

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

PILOT'S COMBAT REPORT - FIRST LIEUTENANT ROY D. CARLSON, ASN: O-678830

A -- Type of Action ----- COMBAT.
B -- Date ----- 6 OCTOBER 1944.
C -- Unit ----- 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON - 368TH FIGHTER GROUP.
D -- Time of Attack ----- 1620.
E -- Place of Attack ----- BREITSCHIED AIRFIELD (G-3132).
F -- Weather ----- GOOD WEATHER - GOOD VISIBILITY.
G -- Type of Target ----- ONE (1) ME-109 ON THE GROUND.
H -- Claims ----- ONE (1) ME-109 DESTROYED ON THE GROUND.

I -- I, First Lieutenant ROY D. CARLSON, O-678830, was leading Tropic Squadron on a fighter sweep mission on the afternoon of 6 October 1944. After Major THOMAS J. CARLINE, O-392748, and I had destroyed an ME-109 in the air in the area of Breitscheid Airfield (G-3132), we headed for the airfield in order to strafe. It was then shortly before 1620. Serum Squadron had already begun to strafe when I arrived at the field. There were then about ten planes burning. I selected as a target a camouflaged ME-109 parked on the southeastern corner of the field. I made my first pass from west to east. I flew over very low, bounced through the smoke, and came down on the E/A. I gave it one long burst, and it immediately flared up and began to burn.

I claim the destruction of one ME-109 on the ground.

Roy D. Carlson
ROY D. CARLSON,
1st Lt, Air Corps,
Pilot, 397th F Sq.

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

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

SUPPORTING STATEMENT OF MAJOR THOMAS J. CARBINE, ASN O-392748, FOR
COMBAT REPORT OF FIRST LIEUTENANT ROY D. CARLSON, ASN O-678830

A. Type of Action : Combat
B. Date : 6 October 1944
C. Unit : 397th Fighter Squadron - 368th Fighter Group
D. Time of Attack : 1620
E. Place of Attack: Breitscheid Airfield (G-3132)
F. Weather : Good weather - good visibility
G. Type of Target : One (1) ME-109 on the ground
H. Claims : Confirming the claim of 1st Lt. Roy D. Carlson,
ASN O-678830, to one (1) ME-109 destroyed on the
ground

I. Account of Combat:

I, Major Thomas J. Carbine, ASN O-392748, was flying on a fighter sweep mission on the afternoon of 6 October 1944. I was flying the wing of 1st Lt. Roy D. Carlson, ASN O-678830, leader of Tropic Squadron of Banknote Group. After Lt. Carlson and I had destroyed an ME-109 in the air in the area of Breitscheid Airfield (G-3132), we headed for the airfield in order to strafe. It was then shortly before 1620. Serum Squadron had already begun to strafe when we arrived at the airfield, and about ten planes were burning. I did not fire on our first pass, which was made from west to east. Lt. Carlson chose as his target a camouflaged ME-109 standing on the southeastern corner of the field. He flew over at a very low altitude, came down on the E/A, and fired one long burst at it. It immediately burst into flames and began to burn.

Thomas J. Carbine
THOMAS J. CARBINE
Major, Air Corps,
Pilot, 397th Fts. Sq.

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

U. S. AIR FORCE

COMBAT REPORT FORM 95 (REV. 10-1-52) (FORM 95) (PREVIOUS EDITIONS OBSOLETE) 815417

A. Type of Action : Combat
B. Date : 21 October 1944
C. Unit : 597th Fighter Squadron - 360th Fighter Group
D. Time of Attack : 1445
E. Place of Attack : Area from Munchen-Bladtach to a point slightly northwest of Mached. $\frac{1}{2}$ a was last seen at N-8425.
F. Weather : 4/10 to 4/12 cloud coverage. Clouds at medium altitude and at 11,000 feet. Good visibility.
G. Type of Target : One (1, F-10)
H. Claims : One (1) F-10 probably destroyed (probable destruction of $\frac{1}{2}$ a shared with 2nd Lt. Vernon V. Murphy, and C-427233, 1st Lt. this mission).

I. Account of Combat:

1. 2nd Lt. Frederick W. Stull, Sr., was flying Tropic Red Four on a combat mission on the afternoon of 21 October 1944. I was flying the wing of 2nd Lt. Vernon V. Murphy, No. 597223. At approximately 1440, while en route to the area of Munchen-Bladtach, I called in a large formation of fighters which appeared to be F-10's. Their altitude ranged from 10,000 feet to our altitude of 11,000 feet. 2nd Lt. Randolph W. Pennington, No. 441304, Tropic Squadron leader, ordered me to position our tanks and belly tanks, for he had observed the formation of F-10's. There were twenty plus $\frac{1}{2}$ a in the group, some of which were carrying bombs and belly tanks. We made one 180 degree turn, over Mached and then another in pursuit of four $\frac{1}{2}$ a heading south to a radius five. Lt. Murphy first spotted the F-10's at 5 o'clock. He bounded the $\frac{1}{2}$ a into a tight turn to the right, and finally did a complete loop to the right and continued on over into a split $\frac{1}{2}$. I stayed with the $\frac{1}{2}$ a, and observed the tail. We went into a split $\frac{1}{2}$ with the $\frac{1}{2}$ a, followed it down to the deck, and stayed to about 100 to 200 yards in the lead. We passed through the $\frac{1}{2}$ a's while diving. The $\frac{1}{2}$ a then flew on the deck in a wobbly, unsteady manner, slight evasive turns. Lt. Murphy scored several hits on it at this time. The $\frac{1}{2}$ a then broke sharply to the left in a complete 360 degree climb, then broke to the deck again. Lt. Murphy and I stayed with it in the lead position. We then passed right over Mached on the deck. Lt. Murphy was close to the $\frac{1}{2}$ a while all the time. Immediately after we passed Mached, the $\frac{1}{2}$ a turned to the left and pulled up slightly to the right. The $\frac{1}{2}$ a was very close to the $\frac{1}{2}$ a, and I pulled up then came in on the tail of the $\frac{1}{2}$ a and fired. I observed strikes on the wings and fuselage. There was a violent explosion in the left wing, and a large section of the wing flew off. I continued to fire until all guns within range. I observed a considerable number of strikes on the fuselage and also saw small particles occasionally breaking off the $\frac{1}{2}$ a. After Lt. Murphy came in I pulled left to make another pass. I pulled up over the $\frac{1}{2}$ a to the left to about 500 feet and then back to the right. As I moved back to clear our trails, I observed two $\frac{1}{2}$ a's following us. I saw Lt. Murphy pull up sharply to about 600 to 700 feet, roll his plane, and bail out. As the plane straightened out, I observed that the cockpit was on fire. It then went into a dive and crashed. Lt. Murphy's

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COMBAT REPORT (CONTINUED) *** SECOND LIEUTENANT FREDERICK C. STOLL, JR.,
ASN O-815417

parachute opened, and I last saw him floating down at about 200 feet. At this time, my own plane was hit by ground fire. The two P-38's went after this E/A, but pulled up shortly afterward. I last saw the FW-190 at K-8455, a point which was on our side of the bomb line on 21 October 1944. This was also where Lt. Murphy bailed out. After I returned to base, it was discovered that there was one .50 calibre bullet in the nose of my plane. It is therefore to be presumed that both Lt. Murphy and I were hit by friendly flak.

I claim participation in the probable destruction of one (1) FW-190 in the air. Lt. Murphy shares in this claim.

Frederick C. Stoll Jr.
FREDERICK C. STOLL, JR.
2nd Lt., Air Corps.
Pilot, 397th Fitr. Sq.

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PILOT'S COMBAT REPORT - MAJOR THOMAS J. CARBINE, ASN O-392748:

A -- Type of Action ----- COMBAT.
 B -- Date ----- 6 OCTOBER 1944.
 C -- Unit ----- 368TH FIGHTER GROUP - 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON.
 D -- Time of Attack ----- 1615.
 E -- Place of Attack ----- Area of BREITSCHEID AIRFIELD (G-3132).
 F -- Weather ----- GOOD WEATHER - GOOD VISIBILITY.
 G -- Type of Target ----- ONE (1) ME-109 IN THE AIR.
 H -- Claims ----- ONE (1) ME-109 DESTROYED (Destruction
 of E/A shared with 1/Lt ROY D. CARLSON,
 O-678830.).

