

50-FI-19-A1  
1 MAY 1944  
HISTORICAL BRANCH  
SEVENTH AIR FORCE

~~RESTRICTED~~

DECLASSIFIED  
DOD DIR 5200.9

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Organizational History, 19th Fighter Squadron, 318th Fighter Group,  
VII Fighter Command, Seventh Air Force.

May 1, 1944 - May 31, 1944

1. Organization:

Negative.

2. Strength:

51 Officers  
253 Enlisted Men

3. Date of arrival and departure from each station occupied in this theater:

Negative.

4. Losses:

2d Lt. LESLIE R. ARNOLD - Killed in the Line of Duty.

5. Awards and Decorations:

Award of Good Conduct Medal to entire Squadron. Award of bronze star for three years additional service to seven Enlisted Men. (Incl. # 1)

Award of bronze star for battle participation, 7 December 1944, to Commanding Officer and thirty-seven Enlisted Men. (Incl. # 2)

P.R.C.

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ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY, 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF, APO #951. (CONT'D)

S E C R E T

Narrative History of the 19th Fighter Squadron for the month of May, 1944;

What proved to be a month of feverish activity and hectic planning was ushered in by seven days of the most concentrated training flying that this Squadron had ever experienced. With the idea that the first week of the month should be set aside for the purpose of ironing out any kinks which still might remain in the team system which the Squadron had worked so long and hard to develop, training was scheduled from sunrise to sunset and resulted in logged flying time of 544:45 - a Squadron record. The end of the week found the entire Squadron personnel tired but obviously pleased to have successfully carried out the Commanding Officer's plan. From the end of this week until embarkation (History-April 1944) flying consisted of individual flights for the purpose of keeping both pilots and planes in tip-top shape. The curtailment of scheduled training flights during this period was primarily to keep engine time on the P-47D aircraft at a minimum; to keep the pilot personnel from becoming over-trained during the particularly nerve wracking period preceding embarkation; and finally to allow the entire Squadron personnel as much time as possible for the seemingly endless tasks which are a necessary result of a movement of such magnitude.

Cleaning house was the by-word of each section as well as of the Squadron as a whole. A tactical organization whose primary mission since its activation, 1 October 1921, had been the training of fighter pilots in the tactics of the U.S.A.A.F. was looking forward to a new mission in a combat theater. Numerous changes were in order before the Squadron would be in the desired condition for this new assignment. These changes involved a shifting of Squadron strength including every section and in the final analysis twenty-three Enlisted Men and one Pilot Officer were transferred in grade from the Squadron into other organizations in the Hawaiian Department. Conversely, two Flying Officers and four Enlisted Men were transferred into the Squadron, the latter for the purpose of strengthening the Ordnance section which could look forward to increased duties on arrival at our new station.

Morale, already at a new high as a result of the increased activity and team-work made necessary by the coming move, was boosted by the authorization of several promotions for both Officers and Enlisted Men. Two Ground Officers and seven Flying Officers were raised one step in rank, while twenty-eight Enlisted Men received promotions of one grade during the month of May. The effect of well-deserved promotions is often of incalculable morale value; coming at this particular time these promotions served to strengthen the Squadron "esprit de corps" since the men involved were all considered well-deserving of the recognition their work had received.

In line with the promotions mentioned above, further recognition was accorded the Squadron when, in a mass formation on 23 May 1944, the entire Enlisted Men personnel was presented the Good Conduct Medal for having completed one year of continuous active military service in the Army of the United States. At the same time, seven of the Enlisted Men present were awarded a bronze star for having served an additional period of three years subsequent to the original award. (Incl. # 1) On the 26th of the month the Commanding Officer, Major HARRY E. McAFEE, and thirty-seven Enlisted Men were authorized, by S.O. #51, Headquarters 318th Fighter Group, APO #951, to wear one bronze service star on the Asiatic Pacific Campaign ribbon for battle participation in the Hawaiian Islands on 7 December 1941. (Incl. #2.)

