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SQ-F1-64-41
1 MAY 1944 -
31 MAY 194464th Ftr. Sq.
Outline History May 44SECRET
By auth CO
64th Ftr. Sq.
7 June 1944HEADQUARTERS SIXTY FOURTH FIGHTER SQUADRON
A.P.O. 650

EDL/K/k

7 June 1944

AG 413.7

SUBJECT : Historical Records.

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

1. Outline History of the 64th Fighter Squadron for the period 1 May 1944 to 31 May 1944.

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

b. Changes in Organization.

- (1) No change in designation.
- (2) No transfer of units.
- (3) Captain Louis Frank III, Commanding Officer.
- (4) Changes of Staff Officers.

1st Lt. Robert A. Cohler, O-1577028 appointed Squadron Quartermaster Supply and Transportation Officer, vice, Captain Henry J. Mack Jr., O-383387 relieved.

1st Lt. August P. Keller, O-736238, appointed "D" Flight leader vice Captain James D. Moore, O-666975 relieved. Captain James D. Moore, appointed "C" Flight leader vice Captain Paul L. Carll, O-795571 relieved.

(5) Changes in T.O.

Squadron reorganized under change #1, dated 26 February 1944, War Department, to T/O & E, 1 - 27 dated 22 December 1943.

c. Strength, Commissioned and Enlisted.

(1) Month of May 1944.

(a) 1 May, Commissioned: 48, Enlisted: 232.

(b) Net increase, Commissioned: 1, Enlisted: 18.

(c) Net decrease, Commissioned: None, Enlisted: None

(d) 31 May, Commissioned: 49, Enlisted: 250.

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D. Stations.

- (1) Alto Landing Ground, Corsica

e. Movements.

- (1) None.

f. Campaigns.

- (1) Italian.
- (2) Duration: 18 September 1943. Still in progress.

g. Operations.

- (1) Campaign: Italian.
- (2) Nature of Operations: Dive Bombing.
- (3) Number of missions 1 May through 31 May; 70.
- (4) Results of most important missions.

(a) While the nature of operations of this Squadron, this Group, are such as they are at present, theoretically no one mission should be more important than any of the others, although certainly some missions have a greater effect and more reaching results than the average one.

The purpose of the operations of this Group, has been to keep the communications system of the enemy in central Italy cut, and to intercept all movement of vehicles as would be possible in order to render the enemy's communications system unserviceable and to keep it so each mission must be successful in order to insure no loopholes and render the entire plan ineffective.

In keeping with the plan this Squadron flew missions each day of the month with the exception of the twentieth when weather kept all planes of the Group on the ground. This Squadron flew seventy missions against the communications net work in Central Italy, to dive bomb railroads, and highways, and in addition strafed and destroyed many enemy vehicles and railway cars carrying supplies to the front lines.

The highlight of the month was on the twenty-fourth when this Squadron flew five missions. In the afternoon the Herman Goering Division was sighted when it was on its way to the front and this Squadron flew three missions on attacks of this Division resulting in total scores for the day: fifty-six enemy trucks destroyed, 1 large tank destroyed, over fifty vehicles damaged, two large guns seriously damaged, 1 large gun destroyed, seven railway cars damaged, an ammunition dump set afire, a gasoline dump set afire, in addition to an unestimatable number of personnel killed. All this damage was done to the famous Hermann Goering Division, on its way to the front.

In addition to the type of mission mentioned above, this Squadron this month did something which we believe to be new, on two missions where medium bombers were to attack targets which were heavily defended by anti air craft guns, our planes, loaded with bombs, flew out with the bombers and just before they came over the target our "Thunderbombers" pulled ahead to dive bomb the pin-pointed gun positions. Both of these, one on the twenty-fourth, the second on the twenty-seventh were very successful on the first one the bombers received no flak until after their bomb run, and then it was negligible, and on the second they received none at all and eighteen heavy guns had been pin-pointed by photo interpretation. The bomber crews were astounded and very grateful for our help.

h. Commanding Officers in Important Missions.

(1) The work of all the flight leaders on missions during the month is commendable, the following officers led missions on the twenty-fourth on attacks against the Hermann Goering Division:

- (a) 1st Lt. Robert E. Abercrombie.

S E C R E T

- (b) 1st Lt. Louis F. Ruder, Jr.
- (c) Capt. Louis Frank III
- (2) The following Officers led the attacks on anti-aircraft gun positions, before the B-25's bombed.
 - (a) Captain William F. Nuding, Jr., May 24th.
 - (b) 1st Lt. Robert B. Abercrombie, May 27th.

- i. Losses in action: Officer and men.
 - (1) None.

j. Former and present members of this Squadron who have distinguished themselves in action: General Order Number 10, Headquarters Twelfth Air Force, 31 January 1944, received 15 May 1944.

- (a) Major Arthur E. Exon, 11th OLC to A.M.
 - (b) Capt. Louis Frank III, 8th OLC to A.M.
 - (c) Capt. Jack B. Wildberger, 6th OLC to A.M.
 - (d) 1st Lt. George A. Blednick, 5th OLC to A.M.
 - (e) Capt. Paul L. Carll, 6th OLC to A.M.
 - (f) 1st Lt. Harold C. Goodman, 5th OLC to A.M.
 - (g) 1st Lt. Joseph M. Kelly, 4th OLC to A.M.
 - (h) 1st Lt. Alexander S. Lampart, 5th OLC to A.M.
 - (i) Capt. Everette L. Marcum, 8th OLC to A.M.
 - (j) Capt. Michael C. McCarthy, 5th OLC to A.M.
 - (k) 1st Lt. Charles P. Neese, 6th OLC to A.M.
 - (l) Capt. James S. Novy, 6th OLC to A.M.
 - (m) Capt. William F. Nuding Jr., 7th OLC to A.M.
 - (n) Capt. Donald C. Volker, 8th OLC to A.M.
 - (o) 1st Lt. David L. Hanson, 2nd OLC to A.M.
 - (p) 1st Lt. John J. Lenihan, 2nd OLC to A.M.
 - (q) Capt. James D. Moore, 5th OLC to A.M.
 - (r) 1st Lt. Louis F. Ruder, Jr., 1st OLC to A.M.
 - (s) 1st Lt. Harold W. Swope, 1st OLC to A.M.
 - (t) 2nd Lt. Elliot W. Brown, Purple Heart per par 1, GO #11, Hq 57th Fitr. Gp. dtd the 7th May 1944.
2. Inclosed is War Diary, 64th Ftr. Sq., for the period 1 May 1944 to 31 May 1944.

For the Squadron COMMANDER:

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

Incl:
 War Diary