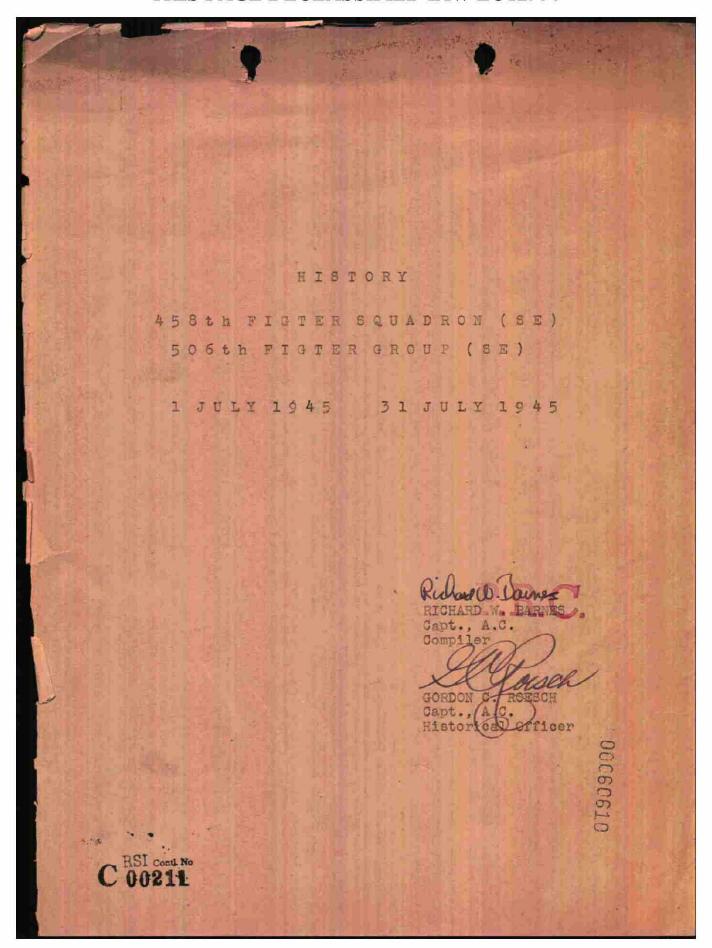


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#### **OPERATIONS**

A squadron blessed with beginners' luck has no cause for just complaint when the luck deserts it. But the startling transition from apparent immunity to enemy action to one of bullet-riddled vulnerability is one of heavy psychological impact. Our run of good fortune lasted for eleven VLR missions, during which we lost not a single plane or pilot to enemy action. It ended on 8 July 1945 south and west of Tokyo, in Happy Valley, and on 9 July 1945 at Hamamatsu airfield. In those days we lost one aircraft destroyed, and seven damaged -- nearly a third of the squadron's strength of aircraft permanently or temporarily put out of action. For the whole of July we lost three aircraft destroyed and twelve damaged. Casualty rate: 50% per month. That figure is not as terrible as it sounds, for damage ranged from huge, gaping 40-mm hits to neat, precise machine-gun pricks in wings and empennage. Most aircraft were back in action in a matter of days. But, even so, the enemy was getting too accurate for comfort. And he caused us a loss as perversely ironic as something by Eugene O'Neill.

Lt. Thomas F. Harrigan had bad luck from the very beginning. He spent some 50 hours at sea in a dinghy after the disastrous weather mission of 1 June 1945. Harrigan had to bail out, not because of weather or enemy action, but because his selector valve stuck and broke off in his hand as he desperately wrenched at it. He simply ran out of gas and had to take to his parachute.

Operations--2

Rescued by the <u>USS Fanning</u> on 3 June 1945, Harrigan returned to duty and flew VLR missions again on 26 June and 5 July. His luck ran out for good on the 8th. As Yellow 2, Harrigan was on the deck with his flight near Hachioji when his ship took a crippling hit in a coolant line. Harrigan stuck with it in a vain attempt to reach the sea and safety, but his engine would not carry him beyond the first few foothills lying southwest of the Tokyo plain. Over a wooded, apparently deserted valley, Harrigan bailed out. He is presumed missing in action.

On the same day, 8 July, Lt. Lockney won the first purple heart of the squadron by taking light but painful wounds in his right hip from tiny pieces of wire shattered and driven there by the impact of a 7.7mm slug through the starboard side of the cockpit.

The month was not all losses and damage to the 458th.

Briefly, the enemy suffered the damage listed below from our fighter sweeps. The numerous factories, innumerable power lines, the boxcars, oil cars, radar and radio stations, lighthouses, the bransformers variously shot up and damaged are not included.

AIRCRAFT: (Air)

Destroyed: 4 Probably Destroyed: 2 Damaged: 2

(Ground)

Destroyed: O Probably destroyed: 2 Damaged: 9

LOCOMOTIVES:

Destroyed: 2 Damaged: 7

TRUCKS:

Destroyed: 2 Damaged: 4

Operations--3

SHIPPING: (Small Craft)

Damaged: 30

Damaged: 29 (Medium Craft)

(Large Craft)

Damaged: 3

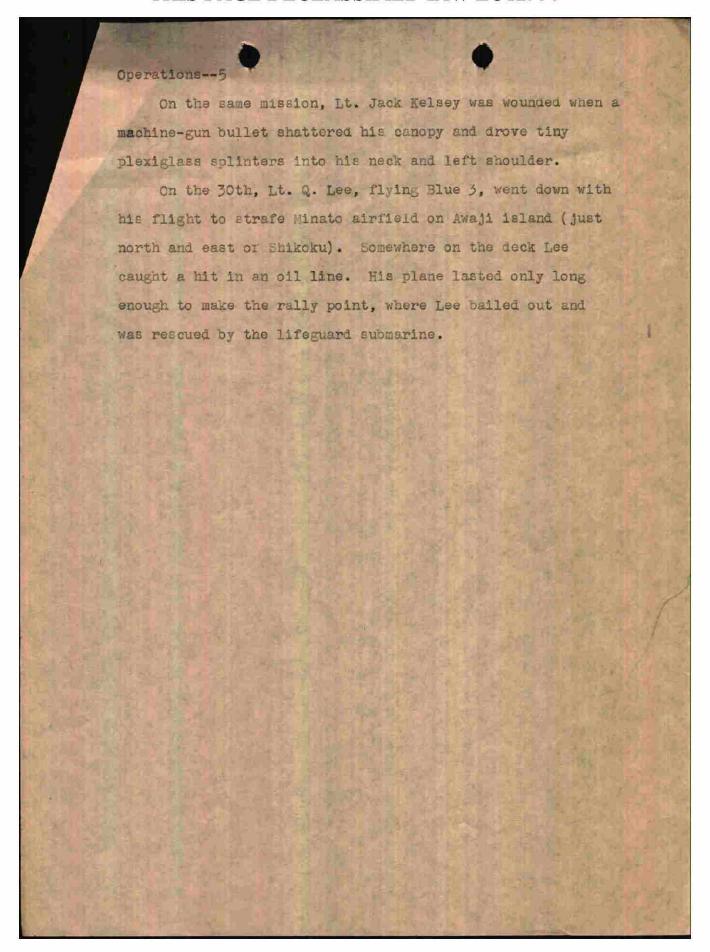
This damage done the enemy was in great part the result of the mission of 28 July, when, for the first time, our gunnery approached the desired level of efficient destruction. Heretofore, through inexperience and buck rever, most pilots had been prone (and this was proved time and time again by their GSAP film) to fire out of range, without sufficient elevation of the sight, and to break off attack and pick up a new target while still out of range. It was definitely not good shooting. The destruction done was only a fraction of what might have been done.

But the picture changed. Major Snipman gave the squadron a collective dressing down. Within the flights the arguments were hot and all to a point: how best to shoot something up with minimum ammunition and maximum damage. That turned the trick. On 28 July the shooting was excellent. At Ishioka marshalling yards, eight aircraft inflicted as much damage to rolling stock, locomotives, and factories as eight aircraft could possibly inflict. Bursts were in range and on target, and the result was as thorough a job of wrecking. beating up, and complete riddling as will ever be inflicted on the enemy from the air. Since that day our air-to-ground gunnery has been uniformly good, and it improves.

Operations--4

None of the totals of the destroyed and the damaged is as large as desired, particularly in aircraft destroyed in the air or on the ground. But the Japanese Air Force showed a complete reluctance to engage us in aerial combat, and had pretty well perfected its new policy of widespread dispersion and camouflage of aircraft on the ground. It happened not once but many times that the squadron struck at assigned airfields only to find not a single operational aircraft in sight or firing range. During the last of the month, our tactics shifted from strikes at known airfields to recco runs over airfields in a certain area. If we could locate aircraft, we went down after them; if we could not, we were free to rhubarb. Most of our damage was done—and taken—on the low-level sweeps in this period.

The first pure rhubarb mission assigned came on 28 July, began north of Mito, and ranged down the whole of the Chiba peninsula. Lt. Edwin Warfield disappeared from his flight halfway down the peninsula; there was no trace of parachute, of plane; no sign of smoke or fire. There was nothing to indicate what had happened. Warfield was considered missing in action until 31 July, when a jubilant squadron got word that he had been rescued by submarine 100 miles south of Hachijo, on course to base. How Warfield got there, what forced him to leave his flight, and how he was finally rescued is a long story only Warfield can tell when he returns to the squadron.



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#### STATISTICS

July was a full month, operationally. The Squadron doubled hours flown in June, quadrupled its effective sorties against the Empire. We flew 2437 hours in July; of which 47 hours were short-range strikes to the Bonins; 359 hours, CAP; and 1747 hours, VLR missions to the Japanese homeland. Our overall sorties totalled 477. Of these, 199 were CAP; 24, short-range; and 269, long-range strikes. We were able, during the month, to make 222 effective VLR sorties, against a tiny total of 51 for the month of June, when bad weather forced us back to base on mission after mission.\*

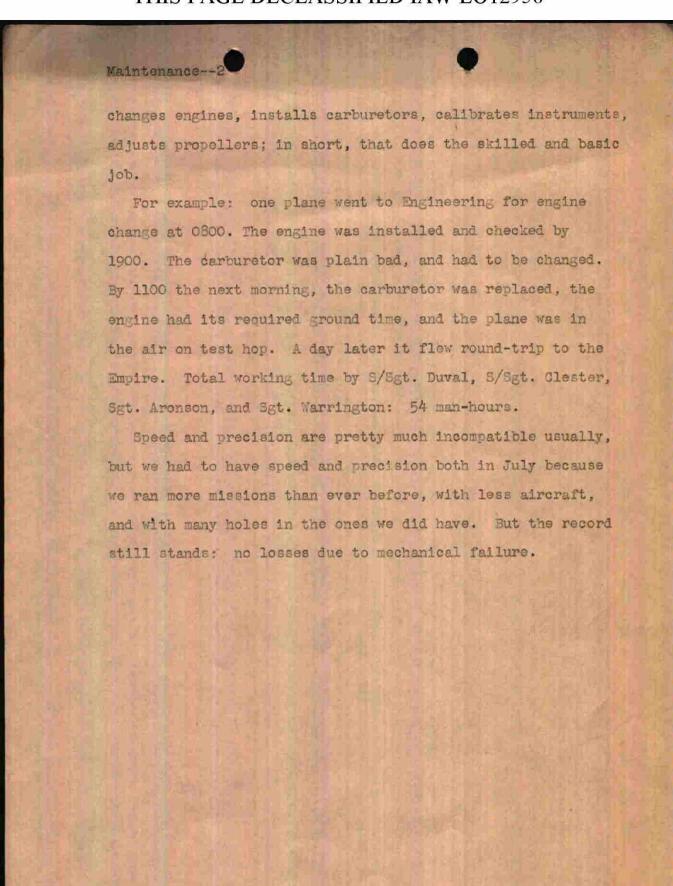
\*VLR sorties above include nine missions flown by pilots of the squadron as observers in navigator B-29s. Time logged during these missions is not included in squadron total time.

### MAINTENANCE

The squadron continued throughout July to maintain a record of no aircraft lost in combat operations because of mechanical failure. On strike after strike, 16 to 22 aircraft flew missions averaging well over 1500 miles and 7½ hours of airborne time, were shot up in the bargain, and, strike after strike, came safely back to base.

The record speaks well for the stamina of the P-51, but it also hangs a large and luminous halo over the heads of the men who maintained it. No machine is more dependable than the men who care for it, and the men were often pressed for both time and sleep. In six days, from the 4th to the 9th of July, the squadron flew five missions. Each meant a complete plug change, installation of wing tanks, and thorough inspection. Three missions in a row for the same plane meant also a 25-hour inspection; six missions, a 50-hour. If we were to have planes to fly, repairs and maintenance could take just so much time, and no more. What was done had to be done well and done quickly. It was. The present record stands at one and one-half hours from beginning to end of a 150-hour inspection. Six hours is the longest any aircraft stood for inspection during the month, and it got the proverbial works.

Most of the credit goes to M/Agt. Benson and the 40-odd men in the Engineering section: specialists and experienced mechanics. Crew chiefs can change plugs, pull cunos, clean cockpits, install new tires; but Engineering it is that

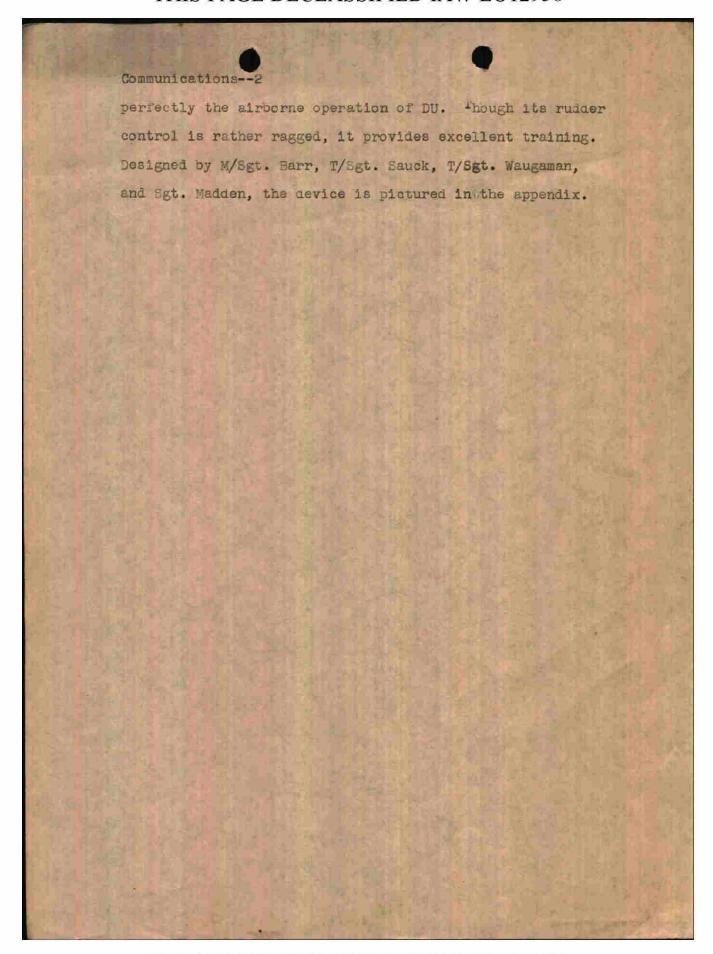


### COMMUNICATIONS

One of the tou hest maintenance problems on Iwo has been reconciling radios, rain anddust. Wet radios, dirty radios do not work. The men in the radio shop fought a steady battle with fungus and rot and dirt, but the job was long and tedious. Finally Sgt. William F. Schimpf, Jr., tired of antique methods, scrounged a small air compressor from a wrecked B-29, built it into a bench, fitted it and coupled it and produced a combination blower-dryer that put the wet and dirty sets back in condition in two huffs and a puff.

