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DESIGNATION SHEET
HISTORICAL RECORDS

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 Fighter Squadron
Outline History, Dec., 1944C O N F I D E N T I A L
By Auth. CO
64th Ftr. Sq.
8 Jan., 1944SIXTY-FOURTH FIGHTER SQUADRON
Office of the Commanding Officer
APO 650, US Army

8 January, 1944

AG 413.7

SUBJECT: Historical Records.

TO : Commanding General, XXII Tactical Air Command.

THRU : Commanding Officer, 57th Fighter Group.

1. Outline history of the 64th Fighter Squadron for the period 1 December to 31 December, 1944.
 - a. Present designation: 64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Fighter Group, XXII Tactical Air Command.
 - b. Changes in organization:
 - (1) No change in designation.
 - (2) No transfer of units.
 - (3) Commanding Officer, Major Robert A. Barnum, O-416978, relieved as Acting Squadron Commander and appointed Squadron Commander per par. 5, GO 238, Hqs. 57th Ftr. Gp. dtd 18 Dec. 1944
 - (4) Changes of Staff Officers: Captain Michael C. McCarthy, O-736277, was appointed Squadron Operations Officer, vice Major James S. Novy, O-736308, relieved. Captain Paul M. Hall, O-745365, was appointed Assistant Operations Officer, vice Captain Michael C. McCarthy, relieved. First Lieut. Myers J. Reynolds III, O-812375, was appointed "A" Flight Leader, vice Captain Frank E. Boyd, O-810306, relieved. First Lieut. William M. Pribyl, O-695203, was appointed "B" Flight Leader, vice Capt. Jack E.T. Saux, O-754212, relieved. First Lieut. James E. Hoffman, O-792835, was appointed "C" Flight Leader, vice 1st Lt Myers J. Reynolds III relieved. First Lieut Bruce H. Hale, O-792829, was appointed "D" Flight Leader, vice 1st Lt William M. Pribyl, O-695203, relieved.

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c. Strength, Commissioned and Enlisted:

- (1) Month of December, 1944.
 - (a) 1 December, Commissioned 63, Enlisted 252.
 - (b) Net increase, Commissioned none, Enlisted none.
 - (c) Net decrease, Commissioned 2, Enlisted 2.
 - (d) 31 December, Commissioned 61, Enlisted 250.

d. Stations:

- (1) Grosseto Main L.G., Italy.

e. Movements: none.

f. Campaigns:

- (1) Italian.
- (2) Duration, 9 September, 1943. Still in progress.

g. Operations:

- (1) Campaign, Italian.
- (2) Nature of operations: Dive bombing.
- (3) Number of missions, 1 December through 31 December, 1944, 92; sorties, 607.
- (4) Results of outstanding missions: All missions during the month of December were more or less routine - the greater number of them being directed against communications targets - the interdiction of ~~the~~ lines being the objective in most cases. Some effort during the month was extended on close support, dive bombing and strafing gun positions, strong points and troop concentrations which were giving trouble to the ground forces. One of these missions, flown on the 13th of December, was number 1000 for the Squadron and was successful in destroying 3 houses out of a group of 9 which were being occupied by enemy troops.
A partial summary of the damage inflicted on the enemy during the month follows. 72 railroad cuts, 8 highway cuts, 14 railroad bridges destroyed or damaged, 9 highway bridges damaged, 10 engines destroyed and 19 damaged, 84 railroad cars destroyed and 152 damaged, 30 MT destroyed and 52 damaged, 16 gun positions silenced.

h. Commanding Officers in important missions:

- (1) Captain M. C. McCarthy led the 1000th mission of the Squadron.
- (2) All assigned flight leaders led missions during the month.

i. Losses in action: None

j. Present and former members of this Organization who have distinguished themselves in action during the past month.

- 1st Lt William F. Berry - Air Medal, GO #90, XXII TAC, DTD 2/12/44
 1st Lt George T. Bright - 1st OIC to AM, GO #84 XXII TAC, 23/11/44
 1st Lt Vernon F. Farmer - Air Medal, GO #90, XXII TAC, 2/12/44
 1st Lt John P. Glaws - 1st OIC to AM, GO #98, XXII TAC, 31/12/44
 1st Lt [Name] [Name]

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1st Lt James A. Graham - Air Medal, GO #84, XXII TAC, 23/11/44
1st Lt Bruce H. Hale - 1st OIC to AM, GO #84, XXII TAC, 23/11/44
1st Lt Robert D. Loucks - Air Medal, GO #84, XXII TAC, 23/11/44
2nd Lt Royce J. Maier - Air Medal, GO #98, XXII TAC, 27/12/44
1st Lt Ralph B. Williams - 1st OIC to AM, GO #98, XXII TAC, 27/12/44

