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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

* SQUADRON HISTORY *
* SECOND INSTALLMENT *
* (Covering the Month of March, 1944.) *
* 397th FIGHTER SQUADRON *
* 368th FIGHTER GROUP *

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

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

Reduction of the squadron's authorized strength by seven (7) enlisted men occurred during the month of March, 1944, when a new T/O was adopted. No change in officer strength was authorized.

Following is a summary of the changes authorized under the new T/O:

Enlisted Men Eliminated:

NO.	CLASSIFICATION	MOS
1	Clerk, general	(073)
1	Machinist	(114)
2	Medical Technicians	(409)
1	Ap Fabric & Depe Wkr.	(348)
1	Section Leader	(652)
1	Utilities NCO	(822)
6	Ammunition Wkr, Ground	(900)
2	Hvy Auto Equip Opers	(951)
1	Administrative NCO	(502)
4	Ammunition NCO	(505)
3	Armurers	(511)
22	Ap & Eng Mechs	(747)
3	AAF Radio Mechs	(754)
3	Radio Mech CNS	(759)
6	AAF Tech Supply NCO	(826)
1	Surgical Techn	(861)
1	Personnel NCO	(816)
59	--- TOTAL ELIM.	

Enlisted Men Added:

NO.	CLASSIFICATION	MOS
1	Teletype Oper	(257)
3	Truck Driver, Light	(345)
3	Clerk-Typists	(405)
1	Basis	(521)
2	Ap Armurers	(911)
2	Camera Techns	(941)
1	Telephone Switchboard Oper	(650)
1	Communications Chief	(542)
2	Intelligence NCO	(631)
1	Message Center Clerk	(667)
1	Medical NCO	(673)
24	Ap Crew Chief	(750)
1	Ap Line Chief	(752)
9	Ammunition Wkr, Avn.	(901)
32	--- TOTAL ADDED.	

Officers Eliminated:

NO.	CLASSIFICATION	MOS
1	Radar Officer, Air	(0141)
1	Weather Officer, Gen	(8219)
2	--- TOTAL ELIM.	

Officers Added:

NO.	CLASSIFICATION	MOS
1	Personnel Equip Officer	(1042)
1	A/G Engr Officer	(4523)
2	--- TOTAL ADDED.	

Auth. EM Grades, Old T/O:

4 N/Sgts, 14 T/Sgts, 49 S/Sgts,
62 Sgts, 73 Opls, 16 Pfc, 14 Pvt.
232 --- Tot Auth Strength, Old T/O.

Auth. EM Grades, New T/O:

6 N/Sgts, 16 T/Sgts, 67 S/Sgts,
61 Sgts, 63 Opls, 15 Pfc, 15 Pvt.
245 --- Tot Auth Strength, New T/O.

Auth. Commissioned Grades, Old T/O:

1 Lt Col, 2 Maj, 6 Capt, 15 1/Lt, 12 2/Lt
39 --- Tot Auth, Old T/O.

Auth. Commissioned Grades, New T/O:

1 Lt Col, 2 Maj, 9 Capt, 15 1/Lt, 12 2/Lt
39 --- Tot Auth, New T/O.

Grades Elim., EM: 2 S/Sgts, 1 Sgt, 6 Opls, 1 Pfc.
Grades Added, EM: 2 N/Sgts, 2 T/Sgts, 1 Pvt.
Grades Added, Comm: 3 Capts.
Grades Elim., Comm: 3 1/Lts.

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2. STRENGTH ON THE LAST DAY OF THE MONTH:

Strength on 31 March 1944 --- **ASSIGNED PERSONNEL:**
39 Officers --- 246 Enlisted Men.
ATTACHED PERSONNEL: (*)
6 Officers --- 23 Enlisted Men.

(*) Attached personnel as of 31 Mar 44 include 4 O's (Pilots) and 8 EM fr 410th F Sq, 407th F Gp (on temp DS) and 2 O's and 15 EM fr 21st Waa and 40th Comm Sqs (Form Det).

3. DATE OF ARRIVAL AT AND DEPARTURE FROM EACH STATION OCCUPIED IN THE EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS:

The squadron's first change of station in the ETO occurred on the 14th and 15th of March, 1944. The movement was from the organization's initial base, at U. S. A. F. Station 486, A. P. O. 638, Greenham Common, Berks., to U. S. A. F. Station 404, A. P. O. 638, Chilbolton, Hants. (NOTE: Shortly after the squadron's arrival at Chilbolton, the A. P. O. Number was changed to 595.)

Incidental phases of this move occurred March 13, when Captain Johnson and 15 enlisted men departed on DS to the new base (Per 1000, 368th F Gp), as an advance detail prior to the actual movement.

An advance party of 64 enlisted men made the move on March 14, this delegation being comprised of representatives from each of the various departments; thus assuring preparedness in the event of immediate operation from the new base. The remainder of the squadron (Nine officers and 164 EM) moved via military vehicles on the following day. The pilots made the move by squadron aircraft, also on March 15th.

Identical moves were also made at this time by the two other squadrons of the 368th Fighter Group (the 395th and 396th), and by the headquarters detachment.

4. LOSSES IN ACTION:

N E G A T I V E.

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

N E G A T I V E. (NOTE: Eligibility for the Air Medal was achieved by several 397th pilots this month, but the actual awarding of these has not yet occurred.)

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

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D I A R Y
of the
397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
(368th Fighter Group)
1 9 4 4

- 1 MARCH: The squadron received some new 'planes this date. The pilots ferry new ships to this base daily.
- 2 MARCH: A new officer was assigned to this outfit. Second Lieutenant Dale C. Olmstead, O-1893766 Personal Equipment Officer. (S. O. #16). (SO #16, Par 4, Hq 368th Fighter Group).
- 3 MARCH: Captain Hendricks returned from detached service as noted in initial installment. He flew bomber escort missions and encountered no enemy aircraft. This date the squadron flew its first dive-bombing missions with 100# practice bombs.
- Anderson)
Marko) 1st Mission
- Fry)
Langmaid) 2nd Mission
Marko)
- The objective of these flights was Pepperbox Hill Range.
- 4 MARCH: Det. 'R', 21st Weather Squadron (list of men) and Det. 'R', 40th Mobile Comm Det, are attached to the 397th for restrooms, quarters and administration. (Gp SO #17, Par 2).
- 5 MARCH: Captain Hendricks left this date on detached service to an operational fighter group in Italy for the purpose of training in dive bombing. (SO #).
- 6 MARCH: Enlisted Men of this organization were promoted effective the first of this month by Special Orders appearing on this date. (Gp SO #17, Par 5). This date the squadron has received its 27 'planes. The 'planes were assigned to pilots as indicated in the following list:

PILOT	CODE LETTER	TYPE	A/C NUMBER	DIVE BOMB
Major Mesler	A	D-20	76531	B
Capt Hendricks	H	D-20	76548	
Lt Driscoll	D	D-1	7692	
Red Flight:				
Capt Goodwin	B	D-15	76399	B
Lt O'Connell	E	D-20	76535	B
Lt Marko	D	D-15	76844	B
Lt Burney	G	D-15	76068	
Lt Roosevelt	F	D-15	76088	
Blue Flight:				
Capt Gibson	O	D-15	76255	B
Lt Anderson	P	D-20	76521	
Lt Carlson	R	D-15	76239	B
Lt Pelts	S	D-15	76819	B
Lt Howard	N	D-11	76538	
Lt Sutcliffe	V	D-15	76212	B

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Yellow Flight:				
Capt Marini	H	D-15	76277	B
Lt Lougee	J	D-20	76550	B
Lt Brown	K	D-15	76194	
Lt Sharp	L	D-15	76627	B
Lt Herlacher	M	D-21	25511	
Lt Royal	T	D-15	76156	
Green Flight:				
Capt Talbott	V	D-15	76317	B
Lt Fry	W	D-20	76551	B
Lt Dams	X	D-15	76115	B
Lt Arps	Y	D-4	22777	
Lt Langmaid	L	D-15	76287	
Lt Hamilton	Z	D-20	76463	
Extra:				
	Z	C-2	6191	B

- 7 MARCH: This date the enlisted men and officers of the squadron received smallpox vaccinations and tetanus, typhoid and typhus inoculations from the medical section.
- 8 MARCH: Nothing to report.
- 9 MARCH: First Lieutenant JOHN R. KERN, O-561422, joined the squadron this date, having been assigned to the 368th Fighter Group per paragraph 2, Special Orders 33, Headquarters 71st Fighter Wing, and to this organization per paragraph 2, Special Orders 20, Headquarters 368th Fighter Group. His duty assignment is that of assistant intelligence officer.
- 10 MARCH: Nothing to report.
- 11 MARCH: Captains GOODWIN and GIBSON returned from DS at Millfield, where they had engaged in practice dive-bombing and strafing missions.
- 12 MARCH: A new pilot, Captain EUGENE W. POTTER, O-885463, joined the squadron this date, having been assigned to the 368th Fighter Group per paragraph 2, Special Orders 52, Headquarters Ninth Air Force, and to this organization per VOCO, 368th F Gp. He has been appointed assistant operations officer.
- Staff Sergeants FAGAN and PERRS returned from DS at Millfield. Their duties at that base were in connection with the practice missions engaged in by Captains GOODWIN and GIBSON.
- 13 MARCH: Captain JOHNSON and 15 EM left on DS to U. S. A. F. Station #404, per VOCO, 368th Fighter Group, comprising an advance party prior to the squadron's movement to that station.
- Lt ROYAL left on DS to U. S. A. F. Station #808. (Per paragraph #17, Special Orders Number 68, Headquarters Ninth Air Force).

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14 MARCH: The long months of training that practically every member of the squadron has encountered proved its worth today-- or at least gave hint of its potential value. Functioning at their mechanical peak, 13 of the 397th's P-47's 'hit the blues' at 0755 and shortly thereafter paid their inaugural respects to some of Hitler's current European holdings. With sixteen ships scheduled as actual participants and the remaining two as spares, the squadron joined a group formation and flew from our base to Selsey Bill and then crossed the Channel to France. First to be visited was Goderville, where they arrived at 0845. From there the formation proceeded to Fontain-le-Duc and then to Bournemouth enroute home. The mission was a fighter sweep, as directed by F.O. 78, 14 FG. Little activity characterized the initial mission. With easy action at a standstill, the tour proved only to be of observational value-- but its significance to the 397th was much greater. It meant the ringing of the doorbell. Shortly, perhaps in a matter of days, the door will open and the 397th will find themselves actively engaged in the destruction of Hitler's perils.

On the mission were Col Mayora, Maj Mueller, Capts Potter, Gibson, Larini and Talbot, Lts Anderson, Lougee, Fry, Keesvold, Sharp, Aron, Hamilton, Langmaid, and Sutcliffe. Lts O'Sonnell and Trinecell were spares, but completed the entire mission.

Captain Goodwin was transferred today to the 397th where he will assume the duties of Operations Officer. He was formerly the leader of Red Flight, and was replaced by Lt Anderson. The transfer was directed per VCSG, Sq, 368th Group.

Initial phases of the movement of the squadron commenced today when 54 LAs moved from Greenham Common to the new base at Chilbolton. The advance party consisted of men from each of the departments; thus assuring preparedness in the event of immediate operation from the new base.

15 MARCH: Nine officers and 154 men were moved via military vehicles to the new base today. The pilots made the same move by squadron aircraft.

