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DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

UNIT HISTORY

363RD

FIGHTER

SQUADRON

SS-FT-363-HI
Sept-44

RETURN TO:	
Address:	
Box No.:	
City:	
State:	
Zip:	

SEPT. 1944

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

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DOD DIR 5200.9

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:AUTHORITY - MEMO :
:#80-5,VIII A F :
: 4 July 1944 :
:Date Sept. 44 :
:Initial: Wah :
:.....:

UNITED STATES STRATEGIC AIR FORCE

VIII AIR FORCE

3RD BOMB DIVISION

66TH FIGHTER WING

357TH FIGHTER GROUP

363RD FIGHTER SQUADRON

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

[REDACTED]

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INDEX

NARRATIVE

<u>Operational</u>	Page
General Summary.....	1
Statistical Summary.....	4
<u>Administration</u>	
Personnel.....	6
<u>Station Life</u>	
Living Conditions.....	9
Entertainment.....	9
Morale.....	9
<u>Special Projects</u>	
Training Program.....	9

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

<u>Surveys and Commentaries</u>	
Mission Reports.....	10
<u>Awards, Citations, Encounter Claims</u>	
Awards.....	32
Promotions.....	34
Assignments to Squadron.....	41
Transfers from Squadron.....	48
Encounter Reports.....	51
<u>Casualties</u>	
Personnel M.I.A.....	67
<u>Publications</u>	
General Orders, Hq, EIGHTH AIR FORCE, reassigning Unit.....	71

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GENERAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

- 1 September An uneventful bomber escort mission to BIEBERICH. No enemy aircraft were seen and no flak was encountered. The score was "zero" in every respect.
- 3 September And another uneventful mission - area support for bombers at QUIMPER. Again no enemy aircraft were seen and again no flak was encountered. So again it was a case of "No runs - no hits - no errors - no one left on base."
- The second mission of the day was to escort bombers and one B-24, radio controlled, to target on HELIGOLAND. The mission was uneventful in so far as our fighters were concerned:
- 5 September A mission escorting bombers to STUTTGART. No enemy aircraft were encountered and flak was inaccurate and meager at KARLSRUHE - heavy accurate and moderate at STUTTGART. There were no claims of victory by our pilots because no enemy aircraft were seen. All of our ships returned safely to base, though one had to land for fuel on the NORMANDY beachhead and one at another base in ENGLAND.
- 8 September A bomber escort mission to GUSTAVBURG. This was a mission that was uneventful in the matter of losses or victories, though we did "sweat out" four pilots who landed on the NORMANDY beachhead for fuel.
- 9 September Escorted ships to drop supplies to the MAQUIS at MOREZ. The mission was uneventful except for the landing of one ship at a friendly field at CHERBOURG for repair.
- 10 September Bomber escort to NURNBERG. All of our pilots return safely to base with no claims of enemy aircraft destroyed, probably destroyed or damaged - as no enemy aircraft were seen. All of the pilots of this squadron are getting very 'browned off' at the lack of enemy aircraft in the skies - they want some action - they are fed up with milk-runs.
- 11 September The fighter pilots of the squadron escort bombers to BRUX - and flying for action after leaving the bombers, White Flight gets in a little strafing to kill the monotony of these milk-runs. The record of destruction - 2 locomotives, 4 box cars, 2 German officers, 1 military truck. And damaged - 6 flat cars, one railroad station, 1 Jeep.

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- 12 September The Squadron escorted bombers to their target at LEIPZIG, gave them support at the target area and withdrawal support. For a moment it looked as though the P-51 pilots of the unit might have the action that they have so long been wanting - for 150 plus enemy aircraft were seen to approach the bombers, but when 10 miles away made a 180° turn without attacking. The enemy aircraft were not seen again. Their ruse of drawing the escort away from the defended bombers was not deceiving to our pilots and the pilots stayed with the bombers to escort them, many of whom were in distress from flak, away from the target area and away from enemy territory.
- 13 September At last the enemy comes up to do battle with our fighters. On an escort mission to HALLE. Two Me. 109s were destroyed by our fighters on this mission. And on this mission one of our pilots - Lt. MARION E. BURNETT was M.I.A. Four other pilots of the squadron were NYR but later returned, having landed south of BRUSSELS for fuel.
- 15 September A bomber escort mission to BERLIN is recalled because of weather. Two pilots of the Squadron, however, failed to return - Lt. KENNETH F GRAEFF and Lt. LOUIS F NOWLIN. They were reported as M.I.A. Another pilot - Lt. WILLIAM R DUNLOP reported as M.I.A. later returned to base.
- 17 September A new type of mission for the Squadron - escorting airborne troops. On this date the Squadron provided escort and area support for C-47s in the airborne invasion of HOLLAND, escorting the C-47s and their gliders to Eindhoven. No enemy aircraft were encountered, though heavy intense and accurate flak was encountered in the drop area. All of our fighters returned safely to base after this operation.
- 18 September We provide area support as supplies are dropped to the brave airborne troops at Eindhoven. And there was action in this operation. 15 plus enemy aircraft were encountered 10 miles west of ARNHEM and our pilots shot down five of them. One Me. 109 by Lt. LANDIS, One Me. 109 by Lt. PASCOE, One Me. 109 shared by Lts. FIFIELD and FENNELL, One Me. 109 by Lt. DUNLOP and One FW 190 shared by Captain HUGHES and Lt. GAILOR. All of the P-51s of the Squadron returned safely home.
- 19 September Another area support mission in support of the supplying of the airborne troops in HOLLAND, this time our ships were over ARNHEM. And again there was action for our fighters - seven enemy ships were shot down by the pilots of the 363rd. One Me. 109 was destroyed by Lts GAILOR and HAND; 2 Me. 109s were destroyed by Lt. HOPER; 2 Me. 109s were destroyed by Lt. PASAKA; one Me. 109 by Lt. DUNLOP and One Me. 109 by Major HIRO. The happiness that these victories brought to the 363rd was dulled entirely by the failure of Major EDWIN W. HIRO to return from this mission. Commanding Officer of the unit since 10 May 1944, he came to the Squadron in the States on 2 March 1943. During the 18 months that Major HIRO had been with the Squadron and the four months that he had been Commanding Officer, Major HIRO had gained the greatest respect of all personnel of the unit. The loss of Major HIRO will be long felt by all of the personnel of the unit.

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- 20 September The Squadron is out on an area support mission over ARNHEM. No enemy aircraft were seen and the mission was a milk-run in every respect.
- 21 September The Squadron escorts bombers to their target at KOBLENZ, covers the bomb run and the withdrawal of the big friends from the target. The mission was reported by the pilots as "entirely uneventful"
- 22 September Another uneventful bomber escort mission - this trip to KASSEL. Several pilots report a rocket type of flak bursting at 27,000 feet, giving a white smoke which appeared to arc over at that altitude and fall down in little balls of flame.
- 23 September Area support under M.E.W. Control over MAASTRICHT. The mission was entirely uneventful to the P-51 pilots of the 363rd.
- 25 September Bomber escort mission to ANNHEIM. Mission was without untoward event except for the landing of four of our pilots in FRANCE for refueling.
- 26 September A bomber escort mission to BREMEN that was without event except for the ground looping of one pilot at home base upon landing - the pilot was uninjured.
- 27 September Squadron escorts bombers to FRANKFORT. Squadron went to assistance at call from Vinegrove that B-24s in the neighborhood were being jumped by 100 plus enemy aircraft. Upon arriving at the area named, our pilots found no enemy aircraft - there being only yellow-nosed P-51s in that area. But it looked for a moment as though our boys were to get some of the sort of action that they got before the luftwaffe quit coming up to meet our attacks. The sort of action that our pilots have been seeking.
- 30 September The Squadron escorts bombers in a mission to BIELEFELD. The only enemy aircraft seen was a lone Me. 109 diving to the deck with a P-51 already on his tail. So again it was a milk-run in so far as action for the fighter pilots was concerned.

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

I. A/C ABORTIVE ANALYSIS (EARLY RETURNS)

Engine *	0
Coolant System	3
Instrument	1
Flt Control Surface	0
Propeller	0
Oxygen	1
Electrical	4
Fuel Induction	0
Drop Tanks	1

Total Aborts (Mechanical)	10
---------------------------	----

Escort	5
Pilot Trouble	4
Navigation **	0
Radio	0
Others***	1

Total Aborts (Non-Mechanical)	10
-------------------------------	----

Aggregate Total of Aborts and Early Returns	20
--	----

* Engine included power setting, roughness, engine fuel leaks, engine control, oil leaks, fumes in cockpit etc.

**Weather

***Include late T/O, couldn't find formation.

II FLIGHT RECORD

Number of A/C Airborne	386
Percentage Airborne A/C abortive	5.2

III OPERATIONAL DATA

Average Number of A/C on hand	22.2
Average Number of A/C Operational	22.0
Percentage A/C on Hand	
Operational	91.9
Percentage Operational A/C	
Airborne	63.7

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IV ARMAMENT STOPPAGE ANALYSIS

Rounds of Ammunition Fired	12,996
Stoppages	8
Rounds per Stoppage	1625

Link Jams	0
Failure to extract from belt	2
Failure to extract from chamber	2
Failure to eject	0
Dented Primer	0
Solenoid	1
Failure to chamber round	1
Miscellaneous	<u>2</u>

TOTAL	8
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PERSONNEL

PROMOTIONS

31 August From 2nd Lt to 1st Lt KEEHN (NMI) LANDIS O-706594

1 September To be Corporal (Temp) Pfc Antonio (NMI) Gegelkas 11040761
To be Private First Class (Temp) Pvt. Aloysius R. Pyka, 36347094

4 September From 2nd Lt to 1st Lt CHARLES E. YEAGER O-887005

9 September From 1st Lt to Captain LAWRENCE D. WOOD O-745559
From 2nd Lt to 1st Lt WILLIAM R F DUNLOP O-695159

10 September From 2nd Lt to 1st Lt ROBERT S FIFIELD O-701087

11 September From 2nd Lt to 1st Lt JOHN R STERN O-802360

23 September From 2nd Lt to 1st Lt WARREN J. DORANSKI O-812393
From 2nd Lt to 1st Lt KENNETH F GRAEFF O-706488

ASSIGNMENTS TO SQUADRON

3 September CARROLL W. OFSTUN, 2nd Lt O-700316
WARNER P ROBERTS, 2nd Lt, O-817103
Harry W. Witner, Sgt, 13093424

6 September Bernard W. McFall, S/Sgt, 1411961

8 September PAUL N BOWLES, 2nd Lt, O-826614
JOE W. CANNON, 2nd Lt, O-826621
WALTER E CORBY, 2nd Lt O-826632
MICHAEL E EMERY, 2nd Lt O-826643

21 September GUERNSEY I. CARLISLE, Major, O-385550

19 September RAMMOND E. WOLF, 2nd Lt, O-822316
WENDELL T HELWIG, 2nd Lt, O-821876
GLENWOOD A ZARNKE, 2nd Lt O-822318

28 September ATLEE G MANTHOS, Captain, O-441026

29 September JOHN R SLOAN, 1st Lt, O-664070
JAMES T WINDHAM, 1st Lt, O-664109

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TRANSFERS FROM SQUADRON

31 August ROBERT E. SMITH, 1st Lt, O-807634 to 496 Ftr Tng Gp
 2 September ROBERT C. GANGWISH, 1st Lt, O-810497 to 496 Ftr Tng Gp
 10 September LAWRENCE D. WOOD, Capt, O-745559 to 496 Ftr Tng Gp

GEORGE G. GEORGE, 1st Lt, O-682631 to 12th Replacement Control Depot
 to await transportation to Z of I

WILLIAM B. OVERSHERE T, JR, 1st Lt, O-745487 to 12th Replacement Control
 Depot to await transportation
 to Z of I

AWARDS

5 September DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS to HENRY R KAYSER, 1st Lt, O-682652

OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS to:

EDWIN W. HARRO, Major, O-728661
 ROBERT W FOY, Capt, O-745340
 WILLIAM R O'BRIEN, Capt, O-730583

OAK LEAF CLUSTER to AIR MEDAL to:

NORBERT B. FISHER, 2nd Lt, O-886954
 HENRY B FRANKLIN, 2nd Lt, O-683434

16 September OAK LEAF CLUSTER to AIR MEDAL to MARION E BURNETT, 1st Lt, O-702763
 (MISSING IN ACTION)

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PERSONNELA NEW COMMANDING OFFICER FOR THE SQUADRON

On 21 September 1944, Major GULFENSEY I CARLISLE took command of the Squadron, vice Major EDWIN W MIRO, Missing in Action. Major CARLISLE was not entirely unknown to the personnel of the Squadron, as he had been attached to the Squadron for flying while assigned to the 357th Fighter Group.

