and Langmaid. Second Lieutenants Sutcliffe and Dams flew as spares, the latter filling in for Lieutenant Langmaid, who aborted when the glass coupling on his left wing tank broke. Lieutenant Sutcliffe filled in in the 397th squadron.

Today's mission was the first for Lieutenant Arps, who has been grounded with an ear ailment since the squadron became operational. Commenting on the experience,

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the lieutenant said it was "...like a Sunday afternoon outing, except for the flak."

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STONER BRIEFED
ENLISTED MEN

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 12, 1944)--Corporal Charles T. Stoner of the 397th Intelligence Section conducted a briefing on today's mission shortly after take-off for the enlisted men of the squadron.

The event was one of the initial steps in a program that will endeavor to keep the squadron's enlisted personnel well-informed on the operational activities of the unit. Similar briefings will be conducted by members of the intelligence section on each mission, followed by a brush-up summary of the prevailing war picture in general.

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SMASH MONTREUIL AREA
IN DIVE BOMBING SHOW

Drop Effective Bomb
Pattern -- See
Explosions

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 13, 1944)--Bokall targets southeast of Montreuil, France, were the objective of severe dive bombings today from the 398th Fighter Group -- the role of the 397th in the event being the provision of top cover. Take-off from Chilbolton was at 0910. They left the English coast at Dungeness, made landfall in at a point north of Serak-sur-Mer, pounded the target and flew a straight course back to a landing strip at Kingston Bognuise, where they

refueled and reloaded bombs. In making their second trip of the day, they flew a straight course to the landfall out point of their first mission (South of Hardslot, France) and then turned northeast toward the target, which was located northeast of Deevres, France. From the target area they flew northeast to Gravelines, then crossed the Channel to South Foreland and returned home. Weather conditions were favorable and a minimum of flak was encountered.

"The Bombs hit in huge clusters throughout the entire target area, resulting in damage that was undoubtedly extensive and probably leveling the objective completely," commented Lieutenant Hamilton.

Lieutenant Langmaid's version was similar: "...our position in today's formation didn't enable much observation, but I did see enough to know that the bomb patterns were really effective -- the damage must have been terrific!"

Equally optimistic as to the results was Lieutenant Arps, who made his second operational mission today and commented: "We were too far away to see much of the actual results of the bombing, but there were numerous puffs of smoke in the target area -- enough to indicate several sizeable explosions and considerable damage in general."

Participating in the mission, the squadron's 17th, were Major Essler, Captains Gibson, Karini and Potter, First Lieutenants Bare, Carlson and Fry, and Second Lieutenants Bechtold, Rosvold, Sutcliffe, Hamilton, Horlacher, Marko, Burney, Arps and Langmaid. First Lieutenant Brown and Second Lieutenant Driscoll flew as spares.

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* SQUADRON'S PILOTS ENJOY *
* A SHAIN-SERAPHEE PARTY; *
* IS BEST MISSION TO DATE *
* * * * *

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 14, 1944)--Blowing up locomotive and strafing military freight trains vital to the Nazi war machine became a part of a day's work for fifteen 397th pilots today.

Route of today's sweep was from Chilbolton to Beachy Head, across the Channel to landfall in at Le Treport, southeast to Gournay, northeast to Amiens, northeast to Combrail, northwest to Armentieres and then to landfall out at Le Touquet, flying home via Dungeness.

Weather conditions were favorable, with very good visibility throughout -- but

it was a break of equivalent value for the enemy. Flak that was heavy, meager and accurate was encountered at a point west of Abbeville; it was accurate, intense and heavy at Beauvais; light, inaccurate and meager south of Boulogne; heavy, intense and accurate at Boulogne and moderate at Le Treport. Three planes (Major Haesler's, Lieut. Carlson's and Lieut. Fry's) were damaged slightly.

"They were really out to get us today," Major Haesler commented. "The flak was terrific --- threw everything at us but the kitchen sink, but they couldn't stop us. We blew those trains up higher than a kite!"

"We hit those freight trains mighty hard," claimed Lieutenant Carlson, "...the damage was extensive, no doubt about it. I saw one locomotive explode and blow all over the place. The freights provided good targets and we hit them while they were out in the open, laying off while they were in stations so as not to hurt any French civilians. Plenty of flak, but we all came through OK."

Captain Marini's version was not far different: "We all had a helluva lot of fun today --- our best mission to date. We blew those Nazi freights sky high. And they didn't like it very well, either --- threw bushels of flak at us and some of our ships got pretty well scratched up, but we all got back OK and the boys will have our planes ready for tomorrow, if we need 'em."

- Major Hits 100-Hour Mark -

With the completion of today's mission, Major Haesler crossed the 100-hour mark of operational flying in the ETO. The squadron became operational only a month ago today.

Taking part in today's mission, number 18 for the squadron, were Major Haesler, Captains Marini and Gibson, First Lieutenants Fry, O'Connell, Brown and Carlson, and Second Lieutenants Hamilton, Driscoll, Marko, Burney, Rogal, Sharp, Rosvold and Sutcliffe. There were no spares.

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 * TWO NEW MEN * CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 15, 1944)--Pfc (521) Frances V. Simons,
 * ARE ASSIGNED * 33056688, and Pvt (911) Lee Fimmental, 31293350, were assigned to
 * TO SQUADRON * the squadron today per VOOG, Headquarters 368th Fighter Group.
 * * * * *

Two hundred and fifty-two enlisted men of the 66th Airdrome Squadron were attached to the squadron today for rations.

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TWO PILOTS FROM 48TH GROUP
 ARE HERE FOR COMBAT FLYING

To Gain Experience Before
 Their Outfit Becomes
 Operational

U. S. A. F. Station No. 347.
 near future.

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 15, 1944)--Two fighter pilots, Captain Uplike and First Lieutenant Lerner, arrived here today to fly operational missions with the squadron and thereby gather some combat experience to convey to their outfit, a recent addition to the ETO family. The flyers are from the 48th Fighter-Scout Squadron, 48th Fighter-Bomber Group, of the IX Fighter Command, now at their unit anticipates becoming operational within the near future.

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 * GROUP ANNOUNCES APPROVAL * CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 15, 1944)--Announcement was
 * OF FOUR AIR MEDAL AWARDS * made here today by group headquarters of the approval
 * * * * * * * * * * by the IX Air Support Command of Air Medal awards to
 * four 397th pilots. Recipients of the decoration were Major Haesler, Captains Marini
 * and Fetter, and Second Lieutenant Sutcliffe. Practically every pilot in the squadron
 * is now eligible for the award. Numerous recommendations have been submitted and are
 * now awaiting approval.
 * * * * *

TWO SQUADRON OFFICERS
ARE LOST VIA TRANSFERS

Lieut. Radosevich Goes
to 362nd; Lieut.
Kirk Dropped

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 16th, 1944)--First Lieutenant John R. Kirk, squadron intelligence officer, was transferred to the Second General Hospital patients' detachment today after being absent from the squadron for a month as a patient in the 302nd Station Hospital at Newbury.

Second Lieutenant Anthony Radosevich, squadron Radar officer, was transferred today to the 362nd Fighter Group, following the adoption of a new T/O that did not authorize an officer of his classification.

Lieut. Kirk was transferred per paragraph 5, Special Orders No. 36, Headquarters 369th Fighter Group, and Lieut. Radosevich was transferred per paragraph 29, Special Orders No. 86, Headquarters IX Air Support Command.

* More 'Combat Students' - - - *
* SQUADRON'S RECENT 82 VISITORS *
* INCLUDE THREE 'S-2' OFFICERS *
* - - Observe 'S-2 In Action' *

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 16, 1944)--Among the recent aggregations of officers sent to the 397th on detached service for operational study were three intelligence officers from new units in the ETO. The three officers, Lieutenants Williams, Pritchard and Jackey, observed the procedures followed during missions by the squadron's S-2 section and will apply their observations when their units become operational.

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ALERT SQUADRON
FOR DEPARTURE

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 17, 1944)--First official indication of a forthcoming change of station was made today when the squadron was alerted for departure in the Station and Record of Events section of the morning report. This station (USAF Sta No 404) has been the location of the squadron since March 15, 1944, when the unit moved from Greenham Common, Berks. (USAF Sta No 466), its first ETO station.

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SQUADRON LOSES THREE
A A F RADIO MECHANICS
THROUGH T/O TRANSFERS

Allgeyer, Regan, and
Hale Shifted to
Control Unit

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 17, 1944)--Three AAF Radio Mechanics were transferred out of the squadron today in compliance with specifications outlined in a new table of organization adopted last month. The three '754s', Corporals Allgeyer and Regan and Pfc Hale, were shifted to the 6th Air Support Control Squadron at USAF Station 449 per paragraph 15, Special Orders Number 84, Headquarters IX Air Support Command. The new T/O calls for but five '754s', whereas eight were authorized under the old tables.

 * THESE COMMUNICATIONS MEN RETURN FROM *
 * 'SPECIAL DUTY' AT GROUP HEADQUARTERS *

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 17)--Three members of the squadron's communications staff returned to their regular duties with the unit today after completing a special assignment at Group Headquarters. The three men, S/Sgt Charles W. Wood and Opie Frank Rabinowitz and Bernard Bronheim, were relieved from attached to group per paragraph 3, Special Orders Number 55, Headquarters 363th Fighter Group.

 * Dive Bombing Attack Levels Marshalling Yards - - *
 * 'WIDE-SPREAD EXPLOSIONS -- TORRENTS OF ORANGE FLAMES' *
 * COLOR CHARLEROI, BELGIUM SKIES -- THE 397TH WAS THERE *

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 18)--Thirty-one 250-pound general purpose bombs that interrupted normal procedure and raised hell in general at enemy-held marshalling yards was the squadron's birthday gift to Hitler today. (The Swastika Kid is now 55 -- too bad the Thunderbolts' capacity didn't allow one for each year.)

A dual purpose mission (bomber escort and dive bombing), the squadron established rendezvous with B-26's off Dunkirk, made landfall in at Blankenberghe at 1820, and followed a route that took them near Courtrai, Belg., southwest of Maubeuge, France, and east of Beaumont, Belg., before arriving at the marshalling yards, which were located just west of Charleroi. Their return was via Deynze to landfall out at Blankenberghe, across the Strait of Dover to North Foreland and home.

Little opposition to the attack was encountered or observed. Only about 10 light guns appeared available to protect the target itself. Some flak was noted at Blankenberghe, but it was meager, light and inaccurate.

Commenting on the success of the mission, Captain Talbott said "Damage that was nothing short of very extensive, thorough and costly to the enemy resulted from today's mission. We saw several wide-spread explosions, fires and dense clouds of smoke throughout the target area. It was certainly a successful mission."

Lieutenant Bechtold, a recent addition to the squadron's flying staff, said "The bombs landed in huge clusters on points that were obviously of great strategic value to the enemy. Many were direct hits, causing violent explosions and fires that enshrouded the target in smoke. The damage would be difficult to estimate, but it was heavy without doubt."

"We left the target covered with a blanket of smoke, broken only by torrents of orange flames from explosions underneath. The bomb patterns were effective and the damage must have been great," was Lieutenant Regal's version.

Flying in the squadron formation were Lieutenant Colonel Meyers, group commander, Major Forge, deputy commander, Major Haesler, squadron commander, Captains Talbott, Petter, Gibson and Updike*, First Lieutenants Fry, Brown, Dams, Carlson and Lerner*, and Second Lieutenants Driscoll, Bechtold, Regal and Hamilton. Second Lieutenants Burney and Howard flew as spares. (* Designates pilots not assigned to this squadron or group. DS from 492nd Ftr/Bomb Sq, 48th Ftr/Bomb Gp, USAF Sta 347.)

AN UNEVENTFUL WITHDRAWAL
 SUPPORT WAS 20TH MISSION

Escorted Heavy Bombers
 Returning From German
 Targets

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 19)--Revision of withdrawal support for heavy bombers returning from targets deep in Germany was the purpose of the squadron's 20th mission, an uneventful incident of this date. Taking off at Chilbolton, they flew a straight course east, across the Strait of Dover to landfall in at Nicuport, Belg., and then straight

southeast to south of Liège, Belg., where they rendezvoused with the bombers and furnished them withdrawal support, returning via the route followed in, making landfall out at Nièpport, across the Strait to near South Fereland and home.

Flak was conspicuous only by its absence, Ghent being the only place that any was noted and it was light, meager and inaccurate there. No enemy aircraft were seen.

Participants were Major Kaeeler, Captains Potter, Marini and Updike, First Lieutenants Lerner, Dams and Brown and Second Lieutenants Harke, Burney, Brincoll, Rowold, Hamilton, Arpa, Howard, Sharp and Langmaid. Second Lieutenant Bechtold flew as a radio relay wing man.

A second mission scheduled for the day, of dive bombing purpose, was scrubbed late this afternoon, just as the planes were taking off. (* BS pilots from 492nd Ftr/Bomb Sq.)