16 MARCH: Slight misfortunes characterized the squadron's second combat mission, a fighter sweep event of this date directed by F.O. 85 INFC. Of the 16 Thunderbolts and an additional 2 as spares scheduled to participate, only 13 actually took part. The glass on the belly-tanks of four planes broke while taxiing out, three of which were noted by the pilots immediately and returned for repair without taking off. The fourth failed to notice this fact until 2000 ft over the field, when he made an unsuccessful attempt to switch the tank on. He landed at once without joining the formation. Another setback occurred when one of the spare planes collided with a weapon's carrier as the former was taxiing out. Damage resulted to the plane's right wing tip and caused Lt Howard's temperature to rise several degrees.

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flying at a general altitude of 27,000 ft, the squadron joined a group formation and proceeded directly to Nieuport, Belgium. From Nieuport they flew to Genaix, Belgium, and then to Courmay, France, before crossing the Channel to Beachy Head enroute home. It was on this mission that our pilots encountered their first taste of enemy fire. Heavy flak greeted them at Ostende, but it was directed primarily at a formation below ours, and no damage resulted to our aircraft. Participating in the second mission were Maj Haesler, Capts Potter, Marini and Gibson, Lts Lougee, Carlson, Anderson, Marko, Burney, Horlacher, Langmaid, Sutcliffe, Brown.

17 MARCH: Provision of cover for a group of B-26's enroute to special targets Northeast of Paris was the purpose of the squadron's third mission. Taking off at 1534, the squadron joined a group formation and flew at a general altitude of 15,000 ft, making landfall in at Le Treport at 1425. Flak of a heavier and considerably more accurate nature than on the previous day's mission was encountered, it being moderate but accurate at Le Treport, heavy and accurate at Amiens, and heavy at Rouen. Weather conditions for the most part were favorable. Visibility was poor over the Channel, but good over the Continent. They made landfall out at Le Treport and arrived home at 1631. Participating in the mission were Maj Haesler, Capts Potter, Marini, Gibson, and Talbott, and Lts Lougee, O'Connell, Fry, Marko, Burney, Brown, Sharp, Howard, Driscoll, Hamilton and Langmaid. Lts Carlson and Sutcliffe were listed as spares, but flew the entire mission. With the completion of the squadron's third tour over swastika-held sectors of Europe, Major Haesler and Captain Marini became eligible for the Air Medal, it being their tenth mission over enemy held territory. They both completed previous missions before the squadron became operational, while on D/S to operational groups. In this way they got the jump on the other pilots in the squadron. Action was taken this date to secure the awarding of the Air Medal to these pilots.

A Squadron Order dated 15 March appeared today appointing Lt John Kirk to duty as Squadron Intelligence Officer, relieving Lt Magnus. At the same time the order appointed Lt Magnus to duty as Asst. Intelligence Officer. The same order appointed Capt Eugene H. Potter Asst. Operations Officer.

18 MARCH: "The Jerries wasted a lot of scrap metal today," joked Capt Talbott upon returning from the squadron's fourth combat mission and reporting that heavy accurate flak was experienced throughout the flight. As part of a group formation, the 397th's job today was to provide area support for a bunch of B-26's and withdrawal support for a group of A-20's. The area support was given the B-26's over special targets NE of Abbeville, but the clouds were so thick our pilots couldn't find the havocs.

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Taking part in the fourth mission were Major Haesler, Capts Potter, Marini, Gibson, and Talbot, Lts Lougee, O'Connell, Fry, Marko, Burney, Brown, Sharp, Howard, Driscoll, Hamilton, and Langmaid. Lts Carlson and Sutcliffe were spares, but completed the mission.

19 MARCH: Today's mission was a bomber escort and area support task in the Pas de Calais area-- the "Rocket Gun Coast". Take-off was at 1642 and as part of the group formation, made rendezvous with a box of B-26's off Dungeness. They escorted the Marauders over Le Touquet and east to the target area, gave them top cover while they pestered the targets, and then accompanied them back to England. Flak was encountered at St. Omer and Calais. The weather was favorable for a change. Participants were Major Haesler, Capts Potter, Gibson, and Talbot, Lts Carlson, O'Connell Fry, Marko, Burney, Howard, Folts, Sutcliffe, James, Driscoll, Hamilton and Brown. Lt Horlacher flew as spare.

Secret Group Special Orders sent M/Sgt Owens, Engineering Chief, to RAF Stations 124 and 449 for seven days instruction on re-servicing, re-arming, and daily and preflight inspections of both Spitfires and Hurricanes.

20 MARCH: Taking off at 0314 for their sixth combat mission, and the fifth trip over enemy holdings in as many days, the squadron provided escort for Marauders once again. Rendezvous was at Hastings, and there they met four boxes of B-26's. The day's target was the marshalling yards at Creil. There was not much flak today, and the weather was generally good.

Lt. Col Meyers led, and other members of the formation were Majors Perez and Haesler, Capts ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Potter and Marini, Lts Lougee, Anderson, O'Connell, Dams, Brown, Marko, Folts, Horlacher, Sharp, Sutcliffe, and Driscoll. Capt Talbot and Lt Fry flew as spares.

21 MARCH: Another delegate from Brooklyn, N.Y. joined the outfit today when 2nd Lt Robert J. Bechtold 0693097, reported for duty as a pilot replacement. His previous LTO station was at Aftonham, here in England, and this is his first operational assignment.

22 MARCH: Assisting in the withdrawal support for 180 Eighth AF Liberators was the seventh mission. After a 1047 takeoff from Chilbolton, the squadron proceeded to Bosted via Letchworth where they landed for refueling, previous to crossing the North Sea to Meppel, Holland, the rendezvous. They met the bombers near Schokland and escorted them safely to sea, whereupon they left the Libs and flew WSW to Hamston Field, near Margate, to refuel again before returning to Chilbolton. Taking part in the mission were Major Haesler, Capts Potter, Marini and Talbot, Lts Lougee, Carlson, Anderson, O'Connell, Fry, Marko, Rosvold, Folts, Driscoll, Dams and Langmaid. Capt Gibson flew as radio relay.

Sgt Elwood D. Hoffman 36562301 left today on DS to a teletype maintenance school conducted by the IX Air Support Command at Sta. 449. The course is of about two weeks duration. Hoffman has served as teletype maintenance NCO in this squadron for several months.

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23 MARCH: Today's mission, the eighth for the squadron, was withdrawal support. Together with the 966th Group, our own group formation provided escort for the 2nd AIF composed of four boxes of sixty Liberators each. The bombers were met near Nijmegen, Holland and accompanied to the west coast of Schouwen. The mission took place in the hours just before noon, and was uneventful, although some flak was seen. Still no enemy fighters!

Pilots taking part in the mission were Major Haessler, Capts Potter, Talbott and Gibson, and Lts Anderson, O'Connell, Fry, Carlson, Marko, Newbold, Sutcliffe, Driscoll, Hamilton, Dame, Burney, Foltz, Spares were Lts Louges and Horlacher.

Five men of the squadron's Medix were transferred to group headquarters today. They are Cpls. Harold Kreuger and Glen Lewis, Afcos Frank Fryberger and Joseph Giardella, and Pvt George Lane. Although the last named four moved to group immediately if not sooner, Cpl Kreuger remained with the squadron on a sort of Lend-Lease basis. He needs a good bandage man anyway.

A group order appointed 1st Lt Francis Briggs, until this date our own Transportation Officer, to the duties of group Transportation Officer.

24 MARCH: The squadron's task today was dive-bombing-- the target, St Martin Air-drome near Bernay, France. Sixteen planes dropped a total of two tons of GP bombs on the target, and hits in a wooded area at the target were noted. It was thought that the woods concealed a dispersal area, and if such were the case, serious damage may have been inflicted. One spare jettisoned his 250 lb bomb before returning to base. This was the first actual dive-bombing mission for the outfit.

Flying today's mission were Lt Col Meyers, Majors Berago and Haessler, Capts Potter, Marini, and Gibson, Lts Anderson, Brown, Horlacher, Marko, Driscoll, Sharp, Burney, Carlson and Foltz. Lts O'Connell and Langmaid flew as spares.

25 MARCH: The first enemy fighters were encountered today while the squadron was lending withdrawal support to a formation of B-25's which had delivered the goods to the enemy at Hiron, France. Red Flight was flying top rear cover when a bunch of bandits jumped the last box of parauders near Senarpont, France. Capt Potter and his wing man, Lt Burney turned to attack at once. Their descriptions of the encounter are attached. Lt Marko also chased a German about the sky for a while but couldn't get a shot at him. The rest of the pilots were angry because there weren't enough Jerries to go around.

Pilots on this mission were Major Haessler, Capts Potter, Talbott, Gibson, and Marini, and Lts Marko, Burney, Hamilton, Langmaid, Dame, Howard, Carlson, Foltz, Horlacher, Anderson, and O'Connell. Lts Brown and Sharp were spares.

We received word today that Major Haessler was officially credited with one damaged Me-109. This action took place 21 FEBRUARY in the vicinity of Gembruck while flying bomber escort. At the time Major Haessler was flying with the 62nd Fighter Sqdn of the 95th Fighter Group, on D/S to this unit for combat experience.

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26 MARCH: Today the squadron furnished top cover for the other two squadrons of the group while they dive-bombed a Noball target northwest of St Saens in France. There was no air opposition and very little flak which was inaccurate anyway. Results of the bombing were good, with hits scored on a block house at the target.

On the mission were Major Haessler, Capts Potter, Marini, Talbott, and Gibson, and Lts Marko, Rosvold, Morlachar, Lougee, Brown, Hamilton, Fry, Dame, Howard, Carlson, and Foltz. Lts Sharp and Burney flew as spares and Lt Langmaid acted as radio relay.

27 MARCH: Two escort missions were flown today. The first was a penetration support task for a formation of 600 Liberators and Forts. Rendezvous was made near Nantes and the bombers were escorted almost due south on their way to the target which was not disclosed. After accompanying them for the pre-arranged distance, our pilots returned to Chilbolton by the same route. An hour and five minutes after the last plane had landed, all the planes were up in the air again for the second mission, withdrawal support for another large force of heavy bombers. The same route as in the first mission was followed and rendezvous made between Fougeres and Mayenne, from where the bombers were escorted out to the channel. Some of the Liberators, short of gas, landed at our field shortly after our planes were down. Capt Talbott, anxious about the weather, said there were clouds and haze over England and the Channel, but over the Continent there were nothing but planes. A number of bogies were called in on these flights but they all turned out to be Thunderbolts.

On the first mission were Lt Col Meyers, Major George and Haessler, Capts Marini, Potter and Gibson, and Lts Rosvold, Brown, Lougee, Morlachar, Sharp, Marko, Burney, Howard, Carlson and Foltz. Lts Dame and Fry were spares and Capt Talbott was radio relay.

On the second mission were Major Haessler, Capts Potter, Marini, Talbott and Gibson, and Lts Rosvold, Dame, Morlachar, Lougee, Brown, Hamilton, Fry, Langmaid, Howard, Carlson, and Sutcliffe. Lt Foltz was a spare.

28 MARCH: Nothing to report.

29 MARCH: Nothing to report.

30 MARCH: Nothing to report.

Captain Hendricks returned to duty today; he had been on DS in Italy.
31 MARCH: An airport located east/NE of Abbeville in the Pas de Calais area was the target for the squadron's 14th mission, a dive-bombing event of this date. Armed with a 250# GP demolition bomb on each wing, the planes arrived in the target area only to find a 7/10 cloud coverage and, consequently, an invisible target. The mission thus became abortive and the planes returned.