One accident served to hamper the impetus which characterized Squadron activities during this period. On 2 May 1944, 2d Lt. LESLIE R. ARNOLD was killed as a result of crashing in an RA-24B while on an



ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY, 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF, APO #951, (CONT'D)S E C R E T

Narrative History of the 19th Fighter Squadron for the month of May, 1944. (cont'd).

administrative flight to Hickam Field. He reached an altitude of 200 feet following take-off from Bellows Field, and for reasons unknown the aircraft took a turn to the left and crashed into the ground, killing both the pilot, Lt. ARNOLD, and his passenger, Capt. ROCHESTER C. THOMPSON, of the 318th Fighter Group. Popular as an individual and respected as an extremely capable pilot, Lt. ARNOLD'S loss was deeply felt by the entire organization. The unusual nature of this accident resulted in the Squadron's taking increased security measures to protect the tactical aircraft from any possible sabotage. The problem of sabotage was considered sufficiently acute to warrant an order to fire without challenge on any person or persons loitering in the vicinity of our aircraft during the hours of sundown to sunrise. To further protect the planes, and the pilots who flew them, a system of flood-lights was erected at the instigation of the Commanding Officer. This served to illuminate the Squadron aircraft during the hours of darkness. With the Squadron guard detail stationed at fixed posts affording a complete visual coverage of all Squadron aircraft, the security problem seemed to be successfully solved.

Though the working day during May was long and hard, the nights were welcomed by most of the men as a time for relaxing and enjoying the recreational facilities offered at Bellows Field. The NCO and Officers' Clubs claimed their share of eligible members while the movies were a haven for all. The dominating philosophy of each individual seemed to be - "enjoy these pleasures while you may" - and many men who ordinarily would not be interested in either the movies or the clubs began to patronize both. It is noteworthy that the Squadron conducted itself in good taste throughout this difficult period.

Coming events began to crystallize, when toward the middle of the month the 318th Fighter Group held a formal inspection of tactical aircraft of the 73rd and the 19th Fighter Squadrons. The inspection was both colorful and successful and in the measured opinion of all present, these two Squadrons were considered well prepared for their coming mission.

27 May 1944 was the day on which the results of all the labor and planning of the previous month and a half began to materialize. This organization was reconstituted in the Hawaiian Department on 7 February 1923, with its primary mission the defense of the Hawaiian Islands and the training of fighter pilots. For the first time since that memorable date the Squadron was destined to move out of the Hawaiian Department. On 27 May 1944 a group of seven Ground Officers, including the Flight Surgeon, plus one hundred and twenty-eight Enlisted Men and all necessary equipment were attached to the Army Transport Service for rations and quarters. This advance cadre was composed of the technical ratings in the Squadron and the plan was to have this group arrive at destination a few days before the pilots and planes so that tactical operations could be put into effect immediately upon arrival of the latter. The remaining half of the Squadron was to embark early in June, after completing the packing and boxing of all equipment which had not been necessary to the first shipment.

Thus ended a period of plans and counter-plans. A particularly hectic period for everyone from the Commanding Officer down throughout the organization. Hard work and hard play had made the days something to look back upon with wonder and pleasure. Wonder that the long-awaited mission had finally materialized; and pleasure over the fact that what had seemed at times an almost insurmountable task had finally been accomplished.

*Joseph G. Townsend*  
JOSEPH G. TOWNSEND  
1st Lt., A.C.  
Historical Officer



19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF  
A.P.O. # 951

23 MAY 1944

AWARD OF THE GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

1. BY AUTHORITY OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 8809 (BULL. 17, W.D., 1941) AS AMENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 9323 (BULL. 6, W.D., 1943) AND UNDER THE PROVISIONS SET FORTH BY ARMY REGULATION 600-68, THE GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL WILL BE AWARDED FOR EXEMPLARY BEHAVIOR, EFFICIENCY AND FIDELITY, TO EACH ENLISTED MAN IN THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES WHO --

- O
- A. ON OR AFTER 27 AUGUST 1940, HAD OR SHALL HAVE COMPLETED ONE (1) YEAR OF CONTINUOUS ACTIVE FEDERAL MILITARY SERVICE WHILE THE UNITED STATES IS AT WAR.
  - B. UPON COMPLETION OF ANY SUBSEQUENT ADDITIONAL THREE (3) YEAR PERIOD OF ACTIVE FEDERAL SERVICE THERE WILL BE AWARDED AN APPROPRIATE CLASP IN LIEU THEREOF.