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**SQUADRON LOSES
ANOTHER MAN VIA
NEW E/O TRANSFER**

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 20)--Pvt (540) Oren E. Kellenback, 19004621, was transferred in grade to the 66th Airdrome Squadron, this station, per paragraph 5, Special Orders 59, Headquarters 368th Fighter Group, and by authority of VCOG, 71st Fighter Wing. The orders were published yesterday. Kellenback, an aircraft fabric and dope specialist, was transferred in connection with the squadron's adoption of a new E/O, which does not call for a man of his classification.

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* A PAIR OF 'PRE-OPS' CAPTAINS *
* DROP IN TO LEARN THE ROSES OF *
* GEBEL AND OPERATIONAL FLYING *

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 20)--Captains Albert L. Garner and Gulick Robinson, Jr., of the 53rd Fighter Squadron, 36th Fighter Group (APO 141), have arrived here on detached service from their unit and will take part in a few of the squadron's operational missions. The two fighter pilots were sent here by their organization for combat experience prior to the unit's becoming operational.

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**HASSELT MARSHALLING YARDS
AGAIN VISITED BY SQUADRON**

**Squadron Hits Target With
Nearly Four Tons of
G P Bombs**

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 21)--Axis officials at the Hasselt, Belg., Marshalling Yards were probably still clearing debris from the squadron's Easter Eve raid today when some of the same pilots that starred in that show were featured in a return engagement.

Thirty-one 250-pound general purpose bombs hit the target today with the squadron's compliments, and equivalent tonnage rained down from other outfits on the mission. Take-off from Chilbolton was at 0854 and the route followed was to Beachy Head, southeast across the Channel to landfall in at a point between Caeniers and Hardelet, France, straight on to Kalencienne la Briquette and then northeast on a straight course to the target. They returned via the same route. Flak opposition to the raiders was only observed at two points -- it was heavy, intense and accurate at Tirlemont and heavy, meager and accurate at Douai.

The bombs, which were dropped from altitudes of around 4,000 feet after dives of

from 50 to 55 degrees, landed on the target in effective patterns and produced very good results.

"I'm sure that my bombs hit the target," said Captain Robinson, a 53rd Fighter Squadron pilot attached here for operational flying, "I saw them disappear into the smoke from bombs dropped previously."

"My bombs fell right into the middle of a burst of smoke and almost immediately afterwards a flash of orange flame shot up. They really caught hell today," was Lieutenant O'Connell's version of the mission.

"The bombing was very accurate today," claimed Lieutenant Dams, "I watched my bombs as they fell straight to the target."

Flying in today's squadron formation were Major Hassler, Captains Leary (Group Operations Officer), Robinson, Garner*, Potter, Talbott and Gibson, First Lieutenants Dams, Fry and O'Connell, and Second Lieutenants Langmaid, Hamilton, Howard, Felts, Driscoll and Horlacher. Second Lieutenants Arps and Bechtold flew as spares. (*--Stand for ops on 23 fr 53rd F Sq, 35th F Gp).

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SQUADRON PROVIDES

TOP COVER FOR RAID

ON NAZI RAIL CENTER

Group Bombing Results
Only Fair; Marini
Gets a Locomotive

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 22)--Minus their familiar bomb load, the squadron today provided top cover for the 395th and 396th Squadrons on a dive bombing mission to German held rail yards at St. Ghislain, Belgium, just west of Mons.

Route of the mission was from Chilbolton, via a straight course, to Eastbourne and straight on across the Channel to landfall in at a point between Berak-sur-Mer and Le Touquet, Fr., where they turned east and followed a straight course to the target. The return route was similar, but slightly south of the course in. They flew a straight course from the target to landfall out at Quend Plage, crossed the Channel to Shoreham and proceeded home, arriving here at 1344.

Bombing results slipped to a touch below par today, with only about a half-dozen good hits observed. Four directs were noted on locomotive sheds and two on goods warehouses, in addition to several miscellaneous hits on tracks and sidings throughout the yards. Highlight of the mission, from a viewpoint of squadron significance, was Captain Marini's strafing skill, which resulted in the destruction of a locomotive.

Today's participants were Major Hassler, Capts Garner*, Robinson*, Gibson, Potter, Marini and Talbott, First Lieutenants O'Connell, Lougee and Brown, and Second Lieutenants Langmaid, Bechtold, Horlacher, Felts, Hamilton and Rogal. Second Lieutenants Burney and Sharp flew as spares, the latter replacing Captain Gibson, who aborted on a prop slip.

(*--Stand pilots)

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* LONG FIGHTER SWEEP OVER GERMANY MAKES

* FIRST ENTRY IN "E/A DESTROYED" COLUMN

* Lieutenant Lougee Clutters Up German

* Landscape With Debris of One 'Fw 190'

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CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 22)--Flying their second mission of the day, and their longest tour of the continent to date, the squadron returned here late this evening from a near 900 mile fighter sweep over Germany and chalked up their first entry

in the "enemy aircraft destroyed" column. First Lieutenant John H. Lougee, Yellow Flight element leader and a sharp eye behind his sights, knocked down an Fw 190 near Frischhafen, Germany, after a sortie that began over Munsterfeld. Lougee saw the pilot bail out at low altitude and the plane crash and explode. Encounter reports have been

submitted through proper channels and a confirmation is anticipated.

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* Tragedy * Tragedy, however, also played a ranking role in the day's show.
 * present . . . * Captain James W. Goodwin, operations officer of the 396th and
 * CAPTAIN * formerly leader of this squadron's Red Flight, failed to return
 * GOODWIN * from the mission. Parachutes seen in the vicinity and at the time
 * IS LOST * that the captain was thought to have been in trouble give strong
 * * * * * * indication to the possibility that he may have bailed out and might
 now be a prisoner of war --- or even dodging the Gestapo gauntlet
 and seeking a route back. The fact that the incident occurred over Germany itself,
 however, discourages the hope that he might have evaded capture, in the event that he
 did land safely. News of his whereabouts is anxiously awaited by the officers and
 men of the 397th, who still regarded the good natured captain as "...one of the outfit"
 despite his promotional transfer to the 396th last month, where a Majority was in store
 for him. Captain Goodwin joined the 397th June 3, 1943, as a first lieutenant. He
 was among the first group, of eight officers and the squadron commander, to be assigned
 to the unit following its activation on June 1.

Route of the long sweep was from Chilbolton to Beachy Head, across the channel
 to Ault, France, northeast on a straight course to Duren, Germany, east and southeast
 to Bogn, southeast to Koblenz, and southwest to Trier, Germany. From Trier the brief-
 ed course was straight back to Ault, but the actual return flight veered considerably
 south of this route, passing just north of Paris and making landfall out in the Dieppe
 area. They arrived home at 2042.

Flying in the squadron formation were Major Perego, deputy group commander, as
 leader; Major Haesler, Captains Talbott, Garner, Robinson, and Gibson; First Lieut-
 enants Brown, Lougee and Carlson, and Second Lieutenants Rosvold, Langmaid, Sutcliffe,
 Marko, Burney, Howard and Folts. Captain Marini flew as radio relay and First Lieut-
 enant Anderson flew as a spare, replacing Captain Talbott when the latter aborted
 after his radio failed and tubing on one of his wing tanks became broken.

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* USUAL BOMBING ACCURACY * CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 25)--Today's kick-off mission
 * SLIPS - RETURN TRIP TO * was a return engagement at marshalling yards west of
 * CHARLEROI FEATURED BY * Charleroi, Belg., but, regrettably enough, the target
 * ONLY THREE DIRECT HITS * was subjected to but little abuse. Three direct hits
 * * * * * * on a priority and a few others in or near the target area
 comprised the squadron's contribution to the damage.

Thirty-two 1,000 pound general purpose bombs were dropped over the area, catching a
 small factory and a lumber yard in addition to the target itself, but many of them
 landed in adjacent fields. Route of the mission was from Chilbolton to Eastbourne,
 straight on across the channel to landfall in at a point between Berek-sur-Mer and
 Le Touquet and a straight course east from there to the target. Return route was
 straight from the target to landfall out at Quend Plage and across the channel on a
 straight line home, sighting the English coast at Shoreham and arriving here at 1430.
 Participating were Major Haesler, Captains Hendricks, Marini and Talbott, First Lieut-
 enants Anderson, Brown and Dame, and Second Lieutenants Driscoll, Sharp, Sutcliffe,
 Marko, Burney, Horlacher, Rogal, Hamilton and Arpe. Second Lieutenant Langmaid flew
 as a spare. Flak opposition was heavy, intense and accurate at Douai and heavy, mod-
 erate and accurate at Valenciennes.

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- *****
 * SQUADRON ATTAINS ITS *
 * TWENTY-FIFTH MISSION *
 * IN FIVE WEEKS OF OPS *
 * "Silver Anniversary" *
 * Was Short and Lacked *
 * Appropriate Glamour *
 * ***** *

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 23)--The squadron completed its twenty-fifth operational mission in the ETO here tonight when they returned from an uneventful fighter sweep over Germany -- but everyone was too tired to celebrate; it being their second mission of the day and indications being strong for commencing the second 25 on the following morning. Route of the unexciting 'Silver Anniversary' waltz was from Chilbolton to Eastchurch, across the North Sea to landfall in on the southern coast of Schouwen, north to Edam, east to Lingen, Germany, south to a point west of Munster, west to a point south of Utrecht and back to landfall out on the southern coast of Schouwen. The return route from landfall out was identical to the course in. Flak opposition was light, moderate and inaccurate between Goesfeld and Ahaus, but heavy, intense and accurate at Twente and Arnhem. Taking part were Major Haesler, Captains Gibson, Hendricks, Talbott, Potter and Marini, First Lieutenants Anderson and Lougee, and Second Lieutenants Sutcliffe, Driscoll, Howard, Foltz, Arps, Langmaid, Horlacher and Rogal. First Lieutenant Carlson took off as a spare, but flew the entire route when Marini, Driscoll and Howard aborted.

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EXCITEMENT ABSENT ON
 A WITHDRAWAL SUPPORT
 MISSION FOR BOMBERS

First Trip Over the
 Continent for Two
 Attached Pilots

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 24)--Provision of withdrawal support for heavy bombers returning from targets deep in Germany was the purpose of the squadron's 26th operational mission, an uneventful, routine task of this date. Taking off from Chilbolton at 1342, the squadron flew a straight course to their landfall in point, passing over South Foreland and the Strait of Dover. Landfall in was made near Nieupoort, Belg., and the course from that point was east southeast to Andenne, Belg., and on to Thalfang, Germany, where rendezvous was established with the bombers. Return was via the same route.

For the most part, the mission was unexciting and typical of most withdrawal escorts over the continent. Heavy, moderate and accurate flak, however, was encountered at Charleroi and a B-17 was seen destroyed.

First Mission for Two Attached Pilots

While today's mission may soon be forgotten by the 397th pilots, it will probably live long in the memories of two attached flyers, who today made their initial trip over the continent via participation in the escort. The two pilots were Captain John W. Robinson and First Lieutenant Jack Tueller of the 508th Fighter Bomber Squadron, 404th Fighter Bomber Group. They were sent here for combat experience by their unit, which is not yet operational.

Today's roster of participants included Lieutenant Colonel Meyers, group commander, Captains Talbott, Robinson, Potter and Hendricks, First Lieutenants Tueller, Brown, Lougee, Anderson and Fry, and Second Lieutenants Sharp, Marko, Burney, Rosvold, Foltz and Arps. First Lieutenant Carlson and Second Lieutenant Howard flew as spares, with Carlson filling in for Captain Hendricks, who aborted when his generator went out.

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UNIDENTIFIED NAZI AIRCRAFT "FOUND"
 BY SQUADRON WHILE ON DIVE BOMBING
 MISSION TO RAIL YARDS IN BELGIUM

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 25)--Following orders to seek "targets of opportunity" after failing to locate their briefed target, the squadron today converted what most

probably would have been a routine mission into a dive bombing extravaganza that spelled near ruin for one of Hitler's heretofore hidden airdromes. Twenty-six 1,000-pound general purpose bombs were rained on the sizeable base, scoring direct hits on several obviously vital buildings, including the control tower, and starting fires that reduced them to shambles. Runways were crickon-poxed with bomb craters and indications in general also point to heavy casualties among personnel.

Captain Potter, assistant operations officer and an RAF veteran before recently joining the squadron, flew the lead position in today's formation and claimed the bombing results to be the most effective that he had ever observed.

The briefed course of the mission, and approximately the actual route up to the inability to locate the original target, was from Chilbolton on a straight course across the southern part of the North Sea to landfall in at a point near the junction of the Holland-Belgium border, northeast of Knoeke, then southeast on a straight course to Malines, Belg., the briefed target.

Taking part in the mission were Major Haesler, Captains Potter, Gibson, Talbott, Hendricks and Robinson*, First Lieutenants Tueller*, Dame, Lougee, O'Connell and Anderson and Second Lieutenants Hamilton, Arps, Howard, Driscoll and Rogal. Second Lieutenant Langmaid flew as a spare. Lieutenant Howard aborted when a oil leak sprayed his windshield. (*-Atand pilots).

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 * BOMBER ESCORT AND TOP COVER MISSION *
 * SCRUBBED AFTER TAKE-OFF -- "TARGETS *
 * OF OPPORTUNITY" ATTEMPT IS FAILURE *
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CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 25)--Escort for 72 A20's and top cover for the 395th and 396th Squadrons on a simultaneous high altitude and dive bombing mission was to have been the squadron's task of the day, but

the mission was scrubbed shortly after the planes had headed out and a "targets of opportunity" order ended in a futile search. (Obviously the continent's present potentate is encountering difficulty in replenishing his once sizeable stock of good targets.)

