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DESIGNATION SHEET  
HISTORICAL RECORDS

COMMAND : XXII Tactical Air Command

WING :

GROUP : 57th Fighter Group

SQUADRON: 64th Fighter Squadron

OTHER :

OUTLINE HISTORY X

WAR DIARY X

**SECRET**



SECRET64th Fighter Squadron  
OUTLINE HISTORY,  
February, 1945

HEADQUARTERS 64th FIGHTER SQUADRON

SECRETBy Auth. CO *Ewh.*  
64th Ftr. Sqdn.  
12 Mar, 1945

SUBJECT: Historical Records

TO : Commanding General, Twelfth Air Force, APO 650, US Army. Attention  
A-2 Historian.

THRU : Commanding General, 57th Fighter Group (Attention Historian)

1. Outline History of the 64th Fighter Squadron for the period 1 February to  
28 February, 1945.

- a. Present designation: 64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Fighter Group, XXII  
Tactical Air Command.
- b. Changes in organization:
  - (1) Changes in designation: None.
  - (2) Transfer of units: None.
  - (3) Change of Commanding Officer: None.
  - (4) Change of Staff Officers: None.
  - (5) Changes in T/O: Squadron reorganized on the 15th at Grossetto, Italy, per. 2 G.O. #6, Hq. 57th Ftr. Gp. under the provisions of C-2, dated 1 Dec., 1944 to T/O & E 1-27, WD 1943.
- c. Strength, commissioned and enlisted:
  - (1) Month of February, 1945.
    - (a) 1 February: Commissioned, 60; Enlisted, 250.
    - (b) Net increase: Commissioned, None; Enlisted, None.
    - (c) Net decrease: Commissioned, 2; Enlisted, 5.
    - (d) 28 February: Commissioned, 58; Enlisted, 245.
- d. Stations: Grossetto Main L.G., Italy.
- e. Movement of Unit: None
- f. Campaigns:
  - (1) Italian.
  - (2) Duration, 9 September, 1943, Still in progress.
- g. Operations:
  - (1) The month of February, 1945, saw this Squadron continuing its role of fighter bombing. The missions, varying somewhat in type, continued to be similar in nature to what they had been in previous months. The bulk of them were given over to the interdiction of enemy communication lines in Northern Italy, concentrating largely on the Brenner Pass railroad line and the network between Verona and Viacenza. In addition this task a portion of the commitments were allotted to "Rover Joe" and Army co-op targets as well as the new "Auntie" controller operating in the forward area.

