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SQ-FI-EA-H.I.
S-PT 44

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DESIGNATION SHEET
HISTORICAL RECORDS

R (H)

COMMAND : XXII Tactical Air Command

WING : _____

GROUP : 57th Fighter Group

SQUADRON: 64th Fighter Squadron

OTHER : _____

OUTLINE HISTORY X

WAR DIARY X

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P.R.C.

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

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

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

HEADQUARTERS SIXTY-FOURTH FIGHTER SQUADRON
APO 650, US Army

3 October, 1944

AG 413.7

SUBJECT: Historical Records.

TO : Commanding General, XII Fighter Command.

THRU : Commanding Officer, 57th Fighter Group.

1. Outline history of the 64th Fighter Squadron from the period
1 September to 30 September, 1944.

a. Present designation: 64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Fighter Group,
XII Fighter Command.

b. Changes in organization:

(1) Changes in designation, assignment, or attachment.

(a) Changes in designation: None

(b) Changes in assignment: relieved assigned to XII
Tactical Air Command and assigned to XII Fighter
Command effective 15 September, 1944. Authority
GO 164, Hq 12th Air Force, 12 Sept., 1944.

(c) Changes in attachment: none.

(2) Subordinate units: none.

(3) Changes of Commanding Officer: none.

c. Strength, Commissioned and Enlisted.

(1) Month of September, 1944.

(a) 1 September, Commissioned: 58, Enlisted: 247.

(b) Net Increase, Commissioned: None, Enlisted: 14.

(c) Net Decrease, Commissioned: 7, Enlisted: None.

(d) 30 September, Commissioned: 51, Enlisted: 261.

d. Stations.

(1) Alte Landing Ground, Corsica.

28 March to September, 1944.

(2) Ombrene Landing Ground, Italy.

(a) Arrived 13 September, 1944.

e. Movements.

(1) From Alte Landing Ground, Corsica to Ombrene LG, Italy.

(a) Change of station.

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- (b) Advance party of 4 Officers and 116 EM departed Corsica, Alto IG 9 September, 1944. Arrived at Ombrene IG 12 Sept., 1944. Rear Echelon arrived at Ombrene IG 21 Sept., 1944.
 - (c) Advanced Echelon consisting of 4 Officers and 116 EM travelled by motor convey to Calvi, Corsica, embarked on American LST and traveled to Piombino, Italy, disembarked and traveled by motor convey to Ombrene, IG.
Rear Echelon consisting of 6 Officers and 87 EM proceeded by motor convey from Alto, IG, Corsica, to Bastia, embarked on American LST, disembarked at Leghorn, Italy, and traveled by motor convey to Ombrene IG, Italy.
 - (d) Roads condition - good
Weather condition - stormy on Rear Echelon water trip.
- 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 September through 30 September, 1944: 49, sorties: 318.
 - (4) Results of most Important Missions.
 - (a) No outstanding missions during September.
 - h. Commanding Officers in Important Missions:
All assigned flight leaders led missions during month.
 - i. Losses in Action.
 - (a) 1st Lt Edgar N. Peters, O-817091, MIA 4 September, 1944.
 - (b) 1st Lt Paul E. Rawson, O-812873, MIA 12 September, 1944.
 - (c) 2nd Lt John C. Neesgoes, O-1551282, Killed in landing accident 7 September, 1944.
 - j. Present and Former Members of this Organization who have Distinguished Themselves in Action the Past Month:
Captain Louis F. Ruder, awarded the DFC on GO #146, HQ 12th AF.
28 August, 1944.
The Following Members of this Organization were Awarded Decorations on GO #163, Hq 12th Air Force.

1st Lt Frank E. Boyd, 2nd OLC to Air Medal.

The Following Members of this Organization were Awarded Decorations on GO #151, Hq 12th Air Force.

1st Lt Raymo Fare, 1st OLC to Air Medal
1st Lt Ralph S. Lucardi, 1st OLC to Air Medal
1st Lt William M. Pribyl, 1st OLC to Air Medal

RC 298

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

The Following members of this organization were awarded decorations on GO #165, Hq 12th Air Force.

1st Lt Paul M. Hall, Air Medal
 1st Lt Thomas M. Hannon, 1st OLC to Air Medal
 1st Lt Ralph S. Lucardi, 2nd OLC to Air Medal
 1st Lt Scrivner Mizell, Air Medal
 1st Lt Charles R. Neumann, 1st OLC to Air Medal
 1st Lt Chadwick G. Reade, 2nd OLC to Air Medal
 1st Lt Myers J. Reynolds III, 1st OLC to Air Medal
 1st Lt O. George Salinevich, 1st and 2nd OLC to Air Medal
 1st Lt Allen G. Sanderson, 2nd and 3rd OLC to Air Medal
 1st Lt Jack E.T. Saux, 1st OLC to Air Medal
 1st Lt Charles G. Sawicki, 2nd OLC to Air Medal
 1st Lt George W. Wilson, 2nd OLC to Air Medal
 1st Lt George W. Wilson was awarded 3rd OLC to Air Medal on GO #40, 12th TAC
 1st Lt Myers J. Reynolds was awarded 2nd OLC to Air Medal on GO #44, 12th TAC

The following Enlisted Men of this organization were awarded decorations on GO #168, Hq 12th Air Force.