With the assumption of command by Major CARLISLE, the Squadron gained a Commanding Officer of wide experience and long service. Major CARLISLE has been in the Army Air Forces since March 1939. He finished flying school in November 1939.

For a year he was an instructor at Kelly Field. And for the following year and a half Major CARLISLE was an instructor at Barksdale Field. He was then assigned to Columbus, Mississippi where he served as an instructor for the following eight months.

For fifteen months Major CARLISLE flew B-26s in overseas service in AFRICA. Finishing a tour of duty he went back to the states for leave and then came back to the E T O and was assigned to the 357th Fighter Group.

At the time of his assumption of command, Major CARLISLE had a total of 2,097 hours of flying time, and had flown everything except a B-24 and a B-29. His ability to lead the Squadron is indicated by the length of service, length of flying service, length of overseas service and hours in the air.

All of the personnel of the unit feel, that again, they are commanded by a leader who will lead them to greater and greater achievements toward the elimination of our enemy.

MARRIAGES

On 9 September 1944, 1st Lt. GEORGE G. GEORGE was married to Miss RITA HASLAM of Blackpool, England. Lt. GEORGE was thus the first of the personnel of the unit to take for himself a bride in the E T O.

And on 20 September 1944, Sgt. ROBERT M. FERTCH was married to Miss ROSE FELDGATE of Aldeburgh, England, to become the first of the enlisted men of the Squadron to help cement Anglo-American relations through marital bliss.

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STATION LIFE

The 363rd Fighter Squadron has been at its present station in the E T O for eight months, a much longer time than the Squadron ever spent in one station since the days of its activation. So, to as much an extent as is possible for Yanks in Europe, the personnel has settled down to living at the station. The men on the line have built their shacks on the line as their homes while on the job. All of those little things that men can do to barracks and to barracks areas to make them just a little more homelike and a little more livable are being done. In fact, in about every way the personnel of the Squadron seems to have 'found a home'.

Many friendships have been built up amongst the personnel of the Squadron and the very friendly people of the surrounding villages. In many respects we are as new neighbors rather than as men billeted in the area - and the people of the area have made us feel so.

And it is only natural that with these friendships, romances have grown. Many of the men seem to have been quite smitten with the English lassies. Two of these romances have already culminated in marriages, see the Personnel Section of this installment, and there seem to be many more such culminations in the near future.

On 3 September there came about one of those famous "363rd Parties" - the sort of parties that since the beginning of the life of the Squadron have cemented the friendships of the personnel of the Squadron and have had such a very definite effect upon the morale of the unit. It is at these parties that the morale of the Squadron asserts itself - and at which the newly assigned personnel of the Squadron finds out that this organization to which they have been assigned does live up to the boast made during the first few days of the Squadron's life--- "THIS IS THE BEST DAMN SQUADRON IN THE WORLD, MISTER."

TRAINING PROGRAM

Through the month of September, the Squadron has continued a series of Orientation Discussions. These discussions, attended by all of the Officers and Enlisted Men of the Squadron have covered such topics as (1) National Service Life Insurance and its Conversion into Regular Life Policies from Term Insurance (2) the G.I. Bill of Rights (3) The Problem of Germany after the Defeat of the Reich (4) Propaganda.

These discussions have been discussions in every sense of the word, rather than dull lectures. They have lead to much thinking on the part of the Officers and Men of the Squadron and have brought about many less formal but equally interesting "bull sessions" in the barracks upon the subjects under discussion.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

APD 637,
1 Setp 44.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report. No. # 159

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station
F-373, APD 637.

- A. 363rd Fighter Squadron - Major EDWIN W. HIRO, leading
- B. 18-0840-1226
- D. E. Penetration—target support—Withdrawal. F.O.# 543
- C. E. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ 1 Early Return Spare. FO # 543
- E. Nil
- F. Nil
- G. Nil
- H. Nil
- I. 1/F in Nieuport at 0923 hrs at 20,000 ft. R/V made 3 Paris as bombers were circling at 22,000 ft at 1008. Bombers headed west and escort was kept to 1e Harve were escort was broken at 1055 hrs at 22,000 ft. 1/F out at 4e Treport at 1115 hrs at 18,000 ft. 3-4/10ths cumulus over channel and base to 5,000 ft. Same continued to 3 Paris were clouds became solid cirrus-stratus in banks to over 30,000 ft. R/T good. No E/A seen and No Flak.

ERNEST F. DE NIGRIS
Capt. AC
S-2 Officer.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAF Station F-373

D -2

AFPO 637,
3 Sep 44.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report #160

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAF Station F-373,
AFPO 637.

- A. 363rd Fighter Squadron - 1st Lt. HENRY B. FRANKLIN, leading
- B. 3 - 0655 -
- C. One
- D. Penetration - Target Support - Withdrawal FO #547
- E. Nil
- F. Nil
- G. Nil
- H. Nil
- I. L/F in Lannion at 0837 hrs at 11000 feet. L/F out of Lannion at 1102 hrs at 9000 ft.
 Bombing - Nil
 Results of Bombing - By Bombers unobserved due to overcast.
 Strafing Results - Nil
 Enemy Reaction - Nil
 Observations - Gave top cover to bombers and could not make any observations
 due to overcast.
 Flax.- Nil

JOHN B MYERS JR
1st Lt AC.,
S-2 0

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

AFO 637,
5 Sept 44.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report. No # 162

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station
F-373, AFO 637.

- A. 363rd Fighter Squadron - Col DONALD W. GRAHAM, leading
- B. 18 up at 0912--down at
- C. Nil
- D. Area Support and Target Withdrawal. F.O. # 550
- E. Nil
- F. Nil One emergency landing Normandy beach to refuel
- G. Nil One emergency landing Manston for refuel.
- H. Nil

I (1) L/F in at Knocke at 19000 feet at 0955
Arrived target area at 24000 feet at 1100 and patrolled until
1130 then escorted rear elements of bomber formation from target
to 30 miles east of Paris leaving them at 24000 feet at 1320 hrs.
L/F out in flights Caen, Dieppe, and Dunkirk between 16000 and
20000 feet from 1355 hrs to 1405 hrs. HENRY.

- (2) Nil
- (3) Nil
- (4) Nil
- (5) Nil

(6) a - Many barges stationery Rhein River S of Strassbourg.
No other observations because of haze and undercast.

(7) Heavy inaccurate meagre 24000 feet Karlsruhe and heavy accurate
moderate 22000 feet Stuttgart.

One B 17 in distress escorted from SE of Strassbourg to 10 miles W
of Munster France where bomber was seen to go in and 6 minutes observed
from the ship.

ERNEST F DE NIENIS
Capt., AC
S-2 O

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363rd FIGHTER GROUP
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
Station F-373

3-2

WFO 637,
8 Dec 44.

SUBJECT: 3-2, 3-3 Mission Report No. 163

TO : 3-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, Station F-373,
WFO 637.

- A. 363rd FIGHTER GROUP. 12,000 ft. ON MISSION. YACOB
- B. 17 UP. TAKE-OFF 0915. DOWN 1340
- C. 363rd FIGHTER GROUP. Three. SUBJECT: One
- D. Penetration-Target Support- Withdrawal. Yield Order #550
- E. Four MFR - 1st Lt CHARLES A. YACOB and RAND and Rudolph BERNET and 2nd Lt. GILLES
Reported landing Normandy beach to refuel
- F. Nil
- G. See paragraph 2
- H. Nil
- I. (1) 1/V in SW of COTENHAM at 18,000 ft 0955 hours N/V vicinity of CHARLEVILLE
at 14,000 ft 1035 hours. 1/V east of ARKANS 18,000 ft 1233 hours. 1/V out
GILLES to BUNEL at 1300 hours xto 1310 hours from 9,000 to 15,000 ft.
(2) Nil
(3) Nil
(4) Nil
(5) Nil
(6) No observations because of high altitude and cloud cover
(7) Heavy inaccurate danger target area 28,000 ft.

Unsuccessful escort mission - bombing results not observed because of cloud vicinity
of target. R/T good. Lt. BUNEL reports hearing Lt. YACOB - leading Red flight
- say over R/T for the flight to head for the Normandy beach as one member was
low on gas.

HENRY F. DE WIGGINS,
Capt, AC,
3-2 G.

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363rd FIGHTER GROUP
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

D-2

WFO 637,
9 Sep 44.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report No. 104

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station F-373,
WFO 637.

- A. 363rd FIGHTER GROUP. 1st MISSION - Major J. L. HIRSH
- B. 21 WP. TAC-REF Only. 1000-1340
- C. ONLY REFUEL: One. 1000-1340. 1000-1340. 1000-1340.
- D. 1000-1340 - 1000-1340 - 1000-1340. 1000-1340. 1000-1340.
- E. 1000-1340 - 1000-1340. 1000-1340. 1000-1340.
- F. Nil
- G. Nil
- H. Nil
- I. (1) 1/F in at 0800 hours at 15,000 ft. 1000-1340. 1000-1340. 1000-1340.
- (2) Nil
- (3) Nil
- (4) Nil
- (5) Nil
- (6) Supplies dropped on target field from 1,000 ft. altitude.
- (7) Nil

R/V good

WFO 637,
Capt, AG,
S-2 U.

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C O R E T E R N E A I

363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

10 of 44.

SUBJECT: 1-2, 1-3 Mission Report No. 165

TO : 1-2 floor, 57th Fighter Group, Army Air Bureau, 58th AF Station F-573,
170 617.

- A. 303rd NIGHT BOMBARDMENT. LEADING: Colonel DONALD F. SHANK
B. 1B UP. TAKE OFF: 0900 DOWN: 1953
C. DAILY RETURNS: Three REPORT: Nil
D. Penetration - Target Support - Withdrawal Field Order No. 561
E. Nil
F. Nil
G. Nil
H. Nil
I. (1) 1/F in south of KNOX at 0915 hours at 20,000 ft. 1/V south of KNOX at 0925 hours at 21,000 ft. 1/F south of KNOX at 1206 hours at 20,000 ft. 1/F out SOUTH OF KNOX at 1317 hours at 20,000 ft.
(2) Nil
(3) Nil
(4) Nil
(5) Nil
(6) A. 1 B-17 exploded over target and 1 B-17 seen to go down in a spin over target. Two chutes.
B. 1 B-51 over target hit by flak went down in flames approx. 1110 hours - no chute.
C. 12 to 15 bombs stationary five miles south of KNOX in Rhine River
D. P-47s seen strafing airframe 15 miles north of MANNHEIM and east of Rhine River - setting hangars on fire.
E. Smoke over target rising to 15,000 ft.
(7) MÜNCHEN - intense accurate heavy flak - 20,000 ft.
MANNHEIM - seeger line crate heavy flak - 18,000 ft.

R/T good.

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STEWART F. DE NIGRIS,
Capt, AC,
S-2 O.

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

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

363rd FIGHTER GROUP
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
RAF Station F-373

WFO 637,
11 Sep 44.

SUBJECT: 2-2, 2-3 Mission Report No. 166.

TO : 1st of 1st, 35th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAF Station #373,
APO 637.