Later in the month, S/Sgt. Lawrence W. Howe, tired of shifting crystals hour after hour on the test bench, sat T | himself down and produced a little gadget known as a quadruple-throw crystal selector. Plugged in the test set. it prevented mistakes and saved hour after hour of time. 8/Sgt. Howe also designed and built two power converters for test equipment formerly run by batteries, thus eliminating the tiresome task of frequent re-charging and allowing the equipment to run on a 24-hour basis. That saved more time. S/Sgt. Howe claims he did it all only because he could scrape together just 37 points, and he was desperate enough to try anything to raise the total.

> The Uncle Dog trainer conceived and born in June went into full-scale operation in July. Compounded of a genius for gadgetry, a Jap inertia starter, a coolant-scoop actuator, a belly-tank and an Uncle Dog set, it simulates



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### ARMAMENT AND ORDNANCE

The damage we dealt the enemy homeland originated solely in the muzzles of .50 caliber machine guns. Carrying wing tanks, we could not carry bombs. And we never received kits for rocket installation. So our six guns became at once our only means of offense. Every armorer, every ordnance man realized it, and guns and ammunition were cared for like precocious children. The care paid off.

During the month, we fired 183,051 rounds in combat. We took only 30 malfunctions, and six of those were due to faulty emmunition. Thus the malfunction rate, per thousand rounds fired, was .1655. To the uninitiated, that may be just another statistic. To an armament officer, or to a pilot who knows his gunnery, it is at once a thing of pride and a tribute to the constant devotion to duty of every man in Ordnance and Armament. Stateside, a malfunction rate of 1.0 was considered pretty good, and .5 was little short of miraculous. But .1655! To achieve that is to be little short of perfect.

And, at that, some armorers were perfect. To the end of July, three, Sgt. Darwin C. Anderson, Sgt. Ben Morderer, and Cpl. Carl C. Riecke, sent their guns to war, mission after mission, and not once aid a single gun malfunction. Such dependability is neither luck nor guesswork, but the result of patient, painstaking care. Kudos to Sgt. Anderson, Sgt. Morderer, and Cpl. Riecke.

### PERSONNEL

During the course of the month, Iwo's dusty monotony was relieved twice by a series of promotion celebrations sponsored by the 13 officers so honored. Richard W. Barnes, Edward H. Connor III, Donald E. Harris, Edward H. Mikes, and Evan S. Stuart on 15 July received orders promoting them from 1st lieutenant to captain. Again, on the 18th, Billy W. Davis, Robert G. Johnson, Robert W. Klump, Frank H. Wheeler, Richard L. Allen, Reuther M. Jones, Miles J. Jorgensen, and Lawrence W. McCabe dorfed gold for the silver bars of subalterns, senior grade. 2

Promotions of enlisted men followed suit, and in quantity.

They will be found in the appendix to this history.

Separations were as much official as actual. Lt. John C. Schultz, lost to the squadron in a take-off crash in June, was transferred to the 204th General Hospital for treatment. Lt. Robert B. Harvey, down without trace on the weather mission of June 1, was dropped from the squadron rolls on 3 July. Actual separations were two. The first was that of 1st Lt. Harold G. Davidson, of "B" Flight, a blonde, hard-flying Texan, who, somehow, bought himself a fine and severe set of stomach ulcers, was grounded, and finally set upon the long road back home on 12 July. 5

<sup>150 191,</sup> Hqs AAFPOA, dtd 10 July 1945 250 193, Hqs AAFPOA, dtd 12 July 1945 380 51 & 52, Hqs 506th Ftr Gp, dtd 4 July 1945 4Ltr 0 333, Hqs 204th Gen Hosp, APO 246 550 61, 232nd Gen Hosp, dtd 14 July 1945

Personnel -- 2

The second was Capt. Earle F. Gray, our executive officer and prodigal cup-companion, who left the squadron on 21 July for duty at VII Fighter Command as Assistant A-3.6

Into the Squadron, to replace the lost, the submarine-fed, the transferred, came five new officers. Capt. Alfred T. Bishop assumed Capt. Gray's duties as Executive officer. F/O Harvey L. Bishop and 2nd Lt. Robert A. McDowell, both pilots, were assigned to "D" Flight, which had so far borne the loss of both Lts. Harvey and Harrigan. 2nd Lts. Daniel S. Elliott and Daniel B. Leake, former RTU instructors at Ft. Myers, Florida, came to "B" Flight to replace Lt. Davidson, and Capt. Stuart, who was transferred into Group in June as assistant operations officer.

<sup>6</sup>so 66, 7FC, dtd 23 July 1945 7so 57, Hqs 506th Ftr Gp, dtd 23 July 1945 8so 55, Hqs 506th Ftr Gp, dtd 13 July 1945 9so 53, Hqs 506th Ftr Gp, dtd 3 July 1945

### ENTERTAINMENT

The lighter, brighter side of July cannot be neglected. Iwo's diversions are few: it boasts few women, few books, few goodly shows. It is also a desert of barely quenched thirst. Men cannot long survive on sack time, army chow, a mission or two, and endless contemplation of the sea, unless there be some minute quantity of alcohol to still the pangs of homesickness and to dim the sight of the long rows of pin-ups and the passions they arouse.

But surroundings mean a great deal. Beer is barely palatable when hot, no matter where it is consumed. But to drink hot beer in the brown dingy plainess of a tent or quonset is downright depressing. So we faced the inescapable. We had to have a bar. We had to have ice. We had to have a club.

Blushingly, we admit that the club was got by means that would make Boss Tweed grovel in shame. So was the bar, the ice, and everything that went to make a workmanlike imitation of a better joint stateside. The club started in June as a series of foraging expeditions under the command of the Club trustees—the four flight commanders and Lt. Grant. The expeditions emerged from the campaign victorious and laden with loot.

Pilots were only too glad to have something to occupy time between missions; they worked long and late at erecting the quonset we acquired, at building the cooler, the magnificent green-felt-topped poker table, booths, radio and phonograph cabinets, tables. The ground officers provided the electrical talent, the plumbing, lighting fixtures,

Entertainment -2

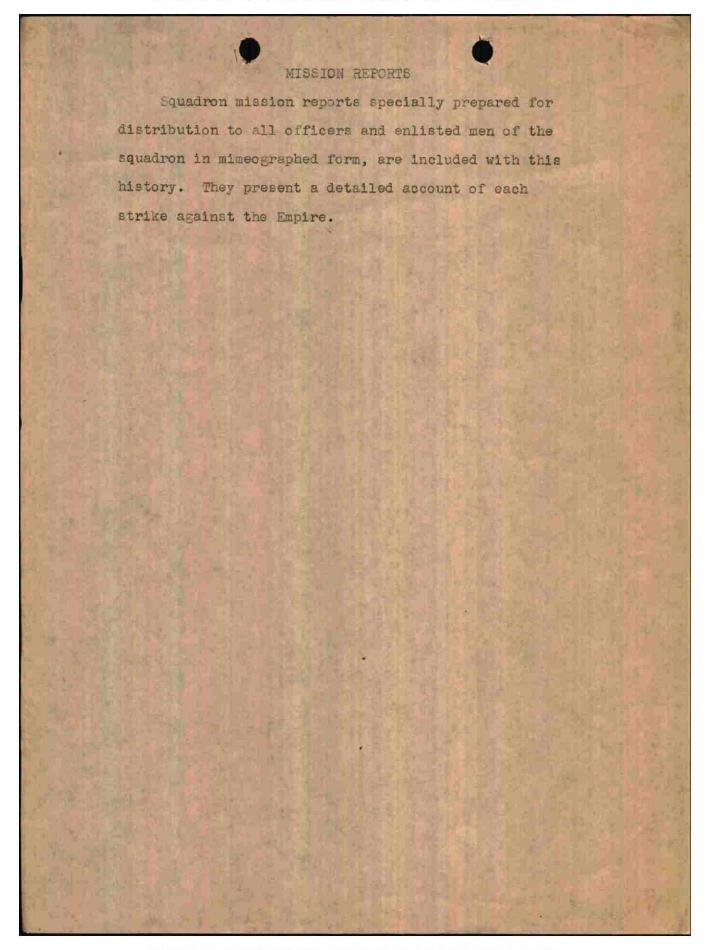
material for booths. In the middle of July, the club was finished--indirect lighting, circular bar, poker room, cooler, soda-water machine and all.

On the evening of Sunday, July 22, it was declared open. Frankly, the night was blue and nideous with conviviality and great good cheer. We had rorgotten what mixed drinks and cold beer could do; we drank past the limits of aspirin, coffee, or sleep to cure. What we forgot, the next day gave us ample time to remember. Noteworthy was the reaction of Capt. Carmody of "B" flight, found early the next morning, snoring and slumbering, draped like a limp rag over thrones 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the 462nd squadron's latrine.

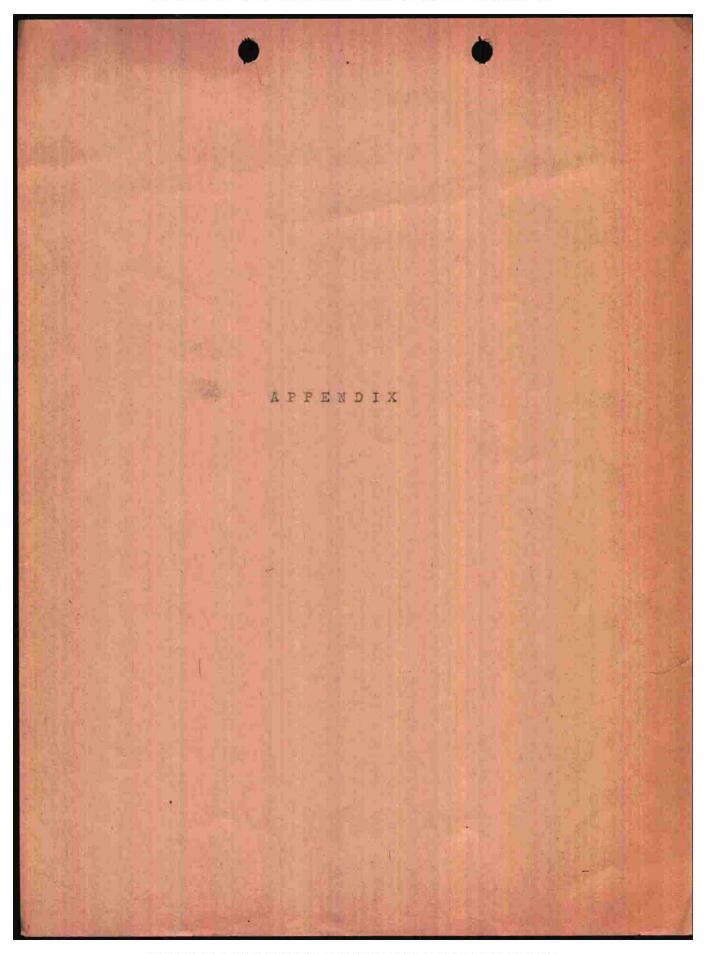
But we had a club. It serves us now as reading room, bar, music room, class room, writing room, and theatre. It is the center of the brilliant social life of the 458th--those rare evenings when nurses are available and can be persuaded to enter and be ogled almost as surviving specimens of an happy ancient age.

By forethought, we brought many records with us, and a player. By courtesy of communications, we acquired a loud-speaker and a radio. All three are interconnected, with results that are sometimes highly original.

It is generally a pretty noisy place, especially the night following a mission, when the war is regought with a thousand familiar gestures. And the club has one simple virtue that cannot be denied: it is diversion from a war that is mostly waiting. It kills an awful superfluity of time.



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SHORT PANGE MISSION 7

7 July 1945 TO 1007 Target 1105 Landing 1153

1 Lt. Connor Red 2 Lt. Starin

2 Lt. Starin 3 Lt. Coleman

4 F/O Todd Josephine: Lt. Warfield.

l Lt. Lee

Escort: Lt. Tatro.

Yellow 2 Lt. Jensen

3 Lt. Lockney 4 Lt. Craig

Aborts: None.

TARGET: Destroyer Escort, Futami Harbor, Chichi Jima, Bonin Islands.

NARRATIVE: Lts. Connor and Starin each carried 2 x 500 GP with 5-second delay fuses; the six other aircraft carried a normal load of 2 x 500 GP fused instantaneously. The mission approached Chichi from the south, and set course up the eastern shore. Red 3 and Red 4, Coleman and Todd, joined Lt. Lee's flight for a dive bombing run on the harbor, while Connor and Starin circled southeast of Futami and waited.

Yellow flight, plus the two red flight a/c, bombed from north to south. Their mission was to divert attention and to do what damage they could with their bombs. As the six a/c pulled off the target. Connor and Starin came in low across the hills to the east and skip-bombed the DE. Starin's bombs released prematurely and dropped harmlessly in the water. Lt Connor dropped properly, but the bombs did not skip. They sank immediately, and the explosion, 5 seconds later, was within about 30 feet of the DE.

Recovering, Starin and Connor rejoined the other aircraft, and all a/c made a second run over the harbor, strafing. The water in the harbor took a major portion of the fire, though the previously damaged harbor buildings caught a part of it. During this bitter battle, Lt. Lee interposed the tail of his plane, very carelessly, in Lt. Lockney's line of fire, and took a hit in the vertical stabilizer.

DAMAGE TO THE ENEMY:

Sea: 2 near misses on DE, Futami harbor.

Ground: Harbor installations strafed, bomb hits in target area.

LOSSES: None. Damage: 1 a/c holed by 1 .50 cal. API, Lt. Lee.