This was the first combat mission for Lt Bechtold, who was recently assigned to the squadron. It was also the initial tour of enemy territory for four pilots on DS to the squadron from the 410th Fighter Squadron (407th Fir-Bomb Gp), who arrived March 26, for operational flights prior to entering combat with their unit, which has not yet become operational. The pilots, Captains Taylor and Jenkins and 1/Lts Johnston and Curran, have been attached to the squadron, along with eight enlisted men from the same organization.

Participating were Major Haessler, Captains Taylor, Jenkins, Potter, Marini, Gibson, Talbott, and Lieutenants Anderson, Rosvold, Bechtold, Johnston, Carlson, Howard, Curran, Fry and Dame. Lieutenants Marko and Burney flew as spares. The mission was again scheduled (for the afternoon), but was scrubbed due to weather conditions.

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* Supporting *
* Documents: *
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CONFIDENTIAL

XND Y KMG NRI R
FROM INTELLIGENCE OFFICER 897TH FIGHTER SQDN
TO INTELLIGENCE OFFICER 368TH FIGHTER GROUP
CONFIDENTIAL
GR--BT

397PZR 3 D PERIOD 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION REPORT ON A PRACTICE
FIGHTER SWEEP OF MARCH 8, 1944 KLMKX COLON

- A. 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON. PILOT: 1ST LT. ALFRED D. FRY
- B. ONE P-47. UP 0835. DOWN 1020
- C. ONE. LOW ON GAS.
- D. PRACTICE FIGHTER SWEEP
- E. NIL
- F. NIL
- G. NIL
- H. NIL

I. THREE OTHER PLANES ON MISSION TOOK OFF AT 0832. LT. FRY TOOK OFF
AT 0835. HE WAS DELAYED BECAUSE RADIO IN HIS PLANE WAS OUT AND ANOTHER
PLANE HAD TO BE OBTAINED. HE JOINED FORMATION OVER FIELD AT GREENHAM
AT ABOUT 5,000 FEET. FORMATION ROSE TO 11,000 FEET OVER FIELD. THE
MISSION WAS CARRIED OUT AT ALTITUDES BETWEEN 18,000 AND 22,000 FEET.
AN ALTITUDE OF 22,000 FEET WAS MAINTAINED FOR SOMETIME. FORMATION FLEW
SOUTHWEST FROM NEWBURY TO A POINT SLIGHTLY SOUTH OF SALISBURY. THEN
FLEW EAST, PASSED SLIGHTLY NORTH OF SOUTHAMPTON AND ARRIVED AT A POINT
SLIGHTLY WEST-NORTHWEST OF DUNGENESS. THEN FLEW NORTHEAST OVER NORTH
SEA AND THEN NORTHWEST TO COLCHESTER. THEN FLEW ~~NORTHWEST~~ ~~TO~~ ~~COLCHESTER~~
THEN FLEW WEST TO A POINT NEAR WINSLOW AND THEN SOUTH TO A POINT EAST OF READING.
THEN FLEW WEST TO NEWBURY WHERE LT FRY LEFT FORMATION. LANDED AT GREENHAM
AT 1020. THE THREE OTHER PLANES REMAINED IN AIR AND DIVE-BOMBED FIELD AT
GREENHAM.

1. FORMATION OF 5 TO 7 FRIENDLY PLANES, POSSIBLY P-47'S SEEN OVER
COURSE NORTH OF SOUTHAMPTON AT ABOUT 16,000 FEET OR 17,000 FEET. FORMATION
OF ABOUT 20 FRIENDLY BOMBERS SEEN ON COURSE NORTH OF LONDON AT ABOUT 15,000
FEET OR 16,000 FEET. FORMATION OF 40 TO 50 FRIENDLY BOMBERS SEEN ON COURSE
NORTHWEST OF LONDON AT ABOUT 13,000 FEET OR 14,000 FEET.

2. NIL.

3. BARRAGE BALLOONS SEEN OVER SOUTHAMPTON AT ABOUT 1,000 FEET.
BARRAGE BALLOONS SEEN WEST OF LONDON AT ABOUT 1,000 FEET. NO BALLOONS SEEN
SOUTHEAST OF COLCHESTER, WHERE THEY WERE EXPECTED AS PER BRIEFING.

4. WEATHER CONDITIONS GENERALLY GOOD. VISIBILITY UNLIMITED. NO
ICING. MOSTLY CLEAR UP TO SOUTHAMPTON. AFTER THAT CLOUD COVERAGE
GENERALLY ABOUT 4/10 AT ABOUT 5,000 FEET OR 6,000 FEET. ABOUT 6/10 OR
7/10 COVERAGE NORTH OF LONDON AT ABOUT 5,000 OR 6,000 FEET. GENERALLY
CLEAR OVER FIELD AT GREENHAM ON LANDING. THIN CLOUD LAYER NORTH OF FIELD.

5. NIL.

6. RINGING SOUND IN RADIO, BUT MESSAGES USUALLY CLEARLY RECEIVED.
PERIOD END

BT 061442A JLS AR
XND R NRI 06/1442A NLW AR

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MISSION REPORT OF THE SEVEN FIFTEEN SQUADRON ON FIGHTER SWEEP OF MARCH 24, 1944
(MISSION NUMBER ONE)

- A - 307th Fighter Squadron - Lieutenant Colonel GILBERT L. BRYERS leading.
- B - Sixteen (16) P-47's (Two P-47's as spares). Up - 0750. Down - 0850. Because of a shortage of gas, Lt Howard had to land at Alderston. He landed at 0840. He landed at base base at 1035.
- C - Nil.
- D - Fighter Sweep. Field Order Number 70, IX Fighter Command.
- E - Nil.
- F - Nil.
- G - Nil.
- H - Nil.
- I - Up to Fontaine le Duc, mission was carried out according to plan. Flew from Fontaine le Duc to Bourneouth instead of to Selsey Hill, as planned. On the way out, arrived at Selsey Hill at 0810 at an altitude of 16,000 feet. Flew from Selsey Hill to Goderville. Arrived at Goderville on time (at about 0845) at an altitude of 20,000 feet. Flew from Goderville to Fontaine le Duc. Arrived at Fontaine le Duc on time (at about 0850) at an altitude of 20,000 feet. Flew from Fontaine le Duc to Bourneouth. Arrived at Bourneouth at 0900 at an altitude of 5,000 or 7,000 feet. Flew from Bourneouth to base. Arrived at base at 0950.
- 1 - Nil.
- 2 - Nil.
- 3 - Balloon Barrage observed at Southampton and Portsmouth.
- 4 - a. 2/10 to 10/10 cloud coverage.
b. Strato-cumulus clouds.
c. Clouds at about 4,000 feet.
d. Good visibility.
- 5 - Nil.
- 6 - Garbled and bad.

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SECRET

MISSION REPORT OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON ON FIGHTER SWEEP OF 16 MARCH 1944
MISSION NUMBER TWO. TIME OF REPORT: 1345. DATE OF REPORT: 16 MARCH 1944

-
- A - 397th Fighter Squadron. Field Order Number 83, IX Fighter Command.
 - B - Sixteen (16) P-47's (Two P-47's as spares).
 - C - Four. The glass on the belly-tanks of four (4) planes broke as the planes were taxiing out. Three (3) pilots noted this fact and did not take off. The fourth went to 2,000 feet over the field and then attempted unsuccessfully to switch on his belly-tank. He then noted that the glass on his belly-tank had broken and he came down and landed. (There was a collision between a spare plane and a weapons carrier as the former was taxiing out. The tip of the right wing of the plane was torn. The plane did not take off.)
 - D - No target on this mission.
 - E - Not a bombing mission.
 - F - Same as D.
 - G - Nil.
 - H - Nil.
 - I - Nil.
 - J - Nil.
 - K - Heavy flak observed at Ostend. It was aimed at a formation below ours.
 - L - Solid overcast over base. Scattered clouds thereafter. Bad visibility except over continent.
 - M - The general altitude of the mission was 25,000 feet.
 - N - Nil.
 - O - 1129.
 - P - 1407.
 - Q - Ostend - 1210 - 24,000 feet.
 - R - Slightly Northeast of Ault - 1215 - 22,000 feet.
 - S - Not an escort mission.

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MISSION REPORT OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON ON A BOMBER ESCORT MISSION OF 17 MARCH 1944
MISSION NUMBER: THREE. TIME OF REPORT: 1720. DATE OF REPORT: 17 MARCH 1944

- A - 397th Fighter Squadron - Field Order Number 87, IX Fighter Command.
B - Sixteen (16) P-47's (two P-47's as spares).
C - Nil.
D - Mission was an escort mission.
E - Same as D.
F - Same as D.
G - Nil.
H - Nil.
I - Nil.
J - Nil.
K - Accurate flak at Le Treport. Heavy, accurate flak at Amiens. Heavy flak at Rouen.
L - Height of base of lowest layer of clouds over England was 2,000 feet. Top of this layer was at 6,000 feet. Coverage of this layer was 3/10. There was no other cloud layer over England. There were no clouds over the continent. The height of the top of the lowest layer of clouds over the continent was 7,000 feet. The planes were not flying low enough to note the altitude of the base of this cloud layer. The coverage of this cloud layer was 3/10. There were ^{high} cirrus clouds above this cloud layer. No icing was noticed. There were contrails at 25,000 feet. The visibility was fair over England, poor over the channel, and good over the continent.
M - The general altitude of the mission was 15,000 feet.
N - Nil.
O - 1334.
P - 1631.
Q - Le Treport - 1425.
R - Le Treport - 1510.
S - Dungeness - 1410.

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MISSION REPORT OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON ON ~~X/REMARK~~ ~~REMARK~~ ~~REMARK~~ MISSION OF 18 MARCH 1944
 MISSION NUMBER: FOUR. TIME OF REPORT: 1820 DATE OF REPORT: 18 MARCH 1944
 AN AREA SUPPORT AND WITHDRAWAL SUPPORT

-
- A - ~~B~~ 397th Fighter Squadron - Field Order Number 88, IX Fighter Command.
 - B - Sixteen (16) P-47's (Two P-47's as spares).
 - C - Nil.
 - D - Mission was an area support and withdrawal support mission.
 - E - Same as D.
 - F - Same as D.
 - G - Nil.
 - H - ~~Nil~~. Tail of one plane damaged by flak as it flew over the target area at 15,000 or 14,000 feet. This occurred at 1610.
 - I - Nil.
 - J - Nil.
 - K - A little flak noted in target area. Heavy flak noted over channel. at 50 degrees, 37 min. north, 1 degree, 17 min. east. base
 - L - Outward Course: Scattered clouds near/~~base~~ up to 7,000 feet, thereafter cirrus clouds over England and a high, thin layer of clouds ~~at~~ above the cirrus clouds. Cirrus clouds over the channel. Solid overcast up to ~~16,500~~ 16,500 feet over the continent. Base layer above this overcast. Another higher layer of clouds above this base layer. ~~Base~~ Inward Course: Clearing over the continent. Fairly clear over England. Solid overcast near base. Visibility good over England, the channel, and the continent. No icing. Variable contrails over the continent at 20,000 feet. No precipitation.
 - M - The general altitude of the mission was 18,000 or 19,000 feet.
 - N - Nil.
 - O - ~~Nil~~ 1422 $\frac{1}{2}$
 - P - 1705.
 - Q - Slightly north of Pointe de Saint Quentin-1505.
 - R - Berek - sur - Mer.
 - S - No rendezvous with bombers.

