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DECLASSIFIED  
DOD DIR 5200.9

SA-FI-65541  
MAR 1944  
F

65th Fighter Squadron

P.R.C.

+

March 1944

DECLASSIFIED  
DOD DIR 5200.9

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(Secret)

65th Ftr Sqdn.  
Outline History March 44

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By Auth CO  
65th Ftr Sqdn  
5, May 1944.

DECLASSIFIED  
DOD DIR 5200.9

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

5, May 1944

AG 314.7

SUBJECT : Historical Records.

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

1. Outline history of the Six ty Fifth Fighter Squadron for the period 1, March 1944 to 31 March 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-792043.

- c. Strength, Commissioned and enlisted:
  - (a) 1, March: Commissioned--38 Enlisted--221
  - (b) Net increase, Commissioned--8 Enlisted--0
  - (c) Net decrease, Commissioned--0 Enlisted--1
  - (d) 31, March 1944, Commissioned--46 Enlisted--220

- d. Stations:
  - (1) Amendola L.G. Italy
    - (a) Date of arrival, 28 October 1943.
    - (b) Date of departure, 1, March 1944.
  - Cercola L.G., Italy.
    - (a) Date of arrival, 1, March 1944.
    - (b) Date of departure, 23, March 1944.
  - Alto L.G., Corsica
    - (a) Date of arrival, 28 March, 1944.

- e. Movements
  - (1) Amendola L.G. Italy to Cercola L.G. Italy.
  - (2) Cercola L.G. Italy to Alto L.G. Corsica.

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f. Campaigns:

- (1) Italy
- (2) Duration: September 18, 1943, still in progress.

g. Operations:

- (1) Campaign—Italy.
- (2) Nature of operations—Dive-Bombing, Delousing, Escort, Weather Recce.
- (3) Number of missions—12. Number of sorties—146.
- (4) Results of most important missions:
  - (a) Routine missions flown during month of March, nothing of significance.

h. Losses in action: None during month of March.

i. No awards or decorations made during month of March.

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

For the Commanding Officer:

- 1 Inc 1:  
War Diary

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

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Sheet No. -1- War Diary

65th Fighter Squadron., 57th Ftr Gp.  
Prepared by Marvin D. Parkhurst, Capt A.A.A.

Month of March 1944

DAY

EVENTS

- 1-7 Moved f om Amendola L.G. Italy to Cercola L.G. Italy plus bad weather kept the aeroplanes off operations.
- 8- 12 ships flew a delousing mission for 48 B25s. Hits were observed on R.R. station and tracks by the B25s. Small arms fire was encountered while patrolling the area.
- 9- 11 of our ships escorted 24 B25s to Porto S. Stefano. The bombers split up over the target area so we escorted the last group of twelve. 8-10 boggies were reported over the mouth of the Rome river. Ran into some heavy ack ack light intensity.
- 10- 12 ships with long range belly tanks escorted 24 B25s to R.R. yards at Rome. Encountered heavy ack ack intense and accurate over target area. Unable to observe results of bombing.
- 11- 11 ships escorted 48 B25s over Orvieto. Observed second group of bombers hit buildings by R.R. tracks resulting in a column of smoke shooting upwards to 10,000'.
- 12- Bad weather-off opps.
- 13- 12 of our ships escorted 24 B25s to Perugia marshalling yards. Bombers hit target with good results.
- 14- 12 ships with 24-500lb bombs took off on a recon and dive-bombing mission to Farra Sabina. One flight of four dropped bombs on R.R. bridge with no results. Second group of 8 bombed marshalling yards at Montalto, good hits on target. Deloused area after bombing for A36s.
- 15-18-Grounded due to bad weather.
- 19- 12 ships, 8 carrying 16x500lb bombs and 4 as cover to bomb MT on road north of Rome. Alternate target being a R.R. bridge. Due to bad weather pilots bombed bridge. Saw 4-500s on south approach of bridge, 2 bombs on road south of bridge, other bombs were near misses. Encountered heavy ack ack light intensity over Attona.
- 20- 12 ships ordered to dive bomb ammo dump at Fontana Lire, carried 16-500lb bombs. No direct hits although hits were close.
- 21-23-Grounded by bad weather.

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Sheet No. -2- War Diary

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24- 12 ships carried 24-500 lb bombs. 4 ships bombed R.R. bridge at E9023. Second section of eight bombed R.R. marshalling yards at Montaldo with 2 direct hits on tracks.

25- Bad weather no flying.

26- 15 ships, 11 with bombs were ordered to bomb a three span bridge south of Tarquinia. Got 2 close hits on north end of R.R. approach to bridge.

27- 13 ships, 11 with bombs hit R.R. bridge with four direct hits destroying the bridge. Also bombed 15 plus R.R. cars with one direct hit and 1 near miss, considered a very good show.

28-29- Nothing doing.

30- 8 ships carried 16-500lb bombs, 4 ships acted as top cover. Target was R.R. junction and marshalling yards at Obbetello. Bombing was fair with two direct hits on junction and the rest were near misses.

31- Nothing doing.

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