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW E012958 SHORT RANGE MISSION 8 15 July 1945 TO 1037 Target 1115 Landing 1237 1 Capt. Mikes Red 2 F/O McDowell 3 Lt. Feld 4 F/O Bishop Josephine: Lt. Lambert Escort: Lt. Westbrook 1 Lt. Bodfish Yellow 2 Lt. Elliot Aborts: None. 3 Lt. Schlack 4 Lt. Leake TARGET: Radar stations on Chichi Jima and Ani Jima, Bonin Islands. NARRATIVE: For the sake of variety, the squadron carried no bombs to the Bonins on 15 July. Targets were tiny and not vulnerable to less than direct hits, which, as recorded, had been scarcer on Chichi in previous missions than seductions on Suribachi. The flights separated west of Chichi. Red flight, led by Capty Mikes, cruised over the southern tip of Chichi between 12,000 and 8000 feet until two targets were identified. In the six strafing runs which followed, Red flight hit and damaged two radar stations, several houses, and a few gun positions. One of the radar stations was smoking when the attack ended. Yellow flight made a recco run south of Ani Jima, spotted its target, circled, and strafed. Something at the radar site began to burn. Lt. Bodfish, Yellow leader, brough his flight in for a second pass. A single AW opened up during the pass. Lt. Leake thinks he saw this gun fire, and admits that he may have fired back, and, if so, that the gun may have stopped firing, if he, Lt. Leake, actually did shoot at it. He isn't sure. DAMAGE TO THE ENEMY: See Narrative. LOSSES: None. Damage: None.

VLR MISSION 9 4 July 1945 TO 0913 DP 1320 mile of a Landing 1654 1 Capt. Nowick 2 Lt. Schlack Red 3 Lt. Richmond 4 Lt. Kuhn 1 Lt. Middaugh Spares 2 Lt. Bilous 1 Capt. Johnson Yellow 2 Lt. Phillips 3 Lt. Kelsey 4 Lt. Lambert 3 Lt. Seegers 4 Lt. Feld B-29 Observer: 1 Capt. Marcott Blue 2 Lt. Lockney Lt. E. H. Mikes . 3 Lt. Ruble Aborts: Red 4, repled. by 4 Lt. Westbrook Spare 4; Blue 2, by Spare 2; Spare 1 Capt. Baker 3, not replaced. Green 2 Lt. Coleman 3 Lt. Kempert 4 Lt. Jones

TARGET: Fighter strike at Tsukuba airfield, Honshu, Japan.

NARRATIVE: The Empire was thickly covered by a 9/10 blanket of cloud based at 1500 feet and rising to 3500 feet. Targets could not be immediately located, and the squadron circled, looking for a hole in the cloud deck that a squadron might pass through. One appeared, quite small, with an airport beneath. Capt. Nowick, Red Leader, took Red and Yellow flights through. The a/f was almost deserted. It was sod-covered, boasted 4 or 5 hangars and a few dummy a/c along its western boundary. The flights strafed the hangars and building area from northwest to southeast, met no flak, and headed for the RP on the deck.

Blue and Green flights were unable to squeeze through the hole through which the first section dived, and so pulled up and searched for Tsukuba. They found it, and began strafing at 1340. Blue flight made its run along the southwest edge of the field. Capt. Marcott fired and got heavy strikes on the cockpit and wingroots of a heavy (4 engine) bomber; Lt. Westbrook fired into and damaged 2 t/e a/c along the southwest edge of the field. Lt. Ruble followed and also made strikes on 2 unidentified t/e e/a.

Green flight dove in from the northwest along the northeast side of the field. Capt Baker hit a twin-engined e/a, and Lt. Coleman damaged another, which he thinks may have been a dummy, and of which there were a number, scattered about the area. Flak from AV and MGs was moderate and

VLR MISSION 4 July 1945 (cont.)



accurate; it came from all sides, from positions along the northeast perimeter of the a/f, from the powerhouse area, from the barracks area, and from the woods which enclosed the dispersal pits. It was not until Lt. Kempert, Green 3, landed, that he learned he had taken a flak hit: the fuse to a 25mm. All shell smashed a power connection and missed a coolant line by scant inches.

As Green and Blue flights withdrew from the target, two columns of thick black smoke were rising from Tsukuba. Shortly thereafter, Lt. Ruble caught an Army truck, gave it a long squirt, and set it on fire. It was burning fiercely when Lt. Kemport passed over. Later, as the flights made landsend, Lt. Ruble strafed a small fishing boat, lying just offshore.

There was no further action on 4 July 1945.

DAMAGE TO THE EMERY:

Ground: 1 e/a probably destroyed, Capt. Marcott

6 e/a damaged, Lt. Westbrook, Lt. Ruble, Capt. Baker, Lt. Coleman.

1 truck destroyed, Lt. Ruble.

Hangars and buildings damaged, unknown a/f.

I fishing boat damaged, Lt. Ruble.

LOSSES: None. Damage: 1 a/c damaged by modium flak.

VLR | NISSION 10 5 July 1945 TO 0815 DP 1215 RP 1340 | Landing 1610

Red 2 Lt. Dostal 3 Lt. Connor 4 Lt. Lockney

l Lt. Mikes
Yellow 2 Lt. Coltman
3 Lt. Commer
4 Lt. Tatro

l Capt. Carmody
Blue 2 Lt. Warfield
3 Lt. Davis
4 Lt. McCabe

Green 2 Lt. Ewalt
3 Lt. Starin
4 Lt. Pilecki

B-29 Cover

& 1 Lt. Lee
Spares 2 Lt. Harrigan
3 Lt. Smith
4 Lt. Klump
5 Lt. Kuhn

Aborts: Yellow 1, replcd. by Spare 1; Yellow 3, by Spare 3; Blue 4, by Spare 4.

TARGET: Fighter strike at Hyakurigahara airfield, Honshu, Japan.

NARRATIVE: For the second straight day, the weather over the target was thoroughly lousy. The Empire was covered by 9- to 10/10 cloud with tops at 6000 feet. A second layer rose from 9000 feet to unknown tops. The mission was sandwiched between the two at the DP. Sections were separated soon after: Red and Yellow flights (Section 1), toured gradually southward, toward Tokyo Bay, while Blue and Green flights followed some distance behind.

Section 1 let down to the deck off Suno Saki light, and bounced three small ships. Major Shipman took two under fire, strafed them thoroughly, and left them burning. Lt. Connor, Red 3, swung to the left and put a long, heavy burst into a harbor tug. The vessel smoked and lost way.

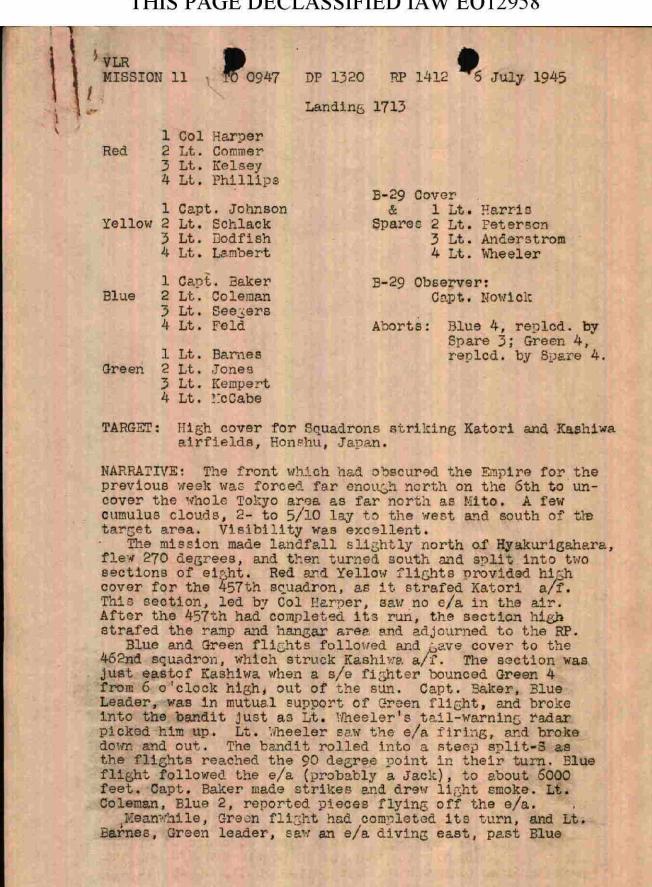
Section 2 saw Section 1 attack, but did not follow because Capt. Carmody, Blue Leader, had engine trouble and was primarily concerned in reaching the RP.

Both sections left the area after the attack and turned toward the RP. En route, some heavy flak rose from Hachijo and from a destroyer 15 miles north of the island. No a/c were damaged.

DAMAGE TO THE ENEMY:

Sca: 3 vessels (1 trawler, 1 salvage ship, 1 tug) damaged, Maj. Shipman (2), Lt Connor.

LOSSES: None.



VLR MISSION 11 6 July 1945 (cont.) flight. Green flight rolled over into a high overhead pass, but the e/a had picked up so much initial speed they were unable to close to short range. Lt. Barnes fired a long burst which produced a few strikes on the left wing and fuselage of the c/a, which was then levelling out on the deck at very high speed. Because its aircraft were beginning to perpoise from the speed, Green flight broke off and climbed to rejoin Blue flight, which had covered the latter part of the pass.
All flak was inaccurate over the target area. No further opposition was encountered, and the squadron returned to base without loss. DAMAGE TO THE ENEMY: Air: 1 e/a probably destroyed, Capt. Baker. 1 e/a damaged, Lt. Barnes. LOSSES: None. Damage: One a/c holod by frontal .50 cal firs, near airscoop; Lt. Kolsey. One a/c lost fairing door in dive; Lt. Barnes.

TO 1026 12 8 July 1945 MISSION Landing 1942 1 Lt. Kelsey 1 Capt. Nowick Sub Cover 2 Lt. Jensen 2 Lt. Schlack Red 3 Lt. Middaugh 3 Lt. Coltman (Maple) 4 Lt. Pilecki 4 Lt. Lockney 1 Lt. Mikes 1 Lt. Lee 2 Lt. Feld Yellow 2 Lt. Harrigan Spares 3 F/O Dostal 3 Lt. Smith 4 Lt. Seegers 4 Lt. Bodfish 1 Capt. Marcott B-29 Observer: Major Shipman 2 Lt. Peterson Blue 3 Lt. Starin 4 Lt. Kuhn Aborts: Groom 3, replaced by Spare 4. 1 Capt. Carmody 2 Lt. Warfield Green 3 Lt. Allen 4 F/O Craig TARGET: Fighter strike at Tokorozawa airfield, Honshu, Japan. NARRATIVE: This was the dog-faced, shaggy-eared, murderous old grandpappy of them all. Flak came up by the carload, more than the squadron had ever seen before. It was the first visit paid

Tokyo's Happy Valley, and the reception was eloquently

unfriendly.

Near landfall, six transports were called out at 4 o'clock low, but were not intercepted. The squadron flew at 15,000 feet at landfall, and dived gradually as it cruised north to Mt. Fuji, and then turned northeast toward the western Suburbs of Tokyo. Airfields were scattered below like stamps in a catalogue; the target could not be immediately found.

The squadron circled, and circled, and finally, as heavy flak got heavier and more accurate, peeled off and attacked the nearest targets. In the melee of ack-ack and crossing strafing runs, three airfields were strafed. Of eight operational a/c observed, one was damaged by Lt. Middaugh, Red 3. Hangars, radio stations, gun positions, and a few

dummy e/a took most of the damage.

Withdrawal began on a heading of 265 degrees. Suddenly, over the heavily industrialized prefecture where B-29s had long made their runs, hell broke loose. Plilots swear that everything but the dunghills was thrown at them for 4 solid minutes. Planes were on the deck, indicating 350 mph, shooting at everything and enything, and the flak came up. It came up from 120mm. batteries, with instantaneous fuses that laid the bursts in the middle of the formations. The ugly black puffs of the heavy stuff were as thick as grass

VIR MISSIGN 12 8 July 1945 (cont.)

at 50 to 100 feet. Medium flak guns, twin naval guns, machine guns, 20mm. and 25mm. automatic weapons spun on their mounts, fired, tracked, and fired again. Tracers floated up thick as minnows in a school, but there were more of the dirty black bursts of heavy flak than anything else. Pilots shot up what they could to stop it, but it did not stop. Lt. Schlack was thrown on his back by the muzzle blast of a medium gun; Capt. Marcott disappeared in a barrage of heavy flak but came out unharmed. Planes rocked from continuous explosions above, below, to every side.

Lt. Kuhn, Blue 4, was strafing a factory in the middle of the Valley when he took a hit in his left wing, in his ammunition bay. The .50 cal. he had loft exploded. The wing stayed on, but its permanency was questionable. Kuhn started for the RP with Lts. Lee, Harrigan, and Starin. Then Harrigan was hit. His engine began to smoke as he lost coolant. He stayed with his plane as long as possible, in a desperate attempt to reach the sea, but the smoke got worse. Finally Harrigan slowed down and bailed out, at 4000 feet over a deserted valley in the western foothills of the Tokyo plain. His engine exploded soon after.

It was over Happy Valley that Lt. Lockney won the first Purple Heart of the 506th Group. A 7.7mm. slug tore through the cockpit and would have wounded him seriously. It was deflected by a thick strand of radio wires. The wires shattered, and the small pieces turned shrapnel and drove into Lockney's right hip.

F/O Craig was almost as lucky. On his first mission over the Empire, he caught an unpleasantly large piece of heavy flak in his right engine cowling. It cut the lead wires from

his right magneto, but he returned to base.

Flak was not the only danger over the Valley. Both strafing run and withdrawal were made into the west, into the sun. It was hard to see what lay ahead, and it was deathly impossible to get far enough above the deck to take a good look around. Power lines were the worst danger. When they could be seen, they were shot in two. Men they couldn't be seen, they were dodged at the very last instant. Lts. Bodfish and Middaugh cut two lines; Capt. Marcott got another, and later, with his flight, put a good squirt into a string of railroad cars and a large warehouse. Something was burning there when the flight left.

Finally, as the squadron climbed into the Tokyo foothills and left the settled area behind, the flak ceased. Planes turned south, toward the RP. At landsend, things popped again. Capt. Marcott caught a fishing boat just offshore; Lt. Peterson strafed a trawler full of ducking Nips. Marcott says that Peterson's fire lifted the trawler by her heels and

shook hor from stem to stern.

During this playful mayhom, Lts. Starin, Lee, and Kuhn were 9000 feet above on their way to the RP, when 10 Jacks came out of the clouds, dead shead. Two flew high cover at 12,000 feet; the other eight were in flights of four, in mutual support at about 10,000 feet. Starin, Lee, and Kuhn

VLR MISSION 8 July 1945 (cont.) (3)

attacked. One of the high Jacks peeled off and came in behind Lt. Kuhn, shooting. Kuhn snapped under and dived for the deck firewalled. Tracers were breaking around him when Lt. Lee slid in behind the Jack, gave it a long and furious burst, and flamed it. Lt. Starin meanwhile closed in on the left-hand flight of four and put a long burst into a straggling e/a. The Jack took it, then, as pieces broke off his fuse-lage and smoke poured from his engine, he broke for the deck. The opposite flight of four turned into Starin, and put a hole in his vertical stabilizer before he broke down at full throttle and escaped.

A few minutes later Maple flight began to get business. Several bailouts came in rapid succession, over the RP or near it. Most were from another Group; one was Lt. Mekus of the 506th, who had been flying with the 457th squadron. Mekus was rescued by the lifeguard submarine soon after he hit the water. Then a distress call came in from a pilot bailing out some 100 miles northeast, just offshore. The submarine could not attempt rescue because of mines and coastal batteries. Maple flight, 2 B-29s, and a dory-hung

B-17 headed for the position.