- [illegible]

I. (1) 1/2 in. 2000 INLAND at 1200 hours at 20,000 ft. 1/4 at North of WESTPORT at 1110 hours at 21,000 ft. 1/2 west of WESTPORT at 1230 hours at 21,000 ft. 1/2 were they were at met by the 20th Group. 1/4 with leaders south of WESTPORT at 1230 hours at 21,000 ft. following 1/2-way to north of WESTPORT leaving those numbers at 1340 hours at 21,000 ft. 1/2 out WESTPORT at 1430 hours at 21,000 ft.

- (2) Nil
- (3) Nil
- (4) A. White flight strafes at 4,715 and at 7° 12' E ~~500,000~~ 500 20' N
destroyed: 2 locomotives, 4 box cars, 2 German officers, 1 Military Truck
-damaged: 6 flat cars, 1 railroad station, 1 Jeep
- (5) Nil
- (6) A. Heavy shipping observed on Rhine River at 11,300 ft.
B. balloon barrage approx 15 in number observed over dam on Rhine River
at 8° 17' E. 49° 58' N.
- (7) A. KOSLOV - heavy inaccurate intense at 25,000 ft.
B. CHENWITZ - heavy accurate intense at 25,000 ft.

All flak bursts were of usual heavy black type.

1 B-17 seen to go down over target - 4 chutes observed

R/T good

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JOHN B. MYERS, JR.,
1st Lt, AC,
S-2 C.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

B-2

AFO 637,
12 Sep 44.

SUBJECT: B-2, B-3 Mission Report No. 107

TO : B-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station F-373,
AFO 637.

- A. 363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON. Loading: Lt. W. SCHLIT. PASSENGER
- B. 18 UP. TAKE-OFF 0900. DOWNS: 1415
- C. PASSENGER RETURN: Two (Spares Not Needed) ACCIDENT: Nil
- D. Penetration - Target Support - Withdrawal Field Order No. 565
- E. Two NIN - THOMAS E. HUGHES, Capt, AC 0-421101) last seen at LAIPAL at 1130 hr
CARL ELL W. OFSTUN, 2nd Lt, AC 0-700310) at 28,000 ft. by 1st Lt. ARICN
E. HUNNETT, escorting one B-17
in distress from target area
toward FRANCE.
- F. Nil
- G. Nil
- H. Nil
- I. (1) 1/2 in LAIPAL at 0951 hrs at 20,000 ft. R/V at WATERBURY at 1040 hrs at 24,000 ft
1/2 of ROBLAND at 1235 hrs at 22,000 ft. 1/2 out LAIPAL at 1335 at 12,000 ft
- (2) Nil
- (3) Nil
- (4) Nil
- (5) 150 plus 50 plus 2/A observed at 28,000 ft at approx 1040 hrs approaching bombers from
SE at 28,000 ft to within ten miles of the bombers when E/A made 180° turn without
attacking. E/A were not seen again.
- (6) None
- A. Blue flight escorted 6 straggling B-17s from target to friendly territory
- B. One B-17 escorted by second element of green flight from target area to
11° 20' N 50° 20' W. where it crash landed. This B-17 had two motors
feathered and was identified by a square with a G inside and a L below the
square - located on the tail.
- C. One B-17 in distress escorted from target to FRIENDS by 2nd element of
Green Flight
- D. Captain HUGHES and Lt. OFSTUN last seen at 1100 at 28,000 ft. over LAIPAL
escorting B-17 in distress toward FRANCE
- E. 50 plus enemy ships observed on RHINE RIVER at WEISERDEN - not moving
- (7) LAIPAL - heavy accurate intense at 28,000 ft - nothing unusual about flak.

R/T good.

JOHN E. MYERS, JR,
1st Lt, AC,
S-2 O.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAF Station F-373

D-2

APO 637,
13 Sep 44.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report No. 168

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station F-373, APO 637.

- A. 363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON. LEADING: Major EDWIN W. HIRO
- B. 18 UP. TAKE-OFF 0845 DOWN: 1420
- C. EARLY RETURNS: Nil ESCORT: Nil
- D. Penetration - Target Support - Withdrawal Field Order No. 566
- E. ~~Me 109~~ ~~Me 109~~ - believed to have landed south of BRUSSELS. One Unknown
- F. Nil
- G. WILLIAM H. FRICKER, 1st Lt, AC O-440416)Missing but believed to have landed
EDWARD J. CARP, 2nd Lt, AC O-820220) south of BRUSSELS in BELGIUM
GUERSNEY I CARLISLE, Maj, AC O-385550)
JOHN R. SKRHA, 1st Lt, AC O-759099)
- H. MARION E. BURNETT, 1st Lt, AC O-702763 Unknown
- I. Air; Destroyed;
Me 109 - Lt. HAROLD P. HAND, ~~Me 109~~, O-706384
Me 109 - 2nd Lt FRANK L. GAILER, ~~Me 109~~ O-688813 and 1st Lt. CHARLES E
YEAGER O-887005

- I. (1) L/F in WALSCHEREN ISLAND at 0930 hours at 19,000 ft. R/V north of FRANKFORT at 1025 hours at 29,000 ft. L/B south of MULHAUSEN at 1215 hours at 26,000 ft. L/F out in flights from BUNKIRKE to WALCHEREN ISLAND 1345 to 1355 hours at 10,000 ft.
- (2) Nil
- (3) Nil
- (4) Nil
- (5) Eight Bogies pulling contrails 35,000 ft west of HALLE - No other E/A seen.
- (6) Nil
- (7) Target heavy inaccurate moderate 32,000 ft.

At 1215 hours Squadron leader heard over R/T that Dollar was engaged with 40 plus E/A east of MULHAUSEN. Left Bombers at this point and went down to 1,000 ft. to give assistance but could not find Dollar Squadron or E/A. Squadron then proceeded home. Blue flight observed one of eight bogies pulling contrails at 35,000 ft. split-S and come down, engaged this Me. 109 from 15,000 ft. to the deck, destroying him. At 1245 hours 8 miles southwest of HALLE this flight encountered another Me. 109 and destroyed him from 15,000 ft to the deck. Leader Red Flight reports Green Flight called in at 1400 hours that flight was going to land south of BRUSSELS as #4 man was low on fuel. Lt. BURNETT last seen in 360° turn at 1225 hours at 15,000 ft. 15 miles east of KASSEL as his flight was positioning itself for an attack on an Me. 109 coming down from above. R/T good. Flak observation; White bursts in groups of four reported bursting 1500 ft. higher than black bursts with greater explosive area and giving off much more smoke.

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ERNEST F. DE NIGRIS,
Capt, A, S-2 O.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

APC 637,
15 Sep 44.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report No. 169

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station F-373, APC 637.

- A. 363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON. LEADING: Lt. HENSCHER T. PASCOE
- B. 18 UP TAKE-OFF 0920 DOWN: 1206
- C. EARLY RETURNS Nil ESCORT Nil
- D. Penetration - Target Support (Scrubbed)
Three NYR reason Unknown
- E. Nil
- G. WILLIAM R. DUNLOP, 2nd Lt, AC, ASN 0-695159 - Missing
KENNETH F. GRAEFF, 2nd Lt, AC, ASN 0-706488 - Missing
LOUIS F. NOWLIN, 2nd Lt, AC, ASN 0-801895 - Missing
- H. Nil

Field Order #571

- I. (1) ~~Lt. Franklin~~ Recalled by tabletop at 1030 hours north of BORKUN ISLAND before R/v.
- (2) Nil
- (3) Nil
- (4) Nil
- (5) Nil
- (6) A. Convoy observed leaving EMDEN HARBOR at 1033 hours composed of 30 plus Merchantmen of approximately 5 tons each, headed toward the NORTH SEA.
- (7) One pilot reports seven bursts of flak over GREAT YARMOUTH at 1145 hours accurate at his level of 7,000 feet, approximately 1/4 mile off his left wing.

Lt. NOWLIN and Lt. GRAEFF were flying #2 and #4 in White Flight. In an effort to find a clear spot in the clouds the flight descended to 2,000 ft. alt. As the flight again climbed for altitude all four in the flight were together. When they broke out at 8,000 ft. Lts. NOWLIN and GRAEFF were not to be seen. Lt. FRANKLIN #1 and Lt. SULLIVAN #3 circled the area for several minutes calling their wingmen on the R/T - No response was received from either man. This occurred at approx. 1100 hours at 53° 50' N. 06° 00' E. Lt. DUNLOP was flying #2 Spare on Lt. FIFIELD's wing, when at approx. 1020 hours, north of TERCHELLING ISLAND at 18,000 ft Lt. FIFIELD turned to return to home-base. Lt. DUNLOP continued following the Squadron which at this time was 3 to 5 miles in front. Lt. DUNLOP did not join any flight in the Squadron and has not been heard from.

ERNEST F. DE NIGRIS,
Capt, AC,
S-2 O.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

APO 637,
17 Sept 44.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report. No # 170

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station F-373,
APO 637.

A. 363rd Fighter Squadron. Leading: 1st CHARLES E. YAGER.

B. 18 Up. 1115-1535

C. 1 Early Return.

D. Area Support.

E. Nil

F. Nil

G. Nil

H. Nil

I. (1). 1/F in Walcheren Is. at 1159 Hrs at 16,000 ft. Escorted 7 boxes of C-47's to drop area. 1/F out Walcheren Is. at 1500 Hrs at 11,000 ft.

(2). Nil

(3). Nil

(4). Nil

(5). Nil

(6). A. 3 C-47's seen to belly in and 6 seen to crash with only 3 chutes observed. 1 C-47 towing glider crashed after releasing glider—wing came off and pilot not observed to chute out.

B. Rocket contrail from N. of Rotterdam at 1205 Hrs observed as it passed over Dutch Is. on way to English coast. Contrail at 25,000 ft to approx. 45,000 to 50,000 ft.

(7). Heavy 40 millimeter flak in drop area—accurate—intense—2000 ft.

FO # 576

ERNEST F. DE NIGRIS
Capt. AC.
S-2 Officer.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

APC 637,
18 Sept 44.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report. No. # 170

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station
F-373, APC 637.

A. 363rd Fighter Squadron - Lt HERCHEL T. PASCOE, leading
B. 16 up at 1300 Hrs. 1220 Down at 1645

C. Nil

D. Area Support.

E. Nil

F. Nil

G. Nil

H. Destroyed: 4 ME 109's and One FW 190 (AIR)

ME 109 by Lt Landis

ME 109 by Lt Pascoe

ME 109 shared by Lts. Fifield and Fennel

ME 109 by Lt Dunlop

FW 190 shared by Lt Gailor and Capt Hughes

I. (1) L/F in Westhoofed at 1300 Hrs at 13,000 ft. Vectored North, outh and
East of Mindhoven by Great Friars until 1320. L/F out Westhoofed in
flights and elements of two's 1405 to 1425 Hrs between 9,000 and 12,000 ft.
Squadron engaged 15 plus S/E E/A 10 miles west of Arnheim with above
results.

(2). Nil

(3) Nil

(4) Nil

(5) 15 plus /S E/A in area 10 miles west of Arnheim at 1310 hrs.

(6) One pilot reports observing 2 P-51's going down smoking in vicinity
10 miles west of Arnheim at approx. 1315 Hrs.

Rocket reported rising from vicinity of Koln at 1458 hrs leaving white
smoke trail which ceased at approx. 30,000 ft. Projectile appeared to
be climbing at an angle of 60 to 75 degrees straight up -no arc or
curve in it's climb to altitude.

(7) Intense light and heavy flak to 15,000 ft vicinity of Arnheim.

PG # 578

ERNEST F. DE NIGRIS
Capt AC
-2 Officer.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

AFPO 637,
19 Sept 44.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report. No # 171

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station F-373,
AFPO 637.