I -- I, Major THOMAS J. CARBINE, O-392748, was flying on a fighter sweep mission on the afternoon of 6 October 1944. I was flying the wing of First Lieutenant ROY D. CARLSON, O-678830, leader of Tropic Squadron of Banknote Group. Shortly before 1615, when we were in the area of Breitscheid Airfield (G-3132), we observed two ME-109's flying due east just south of the field. I followed Lieutenant CARLSON down. As we descended, I also picked up our prospective target, the rear ME-109. Lieutenant CARLSON lost altitude and at the same time skillfully maintained his advantageous position relatively to the rear E/A --- above, astern, and up-sun. As Lieutenant CARLSON fired on the ME-109 from dead astern, I observed strikes on the right side of the fuselage above the wing root. The E/A turned left and crossed in front of me. As it did so, I noticed that it was smoking. At the same time, I recognized that Lieutenant CARLSON was not going to be in a position to fire on this E/A during the next few moments. I closed on the E/A and began to fire. I was then approximately 45 degrees from the stern. I observed no strikes. As I closed to the stern, I fired again, this time from approximately 15 or 20 degrees. I observed hits around the right wing root. The E/A made a quick flip turn to the left and attempted a crash landing in a ploughed field. He seemed to overshoot, for he landed far down the field headed into rough ground. First Lieutenant JOHN P. FOLTZ, O-745337, saw the airplane break up on the ground. I then joined Lieutenant CARLSON, and we headed for the enemy airfield in order to strafe.

I claim participation in the destruction of one ME-109 in the air. Lieutenant CARLSON shares in the destruction of this E/A.

Thomas J. Carbine

THOMAS J. CARBINE,
 Major, Air Corps,
 Pilot, 397th F Sq.

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

STATEMENT BY FIRST LIEUTENANT JOHN P. FOLTZ, O-745337, SUPPORTING
THE CLAIM OF MAJOR THOMAS J. CARBINE, O-392748, AND FIRST LIEUTENANT
ROY D. CARLSON, O-678830, OF ONE ME-109 DESTROYED IN THE AIR:

A -- Type of Action ----- COMBAT.
B -- Date ----- 6 OCTOBER 1944.
C -- Unit ----- 368TH FIGHTER GROUP - 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON.
D -- Time of Attack ----- 1615.
E -- Place of Attack ----- Area of BREITSCHEID AIRFIELD (G-3132).
F -- Weather ----- GOOD WEATHER - GOOD VISIBILITY.
G -- Type of Target ----- ONE (1) ME-109 IN THE AIR.
H -- Claims ----- CONFIRMING JOINT CLAIM OF MAJOR THOMAS J.
CARBINE, O-392748, AND FIRST LIEUTENANT
ROY D. CARLSON, O-678830, TO ONE ME-109
DESTROYED IN THE AIR.

I -- I, First Lieutenant JOHN P. FOLTZ, O-745337, was leading Tropic
Yellow Flight on a fighter sweep mission on the afternoon of 6
October 1944. After we had been vectored for approximately an hour
in the vicinity of Cologne, we were sent due east to investigate bogies.
When we arrived in the area of G-3132, the leader of Banknote Group
reported a small airfield below. It was then shortly before 1615. We
started to orbit the field; and as we did so, we noticed an ME-109 landing
and another about to take off. At the same time, we noticed two ME-109's
flying due east just south of the field. First Lieutenant ROY D. CARLSON,
O-678830, leader of Tropic Squadron, went down in pursuit of these ME-109's
and fixed on the rear E/A as his target. I followed him down, but stayed
above him. I saw him fire at the ME-109, and then I saw his wingman,
Major THOMAS J. CARBINE, O-392748, engage the E/A and fire at it. I did
not see much of the battle, but I did see the ME-109 crash into the ground.
It broke apart when it hit the ground, but it did not burn.

J. P. Foltz
JOHN P. FOLTZ,
1st Lt, Air Corps,
pilot, 397th F Sq.

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

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

PILOT'S COMBAT REPORT ***** FIRST LIEUTENANT ROY D. CARLSON, ASN O-
678830

A. Type of Action : Combat
B. Date : 6 October 1944
C. Unit : 397th Fighter Squadron - 368th Fighter Group
D. Time of Attack : 1615
E. Place of Attack: Area of Breitscheid Airfield (G-3132)
F. Weather : Good weather - good visibility
G. Type of Target : One (1) ME-109 in the air
H. Claims : One (1) ME-109 destroyed (destruction of E/A
shared with Major Thomas J. Carbine, ASN O-
392748)

I. Account of Combat:

I, 1st Lt. Roy D. Carlson, ASN O-678830, was leading Tropic Squadron on a fighter sweep mission on the afternoon of 6 October 1944. After we had been vectored for approximately an hour in the vicinity of Cologne, we were sent due east to investigate bogies. When we arrived in the area of G-3132, the leader of Banknotes Group reported a small airfield below. It was then shortly before 1615. We started to orbit the field; and as we did so, we noticed an ME-109 landing and another about to take off. At the same time, I noticed two ME-109's flying due east just south of the field. I was at 13,000 feet, and the E/A were at about 3,000 feet. In order to lose altitude, I came down in a weaving fashion until I was just above the rear E/A. As I did so, I kept my plane into the sun. I then closed in dead astern to a point 150 yards behind the rear E/A and fired one burst at it. I observed strikes all over the ship. They were particularly concentrated in the right wing root. The engine immediately began to smoke, and the plane made a 270 degree turn down and to the left. Major Thomas J. Carbine, ASN O-392748, my wingman, stayed with the plane and fired at it until it bellied in and turned over. I pulled off to get the other E/A, but immediately noticed that 2nd Lt. Manuel K. Soo, ASN O-815407, who was flying Tropic Yellow Three, had already shot it down. I then turned back, picked up Major Carbine, and headed for the enemy airfield in order to strafe.

I claim participation in the destruction of one (1) ME-109 in the air. Major Carbine shares in the destruction of this E/A.

Roy D. Carlson
ROY D. CARLSON
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot, 397th Fitr. Sq.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT *** PILOT'S COMBAT REPORT FOR 1ST LT ROY D. CARLSON, ASN O-678850 AND MAJOR THOMAS J. CARBINE, ASN O-592748

A. Type of Action : Combat
B. Date : 6 October 1944
C. Unit : 397th Fighter Squadron - 358th Fighter Group
D. Time of Attack : 1615
E. Place of Attack : Area of Breitscheid Airfield (J-3152)
F. Weather : Good weather - good visibility
G. Type of Target : One (1) ME-109 in the air
H. Claims : Confirming joint claim of 1st Lt. Roy D. Carlson, ASN O-678850, and Major Thomas J. Carbine, ASN O-592748, to one (1) ME-109 destroyed in the air.

I. Account of Combat:

I, 1st Lt. John F. Politz, ASN O-74557, was leading Tropic Yellow Flight on a fighter sweep mission in the afternoon of 6 October 1944. After we had been vectored for approximately an hour in the vicinity of Cologne, we were sent due east to investigate bogies. When we arrived in the area of J-3152, the leader of Banknote Group reported a small airfield below. It was then shortly before 1615. We started to orbit the field; and as we did so, we noticed an ME-109 landing and another about to take off. At the same time, we noticed two ME-109's flying due east just south of the field. 1st Lt. Roy D. Carlson, ASN O-678850, leader of Tropic Squadron, went down in pursuit of these ME-109's and fixed on the rear E/A as his target. I followed him down, but stayed above him. I saw him fire at the ME-109, and then I saw his wingman, Major Thomas J. Carbine, ASN O-592748, engage the E/A and fire at it. I did not see much of the battle, but I did see the ME-109 crash into the ground. It broke apart when it hit the ground, but it did not burn.

John F. Politz
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot, 397th Fitr. Sq.

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

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STATEMENT BY SECOND LIEUTENANT GERALD B. KELLY, O-770305, SUPPORTING
THE CLAIM OF SECOND LIEUTENANT MANUEL K. SOO, O-815407, TO ONE ME-109
DESTROYED IN THE AIR:

A -- Type of Action ----- COMBAT.
B -- Date ----- 6 OCTOBER 1944.
C -- Unit ----- 368TH FIGHTER GROUP - 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON.
D -- Time of Attack ----- 1615.
E -- Place of Attack ----- Area of BREITSCHIED AIRFIELD (G-3132).
F -- Weather ----- GOOD WEATHER - GOOD VISIBILITY.
G -- Type of Target ----- ONE (1) ME-109 IN THE AIR.
H -- Claims ----- CONFIRMING CLAIM OF 2/LT MANUEL K. SOO,
O-815407, TO ONE ME-109 DESTROYED IN THE AIR.