The original plan, as briefed, was for a rendezvous with the A20's at North Foreland, and from there a straight course across the Strait of Dover and Belgium to south southeast of Wavre, then northeast to a point southeast of Tirlemont and northwest to the target, which was to have been marshalling yards at Louvain. The return route would have carried them southeast of Brussels and northwest on a straight line to North Foreland.

Taking part were Major Haesler, Captains Robinson*, Hendricks, Marini, Gibson and Talbott, First Lieutenants Tueller*, Brown, Lougee and Dame, and second Lieutenants Bechtold, Rogal, Sharp, Howard, Rosvold and Arps. First Lieutenant O'Connell and Second Lieutenant Driscoll flew as spares, Lieutenant O'Connell replacing Lieutenant Bechtold when the latter aborted. (*-Atand pilots).

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ANOTHER 'ETO ROOKIE'
 ATTACHED TO SQUADRON
 FOR 'OPS' EXPERIENCE

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 26)--First Lieutenant Jay C. Bloom, a new arrival in the ETO, has been attached to the squadron for operational experience. He is a fighter pilot and is assigned to the recently arrived 514th Fighter Bomber Squadron, 406th Fighter Bomber Group, now stationed at Ashford (USAF Sta 417, APO 141).

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AAF HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON GIVES APPROVAL ON MILTON CANIFF'S "WINGED-BRONCHO" FOR 397TH SQUADRON INSIGNIA

* * *

Cartoonist of 'Terry and the Pirates' Creates Another Dangerous Character Soon to be Presented to Axis Readers

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 26)--Unanimously chosen by the squadron last fall for their battle insignia, Milton Caniff's wild-eyed, pistol-packin' Westerner and his winged broncho is now the official 397th coat-of-arms. Disclosure of this fact was made today, following the receipt of a letter from Headquarters, Army Air Forces, Washington, giving the commanding general's approval of the unique design. Caniff, popular creator of "Terry and the Pirates", drew the caricatured rough-rider in insignia style especially for the 397th.

Reproductions of the insignia in silk, suitable for wear on field jackets, flying clothing, etc., were manufactured commercially and sold to members of the squadron at cost some time ago. The approval now officially authorizes the wearing of the insignia and the displaying of it on squadron aircraft.

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CAPTAIN WEBSTER IS APPOINTED SQUADRON INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

Lieutenant Magnus, Assistant 3-2, is Advanced to First Lieutenant

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 26)--Distribution of special orders recently published by Headquarters 368th Fighter Group today disclosed the appointment of Captain Donald D. Webster as Squadron Intelligence Officer, replacing First Lieutenant John R. Kirk, who was transferred to the Second General Hospital Patients' Detachment earlier this month.

Captain Webster, formerly historical officer and censor of this group, was replaced by First Lieutenant David F. Reinthal, assistant group intelligence officer. Lieutenant Reinthal was replaced by Second Lieutenant John P. Hoffman, recently assigned to the group by Headquarters 71st Fighter Wing.

Second Lieutenant Morton H. Magnus, assistant squadron 3-2, will continue in his present assignment and has been advanced to the rank of first lieutenant.

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 * SERGEANT FRAIL IS ATTENDING *
 * MINES AND BOOBY TRAPS SCHOOL *
 * * * * *

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 26)--Sergeant Saul Frail of the squadron ordnance department is now attending a course of instruction in mines and booby traps at USAF Station 424, being one of the three ordnance men from the 368th Group selected to attend. The course is of approximately nine days duration and attendance was authorized per paragraph three, Special Orders Number 40, Headquarters 368th Fighter Group.

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SQUADRON FLIES PRACTICE
GROUND SUPPORT MISSIONS
OVER THE START BAY AREA

Slapton to Torcross is
Covered by Pilots in
Three Patrol Tours

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 27)--Three practice ground support missions over the Start Bay area from Slapton to Torcross were flown by the squadron today. Practice in the observation of ground activity was the primary purpose of the patrols, each of which were of approximately an hour's length.

Mission number one took off at 0949 and flew the patrol from 1023 until 1131, observing five transports about four miles from shore, two cruisers two miles out and 400 to 500 landing barges shuttling back and forth from the transports. They arrived back at 1215.

The second mission took off at 1352 and landed at 1615, after observing 200 to 250 landing barges, five cargo vessels about five miles out, five troop transports about eight miles out and a large pontoon bridge under construction. Considerable troop activity on the beaches and inland was also noted.

Observed on the day's third mission were hundreds of landing craft, approximately 10 cruisers or destroyers some distance north of the area, troops on the beach, 16 transports in rows of eight formation, and barges shuttling back and forth carrying troops ashore. Also noted was the completion of the pontoon bridge, observed in the construction stages earlier in the day, and trucks and tanks on the beach. The beach-head was not noticeably larger. Take off was at 1651; they were down at 2008 and the patrol time was from 1830 to 1930. * * *

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* FOUR MORE PRACTICE *
* MISSIONS ARE FLOWN *
* WITH SAME PURPOSE *
* * * * *

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 28)--Identical repetition of yesterday's practice ground support missions occurred today, except that four of the unexciting area patrols were flown instead of three. The same territory (Start Bay from Slapton to Torcross) was covered and observed and a minimum of variations from the previous day were noted.

* * * * *

TWO MORE NEW PILOTS
ASSIGNED TO SQUADRON

Scheduled to Attend
Group OTU School
Before Ops

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 29)--Two more Thunderbolt pilots, Second Lieutenants William C. Olden (O-756316) and John A. Halliesen (O-815332), were assigned to the squadron today. Both are recent additions to the ETO's flying staff, arriving over here less than a month ago. They were previously stationed at Itzehou. Before participating in operational missions with the squadron, they will attend the OTU school that is now being conducted by group headquarters for newly-assigned pilots.

* * * * * SECRET

LIEUTENANT CARLSON GOES TO
GROUP FOR SPECIAL DUTY AS
INSTRUCTOR IN OTU SCHOOL

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 29)--First Lieutenant Roy D. Carlson, Blue Flight element leader, has been sent to 368th Group Headquarters for special duty as an instructor in the OTU school now being conducted for newly-assigned pilots.

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* START BAY AREA IS *
* OBJECT OF ANOTHER *
* DAY'S PATROL WORK *
* * * * *

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 29)--Four more practice ground support missions over the Start Bay area from Slapton to Torcross were flown by the squadron today, making a total of eleven such patrols in the last three days. The missions were identical in route to those previously flown and observations were similar.

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* TWO NEW AIRCRAFT ARMORERS *
* ARE ASSIGNED TO SQUADRON *
* * * * *

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 30)--Two more aircraft armorers, authorized via the adoption of a new T/O by the squadron last month, joined the 397th recently, it was disclosed today upon receipt of group orders. Sergeant Joseph H. Smith, 7081955, was assigned per paragraph four, Special Orders Number 45, Headquarters 368th Fighter Group dated April 25, and Private Leonard P. Dobby, 36318250, was assigned per paragraph three of the same order. The assignments bring the armorer personnel to 45, as authorized under the new tables.

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FOUR 397TH MEN ASSIST
IN DRIVING OF VEHICLES
FROM DEPOT TO THIS BASE

CHILBOLTON, Hants--(April 30)--T/Sgt John B. Sheridan, Opl James A. Ray and Pvts Harold L. Kelly and Floyd R. Decatur recently assisted in a three-day task undertaken by the 368th Group to move several military vehicles from Depot 0623 to this station. They were among a group of 15 men selected from the three squadrons and the headquarters detachment as drivers.

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SECRET

* SECTION C *
* Supporting *
* Documents: *
* Mission Reports, *
* Encounter Reports, *
* Confirmations of *
* Claims and Special *
* Orders *

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TWK
FROM INTELLIGENCE OFFICER 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
TO INTELLIGENCE OFFICER HQ 368TH FIGHTER GROUP--

MISSION RPT OF THE 397TH F SQ ON A BOMB/ESORT AND DIVE/BOMB MISSION
MISSION NO. FIFTEEN. TIME OF RPT. 1640. DATE OF RPT. 8 Apr 1944

- A - 397th F Sq --- Opns 0 126, IX F Comd
 - B - 16 P-47's (1 P-47 as spare)
 - C - Nil
 - D - 16 -- Railroad Yards at Nasselt, Belg.
 - E - Three and three fourths (3 3/4) tons.
 - F - Good. Our bombing was reported to be superior to that of the B-26's.
 - G - Nil
 - H - Nil
 - I - Nil
 - J - Nil
 - K - Heavy, intense, inaccurate flak at Knoeke. Moderate, accurate and heavy flak at Oetend firing at B-26's. Intense, heavy flak on the south edge of Brussels firing at B-26's. This flak was too low. At an airfld near St Troad there was heavy, moderate, inaccurate flak. At an airfld slightly SW of this one there was heavy, intense, inaccurate flak. There was no flak at the target. Flak was noted in the city just north of the target. As one of our planes was flying about two miles south of the bombers, just before the turn to the north for the bomb run, flak was noted firing midway between the bombers and our planes. Apparently this flak fire was not directed at any objective.
 - L - The weather on the whole was fair. The visibility over the continent was good. It was fair over the channel and poor over England. There were thin strato-cumulus clouds at 20,000 feet over all three areas. The cloud coverage over England and the channel was 3/10. It was 5/10 over the continent. No icing. No contrails.
 - M - Height of planes at start of dive was 14,000 feet. Angle of dive was 55 degrees. Height at release of bombs was 4,500 feet.
 - N - One pilot was of the opinion that the B-26's should have made a northwesterly run instead of a northerly run.
 - O - 1209
 - P - 1500
 - Q - Landfall in was made at expected place at 1312 at 12,000 feet.
 - R - Landfall out was made slightly northeast of Knoeke at 1455 at 13,000 feet.
 - S - Slightly inland fr landfall in -- 1307 -- 12,000 ft
 - T -
 1. Thirty four 250 lb GP bombs.
 2. Thirty 250 lb GP bombs dropped on target.
 3. One bomb jct. by a reg. plane 30 mi NW of the tgt over open country.
 4. One bomb jct. by a reg. plane 10 to 15 mi W of tgt over open country.
 5. Two bombs brought back to base by spare plane.
 6. 14,000 feet.
 7. 55 degrees.
 8. 2500 ft.
 - a - Hits by our planes were noted on a bldg in the NE section of the SE part of the RR yards. Hits by our planes were noted on sheds slightly SE of this bldg. Hits by the 397th F Sq were noted on trains midway between the SE and NW sections of the RR yards. About one half of the B-26's escorted by our squadron scored hits in the target area. The B-26's scored hits on houses to the N of the target area and on an area about one half mile south of the NW part of the RR yards.
 - b - Fires were noted in the area occupied by the bldg. and sheds in the NE part of the SE section of the RR yards. Fires and damage were noted in the NW section of the RR yards. This damage was thought to have been inflicted prior to our attack on the target.
 - c - Our bombing was good. It was reported as superior to that of the B-26's.
- ADD INFO: The area S of LFI was flooded. A boat moving NW was reported just off Breakers in the Strait south of the island of Walcheren. A large number of bldgs with red tile roofs was noted slightly SW of Antwerp. These houses were built very close together.