- A. 363rd Fighter Squadron. Major EDWIN W. HIRO, leading
- B. 18 up 1445-- Down 1835
- C. Nil
- D. Area Support
- E. Nil
- F. 7 Emergency landings at Boxed due to weather.
- G. Nil
- H. Destroyed: 6 ME 109's in air.
 - 1 ME 109 Shared by Lts. Gailor and Hand.
 - 2 ME 109's by Lt Roper; and 2 ME 109's by Lt. Pasaka.
 - 1 ME 109 by Lt. DUNLOP

FO 579

- ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
- I. (1). L/F in at undetermined place due to overcast at 1335 at 15,000 ft. Time arrived over area not known because of overcast. Vectored by Oilskin to area R, but no bandits seen. Then vectored to west of Arnheim where bandits were encountered. Engaged 15 plus ME 109's with above results. Major Hiro last seen by his wing man, Lt. Carr on tail of an E/A and then heard Maj. Hiro call asking where his flight was--not heard from since. L/F out between Hagus and Ijmuiden at varying altitudes from 1735 to 1750 hrs.
 - (2). Nil
 - (3). Nil
 - (4). Nil
 - (5). 15 plus ME 109's reported west of Arnheim at 1720 hrs.
 - (6). Ijmuiden--15 mercant vessels reported lying at anchor at 1735 hrs.
 - (7). W. of Arnheim--heavy light--9,000ft. accurate--moderate.

ERNEST F. DE NIGRIS
Capt. AC
S-2 Officer.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

AFG 637,
20 Sept 44.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report. No 172

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station
F-373, AFG 637.

A. 363rd Fighter Squadron. Lt HERBERT T. PASCOE, leading

B. 15 up. 1245--1802

C. Nil

D. Area Support

E. Nil

F. Nil

G. Nil

H. Nil

I. (1). 1/P in Walcheren Is at 1335 Hrs at 13,000 ft. Arrived over assigned area
approx. 1350 Hrs and vectored by controller until 1600 hrs-told may return
but Cp remained in area furnishing top cover. 1/P out Nordwal 1712 hrs
at 11,500 ft.

(2). Nil

(3). Nil

(4). Nil

(5). Nil

(6). Nil due to weather conditions.

(7). Nil

Uneventful mission.

FO # 580

HERBERT F. DE NIG IS
Capt. AC
-2 Officer.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

APG 637,
21 Sept 44.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report. No # 173

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station
F-373, APO 637.

- A. 363rd Fighter Squadron - Lt CHARLES E. YEAGER, leading
- B. 16 Up. 1150--1631
- C. 1. No Escorts.
- D. Penetration--Target Support--Withdrawal. FO # 581
- E. Nil
- F. Nil
- G. Nil
- H. Nil
- I. (1). 1/F in Blankenberg at 1248 Hrs at 17,000 ft. 1/V in Channel at 1237 Hrs
at 15,000 ft. 1/B of Liege at 1454 Hrs at 23,000 ft. 1/F out unobserved
because of undercast.
- (2). Nil
- (3). Nil
- (4). Nil
- (5). Nil
- (6). Nil
- (7). Heavy--Accurate--Moderate--27,000 ft--Koblenz.

Pilots report mission as uneventful.

ROBERT F. JR. NICHOLS
Capt. AG
S-2 Officer.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

APC 637,
22 Sept 44.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report. No # 174

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station
F-373, APC 637.

- A. 363rd Fighter Squadron - Lt WILLIAM S. FERNELL, leading
- B. 16 - 1155 -1632
- C. Nil
- D. Penetration - Target support - Withdrawal FO # 583
- E. Nil
- F. ~~Nil~~ One Cat. "E" - ran off runway, landing at home base. Pilot uninjured.
- G. Nil
- H. Nil
- I. (1). L/F in Walcheren Is. at 1240 Hrs at 18,500 ft. R/V SE Leige at 1300 hrs at 24,000 ft. Escorted bombers around target and leaving them at Leige at 1535 Hrs at 24,000 ft. L/F out Walcheren Is at 1553 Hrs at 18,000 ft.
 - (2). Nil
 - (3). Nil
 - (4). Nil
 - (5). Nil
- (6). 1. Escorted 1 B-17 from 20 miles N of Koblenz to mid-way channel.
 - 2. Lt. McGuire of 364th Ftr Gp. heard over R/T at approx. 1335 Hrs 20 miles N. Koblenz to say he was hit and would try to make it home. One of pilots of this squadron reports that when he was over Brussels he heard Lt. McGuire to say he was letting down on a heading of 310 degrees at 1505 Hrs - he was not seen.
 - 3. Several pilots report a rocket type of flak bursting at 27,000 ft giving off white smoke which appeared to arc over at that altitude and fall down in little balls of flame. About 15 bursts noted.
- (7). Heavy - Inacc - Mod - 20,000 to 27,000 ft. - Koblenz.

ERNEST F. DE NIGRIS.
Capt. AC
S-2 Officer.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

APO 637
23 Sept 44.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report. No. 175

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station F-373, APO 637.

A. 363rd Fighter Squadron - Lt. Charles E. Yeager, leading

B. 16 - 1425 - 1925

C. EARLY RETURN: Two. ESCORT: One

D. Area Support

F.O.# 585

E. Nil

F. Nil

G. Nil

H. Nil

I. (1). L/F in SCHOUWEN ISLAND at 1503 hours at 15,000 ft., Began patrolling assigned area at 1533 hours at 12,000 ft., under direction of controller in wing area same altitude at 1825 hours. L/F out SCHOUWEN ISLAND at 1853 hours at 10,000 ft

(2) Nil

(3) Nil

(4) Nil

(5) Nil

(6) Nil

(7) Macseyck - Light heavy - 12,000 ft. accurate - neager.

JOHN T. DE NIGRIS,
Capt, AC,
S-2 C.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

APC 559
25 Sept 44

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report No. 176

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station F-373,
APC 559.

A. 363rd Fighter Squadron - Lt. Charles E. Yeager, leading

B. 16 - 0850 - 1332.

C. EARLY RETURNS: 2

ESCORT: 1

P.O.# 586

D. Area Patrol - Penetration - Target Support - Withdrawal

E. 4 Emergency landings in France to re-fuel.

F. Nil

G. Nil

H. Nil

I. (1). L/T in Walcheren Is. at 0931 hrs at 19,000 ft. Arrived over target at 1020 hrs and R/V with bombers at 1025 hrs at 27,000 ft. Escorted bombers around target breaking escort and making L/F out of Nieuport at 1248 hrs at 10,000ft

(2). Nil

(3). Nil

(4). Nil

(5). Nil

(6). Nil--over-cast.

(7). Target-inacc-meagre--heavy-27,000 ft.

Squadron leader reports Lts. Maynard, Corby, Sullivan and Bowles made emergency landings in France to re-fuel.

EUGENE F. DE NIGRIS
Capt. AC
S-2 Officer.

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353RD FIGHTER SQUADRON
357TH FIGHTER GROUP, ARMY AIR FORCES
USAF STATION F-373

APD 559,
26 SEPT 44.

SUBJECT: S2, S-3 MISSION REPORT. NO #177

TO : S-2 OFFICER, 357TH FIGHTER GROUP, ARMY AIR FORCES,
USAF STATION F-373, APD 559.

- A. 353RD FIGHTER SQUADRON. HERCHEL T. PASCOE, 1ST LT, LEADING.
- B. 15 UP AT 1340 HRS DOWN 1004
- C. NIL
- D. PENETRATION, AREA 5 REPORT AND WITHDRAWAL
- E. NIL
- F. ONE CAT AC 2ND LT. FRANK L. BAYLEY, JR., O 550813, GROUND LOPED
- G. IN LANDING AT BASE.
- HQ. NIL
- H. NIL

FO 588

- I. 1. L/F IN AT GRONINGEN AT 1520 HRS AT 20000 FEET. R/V AT 1.
OF AMELAND AT 1435 HRS AT 20000 FEET. L/S AT N AMELAND AT 1625
HRS AT 30000 FEET. L/F OUT AT WESERMUNDE AT 1610 AT 30000 FEET.
- 2. NIL
- 3. NIL
- 4. NIL
- 5. NO E/A SEEN.
- 6. A. ONE B 17 ON FIRE AND SPUN IN AT WESERMUNDE 2 CHUTES OBSERVED
B. BLUE FLIGHT OBSERVED ROCKET CONTRAILS WHEN THEY WERE AT
53 DEGREES 45 MINUTES NORTH AND 7 DEGREES EAST FIRED FR M
230 DEGREES FROM THAT POINT ARISING TO 45000 FEET ALTITUDE
C. TWELVE SHIPS OBSERVED IN WESERMUNDE HARBOR AT 1617 HRS
MOVING NORTH TOWARD THE SEA.
D. FIFTEEN PLUS CARGO SHIPS OBSERVED AT DOCKS ON SOUTH
SIDE OF DORKUM ISLAND.

JOHN B. MYERS, JR
1ST LT AC
S-2 O

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

APD 559,
27 Sept 44.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report. No 178

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station
F-373, APO 559.

- A. 363rd Fighter Squadron. CHARLES E. YEAGER, leading
- B. 14 up at 0750 down 1220
- C. Nil
- D. Ramrod
- E. Nil
- F. Nil
- G. Nil
- H. Nil

FO #590

- I. 1 L/F in at Knocke at 0832 hrs at 15000. R/V at S Brussels at 0850 hrs at 20000 ft. Left Bombers and made L/F out at Knocke at 1150 hrs at 15000 ft.
- 2 Nil
- 3 Nil
- 4 Nil
- 5 One lone 109 seen in distance over target.
- 6 No observations due to undercast and altitude, on the ground.
- 7 b Squadron went to assistance at call from Vingerove 3/3 that B 24's N of Target area were being jumped by 100 plus E/A. Upon arriving in the area bombers had been jumped and E/A were gone, there being yellow nose P 51's in area. Approximately 6 bombers were seen in flames or spinning toward ground. No E/A seen. Squadron rejoined our B 17's and escorted them to Knocke.
- c Four bursts of white flax at 32000 feet larger than ordinary bursts observed directly over Frankfurt.
- d One B 17 shot down N Trier at 1010 hrs with no chutes observed.
- 7 E Frankfurt and Koblenz heavy accurate moderate flax to 30000 feet. Laacher Lake (w of Koblenz) light accurate intense flax to 4000 feet.

JOHN B MYERS JR
1st Lt AC
S-2 O

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

EPD/rkb

APC 559,
28 Sep 1944.

SUBJECT: S-2, S-3 Mission Report #179

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station F-373,
APC 559.

- A. 363rd Fighter Squadron. LEADING: 1st Lt. CHARLES E. YEAGER
- B. 15 UP. TAKE-OFF: 0935 DOWN: 1427
- C. EARLY RETURNS: Two ESCORT: Nil
- D. Penetration - Target Support - Withdrawal Field Order #591
- E. ~~Nil~~ Two Emergency landings in FRANCE - fuel. Lts. LANDIS and DORANSKI
- F. Nil
- G. Nil
- H. Nil
- I. (1) L/F in SCHOUVEN ISLANDS at 1010 hours at 15,000 ft. R/V south of KOBLENZ
at 1104 hours at 25,000 ft. L/B bombers south of LIEGE at 1313 hours at 27,000 ft
L/P out south of ZEEBRUG at 1405 hours at 15,000 ft.
- (2) Nil
- (3) Nil
- (4) Nil
- (5) Nil
- (6) Nil - undercast and altitude prevented observations.
- (7) Target - heavy accurate moserate 28,000 ft. to 31,000 ft.

Pilots report mission uneventful.