I -- I, Second Lieutenant GERALD B. KELLY, O-770305, was flying Tropic Yellow Four on a fighter sweep mission on the afternoon of 6 October 1944. After we had been vectored for approximately an hour in the vicinity of Cologne, we were sent due east to investigate bogies. When we arrived in the area of G-3132, the leader of Banknote Group reported a small airfield below. It was then shortly before 1615. I was flying the wing of Second Lieutenant MANUEL K. SOO, O-815407. We started to orbit the field; and as we did so, we noticed an ME-109 landing and another about to take off. At the same time, I noticed two ME-109's flying due east just south of the field. Tropic Red Flight went down in pursuit of these E/A. Our flight was at about 10,000', and at first we remained there to serve as top cover. Tropic Red Three reported difficulty with the leading ME-109 and called for help. Lieutenant SOO and I went down to engage this E/A, and Lieutenant SOO opened fire. His first burst was a 50-degree deflection shot, and I noticed only a few hits. The E/A dove for the deck and entered a lufbury. After it had made two turns, Lieutenant SOO fired again and scored more strikes. The E/A flew into the ground and began to burn. This duel took place for the most part between 50 and 200 feet. Without a doubt, the aircraft was destroyed. I flew over it, and I saw that the right wing had been torn off and that the fuselage was burning.

Gerald B. Kelly
GERALD B. KELLY,
2nd Lt, Air Corps,
pilot, 397th F Sq.

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

SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR CLAIMS RE: 2ND LT. MANUEL K. SOO, ASN G-815407
(ONE ME-109 DESTROYED IN THE AIR)

- A. Type of Action : Combat
B. Date : 6 October 1944
C. Unit : 507th Fighter Squadron - 360th Fighter Group
D. Time of Attack : 1615
E. Place of Attack : Area of Wittelsheim Airfield (G-3152)
F. Weather : Good weather - good visibility
G. Type of Target : One (1) ME-109 in the air
H. Claims : Confirming claim of 2nd Lt. Manuel K. Soo, ASN
G-815407, to one (1) ME-109 destroyed in the air.
- I. Account of Combat:

I, 1st Lt. John R. Politz, ASN G-745557, was leading Tropic fellow Flight on a fighter sweep mission on the afternoon of 6 October 1944. After we had been vectored for approximately an hour in the vicinity of Cologne, we were sent due east to investigate bogies. When we arrived in the area of G-3152, the leader of Banknote Group reported a small airfield below. It was then shortly before 1615. We started to orbit the field, and as we did so, we noticed an ME-109 landing and another about to take off. At the same time, two ME-109's were seen flying due east just south of the field. 1st Lt. Roy D. Carlson, ASN G-745559, Tropic Squadron leader, went down in pursuit of these ME-109's and fixed on the rear ME-109 as his target. In the ensuing battle, the other ME-109 attacked Tropic and I saw. I immediately started down. I had too much speed, and I over-ran the ME-109. My number three man, 2nd Lt. Manuel K. Soo, ASN G-815407, then attacked this ME-109. He fired a short burst at the ME-109, and there were a few strikes. The ME-109 hit the deck. Lt. Soo followed it down and scored some good strikes. The ME-109 went straight down, crashed into the ground, and broke apart. Without a doubt, this ME-109 was destroyed by Lt. Soo.

John R. Politz
John R. Politz
1st Lt., Air Corps,
507th FG, AF.

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PILOT'S COMBAT REPORT - FIRST LIEUTENANT WILLIAM G. HORLACHER, O-802299

A -- Type of Action ----- COMBAT.
 B -- Date ----- 6 OCTOBER 1944.
 C -- Unit ----- 368TH FIGHTER GROUP - 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON.
 D -- Time of Attack ----- 1620.
 E -- Place of Attack ----- BREITSCHEID AIRFIELD (G-3132).
 F -- Weather ----- GOOD WEATHER - GOOD VISIBILITY.
 G -- Type of Target ----- ONE (1) ME-109 ON THE GROUND.
 H -- Claims ----- ONE (1) ME-109 DESTROYED ON THE GROUND.

I -- I, First Lieutenant WILLIAM G. HORLACHER, O-802299, was flying Tropic Blue Three on a fighter sweep mission on the afternoon of 6 October 1944. After we had been vectored for approximately an hour in the vicinity of Cologne, we were sent due east to investigate bogies. When we arrived in the area of G-3132, the leader of Banknote Group reported a small airfield below. It was then shortly before 1615. Major THOMAS J. CARBINE, O-392748, First Lieutenant ROY D. CARLSON, O-678830, and Second Lieutenant MANUEL K. SOO, O-815407, became engaged in aerial combat with ME-109's in the vicinity of the field. My flight remained above to serve as top cover. Major CARBINE and Lieutenant CARLSON jointly destroyed an ME-109 in the air, and Lieutenant SOO destroyed another. We then came down in order to strafe the airfield. It was then shortly before 1620. My flight made three attacks on the field. My first pass was made in a 30 degree dive from west to east with the sun at my back. It was directed at an AA unit. I did not observe the results. As I was in this pass, I saw an ME-109 on the edge of a wooded strip. My second pass was directed at this ME-109. I made this second pass from west to east in a 15 to 20 degree dive. As I attacked, I attempted to keep the sun to my back. I fired on the ME-109 to within about 50 yards. I saw numerous strikes, and the E/A burst into flames. Second Lieutenant CHARLES B. PATRICK, O-770385, who was flying Tropic Blue Four, also observed the strikes and the ensuing explosion. I did not fire during my third pass.

I claim one ME-109 destroyed on the ground.

William G. Horlacher
 WILLIAM G. HORLACHER,
 1st Lt, Air Corps,
 Pilot, 397th F Sq.

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

STATEMENT BY SECOND LIEUTENANT CHARLES B. PATRICK, O-770383, SUPPORTING
THE CLAIM OF FIRST LIEUTENANT WILLIAM G. HORLACHER, O-802299, OF ONE
ME-109 DESTROYED ON THE GROUND:

A -- Type of Action ----- COMBAT.
B -- Date ----- 6 OCTOBER 1944.
C -- Unit ----- 368TH FIGHTER GROUP - 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON.
D -- Time of Attack ----- 1620.
E -- Place of Attack ----- BREITSCHEID AIRFIELD (G-3132).
F -- Weather ----- GOOD WEATHER - GOOD VISIBILITY.
G -- Type of Target ----- ONE (1) ME-109 ON THE GROUND.
H -- Claims ----- CONFIRMING CLAIM OF 1/LT WILLIAM G. HORLACHER
TO ONE ME-109 DESTROYED ON THE GROUND.

I -- I, Second Lieutenant CHARLES B. PATRICK, O-770383, was flying Tropic Blue Four on a fighter sweep mission on the afternoon of 6 October 1944. After we had been vectored for approximately an hour in the vicinity of Cologne, we were sent due east to investigate bogies. When we arrived in the area of G-3132, the leader of Banknote Group reported a small airfield below. It was then shortly before 1615. Major THOMAS J. CARBINE, O-392748, First Lieutenant ROY D. CARLSON, O-678830, and Second Lieutenant MANUEL K. SOO, O-815407, became engaged in aerial combat with ME-109's in the vicinity of the field. My flight remained above to serve as top cover. Major CARBINE and Lieutenant CARLSON jointly destroyed an ME-109 in the air; and Lieutenant SOO destroyed another. We then came down in order to strafe the airfield. It was then shortly before 1620. My flight made three attacks on the field. I was flying the wing of First Lieutenant WILLIAM G. HORLACHER, O-802299. We made three passes. Our first pass was made in a 30 degree dive from west to east with the sun at our backs. We fired at an AA unit, and I observed good hits on the gun position. On our second pass, which was directed at an ME-109, the sun was again at our backs. I was unable to fire because of the presence of friendly aircraft in the area, but I observed numerous strikes from Lieutenant HORLACHER's fire, and I saw the ME-109 burst into flames. Neither Lieutenant HORLACHER nor I fired on our third pass.

CHARLES B. PATRICK,
2nd Lt, Air Corps,
Pilot, 397th F Sq.

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

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CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

1. Type of mission: Reconnaissance
2. Date: 1 October 1954
3. Unit: 1st Lt. Col. [Name] - [Unit]
4. Time of day: 0600
5. Place of interest: [Location]
6. Weather: Good weather - good visibility
7. Type of aircraft: [Type]
8. Class: [Class]
9. Remarks:
a. [Detailed report text follows, including observations and mission details.]

[Signature]
[Title]
[Rank]

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73227, (Two ME-109's damaged on the ground)

A. Type of Action : Combat
B. Date : 6 October 1944
C. Unit : 37th Fighter Squadron - 7th Air Force
D. Time of Attack : 1500
E. Place of Attack : Westfield Airfield, England
F. Weather : Good weather - good visibility
G. Type of Target : Two (2) ME-109's on the ground
H. Claims : Confirmed claim of Captain Krause, Lt. Krause, and I-73227, to two (2) ME-109's damaged on the ground.