Three motorboats were close to the reported position of the downed pilot, but turned back to shore as soon as the rescue planes appeared. Two rowboats remained some 3 miles offshore; and another lay a few miles farther out. Lt. Kelsey, Maple leader, took a squirt at the lone boat, for it was chasing something that could have been a man trying to swim to sea. The splashing was actually a school of fish. Maple flight flew over the other small craft, but did not strafe for fear the pilot had been rescued and was aboard. The area was searched thoroughly, but no trace of the pilot remained. Maple flight was finally ordered to return to base. It landed at 1950, after nine hours and fifty minutes of flight.

Shortly after the main body of P-51s had left the RP, Capt. Carmody, Green leader, saw a 462nd a/c trailing coolant and smoke. He circled with the damaged P-51 until the engine caught fire and the plane dived toward the sea. The pilot, Lt. Freeman, bailed out just as his a/c began to burn. Green flight circled him after he hit the water, calling for help. A dumbo finally located Freeman, and Green flight returned to

base, landing with fuel tanks full of anything but.

DAMAGE TO THE ENEMY;

Air: 1 e/a destroyed, Lt. Q. Lee. 1 e/a probably destroyed, Lt. Starin

Ground: 1 e/a damaged, Lt. Middaugh. Hangars, radio stations, factories, power plants, train and warehouses strafed.

Sea: 1 fishing boat damaged, Capt. Marcott; 1 trawler damaged, Lt. Peterson.

VLR MISSION 13 9 July 1945 TO 0943 DP 1300 RP 1345 Landing 1700 1 Maj. Shipman 2 Lt. Allen Red 3 Lt. Connor 4 Lt. Ewalt . . · 物质 10 · 10 1 Capt. Johnson 1 Lt. Barnes Spares 2 F/O Todd Yellow 2 Lt. Phillips 3 Lt. Kempert 3 Lt. Stuart 4 Lt. Lambert 4 Lt. Davis B-29 Observer: Capt. C 1 Capt. Baker 2 Lt. Coleman Capt. Carmody 3 Lt. Commer 4 Lt. Tatro Aborts: Blue 4, replaced by Spare 4: Spare 2, not 1 Lt. Harris replaced. Green 2 Lt. Westbrook 3 Lt. Anderstrom 4 Lt. Wheeler TARGET: Fighter strike at Hamamatsu airfield, Honshu, Japan. NARRATIVE: After two successive strikes at airfields near Tokyo. the mission of 9 July strafed three airfields southeast of Nagoya. The weather, for the third straight mission, was unusually good, but for a front near 30 degrees N., which was penetrated between 10,000 and 12,000 feet between columns of towering cumulus. Off the coast of the Empire, weather was CAVU; landfall was made as planned. The 458th dived gradually from a top

off the coast of the Empire, weather was CAVU; landfall was made as planned. The 458th dived gradually from a top altitude of 13,000 feet to 5000 feet as it crossed the coast, received some medium flak near Yokosuka, swung slowly left to 270 degrees, into an excellent line abreast, and hit the deck some 5 miles from Hamamatsu a/f. The 462nd and 457th squadrons flew high cover as the 458th strafed the field.

The squadron found not a single operational a/c: it found damaged e/a propped on oil drums and stilts, cane dummics, and a gross oversupply of light and medium flak. Red flight hit the southern boundary of the field, and strafed gun positions and buildings from thence to Hamana lagoon. Maj. Shipman squirted an electric car just before he hit the PT. Lt Allen, Red 2, was busy being thoroughly unfriendly when he took an AV hit square in the right wing, outboard of his gun bay. The wing was flowered, top and bottom, like a tin can burst by a firecracker. Allen did not feel the hit, but did notice that the wing was heavy. He continued to shoot things up, and finally caught a rowboat on Hamana and contributed another ancestor to the stockpile. Yellow flight

VLR MISSION 3 9 July 1945 (cont.)

hit the PT on the right of Red flight, caught some flak, and shot up gun positions and buildings. Capt. Johnson, Yellow leader, blew up a transformer and cut a power line. Later, he caught a small boat in the act of being aggressive, and shot the boatman in two; saw two more small craft and gave both a considerable squirt. Lt. Phillips, Yellow 2, not to be outdone, saw the boats also, and shot just as Johnson was passing overhead. As bullets will, some richocheted, and, in passing, gave Capt. Johnson a moment of grave doubt and discomfort.

Blue flight also found nothing on Hamamatsu but dummies and flak. The flight shot up buildings and gun positions, stayed on the deck, and reached Hamana lagoon just as a rowboat was frantically trying to get out of the way. Capt. Baker, Blue leader, intercepted this dangerous enemy and dispatched it. Lt. Commer, Blue 3, put a long burst into

a barge loaded with 50-gallon drums.

Last over the target was Green flight. Lt. Harris, Green leader, was strafing a factory just east of Hamamatsu when the enemy strafed him. He took several 7.7mm hits in the wings, one penetrating the left wing root and glancing off the fuselage near the cockpit. A 20 or 25 mm. shell hit just to the rear of the tail wheel, came out the right side of the fuselage, and exploded, riddling the right elevator with fragments. Past the PT, Lt. Westbrook saw a power line and shot it up. Lt. Harris saw the strikes, and, to be companionable, shot it upt also. Hamana lagoon provided a dory for diversion: Harris squirted this also

a dory for diversion; Harris squirted this also.
Once past the lagoon, all flights turned toward the sea and climbed to 12,000 feet to provide cover for the 457th squadron, which strafed Oitsu and Toyohashi airfields.
The Group retired to the foothills northeast of Hamamatsu and then turned right, again toward the sea, and rallied.

No enemy a/c were seen in the air or on the ground.

### DAMAGE TO THE ENEMY:

Ground: 1 transformer destroyed, Capt. Johnson 1 electric car damaged, Maj. Shipman 1 small factory damaged, Lt. Harris Power lines, buildings, gun positions damaged

Sea: 1 barge damaged, Lt. Commer 3 small boats damaged Cont

3 small boats damaged, Capt. Johnson, Lt. Phillips

1 rowboat riddled, Lt. Allen 1 rowboat riddled, Capt. Baker 1 dory damaged, Lt. Harris

LOSSES: None. Damage: 1 a/c hit by flak, Lt. Phillips; 1 a/c holed in right wing, Lt. Allen; 1 a/c holed and hit, Lt. Harris. 462nd lost Lt. Roseborough in bailout at sea.

VLR MISSION 14 16 July 1945 TO 1016 DP 1338 RP 1425 Landing 1724 1 Maj. Shipman 2 Lt. Wheeler Red 3 Capt. Connor 5 Capt. Connor 4 Lt. Lockney 1 Lt. Lee 1 Lt. Anderstrom Yellow 2 Lt. Bodfish Spares 2 Lt. Ewalt

3 Lt. Smith 3 Lt. Pileck

4 Lt. Phillips 4 Lt. Westbr 3 Lt. Pilecki 4 Lt. Westbrook B-29 Observer: 1 Capt: Baker Blue 2 F/O Dostal Capt. Marcott 3 Lt. Middaugh Aborts: None. 4 Lt. Feld 1 Capt. Barnes Green 2 Lt. Davis
3 Lt. Kempert
4 Lt. Leake

TARGET: Fighter strike at Akenogahara airfield, Honshu, Japan.

NARRATIVE: The JAF, for the first time since the 23rd of June, attempted to offer mass airborne resistance to a fighter strike. The weather provided an excellent shooting gallery west of Nagoya and Ise bay. A low overcast was based between 8000 and 9000 feet, and several higher decks lay at 16,000 feet and above. Most of the fighting was between these two layers. The 458th made landfall first, and had penetrated 40 to 50 miles inland when Maj. Shipman made a 360 degree turn to allow the other two squadrons to position themselves, as planned, ahead of and above the 458th. The turn was unlucky, for no sooner were the 457th and 462nd in position

than they made contact with e/a.

The radio crackled: "Blue leader, bogies at 4 o'clock low--Get the bastards, Joe-Break, Red leader, there's one behind you-Get that guy, he's right under you!"

The 458th joined battle less than a minute after the fight began. The lower overcast ended perhaps 10 miles from the shores of Ise bay, and near this border lay a large hole. Above, in, beyond, near, and about this hole the sky was a milling swarm of aircraft.

Major Shipman, Red leader, caught a fleeing Frank some 2000 feet below, on an opposite course. The major rolled into an overhead, closed on the e/a, tracked, and squeezed the trigger. Nothing happoned. Nonchalantly, the major turned his gun switches on and fired from almost dead astern, and got strikes on the e/a's fuselage and wings. The major overshot and pulled up. Lt. Wheeler, Red 2, followed the e/a into a diving turn to

VIR MISSION 14 16 July 1945 (cont.)

the left, and got heavy strikes about the cockpit. There was a light explosion behind the canopy just as wheeler broke over the e/a with a few odd millimeters to spare. Capt. Connor, Red 3, having little else to do, gave the Frank a short squirt as he went by. The e/a dived into the ground and blew up. It is not known whether the Frank did this in deference to the major, for fear of another pass by Wheeler, or because he was blinded by Capt. Connor's new insignia. Lt. Wheeler received credit for its destruction.

Blue flight, led by Capt. Baker, covered Major Shipman's pass; then saw an e/a below and attacked. The Jap was being chased by two other P-51s at the time, so Blue flight fired a short burst, broke off, and climbed back to 13,000 feet, on a heading of about 320 degrees. Red flight was well ahead and above, when Lt. Middaugh, Blue 3, called in eight bandits at 3 o'clock high. The e/a were at 15,000 feet and in position to attack. Capt. Baker called Major Shipman, requesting a quick 180 degree turn and immediate presence of four more P-51s. Major Shipman turned, but did not see the e/a. A flight of four P-51s crossed above Blue flight, at 15,000 feet, and the eight bandits shied away. Two split-essed; the other six scattered. Capt. Baker followed one of the two down, and, with

Lt. Middaugh, fired. Neither observed any hits. Green flight, at the start of the fight, saw two e/a chasing two P-51s around and around the hole. Capt. Barnes, Green leader, started down, but both bandits disappeared into the overcast. The flight circled until another e/a stuck his nose out below the hole. Green flight attacked from eight o'clock high. Lt. Davis, Green 2, saw heavy strikes on the e/a from Barnes' fire. The bandit, a George, had been in a medium turn to the left, but suddenly snapped onto his back. He took strikes on his belly. A small fire started on his right wing as he dove out. Green flight regained altitude and circled the pickle barrel again. Another George came into view at 9 o'clock low. The flight throttled back and came down through the hole, attacking at 6 o'clock high. The Jap saw the attack and broke sharply right while Green flight was still out of range. Capt. Barnes fired a short burst at 60 degrees deflection, head on, and saw hits on the engine and cockpit. Lts. Davis and Kempert snapped squirts at the e/a as he rolled onto his back. As Green flight climbed for altitude, the George went straight into a hillside and very extensively blew up.

Yellow flight was split into two elements at the beginning of the fight. Lt. Lee, Yellow leader, followed Major Shipman in his pass. Lt. Phillips, Yellow 4, was unable to drop his external tanks, so Lt. Smith, Yellow 3, circled with him above the fight. Then Smith saw an e/a in the hole, and attacked. The bandit broke sharply left and came at his attackers almost head on. Smith got strikes as he fired. Another e/a crossed above Smith and Phillips from 7 to 2 o'clock. Smith tried to shoot, but could not get in position. Then a third e/a got on Smith's tail. Smith climbed into the overcast and lost the

VLR MISSION 14 16 July 1945 (cont.) (3) bandit. Phillips lost Smith, and later joine: Green flight on its return down the peninsula to the RP. DAMAGE TO THE ENEMY: (458th) Air: 3 e/a destroyed, Lt Wheeler, Capt. Barnes (2). 1 e/a damaged, Lt. Smith (506th) Air: 10 e/a destroyed. 1 e/a probably destroyed. 9 e/a damaged. LOSSES: 458th, none. 462nd, none. 457th, Capt. Benbow, MIA.

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VLR RP 1100 TO 0613 19 July 1945 MISSION 15 Landing 1405 1 Capt. Nowick 2 Lt. Schlack Red 3 Lt. Commer 4 Lt. Seegers 1 Capt. Carmody 1 Capt. Mikes Spares 2 Lt. Coltman Yellow 2 Lt. Warfield 3 Lt. Coleman 3 Lt. Allen 4 Lt. Tatro 4 F/O Craig 1 Capt. Johnson Aborts: None. Blue

2 Lt. Jensen 3 Lt. Kelsey

4 Lt. Lambert 1 Lt. Anderstrom

Green 2 Lt. Peterson 3 Lt. Starin 4 Lt. Pilecki

TARGET: Fighter strike at Itami airfield, Honshu, Japan.

NARRATIVE: Industrial Osaka, on 19 July, was served an extemporaneous mess of rhubarb, more out of perversity than in anger. The squadron made landfall southwest of Osaka at 15,000 feet, located Itami, and turned line abreast toward it, diving to the deck. Then the party started.

Capt. Nowick claims that the amours of the previous night plus the loss of his magnificent mustache, had deeply affected him; that the charms of the ANC had so befuddled his usually keen capacity for navigation that somehow he led the squadron far to the north of Itami on the first pass. As matters developed, the ANC had done the squadron a favor.

Realizing that he had missed the target, Capt. Nowick called a left turn, into the squadron, made a 270 degree turn, and came down on Itami from the north. Red flight passed over the eastern perimeter of the field, and saw but one t/e a/c. Capt. Nowick told the other flights not to attack because there were no targets, then turned on a heading of about 60 degrees and began to rhubarb to the RP.

In the confusion of these few minutes, no two pilots agree on just where they flew and precisely what areas they strafed. Yellow flight stuck close to the heels of Red flight. Blue flight was split in the original dive to the target when Capt. Johnson's fairing doors refused to stay up. Lt. Anderstrom, Green leader, continued south in the main pass, over the center of Osaka proper. Peterson, Starin, and Pilecki turned left the with main body of the squadron as it withdrew, and Anderstrom was alone on the right of the main body.

VLR MISSION 15 19 July 1945 (cont.)

It was there that Anderstrom caught an electric engine and strafed it, and there also that he got strikes on a small

gasometer.

In this manner the rhubarb started in earnest. The Osaka plain stretched flat to the mountains on the east, and the plain was fat with targets: power lines, locomotives, box cars, factories. Every pilot squirted at least one factory and one power line. Of the two, power lines took the worst beating. On a small plain northeast of Osaka, the steel towers were thick as derricks on an oil field. When the squadron strafed, the plain crackled blue as the high tension lines snapped, smoked, and shorted out.