ERNEST F. DE NIGRIS,
Capt, AC,
S-2 O.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

rkb

APC 559,
30 September

SUBJECT B-2, B-3 Mission Report No. 179

TO : 1st Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station F-373, APC 559

- A. 363rd Fighter Squadron. LEADING: 1st Lt. HENSCHEL T. PASCOE
- B. 16 UP. T Re-GFF 1125 DOWN 1515
- C. EARLY RETURNS: One ESCORT: Nil
- D. Penetration - Target Support - Withdrawal Field Order #592
- E. Nil
- F. Nil
- G. Nil
- H. Nil

- I. (1) L/P in at WALCHEREN ISLAND at 1200 hrs at 17,000 Ft. Circled vicinity of
~~(2)~~ ANT BRPT making R/V with our assigned bombers at north of ANT BRPT at 1228 hrs
~~(3)~~ at 25,000 ft. Squadron escorted middle box of B-17s with Square Identification
~~(4)~~ on tail around target breaking escort and making L/P out north of IJMOEDEN at
~~(5)~~ 1431 hrs at 17,000 ft.
~~(6)~~ Nil
- (3) Nil
- (4) Nil
- (5) One Me. 109 around target seen in dive with P-51 on its tail.
- (6) a. One B-17 observed to go down in flames over target no chutes, from our box.
b. One B-17 exploded in mid-air over target one chute - from our box
c. Smoke screen encircling target city.
d. 20 plus barges seen inlet north of ZOOLE in IJMOEDEN ZB.
e. 30 plus barges seen AMSTERDAM.
f. 15 plus barges south of ROOSEN.
g. Many barges ~~in~~ and two large vessels in IJMOEDEN HARBOR.
- (7) Heavy intense inaccurate OSHABRUCK 26,000 ft. Bombers evaded flak by going around northern and southern outskirts of city resulting in flak bursting between the two sections of bombers.

ERNEST F. DE NIGRIS,
Capt, AC,
S-2 O.

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GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....79)

HEADQUARTERS VIII FIGHTER COMMAND

APO 637

A4F STATION F-341

5 September, 1944

E-X-I-E-I-O-T

I. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September, 1943, as changed, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 56, Hq, European T. of Ops., 27 May, 1944, and letter Hq., Eighth Air Force, Subject: "Awards and Decorations", 4 August 1944, the DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS is awarded to the following named Officers:

*
HENRY R. KAYSER, O-682652, 1st Lt., Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement and heroism in aerial combat and the destruction of two enemy airplanes over enemy occupied Continental Europe. The skillful and zealous manner in which Lt. Kayser has sought out the enemy and destroyed him, his devotion to duty and courage under all conditions serve as an inspiration to his fellow flyers. His actions on all these occasions reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from South Dakota.

*
II. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September, 1943, as changed, and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 56, Hq, European T. of Ops., 27 May, 1944, and letter Hq., Eighth Air Force, Subject: "Awards and Decorations", 4 August 1944, ~~now~~ an OUTSTANDING CLUSTER is awarded to the following named Officers for wear with the DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS previously awarded:

EDWIN W. HIRO, O-728661, Major, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement and heroism in aerial combat and the destruction of three enemy airplanes over enemy occupied Continental Europe. The skillful and zealous manner in which Major Hiro has sought out the enemy and destroyed him, his devotion to duty and courage under all conditions serve as an inspiration to his fellow flyers. His actions on all these occasions reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Minnesota.

ROBERT W. FOY, O-745340, Captain, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement and heroism in aerial combat and the destruction of three enemy airplanes over enemy occupied Continental Europe. The skillful and zealous manner in which Captain Foy has sought out the enemy and destroyed him, his devotion to duty and courage under all conditions serve as an inspiration to his fellow flyers. His actions on all these occasions reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

WILLIAM R. O'BRIEN, O-730583, Captain, Army Air Forces, United States Army. For extraordinary achievement and heroism in aerial combat and the destruction of three enemy airplanes over enemy occupied Continental Europe. The skillful and zealous manner in which Captain O'Brien has sought out the enemy and destroyed him, his devotion to duty and courage under all conditions serve as an inspiration to his fellow flyers. His actions on all these occasions reflect the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the United States. Entered military service from Kansas.

*
III. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, 22 September, 1943, as changed and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, Circular 56, Hq., European T. of Ops., 27 May, 1944, and letter Hq., Eighth Air Force, Subject: "Awards and Decorations", 4

SECRET

SECRET

. 79 (Cont'd)

st, 1944, an OAK LEAF CITATION is awarded to the following named Officers in addition to the Air Medal previously awarded:

SITUATION: For exceptionally meritorious service in aerial flight over enemy occupied Continental Europe. The courage, coolness and skill displayed by these Officers reflect great credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States;

* ROBERT G. FISHER	* O-886954	* 2nd Lt.,	* Chicago, Illinois.
* HENRY B. FRANKLIN	* O-683434	* 2nd Lt.,	* Tulsa, Oklahoma

By command of Brigadier General GRISWOLD:

BENJAMIN J. REISTER,
Colonel, Air Corps,
Actg Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

s/t JOHN J. NATIONS,
Colonel, A.C.D.,
Adjutant General.

A TRUE EXTRACT:

James H. Willett
DAVE C. WILLETT,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

CONFIDENTIAL

C-2 (C-21)

SECRET

.....
 Reg. No. 48519:

SECRET
 :
 SECRET.....69)

RECEIVED THE AIRMAN CORPS
 APO 637 APO Station F-341
 16 September, 1944

-E-X-T-R-A-C-T-

1. Under the provisions of Army Regulations 630-45, 22 September, 1943, as changed, and pursuant to authority contained in Section 1, Circular 56, HQ., American I. of Arms, 27 May, 1944, and letter HQ., Eighth Air Force, Subject: "Awards and Decorations", 4 August, 1944, an AIRMAN CORPS is awarded to the following named Officers in addition to the Air Medal previously awarded:

CITATION: For exceptionally meritorious service in aerial flight over enemy occupied Continental Europe. The courage, coolness and skill displayed by these Officers reflect great credit upon themselves and the Armed Forces of the United States:

MISSING IN ACTION

*****	*	*	*
DAVID E. GILBERT	O-702763	1st Lt.,	Romer, Louisiana
*****	*	*	*

For the Commanding General:

BENJAMIN J. WEISBERG,
 Colonel, Air Corps,
 Actg. Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

s/t/JOHN J. BILLORE,
 Colonel, A.P.C.,
 Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION: "AS"

ATTN: EXTRACT:

David E. Gilbert
 DAVID E. GILBERT,
 Captain, Air Corps,
 Adjutant.

CONFIDENTIAL

- 1 -

SECRET

RESTRICTED SECRET

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General

31 August 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
NUMBER 236

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

* * *

6. The following C, AC, are DP, temporarily promoted to the gr indicated in AUS w/rank fr date of this order. (Auth Cir 90, Hq European T of Cps, USA, 17 August, 1944):

* * *

VIII FIGHTER COMMAND

* * *

2nd Lt to 1st Lt

* * *

KEEHN (NMI) LANDIS, 0706594

* * *

By command of Lieutenant General DOOLITTLE:

JOHN S. ALLARD,
Colonel, GSC,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

s/t/LINDSEY L. BRAXTON,
Lt Col, AGD,
Adjutant General.

A TRUE EXTRACT:

Dave C. Willett
DAVE C. WILLETT,
Capt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

SECRET

SECRET

RESTRICTED

3. 111 0013
10 241

HEADQUARTERS AIR STATION F-373
AFC 637
1 September 1944

E-E-T-T-T-T

3. Foll 1, organs indicated, promoted to r indicated upon recommendation of
their Orgn Comdrs:
*

363RD FTR S

TC BE CC FORT 1 (TLP)
Pfc (945) Antonio (NLT) Gegeckus, 11040761

TC BE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (TLP)
Pvt. (060) Aloysius R. Pyka, 36347094

AUTH: AR 615-5
*

By order of Colonel GRAHAM:

FLOYD G. RIDDLE,
ACJC, USA,
Asst Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

s/t/FLOYD G. RIDDLE,
ACJC, USA,
Asst Adjutant.

A TRUE EXTRACT:

Dave C. Willett
DAVE C. WILLETT,
Capt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

SECRET

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED **SECRET**HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General

4 September 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
NUMBER.....240)E-A-T-R-A-C-T

*

*

*

11. The following O, AC, are DP, temporarily promoted to the grade indicated in
AUS w/rank fr date of this order. (Auth: Cir 90, Hq European T of Opns, USA, 17
August 1944):

*

*

*

VIII FIGHTER COMB

*

*

*

2nd Lt to 1st Lt

CHARLES E. YEAGER, 0687005

*

*

*

By command of Lieutenant General DOOLITTLE:

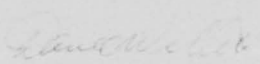
JOHN S. ALLARD,
Colonel, GSC,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

s/t/LINDSEY L. BRAXTON
Lt Col, AGD,
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION: "H" Plus, 2 cys ea O par. 11 & 12, 6 cys Promotion Sec.

A TRUE EXTRACT:


DAVE C. WILLSTT,
Capt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.
SECRET

SECRET

RESTRICTED

HEAD QUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General

9 September 1944

SPECIAL ORDER
NUMBER.....245

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

10. The following O, AC, are, *Dr*, temporarily promoted to the *gr* indicated in
AUS w/rank fr date of this order. (Auth: Cir 90 Hq European T of Ops USA, 17 August
1943):

*

VIII FIGHTER COMMAND (CENT)

1st Lt to Capt

LAWRENCE D. WOOD, 0745559

2nd Lt to 1st Lt

WILLIAM R. F. DUNN, JR., 0695159

By command of Lieutenant General DOOLITTLE:

JOHN S. ALLARD,
Colonel, GSC,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

s/t/LINDSEY L. BRAXTON,
Lt Col, AGC,
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION: "H" Plus, 2 cys ea C par 10,
6 cys Promotion Sec.

A TRUE EXTRACT:

David C. Willett
DAVE C. WILLETT,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

SECRET

RESTRICTED

~~RESTRICTED~~ SECRET

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General

10 September 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
NUMBER.....246)

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

7. The following O, AC, are DP, temporarily promoted to the gr indicated in AUS w/rank fr date of this order. (AUTH: Cir 90 Hq European T of Opns USA, 17 August 1944);

* * *

VIII FIGHTER COMD

* * *

2nd Lt to 1st Lt

ROBERT S. FIFIELD, 0701087

* * *

By command of Lieutenant General DOOLITTLE:

JOHN S. ALLRED
Colonel, GSC,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

s/t/LINDSEY L. BRAXTON,
Lt Col, AGD,
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION: "H" Plus, 2 cys ea O par 7,
6 cys Promotion Self.

A TRUE EXTRACT:

Dave C. Willett
DAVE C. WILLETT,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

~~RESTRICTED~~ SECRET

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE
Office of the Commanding General

11 September 1943

SPECIAL ORDER
NUMBER 1000

1000

10. The following 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000

THE SECRETARY

And it is so

JOHN W. STONE, 100000

by command of Lieutenant General HILLMAN

JOHN W. STONE,
Colonel, USA,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

s/1/LIBRARY L. HILLMAN,
Lt Col, USA,
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION: 1000, 2 copies per 10 and 11,
6 copies Promotion Sec.

A TRUE EXTRACT:

James C. Hillman
JAMES C. HILLMAN,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

SECRET

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SECRET

HEADQUARTERS, 10th AF
Office of the Commanding General

23 September 1944

SPECIAL ORDER
(Serial 259)

SUBJECT

10. The following O, AG are temporarily promoted to the grade indicated in ADS w/rank fr date of this order. (Auth G1r 90, Hq European T of Opns USA, 17 August 1944):

2ND AIRBORNE DIV
2nd Lt to 1st Lt.

WARREN J. DONAHUE, 0612393
SERVING IN THE AFF, 0700488

FRANK L. GARDNER, JR, 0682813

By command of Lieutenant General BOOLIVANT:

JOHN V. ALLARD
Brig. General, USA,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

s/1/LIEUTENANT L. BARTON,
1st Col, AGD,
Adjutant General.

A TRUE EXTRACT:

Frank L. Gardner
FRANK L. GARDNER,
Captain, Air Corps,
Executive Officer.

SECRET

SECRET

RESTRICTED

Special Agent
No. 242Approved for release by
J. Edgar Hoover

RESTRICTED

3 October 1941

SECRET

1. Roll 1, said 197th Air Group, 1st Air Division, 1st Air Force, are further said to be under investigation. In a of day.

