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RESTRICTED

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

64th Ftr. Sq.  
Outline History, August, 1944

C O N F I D E N T I A L  
By Auth CO  
64th Ftr. Sq.  
7 September, 1944

HEADQUARTERS SIXTY-FOURTH FIGHTER SQUADRON  
A.P.O. 650

7 September, 1944

AG 413.7

SUBJECT: Historical Records.

TO : Commanding General, XII Tactical Air Command, APO 374.

THRU : Commanding Officer, 57th Fighter Group.

1. Outline history of the 64th Fighter Squadron for the period  
1 August to 31 August, 1944.

a. Present designation: 64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Fighter  
Group, 87th Fighter Wing, XII Tactical Air Command.

b. Changes in Organization: None

c. Strength, Commissioned and Enlisted.

(1.) Month of August, 1944.

(a) 1 August, Commissioned: 60; Enlisted: 258.

(b) Net Increase, Commissioned: None; Enlisted: None.

(c) Net Decrease, Commissioned: 2; Enlisted: 11.

(d) 31 August, Commissioned: 58; Enlisted: 247.

d. Stations.

(1) Alte Landing Ground, Corsica.

e. Movements.

(1) None.

f. Campaigns.

(1) Italian

(2) Duration: 18 Sept. 1943. Still in progress.

g. Operations.

(1) Campaign: Italian.

(2) Nature of operations: Dive-bombing.

(3) Number of missions, 1 August through 31 August: 74;  
sorties: 585.

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## (4) Results of most important missions.

- (a) What was probably the most important mission during the month was the dive-bombing of gun positions in support of the landings in Southern France. On routine missions during the month a partial assessment of claims made by the Squadron is as follows:

7 railway cuts were effected.  
 16 highway cuts were effected.  
 10 light machine gun positions were silenced.  
 1 88 mm gun was destroyed by strafing.  
 1 electric locomotive was destroyed.  
 2 electric locomotives were damaged.  
 2 steam locomotives were destroyed.  
 3 steam locomotives were damaged.  
 3 enemy aircraft were destroyed on the ground.  
     1 was probably destroyed and six damaged.  
 45 MT were destroyed.  
 31 MT were damaged.  
 2 armored cars were destroyed.  
 1 300ft freighter was damaged.  
 1 200-ft barge was probable destroyed.  
 2 150-ft barges were damaged.  
 7 40-50-ft barges were damaged.  
 17 railway cars were destroyed.  
 13 railway cars were damaged.

## h. Commanding Officers in important missions.

- (a) The performance of all flight leaders on all missions has been exemplary: The following men have all proved themselves highly competent:

Major Louis Frank III  
 Captain James S. Nevy  
 Captain Michael C. McCarthy  
 1st Lt Chadwick G. Reade  
 1st Lt Harry L. Williams  
 1st Lt Frank E. Boyd  
 1st Lt Allen G. Sanderson  
 1st Lt Paul E. Rawson  
 1st Lt George A. Berglund

## i. Losses in action.

- (a) There were no losses in action during the month, but 2nd Lt Edward M. Nelson was killed in a landing accident when returning from an abortive mission.



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

- j. Present and former members of this organization who have distinguished themselves in action the past month:  
 Captain Robert B. Abercrombie, awarded the DFC on GO #116, HQ 12th Air Force  
 Captain John J. Lenihan, awarded the DFC on GO #71, HQ 12th Air Force.

The following members of this organization were awarded decorations on GO # 117, HQ 12th Air Force.

1st Lt Elliot W. Brown, Air Medal.  
 Captain John J. Lenihan, 3rd OLC to Air Medal.  
 2nd Lt Richard K. Nevett, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt George W. Wilson, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Charles K. Sawicki, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt George A. Berglund, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Frank E. Boyd, Jr, Air Medal and 1st OLC.  
 1st Lt William M. Pribyl, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Paul E. Rawson, Air Medal and 1st OLC.  
 1st Lt Chadwick G. Reade, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Allen G. Sandersen, Jr, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Harry L. Williams, Air Medal.

The following members of this organization were awarded decorations on GO #122, HQ 12th Air Force.

1st Lt Charles H. Larson, 1st and 2nd OLC to Air Medal.  
 2nd Lt Samuel A. Martin, Jr, Air Medal.  
 2nd Lt Ernest H. Newhouse, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Charles K. Sawicki, 1st OLC to Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Clyde W. Tefertiller, 1st OLC to Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Florian L. Turek, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt George W. Nelson, 1st OLC to Air Medal.  
 1st Lt George A. Berglund, 1st OLC to Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Rayne Fare, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Thomas M. Hannon, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Ralph S. Lucardi, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Walde E. Murrow, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Charles E. Neumann, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Edgar N. Peters, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Chadwick G. Reade 1st OLC to Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Myers J. Reynolds III, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Oliver G. Salinevich, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Allen G. Sandersen, Jr, 1st OLC to Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Jack E.T. Saux, Air Medal.  
 1st Lt Harry L. Williams, 1st OLC to Air Medal.

2. Enclosed is War Diary, 64th Fighter Squadron, for the period, 1 Aug to 31 Aug, 1944.

For the Squadron Commander:

*Earl D. Lovick*  
 EARL D. LOVICK,  
 Captain, Air Corps,  
 Intelligence Officer.