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- (15) 2nd Lt James R. Green, O-721385 - Air Medal, On 31/1/45  
RR bridge damaged, 2 M/T destroyed, 3 damaged.
- (16) Capt. Bruce H. Hale, O-792829 - Distinguished Flying Cross, for  
extraordinary achievement, on 1/1/45. Bridge hit, MT and RR rolling  
stock destroyed or damaged.  
Purple Heart, awarded 11/2/45, wounded.  
3rd OLC to Air Medal, on 8/2/45, Heavy AA guns silenced, MT Damaged.
- (17) 2nd Lt Leroy (NMI) Hall, Jr. O-721388 - Air Medal, on 21/1/45.  
Gasoline storage dump destroyed.
- (18) Capt. Paul M. Hall, O-745365 - Distinguished Flying Cross, for  
extraordinary achievement, on 12/10/44. Enemy airdrome bombed and  
strafed, six enemy planes destroyed, personnel killed.  
OLC to Purple Heart, awarded 15/1/45. Wounded.  
3rd OLC to Air Medal, On 13/2/45. Large AA guns and MT destroyed.
- (19) 2nd Lt James L. Harp, Jr, O-771015 - Air Medal, on 15/1/45.  
RR rolling stock and river barges destroyed.
- (20) 2nd Lt Charles H. Harris, O-774146 - Air Medal, on 20/1/45  
RR bridge and 3 locomotives destroyed.
- (21) 2nd Lt William H. Harse, O-721394 - Air Medal, on 18/1/45  
RR rolling stock and field guns damaged.
- (22) Capt James E. Hoffmann, O-792835 - Distinguished Flying Cross, for  
extraordinary achievement, on 6/12/44. RR line out, rolling stock  
and MT destroyed.  
3rd OLC to Air Medal, on 11/1/45. Ammo dump hit, 4 M/T destroyed
- (23) 2nd Lt Edward W. Howard, O-819525 - Air Medal, on 20/2/45.  
RR bombed and out, 17 RR cars damaged.
- (24) 2nd Lt Robert L. Hubbard, O-721413 - Air Medal, on 22/1/45/  
RR diversion cut, rolling stock damaged.
- (25) 2nd Lt Edward F. Jones, O-714111 - Air Medal, on 18/1/45.  
RR line out, locomotive damaged, 5 RR cars damaged, 4 gun pits hit.
- (26) 2nd Lt Charles B. Kitowski, O-721429 - Air Medal, on 30/1/45.  
RR bridge destroyed, 22 RR cars and 1 engine destroyed or damaged.
- (27) 2nd Lt James T. Knight, O-721413 - Air Medal, on 22/1/44.  
11 RR cars destroyed, 15 damaged, 1 MT destroyed.
- (28) 1st Lt Robert D. Loucks, O-827234 - 2nd OLC to Air Medal, on 9/1/45  
RR bridge hit, RR cars damaged, 4 M/T destroyed.
- (29) Major Michael C. McCarthy, O-736277 - 1st OLC to DFC, on 11/1/45  
Ammo dump destroyed, 4 M/T destroyed.
- (30) 1st Lt Joseph M. McGehean, O-830409 - 1st OLC to Air Medal, 2/1/45  
RR bridge hit, RR rolling stock destroyed.  
2nd OLC to Air Medal, on 10/1/45. RR bridge and M/T destroyed.
- (31) 1st Lt John M. McLaughlin, O-715573 - 2nd OLC to Air Medal, on 28/1/45  
Storage sheds destroyed, barges damaged.
- (32) 2nd Lt Royce J. Maier, O-766598 - 1st OLC to Air Medal, on 30/1/45,  
RR bridge destroyed, 22 RR cars and 1 engine destroyed or damaged.
- (33) 2nd Lt Ralph D. McDaniel, O-721475 - Air Medal, on 11/1/45.  
Ammo dump destroyed, RR rolling stock and barge damaged.
- (34) Capt. Scrivner (NMI) Mizell, O-817994 - 3rd OLC to Air Medal, on  
22/1/45. Marshalling yard hit, 24 cars destroyed, 15 damaged.

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During the month this Squadron flew 103 missions totaling 632 sorties, amounting to 1578:45 combat hours, on which 628160 pounds of bombs, 155 rocket projectiles, and 154,400 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition were expended. As a result of these expenditures a partial list of the devastation and destruction to the enemy follows: 43 railroad cuts were inflicted, 11 railroad bridges were destroyed or damaged, 198 railroad cars were destroyed or damaged, 6 highway bridges were destroyed or damaged, 51 MT were destroyed or damaged, and 15 railroad engines were destroyed or damaged. In addition, many enemy personnel were bombed and strafed, many gun positions were attacked, and several factories and supply dumps were attacked, on which missions an accurate assessment of damage is very difficult to determine.

H. Losses in action:

- (1) 1st Lt Royce J. Maier, O-766598.
- (2) 2nd Lt James T. Knight, O-721932.

The above two officers were killed in a mid-air collision when their planes collided shortly after take off on an operational mission, 18 February, 1945.

