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DESIGNATION SHEET
HISTORICAL RECORDS

R (21)

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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C O N F I D E N T I A L64th Ftr. Sq.
Outline History, October, 1944C O N F I D E N T I A L
By Auth. CO
64th Ftr. Sq.
5 Nov., 1944HEADQUARTERS SIXTY-FOURTH FIGHTER SQUADRON
AFC 850, US Army

5 November, 1944

AG 413.7

SUBJECT: Historical Records.

TO : Commanding General, XIII Tactical Air Force - thru Commanding Officer,
57th Fighter Group.

1. Outline history of the 64th Fighter Squadron for the period 1 October to 31 October, 1944.
 - a. Present designation: 64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Fighter Group, XIII Tactical Air Command.
 - b. Changes in organization.
 - (1) Acting Squadron Commander is Major Robert A. Barnum in the temporary absence of Major Louis Frank III.
 - c. Strength, Commissioned and Enlisted.
 - (1) Month of October, 1944.
 - (a) 1 October, Commissioned, 51; Enlisted 261.
 - (b) Net increase, Commissioned: None, Enlisted: None.
 - (c) Net decrease, Commissioned: 7, Enlisted: 4.
 - (d) 31 October, Commissioned: 44, Enlisted: 257.
 - d. Stations.
 - (1) Grosseto Main I.G., Italy.
 - e. Movements: None in October.
 - (1) Movement of planes from Ombrone I.G. to Grosseto Main I.G. was omitted in September organization history report. There was no movement of the camp; total distance of air move, 2 mi.
 - 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 October through 31 October, 1944: 48
Number of sorties: 230
 - (4) Results of important missions: There were no outstanding

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missions during the month of October, operations being on a restricted scale largely because of the weather. The greatest share of the missions were confined to close support targets for the army and the immediate results are difficult to determine. On 15 October on an attack on gun positions, the guns were definitely knocked out as later information from the army confirmed, but in the majority of cases damage assessments on these targets was impossible. On 12 October on a strafing attack against a Northern Italy airfield eight enemy aircraft were destroyed or damaged on the ground.

- h. Commanding Officers in important missions.
- (a) Lt P.M. Hall led attack on enemy airdrome on 12 October, 1944.
 - (b) Major R.A. Barnum led attack on gun positions on 15 Oct. 1944.
 - (c) All assigned flight leaders led missions during the month.
- i. Losses in action.
- (a) 2nd Lt Billy E. Adams, O-711893, MIA, 12 October, 1944.
 - (b) 2nd Lt George J. Dorval, O-700833, MIA, 12 October, 1944.
- j. Present and former members of this organization who have distinguished themselves in action during the the past month.
- Captain Frank E. Boyd, Jr. Awarded 3rd OLC to AM on GO #45, Hq XII T.A.C.
- 2nd Lt George J. Dorval awarded Air Medal on GO #163, Hq 12th AF
- 1st Lt John P. Glaws awarded Air Medal on GO #163, Hq 12th AF.
- 1st Lt Thomas M. Hannon awarded Air Medal on GO #53, Hq XII TAC.
- 1st Lt Scrivner Mizell awarded Air Medal on GO #187, Hq 12th AF
- 1st Lt Charles R. Neumann awarded 2nd OLC to AM on GO #50, Hq XII TAC and 3rd OLC to AM on GO #198 Hq 12th AF.
- Major James S. Novy awarded DFC on GO #196, Hq 12th AF.
- 1st Lt Myers J. Reynolds awarded 3rd OLC to AM on GO #198, Hq 12th AF.
- 1st Lt Jack E.T. Saux awarded 2nd OLC to AM on GO #50, Hq XII TAC and 3rd OLC to AM on GO #198, Hq 12th AF
- 1st Lt George A Berglund awarded 2nd OLC to AM on GO #53, Hq XII TAC and 3rd OLC to AM on GO #198, Hq 12th AF.
- Major Arthur E. Exton awarded the DSC on GO #48, Hq AAF, MTO.
- 1st Lt Raymo Faro awarded 2nd OLC to AM on GO #45, Hq XII TAC.
- 1st Lt Ralph S. Lucardi awarded 3rd OLC to AM on GO #53, Hq XII TAC.
- 1st Lt George Salinovich awarded 3rd OLC to AM on GO #45, Hq XII TAC.
- 1st Lt Harry L. Williams awarded 2nd OLC to AM on GO #53, Hq XII TAC