2. AS COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE NINETEENTH FIGHTER SQUADRON, I HEREBY MAKE PRESENTATION OF THE AWARD OF THE GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL, TO ALL MEMBERS PRESENT AT THIS FORMATION.

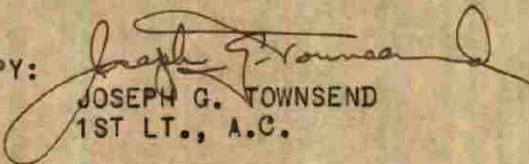
3. IN ACCORDANCE WITH PAR. 3A (2), AR 600-68, THE FOLLOWING ENLISTED MEN HAVE QUALIFIED BY SERVING AN ADDITIONAL PERIOD OF THREE YEARS SUBSEQUENT TO THE ORIGINAL AWARD, TO BE AWARDED A BRONZE STAR IN LIEU OF THE CLASP WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE FOR ISSUE:

M/SGT PAUL E. ELLIOT  
M/SGT DUNCAN HUNTER  
M/SGT EARL W. RICHMOND  
M/SGT NICHOLAS SIGNORETTA

T/SGT HARRY E. ROSS  
T/SGT KENNETH VINCENT  
T/SGT LOWELL R. WILSON

HARRY E. MCAFEE  
MAJOR, A.C.,  
COMMANDING

A TRUE COPY:

  
JOSEPH G. TOWNSEND  
1ST LT., A.C.



HEADQUARTERS  
318th FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
A.P.O. # 951

SPECIAL ORDERS )

26 May 1944

NUMBER 51 )

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2. Following Os AC CWOs AUS & EM orgns indicated entitled to credit for battle participation in the Hawaiian Islands on Dec 7, 1941 and are auth to wear one bronze service star on the Asiatic Pacific Campaign ribbon for this engagement:

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19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON AAF

MAJ HARRY E McAFEE 0412278	S Sgt Alvin L Aniskowski 16012885 (686)
M Sgt Paul E Elliott 6947483 (750)	S Sgt Sam W. Cox Jr 13017777 (750)
M Sgt Duncan Hunter 6979365 (750)	S Sgt Filkeman R Geringer 15063750 (060)
M Sgt Harold A Kriefall 16021341 (911)	S Sgt Raymond Hendry 14000455 (750)
M Sgt Earl W Richmond 6790085 (824)	S Sgt Edsel D Howell 14009522 (750)
M Sgt Nicholas Signoretta 6975539 (750)	S Sgt Czeslaw Kalinowska 6141402 (747)
T Sgt Kenneth V Gibson 16021529 (911)	S Sgt John McConnell 12009906 (511)
T Sgt Harold W Hemphill 7028731 (750)	S Sgt Wilton W Miller 16040973 (750)
T Sgt Clarence C Keenan 7028733 (750)	S Sgt Stuart W Sweeney 16007920 (945)
T Sgt Ledrew L Mcalpin 6922445 (911)	S Sgt Alfred P Turner 11024484 (750)
T Sgt William H O'Brien Jr 11007591 (750)	S Sgt Harold E Wahlberg 16003236 (750)
T Sgt Harry E ross 6571728 (826)	S Sgt Harry A Wendt 16008030 (060)
T Sgt Wilton Shows 14033678 (511)	S Sgt James H Young 16012656 (750)
T Sgt Raymond E Sweeney 16003529 (945)	Sgt Alonzo Belsar 13012630 (014)
T Sgt Kenneth Vincent 6977656 (750)	Sgt Joseph T Kowalski 12025684 (901)
T Sgt Carroll Walker 16041000 (542)	Sgt Cyrus Levine 11007582 (405)
T Sgt John E Wandzel 16012743 (645)	Cpl Charles Kefover 7028869 (345)
T Sgt Charles C Webber 16012581 (911)	Pvt John W Pilcher 6958583 (901)
T Sgt Lowell R Wilson 6993928 (835)	Pvt Luther E Reeves 6273148 (521)