Capt. Nowick, Lt. Schlack, and Lt. Seegers strafed what everyone else was strafing: factories and power lines. Schlack had already squirted gun positions along the eastern edge of Itami. Lt. Commer, Red 3, had the prize target of the day. He caught a truck unaware, strafed it, and killed the driver. The truck crashed into the abutement of a bridge. Two terrified Nips bailed out of the vehicle. In two tremendous bounds they cleared truck, bridge, and railing, and hurled themselves into the water below.

Yellow flight buzzed over the western outskirts of Osaka, strafed the Yawanishi airframe plant, and continued east. Between Carmody, Warfield, Allen, and Craig, seven factories and eight power lines were strafed.

Capt. Johnson, Blue leader, caught two locomotives near a roundhouse, and strafed both. Lts. Starin and Pilecki squirted a RR station and were going down on a string of freight cars when an explosion beneath them blew them off their target. Lts. Kelsey and Lambert caught another RR

station and a string of boxcars.

The Osaka plain ends in a ridge of 6000-foot mountains, which rise steeply without the gentility of a few foothills. The squadron withdrew toward this ridge on the deck, indicating 350 mph, and was suddenly confronted with the necessity of rapidly going up. Some chose ravines which threaded the mountains; some firewalled throttles and climbed. Capt. Carmody swears that Yellow flight was chugging along at 170, lifting itself by prayer alone, when the ridge was finally cleared. Light flak met the squadron over the RR yards at Osaka

and at the edge of Itami. No planes were damaged, and all

returned safely to base.

DAMAGE TO THE ENERY: See narrative.

LOSSES: None. Damage: None.





VLR MISSION 16 22 July 1945 TO 0957 DP 1325 RP 1430

Landing 1722

Red 2 F/O Dostal 3 Capt. Stuart 4 Lt. Lockney Spares 2 Lt. Kuhn
Lt. Wheeler
Lt. Tatro

1 Capt. Mikes Yellow 2 Lt. Coltman

B-29 Observer: Capt. Connor

3 Lt. Sowers 4 F/O Bilous

Aborts: Red 2, replaced by Spare 1; Red 3, replcd by Spare 3; Blue 3, by Spare 4; Green 2, by Spare 2.

Blue 2 Lt. Phillips
3 Lt. Smith
4 Lt. Johnson

1 Capt. Harris Green 2 Lt. Westbrook 3 Lt. Ruble

4 Lt. Ewalt

TARGET: High cover for squadrons striking Takamatsu airfield, Shikoku, Japan.

NARRATIVE: The mission was little more than a reconnaissance in force. Fighters from Iwo had never before penetrated into Shikoku, and it was in hope of flushing e/a on the ground and in the air that the mission was scheduled. The hope was misplaced. The 458th provided cover for the strafing deck squadrons, who found the airfields practically devoid of e/a. Several boats, a ship, a Mavis, and a CV or CVE caught the strafe. The 458th saw no airborne e/a, and so returned without engagement. Sub cover circled the bailout of Lt Hinkle of the 457th at the RP. Hinkle was picked up by the lifeguard sub 15 minutes after he hit the water.

DAMAGE TO THE ENERY: None.

LOSSES: None.

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MISSION 16 24 July 1945 TO 0801 DP 1140 RP 1320

Landing 1520

1 Maj. Shipman

2 Lt. Jensen 3 Lt. Stuart

4 Lt. Westbrook

1 Capt. Baker

Yellow 2 Lt. Coleman 3 Lt. Middaugh

4 Lt. Feld

B-29 Observer

Spares: 2 Lt. Klump

Capt. Carmody

1 Lt. Smith

Aborts Red 3, replaced by Spare 2; Blue 1,

by Spare 1.

l Capt. Marcott (Anderstrom Blue 2 Lt. Peterson (Peterson

2 Lt. Peterson (Feterson 3 Lt. Anderstrom(Filecki

4 Lt. Pilecki (Smith

1 Capt. Connor

Green 2 Lt. Lanks

3 Lt. Jones

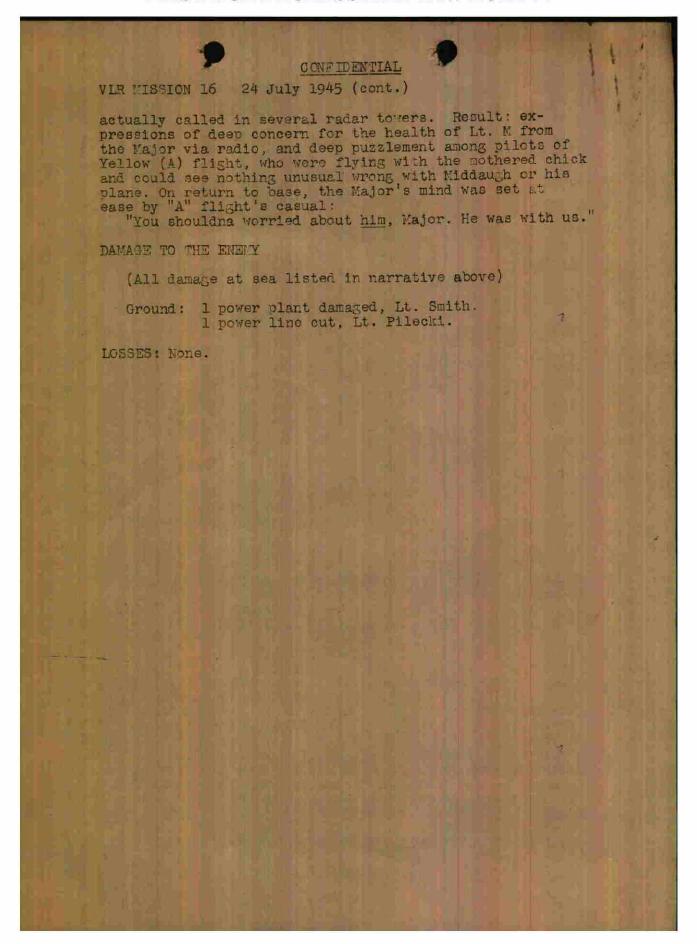
4 Lt. McCabe

TARGET: Fighter strike at Yaizu airfield, Honshu. Japan.

NARRATIVE. A low, thick overcast lay over the target area when the squadron made landfall at 15,000 feet. Maj. Shipman led the mission 30 to 40 miles inland, circling to the right over Sagura bay, until a break in the cloud layer provided op ortunity to get on the deck. The squadron got on it, in the middle of the bay; buzzed north and caught a bevy of Sugar Dogs and small coastal trawlers equatting in the water off the village of Shimizu. In the two squadron pacses following, the record of ships strafed cads thus: Maj. Shipman, 4 strafed, 2 left burning; Lt. Jensen, 2 strafed; Lt. Klump, four strafed in the water, two on the beach; Lt. Middaugh, 2 strafed; Lt. Feld, 1 strafed; Lt. Anderstrom, 5 strafed; Lt Peterson, 4 strafed; Lt. Pilecki, 2 strafed (one missed, one clobbered); Lt. Smith, 3 strafed; Lt. Connor, 2 strafed; Lt. Leake, 3 strafed; Lt. Jones, 3 strafed; Lt. McCabe, 2 strafed and one missed. There were but 8 to 10 craft in all: the average was 4 passes per boat.

After this naval action, the squadron rejoined and swept down on Yaizu from the north. Only one operational a/c was on the field, bolstered by 6 or 7 wrecks in use as dummies. Flak was light and inaccurate, and the squadron shot up what little was available for shooting up. A garbled radio call gave Major Shipman the deep conviction that Lt. Middaugh was losing coolant, when Middaugh had

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CONFIDENTIAL MISSION 18 28 July 1945 TO 0829 1130 RP 1300 Landing 1541 1 Capt. Nowick

Red 2 Lt. Schlack 3 Capt. Marcott 4 Lt. Ruble

1 Capt. Carmody Yellow 2 Lt. Warfield Spares Lt. Kuhn
3 F/O Craig Lt. Ewalt 4 7/0 Todd

1 Capt. Johnson : 3-24 Observer Blue 2 F/O Bishop 3 Lt. Kelsey

1 Capt. Mikes Green 2 It. Coltman 3 Lt. Sowers 4 F/O Bilous

Lt. Richmond Lt. Ewalt Lt. Westbrook

Capt. Harris

4 Lt. Phillips Aborts: Spare 2, not replaced; Red 4, replaced by Spare 4.

TARGET: Fighter sweep, Tokyo area, Honshu, Japan.

NARRATIVE For the first time, VII Fighter Command gave us a green light on a fighter sweep. The mission was pure, unadulterated rhubarb from beginning to end. It cost, but it paid off as probably the most effective sweep to date. Effectiveness came not only from the latitude allowed us, but from hard, accurate strafing -- the best air-to-ground junnery

we had yet fired over the Empire.

We had been over the area many times before; over the long peninsula that stretches from Mito on the north to the southern extremity of Tokyo Bay. The squadron headed over land, north, past Mito, where Blue and Green flights hit the deck, while Red and Yellow flights stayed high, as top cover. The sweep worked south. At Ishioka, we hit the jackpot -- a freight yard full of small factories, locomotives, boxcars, freight sheds. Blue and Green flights tucked into a Junnery pattern and went to work. On his first pass, Capt. Johnson blew up a locomotive. Lt, Kelsey burned two box cars. Lt. Phillips and F/O Bishop followed through on the freight cars and the factories. Capt. Mikes made three separate passes on the yards, with Lt. Coltman. Lt. Sowers and F/O Bilous found another locomotive and utterly perforated it. The whole area caught a heavy and extremely concentrated dose of .50 cal. It was a professional job of clobbering.
On his last pass, Capt. Nikes left the yards and hit a

grounded Tony on a small airfield one mile southeast of Ishioka. It took heavy strikes, but did not burn. (cont.)

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VLR MISSIG 18 28 July, 1945. (cont.

The flights were broken up toward the last of the runs. Mikes was alone; Kelsey and Phillips had by mistake joined Green fli ht. On the way to the RE, individual pilots piled up the following tally of the destroyed and damaged: Lt. Kelsey and Lt. Phillips, one boat heavily dama ed, a factory strafed, two oil tanks burned, and a RR station damaged; Capt. Johnson, a fishin, boat damaged, power lines shot up with the aid of F/O Bishop, on truck damaged; Lt. Sowers, on radio tower strafed, several power lines damaged, one truck and one factory squirted; F/O Bileus, 2 power lines and one factory shot up; F/O Bishop, two of five seaplanes damaged at Kashima seaplane station, several buildings and towers damaged.

Capt. Mikes, previous to his first run on the yards at Ishioka, caught a 25-ton truck and blew it up. Capt. Johnson's boat was, unfortunately for the boatman, populated. Johnson

exterminated the population.

Having met no opposition in the air, Red and Yellow flights hit the deck near the Tone river and rhubarbed south. Capt. Nowick and Capt. Marcott strafed one steam and one electric locomotive at Mob ra, and damaged both severely. Pilots in Red flight otherwise chose individual targets. Capt. Nowick shot up several RR stations, a few power lines, a town and a boat beached there. Capt. Marcott squirted three factories and one truck. Lt. Westbrook hussed the deck rather firmly, and shot up several factories, power lines, an RR trestle, and a steel tower near the coast. In return, the enemy nicked his left wing

Lt. Schlack (Himself, the Hammer), had a field day along the coast. Said he of his deeds: "For this, I should be getting the DFC at least." All by himself, Schlack fearlessly attacked: 1 radar station, left burning; 1 dredge; 3 tugs, left burning; 7-10 small boats of various sizes, variously shot-up and squirted; and one small ship, under construction, set afire.

Yellow flight had trouble from the start. F/O's Craig and Todd were lost in a sharp turn on the deck which forced them well ahead of the formation. Carmody and Warfield were soon alone; suddenly Carmody was alone. Carmody made a 360, but there was no trace of plane, pilot, or parachute. Carmody continued to the RP, shooting up several power lines, a boat, and clobbering a lighthouse as he made landsend. Crais and Todd continued south together they strafed a radio station, a factory on the bank of the Tone; a boat at landsend, and several power lines. Todd lost Graig, continued to the REbut found no one there, and so D/R'd home, alone, scared, but on course. Lt. Varfield did not return to base, and was, with regret, considered missing in action until the evening of 31 July, when a teletype a nounced that he had been rescued, in good health, some 100 miles outh of Hachijo Jima, on

VLR MISSION 1 28 July, 1945 (con (3)

course to Ivo, by a lifeguard submarine, and one of cur

ever-loving chums, a Navy Dumbo.

Our second purple heart is ungrudgingly awarded to Lt.
Kelsey, for numerous pieces of plexiglass removed from his
neck. Near Katori a/f, a machine-jun slug ripped through his
canopy, through the headrest, richoeted from the armor plate,
and smashed through the other side of the bubble. A few
more bullets hit Kelsey's right wing in aileron and flaps.

### DAMAGE TO THE EVENY

Ground 2 locomotives destroyed, Capt. Johnson, 7/0 Bilous, Lt. Sowers.

2 locmotives damaged, Cart. Nowick, Capt. Marcott

1 truck destroyed, Capt. Mikes

3 trucks damaged, Lt. Sowers, Capt. Marcott, Capt. Johnson

2 oilcars burned, Lt. Kelsey

1 Tony probably destroyed, Capt. Mikes

2 seaplanes damaged, F/O Bishop

1 lighthouse damaged, Capt. Carmody

1 radar station set afire, Lt. Schlack

Sea 3 tugs set afire, Lt. Schlack
1 boat under construction set afire, Lt. Schlack
13-16 small craft damaged, Lt, Kelsey, Capt. Johnson,
Lt. Schlack Capt. Carmody, F/O Todd, F/O Craig,
Capt. Nowick

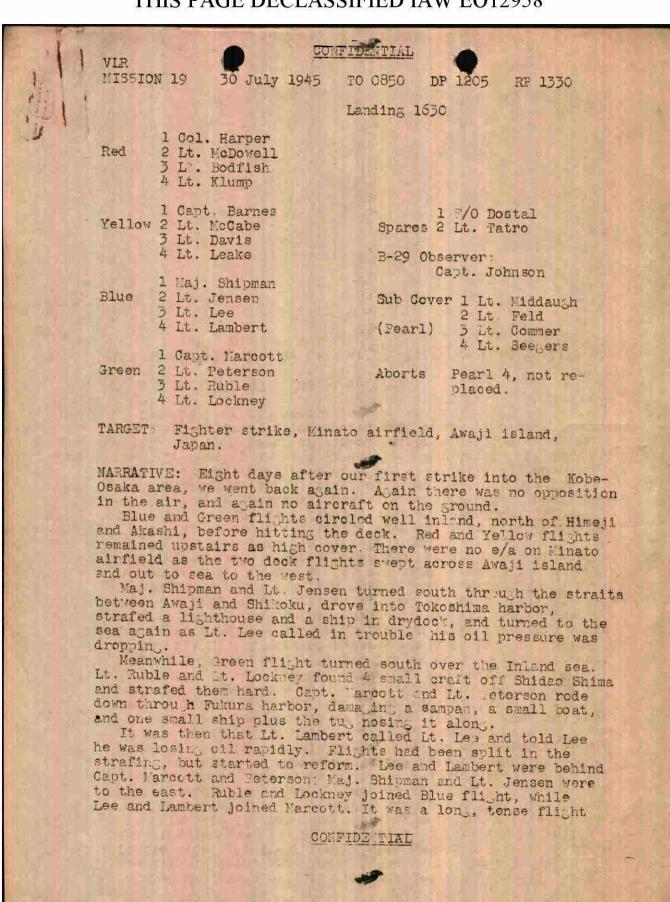
Factories, power lines, RR yards, radio stations damaged.

