

~~RESTRICTED~~

~~[REDACTED]~~

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

9-1-60-11
1 Feb 1944
+

05th Fighter Squadron

P.R.C.

+

February 1944

0156330

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

~~[REDACTED]~~

RSI Cont No
Su. 252

~~RESTRICTED~~

[Handwritten signature]

~~[REDACTED]~~

SP-71-65-111
1 FEB 44

DESIGNATION SHEET

00056930

Unit reporting 65 Ftr Sq

P.R.C.

CHAIN OF COMMAND

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Administrative</u>	<u>Operational</u>
SUPER AIR FORCE	U. S. Army Air Forces, Mediterranean Theater of Operations (AUF/MTO)	Mediterranean Allied Air Forces (LMAAF)
AIR FORCE	Twelfth Air Force	Mediterranean Allied Tactical Air Force (MATAF)
COMMAND	XII Tactical Air Command	<u>None</u>
WING	<u>89 Ftr Wg</u>	<u>87 Ftr Wg</u>
GROUP	<u>57 Ftr Gp</u>	<u>57 Ftr Gp</u>
SQUADRON	<u>65 Ftr Sq</u>	<u>65 Ftr Sq</u>
BATTALION	_____	_____
COMPANY	_____	_____
OTHER	_____	_____

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION Confidential

RSI Cont No
S67252

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~(SECRET)~~~~SECRET~~65th Ftr Sqdn.
Outline History Feb 44~~SECRET~~
By Auth CO
65th Ftr Sqdn.
22, March 44SIXTY-FIFTH FIGHTER SQUADRON A.A.F.
A.P.O. 650

22 March 1944

AG 314.7

SUBJECT : Historical Records.

TO : Commanding General, XII Air Support Command, A.P.O. 374.

1. Outline History of the Sixty-Fifth Fighter Squadron for the period
1, February 1944 to 29, February 1944.a. Present Designation; Sixty-Fifth Fighter Squadron, Fifty-Seventh
Fighter Group, XII Air Support Command.

b. Changes in organization.

- (1) No change in designation.
- (2) No transfer of units.
- (3) Commanding Officer, Major Gilbert O. Wymond Jr., O-431591.
- (4) Changes of Staff Officers:
 - Captain Richard O. Hunziker, 0664187, is appointed Flight Commander "A" flight vice Captain Harold R. Lundquist, 0792043, relieved effective 19 February, 1944.
 - Captain Robert R. Sherbondy, 0728750, is appointed Flight Commander "C" flight vice Captain Richard O. Hunziker, 0664187, relieved effective 19 February, 1944.
 - Captain Clarence F. Musgrave, 0736298, is appointed Flight Commander "D" flight effective 19 February, 1944.
 - 1st Lt. James W. Hadnot, 0666932, is appointed flight Commander "B" flight effective 3 February, 1944.
 - Captain Francis S. Manda, 0664212, is appointed Operations Officer effective 3 February, 1944. (Primary Duty)
 - Captain Francis S. Manda, 0664212, is appointed Squadron Camouflage Officer effective 3 February, 1944. (Additional Duty)
 - Captain Francis S. Manda, 0664212, is appointed Tactical Inspector effective February, 1944. (Additional Duty)
 - Captain Harold R. Lundquist, 0792043, is appointed assistant Operations Officer effective 3 February, 1944. (Additional Duty)

~~SECRET~~

-1-

~~SECRET~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL~~SECRET~~**SECRET**

1st Lt. Lawrence A. Buttacavoli, 01287660, is appointed Squadron Adjutant, vice Captain Robert C. Hanning, 0434447, effective 3 February, 1944.

1st Lt. Edward J. Silks, 0434839, is appointed Assistant S-2 Officer. (Additional Duty)

1st Lt. Edward J. Silks, 0434839, is appointed Personal Equipment Officer, vice Captain Francis S. Manda, 0664212, effective 3 February, 1944. (Additional Duty)

1st Lt. Donald F. Smith, 0901040, is appointed Transportation Officer, vice 1st Lt. Edward J. Silks, 0434839, effective 3 February, 1944. (Additional Duty)

2nd Lt. James A. Eaglen, 0675682, is appointed Athletic and Special Service Officer, vice 1st Lt. Francis S. Manda, 0664212, effective 3 February, 1944.

Major James (NMI) Boyhan, 01703789, is relieved from duties of Assistant Engineering Officer effective 3 February, 1944.

(5) T/O 1 - 27, dated 22 December 1943, effective 19 February, 1944.

- c. Strength, commissioned and enlisted.
 - (a) 1 February; Commissioned 41, Enlisted 217.
 - (b) Net increase: Commissioned 0, Enlisted 4.
 - (c) Net Decrease: Commissioned 3, Enlisted 0.
 - (d) 29 February 1944, Commissioned 38, Enlisted 221.
- d. Stations
 - (1) Amendola, I.G., Italy.
 - (a) Date of arrival 28 October 1943.
- (e) Movements
 - (1) None
- (f) Campaigns
 - (1) Italy
 - (2) Duration: September 18, 1943. Still in progress.
- (g) Operations
 - (1) Campaign Italy.
 - (2) Nature of Operations: Dive Bombing, Escort, Weather Recce.
 - (3) Number of missions; 18 Number of sorties 199.
 - (4) Results of most important missions.
 - (a) Routine missions flown during month of February, nothing of significance.
- (h) Losses in action; None during month of February.
- (i) No awards or decorations made during month of February.