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

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

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

Sheet No. 1 War Diary

64th Fighter Squadron, 57h Group

Month of December, 1944

Prepared by Earl D. Lovick, Capt. AC

DAY

EVENTS

1. Rather lengthy sick list, six men relieved from duty, three sent to hospital.
2. Four officers and ten enlisted men were placed on DS and sent to various parts of Italy.
3. The furlough list for home has been whittled down somewhat. Only seven men from the Squadron made the list.
4. New cases of malaria are turning up in the Squadron since we went off atabrine the first of November.
5. Crews were released from the line at noon because of bad weather. A jeep and a command car belonging to this outfit were cracked up on the road to ~~mm~~ town.
6. Despite rainy weather at the base the clear areas at the front made it possible to carry out operations. Our aircraft are going after enemy transportation along the Brenner Pass.
7. A technical inspection by the XXII TAC is now going on in the group. The inspectors are nice people, hardly any reaming at all.
8. Our new First Sergeant arrived today. Name of Weaver. He transferred from a signal outfit where he has twenty-two months overseas.
9. Four new pilots arrived today...Excellent movie this evening.
10. The men worked until long after nightfall, arming the ships with rocket tubes in preparation for a new push tomorrow.
11. The push started today, but we were unable to give air support because the combat zone was blanketed by heavy mists...Names of the men who were to receive furloughs in the states were announced today. The list was headed by a Captain. Of the seven enlisted ~~mm~~ men five are department heads. There are no corporals or privates on the list.
12. The Squadron basketball team lost out of the tournament after taking one game from 66 Squadron. A corporal was busted for not stading his guard. First busting case in quite a while for this outfit. The man was fresh from the States, just off the boat.
13. Chismas packages have begun to arrive in large loads...Very good cinema.

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

Sheet No. 2 War Diary.

64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Group

Month of December, 1944

Prepared by Earl D. Lovick, Capt. AC

DAY

EVENTS

14. Before a meeting of all enlisted men Capt. Mack gave a talk on small matters such as the Army Aid Society, Saturday morning inspections, threat of more severe punishment for AWOL cases, and a word of warning to all those who are likely to become VD patients.
15. Movies will no longer be shown out here at Marino, due to the fact that the other two Squadrons have moved to Grosseto. There is a possibility that we will move there shortly.
16. The inspection came off this morning with generally satisfactory results, but of course a few men were giggered...A group of men returned from a fifteen day furlough which they spent in the hills around Foggia, hunting deer.
17. The seven lucky men being sent home finally got started this morning. Men on the line worked until long after nightfall, loading rockets.
18. Very heavy rain this morning and no work at the line. So far we have not been able to find a house in Grosseto, so we will probable not move.
19. One of our men who has been languishing in the Capodichino bastille these past six months returned today.
20. Mail and packages arriving like mad. The Squadron managed its usual thirty sorties.
21. The men are making a big run on the pass list. They want to be in Rome for the Christmas holidays.
22. The Squadron passed its 1000-mission mark today. Weather was cold but clear and we marked up forty sorties.
23. Very sharp and cold weather with a few flakes of snow. Bombers held night practice at targets offshore and we thought at first it was Jerry.
24. Still more packages arriving. The men are doing their best to make a good holiday of it. There is a Christmas tree in every bay of the building. Christmas spirits which have been ordered for some time finally arrived, price \$13:50 a fifth.
25. Christmas, our third overseas, came off quietly and with few cases of over-indulgence following last night. A couple of missions were calked up this afternoon.

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Sheet No. 3 War Diary

64th Fighter Squadron, 57th Group

Month of December, 1944

Prepared by Earl D. Lovick, Capt, AC

DAY	EVENTS
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26. There will be very few furloughs home next month. That bit of information was contributed by Capt. Mack. A show truck hauled the men to town this evening. There was a USO show and also a movie.
27. Today was clear and sunny enough to be abnormal. Taking advantage of the good weather the Squadron chalked up over thirty sorties.
28. A new order was posted today for the information and guidance of the enlisted men: Beds must be made up so-so, head to foot; shoes under the bunk; spotless carbine; etc. The practice of urinating in front of the barracks must stop immediately. Our planes did heavy damage to the Jerry troops today in the new drive against Fifth Army positions. They went hill-hopping and road-snaffing. One ship returned with over twenty holes in the wing.
29. The men were lead to a look at the new super-hot A-26, latest thing out. One of the outfits on the field has one.
30. Sgt. O'Laughlin has replaced Sgt. Weaver in the First Sergeant's job. There was a physical inspection this evening.
31. New Year celebration was pretty much in evidence all day. The officers held open house for us this evening. Everything went along smoothly ~~until~~ until a couple of the visitors decided to put on a floor show to relieve the stuffiness. The casualties, one nose slightly sidetracked and one busted ping-pong table.

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