I. Personnel who have distinguished themselves in action:

- (1) 1st Lt Zane S. Amell - Air Medal, Meritorious achievement on 11/1/45. Bombed ammo dump, destroyed 4 M/T. ASN O-1012838.
- (2) 1st Lt George W. Anderson, O-826362 - 2nd OLC to Air Medal, On 25/12/44. Boxcars destroyed, locomotives blown up and damaged. 3rd OLC to Air Medal, 7/2/45, Supply dump and M/T destroyed.
- (3) 1st Lt William F. Berry, O-820448 - 2nd OLC to Air Medal, 11/1/45. Ammo dump bombed, marshalling yard strafed.
- (4) 1st Lt George T. Bright, O-821449 - 2nd OLC to Air Medal, 11/1/45. Ammo dump destroyed. RR rolling stock and barge damaged.
- (5) 2nd Lt Jack P. Dene, O-719273 - 1st OLC to Air Medal, 25/2/45. M/T destroyed; locomotive and 20 cars destroyed.
- (6) 2nd Lt Henry H. Diers, O-2059239 - Air Medal, 10/1/45. Bridge damaged, M/T destroyed.
- (7) Edward L. Dorsner, 2nd Lt. O-722015 - Air Medal, on 11/1/45. Ammunition dump hit, 2 RR engines and 8 cars damaged.
- (8) 2nd Lt Samuel S. Durfee, O-721355 - Air Medal, on 17/1/45. Alconol refinery destroyed.
- (9) 2nd Lt Forrest L. Fears, O-721364 - Air Medal, on 22/1/45. RR bridge hit, 4 gun positions silenced.
- (10) 2nd Lt Dwight E. Gallagher, O-774105 - Air Medal, on 11/1/45. Ammunition dump hit, 2 RR engines and 8 cars damaged.
- (11) 2nd Lt Ray J. Garcia, O-721373 - Air Medal, on 11/1/45. Ammunition dump hit, 2 RR engines and 8 cars damaged.
- (12) 2nd Lt. Arthur C. Goettel, O-721382 - Air Medal, on 31/1/45. RR bridge damaged, 5 M/T destroyed or damaged.
- (13) 2nd Lt Calvin W. Goss, O-774122 - Air Medal, on 27/1/45. RR bridge damaged, warehouse fired, 7 RR cars and 2 M/T damaged.
- (14) 1st Lt Lawrence G. Grace, Jr., O-821481 - 1st OLC to Air Medal, 31/12/44. RR bridge hit, 20 RR cars destroyed. 2nd OLC to Air Medal; Oil plant destroyed, M/T destroyed or damaged.

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- (35) 2nd Lt Albert B. Nickels, O-721500 - Air Medal, on 18/1/45  
Damaged 1 RR engine and 15 cars, destroyed 4 heavy AA guns.
- (36) 1st Lt Robert W. Scheller, O-801783 - 2nd OLC to Air Medal. on  
22/1/45. RR bridge hit, 4 gun positions silenced.

- j. Enclosed is Unit Journal of Events, 64th Fighter Squadron, for the  
period 1 February to 28 February, 1945, and 1 copy of a photograph  
of the bar in the officer's club.

*Earl D. Lovick*  
EARL D. LOVICK

Capt., AC

Intelligence Officer

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S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 Unit Journal of Events, 64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Group, Grosseto,  
Italy

Month of February, 1945

Prepared by Earl D. Lovick, Capt., A.C.