LOSSES: 1 P-51, flown by Lt. E. Warfield, pilot saved.

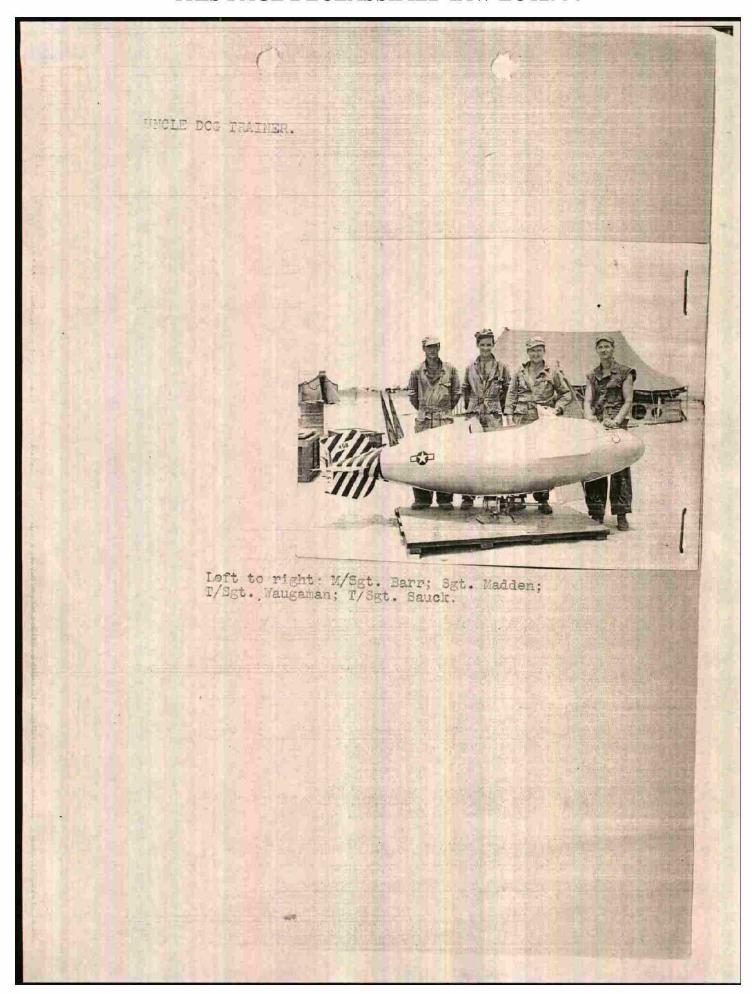
Damage: 1 P-51 hit in canopy and right wing, Lt.

Kelsey; 1 P-51 hit in left wing, Lt. Westbrook.

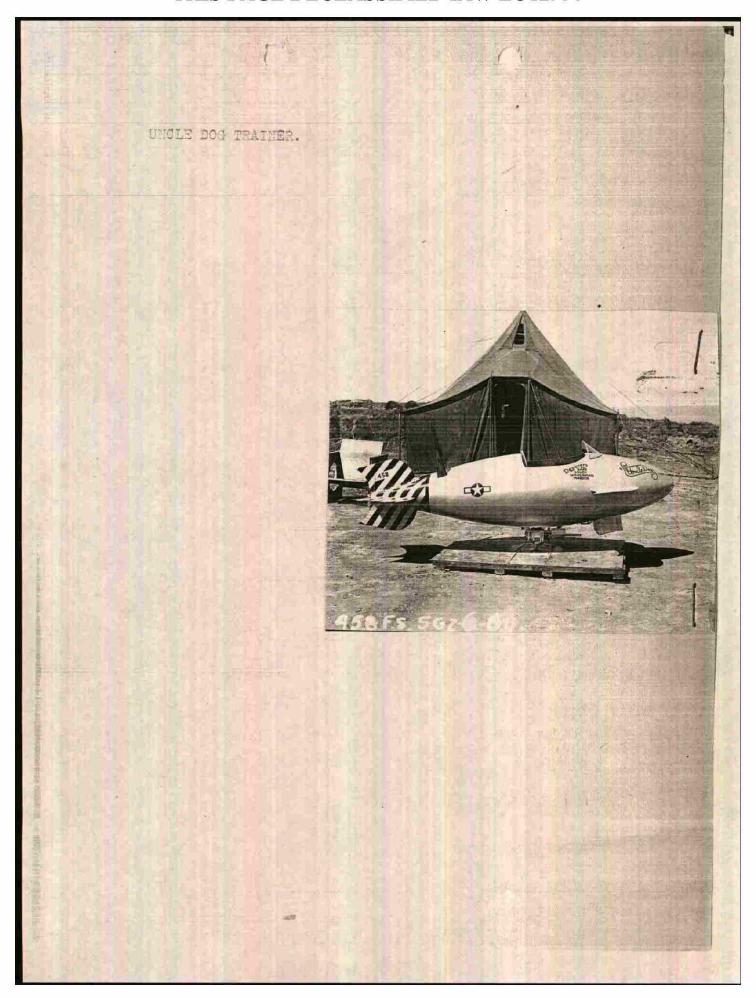
457th: 2nd Lt. Joseph D. Vinn, MIA.



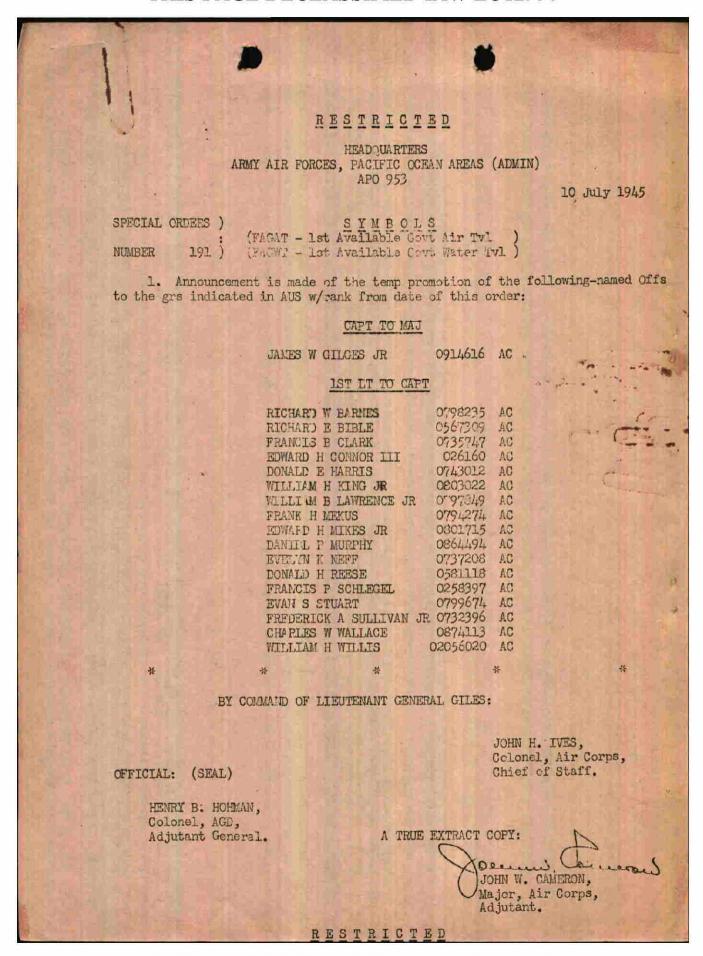
COMP. DESTI. 30 July 1945 VLR MISSION 10 (cont.) to the RP. Lee's oil pressure was droppin steadily, and finally hit zero, and stayed there. The plane kept flying It flew for over five minutes with no oil pressure at all. And finally, over the RT, Lee tried to bail out by rolling his ship onto its back and dropping out. The ship split-esced and Lee stayed in. His recovery was so low that his propwash left a wake in the water. Lee got altitude again, and went over the side. The plane splashed and went in 30 to 50 feet from the spot where Lee waited in the water for the pick-up. He did not wait long. The submarine reported him aboard, safe, and in good condition, soon after. Meanwhile, Red and Yellow fli htm let down from top cover near Wakamoura Wan, and went after several large fishing boats in a bay to the south. Red flight opened up, and a camouflaged ship got her dander up and shot back with heavy and light stuff. Yellow flight went in slightly west of Red flight and strafed several small boots. Lt. Davis and Lt. Leake echeloned left and gave the enemy flak ship a nice squirt. Heavy flak bursts followed both flights as they topped a hill on the breekaway. Col Harper and flight returned and strafed the flak ship. Yellow flight found another lugger in a bay to the right, and made 5 passes in gun ery pattern, caught two small boats and strafed them, and broke out to sea to strafe Mia Saki lighthouse. Red flight continued south, over Yuasa Van and Tanabe Wan. Lt. McDowell shot up a fishing boat at Yuasa; Col Harper strafed two new hulls at Tanabi. Meantime, Lt. Klump who inadvertantly airlocked his fuel lines and lost his flight west of Akashi, rhubarbed down the coast of Avaji south to the RP, shooting up a power derrick near Awaji, Mia Saki light, and 7-10 boats of various sizes along the way. Wear Yuasa, Klump found a locomotive and worked it over. It gave up the ghost on the second wass. DAIA TO THE EXELY: Se narrative. LOSSES 1 P-51, Lt. Qe Lee, at RP. Pilot rescued by lifeguard sub. Dama e: None.



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RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS ARMY AIR FORCES: PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS (ADMIN) APO 953

12 July 1945

NUMBER 193 )

(FAGNT - 1st Available Govt Air Tvl (FAGNT - 1st Available Govt Water Tvl )

1. CAPT (0210) SEMORE T NATHWESS 0272594 SIG C (Race-W) (ASRS-83) is reld from asgut and dy Ho & Ho Sq AAFPOA (ADMIN) AFO 953 and is asgd to Ho & Ho Sq AAFFOA APO 234. Off will furnish a certificate of health and record of non-pre-valence of contagious diseases as prescribed in AAF Reg 51-3 dated 9 Aug lik and Cir 276 VD 43 to ATC APO 953. Off is designated official courier for the purpose of carrying classified and unclassified documents relative to his mission. Ea package or envelope containing official documents that are to be exempted from examination will bear on its exterior the inscription "Official USA Communications Exempt from Gensorship." WP. TDW. PCS. Tvl via FAGAT. APR No CP-WP-3-1685-AAF-JLY auth. Per diem auth for tvl via air only UP par 26 AB 35-4820. 67-414 P 431-02 03 A 0h25-26. EDGER 19 And 45.

2. VOCG 16 May 15: Following-pared offs AC Fit O AC and HM (Race-W) (ASRS-Unk) (A-26B Crews) having arrived AAFFOA from 302d AAF BU (SW) Hunter Fld Ga are asgd to 319th Bomb Gp L AFO-331 and placed B3 w/AAFPCA Combat Crew Repl Center APO 966 in connection w/mil activities. Upon compl of DS WP pro orgn and sta for dy. WP. TDN. PCS. Tvl via FAGAT or orgn actt. Fer diem auth Offs for tvl via air only UP par 25 AR 35-4320 and EH for tvl via air only UP par h AP 35-4810. 67-414 P 431-02 03 A 0425-26. EDCHR 16 May 45.

### Shipment FD--- AJ3 No 44-34300

### Shipment FD---AJ5 No LL-3L296

IST LT (1022) PATRICK J MANUSY JR 0747851 FLT 0 (1022) ROBERT W CONWAY T192067 Cpl (7h8) Stanley E Stevens 327610h2 Cpl (7h8) Frank Zustiak 37552h22

## Simpment FD--AJ7 No L4-34304

## Shipment FD---AJ9 No 44-34294

### Shipment FD-AJL No W-34303

### Shipment FD-AJ6 No hi-31:302

## Shipment FD---AJE No LL-34306

2D LT (1022) DONALD D WATT 0836864 2D LT (1022) LAWRENCE E LARSEN 0835224 Cpl (748) Hubert P Harbin 31815520 Cpl (748) Joseph B Lakowski 32922410

## Shipment FD--AJ2 No 141-31305

## Shipment FD--AJIO No 1/1-31301

Col (748) Earl E Ziegler 19141515

3. VOCO 4 Jul 45: 1ST LT (9316) HERREST S WHITMAN 0907421 AC 8th Rad Sq Mobile APO 2h6 is placed DS w/Fig & Hq Sq AAFFOA APO 23h. WF. No tvl involved.

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SO 193 7/12/45 Cont'd

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4. VOCG 29 Jun 45: Following-named offs CE (Race-W) (ASRS-Unk) having arrived AAFFOA are asgd to Hq & Hq Sq AAFFOA APO 234 and placed DS w/927th Engr Avn Regt APO 246. (w/concurrence of AFMIDPAC). WP. No tvl involved. EDCMR 29 Jun 45.

LT COL (1337) ARTHUR H KEMP 0258136 CAPT (7916) DURWOOD B DIXON 0910174

5. VOCG 29 Jun 45: Following-named EM (Race-W) (ASRS-Unk) having arrived AAFPOA are asgd to Hq & Hq Sq AAFPOA APO 23h and placed DS w/915th Engr Air Force Hq Co APO 246. (w/concurrence of AFMIDPAC). WP. No twl involved. EDCHR 29 Jun

T Sgt (059) Archie E Parsley 35499519 Tec 3 (059) James B Bossell 36821981

6. Following-named EM (Race-W) Hq & Hq Sq AAFFOA (ADMIN) APO 953 are trid in gr to Droppable Tank Fabrication Plant Unit AAF APO 959. WP. TDN. PCS. Tvl via GMT. IDCMR 15 Jul 45.

Pvt (521) LeRoy Anderson 36842670 Pvt (521) James M Prosser 38661050 ASRS-32

Pvt (521) Joseph R Barry 11111203 ASRS-30

Pvt (521) Richard W Booher 13170260 ASRS-29

Pvt (521) Jack W Buehler 16139830

ASRS-15

Pvt (835) William C Taylor 18110455 ASRS-30

ASRS-30 Pvt (590) Robert W Wagner 35087593 ASRS-21

7. So much of par 7 SO 156 this Hq cs (Offs Flt Os and EM asgd to Hq VII Ftr Comd APO 86) is amended to add the name of 1ST LF (103h) ALBERT J GRECG JR 0685595 AC to 1ST LT HOBERT L KINDRED'S crew.