I. Account of Combat:

I, 2nd Lt. Frederick C. Stoll, Jr., A-31,417, was flying tropic class on a fighter sweep mission on the afternoon of 6 October 1944. After we had been vectored for approximately an hour in the vicinity of Cologne, we were sent due east to investigate reports. When we arrived in the area of A-31, the leader of our wing reported a small airfield below. It was then shortly before 1500. Major Thomas J. Carlson, A-31,440, 1st Lt. W. J. Carlson, A-31,407, and 2nd Lt. Krause, A-31,407, began engaged in aerial combat with ME-109's in the vicinity of the field. My flight remained above to serve as a cover. Major Carlson and Lt. Carlson jointly destroyed an ME-109 in the air, and Lt. Carlson destroyed another. We then came down in order to strafe the airfield. It was then shortly before 1500. My flight made three attacks on the field, and Captain Krause, A-31,407, my flight leader, made three passes. I was flying Captain Krause's wing. I was unable to fire on the first and third passes because of the presence of friendly aircraft in the area. Captain Krause's first two passes, which were made from west to east across the field, were ineffective. His third pass, which was made from northwest to southeast, was directed at a row of ME-109's parked along a woods at the edge of the field. I observed him rake through the first two ME-109's. The L/A did not burst into flames, but they were both severely damaged.

FREDERICK C. STOLL, JR.
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Pilot, 37th Ftr. Sq.

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

397th F Sq S-2 Rpt on a T/Cov and F/Sweep Mission - 2 Oct 44 - Sq Mission No. 248

- A -- Opns C No. _____, Mission No. Y21-6, Mission No for Day: 1, 2 Oct 44.
T/Cov for 396th F Sq in D/Bomb of a RR track betw G3742 and G3821, followed
by a F/Sweep NW to G1683.
- B -- 368 F Gp - 397 F Sq -- 12 A/C Disp -- No aborts.
- C -- Up: 0842 - TOT: 1020 - Down: 1217.
- D -- Nil
- E -- 395th bombed a RR track somewhere betw G3742 and G3821 -- track cut in 6 places.
Then our planes flew NW to the area of G1683 -- then flew home. No strafing.
- F -- Hvy, wk, inacc flak at Bonn.
- G -- Nil
- H -- Wea prevented 395th fr finding asgd tgt. an airfld at G314309.
6/10 cloud cov completely overcast in places. Completely overcast in tgt area.
Strato cumulus clouds. Base unkn. Top at 9,000. Good vis.
- I -- Sq code not used.

No Bombs: LOUGEE
CASSADY
POTTER
KELLY

CARLSON
STOLL
PRESTON
KALEN

KRAUSE
BARKER
FOLTZ
SCO

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

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577 F Sq - 2 sq on a 1/2 bomb nail-baiting mission - 2 Oct 44 - Mission no. 249.

A--Opns O No. _____, Mission no. 241-2, Mission no. for day: 144 - 2 Oct 44.
Nail-baiting -- Track Sec '1' of Green System.

B--358 F Sq - 577 F Sq -- 12 1/3 Dip -- No aborts.

C--Op: 1425 -- Alt: 151, -- lower. 1000. (Mission took off in airfield at Maon and
landed at strip 204 near Chievres, Belg.)

D -- Nil

E--3/Load: 12 x 2 x 500 lbs

Fuse: C-11 sec del

22 in tgt areas

Two bombs got safe, one on 1010 and one at 1011. 1000 sec del.

Track '1' was cut at 1005, 1010, 1015, 1020, 1025, 1030, 1035, 1040, 1045, 1050 and 1055
Strating. 2 loose debris at 1010. These loose were pulling by wire in a southward
direction.

F--Lgt, wt, 1000 lbs of 1010.

G--~~11~~ The 2 loose debris at 1010, were pulling by wire in a southward direc-
tion.

H--10 circs cov, 1000 lbs, 1000 lbs, 1000 lbs.

I--Code not used.

All Points

ABERDEEN

AMSTERDAM

BRUSSELS

BRUXELLES

BRUSSELS

H D BAKER

HAMILTON

HARDY

GIBSON

HUNTER

HONLON

PAULEY

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397th Ftr Sqdn 3-2 Rpt on a Bombing Mission of 4 Oct 44 - Sqdn Mission No. 250.

- A -- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. Y21-7, Mission No. for Day: ONE, 4 Oct 44.
Bombing of Limburg (M398).
- B -- 397 F Sq, 368 F Sq. 12 A/C Disp -- 2 shorts because of wea.
- C -- Up: 1325 -- 101: 1430 to 1445 -- Down: 1605.
- D -- Capt William A. GIBSON and Second Lt Lieutenant COLM V. DUBILK had a mid-air collision in the Munstersifel at 1410 while they were flying at 6,000 ft. Both planes went in. A slight explosion was seen and a sheet of yellow flame. Capt GIBSON's plane was seen on its back heading straight down. Something was seen falling out of Capt GIBSON's plane. The observer thought ~~that~~ that it was probably a bomb.
- E -- B/Load: 12 x 2 x 500-lb H's
Fuse: J-11 sec del.
15 in tgt areas. Four bombs ret to base by two aborts and two bombs carried by ea of two planes that collided in mid-air. Two of our planes dropped their bombs (4 bombs altogether) on the tgt of the 398th. The wea prevented observation of results. 12 bombs were dropped on Limburg, M398, in high alt level bomb ing. The bombs were dropped in an alt of 12,000 ft. Results unobserved ~~because of wea.~~ because of wea. No strafing.
- F -- Sgt, Wg, inacc flak net on course slightly W of Ahweiler and Ivy, mod, sec flak slightly E of Luren.
- G -- Nil
- H -- In almost solid overcast with occasional breaks -- cumulus clouds -- 3,000 ft base, 11,000 ft top -- vis above clouds good -- in clouds vis zero.
- I -- code not used.

All Bombs:

GIBSON
DUBILK
MUNSTER
LIMBURG

OHLEWEL
DRESEL
FRIEDRICH
FAHNECK

KLAUSE
JOC
FOHR
FERNANDEZ.

CONFIDENTIAL

397. 1st Lt. J. B. ... 2nd Lt. ... 3rd Lt. ... Mission No. 251

- A -- Ops O No. _____, mission No. 211-7, Mission No. for day: 30 - 6 Oct 44.
E/sweep in area of Lagen, Buskironen, Ahnsbach, Arul, Arentbroich,
Roermond, Weinsberg, Hirsch and Kuren.
- B -- 598 P up -- 077 P up -- 12 A/S up -- one abort, smoke chaser out.
- C -- Up: 094 -- 10: 100 -- to 1100 -- down: 100.
- D -- Nil
- E -- Our planes conducted a lighter sweep over area of _____
corresponding to the map area. _____ in a southeasterly direction
to look over the ice. With the possible exception of one plane, all of these
A/S turned out to be friendly. Also a single plane was seen in section 'F'.
F -- A single plane that was probably an A/S was _____ seen
on the deck in the area of _____ to _____. The pilot's last saw this A/S
did not have sufficient gas left to chase it and it got away.
A/S, 100 (20-30 rounds) _____
A/S, 100 (20-30 rounds) _____
A/S, 100 (20-30 rounds) _____
- G -- _____
_____ particularly damaged.
_____ little activity was seen. _____ did not appear
to be on the ice. _____
_____ (many of
the _____
_____ at _____ this may
have been the _____
- H -- _____
_____ the house it was
_____ and top at
_____ about 1200'; cov was 2/10
to _____
- I -- _____

NO NUMBER
JAN 1945
CAPTAIN
J. B. SHARP
CONFIDENTIAL

WAGS
HUGAN
NA-1110
FRIDAY

DAISCH
BLUNDER
ROSVOLD
R. D. SHARP

CONFIDENTIAL

597th F.S. ... (Comdron Mission No. 27)

- A. O.O. -- Mission no. (21-3) -- Mission for day: two -- Oct. 7, 1944 -- Support for 7th Army (Seascope), located at 1-01, 1923
- B. 363rd Fighter Group -- 597th F.S.
11 acft. ... - no survivors
- C. Up: 1352 -- down: 1358
- D. Nil
- E. 11X2000 ... bombs
Fueling: Last. nose, 1/43 tail
21 bombs in target area
1 bomb jettisoned (missed) at F-1, 23
No acft. used as escort
Seascope, an anticipated ... (F-00, 23), with ...
After this had been done Seascope instructed our planes not to bomb immediately because of the presence of American troops in ...
Seascope ordered our planes to bomb at F-1, 23. The target was marked with smoke. Seascope said that there were vehicles and troops there. All that our planes saw were four or five houses. 21 bombs were dropped in the area - the results were not observed.
No ...
- F. Light, intense, accurate flak at 1-1, 27
heavy, intense, inaccurate flak in a belt about 1 1/2 miles W. of Cologne
heavy, intense, accurate flak about 2 miles W. of ...
heavy, weak, inaccurate flak at ...
heavy, intense, inaccurate flak at a factory at ... This factory is located right off a railroad
- G. Seascope was located as ... plane was seen on the ground at a light ... location at 1-1, 27. It was thought that this plane was a JU-88 and had ... on the bomb line at 1-1, 23
- H. ...
I. ...
all bombs
O'Connell, Murray, Fogal and Bauer. Lt. Col.
Giden, Biagini, Hamilton and Barker.
Arauco, ...

