

~~RESTRICTED~~

~~[REDACTED]~~

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

65th Fighter Squadron

P.R.C.

59-11-6-1
MAY-1945

X

May 1945

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

~~[REDACTED]~~

~~RESTRICTED~~

RSI Contl No
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DESIGNATION FILET
Historical Records

AIR FORCE: Twelfth Air Force

COMMAND: _____

SUB-COMMAND _____

GROUP: 57 FW 50

UNIT: 65th FW 29

Documents Transmitted: (Period Covered)

☒ OUTLINE HISTORY: _____

☒ WAR DIARY: _____

___ SPECIAL ACCOUNTS: _____

___ PHOTOGRAPHS: _____

___ SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: _____

~~SECRET~~

P.R.C.

65th Ftr Sqdn.
Outline History May 1945.

By Auth CO
65th Ftr Sqdn.
10, June 1945.

SIXTY-FIFTH FIGHTER SQUADRON A.A.F.
A.P.O. 650

AR 345-105

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

10 June 1945.

SUBJECT : Historical Data.

TO : Commanding General, XXII T.A.C.

1. Outline History of the Sixty-Fifth Fighter Squadron for the period 1, May 1945 to 31 May 1945,
- a. Present designation: Sixty-Fifth Fighter Squadron, Fifty-Seventh Fighter Group, XXII T.A.C.
- b. Changes in organizations
 1. No changes in designation
 2. No changes in assignment.
 3. No changes in attachment.

Subordinates units: None.

Commanding Officer: Major. Edward H. Ellington, 0432189, vice Lt. Colonel Gilbert O. Wymond Jr., O-431591, relieved. Changes in Staff Officers: 2nd Lieut. Chester C. Fowler, 02057714, is appointed Athletic and Special Service Officer, Additional duty, Captain, Joe H. Keith, 0661774, is appointed Flight Commander "F" Flight, Primary duty, Captain. Thomas E. Bowers, 0792797, is appointed Operations Officer, primary duty, Captain. Harry J. Cavanagh, 0774019, is appointed Assistant Operations Officer, primary duty, Captain. Jack W. Collins, 0704666, is appointed Flight Commander "A" Flight, primary duty, Captain. Stanley J. Morrow, 0799232, is appointed Flight Commander "B" Flight, primary duty, Captain. Herbert H. Brothers, 0719257, is appointed Flight Commander "C" Flight, primary duty, 1st Lt. Angelo J. Alesandrini, is appointed Flight Commander "D" Flight, primary duty. Captain. Thomas E. Bowers, 0792797, is appointed Tactical Inspector, additional duty, 1st Lt. Bradley A. Muhl, 0827251 is appointed Flight Commander "B" Flight. 1st Lt. Clarence J. Boncyk, 0854691, is appointed Engineering Officer, Primary Duty. 1st Lt. Stanley M. Simkins, 0564294, is appointed Adjutant, Primary duty. 1st Lt. James E. Bearden, II, 0682038, is appointed Legal Assistance Officer, additional duty.

RSI Contd No

07264

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

S E C R E T

C. Strength, Commissioned and enlisted:

1, May 1945	Commissioned-62	enlisted-245
Net increase:	Commissioned--0	enlisted---0
Net decrease:	Commissioned-14	enlisted--35
31 May 1945.	Commissioned-48	enlisted-210

d. Stations:

1, Villa Franca, L.G., Italy. Date of arrival-29 April 1945. Date of departure 7 May 1945. Arrived at Grosseto, L.G., 7 May 1945.

e. Movements: Moved from Villa Franca, L.G., Italy, to Grosseto, L.G., Italy, on 7 May 1945. Arrived at Grosseto, on the 7 May 1945.

f. Campaigns: Italy, September 16, 1943. Finished. Southern France-August 15, 1944-finished.

g. Operations:

1. Campaign-Italia n.
2. Nature of Operations: Dive-bombing, strafing, visual recce.
3. Number of missions--9 Sorties--30
4. All missions during the month were of such importance, close support was given to the 5th Army.

h. Losses in action: None.

1. Awards and decorations: The following awards have been made during the month of May: The following have received the DFC-1st Lt. Truman L. Allen, Capt. Herbert H. Brothers, Capt. Harry J. Cavanagh, 1st Lt. Jack W. Collins, Major. Edward H. Ellington, 1st Lt. Melvin L. Fiedler, 1st Lt. Max M. Floerke, Jr., 1st Lt. Wilburn R. Holmes, Jr., Capt. Joe H. Keith, 1st Lt. William E. Lyke, 1st Lt. Francis J. Middleton, 1st Lt. Stanley J. Morrow, 1st Lt. John F. Murphy, 1st Lt. Dwight V. Orman, The following have received the 1st OLC too the DFC-Major. Edward H. Ellington, The following have received the 2nd OLC to the DFC--Capt. James C. Hare, The following have been awarded the Air Medal--2nd Lt. Robert (NMI) Hill, 2nd Lt. Gorman (NMI) Neel, 2nd Lt. Frank J. O'Rourke, 2nd Lt. Hobart G. Pepper, F/O George R. Reither, F/O Bruce J. Stoddard, 2nd Lt., Edwin L. Gemberling, The following have received the 1st OLC to Air Medal--2nd Lt. Franklin H. Cummins, 1st Lt. Charles D. Easley, 2nd Lt. Robert (NMI) Hill, 2nd Lt. Hobart G. Pepper, F/O George R. Reither, F/O Bruce J. Stoddard, The following have received the 1st and 2nd OLC to AM--2nd Lt. Chester C. Fowler, 1st Lt. Robert J. Pinkowski, 2nd Lt. William L. Sheftall, The following have received the 2nd OLC to AM--2nd Lt. Byron D. Beeler, Capt. Harry J. Cavanagh, 2nd Lt. Franklin H. Cummins, 1st Lt. Carl L. Greener, 1st Lt. Jack I Gross, 2nd Lt. Jimmie R. Long, The following have received the 2nd and 3rd OLC to AM--1st Lt. Angelo J. Alesandrini, 1st Lt. David P. Black, 1st Lt. Jack J. Glesener, 1st Lt. Bradley A. Muhl,