DAYEVENTS

1. New model footwear arrived today, the boondocker type, the kind with the wrongside out leather. For whatever purpose they were designed looks were unquestionably sacrificed.
2. The education meeting this afternoon featured talks given by three officers on the subject. Adventures which befell me on my visit to the States.
3. Some of us who are adept at winning things planked down our money for a chance at one of the PX watches due to be raffled off soon. The cigarette ration handed out to us was a pack or two short, so there was naturally a little griping, but probably nothing to compare with the squawk now going up in the States, where there are "niente" fags.
4. Another Squadron in this Group flew out on a bomber escort mission, and somewhere over Austria they were jumped by twenty-plus hun fighters. The nazi's got in some swift licks and then cleared out, after knocking down three of our fighters. Most of the pilots, like ours, have never had a chance to mix it with enemy planes in the air, and therefore muffed their only opportunity. Our Squadron went out shortly thereafter looking for the luftwaffe outfit, but they had disappeared.
5. We were allowed to buy some surplus stock from the PX, including some cigarettes. Cigarettes are now bringing a much higher price on the black market recently as threat of shortage begins to reach Italy. Also the substantial prison sentences for operators may have something to do with the sudden jump in price.
6. USO show in town. Usual fare, four women, three men, song, dance, etc. The fighting 57th makes a well-behaved but highly critical audience. This was not out theatre, but we filled it up from front to back nevertheless, without regard for the other outfit's somewhat adamant Jim Crow law about segregation. First Sergeants and other "wheels" sometimes hang their feet off the balconies, so absorbed do they become in the anatomical dexterity of the dancing girls.
7. Today was bright and clear and we hung up 44 sorties, which made a full day's work.
8. Our scheduled dance came off this evening, and slightly better results were obtained all around. For one thing the type of women was appreciably better than last time. Most of them came from town and not so many from across the canal. But there were still too many brats and male civilians. The oasis, which was moved down from the club for this gala slumfest, was a very busy place, and many of us cooled our arid throats on the usual stock of gin and cognac. The caterers ran out of spam before they could get all the "Wallios" served.
9. This evening's I&E program featured Lt.Col. Hamilton of the Royal Scots Fusiliers in a talk on AMG activities, both in Grosseto and the theatre as a whole. The

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Sheet No. 2 - Unit Journal of Events.

Colonel is one of the administrators for this province. He is a distinguished-looking oldtimer with a casual style about him which we liked from the start. The droll, unaffected humor with which he discussed Italian sanitary conditions, state of mentality, etc., as well as the unpraised efforts of his own department, gave us many a good laugh, besides giving us a better perspective of conditions around here than we could have found otherwise. The Colonel made this one of the best I&E meetings we have ever had.

10. One of the men brought little Orphan Annie, one of our local juvenile offenders, into the compound today, and with some of his friends held a social gathering in his tent. This was the closest Annie has been to our habitat since the law broke up her light housekeeping deal up the street a few weeks ago. As things turned out the powers-that-be dropped in on the party, took the joy out of the lark, and chased Annie away. As for the man in question, he is at present under confinement, but retribution does not stop there, because all of us are to feel the effects of this poor schlimiel's wrongdoing. From now on the camp guard will be doubled, and many an innocent, who otherwise would have been comfortable in the sack, must now go out on a cold night and stand his guard, keeping trucks in and women out.
11. This was an average day, and the weather up front permitted us to get off three eight-plane and one two-plane missions. The eight-plane shows were escort missions. We have been flying a lot of escort missions lately for B-25's. Sometimes with all outboard tanks they go deep into Austria.
12. Sgt. Zeisloft came in early this afternoon and worked up a few more pages for his forthcoming opus entitled "Swordfish in the Sand", a book which is all about the sterling adventures of the fighting 57th. It is at present about twice the length of "Anthony Adverse", but Zeis hates to delete a thing. When we say, "It hasn't got unity, emphasis, or coherence", he says "What has these days?" And when we say, "It's too long; it will tire people", he says, "So is the war."
13. Some of the boys went up the street to attend a shindig which the local chapter of the communist party was throwing. The dance has been going on for several days. The band, which consisted of a clarinet, a guitar, and an asthmatic accordion, made music which for sheer rythm ran a bad second to the Arab funeral music which we used to hear in the Middle East. The joint was lavishly decorated with the hammer and sickle and pictures of Uncle Joe - none of FIR or Churchill. Throughout the crowd, which was shabby enough to pass for any communist crowd, the following symptoms were to be counted: tuberculosis, anaemia, malaria, trachoma, scabies, pelagra, "four-plus", and a few rickets, the latter among the piccolini. The fellows then got a little sick themselves and went home.
14. Night guard at the line has been discontinued. This relieves four men per night from this chore. The colored troops in the airdrome security outfit are wholly adequate for the task anyhow.
15. One of the missions today went over Austria in the territory north of Trento. They escorted B-25's for several minutes over Austrian territory before turning back.