\*\*\*\*\*

By order of Lieutenant Colonel SANDERS:

H. B. WOODY,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

H. B. WOODY,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Adjutant.

DISTRIBUTION: "J"

A TRUE EXTRACT COPY:

  
JOSEPH G. TOWNSEND  
1st Lt., A. C.



HISTORICAL SECTION  
SEVENTH AIR FORCES E C R E TORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY, 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, VII FIGHTER  
COMMAND, SEVENTH AIR FORCE.JUNE 1, 1944 - JUNE 30, 19441. ORGANIZATION:

NEGATIVE.

2. STRENGTH:50 OFFICERS  
248 ENLISTED MEN3. DATE OF ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE FROM EACH STATION OCCUPIED  
IN THIS THEATER:5 JUNE 1944 - "PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION. LEFT BELLOWS  
FIELD, OAHU, T.H., AT 0830. ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR AT 1020. BOARDED  
"SS DASHING WAVE" TO PROCEED BY WATER T. TO DESTINATION. 36 OFFICER  
PILOTS BOARDED U.S. NAVY CARRIER TO PROCEED TO NEW STATION."27 JUNE 1944 - "DEBARKED AT SAIPAN VIA LST CARRIER AT 0630."4. LOSSES:LT. RICHARD B. WITZIG - MISSING IN ACTION  
LT. WAYNE F. KOBLER - KILLED IN ACTION5. AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

NEGATIVE.

S E C R E T



ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY, 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF, APO #244. (CONT'D)

S E C R E T

NARRATIVE HISTORY OF THE 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 1944;

ON 6 JUNE 1944 THE SQUADRON OFFICIALLY SEVERED ITS LONG-STANDING CONNECTION WITH THE HAWAIIAN DEPARTMENT. DURING THE PRECEDING FIVE DAYS AND IN LINE WITH THE VARIOUS PERSONNEL CHANGES PUT INTO EFFECT DURING MAY (SQUADRON HISTORY - MAY 1944), FOUR PILOT OFFICERS AND ONE GROUND OFFICER WERE PROMOTED ONE STEP IN RANK WHILE FIVE ENLISTED MEN WERE TRANSFERRED IN GRADE TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN THE HAWAIIAN DEPARTMENT; THUS COMPLETEING THE PROCESS OF READINGYING THE SQUADRON FOR DUTY IN A COMBAT THEATER. LEAVING BELLOWS FIELD AT 0830, THE REMAINING SQUADRON PERSONNEL PROCEEDED TO PEARL HARBOR TO BOARD THE "SS DASHING WAVE" WHICH WAS TO BE ITS HOME FOR THE NEXT TWENTY-ONE DAYS. AT THE SAME TIME, THIRTY-SIX OFFICER PILOTS BOARDED A U.S. NAVY AIRCRAFT CARRIER IN ORDER TO FLY THE SQUADRON AIRCRAFT FROM IT UPON ARRIVING WITHIN RANGE OF THE NEW STATION.