CONFIDENTIAL

397th F Sq S-2 Rpt on a Ground Support, A/Recon & F/Sweep Mission - 8 Oct 44
(Squadron Mission Number 255)

- A -- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. Y21-2, Mission No. for Day: Oct. - 8 Oct 44.
Support for 7th Corps (Booby), at K8235, then Armed Recon & Ftr Sweep in
area E of Bonn and Cologne.
- B -- 35 368 F Gp - 397 F Sq -- 12 A/G Disp -- No aborts.
- C -- Up: 152 1535 -- TOT: 1607 to 1725 -- Down: 1804
- D -- Nil
- E -- B/Load: 8 x 2 x 500-lb GP's
Fuse: Inst nose -- 1/40 tail
16 in tgt area. 4 A/G as exact.
Booby I marked a town at K8745 with smoke. Our planes bombed this town.
16 bombs fell in tgt area, right in the town. Results were excellent. The
town is almost leveled. Then our planes conducted an armed recon and ftr sweep
in the area E of Bonn and Cologne. They were vectored by Mermite.
They were in search of bogies and airflds. Only friendly planes were seen.
Strafing: Maj HENDRICKS destr a loco at F9335. Lts SHARP, D M, POTTER and
KELLY dam the 12 cars drawn by this loco. This train was travelling in a northerly
direction. There was another train in the vicinity composed of 15 cars which hid
in a tunnel.
- F -- Hvy, mod, acc flak in a belt extending fr F4547 to F5747 to F6941 to F7352. One
burst of hvy, inacc flak at Euskirchen. One burst of hvy, acc flak at Duren.
A sod airfld was seen at F7532. It seemed to be in very good shape. It was only
slightly bombed. The hangars were in good shape. No activity was seen on the fld.
- H -- The wea at the tgt was very poor. 5/10 cloud cov. Stratus clouds. Base 3,000'.
Top 5,500'. Vis 3 to 7 mi. Wea W of Liege was poor. Vis at base was $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 mi.
- I -- Code not used.

Bombs: HENDRICKS, POTTER, D M SHARP, KELLY
Bombs: DRISCOLL, FAULKY, MURPHY, EVANS
Esct: DAME, BAKER, HAMILTON, HOWAN.

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397th Fighter Group -- 2nd Bombardment Group, 7th Air Force, 11 October 1944

(Squadron Mission No. 295)

- a. 397th -- Mission No. 295-1 -- Mission for Day: 11 -- October 11, 1944 -- Support for 1st Infantry Div. (Booby, of 7th Corps. Booby was at Aschen-dive location, at road junction and main buildings at ~~XXXXXX~~ A-54242)
- b. 397th Fighter Group -- 397th Fighter Squadron
12 a/c dispatched
No abortives
- c. Up: 1533 -- Out: 1412 to 1455 -- Down: 1517
- d. Nil
- e. Bomb load: 12x2500 lb. H2 bombs
Fusing: inst. nose-1/40 tail
25 bombs in target area
1 bomb dropped on Duren
Booby was contacted shortly before the bombing. The primary target was bombed (primary target 2). Booby placed the smoke a little south of the assigned target, but the whole target area was hit. The results were excellent. Many houses were demolished--some houses were seen burning. Booby was very well satisfied with the results of the bombing. Before our planes bombed they heard a report over the radio to the effect that after previous bombings many Germans had surrendered. After the bombing our planes flew east to Duren and then turned around and came home.
Strafing: many of our planes strafed as they bombed
- f. Heavy, moderate, fairly accurate flak at Duren and in the area from Duren to Eschweiler (A-2548).
Heavy, moderate, fairly accurate flak at F-042
- g. Nil
- h. The weather had no great bearing on the mission
The weather at the target was excellent. The weather from base to the target was fairly good. From base to the target there were cloud layers at 2500 ft. -- at 4000 ft. and at 10,000 ft.
- i. Squadron code was not used

All bombs

Perego	Foltz	Krause
Fernandez	Evans	Rein
Carbine	Arps	Joe
Diagini	A.D. Sharp	Logan

CONFIDENTIAL

1698

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397th F Sq S-2 Rpt on a Ground Force Support & D/Bomb Mission -- 12 Oct 44 -- # 257

- A -- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. Y21-4, Mission No. for Day: OE, 12 Oct 44.
Support for 1st Inf Div (Booty), located at K8255, & D/Bomb of a M/Ys at F1853 and F3260 and of town of Euskirchen.
- B -- 397 F Sq - 368 F Op -- 12 A/C Disp -- No aborts.
- C -- Up: 0708 -- TOF: 0734 to 0900 -- Down: 0945.
- D -- 1 A/C Dam -- Flak -- Cat "AG".
- E -- B/Load: 8 x 2 x 500-lb GP's -- Fuse: Inst nose, 1/40 tail -- 16 in tgt area.
4 A/C as esct. Our planes contacted Booty. Booty was at K8255, the expected location. Booty sent our planes to the double-highway in the area of F0050 to bomb tgts of oppor, but the bombing was done elsewhere. Our planes flew to F1853. 8 bombs were dropped on a small M/Y there. A loco and 8 to 10 box cars were in the yard. Some cars were dam and some were destr. The loco was destr. 4 bombs were dropped on a M/Y at F3260. A loco and some cars were in the yard. Some cars were dam. A few cars and the loco were destr. 4 bombs were dropped in Euskirchen. A fire was set in the center of the town.
Strafing: Lts BAKER, and DAME, destr 1 engine at F3212. Lt DAME destr a house associated with a radio installation at F2716. Capt O'CONNELL dam a loco and some cars at Munstereifel at F3218. Maj CABINE and Lt BAUM destr a loco at F3222. Lts HAMILTON & FAIRBANK destr one loco at F1656.
- F -- What looked as if it might have been a jet L/a was seen at 0745 in the area of L2006. It was considerably S of the observing planes. It was pulling contrails and therefore its alt was estimated to be betw 20 and 25,000'.
Hvy mod fairly acc flak in Duren area. Hvy mod very acc flak at F1041.
Hvy int very acc flak at Euskirchen. Lgt int fairly acc flak at a M/Y in a M/Y at F1853 (this was the M/Y on which 8 bombs were dropped.) Lgt (40 fire) mod (5 or 10 guns) inacc flak at F3260. Lgt mod rather inacc flak in area of F1005.
- G -- A train was seen at F1348. It was going toward Duren. A train was seen at F1853. The latter was moving away fr Duren. Great activity was noted on the M/S NE of Duren (these tracks have previously been cut). Activity was noted on the M/S S & W of Bonn (these tracks have been previously cut).
- H -- Wea had no bearing on the mission.
- I -- Code not used.

Bombs: O'CONNELL - Lt BAUM - CABINE - R D SHARP
Bombs: DAME - BAKER - HAMILTON - FAIRBANK
Esct: DRISCOLL - WEINSTEIN - KERR - REMER
/A/A/A

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397th F Sq 8-2 Kpt on a Ground Force Support & D/Bomb mission - 12 Oct 44 - # 258

A -- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. Y21-4, Mission for Day: 2 -- 12 Oct 44.
Support for "Brightside", located at Heerlen (K7655) and D/Bomb of 20 - 40 tanks in a fld fr K8849 to K8950.

B -- 397 F Sq - 368 F Gp -- 12 A/C Disp -- No aborts.

C -- Up: 1157 -- Tot: 1202 to 1250 -- Down: 1318.

D -- 1 A/C Dam -- Flak -- Det "A".

E -- B/Load: 6 x 2 x 500-lb GP's -- Fuse: Inst nose, 1/40 tail -- 16 in tgt area.
4 A/C as acct.

When our planes were over Liege, they were instructed by "Sweepstakes" to support "Brightside" (located at Heerlen, K7655) instead of "Booty" (1st Inf Div), located at K8255. "Brightside" asgd as the bombing tgt 20 - 40 tanks in a fld fr K8849 to K8950. "Brightside" marked the tgt with red smoke. Results of the bombing were not visible. After the bombing our planes conducted an armed reconnaissance fr Buchweiler (K4748) to Julich (F0359) and back past Aldenhoven (K9856). A great deal of ambulance movement was observed during the course of the armed recon. No strafing.

F -- Lgt mod lnacc flak in tgt area (K8849 to K8950).
Hvy mod fairly acc flak in area of Julich (area of F0359).

G -- nil

H -- Wea had no bearing on mission.

I -- Code not used.