S E C R E T

The following have received the 3rd OLC to the Air Medal--
Capt. Joe H. Keith, The following have received the 3rd and
4th OLC to AM--Capt. Herbert H. Brothers, 1st Lt. Jack W.
Collins, 1st Lt. William E. Lyke, 1st Lt. Dwight V. Orman,
The following have received the 4th OLC to AM--Capt. Thomas
E. Bowers, 1st Lt. Max M. Floerke, Jr., 1st Lt. Sylvester H.
Hendricks, 1st Lt. Wilburn R. Holmes, Jr., 1st Lt. Francis J.
Middleton, 1st Lt. Stanley J. Marrow, The following Officer
has received the 8th OLC To Air Medal--Capt. James C. Hare,

For the Commanding Officer:

1 Incl:
War Diary

Joseph R. Hrusa
JOSEPH R. HRUSA,
Captain, A.A.F.,
Squadron Historical Officer.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Sheet No. 1 War Diary
Month of May 1945

65th Ftr Sq., 57th Ftr Gp.
Prepared by
Joseph R. Hrusa,
Captain, Air Corps.

<u>DAY</u>	<u>EVENTS</u>
1.	Six missions for 20 sorties today. The current advance has lifted everyone's morale to a very high state and we are in hopes that before long the war here will be completely over.
2.	One mission for two sorties today. Orders came through not to attack anything on the ground. We wonder if this is what we have been waiting for. Tomorrow may tell us the story.
3.	At last our prayers have been answered! The war in Italy is over. The surrender of all German troops in Italy puts a finish to the campaign. There was little celebrating tonight as most everyone was thankful that the war here is over. We are all praying that the end of the entire European war is in sight. The Squadron flew 4 missions for 8 sorties. All missions were visual recce's and no attacks were made.
4.	No flying at all today! Today has been a day of rest and prayer.
5.	The allied armies in Germany are making wonderful advances, and it is felt that V-E day is near at hand.
6.	Still waiting for the end!
7.	Today the advance party left Villa-Franca to return to Grosseto. The squadron has been ordered to return to Grosseto. Everyone is now waiting to see what will happen to the Group. Most everyone is wishing that we will return to the States before we are sent anywhere else.
8.	At last, after five long years of fighting, V-E day is here. The news of the unconditional surrender of all German armies was received by everyone with much joy. Although everyone was happy, there was little celebrating.
9.	Nothing doing today!
10.	Other members of the squadron arrived from Villa Franca today leaving just a skeleton crew behind. The rest should be here in a couple of days.
11.	Morale is excellent! Everyone is now waiting to see what will happen to us. We are all hoping that it happens soon.

War Diary sheet No. 2-cont'd.

- | MAY | EVENTS |
|-----|---|
| 12. | The movies have started at the Service Group Theater again. Two shows a night. The Officers and enlisted men are working to open their beach clubs again. They should be ready soon and will provide excellent recreation during our wait. |
| 13. | Church services today, both catholic and protestant. |
| 14. | Training missions in the morning, Recreation in the afternoon. |
| 15. | The enlisted men defeated the Officers in softball this evening, the score was 14 to 1. Nothing else of interest took place. |
| 16. | The picture tonight at the Service Group theatre was "Objective Burma" with Errol Flynn, It was a very interesting picture. |
| 17. | Instead of a movie tonight, we had a U.S.O. show with Roscoe (Stuttering) Ates, Three lovely American girls were in the cast and the show was very entertaining. Would like to see more like that. The Officers softball team was defeated by 66th Squadron enlisted men, the score 5 to 1. |
| 18. | The U.S.O. show was repeated tonight for the second time. |
| 19. | No events. |
| 20. | Catholic and Protestant church services today. Movie at the Service Group in the evening. |
| 21. | Training flights in the morning and not much doing in the afternoon. |
| 22. | The movie tonight was "A Guy Named Joe" with Spencer Tracy. It was a very entertaining picture. The Officers softball team was defeated by 64th Squadron enlisted men, 11-3. |
| 23. | No events. |
| 24. | Waiting and wondering what is going to happen to us has the squadron on edge. Morale is still excellent and we are in hopes that something happens soon. |
| 25. | There was quite a party tonight. It was held in honor of our C.O. whos is leaving for the states, and also to celebrate some promotions. Four captaincy's and Five 1st Lts. That is quite a few to be promoted and the party was really an affair. There were very few that remained sober during the evenings festivities. |
| 26. | No events! |

War Diary Sheet No. 3-cont'd

<u>DAY</u>	<u>EVENTS</u>
27.	Catholic and Protestant church services today.
28.	No events.
29.	Morale is still excellent, but the men are waiting for something to happen. Hope it happens soon.
30.	The enlisted men had a dance this evening with dancing partners being recruited from the girls in town. The 65th dance band provided some excellent music.
31.	No events on the last day of the month .

S E C R E T