2. Inclosed are War Diary, Sixty-Fifth Fighter Squadron for the month of February 1944.

For the Commanding Officer;

1 Incl:
War Diary

Marvin D. Parkhurst
MARVIN D. PARKHURST,
Captain, A.A.P.,
Squadron Historical Officer.

SECRET

-2-

~~SECRET~~**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL~~(SECRET)~~

Sheet No. 41- War Diary

65th Fighter Sq., 57th Ftr. Gp.
Prepared by Marvin D. Parkhurst, Capt, AG

Month of February 1944

DAYEVENTS

1. Twelve ships took off to bomb a round house at San Valentino. Eight aeroplanes carried 16--1000 pound bombs and the other four planes acted as top cover. Bombing was very good, all but one bomb hit the target. A black column of smoke was seen rising as the planes left the target. Some of the planes also strafed the target on their way down.
2. Weather was quite bad, no flying done.
3. A twelve ship mission in the morning, six aeroplanes carrying 12--1000 pound bombs and the remaining six as top cover. The target was a station house and railroad yards at Sulmona. The hits were excellent with resulting fires. Col. Knight congratulated us on the good show. Had a similar show in the afternoon, six ships with bombs and the other six as top cover the target being a Railway station and yards at Monopello. The bombing wasn't as accurate as in the morning. Six bombs hit the yards and the others missed. Encountered heavy ack ack on this particular mission that was quite accurate.
4. Morning mission of twelve ships, four ships carrying 8-1000 pound bombs-- other planes as top cover. A cellulose factory near Chieti was the target. Bombing was good-- six bombs directly on the target and the other two were near misses. Again heavy ack ack was encountered.
- 5.
6. NOTHING DOING.
- 7.
8. Morning mission of twelve ships, eight of them carried 16-1000 pound bombs and the other four acted as top cover. Town of Atina was the target. All bombs hit in the southern part of town and bombing in general was good. Encountered intense and accurate heavy ack ack. Had the same target in the afternoon with four ships carrying 8-1000 pound bombs. Observed direct hits on road leading into town. The weather was very bad with snow storms over mountains. Light and heavy ack ack over the target area.
9. NOTHING DOING.
10. Twelve ship show, seven carrying 14-500 pound bombs. We had experienced a little difficulty in releasing the 1000 pound bombs, we started carrying 500 pounders till a different release mechanism could be installed in the aeroplanes. The particular target was Palestrina. On the way to the target the weather closed in so that we had to drop the bombs on the next best target which was Sora. Again heavy ack ack accurate was encountered with the result that planes #46 and #56 returned with holes in them.

~~SECRET~~**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

Sheet No. 2- War Diary

~~(SECRET)~~

11.

12.-----BAD WEATHER.

13.

14. Eight ship show, all carrying 500 pound bombs. Hit the R.R. yards at Calleferro with direct hits, a good show. Encountered heavy ack ack but not accurate. A similar show later in the morning with eight ships carrying 500 pound bombs. Same target at Calleferro with direct hits on the viaduct on the west end of R.R. yards. Twelve ships later took off, eight carrying 16-1000 pound bombs and other four as top cover. An ammunition dump north of Valmontone was the target. Although the hits were direct no explosions were observed. Ran into heavy ack ack over Alvito on way back.

15. BAD WEATHER.

16. Received orders to bomb an MT dump near Lake Albno. Twelve ships took off, eight carrying 16-1000 pound bombs, the other four acted as top cover. Due to bad weather it was impossible to locate the target and the bombs were dropped on the town of Ferentino. Up to now no enemy aircraft have been observed.

17.-----BAD WEATHER

18.

19. Capt Hunziker while on a recon mission for weather spotted a JU 88 in a cloud pocket. He attempted to close in but the JU 88 fired a few bursts and disappeared into the clouds.

20.-----BAD WEATHER

21.

22. A twelve ship formation, eight with 16-1000 pound bombs bombed a road junction near Roccasecca. Four bomb hits were close to road whereas the others were scattered between the road and graveyard north of town. Due to clouds over target it was difficult to hit it accurately.

23. Weather closed in.

24. The target was a road junction at Aece, twelve aeroplanes, seven with 14-1000 pounders and the rest as top cover. Bombing was very good- direct hits on road junction and also started fires just north of junction.

25. BAD WEATHER.

26. Twelve ship show, eight with 16-1000 pound bombs and four as cover. The target was 40 plus landing barges in Melaluka, Korkula Island. The leader dropped six bombs on barges, two on buildings. Encountered light machine-gun fire from target area. Two of our ships returned early due to engine trouble.

27. BAD WEATHER.

28. Target R.R. station at Chieti, twelve ships, six with 12-500 pounders. Bombing was very good with direct hits on R.R. tracks and station house. Encountered heavy accurate ack ack from target area.-----

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Sheet No. 3 War Diary

~~SECRET~~

28. cont'd

An afternoon show of twelve ships with belly tanks dive bombing and strafing a ship and trains in Yugoslavia. 66th carried bombs and our squadron acted as top cover. Results of bombing and strafing were unobserved due to a low cloud layer over target.

29. Twelve ships took off with seven carrying 14-500 pound bombs to bomb R.R. station and yards at Guillianoua. Four of the bombs hit the target area and the rest hit the town itself. Encountered light ack ack that was moderate and inaccurate.

~~SECRET~~