Bombs: HENRIKSS, FERNANDEZ, D M SHARP, KELLY
Bombs: OLSON, FAULBY, MURPHY, EVANS
Sect: KRASSO, ROGAN, BERRY, BIANINI

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397th F Bg 3-24pt on a D/Bomb mission - 13 Oct 44 - Bg mission Number 260

- A -- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. 121-5, Mission No. for Day: 12 - 13 Oct 44.
D/Bomb in area of L9761.
- B -- 368 F Bg - 577 F Bg -- 12 \sqrt{L} Disp -- 10 aborts.
- C -- Up: 0728 -- Tgt: 0800 to 0835 (Bombing was done at 0815 - all 12 planes and 1 plane fr another sq landed at Reims because of a shortage of gas. They landed at 0950. 11 of our planes landed at base at 1123. The 12th landed at 1146.)
- D -- Nil
- E -- B/Load: 12 x 2 x 500-lb GPs -- Fuse: Inst nose, 1/40 tail -- 22 in tgt area -- 2 bombs brought back to Reims -- No planes no csect.
Our planes were to have supported the 5th Corps (Argen), located at Murrange (K2602). They were then to have D/Bombed pillboxes and a triangpoints at tgt one (FO44034) and at tgt two (FO45033). Argen, however, was not contacted. Instead, a ground controller whose call sign sounded like "Disco" was contacted. The wa over the asgd tgt area was such as to preclude bombing at that place. Our planes flew to the area of L9751 and bombed there. Six bombs were aimed at a bridge. Results were near misses. Eight bombs were aimed at a bridge. Five bombs were dropped on a track. One bomb was dropped on the track at a point west of the point in which the five bombs were dropped. Two bombs were dropped in a marshalling yard. This track was cut. Eight bombs were dropped on a track south of the point on which the five bombs mentioned above (the five bombs dropped on a track) were dropped. There was one burst on the track, and seven bombs were dropped near the track. This track was cut. The place of this bombing was south of the marshalling yard. Two bombs were brought back to Reims
No strafing
- F -- Heavy, moderate, accurate flak at Brum, L-0722. Heavy, moderate flak of unknown accuracy in the area of P-1402. This flak was aimed at aircraft other than our own.
- G -- Nil
- H -- Target area: several layers of clouds (at least three layers) bottom layer $\frac{1}{2}$ at 1000 ft., top layer at 8000 ft. Target area referred to is the originally assigned target area. These clouds precluded bombing of the assigned targets
- I -- Squadron code was not used

All bombs		
Col. Meyers	Olden	Arause
Lt Bauer	see EVR 778	Logan
Carbine	Murphy	McC
Kelly	Foley	Fein

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397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON S-2 REPORT ON A DIVE BOMBING MISSION - OCTOBER 13, 1944
(Squadron Mission No. 261)

- A -- O.O. --- Mission No. 121-8 -- Mission for day: 130 --- October 13, 1944 --
Dive bombing of dug in gun positions at K-8964
- B -- 368th Fighter Group -- 397th Fighter Squadron
12 acft. dispatched -- no aborts
- C -- Up: 1355 -- TOT: 1530 --down: 1613
- D -- 1 acft. damaged - flak - cat. "A"
- E -- Bomb load: 8X2X500 lb. JP bombs
Fusing: inst. nose - 1/40 tail
4 bombs in target area - 12 bombs dropped in enemy territory, 8 of them
at K-9156
4 acft. used as escort. The cloud base over the assigned target area was
5000 ft. It was too low for the whole squadron to fly beneath it, the re-
sult was that the squadron split up. Major Hendricks and Lt. Burney, his
wingman, flew to the assigned target location at K-8964. The squadron was
to have dive bombed forty to fifty tanks there. No tanks were to be seen
there. There were only some dug in gun positions. Major Hendricks searched
the area for tanks, but could find none. He then flew to the area of K-8849,
where the squadron had bombed from 20 to 40 tanks on Oct. 12th, 1944. Six
tanks were seen there - "Brightside" did not know whether or not they had
already been knocked out, consequently, Major Hendricks refrained from bomb-
ing them. About this time six of our planes saw six Fw-190's in the area of
K-8591. Our planes were then at 11,000 ft. At first these enemy acft. were
above our planes and then they were seen flying down past them. A little
later a P-51 and 2 P-47's were seen following them. This took place at about
1450. When Major Hendricks heard that six of our planes had encountered enemy
acft. he flew to the place at which they were reported, but saw neither them
nor our own planes. When he heard this report he and his wingman jettisoned
their bombs. Four of the six planes mentioned above jettisoned their bombs
upon encountering the enemy acft. Major Hendricks and his wingman eventually
found themselves between Cologne and Dusseldorf but could find no enemy planes.
They then flew west and down to Aachen - eventually Major Hendricks was joined
by the second element of his flight. These two planes had not jettisoned their
bombs. They bombed the dug in gun positions at K-8964 mentioned above. Major
Hendricks strafed these gun positions in order to mark them for the planes
which bombed. The results of the bombing were poor
- F -- An account of enemy acft. encountered was given in "E"
heavy, weak, inaccurate flak at F-0460. Light, weak, inaccurate flak at K-951.
Heavy, weak (a few burst only) accurate flak at K-9560
- G -- At 1500 a US chute was seen floating down in the area of K-0757. Four P-47's
were seen circling above it
- H -- Section "E" contains remarks on the weather - 5/10 cloud coverage - cumulus
clouds - base 3000 ft - top 5000 ft. - visibility excellent
- I -- the squadron code was not used
Bombs
Hendricks, Burney, U.M. Sharp, Fernandez
Bombs
Folts, Biagini, Rogal, Helliesen
No bombs - Driscoll, R.D. Sharp, Arps, Bender

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397TH FIGHT B. MARCH 3-2 REPORT ON A GROUND FORCE SUPPORT AND DIVE BOMBING
MISSION ***** OCTOBER 14, 1944
(Squadron Mission No. 262)

- A -- O.O. --- Mission no. Y21-4 --- Mission for day: OIL --- October 14, 1944
Support for "Organ" (5th Corps), located at Lurrange (L-2802) and dive
bombing of entrenchments and fortifications at F-045030
- B -- 368th Fighter Group - 397th F.S.
11 acft dispatched - no aborts done
- C -- Up: 1230 --- Down: 1320 to 1455 (bombing was ~~at~~ at 1320) --- down: 1506
- D -- Nil
- E -- Bomb load: 7X2500 lb. GP bombs
Fusing: inst. nose - 1/40 tail
14 bombs in tgt. area
4 acft. used as escort
- Our planes contacted "Organ". Organ was at L-2802, as expected. Our planes
bombed a target whose location was slightly east of expected location. They
bombed at F-045030, instead of at F-0403. Organ placed red smoke on the loc-
ation actually bombed. Organ directed artillery fire at flak positions in
the target area at the time of the bombing. All 14 bombs were dropped in the
target area, the town of Wadenbreth. The results of the bombing were ex-
cellent. The 397th Fighter Squadron bombed the same target instead of its
assigned target at F-0403. All 397th bombs fell in the target area. After
the bombing our planes conducted a fighter sweep in the area of Dusseldorf
and Cologne.
- No straining - weather conditions precluded straining
- F -- At 1350 an object which looked as if it might possibly have been a jet plane
or a rocket was seen in the area of L-2800. This object was at about 25000
feet and some pilots thought that it was moving upward.
One burst of red fighter flak was seen in Cologne. Its accuracy is unknown
for it was not directed at our planes. Heavy, weak, inaccurate flak at
F-0403. Light, weak, inaccurate flak in the target area (this flak was so
weak as to be almost negligible)
- G -- Our planes flew over an airfield at F-4536. This airfield has been seen
previously. It is now half camouflaged in such a way as to blend with the
green turf surrounding it. This airfield has a runway about 3000 feet in
length. Concrete has been placed on the runway since it was last seen.
- H -- Target area: weather was very poor - 3/10 cloud coverage - cumulus and
strato cumulus clouds - base: 1,000 feet - top: 3000 feet - visibility
excellent. The weather in general was poor - 3/10 cloud coverage - heavy
cumulus at alto cumulus clouds - heavy rainstorms up to 12,000 or 14,000 feet.
- I -- Squadron code was not used
- | Bombs | Bombs | No Bombs |
|-----------|------------|------------|
| Hendricks | Foltz | Eriscoll |
| Hogan | Kelly | A.D. Sharp |
| Carbine | D.M. Sharp | Kerr |
| | Bender | Weinstein |

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397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON S-2 HEAVY ON A GROUND FORCE SUPPORT AND DIVE BOMBING
MISSION **** OCTOBER 17, 1944
(Squadron Mission No. 263)