8. Following-named officers (Race-W) are reld from asgnt and dy Hq Seventh AF AFO 244 and from DS w/Hq & Hq Se AAFFOA (ADMIN) AFO 953 and are asgd to Hq & Hq Sq AAFPOA (ADMIN) APO 953. WP. No tvl involved. EDCMR 15 Jul 45.

MAJ (0210) EDWIN BARTEL 0298802 SIG C MAJ (2421) JAMES TAYLOR 0910883 AC ASRS-57

MAJ (OLLO) EARL F HETTEL 0230373 SIG C CAPT (9301) LAWRENCE H CUDNEY 0577259 AC ASRS-106

MAJ (2162) EDWARD A FRIEDLANDER 0385919 1ST LT (9307) DIVID H WILLIUS 0573762 AC SIG C (ASRS-90)

ASRS-61

ISRS-Unk

ASRS-56

9. Following-named offs (Race-W) are reld from asgmt and dy Ho Seventh AF APO 214 and from DS w/Hq & Hq Sq AAFPOA APO 234 and are asgd to Hq & Hq Sq AAFPOA APO 234. WP. No tvl involved. EDCHR 19 Jul 45.

MAJ (9301) ENNEST E HATFIELD 0917760 AC LST LT (9301) JOHN H KELLY 01181679 FA ASRS-Unk ASRS-LI7

10. Following-named offs (Race-W) are reld from asgmt and dy Hq Seventh AF APO 244 and from atchd Hq & Hq.Sq AAFPOA APO 234 and are asgd to Hq & Hq Sq AAFPOA APO 234. WP. No tvl involved. EDCMR 19 Jul 15.

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SO 193 7/12/45 Cont'd

# RESTRICTED

MAJ (0210) ALVIN J JACOBSON 0303339 SIG C CAPT (7917) JOSEPH E HICKEY OLIOL208 AC ASRS-54 MAJ (8503) LUCIEN B WRIGHT 0903931 AC . IST LT (9300) STEPHEN M. HELLER 0805232 AC

11. Following-named offs AC (Race-W) are reld from asgmt and dy Hq & Hq Sq VII Air Sv Area Comd APO 244 and from atchd Hq & Hq Sq AAFPOA APO 234 and are ased to Hq & Hq Sq AAFPOA APO 234. WP. No tyl involved. FDCIR 19 Jul 45.

ASRS-55

MAJ (7915) ROY E SKIPTON 0906387 CAPT (5401) RAY R FREINAN 01317727 ASES-L8

ASKS-101

12. Following-named offs AC (Race-W) are rold from asgut and dy Hq & Hq Sq VII Air Sw Area Coind APO 2011 and from DS w/Hq & Hq Sq AAFPOA (ADMIN) APO 953 and are asgd to Hq & Hq Sq AAFPOA (ADMIN) APO 953. WP. No tvl involved. EDCMR 15 Jul 15.

ASES-Unk

ASRS-97

MAJ (51,01) LYNN D FOOLE 0903098 ASRS-54

MAJ (9307) MAX G FUNKE 0901601 CAPT (Sho1) FREDERIC P GOULSTON 01995608 ASPS-16

MAJ (5101) HULPERT BURROUGHS 0307276 1ST LT (5401) STEWART E FERM 0586085 ASRS-44

13. Following-named offs AC (Hace-M) are reld from asgut and dy Ho & Ho Sq VII Air Sv Area Gomd APO 214 and from DS w/Hg & Hg Sq MAFPOA APO 234 and are asgd to Ha & Ha Sa MAMPOA APO 234. WP. No tvl involved. EDCAR 19 Jul 15.

ASRS-Unk

ASRS-Unk

ASRS-Unk

MAJ (5401) WARD D INGRIM 0915996 CAPT (2120) MARIAN MALLARY 1600517 (WAC) ASPS-43

MAJ (5101) MASTON M JACKS 0561351 1ST LT (9301) ALBERT S ROSE JR 0573166 ASTS-72

CAPT (5hol) RICHARD E REED 0578967 - LST LT (5hol) WILLIAM L MADIGAN 0580374 ASRS-Unk

lie. Armouncement is made of the temp promotion of the following-named offs to the grs indicated in AUS w/rank from date of this order:

#### CAFT TO MAJ

JAMES H GROENIER 0919565 CE

### 1ST LT TO CAPT

DEAN BIGBY 0466435 AC FRANK J HOEFEL 0563322 AC RICHARD W LIFFMAN 0856736 AC WILLIAM C MARTIN OLIO8834 CE

--- STEWART R MCINROY 01015339 AC JOHN M MUKEE OA83511 CE ROBERT E SMITH 01035135 AC

### 2D LT TO 1ST LT

FRANCIS C ALBRECHT 0704655 AC JAMES E BEST 0821775 AC GENE A COLLINS 0926792 AC

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HIIDBURTH A DAHLOREN JR 0930333 AC THOMAS T DEVAUGHN 02059476 AC

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SO 193 7/12/45 Cont'd

### RESTRICTED

FRANCIS C FARWELL II 0765879 AC ROBERT E GRAHAM 0824476 AC JOHN H HALL 01172888 AC JOSEPH A HIGDON 0765980 AC CARLAND V JACKSON JR 0700936 AC FRANK H WHEELER JR 0827557 AC

ROBERT O JOHNSON 0711125 AC (AL) ROBERT W KLIMP 0714412 AC IRLA JOHN W MCHUGO 0826720 AC HARLEY W MEYER 0708338 AC

15. Having demonstrated cutstanding performance of duty in actual combat w/ the energy the following-named offs are hereby promoted to the gr indicated in AUS pursuant to auth contained in par 4d (1) AR 605-12 w/rank from date of this order:

### 2D LT TO 1ST LT

WILLIAM J ALDRICH 0833439 AC J C ALLEN 0927570 AC RICHARD T DICKASON 02059477 AC CHARLES H GROSS 02051120 AC ROBERT H HAY 0465356 AC

JAMES J HUMPHREY 0685403 AC VICTOR L RACANELLI 02056825 AC JACK C SAVITSKI 02060443 AC ROLAND H SCHMID 0835276 AC CURTIS R TANG 0705854 AC

16. Under the provisions of par 4d (4) AR 605-12 announcment is made of the temp promotion of the following-named offs to the er indicated in AUS w/rank from date of this order:

### 2D LT TO 1ST LT

PRICHARD L ALLEN 0758903 AC STUART M BOWERMAN 01596277 AC HENRY L BUMGARDNER 0864392 AC BERNARD R COMFORT 0815594 AC TAYLOR C GREEN 0868877 AC THEODORE T GRUCZKA 01592879 AC JAMES S HILL 0719075 AC DAVID E HILYZ 0809145 AC JOHN R HOWARD 0813163 AC DEFOREST E INKLEY 0866881 AC RETURNER H JONES 01287360 AC (RL)

-MILES J JORGENSEN 0863646 AC ROBERT F KINGAID 0754135 AC OSCAR B LUBOW 0159610L AC LAURENCE W MCCAPE 01010777 AC (44) THOMAS O MESSALL 0812464 AC
JOSEPH H MORRISON JR 0751403 AC
WALTER D SCHEUCH JR 0720581 AC
ISADONE M SHOSS 0585246 AC
WILLIAM F STEREL 0582955 AC
GERALD G WATT 0867409 AC

- 17. Pfc Edward P Grady 32887b42 (Race-W) (ASRS-Unk) Hg & E Sv Sq 36bth Air Sv Gp APO 2h5 is trfd in gr to Hq & Hq Sq VI Air Sv Area Comd AFO 959 for non-hazardous dy asgmt. WP. TDN. PCS. Tvl via FAGAT or FAGWT and GRT. Per diem auth for tvl via air only UF par 4 AR 35-4610. Auth: MIDIAC RAD R-65430 dated 11 Jul 45.

  67-414 P 431-02 03 A 0425-26. FICAR 15 Jul 45.
- 16. Cpl Melvin F Modracek 37677778 (Race-W) (ASRS-Unk) 4th Acft Repair Unit (F) APO 331 is trid in gr to Hq & Hq Sq VI Air Sv Area Comd APO 959 for non-hazardous dy asgmt. Notation will be made in DM's S/R under "Remarks Administrative" and on WD AGO Form No 20 as follows: "By order of SW this EM will not be asgd to hazardous dy." WP. TDN. PCS. Tvl via FAGAT or FAGWT and GAT. Per diem auth for tvl via air only UP par 4 AR 35-1810. Auth: MIDPAC RAD R-65173 dated 12 Jul 45. 67-414 P 431-02 03 A 0125-26. EDCMR 15 Jul 45.
- 19. UWO (0820) EDWARD B CRARY W2122391 USA (Race-W)(ASRS-Unk) is reld from asemt and dy 13th AAF Emerg Rescue Boat Sq APO 953 and is asgd to 371st Transportation Corps Harbor Craft Co APO 455. WP. TDN. PCS. Tvl via GMT. Auth: 2d Ind Hq USAFAIDPAC AFO 958 dated 4 Jul 45 to Ltr Hq Army Port and Sv Comd APO 455 Subj: "Assignment of Warrant Officer" file AG 210.3/821 dated 30 Jun 45. EDCHR 15 Jul 45.



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. 50 193 7/12/45 Cont'd

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20. Following-named offs AC (Race-W) Combat Crew Members are reld from asgmt and dy 19th Trp Carr Sq APO 953 and are trid to HIDPAC unasgd and atchd (AC-RO) to Cas Depot CPEC APO 968 and WP thereto reporting to CO thereof for further disposition. Offs will notify correspondents and publishers to discontinue the mailing of ltrs and publications until informed of new addresses. WP. TDN. PCS. Tvl via GFT. Auth: Par 1 Sec III Gir 372 WD dated 13 Sep hl. EDCMR 15 Jul 45.

ASRS-BL

MAJ (102h) JAMES B WILLIAMSON Ch26711 1ST LT (103h) RAYMOND E BOWEN 0245300 ASRS-103

21. Announcement is made of the temp promotion of the following-named off to the gr indicated in AUS w/rank from date of this order:

### LT COL TO COL

# VINCENT G HUSTON 022576 AC

22. S Sgt (502) William B L Taylor 11021006 Air Depot APO 953 is placed DS w/Hq & Hq Sq AAFFOA (ADMIN) AFO 953 for approx 15 das in connection w/mil activities. Upon campl of DS will ret to pro orga and sta for dy. WF. No tvl involved.

23. VOCG 11 Jul h5: Following-rached offs AC He & He So AAFPOA are ased to dy w/Personnel Division Hq AAFPOA (ADMIN).

LST LT (7422) EDDY C CARROLI 0579847 LST LT (2110) ARTHUR R KUNSELMAN 0575262

24. Following-named EM (Race-W)(ASRS-Unk) He & He Sq AAFPOA (ADMIN) APO 953 are reld from DS w/545th B Hq & Ab Sq APO 951 and are trid in gr to Droppable Tank Fabrication Plant Unit AAF APO 959. WP. TDN. PCS. Tvl via GMT. EDCMR 15 Jul 45.

Cpl (256) Oscar B Neuman 18158396 Cpl (256) Bryan W Smith Jr 18183731

25. CAPT (4010) VANCE P GRAHAM JR 0857094 AC Mg & Mg Sq AAFPOA is asgd to dy w/Logistical Requirements Section Hq AAFFOA (ADMIN).

26. VCCG 13 Jun 45: 2D LT (2161) WILLIAM A DIAL 0802263 AC Hq & Hq Sq AAFPOA is asgd to dy v/Transportation Section Mq AAFTOA (ALATH).

27. VOCG 2 Jun 15: MAJ (2120) BYRON C SWANSON 0325214 AC Hg & Hg Sq AAFPOA is ased to dy w/Transportation Section Ho AAFPOA (ADMIN).

28. Following-named EM (Race-W) Air Depot APO 953 are trid in gr to Droppable Tank Fabrication Plant Unit AAF APO 959. WP. TDN. PCS. Tvl via GMT. EDOMR 15 Jul 45.

ASRS-73

ASRS-42

S Sgt (256) Earl N Haner 39373200 ASRS-38

T Sgt (566) Jack Grayum 18013906 . S Sgt (502) Clement C Kranda 17030662 ASRS-59

T Sgt (581) Leo H Wilson 17032692 S Sgt (566) James B Moody 39021835 ASRS-43

Sgt (756) Louis D Pracchia 17122490 ASRS-37

-5-

RESTRICTED

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Sgt (821) Leon Yearout 19059678 ASRS-54

Sgt (835) Ray H Jackson 6932913 Cpl (826) Charles F Batson 18169379 ASINS-31

29. Ch (CAPT)(5310) EUGENE T SHALFY 023187h CH C (Race-W)(ASRE-Unk) is reld from asgent and dy Hq & Hq Sq AAFFCA (ADMIN) APO 953 and from TDY w/599th Sig AW Bn AFO 244 and from DS w/Hq Seventh AF APO 244 and is asgd to 599th Sig AW Bn AFO 244. WP. No tvl involved. EDCMR 18 Jul 45.

30. Following-named offs (Race-W) are reld from asgmt and dy organ indicated and are asgd to Hq & Hq Sq AAFFOA APC 234. WP. No twl involved. TDCAR 19 Jul 45.

305th Ftr Contl Sq APO 958 and DS 318th Ftr Contl Sq APO 958 and DS w/Hq & Hq Sq AAFPOA APO 234 w/Hq & Hq Sq AAFPOA APO 234

ASRS\_62

CAPT (7888) LEO R AUDETTE 0857173 AO CAPT (01h0) WILLIAM E CHAMBERS JR 0859794 AG ASRS-62

### 407th Sig Sv Co Avn AFO 234

SIG C ASRS-Unk

384th Sig Sv Co Avn APO 953 and DS w/h07th Sig Sv Co Avn APO 234

1ST LT (OLIO) RIGHARD R LUGE 01613077 SIG C ASRS-54

1ST LT (0500) PAUL D BEHNING 01637131: 1ST LT (0500) MERRILL W BRYAN 01637113 SIG C ASRS-Uhk

Det No 1 384th Sig Sv Co Avn APO 234

1ST LT (0500) JOHN H MULLAHEY 01636375 . SIG C ASRS-Unk

31. Following-named offs AC (Race-W) are reld from asgmt and dy orgas indicated and are asid to CHNOPAC for dy w/Air Support Contl Units Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet. (w/concurrence of OG AFMIDPAC). WP. TDN. PCS. Tvl via FAGAT and OMT. WOCKE 15 Jul 45.