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

Sheet No. - 1 - War Diary

64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Group

Month of August, 1944Prepared by Earl D. Levick, Capt. WACDAYEVENTS

1. Colonel Darcy, commanding officer of the 87th Fighter Wing, visited the Squadron and decorated several of the officers with the Air Medal.
2. In the evening the officers of the Squadron held a dance at the Officer's Club.
3. A very quiet day, there being but one mission, which was a bomber escort show and it went off without incident. In the evening there was a movie at Group Headquarters.
4. Another of our men was fortunate enough to get on the rotation list. Sgt. George Loserwith left this morning, his ultimate destination--the zone of the interior, for a tour of "foreign duty".
5. There were no operations today so all members of the Squadron took it easy on their "dream scaffolds".
6. There were three missions today, but because of bad weather over the target area, none of the flights were able to reach the assigned targets. They were forced to bomb alternates.
7. One of the new pilots had an unfortunate accident today. He was getting settled in his quarters and decided his .45 needed cleaning. In the process of cleaning it, it was accidentally discharged and the bullet struck his leg, shattering the bone. He will not fly for several months to come.
8. There was a movie this evening at Group Headquarters.

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



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

Sheet No. 2 - War Diary

64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Group

Month of August, 1944

Prepared by EARL D. LOVICK, Capt. A.C.

DAY

EVENTS

9. Some of the men overstayed their pass to Rome. They were observed picking up cigarette butts, rags, bits of paper, pieces of string around the camp area this evening.
10. In spite of bad weather the outfit pulled three missions today. The pilots are going after gun installations on the French coast. The long-awaited rain finally came. Lucky the landing strip was laid down or the landing strip would be a sea of mud.
11. Rain all morning and no flying. Archbishop Spellman and Joe Louis are now visiting troops on the Island.
12. "A" and "B" parties were made up for the coming move and the lists were posted. Lots of packages came in today's mail. A bomber coming back from a mission over Southern France crashed on a hillside near the field. The crew escaped in their parachutes.
13. A cadre of men left today to be trained for the B-29's. It is supposed they will be returned to the states for training. The boys gave them a rousing farewell party last night.
14. At a ceremony held up by the control tower General Cannon presented another battle streamer to the Group, and decorated several officers and men.
15. The invasion finally got ~~some~~ started this morning. Before sunrise several hundred bombers had come over from their bases in the south. Our planes went after gun installations on the coast near Toulon. A French plane crashed on the runway during takeoff, but the pilot escaped without injury.
16. Early missions again this morning and the invasion army is said to have pushed inward about five miles from the coast. Many planes returned damaged by small arms fire. The new pilots are getting their first taste of combat. Two wrist watches were raffled off by the PX this evening.
17. Two missions before ten o'clock this morning. Three planes have been lost by the Group so far. A Frenchman crashed on the runway and managed to get out without injury.
18. Cloudburst this morning, terrific rain which beat down a few tents and filled up the slit trenches. Planes all grounded and most of them left uncovered. Parachutes got soaked.
19. A ship landed with a broken tail wheel strut and dragged its tail surfaces to bits on the runway. First accident of the present operation for us.

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

Sheet No. 3 - War Diary

64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Group

Month of August, 1944

Prepared by EARL D. LOVICK, Capt. AC

DAY

EVENTS

20. The men went out to the range today and practiced with their carbines, firing five rounds from each position, standing, sitting, kneeling. The movie this evening, something about some shipyard workers trying to put on a silly musical show, undoubtedly was the worst within the memory of any of us.
21. Report now has it that we will not use the airdrome in France which was originally intended for us. Instead the engineers are going to scrape out a brand new one. This means we won't be moving for some time yet.
22. Three planes almost failed to get off the ground this morning. They were forced to jettison all three of their outboard tanks in order to get into the air.
23. Early this morning another plane caught fire and burned on the ground. We have been losing a lot of planes because of over-priming. In fact we have lost as many that way as we have in combat. The show put on by a British troupe this evening was very good indeed.
24. Combat pilots who were on their way home were returned to their outfits for more duty. Home is the ultimate of everything. These are the most homesick men in the world.
25. Major Lynch called together a quorum of his key men and made plans for the coming move...On the way back from a mission Lt William's ship fell in the sea north of Bastia. He took to his dingy and paddled around until some fishermen picked him up.
26. The bomblines will soon be out of range of our ships, which are now carrying three outboard tanks. Then we will have to move. One school of thought insists we will go to Italy instead of France.
27. Articles of war were read by Captain Mack. Doc Wall gave us a sex lecture afterwards and promised us a lecture soon on the subject of how to get more fun out of married life. We are eagerly awaiting that one.
28. Nothing happened today. Absolutely nothing. Not one confounded thing.
29. We had another physical inspection today. Lots of mail arrived.
30. The American USO show this afternoon failed to match the usual standards set by the British outfits. The British are the more realistic, their dirt is deep, their humor devastating.
31. Lt Nelson, a newcomer to the outfit, was killed this morning on his very first mission. His ship stalled and crashed north of the field.