SECRET

S E C R E T

TWX FR INTELL O 397 F SQ TO INTELL O HQ 368 F GP USAF STA 404 SECRET SEND IN CLEAR

397TH F SQ MISSION RPT ON PENETRATION SUPPORT MISSION MISSION NO SIXTEEN
TIME OF RPT 1555 DATE OF RPT 12 APR 44

-
- A - 397th F Sq - Lt Col Meyers leading.
 - B - 16 P-47's (2 as spares) Up - 1143. Down - 1430. Two abortive planes landed at Hanston.
 - C - Three. One plane took off, circled field and then landed. Reason was that glass tubing on left wg tank was broken. One spare took the place of this plane. The other spare filled in in the 395th F Sq. Two planes turned back at onset because of eng trouble. It was these two planes that landed at Hanston.
 - D - Penetration Support - Ramrod. Opns O No 140, IX F Comd.
 - E - Nil
 - F - Nil
 - G - Nil
 - H - Nil
- LFI was made at expected place at 1230 at 23,000 ft. At 1310 our planes estab R/V with 2 boxes of B-24's flying slightly W of Brussels at 15,000 or 16,000 ft. Ea box contained about 25 A/G. Our planes left the bombers at Liegd on a group recall. The reason for leaving was bad weather. As our planes were flying in an easterly direction, a B-17 flying east of Brussels was seen turning toward the south and apparently preparing to return to England. This bomber was reported, but the instructions were to continue flying eastward. While our planes were flying between Brussels and Knocke on the homeward jaxx journey, there was a call from "medhead" reporting an attack on "Big Friends". Our planes made LFO between Knocke and Ostend at 1330 at 21,000 ft.
1. Nil..
 2. Accurate, intense, hvy flak observed at Ostend.
 3. Nil
 4. a) 5/10 cloud coverage over England. 7/10 coverage over Straits of Dover. 5/10 coverage over continent.
b) Scattered clouds over England. Haze over the Straits of Dover. Stratus clouds over the continent.
c) clouds over England at 3,500 to 4,000 ft. Thin stratus clouds over the continent at 18,000 to 26,000 ft formed by condensation.
d) Visibility over England was good; over the Straits of Dover visib below haze was good; visib over continent was very poor.
 5. Nil (Note B-17 mentioned above - the B-17 which returned alone. This B-17 was having difficulty in keeping in formation before it returned).
 6. Clear.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

TWX FR INTELL O 397TH F SQ TO INTELL O 353TH F GP USAF STA 404 SECRET SEND IN CLEAR

397TH F SQ MISSION RPT ON A DIVE BOMBING MISSION MISSION NO. 17 TIME OF RPT 1515
DATE OF RPT 13 APR 44

-
- A - 397th F Sq -- Opns O 144, IX F Comd.
 - B - 16 P-47's (2 as spares).
 - C - Nil
 - D - 397th served as top cover. Neball target slightly southeast of Montreuil, France.
 - E - Same as D.
 - F - Good.
 - G - Nil
 - H - Nil
 - I - Nil
 - J - Nil
 - K - Heavy, intense, accurate flak noted about 15 miles SW of Pointe de St. Quentin. This flak was aimed at A-20's (Insignia: White Circle), which were escorted by P-47's or perhaps Spitfs. Light, moderate, accurate flak noted at Le Touquet.
 - L - Clouds over England at about 8,000 ft. Base over the channel. Clouds over the continent at about 11,000 ft. Cloud coverage over England 7/10. Cloud coverage over the continent 7/10. Visibility good throughout. No icing. No contrails.
 - M - 10,000 ft at start of dive. Dive of 60 to 70 degrees.
 - N - Nil
 - O - Up at Chilbolton - 0910. Down at Kingston Bagpuise - 1120. Up at Kingston Bagpuise - 1330. Down at Chilbolton -- 1415.
 - P-----
 - Q - Expected place -- 0938 -- 12,000 ft.
 - R - Expected place -- 1015 -- 11,000 ft.
 - S - Mission was a dive bombing mission.
 - T - ~~Nil~~ 1 - Same as D.
 - 2 - Same as D.
 - 3 - Same as D.
 - 4 - Same as D.
 - 5 - Height of attacking planes at start of dive was about 10,000 ft.
 - 6 - Angle of dive of attacking planes was fr 60 to 70 degrees.
 - 7 - No observation.
 - 8 - Results of bombing were good.
 - a - Some hits were observed in the target area. A few hits were observed SW of the target area. One or two hits were observed NE of the target area.
 - b - An explosion was observed in the target area. Smoke was noted over the target area.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

BRITISH RA INTTEL O 397 F SQ TO INTTEL O HQ 368 F GP
397 F SQ RET AL A FIGHTER SQUAD (ROBRO) OF 14 AIR 44
MISSION IS TIME OF REFUEL 1905 DATE OF RET: 14 AIR

- A - 397th F Sq -- Ops O 149, 12 F Cond
- B - 15 F-47's
- C - Nil
- D - Mission was a fighter sweep.
- E - Same as D.
- F - Same as D.
- G - Nil
- H - Three A/C suffered slight battle damage. One A/C is in category "AC". One is in category "A". One is probably in category "AC". If it is not placed in "AC", it will be placed in "A".
- I - Nil
- J - Nil
- K - Heavy, meager, accurate flak slightly west of Abbeville. Accurate, intense, heavy flak at Beauvais. Light, inaccurate, meager flak south of Boulogne. Heavy, intense, accurate flak at Boulogne. Moderate flak southeast of Le Treport.
 - Scattered clouds between 10,000 and 12,000 ft throughout. Coverage over England, about 6/10. Coverage over channel, about 4/10. Coverage over continent, about 3/10.
 - Visibility very good throughout. No contrails. No icing.
- M - 10,000 ft.
- N - Nil
- O - 1029.
- P - 1313.
- Q - Place of LZI as briefed -- 1127 -- 12,000 ft.
- R - Boulogne -- 1230 -- 10,000 ft.
- S - Same as D.

ADD INFO: (1) Train strafed at Ghisy. Two hits on engine. Hits on first four cars. Attacking planes were at 100 ft. The engine cooling of one plane involved in the attack was hit. The four planes in the flight, including this plane, returned early. One of the planes in the flight belonged to the 396th Fighter Squadron. The damaged plane was probably hit by 20 mm ammunition. The wing of this plane was hit by flak slightly west of Abbeville. (2) Locomotive strafed NW of Neuf Chatel. (3) Locomotive strafed south of Douai. (4) Train blown up SW of Lille. (5) Train blown up at Arras. (6) Switch engine destroyed slightly west of Aulens. (7) Freight train destroyed slightly south of Croisilles. (8) Hobart target noted at Le Touquet. (9) Four planes were seen on the ground at the airfield at Saint Omer. (10) About 40 small boats were seen off the coast between the bay below Berck-sur-Mer and the mouth of the Somme.

S E C R E T

SECRET

577TH FIGHTER SQUADRON A-2 REPORT ON AN ESCORT AND DIVE BOMBING MISSION OF IS AIR 44

(Classification Number - 19)

- A - 597th F Sq -- Opns O No. 157, 1K P Cond. -- 14 Apr 44 -- Mission No. 1.
 B - 16 plus 2 spares. 2 spares returned.
 C - Nil
 D - 15 - Marshalling Yards just west of Charlevoix - 1070.
 E - Thirty-six 250 lb GP bombs loaded.
 Thirty-six 250 lb GP bombs dropped on target. One 250 lb GP bomb jettisoned in channel by a regular plane. Four 250 lb GP bombs brought back to base by spares.
 Altitude at start of dive -- 15,000 ft.
 Angle of dive -- 45 degrees.
 Altitude at release -- 2,500 ft.
 F - In general the results of the bombing were good, both for the B-25's and for our planes.
 a - 1. Some hits by B-25's to the south of the target were noted.
 The B-25's scored many hits in the southern part of the Marshalling Yards. ~~///~~ Box cars to the right of the southern part of the Marshalling Yards were seen to explode. ~~///~~ Orange flashes were observed. These box cars were hit by B-25's.
 2. ~~///~~ Our planes scored some hits in the northern part of the yards and some in the southern part.
 b - - smoke was observed all over the Marshalling Yards.
 G - Nil
 H - Nil
 I - Nil
 J - Nil
 K - Nil
 L - No clouds over the channel. Visibility over the channel was good. There were scattered clouds over the continent at about 4,000 ft. A front, or cloud mass, was noted considerably east of the target. Visibility over the continent was good.
 M - 1729 -- 2031 (One plane landed at Hamilton on the way ~~///~~ because of a lack of gas). (This plane landed at our base at 2047).
 N - LFI: 1520 -- Blankenborge -- 14,000 ft.
 LFO: 1520 -- Blankenborge -- 15,000 ft.
 O - One degree, 41 min east -- 51 degrees, 19 min north -- 1610 -- The alt of the bombers was 12,000 ft; the alt of our planes was 23,000 ft.
 P - Good.
 Q - As our planes were over the target, Jergen was heard spoken over the radio. ~~///~~ About 10 small boats were observed 10 miles east of the Inness estuary moving at a heading of about 110 degrees. At 1955 three air-sea rescue boats were observed at two degrees, 9 min east -- 51 degrees, 43 min north. They were engaged in the rescue of members of a bomber which seemed to have split into two pieces. The pilot who made this observation was flying at about 10,000 ft at that time. At about 1615 a B-25 about 15 mi west of Blankenborge was seen to drop his bombs in the channel. A splash and explosions were noted. This B-25 had apparently aborted.
 R - Light, intense, inaccurate flak was observed in the northern part of the marshalling yards. Heavier, light, inaccurate flak was observed at Blankenborge on the way out. About 10 light guns were noted on the western side of the southern part of the marshalling yards.
 S - Nil
 T - LFI & LFO and R/V were not made at expected places. R/V was made earlier than expected. The mission can be regarded as having been accomplished. SECRET

SECRET

397th Ftr Sqdn 3-2 Apt on a withdrawal Support Mission of 19 Apr 44. Mission No. 20.

- A - 397 F Sq -- Opns U 150, IX F Cond -- 19 Apr 44 -- Mission No. 1.
B - 16 plus 1 radio relay. Radio relay returned with other planes.
C - Nil
D - 16 A/C escorted bombers fr briefed R/V place to about 2 degrees, 35 min E, 51 degrees, 15 min N fr 1135 to 1150.
E - Mission was a withdrawal support mission.
F - Same as ~~E~~.
G - Nil
H - Nil
I - Nil
J - Nil
K - Nil
L - Solid overcast over places in the channel at 3,000 ft. Visibility over the channel was good. No clouds over the continent.
M - 1009 -- 1235.
N - LFI: 1100 -- Briefed place -- 20,000 ft.
LFO: 1145 -- " " -- 21,000 ft.
O - Briefed place -- 1125 -- Our planes at 24,000 ft; bombers at 19,000 ft.
P - Good.
Q - One pilot reported a reddish band of water slightly off the coast of the continent about 1 mi wide and 20 mi long. Ostend lies between the northern and the southern extremities of this band of water. At 1120 a bomber accompanied by two F-35's was seen slightly northwest of Ostend. These planes were at 10,000 ft. The pilot who observed them was at 18,000 ft. This bomber, in the opinion of the observing pilot, had aborted. A large number of F-47's with unpainted noses were seen over the continent. Red noses were also seen. Although our planes flew near Ostend, no flak fire was noted there.
R - Light, inaccurate, seager flak was observed at Ghent.
S - Nil
T - Our planes made LFI at 1100 at the briefed place at 20,000 ft. They established R/V with the bombers at the briefed place at 1125. Our planes were then at 24,000 ft, and the bombers were at 19,000 ft. Our planes accompanied the bombers to 2 degrees, 35 min E, 51 degrees, 15 min N and left them at this point at 1150. LFO was made at 1145 at the briefed place. Our planes were then at 21,000 ft. No M/A seen. Very little flak was noted. Our planes proceeded to base after leaving the bombers and arrived at 1235.

SECRET

SECRET

397TH FTR SQDN B-2 REPORT ON A D/BOMB MISSION OF 22 APR 44. SQDN MISSION NO. TWENTY-TWO

- A - 397th Ftr Sqdn -- Opns O No. 171, IX Ftr Comd -- 22 Apr 44 -- Mission No. One.
B - 16 plus 2 spares. Two spares returned.
C - One -- prop was slipping -- one spare filled in.
D - 397th served as top cover -- RR Yds at St Ghislain -- 1240.
E - 397th served as top cover.
 Alt at start of dive - 10,000 ft
 Angle of dive - 45 degrees
 Alt at release - 3,000 ft
F - Results of bombing were not very good. There were many hits in fields around the tgt area. One hit on goods warehouse in RR Yrds. Four hits on locomotive sheds in RR Yds. ~~Four~~ Four hits on car sidings ~~in~~ in yds.
G to K - Nil
L - Clear over the channel and the continent. Visibility over the channel and the continent ~~is~~ good.
M - 1112 - 1344
N - ~~1158~~ LFI: 1158 -- place as briefed -- 13,000 ft
 LFO: 1255 -- place as briefed -- 11,000 ft
O - Mission was a D/Bomb Mission.
P - Good.
Q - In the vicinity of Aubigny there is a landing strip on which four planes were ~~is~~ observed. One was identified as an FW-190 and three were identified as ME-109's. The fact that four planes of the same type have been seen previously in the same positions at the same place leads to the belief that these planes are dummies.
R - E-26's flying along a line passing through Lille, Douai, Cambrai and St Quentin were attacked by heavy, intense, accurate flak. Light, meager, accurate flak was observed slightly west of Douai.
S - Capt Joseph (SMI) Marini, O-665839, strafed and destroyed a locomotive slightly east of Arras.
T - Our planes took off at 1112. They made LFI at 1158 at the briefed place at 13,000 ft. They were over the tgt at 1240. The results of the bombing were not very good. LFO was made at 1255 at the briefed place at 11,000 ft. Our planes landed at 1344.