- A. O.O. --- Mission no. 121-4 -- mission for day: O.O. --- October 15, 1944
Support for Hoperaft (28th Inf. Div.), located at Eisenborn, K-2907
and dive bombing of town of Gemund, F-1219
- B. 368th Ftr. Gp -- 397th Fotr. Sq.
12 acft. dispatched - no aborts
- C. Up: 0942 -- TOT: 1025 to 1115 Bombing was done at 1040 - 8 planes
landed at 1152 (the other flight of 4 planes had not landed at the
time this report was drawn up). The 4 pilots involved are Capt. Krause at
2nd Lt. Hogan, 2nd Lt. Joe and 2nd Lt. Fein. These four planes landed at
at A-74 at Gembrai at 1145.
They landed at base at 1611.
- D. Nil
- E. Bomb load: 8X2X500 lb. GP bombs
Fusing: inst. nose-1/40 tail
16 bombs in tgt. area - 4 acft. used as escort
Our planes contacted Hoperaft. Hoperaft was located at the expected place
Hoperaft said that he could not put red smoke on the assigned target
(As a supply dump at F-057173) because he was out of range. The assigned
target, however, was not bombed because the clouds over it were too low.
They were at 1500 ft., but the presence of hills reduced their altitude
to 800 ft. Instead, our planes bombed the town of Gemund, F-1219.
They had authorization to bomb this town. All 16 bombs were dropped in
the town. Flames and explosions were seen. Results of the bombing were
good. After the bombing our planes flew east and then returned to base
No strafing.
- F. Heavy, moderate, fairly accurate flak at Rhein aeh, F-4425
Light, intense, innaccurate flak at F-1320
Heavy, weak, fairly accurate flak at an airstrip at F-452/ 4336
Light, intense, innaccurate flak in the target area
- G. Halifax's and Lancasters were seen on the way some slightly west of
the target area. Black smoke was seen in the Cologne area
- H. Tgt. area: 5/10 to 6/10 cloud coverage - alto stratus and alto cumulus
clouds - base: 3500 ft. (the presence of hills reduced this altitude to
800 feet) - top: 4000 feet - visibility: very good above and below the
clouds. There was an open space north and east of the target area
- I. Squadron code was not used

All bombs	Bombs	No Bombs
O'Connell	Krause	Dame
Biagini	Hogan	Patrick
Royal	Joe	Hamilton
Kalliesen	Fein	Barker

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Squadron
Mission #265
Number

397th F Sq S-2 Rpt on a Ground Force Support, D/Bomb & A/Recon Mission - 20 Oct 44

- A -- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. Y21-4, Mission No. for Day: ONE - 20 Oct 44.
Support for Seascout (9th Inf Div) -- D/Bomb of tgt 5 (Close to F-03703495)
and tgt 6 (Close to F-03653450). Both these tgts were strongpoints -- then
a/recon in asgd a/recon area & S of that area (A/Recon area was region of
Aachen, Hitdorf, Wesseling and Monschau.)
- B -- 368 F Gp - 397 F Sq -- 11 A/O Disp -- No aborts.
- C -- Up: 1003 -- TOT: Crossed B/Line on way in at 1032; bombed at 1050; crossed
b/line on way back at 1145 -- Down: 10 A/O down at 1229 -- One NER.
- D -- 2 A/O Dam -- One Cat "AC", flak -- and one Cat "A", flak. Lt KELLY's plane
was last seen in area of L-1595. He was heard saying over the R/T that his
plane had been hit. They may therefore be three dam planes. Particulars on
Lt KELLY's plane are not yet available.
- E -- B/Load: 7 x 2 x 500-lb GP's -- Fuse: Inst, 1/40 tail -- 14 bombs in tgt areas.
4 A/O as exact.
- Seascout was contacted, but was weak over R/T. The tgts were smoked by Seascout.
At first with purple smoke, and then with red smoke. A cub was seen spotting the
bombing. The results of the bombing were excellent. All 14 bombs were dropped
in tgt areas. The 2 tgts were close to the asgd tgt at F-03703495 and F-03653450.
Lts OLDEN, ROYAL and HELLISEN especially distinguished themselves in the bombing.
After the bombing, Harnite sent our planes to investigate a group of bogies on
the southern edge of the asgd a/recon area. Then they were sent to investigate
a group of bogies south of the a/recon area. Both groups turned out to be
composed of P-38's.
- STRAFING: Maj HENDRICKS destr a loco at F-2852. Lt HAMILTON destr a loco at
F-2755. Maj HENDRICKS destr a loco at F-3442. The sq strafed 2 roundhouses
containing about 100 cars at L-1623. Much gen dam done. 30 cars loaded with
trucks & hvy guns were strafed at L-1595. There was no loco atchd to these cars.
Maj HENDRICKS destr 2 trucks here and Lts HAMILTON and HORN destr 3 or 4 cars.
These cars were left smoking.
- F -- Lgt, int, acc flak on a flak car at L-1595 (30 cars here were strafed).
G-See-E Lgt, mod to int, inacc flak at F-424. Lvy, acc and less than mod flak at F2440.
Lvy, mod, acc flak at Buskirchen. Lgt, wk, inacc flak at L-1097.
- H -- 8/10 cloud cov -- strato cumulus clouds -- base 3,000, top 5,000 -- good vis.
- I -- Code not used.

Bombs: HENDRICKS, KELLY, HAMILTON, HORN, OLDEN, ROYAL & HELLISEN.
No Bombs: BRISCHALL, R D SHAW, RADA, BOWDEN.

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397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON S-2 REPORT ON A GROUPED FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION OCT. 20, 1944
(Squadron Mission No. 255)

- A. O.C. No.----- Mission No. Y21-4 -- Mission for days 1st -- Oct. 20, 1944 --
Mico. was intended to give support to Seascout (9th Inf. Div.), then our planes
were to have dive bombed target 11 (F-0215331) and tar. 12 (F-0240370). There
was a secondary target for this mission at K-930055 consisting of 50 tanks in an
open field. Then our planes were to have conducted an armed reconnaissance in the
area of Aachen, Wittorf, Neuland and Morschau. The presence of U/A in the vicinity
of Aachen and Aachen made impossible the execution of this mission.
- B. 397th Fighter Group - 397th Ftr. Sq. -- 12 acft. dispatched -- no aborts
- C. Lt. 1435 -- 10:15 our planes crossed the bomb line on the way in at 1510-bombs
were jettisoned-our planes crossed the bomb line on the way out at 1600-down: 1637
- D. 1 acft damaged-hit by an A-10-cat. 1435
- E. Bomb load: 6x2500 lb. of bombs - 1000; 1st. nose-1/40 tail-15 bombs jettisoned
at about 1637 on the enemy side of the bomb line. They were jettisoned safe
because of the proximity of our ground troops.
As our planes were on the way to the target area they heard a report over the radio
the Seamus Squadron was engaged in aerial combat over Aachen. Our planes jett.
their bombs and set out to assist Seamus Squadron. On the way home our planes
contacted Seascout, reported that they had jettisoned their bombs and stated that
they could be of no assistance. They then proceeded on their way home.
No strafing.
- F. When our planes were midway between Aachen and Wittorf, Seamus reported
bandits at 10 o'clock in this area. These bandits were seen at 10:15 about 20
miles n.w. of Wittorf. They and our planes were at 10,000 ft. there were 40 of
them. They did not seem to be hostile at first and they climbed and planes by
flying up into the clouds. When Seamus reported bandits near Aachen headed
north. These bandits were seen midway between Aachen and Wittorf at 10,000 ft.
our planes were at 10,000 ft. The enemy acft. appeared to be in 17-100's
Capt. J. J. Chilson fired at 16:30, but he was no closer. The sq. has no claims to make.
heavy, accurate flak at Wittorf
heavy, weak, fairly accurate flak at Morschau
heavy, weak, accurate flak in the Aachen area (slightly n. of Aachen)
- G. nil
- H. Between Rhine river and tgt. area: 10/10 cloud coverage - cumulo nimbus clouds
base: 10,000 ft.-- top: 11,000 ft. -- alt. low clouds - base: 20,000 ft - top:
27 or 28,000 ft. - visibility between clouds light was good
North of Charleroi there were 1000 fighters and a small group of 1000 from 2,000 ft to
10,000 ft
- I. Squadron code was not used
- Colors: Carlson, Kohn, Victor, 1435, 1436, 1437, 1438, 1439, 1440, 1441, 1442
No bombs: J. J. Chilson, 1435, 1436, 1437, 1438, 1439, 1440, 1441, 1442

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397th F sq 3-2 apt on a B/Bomb mission - 21 Oct 44 - Squadron mission number 267.