LIFE ON A TROOP TRANSPORT HAD BEEN THE OBJECT OF MUCH SPECULATION AND DISCUSSION IN THE DAYS PRECEDING ACTUAL EMBARKATION. THE SQUADRON WAS PREPARED FOR ALMOST ANYTHING IN THE NATURE OF HARDSHIPS, AND THUS WAS PLEASANTLY SURPRISED TO FIND THAT THE "SS DASHING WAVE" WAS CONSIDERABLY MORE COMFORTABLE THAN HAD BEEN EXPECTED. IT SEEMS OBVIOUS THAT THE PERMANENT CREW CHARGED WITH THE MOVEMENT OF SERVICE TROOPS WERE FAMILIAR WITH THE PROBLEMS PECULIAR TO SUCH AN OPERATION. EVIDENTLY OPERATING ON THE THESIS THAT A MAN IS REASONABLY CONTENTED ON A FULL STOMACH, THE MEAL SYSTEM WAS EXCELLENTLY PLANNED AND EFFICIENTLY EXECUTED. THE FOOD WAS OF GOOD QUALITY AND WELL PREPARED AND THE TIME CONSUMED IN SERVING THE LARGE NUMBER OF TROOPS ABOARD WAS KEPT AT AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM.

SOME OF THE SQUADRON PERSONNEL COUNTERACTED THE EVER-PRESENT THREAT OF BOREDOM WITH VARIOUS AND SUNDRY CARD GAMES AND OTHER GAMES OF CHANCE, WHILE OTHERS SPENT THEIR SPARE TIME DEVOURING ALL OF THE AVAILABLE ARMED SERVICE EDITIONS OF THE CURRENT BEST-SELLERS. THE DAILY NEWS BROADCAST, GIVEN EACH MORNING BY A MEMBER OF THE SHIPS CREW, WAS EAGERLY AWAITED BY EVERY MAN ABOARD.

ON THE WHOLE, THE TRIP WAS EVENTFUL ONLY IN THE TWO SUBMARINE ALERTS EXPERIENCED EAST OF ENIWETOK, AT WHICH TIME MOST OF THE SQUADRON PERSONNEL SAW THEIR FIRST ACTION OF ANY TYPE AGAINST THE ENEMY. DEPTH CHARGES WERE DROPPED BY THE DD ESCORT WITH NO OFFICIAL RESULTS REPORTED. ON 19 JUNE 1944 THE "SS DASHING WAVE" ANCHORED AT THE ENIWETOK GROUP FOR WHAT WAS TO BE A STAY OF THREE DAYS. FOLLOWING THIS BRIEF DELAY OUR CONVOY PROCEEDED ON THE FINAL LEG OF THE TWENTY-ONE DAY TRIP. AT 1600, 26 JUNE 1944, ANCHOR WAS DROPPED OFF SAIPAN ISLAND IN THE MARIANAS GROUP AND AT 0630, 27 JUNE 1944, AN LST DEPOSITED THE SQUADRON ON THE SOUTH SHORE OF THAT ISLAND.

THE EXPERIENCES OF THE GROUP WHICH LEFT OAHU 27 MAY 1944, (SQUADRON HISTORY - MAY 1944) ON THE "SS LA SALLE" WERE STRIKINGLY SIMILAR TO THOSE MENTIONED ABOVE UP TO THEIR ARRIVAL AT DESTINATION. ANCHORING OFF SAIPAN ON THE NIGHT OF THE 14TH THIS ADVANCE GROUP WAS UNABLE TO DISEMBARK FOR FIVE DAYS BECAUSE OF THE FURY OF ENEMY AIR ACTION. ENEMY STRAFING AND BOMBING, AND THE RUMORED IMMINENCE OF



ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY, 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF, APO-#244. (CONT'D)

S E C R E T

NARRATIVE HISTORY OF THE 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 1944. (CONT'D)

ACTION WITH THE JAPANESE FLEET KEPT THE CONVOY <sup>in</sup> AND OUT OF THE ANCHORAGE FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE DAYS. ON 20 ~~MAY~~ <sup>June</sup> 1944 THE INVASION SITUATION WAS FELT TO BE SECURE ENOUGH TO WARRANT DISEMBARKING THE SQUADRON AND SETTING UP OPERATIONS AT ASLITO AIR BASE. ON 22 ~~MAY~~ <sup>June</sup> 1944, MAJOR HARRY E. MCAFEE, THE COMMANDING OFFICER, AND 24 PILOTS TOOK OFF FROM THEIR CARRIER AND WERE THE FIRST U.S.A.A.F. FIGHTER PILOTS TO LAND AT THIS FIELD. THE REMAINING ELEVEN PILOTS WERE TO PANCAKE AT ASLITO FIELD ON THE 23RD OF JUNE.