SECRET

XBD V XEG NR1 P
FROM INTELLIGENCE OFFICER 397TH FIGHTER SQDN. 21/13203
TO INTELLIGENCE OFFICER 368TH FIGHTER GROUP
BT CONFIDENTIAL

397FSP 160 PERIOD

REPORT ON DIVE BOMBING MISSION 21 APRIL 44 - MISSION NO. 21

- A. 397TH FIGHTER SQDN - OP. O. NO. 166 IXFC 21 APRIL 44 - MISSION NO. 1
- B. 16 PLUS 2 SPARES - 2 SPARES RETURNED
- C. NIL
- D. 16 - RR YDS AT HASSELT, BELG. - TIME AS BRIEFED
- E. 36 - 250-LB. GP BOMBS LOADED. 31 - 250-LB. GP BOMBS DROPPED ON TARGET. 1 - 250-LB. GP BOMB JETTISONED BY REG PLANE ABOUT 2/3 WAY ACROSS CHANNEL ON COURSE HOME.
4 - 250-LB. BOMBS RETURNED TO BASE BY SPARES.
ALT. AT START OF DIVE -- 12,000 FT.
ANGLE OF DIVE -- 50 DEGREES TO 55 DEGREES
ALT. AT RELEASE -- 4000 FT.
- F. HITS NOTED ALL AROUND TARGET AREA (NW PART OF RR YDS.) SMOKE NOTED ALL OVER THE TARGET AREA. RESULTS OF THE BOMBING WERE VERY GOOD.
- G. NIL
- H. NIL
- I. NIL
- J. NIL
- K. NIL
- L. OVER CHANNEL: CLOUDS 2/10 COVERAGE - HAZE - 4500 FT. - VISIBILITY GOOD.
OVER CONTINENT: CLOUDS 1/10 COVERAGE - HAZE - 4000 FT. - VISIBILITY GOOD.
- M. 0854 - 1203
- N. LFI: 0936 - BRIEFED PLACE - 14,000 FT.
LFO: 1105 - BRIEFED PLACE - 12,000 FT.
- O. DIVE BOMBING MISSION
- P. GOOD
- Q. TWO TRAINS SEEN IN VICINITY OF VALENCIENNES, FRANCE
- R. HEAVY INTENSE ACCURATE FLAK AT TIRLEMONG (GOSSONCOURT)
HEAVY MEAGER ACCURATE FLAK AT DOUAI
- S. NIL
- T. RESULTS OF BOMBING WERE VERY GOOD. OUR PLANES TOOK OFF AT 0854 AND MADE LFI AT 14,000 FT. AT BRIEFED TIME AND PLACE. OVER TARGET AT BRIEFED TIME. MADE LFO AT 12,000 FT. AT BRIEFED PLACE AT 1105. THE LAST PLANE LANDED AT BASE 1203.
- PERIOD END

SECRET
RESTRICTED
IN THE SUPPLY SERVICE

HEADQUARTERS
100th Airborne Division
13 April 1944

SPECIAL OFFERS)

MEMORANDUM.....(S)

1. Confidential
2. Confidential
3. Confidential
4. Confidential
5. Confidential
6. Confidential

7. Par 1, SO No 99, this HQ, is amended to read: "EM will be attached to 1st Inf Bn for ops, rat and adm."

8. So much of par 13, SO No 13, this HQ, as is amended; EM will be attached to 1st & 2d Co Y Corps for ops and adm, is amended to read: "EM will be attached to 1st & 2d Co Y Corps for ops, rat and adm."

9. So much of Par 2, SO No 70, this HQ, as is amended; EM will be attached to Y Corps for ops and rat is amended to read: "EM will be attached to Y Corps for ops, rat and adm", and is further amended to include the following named EM, 8th Air Support Central Sq.

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|--|---------------|
| Sgt Ira (MI) Eckels Jr | 1411082 (750) | Pfc Joseph S. Szpalski | 1911040 (750) |
| Pvt John (MI) Pake | 3440752 (750) | Pvt Paul (MI) Gonzalez | 3231144 (750) |
| Sgt William (MI) Miller | 3099042 (734) | None in list of 8th Air Support Central Sq | |

10. So much of Par 13, SO No 67, this HQ, as is amended; EM will be attached to 2nd Armored Div for rat and ops, is amended to read: "EM will be attached to 2nd Armored Div for rat, ops, and adm."

11. So much of Par 13, SO No 68, this HQ, as is amended; Par 2, SO No 67, this HQ, as is amended; EM will be attached to 2nd Armored Div for ops and rat, is amended to read: "EM will be attached to 2nd Armored Div for ops, rat and adm."

12. So much of Par 1, SO No 34, this HQ, as is amended; EM will be attached to 2d LI CAIL (MI) COLTS, 35-8328 AF, Sgt Eugene L. Perry Jr, 3701174 (345) Pfc George W. Rice, 3978404, (755) and Cpl Edward A. Nelson, 30030142 (784) is amended to read the following substitution therefor: Pfc Edward O. Stillman, 30030142 (784), and Pvt Robert (MI) Bergmann, 36951898 (755); and so much as amended; EM will be attached to 2nd Armored Div for rat and ops is amended to read: "EM will be attached to 2nd Armored Div for ops, rat and adm."

-1-
SECRET

R E S T R I C T E D

SO No 86, Hq IX Air Support Group, 15 April 1944, contains:

13. Par 4, SO No 69, this Hq, as amended is amended to include Sgt Jean M Griffith 17045711 (345), and is further amended to include: "EM will be attached to 4th Inf Div for ops and adm."

14. So much of Par 10, SO No 69, this Hq, as amended is amended to read: "EM will be attached to Hq & Hq Co 4th Inf Div for ops and adm, and to Hq & Hq Co 4th Inf Div for ops, adm and adm."

15. So much of Par 10, SO No 69, this Hq, as amended is amended to read: "EM will be attached to 4th Inf Div for ops and adm, and to Hq & Hq Co 4th Inf Div for ops, adm and adm."

16. So much of Par 4, SO No 70, this Hq, as amended is amended to read: "EM will be attached to Hq & Hq Co, 4th Inf Div for ops and adm, and to Hq & Hq Co 4th Inf Div for ops, adm and adm."

17. So much of Par 4, SO No 70, this Hq, as amended is amended to include Pfc Alphonse W Swinciski, 36197442 (755) and reads: "EM will be attached to Hq & Hq Co 4th Inf Div for ops and adm, and to Hq & Hq Co 4th Inf Div for ops, adm and adm."

18. Par 3, SO No 70, this Hq, as amended is amended to include Sgt Joseph F Fitzgerald, 20306617 (755), Sgt Samuel (NMI) Adams, 11004552 (755) and Cpl Edward E Hamey, 11004552 (755), and so much of Par 3, SO No 70, this Hq, as amended is amended to read: "EM will be attached to VII Corps for ops and adm, and to VII Corps for ops and adm, and to VII Corps for ops and adm."

19. So much of Par 5, SO No 80, this Hq, as amended is amended to read: "EM will be attached to WP 190th Medical Disp (Avn), is amended to read: "EM will be attached to WP 191st Medical Disp (Avn)."

20. Par 2, SO No 80, this Hq, as amended is amended to read:

21. The following named EM, 2149th Engineer Avn P/B Platoon, Sta 418, are transferred in gr to 2149th Engineer Avn P/B Platoon, Sta 418, and no answer involved.

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Sgt Henry W Partridge | 11004552 (345) | Sgt Robert E Partridge | 11004552 (345) |
| Sgt Ivo (NMI) Reider | 11004552 (345) | Sgt Robert E Partridge | 11004552 (345) |
| Tec 5 Benedict J Stryczek | 11004552 (345) | Sgt Robert E Partridge | 11004552 (345) |
| Pfc Jose (NMI) Rodriguez | 11004552 (345) | Sgt Robert E Partridge | 11004552 (345) |
| Pvt Stephen (NMI) Kusko | 11004552 (345) | Sgt Robert E Partridge | 11004552 (345) |
| Pvt George (NMI) Brindock | 11004552 (345) | Sgt Robert E Partridge | 11004552 (345) |

22. The following named EM, 2149th Engineer Avn P/B Platoon, Sta 418, are transferred in gr, WP 2149th Engineer Avn P/B Platoon, Sta 418, and no answer involved.

Pfc Clarence W Ross 11004552 (345)
Pvt Harry (NMI) Rubin 11004552 (345)

R E S T R I C T E D

SO No 26, HQ IX Air Support Comd, 13 April 1944 cont'd

23. The following named HQ, 8th Air Support Comd, are to be assigned to the orgn and sta indicated. TDN by HQ, will be by rail. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| | <u>8th Air Support Comd, Sta 148</u> | |
| Pfc George F Volery | 3254400 (521) Pfc George F Volery | 37282743 (521) |
| Pvt Dominic (NMI) Moore | 3692234 (521) Pvt Dominic Moore | 35694254 (521) |

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| | <u>8th Fighter Wing, Sta 148</u> | |
| Pfc Marshall F Foster | 1741117 (521) | |

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|----------------|
| | <u>Hq 175th Fighter Group, Sta 144</u> | |
| Pvt Herbert E Farabee | 3444617 (521) Pvt Herbert E Farabee | 35641937 (521) |

24. The following named HQ, 8th Air Support Comd, are to be assigned to the orgn and sta indicated. TDN by HQ, will be by rail. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| | <u>30th Fighter Group, Sta 144</u> | |
| Pvt Francis (NMI) Christmas | 7081160 (911) Pvt Francis Christmas | 36563713 (911) |

| | | |
|------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| | <u>30th Fighter Group, Sta 144</u> | |
| Pvt Philip S Coy | 1808100 (911) Pvt Philip S Coy | 34318250 (911) |

25. The following named HQ, 9th Air Support Comd, are to be assigned to the orgn and sta indicated. TDN by HQ, will be by rail. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|--|
| Cpl Robert (NMI) Antonelli | 2104405 (521) | |
| Pfc William H Schier | 3254400 (521) | |

26. CAPT ROBERT W KIEFSTEDT, 0963510 FD, is appointed flight officer, this comd.

27. Secret.

28. Secret.

29. 2D LT ANTHONY E FAIOSEVICH, 0801908 AC, is held from duty w/ 30th Fighter Group, Sta 144, asgd HQ 8th Air Support Comd, Sta 148, will be by rail. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.

30. The following named G are placed on temp duty, will proceed to sta indicated to OUPC, Sta 345 for a period of ninety (90) days w/e 13 April 1944 as instructions. Upon completion of this temp duty, they will set to proper orgn and sta. TDN by HQ, will be by rail.

Where Govt cars and subs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of cars not to exceed \$4.00 per day and allowance of \$1.25 per day to cover excess cost of subs is atd in accordance w/ Par 7, Sec II, Policy of HQ USAAF, HQ, 9 Nov 1943. 91-5 P 432-02 A 212/40425.

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------|---------|
| 2D LT ANTHONY E FAIOSEVICH | 0801908 AC | Sta 168 |
| 1D LT VERNON G BECK | 1807111 AT | Sta 150 |

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R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D

31. The following named EM, 32nd Special Service Co are placed on temp dy, will

proceed fr Sta 449 to sta indicated for a period of six (6) days o/a 17 April 1944 to operate special service technical equipment. Upon completion of this temp dy, they will ret to proper orgn and sta. TDM by MT, mil soft or rail. 91-5 P 432-02 A 212/40425. EM will be furnished rat in kind.

| <u>Sta 404</u> | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Tec 4 Robert W Dean | 39915204 (442) | Tec 4 Thomas P O'Connell | 39297634 (283) |
| Tec 4 Irving (NMI) Weiss | 39164276 (442) | Tec 5 Walter E Anderson | 39180823 (055) |
| Pfc Robert L Gilmore | 39700907 (521) | Pfc Albert W Lect | 37523237 (835) |
| | pfc Denver L Townsend | 39172698 (835) | |

| <u>Sta Lymington</u> | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Pvt Robert F Manning | 39295698 (835) | Pvt Albert J Ottoboni | 39046201 (521) |

| <u>Sta 414</u> | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Tec 5 John W McCough | 39465082 (055) | Pfc Louis W Ickert Jr | 39416388 (137) |

| <u>Sta Norman Court and Sta 450</u> | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Pfc John (NMI) Blockovich | 39915523 (137) | Pfc John S Givanovich | 39133602 (521) |

32. The following named EM, 32nd Special Service Co are placed on temp dy, will proceed fr Sta 449 to Sta Start Point for a period of four (4) days o/a 17 April 1944 to operate special service technical equipment. Upon completion of this temp dy, they will ret to proper orgn and sta. TDM by MT, mil soft or rail. 91-5 P 432-02 A 212/40425. EM will be furnished rat in kind.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Cpl William J Brayman | 39465705 (821) |
| Tec 5 Richard A Hiatt | 39298117 (060) |

(Travel directed is pursuant to the auth contained in Ltr Hq ETOUSA, 3 Nov 1943)

By command of Brigadier General QUESADA:

JOHN F WHITELEY,
Colonel, Air Corps,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

R. J. Mays
R. J. MAYS,
Major, AGC,
Asst Adj Gen.

DISTRIBUTION: "A"

-4-
R E S T R I C T E D

SECRET

397TH FTR SQDN S-2 REPORT ON A FINDER SWEEP MISSION OF 25 APRIL 1944. SQDN MISSION NO. 25

-
- A - 397th Fighter Squadron -- Opus O No. 174, Ninth Ftr Gnd -- 25 Apr 44 -- Mission No. 25
 - B - 15 plus 1 spare., Spares Returned: 0.
 - C - Three. One with engine trouble; one with left wing tank out out; one with broken tube in wing tank.
 - D - 1A
 - E - Nil
 - F - Nil
 - G - Nil
 - H thru K - Nil
 - L - Over Channel: Scattered Cirrus at 19,000 ft. Vis good.
Over Continent: Overcast over Holland and Germany at 20,000 ft.
 - M - 1624 1957
 - N - LFO: 1736 -- as briefed -- 25,000 ft.
LFO: 1845 -- as briefed -- 25,000 ft.
 - O - Nil
 - P - R/T Good
Nil
 - R - Radar on Gosfeld and Ahms light, moderate, inaccurate.
Twente, heavy, intense, accurate.
Arnhem, heavy, intense, accurate.
 - S - Nil
 - T - Unsuccessful. Proceeded as briefed.