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Sheet No 3 - Unit Journal of Events.

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16. Five men were selected to go home this month, four on TD and one on rotation... Three brand new pilots arrived today... In the evening we were compelled to ride into town and see a documentary picture about the battle of Stalingrad. Many of us had already seen the film anyhow.
17. The men who didn't come into the orderly room to get their service records checked must now report to the CQ every half hour until 10:00 PM. The notice which they never found time to comply with hung on the bulletin board for over a week. This will learn 'em.
18. Ice cream and pork chops for supper. The pilots tried out an "innovation" today, bombing in level flight and taking all their directions by radio. This enabled them to bomb through an overcast. They missed the bridge 500 yards on the first try, said one pilot... Two pilots were killed today when their planes collided over the field. They were less than a thousand feet high and never had a chance to bail out. The accident happened within a mile of the field.
19. The night bombers on our field use the area around Marino for a jetison range when they have to get rid of their loads. Sometimes they dump their bombs offshore and sometimes in the grove behind our house, perhaps some night on the house, we are all resigned to it in a fatalistic way.
20. Our armorers went out in the middle of the night and loaded frag bombs. That fact caused some of us to see a light and we figured Jerry was trying to pull out up front. We discussed the possibility of this as we lay abed during the minor emergency.
21. There are a few more gadgets in the cockpit of a P-47 than one man can say grace over, especially during the white heat of excitement. One of our new pilots came back and confessed that he had tried to fire his rockets after he had already dropped them, so all Jerry got was a buzz job.
22. Our bi-weekly dance and spamfest came off tonight, and just as we were getting started along came an A-20, flying low over the water, and dived in about two offshore, directly in front of our place. Search for the crew continued all through the night. Several small boats and a searchlight were used to scour the area, but the crew was never found.
23. This evening we held a free-house discussion on the subject, What to do with Germany after the War. Those of the men who had any opinion at all managed to differ with one another by favoring everything from total castration to preaching the gospel.
24. In accordance with the Army's straightforward and realistic policy for controlling the erratic "private lives" of the men, a considerable amount of literature on the subject has been received by this organization recently. One such bulletin adorns our board downstairs. In the first paragraph of the bulletin, in b.f. type, it says, "Gonorrhea is Catching". All of us who study the bulletin board faithfully have agreed that this is hardly a revelation, but at least it is a masterpiece of clarity.

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Sheet No. 4 - Unit Journal of Events

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25. In another reorganization and statement of policy for his department, the mess sergeant fixed things so as to allow the cooks more time off for recreation and recuperation between bouts with the slum. Those harried souls need it, we all agree, offhandedly.
26. We are trying to get a band started in the Squadron, but the difficulty met with so far is in finding men to match the instruments we have on hand and vice versa. At the recent audition nobody showed stuff of the Benny Goodman timbre, but with a little practice maybe our artists will develop.
27. We trekked into Grossetto to see another USO product entitled "Pardon Me", featuring good songs and dances and oglesome girls. The girls kept stepping through a hole in the stage floor and berking their shins, turning ankles, etc. Otherwise everything went smooth.
28. Capt. Wall, our popular Squadron medico, gave us a sex lecture tonight. We like to hear the good Doc give these lectures, whether we have to or not. Afterwards we had shortarm. When it came Corp. Lewter's turn to pass in review - Lewter is one of our most delinquent cooks, of which we have many - the Doc looked him over once lightly and said by way of comment, "Fine physical specimen, Lewter, all except for the small cyst." Misunderstanding the Doc's term, Lewter broke out in a sudden panic, "Sir! Oh my Gawd!" Then afterwards we all got paid.

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