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MISSION REPORT OF THE 597TH FIGHTER SQUADRON ON A BOMBER ESCORT AND AREA SUPPORT MISSION OF 19 MARCH 1944. MISSION NUMBER: 5. TIME OF REPORT: 1930. DATE OF REPORT: 19 MARCH 1944.

- A - 597th Fighter Squadron -- Field Order Number 91, IX Fighter Command.
- B - Sixteen (16) P-47's (One P-47 as spare).
- C - NIL.
- D - Mission was a bomber escort and area support mission.
- S - Same as D.
- F - Same as D.
- G - NIL.
- H - NIL.
- I - NIL.
- J - NIL.
- K - Heavy flak over Saint Omer and out to Calais.
- L - Height of base of lowest layer of clouds over England, the continent, and the channel was 1,000 feet. Height of top of lowest layer of clouds over England, the channel, and the continent was 4,000 feet. Coverage of lowest layer of clouds over England and the continent was 5/10. Coverage of lowest layer of clouds over the channel was 3/10. Height of the base of the second layer of clouds over England, the channel and the continent was 20,000 feet. Coverage of the second layer of clouds over England, the channel and the continent was 4/10. Visibility over England, the channel and the continent was good. There was no icing. There were no contrails.
- M - The general altitude of the mission was 14,000 feet. (The clouds observed were scattered clouds.)
- N - NIL.
- O - 1642.
- P - 1900.
- Q - Le Touquet - 1730.
- R - Le Touquet - 1748.
- S - Dungeness - 1718.

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MISSION REPORT OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON ON A BOMBER ESCORT MISSION OF 20 MARCH 1944
 MISSION NUMBER: SIX. TIME OF REPORT: 1110. DATE OF REPORT : 20 MARCH 1944

- A - 397th Fighter Squadron --- Field Order Number 94, IX Fighter Command.
- B - Eighteen P-47's (Two P-47's as spares).
- C - NIL.
- D - Sixteen - Marshalling Yards at Creil.
- E - Not observed.
- F - Marshalling Yards at Creil/ ^{hit.} Extent of damage unknown.
- G - NIL.
- H - NIL.
- I - NIL.
- J - NIL.
- K - Very small amount of flak noted near land fall out. (Between Dieppe and Le Treport).
 Only about two (2) bursts were noted as the planes flew over the target.
- L - The weather was generally good. Visibility was good. There was no icing. Little
 in the way of contrails noted. There were a few scattered clouds.
- M - 16,000 to 17,000 feet.
- N - NIL.
- O - 0814.
- P - 1040.
- Q - Half way between Dieppe and Le Treport --- 0852.
- R - A Half way between Dieppe and Le Treport --- 0950.
- S - Hastings --- 0840.

SECRET

MISSION REPORT OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON ON A WITHDRAWAL SUPPORT MISSION OF 22 MAR 1944
 MISSION NUMBER: SEVEN. TIME OF REPORT: 1955. DATE OF REPORT: 22 MARCH 1944

- A - 397th Fighter Squadron -- Major Haessler leading.
 B - Sixteen (16) P-47's (One P-47 of the 16 used as radio relay).
 UP: Chilbolton -- 1047, Borted -- 1400.
 DOWN: 1830.
- C - Three. These planes did not stop to refuel at Manston.
 D - Withdrawal Support (Ramrod) -- Field Order Number 97, IX Fighter Command.
 E - NIL.
 F - NIL.
 G - NIL.
 H - NIL.
- I - Mission was carried out according to plan, except that land fall in was made at the Hague, and land fall out was made at IJmuiden. Land fall in was made at 1455 at 24,000 feet. Land fall out was made at 1530 at 19,000 feet. The place of rendezvous with the bombers was as briefed. The time of rendezvous was 1510. The route on which the bombers were escorted was as briefed. The place at which our planes left the bombers was approximately as briefed.
1. NIL.
 2. Light, accurate flak of medium intensity noted near Ostend. Light, accurate flak of medium intensity was observed to be firing from Dunkirk. Heavy, accurate, intense flak was observed at the Hague by planes flying at 19,000 feet. Fairly accurate flak of medium intensity was observed near Deventer by planes flying at about 20,000 feet. ~~Some accurate.~~
 3. NIL.
 4. a - 10/10 over base at Chilbolton on taking off. Thereafter about 7/10 over England. Clear over channel. About 2/10 over continent.
 b - Alto-stratus.
 c - Base of clouds was about 3,500 feet.
 d - Visibility was fair over England and the continent. Visibility was good over the channel.
 e - There was no icing. There were no contrails. Precipitation was observed off Orford Ness on the way to the continent.
 5. NIL.
 6. R/T fair. Some interference.

SECRET

MISSION REPORT OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON ON A WITHDRAWAL SUPPORT MISSION OF 23 MARCH 1944
 MISSION NUMBER: 8381. TIME OF REPORT: 1340. DATE OF REPORT: 23 MARCH 1944

- A - 397th Fighter Squadron --- Major HANSLER leading.
 E - Eighteen (18) P-47's (Two P-47's as spares). UP: 0945. DOWN: 1247.
 C - One spare returned early because of radio trouble. The second spare returned when ordered. One regular plane returned early because of engine trouble. A second regular plane returned early because the pilot could not drop the belly tank. Both these regular planes crossed the enemy coast and hence did not abort.
 D - Withdrawal Support (auxrod) -- Field Order Number 99A, IX Fighter Command.
 E - NIL.
 F - NIL.
 G - NIL.
 H - NIL.
 I - Mission was carried out according to plan, except for the fact that landfall in was made at Westhoofd, instead of on the west coast of Schouwen, as planned. In addition, the time of land fall in was 1045, instead of 1032, as planned. At the time of landfall in, our planes were at 23,000 feet. Rendezvous was made at the established point at 1117, as planned. Landfall out was made as planned, at 1155 on the west coast of Schouwen. At the time of landfall out, our planes were at 21,000 feet.
1. NIL.
 2. Light flak was observed near Gorinchea as our planes were flying at 20,000 feet. This flak was not intense. Heavy, intense flak was observed slightly south of Knoeke. This flak was firing at objectives at about 23,000 feet. Light flak was observed along the Dutch coast, south of The Hague. Five or six rocket guns were observed in Walcheren.
 3. NIL.
 4. Scattered clouds at about 5,000 to 6,000 feet were observed over England. It was fairly clear over the North Sea. Some haze was observed. Clouds at 20 to 25,000 feet were observed over the continent. The coverage of these clouds was between 5/10 and 6/10. Visibility was good, except in haze, over England, the North Sea and the continent. There was no icing. There were no contrails up to about 25,000 feet. There were contrails over the continent at about 25,000 feet.
 5. NIL.
 6. R/T was poor.
- J - Additional Information:
1. One spare plane was fired at at Beachy Head. This plane had its IFF on, but it had just fired its guns into the sea. One regular plane was attacked by anti-aircraft fire as it was in the Thames estuary about 20 miles northeast of South End. Two Spite approached this plane and one made a pass at it while it was flying at about the same place. This plane had its IFF on and had fired its guns off some time before.
 2. Several ships were observed off the Dutch coast. It was thought that they were probably freighters.
 3. A convoy of about 100 ships was observed while our planes were over the North Sea. It was reported that some of these ships had come out of the Thames estuary and that the others, if they had not issued from the Thames, might possibly have come through the Straits of Dover.

S E C R E T

REPORT OF THE 17TH AIRBORNE DIVISION ON THE BOMBING OF ST. MARIN AIRFIELD, FRANCE, ON 24 JAN 44
 (REF: A-17-47)

- A - 3/7th, 1st. sq. 103, in air command.
- B - 17 B-47's (1 B-47 on base)
- C - Nil
- D - 15 - St. Marin Airfield near Paris, France.
- E - Two tons
- F - Goods at target were hit
- G - Nil
- H - Nil
- I - Nil
- J - Nil
- K - Nil
- L - Thin haze up to 3000 feet in all areas - especially noticeable over England. Visibility about one mile in haze; limited above haze. No icing or contrails. Haze clouds were of the cirrus type.
- M - 13,000 ft.
- N - Nil
- O - 1040
- P - 1520
- Q - Slightly NE of Trarville - 1520 - 10,000 ft.
- R - Slightly SE of Auberville - 1540 - 10,000 ft.
- S - mission was a dive bombing mission.
- T - 1. 17 250 lb GP bombs loaded.
 2. 15 250 lb GP bombs dropped on target.
 3. 1 250 lb GP bomb jettisoned by a para.
 4. 20 bombs brought back to base.

S E C R E T

SECRET

MISSION REPORT OF THE 357th Fighter Squadron, 4th Fighter Wing, USAF, 17/72
 357th FS, 4th FW, USAF, 17/72

A - 357th FS, 4th FW, USAF, 17/72

B - 10 F-47's, 2 as spares.

C - One - radio burned out.

D - Withdrawal support mission.

E - Same as D.

F - Same as D.

G - Nil

H - Nil

I - Nil

J - 12 Mi-109's seen at nearpoint at 1310. These enemy planes were flying at 11,000 ft., the altitude of the B-26's, and were attacking the latter. Our A/C were at that time at 14,000 ft. They swooped down on the Mi-109's. There is one tentative claim to be reported. One of our planes dove from 10,000 to 5,000 ft. in an attack on a Mi-109. The pilot claimed one destroyed.

K - very little fuel.

L - Fuel gauge at 50% at 1300. Fuelly has now over the equivalent of the same altitude. Visibility about 1 mile in 1300, 1400, 1500, 1600, 1700. No fueling. Fuel gauge shows 50% consumed and 50% remaining at 1700.

M - General altitude of the mission was 13,000 ft.

N - Nil

O - 1320

P - 1340

Q - no contact 1310, 1320, 1330.

R - slightly on of the reports 1320, 1330, 1340.

S - General 1420, 17, 100 ft.

T - Same as D.

U - Additional information:

Results of the bombing were very good. The station on the railway was apparently seriously damaged. Four crates were seen falling from the train's cars. The target area.

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- A - 59748 78 P. O. L. 10 10
- B - 10.47's no spares
- C - Nil
- D - top cover for dive bombing - nebali target located at 45° 47' N, 1° 10' E in France slightly N of St. Louis.
- E - top cover
- F - Good
- G - Nil
- H - Nil
- I - Nil
- J - Nil
- K - Lt antenna inaccurate idea re target area. Lt antenna observation fixed and N of target. One hit, not exactly N of target area.
- L - slight sense of to time it over England. No clouds seen. Good visibility. No wind, or contrails.
- M - Before diving, target plasma seen at 10,000 ft. Altitude low to about 5000 ft at angle of 70°.
- N - Nil
- O - 1000
- P - 1000
- Q - slightly N of target 1000 ft
- R - slightly N of target 1000 ft
- S - mission not escort mission
- T - 1. top cover
- 2. "
- 3. "
- 4. "
- 5. 10,000 ft
- 6. 70°
- 7. 5000 ft
- 8. a. Block concrete structure in N of tgt area and in center hit. One hit to N of that structure and within perimeter of area. Clump of trees to S of structure hit. Several points on a line extending from a point slightly S of structure in southerly direction were observed to be hit. There were two hit S to the S of the structure and within the perimeter of the area. There was one hit S of the clump of trees and within the perimeter of the area. There were two hits slightly W of the area. There were several hits just outside the perimeter of the area on a North South line. There was one hit close to a gun slightly W of the target area. A farm house slightly W of the tgt area was hit.
- b. Smoke was observed issuing from the block concrete structure.