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

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

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Sheet No. - 1 - War Diary

64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Group

Month of October, 1944

Prepared by Earl D. Lovick, Capt. AG

DAY

EVENTS

1. A dull quiet Sunday. It is surprising how well-dressed and attractive the women are in the nearby town. They have a well-fed, well-upholstered look and most of them have lovely gold teeth. Some of the more sultry ones also sport mustachios, the traditional feature of Italian ladies. But this is supposed to be a diary and not a dissertation on foreign pulchritude.
2. Cloudy weather and threatening rain...Some of the men got five-day passes to Rome... The ^{EM} club can offer only one brand of sweet nepenthe at the bar -- it is rum or nothing. The rum is served in two ways, with or without sugar. The latest arrival from Corsica is the bloke who stole the sack of sugar. He is at present under guard in the supply room, and after his case is settled he will probably be an durance vile for some time yet to come.
3. Moderately fair weather with low ceiling further inland. The snips were out on three shows today.
4. Rations came in today. Among other things twelve bottles of beer were allowed per head, which is a pretty good allowance, all things considered and compliments of Sgt. Lunenfeld whose sales attractions features lots of bitching. At his store the customer is always wrong.
5. Rain and a few hangover cases to mark an otherwise dull day. This building since we moved in has come to be called the House of Hangoveria. The Italian employees around the barracks have to be watched all time or they will carry the place off.
6. It is rumored that 150 new replacements have been requisitioned for the Squadron. Men certainly think up fantastic ideas during their idleness.
7. More and more men are being allowed passes to Rome. Five days is usually the limit.
8. Very dark sky and no flying. A good movie was shown up at the Group theatre.
9. A large batch of men were sent to the Air Force rest camp in Rome. One man included on the list just got back from a three-day hiatus in the same town.
10. According to an order on the bulletin board mosquito nets will be used up until November 1st. These Italian mosquitoes certainly die hard. The weather was clear this afternoon, so the crews reported out to the line.
11. This was a very busy day for the pilots and crews. The ships were up on five shows...Beer was served at the club this evening and a very good movie was shown at the Group theatre.
12. Two pilots went down today in a fierce encounter with ack-ack up near La Spezia. The pilots were Lt Dorval and Lt Adams. They were downed in an attack on enemy

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Sheet No. 2 - War Diary

64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Group

Month of October, 1944

Prepared by EARL D. LOVICK, Capt. AC

Planes on the airdrome near La Spezia. Both ships crashed and the pilots were killed. This was a hard lick for the flight to take all at once. Lt Schultz landed with his ship riddled by flak.

13. Major Lynch is expected back from the hospital any day now. The major has had a very severe bout with overseas fatigue or some related type of ailment from all we can gather. In the meanwhile Lt Simkins is the acting executive. The squadron flew missions all day and finished the last one about dusk.
14. Capt. Mack has gone to Florence - it is said for the purpose of picking out a house for us to live in when we move. Rumor command says we will leave this idyllic spot in a month or two.
15. The pilots pulled off a remarkable piece of bombing today and did themselves very proud. An eight-plane formation went after two large artillery pieces which had been holding up the advance in the La Spezia sector. Each of the eight planes scored direct hits on the gun emplacements and demolished the target.
16. This was another "maximum effort day" for the Squadron. A name has finally been appended to the job of work this outfit has been doing for the last two and a half years - "maximum effort", however, things seemed to go wrong all day and we could chalk up only eleven sorties. To make matters worse we bombed our own troops, using belly tanks full of fuel mixture with detonators attached. The impact scattered a very terrible spray of fire over the unlucky people in the vicinity.
17. Nothing of importance happened today, this being an idle day for the squadron, so naturally there was much looking at the wine while it was red. Lots of flares were noticed down to the south around Civavecchia, but if there was a raid we haven't heard the report of it yet.
18. After the noonday meal, which set a new low, gastronomically speaking, a couple of our BTO's went to the orderly room and bitched long and loud to Capt. Mack. Maybe something will be done about it because the Capt. was seen to have a sympathetic look on his face. The fact that he is eating the same kind of fare might account for the look, however, because the food is bad enough to form the excuse for a common bond between all ranks.
19. Another batch of men left for Rome today on rest leave. The new policy is to bust all men who do not return from pass on time. Rations came in today.
20. Orders came through today to send 1st/Sgt Spencer home on rotation - yeah, only one man and it would have to be Spencer.

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Sheet No. - 3 - War Diary

64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Group

Month of October, 1944

Prepared by EARL D. LOVICK, Capt, AC

- | DAY | EVENTS |
|-----|---|
| 21. | Sgt. Spencer left for home today. There is wrangling over who shall fall heir to his jeep. Also among the officers going home are Major Frank and Major Lynch. |
| 22. | The girls who travel about in the surrey with the fringe on top are now seen in the various clubs and hostels up the street. |
| 23. | Several missions pulled off today. Quite a long list of our men appeared on special orders, most of them being placed on DS. One man is going to an infantry regiment at the front for five days. |
| 24. | Major Robert A. Barnum has been appointed CO in the place of Major Frank. |
| 25. | Rain and no work. |
| 26. | No coffee. We had grapefruit juice for breakfast. Add to the list of minor inconveniences. It's the littlethings that get a man down. |
| 27. | Sgt. Wilson returned from Naples where he has been to purchase groceries for the Squadron. Probably as a result of his foraging the snow has greatly improved. There is coffee aplenty and the food is generally much more eatable than usual. |
| 28. | Some of the men will probably take advantage of the letter we received today inviting us to sign up for the Coast Guard Academy. Very few of us can meet the qualifications, however. |
| 29. | The Squadron received blank forms today for the "point system" by means of which men may be selected for discharge after the war. The forms are a sort of personal scorecard on which a man's qualifications are recorded. |
| 30. | Rainstorms are getting heavier and more destructive. Bridges have been washed away and the road has been cut in places between here and Rome. |
| 31. | Pay day at last. Late this afternoon Lt Hall, coming back from a mission, crashed in the drink about fifty yards offshore directly in front of the barracks. The water was only about neck-deep, so he waded out without mishap to himself... Also this afternoon one of our men had a very bad accident with a jeep. He was trying to break his own speed record down the canal road when a civilian on a bicycle attempted to gain the right of way at a narrow place in the road. The civilian was killed in the collision and our man was thrown clear and escaped injury when the jeep plunged into the canal. |

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