1. Roll 1, said 197th Air Group, 1st Air Division, 1st Air Force, are further said to be under investigation. In a of day.	20 12	07-0316	1st Air Force
2. Roll 2, said 197th Air Group, 1st Air Division, 1st Air Force, are further said to be under investigation. In a of day.	20 12	081710	1st Air Force

2. Roll 2, said 197th Air Group, 1st Air Division, 1st Air Force, are further said to be under investigation. In a of day.

1. Roll 1, said 197th Air Group, 1st Air Division, 1st Air Force, are further said to be under investigation. In a of day.	20 12	07-0316	1st Air Force
2. Roll 2, said 197th Air Group, 1st Air Division, 1st Air Force, are further said to be under investigation. In a of day.	20 12	081710	1st Air Force

3. Roll 3, said 197th Air Group, 1st Air Division, 1st Air Force, are further said to be under investigation. In a of day.

4. Roll 4, said 197th Air Group, 1st Air Division, 1st Air Force, are further said to be under investigation. In a of day.

1. Roll 1, said 197th Air Group, 1st Air Division, 1st Air Force, are further said to be under investigation. In a of day.	20 12	07-0316	1st Air Force
2. Roll 2, said 197th Air Group, 1st Air Division, 1st Air Force, are further said to be under investigation. In a of day.	20 12	081710	1st Air Force

By order of Colonel [Signature]

W. J. [Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

OFFICIAL:

W. J. [Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

A TRUE COPY:

[Signature]
W. J. [Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

SECRET

RESTRICTED

SPECIAL ORDERS
NO 245

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS AAF STATION F-373
APO 637
6 September 1944

CONSOLIDATED

EXTRACT

4. S Sgt (747) Bernard W. McFall, 14119961, having been trfd in gr to 357th Ftr
Cooper par 5, SC #211, 12th RCD, 17 Aug 44, is further trfd in gr & WP 363rd Ftr Sq.
c of sta.

By order of Colonel GRAHAM:

DAVID I. KRAMER,
Captain, Air Corps,
Asst Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

s/t/DAVID I. KRAMER,
Captain, Air Corps,
Asst Adjutant.

A TRUE EXTRACT:

Dave C. Willett
DAVE C. WILLETT,
Capt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

RESTRICTED

- 1 -

SECRET

S-2
SECRET

RESTRICTED

SPECIAL ORDERS
NO 247HEADQUARTERS IAF STATION I-373
APO 637
8 September 1944

A-1-1-1-1-1

1. Roll C, used 357th Fir Op per par 1, SO 244, 1st Sta F-343, 6 Sept 44, are further used & of organs indicated. No c of sta.

NAME	RANK	ASN	ORG	STATION
PAUL W. HOWES	2D LT	0826614	AC	363rd Fir Sq
JOB W. CANNON	2D LT	0826621	AC	do
WALTER W. CUNY	2D LT	0826632	AC	do
MICHAEL W. GIBBY	2D IN	0826643	AC	do

By order of Colonel GIBBY:

s/ David I. Kramer
L/S VIL I. KRAMER,
Captain, Air Corps,
Asst Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

DAVID I. KRAMER,
Captain, Air Corps,
Asst Adjutant.

A TRUE STATEMENT:

David C. Willett
DAVE C. WILLETT,
Capt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

SECRET

S-2
SECRET
RESTRICTED

SPECIAL ORDERS
NO 259

HEADQUARTERS AAF STATION F-373
APO 559
21 September 1944

E-A-T-T-E-R-N

1. MAJ GUERNSEY I. CARLISLE, 0385550, AC, reld fr asgmt & dy w/Hq 357th Ftr Gp & asgd 363rd Ftr Sq. No c of sta.

By order of Colonel GRAHAM:

FLOYD G. RIDDLE,
MCJG, USA,
Asst Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

s/t/FLOYD G. RIDDLE,
MCJG, USA,
Asst Adjutant.

A TRUE EXTRACT:

David C. Willett
DAVE C. WILLET,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

SECRET
RESTRICTED
- 1 -

SECRET

SECRET
NO 257

SECRET
19 September 1944

1. Mail 2, and 3774 Fir Op per par 15, 20 2053, and 3745, 15 Sep 44, and further and 4 20 2053 indicated. No 2 of 2053.

NAME	GRADE	NO	DATE
THOMAS E. CIP	2D LT	0522315 AC	30 Sep 44
THOMAS E. CIP	2D LT	0321576 AC	do
OLSON E. KAUF	2D LT	0822718 AC	do

By order of Colonel 2053:

FLOYD E. CIP 15,
2053, 15,
Asst Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

W. E. CIP 15,
2053, 15,
Asst Adjutant.

A. CIP 15:

DAVE E. CIP 15,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

SECRET

5-2

~~SECRET~~

SPECIAL ORDERS
NO 266

HEADQUARTERS AAF STATION F-373

APO 569

28 September 1944

~~E-X-T-R-A-C-T~~

14. Poll O, asgd 357th Ptr Cp per par 1, SO #207, 66th Ptr Wg, 24 Sept 44, are further asgd & WP orgns indicated. No c of sta.

NAME	RANK	ASN	ORGN
LEE G. MANTHOS	CAPT	0441026 AC	363rd Ptr Sq
*	*	*	*

By order of Colonel GRAMAM:

DAVID I. KRAMER,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

s/t/DAVID I. KRAMER,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant

A TRUE EXTRACT:

DAVE C. WILLETT,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

~~SECRET~~

- 1 -

S-2

SPECIAL ORDER
NO 267RESTRICTED
SECRETHEADQUARTERS AAF STATION F-373
APO 559
29 September 1944CONSOLIDATED- E-X-T-R-A-C-T -

1. Foll O, asgd 357th Ftr Gp per par 11, SO #264, AAF Sta F-345, 26 Sep 44, are further asgd & W organs indicated. No c of sta.

NAME	RANK	ASN	ORGN
*	*	*	*
JOHN R. SLOAN	1ST LT	0664070 AC	363rd Ftr Sq
JAMES T. WINDHAM	1ST LT	0664109 AC	do
*	*	*	*

By order of Colonel GRAHAM:

DAVID I. KRAMER,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

s/t/DAVID I. KRAMER,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

A TRUE EXTRACT:

DAVE C. WILLIETT,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

RESTRICTED

- 1 -

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RESTRICTED

SPECIAL ORDERS
NUMBER 219

SECRET

HEAD QUARTERS VIII FIGHTER COMMAND
APO 637
AFT STATION F-341
2 September 1944

S-I-I-T-A-C-I

7. The foll C in dy and segnt are directed: HP WENT. TOW. WT. 60-136 F
431-02 & 212/50425. AUTH: TRA D-68811, No Eighth AF, 26 Aug 44.

NAME	FIELD FR--	FIELD TC--
1ST LT. ROBERT J. GARDNER, 0610477 AC	357th Ftr Gp	496 Ftr Tng Gp, Sta 345

By command of Brigadier General GRISWOLD:

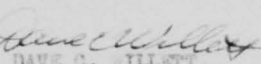
BENJAMIN J. REESTER,
Colonel, Air Corps,
Actg Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

s/t/JOHN J. SAILORS,
Colonel, AGO,
Adjutant General.

G-11

A TRUE EXTRACT:


DAVE C. MILLETT,
Capt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

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SPECIAL ORDERS
NUMBER 227HEADQUARTERS VIII FIGHTER COMMAND
APO 637 AAF STATION F-341
10 September 1944

E-X-T-R-A-C-T

1. The foll O, are reld fr dy and asgmt with orgn indicated and are asgd to Casual Pool, 12th Replacement Control Depot, AAF Sta 591, to await trans to the Z of I for further asgmt. WP MEMT. The provisions of Sec IV, Cir 85, Hq European T of Opns, USA, 17 Aug 44, will be strictly complied with. TDN. CMT. 60-136 P 431-02 A 212/50425. PAC par 5b, Memo 35-1, Hq Eighth AF, 6 Jul 44. Officers not to report before 13 Sep 44.

NAME	RELD FR
* 1ST LT GEORGE C. GEORGE, 0682631, AC	* 357th Ftr Gp
* 1ST LT. WILLIAM B. OVERSTREET, JR., 0745487, AC	* 357th Ftr Gp

2. The foll O are reld fr dy and asgmt with orgns indicated and are asgd to 496th Ftr Tng Gp, AAF Sta 345. WP MEMT. TDN. CMT. 60-136 P 431-02 A 212/50425. AUTH: TWA D-68811, Hq Eighth AF, 28 Aug 44.

NAME	RELD FR
* CAPT LAWRENCE D. WOOD, 0745559, AC	* 357th Ftr Gp

By command of Brigadier General GRISWOLD:

BENJAMIN J. WEBSTER,
Colonel, Air Corps,
Actg Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

s/t/JOHN J. SAILORS,
Colonel, AGO,
Adjutant General.

A TRUE EXTRACT:

Handwritten signature
DAVE C. WILLETT,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

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217

HEADQUARTERS VIII FIGHTER COMMAND
APO 637
AAF STATION F-341
31 August 1944

P-1-1-1-1

11. The foll C in dy and wgmt are directed: WP HMT. V. M. INT. 60-136
P 431-02 A 212/50423. AUTH: TBL D68611, Pa 6 AF, dtd 28 Aug 1944.

NAME	WLD FR--	ASCO TO--
INT LT ROBERT E. SMITH, 6607634, AC	257th Ftr Gp	406th Ftr Tng Gp
"	"	"

By command of Brigadier General [Signature]

WILLIAM J. [Signature]
Colonel, AC,
Actg Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

WILLIAM J. [Signature]
Colonel, AC,
Actg Chief of Staff.

A TRUE EXTRACT:

[Signature]
D W C. [Signature]
Capt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

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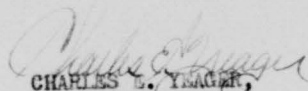
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECRET~~ENCOUNTER REPORT

PILOT: CHARLES E. YEAGER, 1st Lt, AC, O-887005

- A. COMBAT
- B. 13 September 1944 Field Order #566
- C. 363rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
- D. 1245
- E. South of KASSEL, GERMANY
- F. C A V U
- G. Me. 109
- H. One Me. 109 destroyed
- I. I was leading Cement Blue Flight when I spotted a Me. 109 diving straight down around 15,000 feet. I rolled over and was pulling around 70" Hq. I caught the E/A on the deck diving around 450 to 500 M.P.H. I closed up fast and started firing around 300 yards. I observed strikes on engine and fuselage. The engine started smoking and windmilling. I overshot. Lt. GAILER fired at him until the E/A attempted to belly in. The E/A exploded when it hit the ground. I took a picture of the crash.
I was using a K-14 sight and it is very satisfactory. The pattern is much too spread on the P-51D.

I claim one Me. 109 destroyed (shared with 2nd Lt FRANK L. GAILER)

- J. Ammunition Expended: 731 rounds .50 cal MG.


 CHARLES E. YEAGER,
 1st Lt, AC-
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ENCOUNTER REPORT

PILOT: HAROLD O. HAND, 1st Lt, AC, O-706384

- A. COMBAT
- B. 13 September 1944 Field Order #566
- C. 363rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
- D. 1230
- E. Fifteen miles east of KASSEL, GERMANY
- F. Clear except for a slight haze
- G. Me. 109
- H. One Me. 109 destroyed
- I. I was flying Cement Blue #3, at about 15,000 feet, when we spotted one Me. 109 at about 10,000 feet, going for the deck. Cement Blue leader made a pass on the E/A and overshot. I was flying in trail with the Blue leader, and when he pulled up I got on the tail of the 109. I started firing at about 250 yards and closed to about 100 yards. I saw numerous hits on the engine, fuselage and in the cockpit. The plane started smoking badly and fell off on a wing and went straight into the ground from 3,000 feet.
- I claim one Me. 109 destroyed.
- J. Ammunition Expended: 955 rounds .50 cal MG.