SECRET

397th Ftr Gdn 2-2 Report on Dive-bombing mission of 21 Apr 44. Mission No. 24

A - 397th FG, Ops C. 174 Mission No. 1
B - 16 A/C plus 1 spare. 1 spare returned
C - Nil
D - 16 A/C Marshalling yards S of Cherbourg, Belg. 1520
E - 24 1000 lb's loaded
52 1000 lb's on target
2 1000 lb's jettisoned in Channel
Alt at start of dive-- 11,000 ft
Angle of dive-- 50°
Alt at release-- 5000 ft
F - Good to fair. Saw 3 direct hits on priority tgt. Other hits in or near
tgt area.
G - Nil
H - K - Nil
I - GAVU over Channel and Continent
J - 1147 1450
K - LFI 1235 As briefed 15,000 ft
LEO 1340 " " 11,000 ft
L - Nil
M - 4/T Good
N - Nil
O - Douai - Hwy intense accurate (some yellow bursts)
Valenciennes - Hwy moderate accurate (both black and yellow bursts)
P - Nil
Q - Unsuccessful. Proceeded as briefed.

SECRET

SECRET

357th FTR SQDN 9-2 REPORT ON A WITHDRAWAL SUPPORT MISSION OF 24 APR 44. SQDN MISSION NO. 26

24 Apr 44

A - 357th Fighter Squadron -- One O No. 173, 12 FTR Cond/ -- Mission No. 1.
 B - 15 plus 2 spares. Spares Returned: 0. (One filled in for an abort. One became lost, but returned at about the same time as others).
 C - One -- Generator out.
 D - 16
 E - Nil
 F - Nil
 G - Nil
 H - Nil
 I - Nil
 J - Nil
 K - One B-17 seen destroyed by flak near Charlevoix -- no 'dances' observed.
 L - Over Channel: Overcast Alto Cumulus, 23,000 ft. Good visib.
 Over Continent: Overcast Alto Cumulus, 21,000 ft. Good visib.
 M - Up: 1542. Down: 1740.
 N - 151: 1629 -- South of Ostend -- 22,000 ft.
 150: 1617 -- In Briefed -- 16,000 ft.
 V - R/V: Birkenfeld -- 1515 -- 23,000 ft.
 W - Good
 X - None other than B-17 noted in A.
 Y - Heavy, moderate, accurate at Charlevoix.
 Z - Nil.
 T - Unsuccessful.

SECRET

SECRET

397TH FTR SQDN S-2 REPORT ON A D/BOMB MISSION OF 25 APRIL 1944. SQDN MISSION NO. 27

- A - 397th Fighter Squadron -- Opns O No. 181, IX Fitr Comd -- 25 Apr 44 -- Mission No. 1.
- B - 16 plus 1 spare -- 1 spare returned.
- C - One -- Oil leak sprayed windshield.
- D - 15 -- Poperinghe Airdrome -- 1040.
- E - 34/1,000 lb GP's loaded.
26/1,000 lb GP's dropped on target.
3/1,000 lb GP's jettisoned in fields -- 5 jettisoned in channel.
None returned to base.
Alt at start of dive: 12,000 ft.
Angle of dive: 55 degrees.
Alt at release: 4,000 ft.
- F - Several hits on buildings -- some were seen aflame. One on control tower. Several on runways and tarmacs.
- G - Nil
- H - Nil
- I - Nil
- J - Nil
- K - Nil
- L - Over Channel: Clear -- OAVU -- 5,000 Good visib.
Over Continent: Covered with stratus -- 6,000 Good visib.
- M - Up: 0906 Down: 1146
- N - LFI: 1007 -- on course -- 12,500 ft.
LFO: 1046 -- gravelines -- 11,500 ft.
- O - Nil
- P - Clear.
- Q - Saw other P-47's dive bombing a little SW of Dunkerque.
- R - Light, meager, inaccurate at Dunkerque.
- S - Nil
- T - Nil

SECRET

S E C R E T

397TH F SQ 2-2 REPORT ON A B/BSOT AND T/COVER FOR D/BOMB MISSION OF 26 APR 44--MISSION 28

- A - 397th Fighter Squadron -- Opns O No. 183, 9th F Comd -- 26 Apr 44 -- Mission No. 1.
 - B - 16 plus 2 spares. One spare returned.
 - C - One -- stiff elevator control.
 - D - 16 -- No tgt attacked -- 397th was top cover.
 - E - 397th was top cover.
 - F - Some bombs are believed to have been dropped by the 397th F Sq near Dunkirk --- others were jettisoned in channel.
 - G thru K - Nil.
 - L - Over Channel:- clear, but overcast to north. Good visib.
Over Continent:- overcast 95,100 - 3-7,000 ft. Good visib above.
 - M - Up: 0852. Down: 1125.
 - N - LFI: 0953 -- on course -- 15,000 ft.
LFO: 1018 -- Dunkirk -- 14,500 ft.
 - O - Plainly heard Germans on A Channel.
- Clear.
 - Q - Small convoy of trucks observed heading for Dunkirk from Bergues.
 - R - Heavy, moderate, accurate flek at Dunkirk.
 - S - Nil.
 - T - Nil.
-

S E C R E T

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

397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON S-2 REPORT ON A PRACTICE GROUND SUPPORT MISSION OF 4/27/44

A - 397th Fighter Squadron -- Opns O No. 1, Hq 368th F Gp -- 27 Apr 44 -- Mission No. 1
B - 15 -- No Spares.
C - Nil
D - 15 -- Start Bay from Slapton to Torcross -- 1025 to 1131.
E thru K -- Nil
L - OAVU, but observed small cumulus clouds gathering due west of target area.
M - Up: 0949. Down: 1215
N thru P - Nil
Q - Observed five (5) transports about four miles off shore and two cruisers two miles off shore -- 400 to 500 landing barges shuttling back and forth from the transports.
R thru T - Nil.

397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON S-2 REPORT ON A PRACTICE GROUND SUPPORT MISSION OF 4/27/44

A - 397th Fighter Squadron -- Opns O No. 1, Hq 368th F Gp -- 27 Apr 44 - Mission No. 2
B - 16 -- No Spares.
C - Nil
D - 16
E thru K - Nil
L - OAVU
M - Up: 1352. Down: 1615
N thru P - Nil
Q - Observed 200 to 250 landing barges -- five cargo vessels about five miles from shore -- five troop transports about eight miles from shore. Noted large pontoon bridge under construction and considerable troop activity on the beaches and inland.
R thru T - Nil

397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON S-2 REPORT ON A PRACTICE GROUND SUPPORT MISSION OF 4/27/44

A - 397th Fighter Squadron -- Opns O No. 1, Hq 368th F Gp - 27 Apr 44 - Mission No. 3
B - 16 -- No Spares.
C - Nil
D - 16 -- Start Bay from Slapton to Torcross -- 1830 to 1930.
E thru K -- Nil.
L - No clouds. OAVU.
M - Up: 1651. Down: 2008.
N - Nil
O - Nil
P - Good
Q - Hundreds of landing craft -- about 10 cruisers or destroyers some distance north of area -- troops on beach -- pontoon bridge had been completed -- beachhead was not noticeably larger -- 16 transports in two rows of eight ships in each row -- vehicles (trucks and tanks) on beach -- barges shuttling back and forth and carrying troops ashore.
R thru T - Nil.

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

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

397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON S-2 REPORT ON A PRACTICE GROUND SUPPORT MISSION OF 28 APRIL 1944

A - 397th F Sq -- Opns O No. 1, Hq 368th F Gp -- 28 Apr 44 - Mission No. 4.
B - 16 -- No Spares.
C - Nil
D - 16 -- Start Bay fr Slapton to Torcross -- 0732 to 0840.
E thru K - Nil
L. Medium overcast at 3,000 -- top 3,500. Good visib.
M. - Up: 0650. Down: 0914.
N thru P - Nil
Q - Fire with much black smoke in bay due south of Lyme Regis -- about 25 balloons near Slapton -- not as much activity on the beaches as yesterday.
R thru T - Nil.

397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON S-2 REPORT ON A PRACTICE GROUND SUPPORT MISSION OF 28 APRIL 1944

A - 397th F Sq -- Opns O No. 1, Hq 368th F Gp -- 28 Apr 44 - Mission No. 5.
B - 16 -- No Spares.
C - Nil.
D - 16 -- Start Bay fr Slapton to Torcross -- 1130 to 1230.
E thru K - Nil.
L. 5/10 coverage at 4,000 ft -- good visib.
M. Up: 1052. Down: 0110.
N thru P - Nil.
Q. Observed activity spreading north and south along coast -- 25 to 40 balloons at approx. 1,500 ft in vicinity of Slapton (3 mi S and just E of Torcross) -- also many vehicles in woods in this vicinity -- 5 transports short way off shore -- and many landing barges seemed to be inoperative.
R thru T - Nil.

SECRET

PILOT'S ENCOUNTER REPORT - 1ST LT JOHN H. LOUGEE, O-79317

- A. Type of Action. (Combat Engagement or Encounter) Combat
- B. Date of Action 22 April 1944
- C. Squadron and Group 397th Fighter Squadron, 368th Fighter Group.
- D. Time of Attack Approx. 1830
- E. Geographic Location of Attack From Munstereifel (which is approx. 30 to 35 mi SSW of Köln) to Frickhafen (which is approx. 50 mi east of Munstereifel and slightly north of Linsburg).
- F. Weather, including Visibility No Clouds (slight haze) Good Vis.
- G. Type of Enemy Aircraft Fw 190
- H. Enemy Casualties One Fw 190 Destroyed. Pilot bailed out, E/A crashed and burned.
- I. Rounds of Ammunition Expended for the Whole Mission 1,610
- J. Account of Combat in Narrative Form Stressing Our, and Enemy, Tactics:

I was flying Number 3 in Whisky Yellow Flight on 22 April 1944. The right squadron was lagging and was attacked by twelve (12) E/A. We turned right and went back to help. Three (3) aircraft appeared at four o'clock high in a dive, and it looked as if they would pass under and to the rear of us. The first E/A (Fw 190) pulled up into our flight and I called the leader to break left. He did and both wingmen followed him. I hesitated in my break and when the E/A broke right I followed him. I fired about two good bursts and saw hits on his fuselage and wings. The E/A went into a dive, smoking some. I couldn't close on him. As he neared the deck I closed some and fired short bursts out of good firing range. Coming into range finally, I fired the remainder of my ammunition, getting some hits. His ship appeared hard to control, wobbling in flight. The enemy pilot bailed out and was too low for his chute to open fully. E/A crashed and exploded. Encounter took place approximately over Munstereifel, 30 miles SSW of Köln; the dive took us east to near Frickhafen, where E/A crashed.

John H. Lougee
JOHN H. LOUGEE,
1st Lt, Air Corps,
E/Leader.

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

C-H-2

AFPO 595, US Army
26 April 1944.

ORDERS)
:
NO. 9)

1. Having been assigned to this organization per Memorandum, Hq 368th Fighter Group, Captain DONALD D. WORTER, O-910114, is further assigned to duty as Squadron Intelligence Officer, vice 1st Lt JOHN R. AERA, O-561422, transferred.

/s/John E. W. Haesler
/t/JOHN E. W. HAESLER,
Major, Air Corps,
Commanding.

OFFICIAL:

/s/Dean L. Williams
/t/DEAN L. WILLIAMS,
Capt, Air Corps,
Exec. Officer.

"A TRUE COPY"

Horton H. Magnus
HORTON H. MAGNUS,
1st Lt, Air Corps,
Asst. Intell. Officer.