## Hq & Hq Sq VI Air Sv Area Comd APO 959

LST LT (0200) BERT A STEEN 0570377 2D LT (0200) JOHN J COYLE 0684859 ASES-58

513d B Hg & AB Sq APO 953

ASRS-68

## 388th Air Sv Cp APO 959

ASRS-50

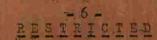
389th Avn Sq AFO 959

2D LT (4823) DETHURUM KING 0562947 - LST LT (9301) GEORGE L COLEY 0559681 ASRS-Unk

### AAFPOA Combat Crew Repl Center APO 956

1ST LT (1029) WILLIAM L DINDSEY 01318620 ASRS-Unk

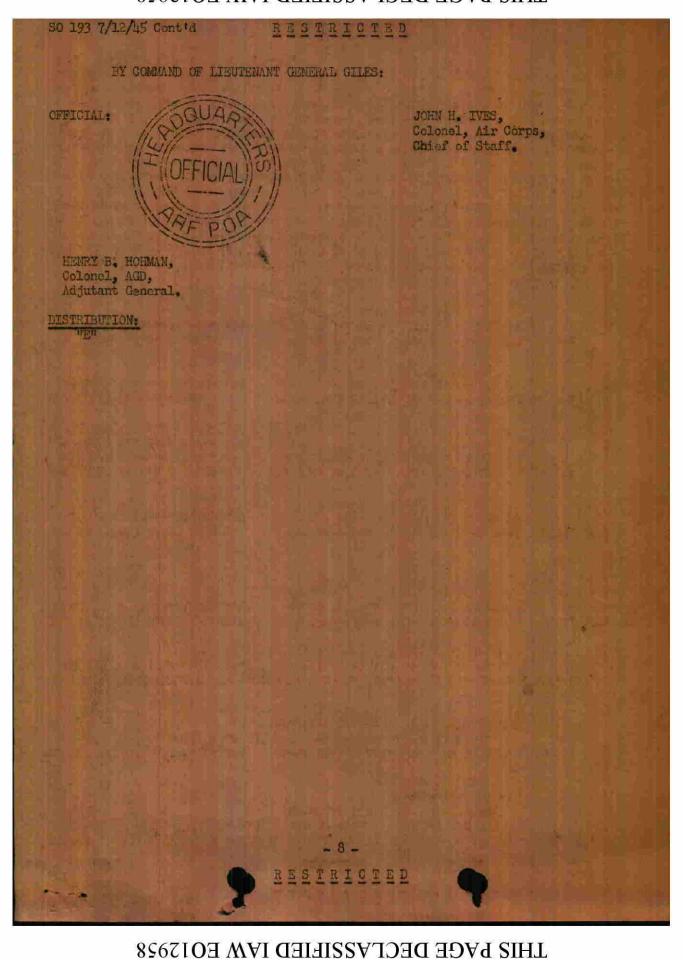
32. The following C in asomts and dys are directed. Personnel traveling via air from APO 953 will furnish a certificate of health and record of non-prevalence of contagious diseases as prescribed in AAF Reg 61-3 dated 9 Aug bl and Cir 276 WD 43 to ATC AFO 953. Per diem auth Offs for tvl via air only UP par 26 AR 35-4820. WP via FACT. TDN. 67-414 F 431-02 03 A 0425-26.



SO 193 7/12/45 Cont d Tvl GMT. FCS. LT COL (LOIO) LAWRENCE W DOMOGRUE HQ & HQ SQ VI HQ & HQ SQ AAFPOA 0306159 AC (Race-W)(ASRS-Unk) Air 3v Area (ADMIN) AFO 953 Comd APO 959 (dy w/Logistical Requirements Sec). EDCMR 15 JUL 45 LT COL (2161) WAYNE A HANSON Atchd Unasgd AAF- Ho & Ho Sq AAF-No tyl POA Rost and Re-POA (ADMIN) APO 0375569 AC (Race-W) (ASRS-162) 953 EDCMR 15 Jul creation Center APO 953 Ch (MAJ) (5310) HENRY C PENNINGTON Hq & Hq Sq AAF- No VI Air Sv Area GMT. PCS. 0428101 CH C (Race-W)(ASRS-77) FOA (ADMIN) APO Comd APO 959 EDCMP 15 Jul 45 FAGAT. PCS. APR 1ST LT (1092) JAMES R MOSHER AAFPOA Pest and Hq Seventh AF No CP-WP-3-1686-0690239 AC (Race-W) (ASRS-74) Recreation Cen-AFO 331 EDGLER 24 Jul 45 AAF-JLY auth. ter APO 958 135 lbs excess baggage auth. Hq XXI Bomb Gonel FAGAT. PCS. 1ST LT (5004) JAMES E GAPLE 935th Begr Avn Regt APC 245 APO 234 EDGMR 19 0579938 AC (Race-W) (ASHS-47) Jul 45 Sgt (405) Robert S Preston Air Depot APO No tyl )Ho & Ho So AAF-36128625 (Race-W) (ASRS-50) ) POA (ADMIN) APO 953 EDOIR 15 Sgt (h05) Benjamin Nepon )953 Jul 45 32326992 (Race-W)(ASRS-53) Col (648) Eugene Olson Atchd Unasgd 71st Hq & B Sv Sq 71st No tvl 36391.674 (Race-W) (ASRS-Unk) Air Sv Gp APO 951 Air Sv Cp APO 951 EDOM: 15 Jul 45 Pfc (952) Robert J DeMuth 375587LL (Nace-W) (ASPS-Unk) AAF Wea Sv POA Ho & Ho So AAFPOA No tvl APO 953 and DS w/ APO 23L EDOMR 19 AMF Wea Sta 7-55 Jul 15 APO 246

33. Mr Leroy L Plackmer (Civilian) Scientific Consultant dy w/AFMIDPAC and TDY w/Hq & Hq Sq MAFPOA (ADMIN) APO 953 is placed on further TDY at APO 234 for approx 90 das in connection w/mil activities. Upon compl of TDY will ret to Hq & Hq Sq AAFPOA (ADMIN) APO 953 for further TDY thereat. Mr Blackmer will furnish a certificate of health and record of non-prevalence of contagious diseases as prescribed in AAF Reg 61-3 dated 9 Aug 44 and Cir 276 WD 43 to ATC APO 953. Mr Flackmer is designated official courier for the purpose of carrying classified and unclassified documents relative to his mission. En package or envelope containing official documents that are to be exempted from examination will bear on its exterior the inscription "Official USA Communications Exempt from Gensorship." CIPAP. WP. TDN: Tvl via FAGAT. AFR No CP-WF-2-1716-AAF-JLY auth. In lieu of subsistence a per diem of \$7.00 is auth while traveling and during periods of TDY. Govt shelter will be furnished when available. A reduction of \$4.00 per day for shelter will be made where such facilities are available. 25 lbs excess baggage auth for tvl via air. 67-h14 P 432-02 03 A 0425-26.

## **LHIS BYCE DECLASSIFIED IAW E012958**



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HEADQUARTERS 204th General Hospital

Letter Orders)

No. 333)

APO 246, Unit 4, 9 July 1945.

1. Fol named Offs orgn and stal shown are reld fr asgmt and dy thereto and are tifd to atchd Unasgd Det of Phts 204th General Hospital APO 246 eff 12 July 1945.

EADS, George R., Major 0484590 (Hq AAFPOA APO 234)
MOSIMANN, William J. 1st Lt 0517714 (599th SAW Bn APO 246)

No T Involved. Auth: Ltr HWPBC APO 244 File 704/553 (Surg) dtd 20 June 1945.

2. 2nd It John C. Schulz 0829761 458th Sq 506th Ftr Gp APO 86 is reld fr fr asgmt and dy thereto and is trfd to atchd unawgd Det of Pnts 204th General Hospital RPO 246 eff 14 July 1945.

No T Involved. Auth: Ltr HNPBC APO 244 File 704/553 (Surg) dtd 29 June 1945.

3. Fol named EM orgn and sta shown are reld fr asgmt and dy thereto and are trfd to atchd unasgd Det of Phts 204th General Hospital APO 246 eff 11 July 1945

HOLLEY, Robert W.; Cpl 38371549 (56th Repr Sq 56th ADG APO 246 MUSCHNEY, Gene W., Sgt 39157177 (1537th ATC APO 246)

No T Involved. Auth: Ltr HWPBC APO 244 File 704/553 (Surg) dtd 20 June 1945.

4. Fol named EM orgn and sta shown are reld fr asgmt and dy thereto and are trid to atchd unasgd Det of Phts 204th General Hospital APO 246 eff 14 July 45.

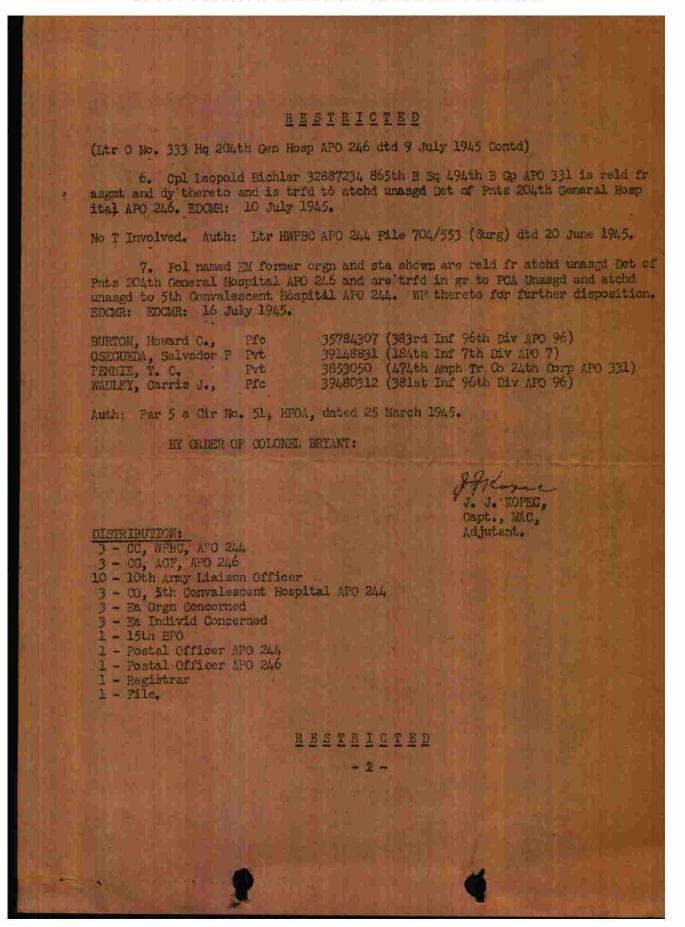
PARKES, Menneth H., Pfc 19080100 (752nd AAA Gum Bn APO 86) "
SWEET, Rec D., Pfc 36596605 (568th SAW Bn APO 86)

No T Involved. Auth: Ltr HWPBC APO 244 File 704/553 (Surg) dtd 20 June 1945.

5. 1st Lt Walter J. Barrett 0441966 former 383rd Inf 96th Div APO 96 is reld fr atchd unagd Det of Phts 204th General Hospital APO 246 and is trf to POA unasgd and is atchd unasgd to 5th Convalescent Hospital APO 244. WP thereto for further disposition. EDCMR: 14 July 1945.

Auth: Par 5 a Cir No. 51, HPOA, dated 25 March 1945.

RESTRICTED



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

HEADQUARTERS
232D GENERAL HOSPITAL
ARMY GARKISON FORCE
APO 86

SPECIAL ORDERS
NUMBER 61

EXTRACT

12 July 1945

1. The fol named Officer and EM are reld fr asgmt to orgn listed below and trfd atchd unasgd in gr to Det of Pnts, this hosp. Auth: Ltr, Hq WPBC, APO 244, Subj: "Disposition of Certain Hospitalized Personnel", file 704/553 (Surg), 20 Jun 45. EDCMR 14 July 1945.

DAVIDSON, HAROLD G.	1ST LT	0812384	458th Ftr Sq, 506th Ftr Gp, APO 86
Walker, Isiah	Pfc	38544214	475th Amph Trk Co, 43d Amph Trk Bn, APO 86
Hollis, Samuel	Pfc	34962470	
Paschel, Marion R. Few, John S.	Tec 5 Pvt	34908249 34992923	3753d QM Trk Co, APO 86
Nelson, Belvia L.	S/Sgt	16061907	72d Ftr Sq, 21st Ftr Gp, APO 86
O'Day, Albert E.	S/Sgt	31148390	
Hughes, Lawrence J.	Cpl	32305928	531st Ftr Sq, 21st Ftr Gp,
Hayes, Lige	Pfc	38600201	592d Port Co, 43d amph Trk Bn, APO 86
Dinwiddie, Chester J.	Pfc	38667759	
Trivett, Junior A.	Pfc	33532288	Co B, 147th Inf Regt, APO
Brandon, James R. Tomporella, Pete J.	Sgt Pfc	17018566 36555420	Hq & Hq Co, AGF, APO 86

By order of Lieutenant Colonel SINGE:

DALE F. RUNNION Capt, MAC Adjutant

OFFICIAL:

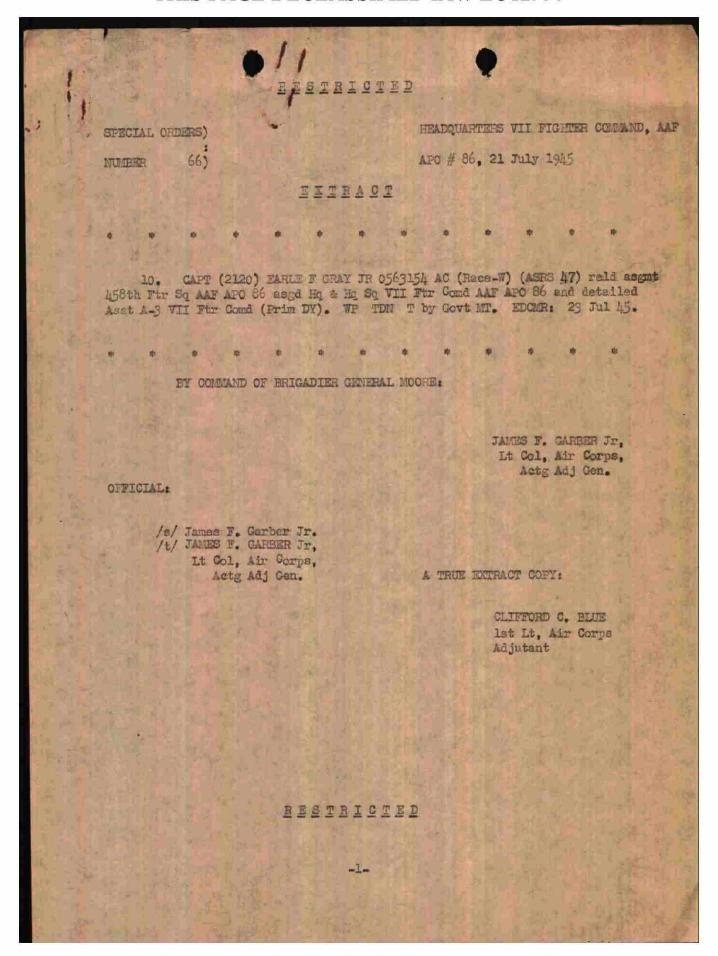
Tolet Kinnion

Dale F. RUNNION

Capt, MAC. Adjutant

DISTRIBUTION: Ea Orgn 2 - Hq AGF APO 86 3 - Is Surg APO 86 2 - Registrar 15 - CO Det of Phts 5 - Ea Off 1 - Ea EM 1 - 100th MNU APO 244 3 - File 3

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