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MISSION REPORT 2974: P-47'S, B-24'S, B-29'S, B-25'S, B-26'S, B-27'S, B-28'S, B-29'S
 Mission No. 1247a Date of Mission: 1944 Date: 27 March 44

- A - 297th FB, Lt Col Meyers leading
- B - 19 P-47's, 2 as spares, 1 as radio relay. Op 1192 down 1944
- C - Nil
- D - Penetration support command 10 low 1944
- E - Nil
- F - Nil
- G - Nil
- H - Nil
- I - Mission carried out according to plan. WY established as time at appointed place. LFI made 1200 at appointed place 12,000 ft. WY made 1200 at appointed place at 17,000 ft.
 - 1. Nil
 - 2. Nil
 - 3. Nil
 - 4. Overcast up to 2000 or 2500 ft over England and Channel. Coverage 10/10. No clouds over the Continent. Visibility poor in overcast. 0/0 over Continent. No contrails. No icing.
 - 5. Nil
 - 6. Clear

Additional Information

1. Bombers were seen coming into France as our planes left.
2. Large clouds of smoke were seen over Nantes.
3. A wooded region 20 mi NE of Nantes was thickly covered with smoke.
4. Uniformly constructed buildings resembling Nissan huts were seen at about 48° 40' N, 0° 56' W. The pattern of these buildings suggested dispersal areas of the type seen in airfields in England.

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MISSION NO. 597th PG Maj Deesler leading
MISSION NO. 597th PG Maj Deesler leading

- A - 597th PG Maj Deesler leading
- B - 17 B-24's, one as spare
- C - Nil
- D - withdrawal Support element F.O. 108 INPO
- E - Nil
- F - Nil
- G - Nil
- H - Nil
- I - Mission carried out according to plan. 1st wave appointed place 1524 at 17000
1st wave made appointed place 1720 at 17000 ft. 2nd wave appointed place 1641 at
20000 ft. Our planes left bombers 1/4 at a point in the channel area sl. N
of 170. After end of regular escort our planes contd. to fly back and forth
over the bombers.
 - 1. Nil
 - 2. Nil
 - 3. Nil
 - 4. Clouds over England at 4000 ft. visibility over England poor. Clouds
over the channel at 1500 ft. vis poor. Overcast extended from England
northern
halfway across channel moving south. southern half of channel clear.
over the continent. no icing or contrails.
 - 5. at 170 a bomber losing alt. was noted.
 - 6. w/1 clear

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 1. A broad well constructed highway was seen on the French coast in the vicinity
of Pointe de la Ferce.

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MISSION REPORT OF THE 397TH FISH SWIM DIVE-BOMBING MISSION
MISSION NO. FOURTEEN TIME OF REPORT: 1135 DATE: 21 MARCH 44

A - 397th FS F.O. 115 DAFB
B - 16 P-47's 2 as spares
C - Nil
D - Target was not attacked because of weather conditions, which made tgt invisible.
E - Same as D
F - Same as D
G - Nil
H - Nil
I - Nil
J - Nil
K - Nil
L - Haze and scattered clouds up to 3000 ft over England and Channel. Clouds up to 15,000 ft over continent, with 7/10 coverage. Visibility in clouds and haze poor. Above clouds good. No icing. Contrails at 15,000 ft.
M - Same as D
N - Nil
O - 0908
P - 1105
Q - Le Troport area 0952 approx 12,000 ft
R - St. G of Le Touquet 1007 12,000 ft
S - Mission was Dive-Bombing Mission
T - 1. 36 2000 lb Demolition Bombs - One on each wing
2. Same as D
3. Four 2000 lb bombs jettisoned in Channel by two regular planes
4. 32 bombs brought back to base
5. Same as D
6. Same as D
7. Same as D
8. Same as D

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

While our planes were flying over France in the clouds at 14,000 ft a pilot noticed two small smoking objects dropping down among the planes.

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- 1 - Combat
- 2 - 23 March 44
- 3 - 397th FS, 566th FG
- 4 - 1917
- 5 - Cherbourg, France
- 6 - Visibility good, some haze clouds at 3000 ft.
- 7 - P-51
- 8 - P-51 damaged

I was flying as number 2 in aftermath squad when the last box of P-51's flying at 12,000 ft was bounced by 15-16 Me-109's and Fw-190's. My wingman and I turned to attack at once. I got on the tail of an Me-109 at about 10,000 ft. He kept reversing his turn and diving hard toward the deck. I fired one short burst at 200 yds at about 8000 ft. He continued to dive toward the deck. At about 2000 ft I gave him a second burst at 175 yds. I saw strikes on the rear of his fuselage. I then fired a third short burst and saw strikes on the root of his right wing. At that time I had to pull up sharply to avoid contact with the ground and the Me-109's which were tearing shots at me. I overshot the Me-109 and did not see what happened to him.

J. 400 Rounds.

Eugene M. Roth
 Capt. USMC
 Asst. Operations Officer

CONFIDENTIAL

I was flying number four position in aftermath and flight when the last box of P-51's was attacked by enemy aircraft. My element leader turned left and down to attack. I was directly astern of my element leader by about 200 yds until the latter part of the attack when both aircraft made a sharp turn left. In an effort to shorten the distance between the leader and myself, the planes were blocked out by my wing. The next time I saw them, the Me-109 came out directly under the nose of my ship, followed closely (175-200 yds) by my leader. In my effort to pull up to keep from going into the ground I lost contact with both planes. The first contact made by my element leader was at about 10,000 ft and the last time I observed him in combat with an Me-109 he was between 2000 and 3000 ft.

Joe R. Burney
 Capt. USMC
 End Lt, AC

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HEADQUARTERS
VIII Fighter Command
APO 637 AAF Station F-341

SECRET

CONFIRMATION OF VICTORY CREDITS BOARD 3 March, 1944
The "Confirmation of Victory Credits Board", as appointed by Par. 2, SAC 178,
this headquarters, dated 3 July 1943, do hereby confirm victory credit claims to the
following officers, this command:

NAME	GROUP	SQ	DATE	CLAIM					TYPE S/A	PLACE	REMARKS
				D	P	DN	D	P			
* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	
SG, Maj. John C.E. Maculer	58th	62nd	21-2			X		X	US 109	Vicinity Gombbruk SO Confirmed	
* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	* * * * *	

APPROVED:

By command of Major General BERKOP:

W.T. BERKOP,
Major, 1ST,
Asst Adj Gen.

S FC M.E. STOWALL
Form 341. Colonel, Air Corps, President of Board

A TRUE COPY:

Horion H. Magnus
HORION H. MAGNUS,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer,
397th Fighter Squadron.

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
368TH FIGHTER GROUP

APC 638, U. S. Army
29 February 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER.....16)

1. Confidential.
2. So much of par 5, SO 15, this Hq, as, as reads, "2d Lt DAVID GOLDENOFF, 0860836, AC, 2d Lt ROBERT N. PALM, 0511229, AC, 2d Lt JIMMIE E. RADOSEVICH, 0861906, AC," is deleted.
3. Under the prov of par 1c, Gen Ord No 37, SAC, ETOUSA, dd 22 June 1943, Opl Michael F. Augello, 12167223, 396th Fitr Sq, sta 486, is trfd in gr to Detachment of Patients, 2nd General Hospital, APO 647. Service Record, allied papers, clothing and equipment (except org and ord equip) be forwarded to 2nd General Hospital. This is a permanent change of org. No travel involved.
4. Having been asgd this org per par 2, SO 43, Hq IX Fitr Comd, the following named officers are further asgd to orgns as indicated:

2d Lt OSWALD (HEI) DORLA	01640999 Sig C	395th Fitr Sq
2d Lt JULLIAN (HEI) LOSHEV	01587593 QAC	396th Fitr Sq
2d Lt DALE C. CHAMFIELD	01593766 QAC	397th Fitr Sq

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

"The following named Officers WP by rail left fr sta 486 to Debden for the purpose of ferrying airplanes fr Debden to Waurton, thence by rail left to Burtonwood to ferry airplanes to sta 436. Upon completion of this temp dy they will re proper orgn and sta. Where Govt cars and vans are not available reimbursement for actual cost of gas, not to exceed \$4.00 per day per car and plus of \$1.25 per day per 0 to cover excess cost of subs is as per in accordance w/Par 7, Sec II, Policy No 30-1 Hq USAF UK 9 Nov 1943. TDN by rail left. 91-5 P 432-02 A 212/40425."

Capt ROY L. BOULIN JR	025637 AC
Capt CARLOS M. HILGOTT	025797 AC
1st Lt ALFRED E. BELMONT	0711233 AC
1st Lt ROBERT E. CALDWELL	0711239 AC
1st Lt JAMES W. EMERSON	0711226 AC
1st Lt ALFRED D. FRY	0711216 AC
1st Lt JOHN H. LOUGHEE	0711217 AC
2nd Lt EDWARD L. DINE	0711222 AC
2nd Lt LOUIS D. HAMILTON	0711269 AC
2nd Lt HENRY L. OLSON	0815376 AC
2nd Lt OLIVER S. RYANSON	0683035 AC

RESTRICTED

SO No 16, Hq 368th Fitr Gp, 29 Feb 1944 (cont'd)

6. VCOG IX Air Support Comd the following named officers will proceed o/a 29 Feb 1944 by mil acft fr sta 486 to Burtonwood for the purpose of ferrying air-planes. Upon completion of this temp dy they will ret to proper orgn and sta. TDN by mil acft. 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 accord nce w/Par 7 Sec II Policy No 30-1 Hq USAAF UK 9 Nov 1943. 91-5 P 432-02 A 212/L0425.

Capt MARSHALL E. MURRAY	0732315	AC
1st Lt CLIFFORD L. GABLE	0676776	AC
1st Lt RICHARD KIR JR	0745414	AC
1st Lt CLARENCE H. OLSEN	0675803	AC
1st Lt DAVID C. FARRISH	0678912	AC
2nd Lt ROBERT C. FAY	0680014	AC
2nd Lt EDWARD HAUGHTON	0681681	AC
2nd Lt JOHN M. LOEB	0681684	AC

By O of Lt C MEYERS:

HUGH L. RICE,
Maj AC
Adj

OFFICIAL:

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

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HEADQUARTERS
397TH AIR SERVICE GROUP

0-21

NO 638, US Army.
1 March 1944.

0-11)

0-7)

1. Having been assigned this organization per paragraph 4, para. 16, Hq
36th Fighter Group, 2d Lieutenant ALBERT J. BISHOP, O-153774, is further
assigned to duty as Personal Equipment Officer, in compliance with GAF Regulation
Number 55-7, dated 28 October 1943.

JOHN A. BISHOP,
Major, Air Corps,
Commanding.