S/Sgt Wilson T. Robinson, awarded Bronze Star
 S/Sgt William P. Smith, awarded Bronze Star
 Sgt John Kristoff, awarded Bronze Star
 Cpl William J. Duray, awarded Bronze Star

2. Enclosed is War Diary, 64th Fighter Squadron, for the period 1 September to 30 September, 1944.

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 September, 1944

Prepared by EARL D. LOVICK, Capt, AC

DAY

EVENTS

1. One member of this outfit was taken to the clink today for swiping a 10-pound sack of sugar. Such men make it necessary for us to pull guard every night.
2. Sgt Lumenfeld got in a shipment of booze which he sold at a reasonable price to all interested parties. Noise from the various celebrations about the camp lasted far far into the night. One man who shall be nameless established some sort of record by standing in one place and falling down fourteen times. He took down most of one side of a pyramidal tent in the course of his flopping.
3. Today our planes began to operate over the Italian front again. They are supporting the ground forces which are trying to crack the Gethic line.
4. Lt Peters went down today over the target. He tried to bail out but his ship was not high enough, and his chute did not have time to open.
5. The rumor dept. offers gen that one of the neighboring Groups which left for France recently came back today.
6. Rain and bad flying weather. No missions. Hit the sack.
7. Lt Noesges, a newcemer to the Squadron, was killed this afternoon when his ship stalled and crashed as he was turning to approach the south end of the runway. The ship nosed down from about five-hundred feet and crashed in a valley south of the field.
8. Moving orders came in late this afternoon. Finally and at last we are going to leave Corsica.
9. "A" party broke camp and moved out in convoy this morning. About half the personnel of the Squadron was in the party. All departments were represented. A ship belonging to another squadron caught fire on the ground this morning, and the exploding bombs destroyed another ship which was parked close by.
10. Our ships now have to fly to Italy and refuel before they can proceed on to the target. Today they destroyed a factory which they had tried to destroy before without success.
11. Not all of "A" party has reached the new field yet. Most of them have not even left the Island. Col. Knight is trying to make a deal for a large building for the men to live in. The building is near Grosseto.

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

Sheet No. 2 - War Diary

64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Group

Month of September, 1944

Prepared by Earl D. Levick, Capt, AC

DAY

EVENTS

12. Part of the B-26 Group that is to occupy this field moved in today. They come from Sardinia. All their equipment is brand new and they look like a very military outfit. The men wear pistol belts and leggings and put up their camp in neat tent rows with company streets....Lt Rawson was killed today. He was hit by ground fire while strafing a train, and his ship dived straight in. He had no chance to bail out. That makes four pilots we have lost in the last month, two shot down and two in accidents.
13. The orderly room is having lots of trouble getting our Francs changed into Lire. There doesn't seem to be any Lire on the Island.
14. The B-26 outfit continues to move in. They are afraid of the runway we have been using. They say their ships have a nasty habit of refusing to take the air, so evidently they wanted a soft spot down at the end of the runway. The crews boast of a new and super-hot model of the B-26 which can do wonders.
15. The bunch in Italy is now enjoying fresh meats, vegetables, wine and sympathetic women. With us here in Corsica it is the same story, bully beef and unfriendly natives. The morale is a few degrees lower than nadir.
16. We finally got our Francs changed into Lire. Crew chiefs are due to leave by air shortly and join the bunch in Italy.
17. All the pilots left today and moved to the new field. Some of the crew chiefs went by C-47. The men that were left spent most of the afternoon policing up the camp area and burning trash. Officer's tent area proved to be by far the more untidy.
18. The move was delayed today. Most of the men attended movies at a service Group up the road.
19. The outfit pulled out around noon today. We got soaked in a rainstorm on the way to Bastia, and after considerable snafu-ing around finally got to the docks where we spent all afternoon and part of the night loading on to the LST's. Ships remained in the harbor that night.
20. The three LST's with an escort vessel pulled out of Bastia this morning bright and early, not so bright either because the weather was very rough and stormy. The crossing to Italy was made in a moderate gale with rain squalls and a very choppy sea. Some of the men became very sick, and all day long they could be seen hanging over the rail performing acts of reverse parastelsis in the drenching rain. Late in the afternoon we put in at an unprotected anchorage near the city of Castiglione. The surf was too heavy to bring the ships to dock, so we spent the night at anchor.

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

Sheet No. 3

64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Group

Month of September, 1944

Prepared By Earl D. Lovick, Capt. AC

DAY

EVENTS

21. The convoy sailed north to Leghorn and tied up in the much-bombed harbor. Unloading was completed late that afternoon. Some of the men spent the night at the waterfront and continued south the next morning.
22. Camp was moved from a pine forest near the field to a residential section near the beach. The neighborhood was probably very swank in the old days of fascismo because all the houses are very clean and modern. Our men live in a building which used to be a fascist school. Quaint sayings of Il Duce adorn the walls.
23. We spent the day fixing up the new barracks and making things comfortable. No flying. There is a huge mud puddle in the center of the field and it keeps the planes grounded most of the time.
24. Bad weather now setting in for good made it necessary to move our planes over to Grosseto Main where the landing strip is more serviceable.
25. Since the landing ground is several miles from our billeting area the men who work on the line must take their meals there.
26. The Squadron pulled six missions today. The new policy calls for far less flying than we did in Corsica. The town of Grosseto offers few attractions for GI's. The people are reserved and a little on the unfriendly side. We often suspect they hate us---the savage bombing of their town by American planes might have done something to influence their attitude. The town's only bordello has been padlocked. The military code now says thou shalt not fornicate.
27. The delicacies of today's noonday meal consisted of the following: Columbia River canned salmon served in a thin sad paste, lank spinach with a listless look, hardtack with peanut butter, sour tea, and swarms of bumblebees to plague us while we ate. It was a meal fit to tempt a gourmet -- to suicide if nothing else.
28. No mail. No movies. No nothing. The planes stand in mud puddles. A truckload of vacationers left for Rome this morning.
29. The first shipment of wool clothes arrived today, latest fashions in fall and winter wear. Of course there was not enough to go around.
30. Pay Day. The EM club opened with a great stock of booze and the card games lasted far far into the night.