[Signature]
 HAROLD O. HAND,
 1st Lt, AC.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

I was leading Blue Flight and observed Lt. HAND firing at the 109. I saw strikes on the engine and cockpit. The E/A Split S-ed at 3,000 feet and hit the ground exploding.

[Signature]
 CHARLES E. YEAGER,
 1st Lt, AC.

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ENCOUNTER REPORT

PILOT: FRANK L. GAILER, JR, 2nd Lt, AC, O-688813

- A. COMBAT
- B. 13 September 1944 Field Order #566
- C. 363rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
- D. 1245
- E. South of KASSEL, GERMANY
- F. C A V U
- G. Me. 109
- H. One Me. 109 destroyed
- I. I was flying #2 position in Blue Flight. We spotted an Me. 109 coming down from above and we rolled over and down on him. Lt. YEAGER came in from behind firing and started him smoking; he overshot then, and I closed in and fired a 3 second burst into him. Pilot attempted a crash landing and blew up.

I claim one Me. 109 destroyed (shared with 1st Lt. CHARLES E. YEAGER)
- J. Ammunition Expended: 854 rounds .50 cal MG.

Frank L. Gailer, Jr.
FRANK L. GAILER, JR,
2nd Lt, AC.

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ENG INTER REPORT

PILOT: WILLIAM R. DUNLOP, 1st Lt, AC, O-695159

- A. COMBAT
- B. 15 September 1944 Field Order #571
- C. 363rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
- D. 1405
- E. CRISTIANSAND, NORWAY
- F. 8/10s from 1000 to 8,000 10/10s 14,000 up
- G. DC 24
- H. One DC 24, Damaged
- I. I was flying Cement Squadron Spare and turned back at the FRIESLAND ISLANDS. I made landfall at a strange coastline apparently due to a faulty gyro and while trying to gain my bearings observed 3 German seaplanes in a fiord. Made several passes on a DC 24, getting a few strikes around pilots inclosure. On 2nd pass observed on 20 mm firing. The DC 24 did not appear to be very seriously damaged, and I believe it contained no gasoline.
- J. I claim one DC 24, damaged.
- K. Ammunition Expended: 350 rounds .50 cal MG.

William R. Dunlop
WILLIAM R. DUNLOP,
1st Lt, AC.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

D-2

AFG 637,
14 September 1944.

SUBJECT: Narrative Report re Personnel MIA - MARION E. BURNETT, 1st Lt, AC
TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station F-373,
APO 637.

1. Following is a narrative report of the circumstances relative to the reporting MIA of MARION E. BURNETT, 1st Lt, AC, ASN O-702763, on 13 September 1944, while on a combat mission - Field Order Number 566.

2. Lt. BURNETT was flying #4 position in Cement Blue Flight. The leader of Cement Blue Flight was 1st Lt. CHARLES E. YENGER. The flight made at 360° turn and were positioning the flight for an attack on a Me. 109. The flight went into a dive and lost Lt. BURNETT. This took place at 1:30 hours, on 13 September 1944, fifteen miles east of KASSEL, GERMANY, with the dive starting at 15,000 feet and going to the deck.

Ernest F. De Nigro
ERNEST F. DE NIGRO,
Capt, AC,
S-2 O.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

APO 637,
15 Sep 44.

SUBJECT: Narrative Report re Personnel MIA--LOUIS E. NOWLIN, 2nd Lt, AC.

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station F-373,
APO 637.

1. Following is a narrative report of the circumstances relative to the reporting MIA of LOUIS E. NOWLIN, 2nd Lt, AC, ASN 0-80815, on 15 September 1944, while on a combat mission - Field Order Number 571.

2. Lt. NOWLIN was flying #2 position in Cement White Flight, wingman to the flight leader, 1st Lt. HENRY B. FRANKLIN. The flight had dropped tanks and had let down to a proximately 3,000 feet when the weather was getting worse and had then started climbing for altitude and had gone into some very thick clouds. Lt. NOWLIN was with Lt. FRANKLIN on going into the weather, but Lt. FRANKLIN was not able to see him or to contact him after breaking out at 8,000 feet. After breaking out Lt. FRANKLIN circled and attempted to contact Lt. NOWLIN on the radio without success. These events took place at 1100 hours at a location of 53° 50' N 06° 00' E.

Ernest F. De Nigris
ERNEST F. DE NIGRIS,
Capt, AC,
S-2 O.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAAF Station F-373

AFG 637
15 Sep 44

SUBJECT: Narrative Report re Personnel MIA - KENNETH F. GRAEFF, 2nd Lt, AC.

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAAF Station F-373,
APO 637.

1. Following is a narrative report of the circumstances relative to the reporting MIA of KENNETH F. GRAEFF, 2nd Lt, AC, ASN O-706488, on 15 September 1944, while on a combat mission - Field Order Number 571.

2. Lt. GRAEFF was flying #4 position in Cement White Flight. He was wingman to 1st Lt FRANCIS L. SULLIVAN, flying #3 position. 1st Lt. HENRY B. FRANKLIN was the flight leader. The flight was at approximately 3,000 feet altitude when the flight leader noticed that the weather was not getting any better and so the flight started climbing. All members of the flight were flying very close together but when the flight went into an exceptionally heavy overcast it was impossible for the members of the flight to make each other out. When the flight broke out at 8,000 feet Lt. GRAEFF was not seen, nor was it possible to contact him. Lt. SULLIVAN circled the area for several minutes but was not able to make contact with Lt. GRAEFF. These events occurred at 53° 50' N 06° 00' E. at 1100 hours on 15 September 1944.

ERNEST F. DE NIGRIS,
Capt, AC,
S-2 O.

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ENCOUNTER REPORT

PILOT: HERSCHEL T. PASCOE, 1st Lt, AC, O-745490

- A. COMBAT
- B. 18 September 1944 Field Order 578
- C. 369rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
- D. 1515
- E. ARNHEM, HOLLAND
- F. light haze
- G. Me. 109

- One Me. 109 destroyed
- I. I was leading Cement Red Flight on this mission. We were low Squadron at 12,000 Feet when the combat took place. There were approximately 25 plus E/A in the area. I latched onto mine at 11,500 and followed him to the deck. He leveled out at about 1,500 feet and I gave him a short burst at about 100 yards. I observed hits at the wing roots followed by a small explosion. He attempted to crash land and I gave him another burst as he hit the ground and burst into flames.

I claim one Me. 109 destroyed.

- J. Ammunition Expended: 56 rounds .50 cal MG.

Herschel T. Pascoe
HERSCHEL T. PASCOE,
1st Lt, AC.

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ENCOUNTER REPORT

PILOT: WILLIAM R. DUNLOP, 1st Lt, AC, O-695159

A. COMBAT

B. 18 September 1944 Field Order 578

C. 363rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group

D. 1505

E. APPELDORN, HOLLAND

F. Heavy haze - 5,000 feet to ground

G. Me. 109

H. One Me. 109 destroyed

I. Flying Cement Green #4, grey Me. 109 broke into flight, and I broke into Me. 109, followed him to the deck from 15,000 feet at 50° - 60° angle, firing most of the way down, 109 using skidding turns as evasive action. We leveled out on the deck and his right landing gear came partially down, and he finally crashed at 300 plus M.P.H.

I claim one Me. 109 destroyed

J. Ammunition Expended: 1260 rounds .50 cal MG

*William R. Dunlop*WILLIAM R. DUNLOP,
1st Lt, AC

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ENCOUNTER REPORT

PILOT: WILLIAM S. FENNELL, 1st Lt, AC, O-726353

- A. COMBAT
- B. 18 September 1944 Field Order 578
- C. 363rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
- D. 1515
- E. 10 miles West of ARNHEIM
- F. Heavy haze - 3/10 middle cloud
- G. Me. 109
- H. One Me. 109 destroyed
- I. I was leading Blue Flight vicinity of ARNHEIM at 13,000 feet when we hit the Me. 109s. I got on the tail of one and started firing at 400 yards and 20° deflection. I noted strikes and saw the pilot jettison his canopy and roll over on his back. My wingman, Lt. FIFIELD, pulled in on his tail and gave him a burst before he left the ship.

I claim one Me. 109 destroyed (Shared with Lt. ROBERT S. FIFIELD)
- J. Ammunition Expended: 1368 rounds .50 cal MG.

William S. Fennell
WILLIAM S. FENNELL,
1st Lt, AC.

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ENCOUNTER REPORT

PILOT: ROBERT S. FIFIELD, 1st Lt, AC, O-701087

- A. COMBAT
- B. 18 September 1944 Field Order 578
- C. 363rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
- D. 1515
- E. 10 miles west of ARNHEM
- F. Heavy haze - 3/10 middle cloud
- G. Me. 109
- H. One Me. 109 destroyed
- I. I was flying on Lt. FENNELL'S wing as he pulled up to the side and the 109 rolled over and jettisoned his canopy, he didn't bail out for a while so I pulled in on his tail and gave him a squirt at about 300 yards. I had a good concentration of hits in the vicinity of the cockpit. The pilot bailed out, made a slight delayed opening.

I claim one Me. 109 destroyed (shared with Lt. WILLIAM S. FENNELL)
- J. Ammunition Expended: 229 rounds .50 cal MG.

Robert S. Fifield
ROBERT S. FIFIELD,
1st Lt, AC.

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ENCOUNTER REPORT

PILOT: FRANK L. GAILER, JR, 2nd Lt, AC, O-688813

- A. COMBAT
- B. 18 September 1944 Field Order 578
- C. 363rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
- D. 1510
- E. ARNHEIM
- F. Hazy
- G. FW 190
- H. One FW 190 destroyed
- I. I was flying Captain HUGH'S wing at 12,000 feet - we went into a luftherry and dove down at a FW 190 going for the deck. Captain HUGH S got a burst in, started him smoking - he overshot and I came in and got hits on his wings and tail. The pilot bailed out at 1,000 feet and the plane crashed in the woods.

I claim one FW 190 destroyed (Shared with Captain THOMAS E. HUGHES)

- J. Ammunition Expended: 405 rounds .50 cal MG.

Frank L. Gailer, Jr.
FRANK L. GAILER, JR,
2nd Lt, AC.

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ENCOUNTER REPORT

PILOT: KEHN LANDIS, 1st Lt, AC, O-706594

- A. COMBAT
- B. 18 September 1944 Field Order 578
- C. 363rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
- D. 1513
- E. West of AHNHEIM
- F. Haze
- G. Me. 109
- H. One Me. 109 destroyed
- I. Vectored to combat by M.B.F. I was flying #3 in Cement Blue Flight. The flight chased two Me. 109s flying about 100 yards apart. My flight leader overshot and I pulled into position in a left-hand turn, pulled 2 radii and fired from 400 yards, continued firing up to 50 yards. Observed hits and smoke. Pilot rolled plane on back and bailed out. Parachuted down successfully. 109 painted grey. Encounter took place between 6,000 - 9,000 feet.
- I claim one Me. 109 destroyed
- J. Ammunition Expended: 1020 rounds .50 cal MG.

Kehn Landis
KEHN LANDIS,
1st Lt, AC.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

I was leading Cement Blue Flight when my #3 man, Lt. LANDIS, fired on an Me. 109. I observed strikes on the ship, then saw the pilot bail out.

William S. Fennell
WILLIAM S. FENNEL,
1st Lt, AC,

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ENCOUNTER REPORT

PILOT: THOMAS E. HUGHES, Capt, AC, C-421101

- A. COMBAT
- B. 18 September 1944 Field Order 578
- C. 363rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
- D. 1910
- E. ARHEIM
- F. Hazy
- G. FW 190
- H. One FW 190 destroyed
- I. I saw 190 coming straight down to deck and went after him closing to about 200 yards, saw strikes on wing and cockpit area then overran and then came back for another pass when wingman, Lt. GAILER, came in and finished him off and saw enemy pilot bail out. The airplane crashed in a wood. I came back and took a picture of burning plane.