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
368TH FIGHTER GROUP

APO 638, U. S. Army
1 March 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
NUMBER.....17)

1. Under the provisions of AR 615-5, 30 June 1943 and upon the recommendation of his Orgn Comdr, Sgt Herbert L. Reed, 6537125, 395th Fitr Sq is rd to the gr of Pvt, for misconduct.
2. The following named Officer and EM, orgns indicated are atchd to the 397th Fitr Sq for rat, qrs, and adm:

DET R 21ST WEATHER SQ

2d Lt ANTHONY (NMI) ERRICO	0865943	AC	Det CO
T/Sgt Jack B. Kellam	18057859		
S/Sgt Jacob M. Oppenheim	32214316		
Sgt Donald C. Stewart	16030489		
Sgt George F. Stork	33311147		
Sgt William S. Szymanski	36122001		
Cpl James N. Lesparre	36379108		

DET R 40TH MOBILE COMM DET

T/Sgt Edmund R. Baylor	15017668		
Sgt Salvatore J. Vitale	32410080		
Sgt Dewitt A. Frazier	34611343		
Cpl Robert L. Condon	33030600		
Cpl Dennis W. Fowler	33224770		
Cpl James L. Henrrix	19188491		
Pvt Evan R. Coe	35327753		
Pvt Thomas L. Flanagan	14078545		
Pvt George A. Marvin	36806886		

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

TO BE SERGEANT (TEMF)

Cpl (862) Anthony Ardito 12134175

TO BE CORPORAL (TEMF)

Pfc (911) Maurice R. Walcott 31018255

4. 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:

- 1 -

R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D

SO No 17, Hq 368th Fitr Gp, 1 March 1944 (Cont'd)

TO BE STAFF SERGEANT (TEMP)

Sgt (747)	Herbert B. Cates	37259420
Sgt (754)	William H. Everett	36535933
Sgt (747)	Chester A. Ghizzone	32464122
Sgt (555)	Clarence H. Harvell	14149505
Sgt (747)	Edward P. Morgan	35353579
Sgt (747)	Raymond W. Smith	15335041
Sgt (747)	Richard C. Stage	32199420

TO BE SERGEANT (TEMP)

Cpl (747)	Almon B. Norris Jr	19135674
Cpl (747)	Joseph L. Farnard Jr	15329712
Cpl (505)	Ted (PWI) Goldman	38445508
Cpl (911)	Daniel T. McInness	31152773
Cpl (911)	Renato E. Mei	30904661
Cpl (747)	Joseph F. Salvo Jr	31076891
Cpl (52)	Frank J. Wencel	16062034
Cpl (747)	Francis M. Trem	11090889

TO BE CORPORAL (TEMP)

Pfc (405)	Thomas J. Griffin	32632968
Pfc (911)	Arthur A. Joine	39545722
Pfc (932)	Leon J. Fadgett	34545387

TO BE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (TEMP)

Pvt (626)	Robert A. Shaw	13032513
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5. Under the provisions of AR 615-5, 30 Jun 1943, and upon the recommendation of their Orgn Comdr, the following named EM, 397th Fitr Sq, are promoted to grades as indicated:

TO BE STAFF SERGEANT (TEMP)

Sgt (888)	Martin H. Klein	32506469
Sgt (747)	John H. Larson	36376031
Sgt (759)	Samuel Leisey	33240323
Sgt (747)	L. B. McDaniels	34343459
Sgt (747)	Chester R. Lours	16126124
Sgt (911)	Lrian M. Stiller	36354036
Sgt (747)	Warner E. Sparks	32077154
Sgt (747)	Melvin J. Witherspoon	33234444
Sgt (754)	Salvatore Zingale	32316625

TO BE SERGEANT (TEMP)

Cpl (747)	Francis J. Cavanaugh	32380844
Cpl (747)	Gordon T. DeBaker	36262676
Cpl (888)	Clifton E. Moon	37322134

TO BE CORPORAL (TEMP)

Pfc (238)	Leo Espinoza	39906692
Pfc (555)	Evan W. Flannigan	3044927
Pfc (899)	Pasquale F. Maza	31242979
Pfc (C70)	Charles T. Stoner	35797256

TO BE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (TEMP)

Pvt (114)	Ralph E. Hume	15354786
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R E S T R I C T E D

SO No 17, Hq 368th Fitr Gp, 1 March 1944 (Cont'd)

6. Under the provisions of AR 600-68, the following named PM, Hq 368th Fitr Gp, having completed the required amount of serv in the Army of the United States, and having demonstrated fidelity through faithful and exact performances of duty, efficiency through capacity to produce desired results, and whose behavior has been such as to deserve emulation, are awarded Good Conduct Medals for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity:

S/Sgt (502) Leo (MMI) Karp	12056663
Cpl (502) Sidney C. Richards	31160763
Cpl (502) Ferrell P. Wellman	15116864
Pfc (501) Melvin W. Sasse	37145477

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

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HEADQUARTERS
398TH ENGINEER GROUP

APO 698, U. S. Army
3 March 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
:)
NUMBER.....18)

1. Under the provisions of R (14-5, 30 June 1943, and upon the recommendation of his Orgn Comdr, Sgt Carl L. Motal, 3944451, 397th Fitr Sq., is rd to the gr of Pvt, for misconduct.

2. VOOG IX Air Support Comd the following named EM orgn indicated are placed on temp dy for approximately twelve (12) days for the purpose of attending RLF Anti-Gas School and will proceed o/a 3 March 1944 fr sta 486 to Rolleston Camp, Salisbury. Upon completion of this temp dy they will ret prop orgn and sta. TDN by MT or rail. Where Govt rat & grs are not avail ble, reimbursement for actual cost of rat & grs, not to exceed \$2.00 per man per day for rat, and \$2.00 per man per day for grs, is atd in accordance w/Par 8c, Policy No. 30-1, Hq USAAF UK 9 Nov 1943. 91-5 P 432-02 A 212/40425.

Cpl Edward A. Volpel	36434636	396th Fitr Sq
Pfc Pasquale F. Kraza	31242979	397th Fitr Sq

3. VOOG IX Air Support Comd the following named officers will proceed o/a 3 March 1944 by rail acft fr sta 486 to sta 150 for the purpose of ferrying air-planes fr sta 150 to sta 486. Upon completion of this temp dy they will ret prop orgn and sta. TDN by rail acft. Where Govt grs and subs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of grs, not to exceed \$4.00 per day per officer and alws of \$1.25 per day per officer to cover excess cost of subs is atd 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.

Capt JOSEPH (NMI) MURINI	0665339 AC	2nd Lt JAMES H. GARLIN	0805607 AC
1st Lt DAVID C. LERUSH	0675912 AC	2nd Lt WILLEM KOEHLER	0302299 AC
1st Lt ROALAN E. SCHULTE	0674815 AC	2nd Lt CHARLES J. KENNEDY JR	0305635 AC
2nd Lt HENRY F. ARIS	0677934 AC	1st Lt ALBERT L. LAISEN JR	0677064 AC
2nd Lt ROBERT S. TROEN	0679785 AC	2nd Lt JACOB L. WILLIAMS	0675355 AC
2nd Lt EDWARD L. DANE	0745312 AC	E/C EDGAR M. MCCORME	T60560 AC

4. VOOG IX Air Support Comd the following named officers will proceed o/a 4 March 1944 by MT fr sta 486 to Anacker for the purpose of ferrying airplanes fr Anacker to sta 486. Upon completion of this temp dy they will ret proper orgn and sta. TDN by MT. Where Govt grs and subs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of grs, not to exceed \$4.00 per day per officer and alws of \$1.25 per day per officer to cover excess cost of subs is atd 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.

1st Lt CLIFFORD L. GABLE	0676776 AC	2nd Lt EUGENE L. KESTING	0305693 AC
2nd Lt PAUL R. JUSTER	0745244 AC	2nd Lt NORMAN E. LANGMAD	0305641 AC

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SO No 18, Hq 368th Fitr Gp, 3 March 1944 (Cont'd)

5. VOCC IX Air Support Comd the following named officers will proceed o/a 4 March 1944 by rail acft fr sta 486 to sta 150 for the purpose of ferrying airplanes fr sta 150 to sta 486. Upon completion of this temp dy they will ret prop orgn and sta. TDN by rail acft. Where Govt qrs and subs are not available, reimbursement fr actual cost of qrs, not to exceed \$4.00 per day per officer and alws of \$1.25 per day per officer 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 F 432-02 A 212/40425.

1st Lt JAMES W. EMMY	0745326	AC
2nd Lt WILLIAM J. GERRY	0679856	AC
2nd Lt ALBERT H. KLEINKLAUS	0745419	AC

6. 2nd Lt NEWTON I. STEERS JR, 005646, AC, is placed on temp dy for approx three (3) days for the purpose of instruction in weather and will proceed o/a 6 March 1944 fr sta 486 to Halesworth. Upon completion of this temp dy he will ret proper orgn and sta. TDN by HF or rail. Where Govt qrs and subs are not available, reimbursement fr 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 with Par 7, Sec II, Policy No 30-1, Hq USAAF UK 9 Nov 1943. 91-5 F 432-02 A 212/40425.
Auth: VOCC IX Air Support Comd.

By C of Lt Col MEYERS:

HUGH L. NICE,
Maj AC
ACJ

OFFICIAL:

Hugh L. Nice
HUGH L. NICE,
Maj AC
ACJ

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3600

APO 613, U. S. Army
4 March 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER.....19)

1. Confidential.
2. Confidential.

3. The VOOO 368th Fitr Gp of 2 March 1944, under exigencies which prevented the issuance of advance orders, are hereby confirmed and made of record:
"The following named Officers will proceed by rail acct fr sta 486 to sta 150 for the purpose of ferrying airplanes fr sta 150 to sta 486. Upon completion of this temp dy they will ret proper orgn and sta. TDN by rail acct. Where Govt qrs and subs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of qrs, not to exceed \$4.00 per day per officer and also of \$1.25 per day per officer to cover excess cost of subs is stzd in accordance w/Par 7, Sec II, Policy No. 30-1, Hq USAF UK 9 Nov 1943. 91-5 F 432-02 A 212/40425."

1st Lt JOHN L. CAREY	0120500	AC
1st Lt JACOB I. ROE	0674402	AC
2nd Lt ALEXANDER L. LEBOW	0603442	AC

4. VOOO IX Air Support Gp the following named officers will proceed c/a 4 March 1944 by MP fr sta 486 to Anlover for the purpose of ferrying airplanes fr Anlover to sta 486. Upon completion of this temp dy they will ret proper orgn and sta. TDN by rail acct or MP. Where Govt qrs and subs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of qrs, not to exceed \$4.00 per day per officer and also of \$1.25 per day per officer to cover excess cost of subs is stzd in accordance w/Par 7, Sec II, Policy No. 30-1, Hq USAF UK 9 Nov 1943. 91-5 F 432-02 A 212/40425.

1st Lt ALFRED F. BRY	0797216	AC
1st Lt FRED B. MARTINER	0604451	AC
1st Lt DAVID C. HARRISON	0675412	AC
2nd Lt EDWARD H. HARTMAN	0631761	AC
2nd Lt DONALD E. BRY	0601673	AC
2nd Lt ALBERT L. LINDEN JR	0677004	AC
2nd Lt EARL J. QUINCY	0679913	AC
2nd Lt DAVID M. S. LEE	0600093	AC
F/O EDGAR L. MCGRONE	0600000	AC

SO No 19, Hq 368th Fitr Gp, 4 March 1944 (Cont'd)

5. VOCC IX Air Support Comd, 1st Lt NORMAN E. SCHMITE, 0674075, AC, will proceed o/a 4 March 1944 by HP fr sta 486 to Thruxton for the purpose of ferrying airplane fr Thruxton to sta 486. Upon completion of this temp dy he will ret proper orgn and sta. 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 F 432-02 A 212/40425.

6. VOCC IX Air Support Comd the following named officers will proceed o/a 5 March 1944 by HP fr sta 486 to Andover for the purpose of ferrying airplanes fr Andover to sta 486. Upon completion of this temp dy they will ret proper sta and orgn. TDN by rail w/ft. Where Govt qrs and subs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of qrs, not to exceed \$4.00 per day per officer and alws of \$1.25 per day per officer 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 F 432-02 A 212/40425.