- A -- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. 121-7, Mission no. for Day: O/L -- 21 Oct 44.
A/recon in area of Dusseldorf, Wittorf, Aachen and Wilsberg. (This was asgd a/recon area. Our planes also flew toward Koblenz and in an area generally S of the a/recon area).
- B -- 368 F sq -- 397 F sq -- 11 A/C disp -- no reports --
- C -- Up: 1001 -- TOT: Crossed b/line on way in at 1050, bombed at 1050; crossed b/line on way out at 1150 -- down: 1214.
- D -- Nil.
- E -- B/Load: 8 x 2 x 500-lb AP's -- coord: inst nose, 1/20 tail -- 14 in tgt area.
2 jet (armed) at 1-5150 on enemy side of b/line (these bombs had hung up).
3 planes as acct.
Our planes bombed a factory at 1-4040. All 14 bombs were dropped in the factory area. Flames and explosions were seen. Several big bluffs were hit and severely dan. Then our planes flew toward Koblenz and in an area gen S of asgd a/recon area. Capt O'Connell, Lt Moran, Lt Morrison, Maj VanDine, P/O Haff, Lt S. Smith and Lt Brown distinguished themselves in the bombing. Sgt. Fink: at 1-5110 destr a switch engine drawing freight cars into a factory at 1-5110 about 10 miles S of Cologne.
- F -- At 1100 a 2-eng jet prop plane was seen at 1-7020. This A/C was flying at an alt of more than 10,000 ft.
Hvy wk fairly acc flak at Buskirenen --- Lgt int acc flak in tgt area (1-4040).
- G -- The factory bombed at 1-4040 was the scene of intensive activity. A very active factory was seen at 1-1000.
- H -- There were cloud layers at 4 or 5,000 ft, at 7,000 ft and 17,000 ft. These layers were thin. The clouds were broken. Vis very good.
- I -- Code not used.

Bombs: 14 x 500-lb AP's
Sect: 1 x 2 x 500-lb AP's

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D-8-3

397th F Sq S-2 Rpt on a Rail-Cutting Mission - 28 Oct 44 - Sq Mission No. 269.

- A -- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. Y21-2, Mission No. for Day: ONE - 28 Oct 44.
Mission was rail-cutting -- Green System -- Line "A" (F-1550)-to-(F-1759),
approx 15 mi W of Cologne. The priority tgt was a RR bridge on Line "A" at
F-156539.
- B -- 358 F Op - 397 F Sq -- 12 A/O Disp -- No aborts. Over target at 1003;
- C -- Up: 0927 -- TOT: Crossed B/Line on way in at 1000;/crossed b/line on way out
at 1030 -- Down: 1115.
- D -- 3 A/O dam -- at tgt area by enemy flak, one in Cat "A" and two in Cat "AO".
- E -- B/Load: 12 x 3 x 500-lb GP's -- Fuse: Inst nose, 1/40 tail. 36 bombs in tgt area.
A cloud over tgt area at 4,000' caused bombing results to be poor. At the given
pinpoint for the bridge (F-156539), no bridge could be seen, the intersection between
the road and RR at this point was observed, however. Maj HENDRICKS' scored two
hits on the tracks immediately N of this intersection at F-1555. The remainder of
the bombs of his flt fell in the edge of the woods E of the track at F-1456.
Capt KRAUSE claims one hit on the intersection (F-156539). One additional hit
on the track is also claimed by his flt, immediately N of this point. Lt OLSEN's
flt scored 2 hits immediately N of the intersection at ~~F-1555~~ F-1555. The
remainder of the bombs of his flt fell to the E of the track at F-1755.
- F -- Lgt int fairly acc flak at F-1760 --- hvy mod very acc flak at F-1240 --- hvy int acc
flak at F-0960 --- hvy & lgt, int acc flak at F-1559.
- G -- Nil
- H -- 9/10 cloud cov in area S of tgt (strato cumulus clouds) -- base 3,000' --
3/10 cloud cov (strato cumulus clouds) over tgt area -- base 4,000' --
- I -- Code not used.

All Bombs: HENDRICKS PATRICK D M SHARP BARKER OLSEN RAISBLE POTTER BENDER
KRAUSE HOGAN SCOTT FEIN

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

D-B-3

397th F Sq S-2 Rpt on a Rail-Cutting Mission - 28 Oct 44 - Sq Mission Number 270.

- A -- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. "Y21-2" -- Mission No. for Day: TWO - 28 Oct 44. Mission was rail cutting -- Green system -- Line "B", (F-1350 to F-2757), approx 8 to 11 mi W of Cologne. The priority tgt was a Rn bridge on Line "B" at F-268573.
- B -- 368 F up -- 397 F Sq -- 12 A/C Disp -- No aborts.
- C -- UP: 1415 -- Crossed B/Line on way in at 1440 -- TOT: 1455 -- Crossed B/Line on way out at 1550 -- DOWN: 1627.
- D -- One of our A/C destr by enemy flak at F-2055 -- F/O HARDY, MIA.
- E -- B/Load: 12 x 2 x 500-lb GPs -- Fuse: Inst nose, 1/40 tail -- 21 bombs in tgt area. 3 bombs jet safe at F-1242, F-3055. 21 bombs were dropped in the tgt area, a Rn bridge at F-268573. The results were poor: due to intense enemy flak. Maj OAKBINE scored one cut in the immediate vicinity of the bridge. The remaining bombs of his flt fell S of the tgt at F-2740. Capt CARLSON scored one cut at F-2556. The remaining bombs of his flt fell in the immediate vicinity of the tgt, but no definite hits were reported. F/O HARDY's plane was seen to go in on the bomb run, at which point he was hit by enemy flak. His plane was seen to crash at F-2055. There is no evidence that he was able to bail out. The bombs of Capt O'CONNELL's flt also fell in the immediate vicinity of the tgt, with no definite hits being observed. Following the bombing, the squadron made a sweep SE to F-7520, where they sighted 20-plus ME-109's flying at an alt of 10,000'. They were being attacked by an unknown squadron of F-43's. The results of this action were not reported, as it took place at a considerable distance. The squadron then returned S of Euskirchen to Aachen and back home.
- F -- 20-plus ME-109's sighted near F-7520, flying at an alt of 10,000', at 1530 hrs. Lgt int inacc AA at F-2757 --- Hvy int fairly acc AA at F-2757 --- Lgt very int very acc AA at F-3049 --- Lgt int acc AA at F-3555 --- Lgt int acc AA at F-2646.
- G -- Enemy rockets observed while on recon sweep, which were believed to be signals for their flak to cease firing and to call in their fighters.
- H -- 2/10 to 3/10 Strato Cumulus cloud cov for nearly all of mission -- base 2,000', top 5,500' to 6,000'.
- I -- Code not used.

All Bombs:	CARLSON	OAKBINE	O'CONNELL
	HARDY	BENDER	BIAGINI
	KERR	HOLLACHER	ROJAL
	G L BAUER	MELLIJSEN	BURNEY

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

D-B-5

397th F Sq S-2 Rpt on a Top Cover (for D/Bomb) Mission - 29 Oct 44 - Mission 271

- A -- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. "Y21-3", Mission No. for Day: ONE - 29 Oct 44.
Mission was to provide top cover for Flapper and Serum Squadrons on a D/Bomb
Mission of a RR bridge on the Green System at F-465109.
- B -- 358 F Gp -- 397 F Sq -- 12 A/C Disp -- No aborts.
- C -- UP: 0843 -- Crossed B/Line on way in at 0925 -- TOT: 0950 -- Crossed B/Line
on way out at 1010 -- DOWN: 1042.
- D -- Nil.
- E -- 12 A/ C used as acct. Serum and Flapper Squadrons were apparently unable
to locate the asgd tgt (F-465109). Instead, they are believed to have bombed
at F-372040, on the same rail line. The small town of Fuchshofen is located
at this point. A good concentration of bombs was observed and the town was
seen to be on fire. After the bombing, the squadron made a sweep to a point
S of Duren (F-3009), in an effort to locate rail traffic. None was seen,
however, and the squadron returned home without incident.
- F -- Nil.
- G -- A possible rocket contrail was seen SE of Koblenz at a considerable distance.
It was ascending at a nearly vertical ~~45 degree~~ angle.
- H -- Wea had no bearing on the mission.
- I -- Code not used.

NO BOMBS:	HENDRICKS	GLDEN	JARLSON
	KRISBIE	FAULEY	BURNEY
	POTTER	KERR	HRESTON
	BARKER	HELLISEN	G L BAUER

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

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3-5

397th F-350 Report on a ... mission no. 272.

- A -- Ops O No. ... mission no. ... 44. Mission was ... and ... Rhelback ...
- B -- 360 ...
- C -- Uf: 140' ...
- D -- All.
- E -- B/ ... 1/4 ... the ... One ... of ... ly ... (... several ... of ...
- F -- All.
- J -- A ... motion.
- H -- ... Good visit.
- I -- ...

All Bo. ...

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