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
368TH FIGHTER GROUP

APO 595, U. S. Army
1 April 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....29)

1. Under the provisions of AR 615-5, 30 Jun 1943, and upon the recommendation of their Orga Comdr, the following named EM, 395th Fitr Sq, are promoted to grades as indicated:

TO BE STAFF SERGEANT (TEMP)

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|----------|
| Sgt (862) | Richard W. Weaver | 35421892 |
| Sgt (75) | John H. Houlahan | 31226462 |
| Sgt (747) | Dick E. McCarthy | 13368919 |
| Sgt (747) | Charles E. Matthews | 19092929 |
| Sgt (747) | William (NMI) Lenchuk | 32990271 |
| Sgt (747) | Robert J. Griffith | 35373026 |
| Sgt (747) | Joseph J. Hanson | 32421763 |
| Sgt (747) | Allen L. Olson | 37266802 |

TO BE SERGEANT (TEMP)

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------|----------|
| Cpl (941) | Andrew A. Vanta | 15019222 |
| Cpl (911) | Frank C. Darling | 32192850 |
| Cpl (239) | William H. Anger | 31195789 |
| Cpl (685) | Philip Marchese | 35148900 |
| Cpl (747) | Joseph L. DiPierro | 12042818 |
| Cpl (747) | Clifford F. Dolan | 32434647 |
| Cpl (747) | Herbert W. Carr | 12145495 |

TO BE CORPORAL (TEMP)

| | | |
|-----------|----------------------|----------|
| Pfc (809) | John T. Connolly | 31230431 |
| Pfc (911) | Howard (NMI) Gutman | 18093865 |
| Pfc (809) | George F. Rauder | 36181045 |
| Pfc (014) | David M. Fali | 39297507 |
| Pfc (056) | Gilbert E. Stehlin | 35800525 |
| Pfc (405) | Edward G. Fountain | 12190214 |
| Pfc (505) | Charles A. Hotetz | 32725549 |
| Pfc (405) | John (NMI) Furman | 12063253 |
| Pfc (932) | Albert D. Hobbs | 35300795 |
| Pfc (747) | Theodore D. Muggiero | 32731699 |

TO BE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (TEMP)

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------|----------|
| Pvt (610) | Wilfred L. Milroe | 32728874 |
| Pvt (345) | Clayton H. Urie | 36194366 |
| Pvt (060) | Stewart D. Farr | 12207805 |

TO BE PRIVATE

S O No 29, Hq 363th Fitr Sq, 1st Div (1943)

TO BE PRIVATE FIRST-CLASS (TELE)

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Pvt (245) Frederick A. Gaston | 37478522 |
| Pvt (521) Wallace G. Wilson | 31176970 |
| Pvt (747) Floyd T. Nelson | 39835675 |
| Pvt (747) Wilbur L. Faith | 15069487 |
| Pvt (405) Marvin V. Wilson | 16018013 |
| Pvt (747) Francis (MIL) Reading | 7026375 |
| Pvt (747) Robert B. Olson | 16018123 |
| Pvt (747) Dolos E. McNutt | 37393109 |

2. Under the provisions of AR 615-5, 30 Jun 1943, and upon the recommendation of their Orgn Comdr, the following named EM, 396th Fitr Sq, are promoted to grades as indicated:

TO BE STAFF SERGEANT (TELE)

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Sgt (911) Clarence N. Fowler | 14133889 |
| Sgt (747) Richard G. Gangel | 35397743 |
| Sgt (747) Charles E. Letzler | 32474038 |
| Sgt (747) Buford (MIL) Potter | 13035202 |
| Sgt (747) Raymond J. Rodgers | 33307965 |
| Sgt (747) Elmo R. Schmid | 37466172 |
| Sgt (637) Stephen J. Zidek | 36348455 |

TO BE SERGEANT (TELE)

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Cpl (941) Ellis N. Bessler | 32449388 |
| Cpl (050) Larry R. Pettin | 36232792 |
| Cpl (405) Robert W. Fitzgerald | 32221162 |
| Cpl (405) William G. Hunter | 31105652 |
| Cpl (932) Jack L. Harcor | 38089240 |
| Cpl (932) Oswald C. Thompson | 32456203 |

TO BE CORPORAL (TELE)

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Pfc (144) Clyde H. Pour Sr | 36610133 |
| Pfc (650) Sam (MIL) Curcio | 32339231 |
| Pfc (345) Joseph A. Duffy | 31096072 |
| Pfc (405) Edward G. Fritz | 35055205 |
| Pfc (044) Curtis E. Fuller | 33533413 |
| Pfc (932) James W. Howard | 35093805 |
| Pfc (237) Carlton J. McArthur | 31210179 |
| Pfc (900) Robert T. Lead | 18213936 |

TO BE PRIVATE FIRST-CLASS (TELE)

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Pvt (405) Fred W. Bennett | 36590181 |
| Pvt (405) Jerome P. Chojnicki | 36555484 |
| Pvt (911) Arthur M. Klum | 15354253 |
| Pvt (900) Frank E. Koblinski | 15376023 |
| Pvt (050) Tige O. Lyons | 15381984 |
| Pvt (405) John C. Tappier | 30332740 |

R E C O M M E N D E D

S O No 29, Hq 368th Fitr Gp, 1 April 1944 (Cont'd)

3. Under the provisions of AR 615-5, 30 Jun 1943, and upon the recommendation of their Orgn Comdr, the following named E1, 397th Fitr Sq, are promoted to grades as indicated:

TO BE TECHNICAL SERGEANT (TEML)

S/Sgt (911) Werner (HLL) L. Mann 37062051

TO BE STAFF SERGEANT (TELE)

Sgt (747) Herbert P. Hillinger 33147905
 Sgt (747) Charles G. Miller 32493950
 Sgt (673) Paul I. Tomczanek 12016849
 Sgt (605) Joseph B. Tych 37137497

TO BE SERGEANT (TEML)

Cpl (911) Walter P. Grader 31237351
 Cpl (667) John J. Jones, Jr 32166800
 Cpl (405) Francis P. Longman 32533943
 Cpl (747) John (HLL) Jones 35398967

TO BE CORPORAL (TELE)

Pfc (361) Charles E. Cuck 31329091
 Pfc (405) Ibrlia J. Dickman 36317394
 Pfc (405) Harry W. North 37577230
 Pfc (932) Manuel (HLL) Guerra 30455756
 Pfc (911) Michael T. Gargas 33666537
 Pfc (911) Harrison L. Kani 14175043
 Pfc (056) Archie (HLL) McNeil 32285946
 Pfc (945) Thomas H. Lucker 31093830

TO BE PRIVATE FIRST-CLASS (TEML)

Pvt (014) Marvin L. Adair 33242324
 Pvt (911) Edward R. Cehner 33666676
 Pvt (345) Ralph R. May 34621983
 Pvt (759) Clarence D. Parrish 37027477

4. Under the provisions of AR 615-5, 30 Jun 1943, and upon the recommendation of their Orgn Comdr, the following named E1, Hq 368th Fitr Gp, are promoted to grades, as indicated:

TO BE STAFF SERGEANT (TELE)

Sgt (502) Raymond (HLL) Mazuro 31072493
 Sgt (745) Ernest W. Sliver 11062216
 Sgt (275) Gerald E. Truax 31125933

R E S T R I C T E D

S O No 29, Hq 368th Fitr Gp, 1 April 1944 (Cont'd)

TO BE SERGEANT (TEMP)

Cpl (755) Henry S. Kornatoski 13055893
Cpl (592) Charles L. Plante 31007363
Cpl (656) Sidney C. Richards 31160763
Cpl (405) Charles A. Stevens 35670183

TO BE CORPORAL (TEMP)

Pfc (405) Carl E. Newsome 34539135

TO BE PRIVATE FIRST-CLASS (TEMP)

Pvt (060) Clojin (NMI) Heffner 34432639

5. Under provisions of Par 1 c (4) (c), AR 345-415, Major JAMES S. HARRIS, AC, 0250856, is appointed Investigating Officer to investigate and report upon all the circumstances connected with the incurrence of injuries of Sgt Kick T. McMurray, 14156319, incurred o/a 21 Mar 1944, and to determine whether injuries were incurred in line of duty or as a result of his own misconduct. Complete Report of Investigation on WD AGO Form 51 will be submitted in quintuplicate.

6. Major FRANK S. FEEGO, 0426422, AC, is appointed Gp Air Inspector vice Major HUGH L. RICE JR, 0379295, AC, relieved.

7. V OCG 71st Fitr Wing, S/Sgt (813) Raymond F. McConnell, 13028819, 395th Fitr Sq, is placed on temp dy for nine (9) days for the purp of attending Ordnance Waterproofing School, IX AFSC, EM will proceed to Sternbrock House, one (1) mile north of Chippenham, so as to arrive before 1700 hours, 2 April 1944. Advance PX rations stad. Equipment to be taken: blankets, fatigues, flashlight, batteries, full field equipment, less weapons, motor vehicle, in good condition, accompanied by a complete technical inspection form and complete first echelon tools. Upon completion of temp dy EM will ret proper orgn and sta. TDN by MF.

8. Under provisions of Par 1 c (4) (c), AR 345-415, Major JAMES S. HARRIS, AC, 0250856, is appointed Investigating Officer to investigate and report upon all the circumstances connected with the incurrence of injuries of Pvt Francis (NMI) Reading, 7026975, 395th Fitr Sq, incurred o/a 21 Mar 1944, and to determine whether injuries were incurred in line of duty or as a result of his own misconduct. Complete Report of Investigation of WD AGO Form 51 will be submitted in quintuplicate.

By O of Lt Col MEYERS:

HUGH L. RICE,
Maj AC
Adj

OFFICIAL:

Hugh L. Rice
HUGH L. RICE,
Maj AC
Adj

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R E S T R I C T E D

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
368TH FIGHTER GROUP

APO 595, U. S. Army
2 April 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
NUMBER.....30)

1. The following named EM, 73rd Station Complement, are transferred in grade to 368th Fitr Gp and further assigned to Sq indicated:

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Sgt (060) John H. Robertson | 33093442 |
| Pvt (521) Rex W. Cogen | 13047481 |

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Cpl (660) Stephen (NMI) Eober | 32453364 |
| Cpl (656) Donald W. Young | 17152047 |
| Pvt (541) Frank (NMI) Scarabino | 32803969 |

396TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Pfc (650) Harold G. Burhite | 36297425 |
| Pfc (237) Julius (NMI) Wolf | 33586924 |

397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

✓ Cpl (747) Cecil F. Clancy 36507743

2. VOOB IX Air Support Cord the following named EM orgn indicated are placed on temp dy for approximately twelve (12) days for the purpose of attending RAF Anti-Gas School and will proceed o/a 4 April 1944 fr sta 404 to Rolleston Camp Salisbury. Upon completion of this temp dy they will ret proper orgn and sta. TDN by MP or rail. Where Govt rat & qrs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of rat & qrs, not to exceed \$2.00 per man per day for rat, and \$2.00 per man per day for qrs, is std in accordance w/Par 8a, Policy No. 30-1, Hq USAAF UK 9 Nov 1943. 91-5 P 432-02 A 212/40425.

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|---------------|
| Cpl (809) George E. Bauder | 36181045 | 395th Fitr Sq |
| Cpl (809) John T. Connelly | 31230431 | 395th Fitr Sq |

(Paragraphs in which travel is directed are pursuant to the auth contained in Ltr Hq ETOUSA 3 Nov 1943.)

By O of Lt Col LEYMERS:

HUGH L. RICE,
Maj AC
Maj

OFFICIAL:

Hugh L. Rice
HUGH L. RICE,
Maj AC
Maj

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P O W N E R

368TH WING GROUP

AF 125, U. S. Army
9 April 1944SPECIAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER.....33)

1. Confidential.

2. VOGG 71st Fitr Wing, the following named EM are placed on temp dy for approximately two (2) weeks for the purpose of attending a course of instruction in teletype maintenance and will proceed o/a 12 April 1944 fr sta 404 to sta 449. Upon completion of this temp dy, EM will ret proper orgn and sta. TDN by RT or rail. EM will be attached to Hq & Hq Sq, IX Air Support Comd for ret and qrs. 91-5 P 432-02 A 212/40425.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------|---------------|
| Sgt (237) Warren L. Walters | 20724802 | 395th Fitr Sq |
| Sgt (239) Jack W. Wilhite | 25443592 | 396th Fitr Sq |

3. Having been asgd this orgn per par 5 SO 97, Hq AAF Station 342, dtd 6 April 1944, the following named officers are further asgd to Sq as indicated:

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----|------------------|
| 2d Lt HOMER E. HAYES | 0815331 | AC | 395th Fighter Sq |
| 2d Lt JOHN A. RATHBONE JR | 0697583 | AC | 395th Fighter Sq |
| 2d Lt ROBERT H. ROWIE | 0697202 | AC | 396th Fighter Sq |
| 2d Lt JOHN R. SPENCER III | 0693171 | AC | 396th Fighter Sq |
| F/O BENJAMIN L. RUHL | T223096 | AUS | 396th Fighter Sq |
| 2d Lt BUEL W. BATES | 0688736 | AC | 397th Fighter Sq |
| 2d Lt MANUEL K. SOO | 0315407 | AC | 397th Fighter Sq |
| 2d Lt FREDERICK C. STOLL JR | 0315417 | AC | 397th Fighter Sq |

By O of Lt Col MEXERS:

HUGH L. RICE
Maj AC
Adj

OFFICIAL:

Hugh L. Rice
HUGH L. RICE
Maj AC
Adj

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SECRET

 397TH FTR SQDN S-2 REPORT ON A FIGHTER SWEEP MISSION OF 22 APRIL 1944. MISSION NO. 25

- A - 397th Ftr Sqdn -- Opns O No. 172, IX Ftr Comd -- 22 Apr 44 -- Mission No. 1.
 B - 16 plus 1 spare and 1 radio relay. One spare plus 1 radio relay returned.
 C - One -- radio bad and glass tube on wing tank broken -- one spare filled in.
 D - 16 -- Mission was a fighter sweep. Area covered was from slightly N of Ault to Norm
 to Koblenz to Trier to ElDieppe area. From 1740 to 1940.
 E - Mission was a fighter sweep.
 F - Same as E.
 G - Nil.
 H - One A/C suffered severe battle damage between 1815 and 1830 from E/A fire. Category is
 "AC". If not "AC", category is "B".
 I - Nil.
 J - 12 FW 190's in vicinity of Frickhafen between 1815 and 1830.
 Claim one destroyed -- 1st Lt John H. Lougee, O-798317.
 K - Nil.
 L - Over channel: clear. Over continent: 7/10 coverage. Altitude: 25,000 ft.
 Visibility good over entire route.
 - 1638 -- 2042.
 M - LFI: 1740 -- place as briefed -- 17,000 ft.
 LFO: 1940 -- Dieppe area -- 10,000 ft.
 O - Same as E.
 P - Good.
 Q - Six Spitfires observed in vicinity of Frickhafen between 1815 and 1830.
 R - Heavy, meager, inaccurate flak observed at Ansham.
 Heavy, meager, inaccurate flak observed in vicinity of Honthain.
 Heavy, intense, accurate flak observed slightly north of Paris.
 S - Nil.
 T - Our planes took off at 1638. They made LFI at place as briefed at 1758 at 17,000 ft.
 Mission was flown as briefed up to Trier. Twelve FW-190's were sighted in the vicinity
 of Munsterfeld between 1815 and 1830. One became separated from others and was chased
 by Lt Lougee from near Munsterfeld to vicinity of Frickhafen. He fired on this E/A
 from 18,000 ft to the deck and saw the pilot bail out and the plane explode. From
 Trier the squadron flew north of the briefed route, passing slightly north of Paris.
 They made LFO in Dieppe area at 1940 at 10,000 ft and arrived home at 2042.