1st Lt JAMES W. EARLY	0745326	AC
2nd Lt HENRY F. WELLS	0677934	AC
2nd Lt EDWARD W. DLME	0745312	AC

7. VOCC IX Air Support Comd the following named officers will proceed o/a 6 March 1944 by HP fr sta 486 to Andover for the purpose of ferrying airplanes fr Andover to sta 486. Upon completion of this temp dy they will ret proper orgn and sta. TDN by rail w/ft or HP. Where Govt qrs and subs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of qrs, not to exceed \$4.00 per day per officer and alws of \$1.25 per day per officer 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 F 432-02 A 212/40425.

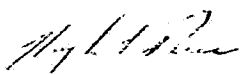
2nd Lt JAMES H. GAMBLIN	0805607	AC	2nd Lt ALBERT L. LARSEN JR	0677064	AC
2nd Lt WILLIAM J. GARRY	0679856	AC	2nd Lt IRVING J. ROSEVOLD	0680083	AC
2nd Lt LOUIS D. HAMILTON	0745300	AC			

8. VOCC IX Air Support Comd, 2nd Lt JAMES H. GIBBON, 0807607, AC, will proceed o/a 7 March 1944 by HP fr sta 486 to Andover for the purpose of ferrying airplane fr Andover to sta 486. Upon completion of this temp dy he will ret proper orgn and sta. TDN by rail w/ft. 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 F 432-02 A 212/40425.

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

By O of Lt Col MEYERS:

OFFICIAL:


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

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

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3000 DISTRICT

100 1944, U. S. ARMY
7 March 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....00)

1. Under the prov of par 1c, Adm Cir No 37, SGS, ETCUS, dated 22 June 1943, 1st Lt DAVID F. STREETER, JR. 051506, AC, 397th Fitr Sq, St. 400, is transferred to Detachment of Patients, 2nd General Hospital, APC 647. WD AGO Form 6-1, 2, and allied papers, will be forwarded to 2nd General Hospital. This is a permanent change of sta. No travel involved.

2. Having been capt this command since 2, SC 39, HQ 71st Fitr Wing, dated 7 March 1944, 1st Lt JOHN H. BARRA, 0561102, AC, is further assigned to 397th Fitr Sq.

207
By O of Lt Col MEYERS:

MAURICE D. POWELL,
2nd Lt, AC
Asst Adj

OFFICIAL:

Maurice D Powell
MAURICE D. POWELL,
2nd Lt, AC
Asst Adj

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H I G H L I C H
HEADQUARTERS
IX AIR SUPPORT CENTER

.....
 11 22 44
 AREA: 03, 11 450
 DATE: 11/22/44
 TIME: 11:15

It is requested that you
 be present

AREA: 03, 11 450
 DATE: 11/22/44

SUBJECT: Movement of units.

1. Commanding officers, 1st to 15th AC, APO, 11 450.
 Commanding officers, 16th to 20th AC, APO, 11 450.
 Commanding officers, 21st to 25th AC, APO, 11 450.
 Commanding officers, 26th to 30th AC, APO, 11 450.
 Commanding officers, 31st to 35th AC, APO, 11 450.
 Commanding officers, 36th to 40th AC, APO, 11 450.
 Commanding officers, 41st to 45th AC, APO, 11 450.
 Commanding officers, 46th to 50th AC, APO, 11 450.
 Commanding officers, 51st to 55th AC, APO, 11 450.
 Commanding officers, 56th to 60th AC, APO, 11 450.

1. The following units will move to the new station as indicated below:

UNIT	STRENGTH	FROM	TO	DATE
	(C)	HE	STATION	REASON
1st to 15th AC	15	11 450	11 450	11/22/44
16th to 20th AC	5	11 450	11 450	11/22/44
21st to 25th AC	5	11 450	11 450	11/22/44
26th to 30th AC	5	11 450	11 450	11/22/44
31st to 35th AC	5	11 450	11 450	11/22/44
36th to 40th AC	5	11 450	11 450	11/22/44
41st to 45th AC	5	11 450	11 450	11/22/44
46th to 50th AC	5	11 450	11 450	11/22/44
51st to 55th AC	5	11 450	11 450	11/22/44
56th to 60th AC	5	11 450	11 450	11/22/44
1st to 15th AC	15	11 450	11 450	11/22/44
16th to 20th AC	5	11 450	11 450	11/22/44
21st to 25th AC	5	11 450	11 450	11/22/44

2. Movement will be made on Monday, 11/22/44, at 11:00 AM. Units 11-15, 16-20, 21-25, 26-30, 31-35, 36-40, 41-45, 46-50, 51-55, 56-60.

- a. This is a permanent change of station.
- b. All organizational equipment will be taken.
- c. Supplies at old station will be taken to the new station.
- d. Packages, suit cases and other items necessary for actual housing purposes at the new station will be taken to the new station. A representative of Service Team (Head Air Force) will be with you to assist in this. Return to office of Package, Team 11 450, APO, 11 450.

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

1. The following information is being furnished to you for your information and guidance:

2. The following information is being furnished to you for your information and guidance:

3. The following information is being furnished to you for your information and guidance:

4. The following information is being furnished to you for your information and guidance:

5. In compliance with standard procedure, the movement will be made with full security and loading operations will be completed to movement control orders, with air force.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER: [Signature]

[Signature]
 HENRY L. TAYLOR,
 Major General

DISTRIBUTION:

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- 1 copy, CG, IX Air Base, HQUA

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FROM AUTOMATIC
DOWNGRADING

AGC 630, U. S. ARMY
1 March 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS

NUMBER.....21

1. 1st Lt RICHARD S. MEYERS, 0857621, AC, is placed on temp dy, will proceed o/a 15 March 1944 to sta 489 for approximately twelve (12) days for the purpose of instruction in radio and cipher. Upon completion of this temp dy he will ret to proper org and sta. TDN by MT or rail. Where Govt qrs and subs are not available, priv quarters 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 50-1, Hq USAF UK 9 Nov 1943. 91-5 P 432-02 A 212/40425. Auth: TTX 9 ASC 1547J.

2. Pvt Robert B. Dunlap, 13009110, 397th Fitr Sq, is attached to Hq 368th Fitr Gp, for approximately two (2) weeks, for duty only.

3. 2nd Lt WILLIAM R. RAMSAY, 0874008, AC, is relieved fr attached to Hq 368th Fitr Gp and further attached to 397th Fitr Sq.

By O of Lt Col MEYERS:

MAURICE D. POWELL,
2nd Lt, AC
Asst Adj

OFFICIAL:

Maurice D. Powell
MAURICE D. POWELL,
2nd Lt, AC
Asst Adj

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R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
IX AIR SUPPORT COMMAND

AFPO 638, U S Army
10 March 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 52)

1. 2D LT JAMES T EDWARDS, 0571556, AC, who reported to this Hq in compliance w/ Par 8; SO No 58, Hq, Ninth AF, dated 27 Feb 1944, is asgd to 84th Fighter Wing, Sta 408, and placed on temp dy, WP RAF Sta Uxbridge, for a period of two (2) days o/a 11 March 1944 on matters pertaining to this Comd. Upon completion of this temp dy, he will join proper orgn.

Where Govt messing facilities are not available, an 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. TDN by MT, mil acft or rail. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.

2. 1ST LT JACK C SKELTZER, 0439488, Sig C, is placed on temp dy, will proceed fr Sta 449 to Great Malvern, Worcs and such other sta as may be necessary for a period of fourteen (14) days o/a 11 March 1944 on matters pertaining to this Comd; Upon completion of this temp dy, he will ret to proper orgn and sta. TDN by MT, 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 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.

3. CAPT EUGENE M POTTER, 0885463, AC, who reported to this Hq in compliance w/ Par 6, SO No 61, Hq Eighth Air Force, dated 3 March 1944 is asgd, WP 368th Fighter Group, 71st Fighter Wing, Sta 406, TDN by MT, mil acft or rail. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.

4. The following named O, now on temp dy, are further placed on temp dy, will proceed fr Sta 472 to sta indicated for a period of seven (7) days o/a 12 March 1944 for the purpose of receiving instructions. Upon completion of this temp dy, they will ret to proper orgn and sta. TDN by MT, 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 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.

CAPT JAMES C NUTE	0912126	AC	Sta 367
CAPT VERNON L BOWMAN	01699576	AC	Sta 367
CAPT JOHN W ABRANT	0559520	AC	Sta 365
2D LT JUDSON W STRICKLAND	0582476	AC	Sta 141

-1-

R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D

SO No 52, Hq IX Air Support Comd, 10 March 1944, cont'd.

5. Sgt Robert A Keefe, 33069241 (502), Hq & Hq Sq, 91st Fighter Wg, Sta 406, is trfd in gr, WP Hq & Hq Sq, IX Air Support Comd, Sta 449. TDN by ME, mil acft or rail. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.

6. Under the provisions of Par 1, Adm Cir No 37, Hq SOS ETOUSA, 22 June 1943, and Adm Cir 100, Hq SOS, ETOUSA, 30 Dec 1943, Sgt Arthur E Jones, 11064662, 8th Air Support Communications Sq, Sta 449, is trfd in gr to Det of Pat, 5th General Hospital, APO 519, U S Army. S/R, allied papers, clothing and equipment, (less armament) will be forwarded to 5th Gen Hosp.

7. CAPT STANLEY S ARMSTRONG, 0854240, AC, is placed on temp dy, will proceed fr Sta 449 to Sta 168, Sta 160 and Sta 159 for a period of four (4) days o/a 12 March 1944 on matters pertaining to armament activities. Upon completion of this temp dy, he will ret to proper orgn and sta. TDN by ME, 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 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.

8. MAJ ALBERT S GILBERT, 0850271, Sig C, is placed on temp dy, will proceed fr Sta 449 to Uxbridge, Middlesex for a period of three (3) days o/a 13 March 1944 on matters pertaining to this Comd. Upon completion of this temp dy, he will ret to proper orgn and sta. TDN by ME, 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 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.

9. So much of Par 8, SO No 50, this Hq, as reads: 1ST LT CHARLES A PHILLIPS, 0566422, AC, is deleted.

10. 1ST LT CHARLES A PHILLIPS, 0566422, AC, is placed on temp dy, will proceed fr Sta 449 to RAF Sta Highgate for a period of five (5) days o/a 12 March 1944 on matters pertaining to this Comd. Upon completion of this temp dy, he will ret to proper orgn and sta. TDN by ME, 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 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.

11. The following named C, are placed on temp dy, will proceed fr Sta 449 to sta indicated for a period of seven (7) days o/a 13 March 1944 on matters pertaining to this Comd. Upon completion of this temp dy, they will ret to proper orgn and sta. TDN by ME, mil acft or rail. 91-5 P 432-02 A 212/40425.

CAPT DUDLEY W CORNER	0916130	AC	Sta 357
CAPT FRANK E CHURLEY	0902651	AC	Sta 157
1ST LT EMANUEL F BISHOP	0864813	AC	Sta 356

R E S T R I C T E D

RESTRICTED

SO No 52, Hq, IX Air Support Comd, 10 March 1944, cont'd.

12. Under the provisions of AR 625-5, 30 June 1943, and upon the recommendation of his Orgn Comdr, Cpl Robert F Downer, 12055270 (501), Hq & Hq Sq, IX Air Support Comd, is reduced to the grade of Private for cause.

13. S/Sgt Joseph A Ferry, 11046140 (824), Hq, 67th Tac Ron Gp, Sta 449, is trfd in gr to Hq & Hq Sq, IX Fighter Comd, and placed on SD w/ Hq & Hq Sq, IX Air Support Comd, Sta 449. No J of Sta, no travel involved.

