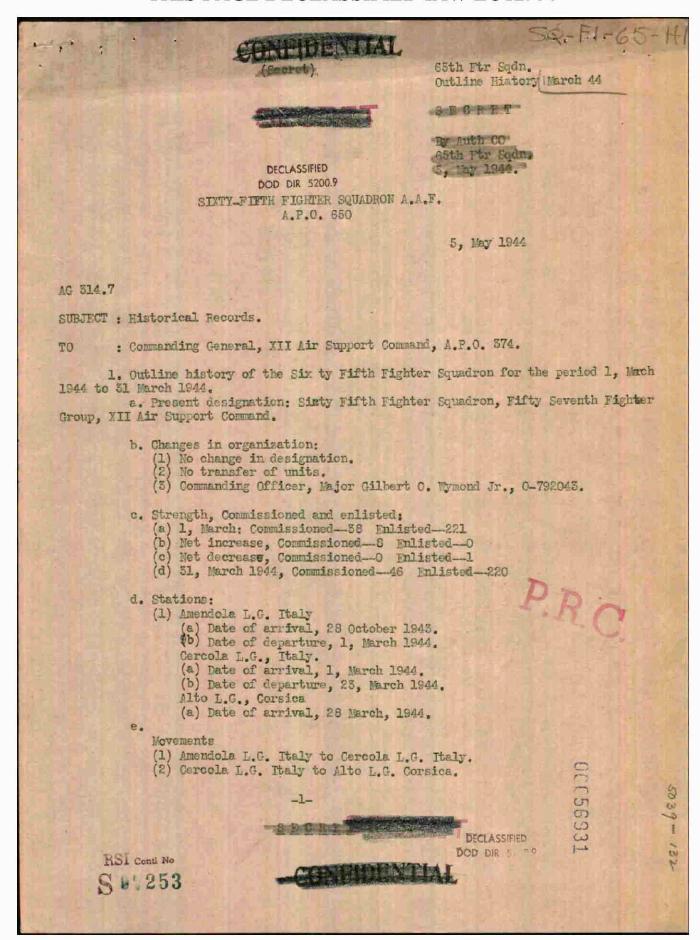
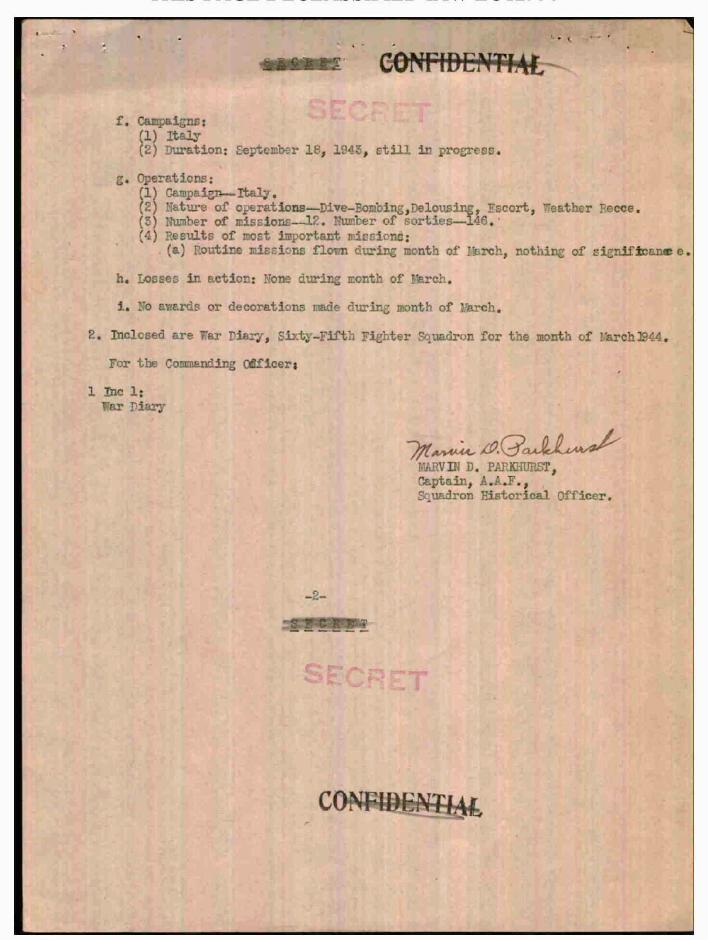


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Sheet No. -1- War Diary

65th Fighter Squadron., 57th Ft gp. Prepared by Marvin D. Parkhurst, Capt AM.A.

Month of March 1944

DAY EVENTS

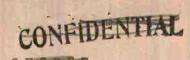
- 1.7 Moved f om Amendola L.G. Italy to Cercola L.G. Italy plus bad weather kept the aeroplanes off operations.
- 8- 12 ships flew a delousing mission for 48 B25s. Hits were observed on R.R. sta tion and tracks by the B25s. Small arms fire was encountered while patrolling the a rea.
- 9- 11 of our ships escorted 24 B25s to Porto S. Stefano. The bombers split up ov er the target area so were 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 ta rget with good results.
- 14 12 ships with 24-500lb bombs took off on a recce and dive-bombing mission to Farra Sabina. One flight of four dropped bombs on R.B. bridge with no results. Second group of 8 bombed marshalling yards at Montalto, good hits on target. Deloused area a ter 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. Sa w 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 16-5001b bombs. No direct hits although hits were close.

21-23-Grounded by bad weather.





Sheet No. -2- War Diary

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, il with bombs were ordered to bomb a three span bridge south of Taquinia. 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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