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HEADQUARTERS
368th FIGHTER GROUPAPO 595, U. S. Army
13 April 1944SPECIAL ORDERS)
:)
NUMBER.....35)

1. Having been asgd this orgn per par 4 SO 49, Hq 71st Fitr Wing, dtd 10 April 1944, Pvt Elmer C. Wetzel, 33055023, is further asgd 395th Fitr Sq.
2. Having been asgd this orgn per par 1, SO 51, Hq 71st Fitr Wing, dtd 13 April 1944, Sgt (070) Richard H. Lonien, 17155984, is further asgd Hq 368th Fitr Gp.
3. The following named EM, Sq indic ted, are relieved from atchd for duty to Hq 368th Fitr Gp:

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| T/Sgt Edward A. Long | 35453637 |
| Sgt Keith O. Crane | 39835730 |
| Sgt James L. Supple | 35660999 |

396TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| S/Sgt William C. Phillips | 33186426 |
| S/Sgt Dennis W. Delvin | 35265894 |
| Pfc Jerome J. Meyers | 12183563 |

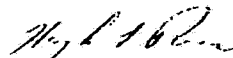
397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Cpl Bernard Fronheim | 12159137 |
| Cpl Frank Rabinowitz | 12026593 |
| S/Sgt Charles W. Wood | 16054823 |

By O of Lt Col MEYERS:

HUGH L. RICE,
Maj AC
Adj

OFFICIAL:


HUGH L. RICE
Maj AC
Adj

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HEADQUARTERS
366TH FIGHTER GROUP

APC 595, U. S. Army
15 April 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
NUMBER.....36)

1. Confidential.
2. So much of Par 1, SO 84, this Hq. as reads "incurred o/a 16 March 1944" is amended to read "incurred o/a 26 February 1944."
3. Under prov of Par 1c, Adm Ord No 37, SCS, EPCUSA, dated 22 June 1943, 1st Lt JOHN R. KIRK, O561, A. G. 397th Ftr Sq, is trfd to Detachment of Patients, 2nd General Hospital, APO SF, VD AGC Form 66-1, 66-2, and allied papers will be forwarded to 2nd General Hospital. This is a permanent change of sta. No travel involved.
4. Having been asgd this orgn per par 15, SO 84, Hq IX Air Support Comd, dtd 11 April 1944, the following named EM are further asgd to Sq as indicated:

396th FIGHTER SQUADRON

Cpl (911) Bernard J. Kordell 36373754

397th FIGHTER SQUADRON

Pfc (521) Francis V. Sinkonis 33056688
Pvt (911) Leo (MII) Pimenthal 31293390

By O of Lt COL MEYERS:

HUGH L. RICE
Maj AC
ADJ

OFFICIAL:

Hugh L. Rice
HUGH L. RICE
Maj AC
ADJ

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HEADQUARTERS
368TH AIRBORNE GROUP

AGO 595, U. S. Army
19 April 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER.....39)

1. The VCOO 368th Fitr Gp of 23 March 1944, under exigencies which prevented the issuance of advance orders, are hereby confirmed and made of record:

"1st Lt (5000) WILLIAM E. QUINLAN, 0566474, AC, is aptd Gp Special Services Officer, vice 1st Lt (5000) JOHN F. REGAN, 0569887, AC, relieved."

2. The VCOO 368th Fitr Gp of 23 March 1944, under exigencies which prevented the issuance of advance orders, are hereby confirmed and made of record:

"1st Lt (5000) JOHN F. REGAN, 0569887, AC, is aptd Asst Gp Special Services Officer, vice 1st Lt (5000) WILLIAM E. QUINLAN, 0566474, AC, relieved."

3. Sgt (821) Lewis E. Davis, Jr, 37472374, Hq 368th Fitr Gp, is trfd in gr to 73rd Station Complement Sq. No change of station involved. S/R and allied papers will accompany EM.

4. Sgt (821) Arthur F. Sherman, 32503281, 73rd Station Complement Sq, is trfd in gr to Hq 368th Fitr Gp. No change of station involved. S/R and allied papers will accompany EM.

5. Pvt (548) Oren E. Kellenback, 19004621, 397th Fitr Sq, is trfd in gr to the 66th Airborne Squadron. No change of station involved. S/R and allied papers will accompany EM. AUTH: VCOO 71st Fitr Wing.

By C of Lt Col MEYERS:

HUGH L. RICE,
Maj AC
Adj

OFFICIAL:

Hugh L. Rice
HUGH L. RICE,
Maj AC
Adj

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HEADQUARTERS
363TH FIELD GROUP

APO 595, U. S. Army
20 April 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....40)

1. VOOG IX Air Support Command, Major LEMUEL R. GORRELL, 0415495, AC, is placed on temp dy for approximately one (1) day, will proceed o/a 20 April 1944 fr sta 404 to London on a letter pertaining to this command. Upon completion of this temp dy he will return to proper orgn and sta. TDN by MP, mil acft, or rail. Where Govt qrs and subs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of qrs not to exceed \$4.00 per day and allow of \$1.25 per day to cover excess cost of subs is atzd in accordance w/par 7, Sec II, Policy No. 30-1, Hq USAAF UK 9 Nov 1943. 91-5 P 432-02 A 212/40425.
2. So much of par 1, SO 38, this Hq cs, pertaining to 2d Lt (1042) JERRY R. NEWMAN, 01643923, Sig C, as reads "is further asgd 395th Fitr Sq" is amended to read "is further asgd 396th Fitr Sq."
3. The following named EM are placed on temp dy for approximately nine (9) days for the purpose of attending a course of instruction in mines and booby traps and will proceed o/a 23 April 1944 fr sta 404 to sta 424. Equipment to be taken: notebooks, pencils, fatigue clothing and overshoes. Advance PX ration atzd. Upon completion of this temp dy, EM will ret to proper orgn and sta. TDI by MP or rail. Where Govt rat & qrs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of rat & qrs, not to exceed \$2.00 per man per day for rat, and \$2.00 per man per day for qrs, is atzd in accordance w/par 8, Policy No 30-1, Hq USAAF UK 9 Nov 1943. FD 91-5 P 432-02 A 212-40425. AUTH: TTX 9450 P1096E.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------|---------------|
| Sgt (911) Robert G. Newland | 16150905 | 395th Fitr Sq |
| Sgt (911) Ernie V. Flores | 39556781 | 396th Fitr Sq |
| Sgt (511) Saul (NEI) Irail | 32571042 | 397th Fitr Sq |

By C of Lt Col MEYERS:

MAURICE D. POWELL,
1st Lt, AC
Asst Adj

OFFICIAL:

Maurice D. Powell
MAURICE D. POWELL,
1st Lt, AC
Asst Adj

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HEADQUARTERS
368TH FIGHTER GROUP

AFO 595, U. S. Army
25 April 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....41)

1. Having been asgd this orgn per par 1 SO 59, Hq 71st Fighter Wing, dtd 22 April 1944, 2nd Lt (9301) JOHN P. HOEHLER, 0350913, AC, is further asgd Hq 368th Fitr Gp, and aptd Asst Gp S-2 Officer.
2. 1st Lt (9301) DAVID F. REINHOLD, 0573097, AC, is aptd Gp Historical Officer and Gp Censor, vice Capt DONALD D. WELLS, 0910114, AC, transferred.
3. Having been asgd this orgn per par 13, SO 92, Hq IX Air Support Comd, dtd 19 April 1944, Sgt (511) Henry J. Wilson, 19054325, is further asgd Hq 368th Fitr Gp.

By O of Lt Col MEMERS:

MAURICE D. POWELL,
1st Lt, AC,
Asst Adj.

OFFICIAL:

Maurice D. Powell
MAURICE D. POWELL
1st Lt, AC,
Asst Adj.

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HEADQUARTERS
365TH FIGHTER GROUP

AFO 595, U. S. Army
24 April 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....42)

1. VCG IX Tactical Air Command, the following named EM, Sq indicated, are placed on temp dy for approximately three (3) days, will proceed o/a 25 April 1944 fr sta 404 to Depot 0623 by RT for the purpose of driving vehicles fr Depot 0623 To sta 404. Shelter half, blankets and "K" rations will be taken.

HEADQUARTERS DETACHMENT

Pvt (345) Donald L. Horning 33757225

395TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

Pvt (345) Clifford I. Stubinger 36642616
Pfc (345) Chester E. Urie 36199366
Pfc (826) Edmund L. Forge 31291898
Pfc (826) Charles W. Race 33760928
Pvt (345) William E. Newton 16093320

396TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

S/Sgt (759) William C. Phillips 33186426
Cpl (345) Rene A. Doyon 31119005
Cpl (747) Robert Dunn 31202149
Pfc (911) Ronald E. Frazier 36476071
Pvt (345) Anthony Caristi 12017664

397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

T/Sgt (911) John F. Sheridan 6915486
Cpl (901) James A. Ray 34490279
Pvt (521) Harold L. Kelly 35063924
Pvt (345) Floyd R. Decatur 12029970

By O of Lt Col LEYERS:

OFFICIAL:

Hugh L. Rice
HUGH L. RICE,
Major, AC,
Adj.

HUGH L. RICE,
Major, AC,
Adj.

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HEADQUARTERS
368TH FIGHTER GROUP

AFO 595, U. S. Army
25 April 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER.....43)

1. The VOCC 368th Fitr Gp of 20 March 1944, under exigencies which prevented the issuance of advance orders, are hereby confirmed and made of record:

"2nd Lt WILLIAM R. RAMSAY, 0874008, AC, is placed on temp dy for approximately one (1) day, will proceed o/a 20 April 1944 fr sta 404 to London on a matter pertaining to this command. Upon completion of this temp dy he will return to proper orgn and sta. TDN by MT, or rail. Where Govt qrs and subs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of qrs not to exceed \$4.00 per day and alws of \$1.25 per day to cover excess cost of subs is atzd in accordance w/Par 7, Sec II, Policy No. 30-1, Hq USAAF UK 9 Nov 1943. 91-5 P 432-02 A 212/40425. Auth: VOCC IX TAC."

2. 2nd Lt WILLIAM R. RAMSAY, 0874008, AC, is placed on temp dy for approximately one (1) day, will proceed o/a 25 April 1944 fr sta 404 to London on a matter pertaining to this command. Upon completion of this temp dy he will return to proper orgn and sta. TDN by MT, or rail. Where Govt qrs and subs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of qrs not to exceed \$4.00 per day and alws of \$1.25 per day to cover excess cost of subs is atzd in accordance w/Par 7, Sec II, Policy No. 30-1, Hq USAAF UK 9 Nov 1943. 91-5 P 432-02 A 212/40425. Auth: VOCC IX TAC.

3. Having been asgd this orgn per par 24 SO 86, Hq IX Air Support Comd, dtd 13 April 1944, the following named EM are further asgd to Sq as indicated:

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|---------------|
| Pvt (911) Philip S. Coy | 13091264 | 396th Fitr Sq |
| Pvt (911) Leonard I. Dobby | 36318250 | 397th Fitr Sq |

4. Having been asgd this orgn per par 6, SO 91, Hq IX Air Support Comd, dtd 18 April 1944, the following named EM are further asgd to Sq as indicated:

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|---------------|
| Sgt (911) Joseph H. Smith | 7031955 | 397th Fitr Sq |
| Cpl (911) Walter E. Cliver | 20148986 | 396th Fitr Sq |

5. Having been asgd this orgn per par 7, SO 2, Hq IX Tactical Air Comd, dtd 21 April 1944, Pvt (911) Eugene H. Fralle, 37237297, is further asgd 395th Fitr Sq.

By O of Lt Col MEYERS:

OFFICIAL:

Maurice D. Powell
MAURICE D. POWELL,
1st Lt, AC,
Asst Adj.

MAURICE D. POWELL,
1st Lt, AC,
Asst Adj.

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