14. The following named EM, Hq & Hq Sq, IX Fighter Comd, are trfd in gr, WP orgn and sta indicated. EDM by MT, mil left or rail. 91-5 P 431-02 A 212/40425.


		WF
S/Sgt Roy L Butler	36161017 (824)	Hq, 362nd Fighter Gp, Sta 159
Sgt Stephen E Izold	24286048 (824)	98th Sta Com Sq, Sta 347

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

By command of Brigadier General QUESADA:

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

OFFICIAL:


HENRY L. TAYLOR,
Lt Col., AGD,
Adjutant General.

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HEAD, DEBS
397TH FIGHTER SQ

AFG 638, U. S. Army
12 March 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER.....22)

1. Under the prov of Par 1c, Adm Cir No 37, SCS, ETOUSA, dated 22 June 1943, Cpl Charles W. Jackson, 395th Fitr Sq, sta 406, is trfd in gr to Detachment of Patients, 302nd Station Hospital, PO 540. Service Record, Medical papers, clothing and equipment to be forwarded to 302nd Station Hospital. This is a permanent change of sta. No travel involved.
2. Having been asgd this org per par 3, SO 52, Hq IX Air Support Comd, dated 10 March 1944, Capt EUGENE M. POTTER, OS85463, AC, is further asgd 397th Fighter Sq.
3. Under the provisions of AR 605-145, Capt JAMES W. GOODWIN, 0437614, AC, 397th Fitr Sq, is trfd to the 395th Fitr Sq.

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
397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

C-1-2

A. O. 538, 3d Amd
13 March 1944

ORDERS

NO. 8

1. Having been assigned this organization per par 2, S. O. 20, Hq 368th Fighter Group, 1st Lt John A. Aixa, O561422, is further assigned to duty as Squadron Intelligence Officer, vice 2nd Lt Norton A. Magnus, O587477, relieved.

2. 2nd Lt. Norton A. Magnus, O578477, is appointed Asst. Intelligence Officer.

3. Having been assigned this organization per par 2, S. O. 22, Hq 368th Fighter Group, Captain Eugene A. Potter, O383453, is appointed Asst. Operations Officer.

s/ John D. W. Haessler
JOHN D. W. HAESSLER
Major, Air Corps
Commanding

A True Copy:

Norton A. Magnus
NORTON A. MAGNUS
2nd Lt, Air Corps
Asst S-2

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
368th FIGHTER GROUP

APO 638, U. S. Army
16 March 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER.....23)

1. Secret.
2. Secret.
3. 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 22 March 1944 fr sta 404 to sta 449. Upon completion of this temp dy, EM will ret to proper orgn and sta. TDN by MP or rail. EM will be attached to Hq & Hq Sq, IX Air Support Comd for ret and qrs. 91-5 P 432-02 ; 212/40425. Auth: TWX R216J, 71st Fighter Wing.

S/Sgt Richard T. Fleiss	3956252	Hq 368th Fitr Gp
Sgt Elwood D. Hoffman	36562301	397th Fitr Sq

4. The following named EM, Sq indicated, are atchd to Hq 368th Fitr Gp for dy only, effective 19 March 1944:

S/Sgt Stewart W. Simpson	36385286	395th Fitr Sq
Sgt Gustavus (HEI) Busch	14082897	396th Fitr Sq
Pfc William V. Myers	6998832	397th Fitr Sq

(Paragraphs in which travel is directed are pursuant to the authority contained in Ltr Hq, ETCUSA, 3 Nov 1943.)

By O of Lt Col LEYERL:

HUGH L. RICE,
Lk. J. A. C.
L. J.

OFFICIAL:

Hugh L. Rice
HUGH L. RICE,
Lk. J. A. C.
L. J.

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R E S T R I C T E D

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
368TH FIGHTER GROUP

SECRET
ATTN: LTR, CO. 12/53
DATE: 10 March 1944
TIME: *11*

SPC 698, U. S. Army
16 March 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....33)

SECRET

1. The following named EM are placed on temp dy for approximately seven (7) days for the purpose of attending a course of instruction on Spitfire and Typhoon re-servicing, re-arming, and daily and pre-flight inspections and will proceed o/a 19 March 1944 fr sta 404 to RAF Airfield No 124, Herston, then to 15th Recon Sq, sta 449, Middle Wallop. Upon completion of this temp dy, EM will ret to proper orgn and sta. TDN by RT, rail, soft, or rail. Advance PX rations are authorized. If Govt rat & grs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of rat & grs, not to exceed \$2.00 per man per day for rat and \$2.00 per man per day for grs, is stnd in accordance w/Per Gp. Policy No. 30-1, Hq USAAF UK 9 Nov 1943. 91-5 P 492-02 A 40425. Auth: Secret Ltr, Hq IX Air Support Comd, file No 353, dated 10 March 1944, subject: "Training Affiliation."

W/Sgt Orvis L. Cress	14026927	397th Fighter Squadron
T/Sgt Seldon D. Fox	6262900	Hq 368th Fighter Group
T/Sgt John D. Shea	12056226	395th Fighter Squadron

2. The following named EM are placed on temp dy for approximately seven (7) days for the purpose of attending a course of instruction on Spitfire and Typhoon re-servicing, re-arming, and daily and pre-flight inspections and will proceed o/a 26 March 1944 fr sta 404 to RAF Airfield No 124, Herston, then to 15th Recon Sq, sta 449, Middle Wallop. Upon completion of this temp dy, EM will ret to proper orgn and sta. TDN by RT, rail, soft, or rail. Advance PX rations are authorized. If Govt rat & grs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of rat & grs, not to exceed \$2.00 per man per day for rat and \$2.00 per man per day for grs, is stnd in accordance w/Per Gp. Policy No. 30-1, Hq USAAF UK 9 Nov 1943. 91-5 P 492-02 A 40425. Auth: Secret Ltr, Hq IX Air Support Comd, file No 353, dated 10 March 1944, subject: "Training Affiliation."

W/Sgt Claude L. Williams	39082232	396th Fighter Squadron
T/Sgt Carl A. Hansen Jr	15089739	396th Fighter Squadron
T/Sgt William T. Shires Jr	14070554	395th Fighter Squadron

By order of Lieutenant Colonel MEYERS:

OFFICIAL:

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

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

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
368TH FIGHTER GROUP

APO 633, U. S. Army
21 March 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....24)

E X T R A C T

1. VCOG IX Air Support Comd the following named EM are placed on temp dy for approximately five (5) days for the purpose of attending a course of instructions in becoming familiar with processing battle casualty reports and will proceed fr sta 404 to sta 449 so as to arrive before 1600 hours, 22 March 1944. Upon completion of this temp dy, EM will ret to proper orgn and sta. TDN by LT or rail. Where Govt ret & qrs are not available, reimbursement for actual cost of ret & qrs, not to exceed \$2.00 per man per day for ret, and \$2.00 per man per day for qrs, is attd in accordance w/Ltr of, Policy No. 30-1, Hq USAF UK 9 Nov 1943. 21-5 P 432-02 A 212/40425.

Sgt Alfred (IAM) Stecker in 17010216 Hq 368th Fitr Gp
Cpl Ferrell L. Bellman 15116864 Hq 363th Fitr Gp

2. Having been asgd this orgn per par 8, SO 77, Hq AAF Sta 342, APO 639, dtd 17 March 1944, the following named officers are further asgd to Sq as indicated:

2nd Lt Clarence E. Allen 0693095 AC 395th Fitr Sq
2nd Lt Robert J. Bechtold 0693097 AC 397th Fitr Sq

(Paragraphs in which travel is directed are pursuant to the authority contained in Ltr Hq EPOUSA, 3 Nov 1943.)

By C of Lt Col HEALING:

HUGH L. RICE,
Maj AC
ARJ

OFFICIAL:

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

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HEADQUARTERS
368TH FIGHTER GROUPAPO 638, U. S. Army
23 March 1944SPECIAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER.....25)

1. Under the provisions of AR 615-200, the following named EM, squadron indicated, are transferred in grade to Hq 368th Fitr Gp:

Sgt Frank J. Wencel	15062024	396th Fitr Sq
Cpl James R. Cardman	32138090	395th Fitr Sq
Cpl Harold M. Ammeger	32260694	397th Fitr Sq
Cpl Glen (NMI) Cowie	34322500	397th Fitr Sq
Cpl Dixon (NMI) Cramer	31400303	396th Fitr Sq
Pfc Alvin (NMI) Castle	31358021	396th Fitr Sq
Pfc Charles E. Weiland	16047755	396th Fitr Sq
Pfc Frank R. Fryberger	32669910	397th Fitr Sq
Pfc Edward N. Hollings Jr	32869376	395th Fitr Sq
Pfc John (NMI) Furtonis	32530005	395th Fitr Sq
Pfc Joseph P. Ciardella	19119349	397th Fitr Sq
Pfc Lloyd L. Hostetler	33292894	395th Fitr Sq
Pvt George H. Lane	31061558	397th Fitr Sq
Pvt Jack W. Walters	34247849	396th Fitr Sq

2. Under the provisions of AR 615-200, T/Sgt Delmar C. Eicher, 15068175, 396th Fitr Sq, is transferred in grade to Hq 368th Fitr Gp.

3. Under the provisions of AR 615-200, Sgt Warren L. Walters, 20724802, Hq 368th Fitr Gp, is transferred in grade to the 395th Fitr Sq.

4. Under the provisions of AR 615-200, Pvt Walter (NMI) Weill, 12193769, 396th Fitr Sq, is transferred in grade to Hq 368th Fitr Gp.

5. Under the provisions of AR 605-145, 2nd Lt DAVID (NMI) GOLDKNOFF, 0860837 AC, 395th Fitr Sq, is transferred to Hq 368th Fitr Gp.

6. Under the provisions of AR 615-200, Pfc Ilmar O. Honkonen, 31149928, 395th Fitr Sq, is transferred in grade to Hq 368th Fitr Gp.

7. 1st Lt FRANCIS B. DRIGGS, 01549257, ORD, is apptd Gp Transportation Maintenance Officer in accordance with IX Air Support Comd Memo. No. 145-1, dtd 12 March 1944.

By O of Lt Col MEYERS:

OFFICIAL:

Hugh L. Rice
HUGH L. RICE
Maj AC
Adj

HUGH L. RICE
Maj AC
Adj

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APO 595, U. S. ARMY
28 March 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....27)

1. Under prov of Par 1c, Adm Cir No 37, SOS, ETCUSA, dated 22 June 1943, Pfc (911) Frank H. Elsinger, 12125761, 397th Fitr Sq, sta 404, is trfd in gr to Detachment of Patients, 302nd Stations Hospital, APO 510. Service Record, allied papers, clothing and equipment (except Orgn equipment) be forwarded to 302nd Station Hospital. This is a permanent change of sta. No travel involved.

2. Under prov of Par 1c, Adm Cir No 37, SOS, ETCUSA, dated 22 June 1943, S/Sgt (747) Horace M. Thompson, 34241030, 397th Fitr Sq, is trfd in gr to Detachment of Patients, 2nd General Hospital, APO 647. Service Record, allied papers, clothing and equipment (except Orgn equipment) be forwarded to 2nd General Hospital. This is a permanent change of sta. No travel involved.

3. The following named EM, Sq indicated, are attached to Hq 368th Fitr Gp for duty only:

Cpl Joseph L. Becker	39151607	397th Fitr Sq
Pfc Carlton J. McCarter	31310179	396th Fitr Sq

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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