I claim one FW 190 destroyed (Sh red with Lt. FRANK I. GAILER, JR.)

- J. Ammunition Expended: 336 rounds .50 cal MG.

Thomas E. Hughes
THOMAS E. HUGHES,
Capt, AC.

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363rd FIGHTER SQUADRON
357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces
USAF Station F-373

EFD/rkb

APG 559,
20 September 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative Report re Personnel MIA - EDWIN W. HIRO, Maj, AC,

TO : S-2 Officer, 357th Fighter Group, Army Air Forces, USAF Station F-373,
APG 559

1. Following is a narrative report of the circumstances relative to the reporting MIA of EDWIN W. HIRO, Maj, AC, ASN O-718661, on 19 September 1944, while on a combat mission - Field Order Number 579.

2. Major HIRO was Group Leader, Number 1 in Cement Red Flight. His wingman was JOSEPH L. CARTER, F/O, AC. At 1700 hours, 19 September 1944, at 13,000 Feet, at about 10 miles west of ARNHEM, HOLLAND, the flight saw about ten enemy planes engaged in a fight with about fifteen of our own planes. The flight dropped tanks and went into a diving turn to the left, turned 270° and came right into the middle of the fight. F/O CARTER was on Major HIRO's wing when the flight entered the fight, but was forced to break up and out slightly. Major HIRO was seen to make a sharp turn to the left and get on the tail of an enemy ship. Major HIRO then broke out and headed for the deck on the tail of the Me. 109. F/O CARTER followed them all the way to the deck and saw the Me. 109 crash into the ground in flames. Major HIRO then pulled up into a steep chandelle and got in with a number of other ships in the area and F/O CARTER was not able to get back on his tail due to the large number of ships in the area. Nor was he able to locate Major HIRO. F/O CARTER then heard Major HIRO call the flight and ask for the position of the flight, and to try to give his own position. Due to the great amount of talk going on the radio, F/O CARTER was not able to get Major HIRO's position, nor was he able to give to Major HIRO his own position. Nothing further was seen or heard of Major HIRO.

Ernest F. de Nigro
ERNEST F. DE NIGRO,
Capt, AC,
S-2 C.

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ENCLOSURE

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PILOT: EDWIN W. HIRO, Maj, AC, C-722661

- A. COMBAT
- B. 19 September 1944 Field Order 579
- C. 363rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
- D. 1720
- E. 10 miles west of ARNHEM, HOLLAND
- F. 10/10 at 14,000 and up - Hazy below
- G. Me. 109
- H. One Me. 109 destroyed
- I. Account of Combat as reported by JOHNNIE L. CARTER, F/O, AC.
I was flying wingman to Major HIRO when, at about 10 miles west of ARNHEM we saw about 10 enemy planes engaged in a fight with about 15 of our own planes. We immediately dropped our tanks and went into a diving turn to the left, we turned 270° and came straight into the middle of the fight. Major HIRO made a sharp turn to the left and got on the tail of an enemy ship. Major HIRO then broke out and headed for the deck on the tail of this Me. 109. I followed them all the way to the deck and saw the Me. 109 crash into the ground in flames.

I claim, for Major HIRO, one Me. 109 destroyed.

- J. Ammunition Expended: Not Known.

Johnnie L. Carter
JOHNNIE L. CARTER,
F/O, AC.

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INCIDENTAL REPORT

PILOT: DONALD J. PASAKA, 1st Lt AC., # 0-702833

- A. COMBAT
 B. 19 Sept 44. Field order # 579
 C. 363rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
 D. 1700
 E. Near ANKLAH, HOLLAND
 F. 10/10ths at 14,000 ft- about 5/10ths at 8,000 ft
 G. M-109's
 H. Two M-109's destroyed
 I. ACCOUNT OF COMBAT: At the time I was leading the element in white flight flying at about 10,000 ft. we saw about twenty plus M-109's at three o'clock flying at about 7,000 ft. We turned and dove upon them and in the meantime they were climbing up towards us. As we were making a pass at them I had to break hard to the right to shake a M-109 off. As I did I picked a M-109 and got on his tail. I gave him a short burst and saw strikes on his tail and engine and smoke coming out. As I closed in on him and gave him a couple of more bursts and this time the plane burst into flame. The pilot must have been killed because he never did get out. The plane hit the ground and exploded.
 After the first M-109 went down I looked around and saw another one diving for the deck. I made a sharp turn, half rolled and got on his tail. He pulled up and I did likewise. As he did I gave him a couple of short bursts. I could see strikes hitting his engine and a little smoke came out. He half rolled and headed for the deck again. I closed up on him once more giving him a couple of short bursts. He pulled up once more and rolled his plane from side to side climbing all the while. As he was going into a sharp left turn again I shot and this time I scored a lot of hits all over this plane. The plane burst into flame. As it did the pilot bailed out. The plane hit the ground and exploded. Not able to find any more we formed up and returned to the base. In closing may I add that the M-109 sight is really perfect. In fact it is hard to miss after you once get it on him. I hope all the planes are equipped with it soon.

- I claim: Two M-109's destroyed
 J. Ammunition Expended: 985 rounds

Donald J. Pasaka
 DONALD J. PASAKA,
 1st Lt AC.,
 Pilot.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

I was flying #4 position in white flight and called the M-109 in at 0700 a little low. We dropped our tanks and made a sharp turn to the right. My element leader got on the tail of one and followed him around. I noticed smoke from the M-109 and then flames. At this time the plane half rolled and went in. Then my element leader gained a little altitude and picked out another M-109. This one he hit once but stayed with him to get in a few more bursts. Then I saw the pilot of the M-109 bail out. He immediately pulled up and gained altitude. Seeing no more enemy planes we reformed, and came home.

Warren J. Moranski
 WARREN J. MORANSKI,
 2nd Lt AC.,
 Pilot.

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ENCOUNTER REPORT

PILOT: RICHARD C. ROOPER, 1st Lt AC., O-678812

- A. COMBAT
- B. 12 Sept 44. Field order # 879
- C. 363rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
- D. 1720
- E. Ten miles west of AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND
- F. Overcast at 14,000 ft
- G. ME-109's
- H. Two ME-109's Destroyed.
- I. ACCOUNT OF COMBAT: I was flying as Cement Red #3 in Major MIRO's flight, who was leading the Group. Bandits were called in at five o'clock low. He dropped out tanks and went down in a diving 270° turn to the left. I stayed about 1,000 ft above the flight leader and his wingman giving him cover. A ME-109 came in from one o'clock high and I managed to get on his tail. I opened fire at 500 yards and closing to 100 yards going straight down. His engine caught fire and parts flew off. The pilot bailed out at 2,000 ft. I saw the plane crash and burn. I pulled up in a steep chandelle left up into the flight when a ME-109 came in again from ten o'clock high. He turned away from and I got him at 600 yards at about 60° deflection. I closed to zero degrees and 200 yards. His engine caught fire and I saw the pilot bail out. I had a K-14 sight. The sight worked perfectly at all angles of deflection and at extreme ranges. It would have been much more difficult with an ordinary sight.
- I claim: Two ME-109's destroyed
- J. Ammunition Expended: 328 rounds

Richard C. Rooper
RICHARD C. ROOPER,
1st Lt AC.,
Pilot.

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

I was flying #4 run as wing man to Lt ROOPER. I saw many strikes on the first ME-109 and then the engine started burning. The pilot bailed out. Observed strikes on the second ME-109 and the engine was smoking badly. About this time another ME-109 came in at three o'clock trying to get on Lt ROOPER's tail. I lost Lt ROOPER while breaking into this ME-109.

Edward J. Carr
EDWARD J. CARR,
2nd Lt AC.,
Pilot.

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PILOTS: MARSHAL C. HAND, 1st Lt. AC., 8-706384
FRANK L. GALLER, JR., 2nd Lt. AC., 8-683313

1. CASUALTY
2. 19 Sept 44. PG # 679
3. 3rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
4. 1720
5. Ten miles west of JMWIL, Holland
6. Floor below 12,000 ft except for base
7. ME-109
8. Destroyed: one ME-109. Shared by 1st MARSHAL C. HAND and 1st FRANK L. GALLER, JR.
9. Description of action: I was flying Casualty (One #3) and 1st GALLER was flying Casualty (One #4) when the ME-109 spotted us. I followed the leader into the gaggle and spotted one ME-109 about 1,000 ft below us crossing from right to left. I did a wingover and latched onto the tail of the ME-109. I had two guns jam. We went for the deck and landed due north. I had only my two right wing guns firing, so my shooting was very inaccurate so I kept squeezing off short bursts for about twenty five miles. I noticed many strikes in the right wing and saw a burst of smoke as coolant came from his right wing. At this time 1st GALLER moved in behind the ME-109 getting good hits on the wings and fuselage. The pilot pulled up to about 15,000 ft and bailed out. The ship exploded when it hit and the pilot landed safely.
10. I claim: One ME-109 destroyed. Shared with 1st GALLER
11. Ammunition expended: 705 rounds

Lawrence C. Hand
MARSHAL C. HAND,
1st Lt. AC.,
Pilot.

I was flying 1st HAND'S wing. We followed an ME-109 down to the deck where he tried to outrun us. 1st HAND'S guns weren't working and he after getting in some good strikes on the wings and started him smoking, he told me to come in. I closed in getting hits on the fuselage and wings. The pilot pulled up slowly and bailed out with a delayed jump. The ship crashed and exploded. We took pictures and came home.

I claim: One ME-109 destroyed. Shared with 1st HAND
Ammunition expended: 522 rounds

Frank L. Galler Jr.
FRANK L. GALLER, JR.,
2nd Lt. AC.,
Pilot.

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ENCOUNTER REPORT

PILOT: WILLIAM R. DUNLOP, 1st Lt AC., #O-695159

- A. COMBAT
- B. 18 Sept 44. Field order #579
- C. 363rd Fighter Squadron, 357th Fighter Group
- D. 1728
- E. Ten miles west of ARNHEM, HOLLAND
- F. 10/10ths at 14,000 ft, hazy below
- G. ME-109
- H. Destroyed: One ME-109
- I. ACCOUNT OF COMBAT: I was flying Cement White #2, when our Squadron mixed it with approximately twelve ME-109's. I followed White leader until we became separated in the general melee. A few seconds later I spotted a lone ME-109 pull up over the rest of the flight. I closed in on same from 30° low and fired a quite long burst into the area of his cockpit, getting many strikes. He immediately caught fire and white and black smoke started pouring out. The ME-109 then rolled over and went straight in, many pieces coming off in route. I used the K-14 sight to do the above firing and consider it far superior to the old sight. I put it on the cockpit and got a good concentration there.
I claim a ME-109 destroyed
- J. Ammunition expended: 838 rounds

*William R. Dunlop*WILLIAM R. DUNLOP,
1st Lt AC.,
Pilot.

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Office of the Commanding General
AFC 634

15 September 1944

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER . . 494)

A-E-T-R-I-C-T

SECTION I - ASSIGNMENT OF ORGANIZATIONS

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SECTION III- ASSIGNMENT OF AAF STATIONS

SECTION I - ASSIGNMENT OF ORGANIZATIONS

2. The following organizations are relieved from assignment to VIII Fighter Command and are assigned to 3d Bombardment Division, effective 15 September 1944:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>AAF Station</u>
Hq 357th Fighter Group (SG)	373
363rd Fighter Squadron (SG)	373
"	"

III. ASSIGNMENT OF AAF STATIONS: 1. The following AAF Stations are relieved from assignment to VIII Fighter Command and are assigned to commands indicated:

<u>AAF Station</u>	<u>Assigned to</u>
373	3d Bombardment Division

By command of Lieutenant General DOOLITTLE:

JOHN S. ALLARD,
Colonel, GSC
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

s/t/LINDSEY L. BRAXTON,
1st Colonel, AGD
Adjutant General

A TRUE EXTRACT:

DAVE C. WILLETT,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

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