THE FLIGHTS LED BY MAJOR MCAFEE PANCAKED AT 0900 THE MORNING OF THE 22ND. THE EAGERNESS OF THE PILOTS PLUS THE FACT THAT THE GROUND PERSONNEL, WHO LANDED ON THE 20TH, HAD WASTED NO TIME IN GETTING PREPARED FOR IMMEDIATE OPERATION, RESULTED IN THE FIRST MISSION AGAINST THE ENEMY BEING SCHEDULED FOR 1730 OF THE SAME DAY. THUS THE TRANSITION FROM THE COMPARATIVELY PEACEFUL LIFE OF DAILY TRAINING IN THE HAWAIIAN DEPARTMENT, TO THE THRILLS AND UNCERTAINTIES OF COMBAT FLYING HAD BEEN COMPLETED. THEORY WAS TO BE PUT INTO PRACTICE.

DURING THE REMAINING EIGHT DAYS OF THE MONTH OF JUNE THE FORTY PILOT OFFICERS OF THE 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON FLEW A TOTAL OF 201 SORTIES INVOLVING 35 SCHEDULED MISSIONS OVER ENEMY TERRITORY. IN STRIKING THE THE VARIED TARGETS SELECTED, THE SQUADRON EXPENDED APPROXIMATELY 165,225 ROUNDS OF .50 CAL. AMMUNITION; 207 ROCKETS (4.5); AND 351/2 TONS OF 500 LB. G.P. BOMBS. METHODS OF ATTACK VARIED WITH THE TYPE OF TARGET AND A BREAKDOWN SHOWS: 18 STRAFING MISSIONS, 8 BOMBING AND STRAFING MISSIONS, 4 ROCKET MISSIONS, 2 ROCKET AND STRAFING MISSIONS, 1 BOMBING, STRAFING, AND ROCKET MISSION, AND 1 MISSION IN WHICH THREE PILOTS COVERED A PBM DOWN OFF ROTA ISLAND IN THE MARIANAS GROUP (MISSION REPORT # 2), AND ONE MISSION INVOLVING THE USE OF BOTH BOMBS AND ROCKETS.

TWO PERSONNEL LOSSES WERE SUFFERED BY THE SQUADRON DURING THESE EIGHT DAYS OF INTENSIVE FLYING. ON 27 JUNE, WHILE ON A ROCKET MISSION OF SIX PLANES AGAINST GURGUAN POINT AIRFIELD ON NEIGHBORING TINIAN ISLAND, 1ST LT. WAYNE F. KOBLEK WAS SEEN TO CRASH AS A RESULT OF ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE. THE NATURE OF THE CRASH MADE HIS SURVIVAL IMPOSSIBLE AND HE IS LISTED AS KILLED IN ACTION. 1ST LT. RICHARD B. WITZIG FAILED TO RETURN FROM THIS SAME MISSION AND, SINCE HE WAS NOT SEEN TO CRASH, IS LISTED AS MISSING IN ACTION. CONSIDERED AMONG THE MOST CAPABLE OF THE SQUADRON'S FLYING PERSONNEL THE LOSS OF THESE TWO OFFICERS WILL BE FELT BOTH TACTICALLY AND PERSONALLY BY THE ENTIRE SQUADRON.

MORALE IS AT BEST AN INTANGIBLE AND ELUSIVE FACTOR. HOWEVER, THE SUCCESS OF THIS FIRST WEEK OF MISSIONS AGAINST THE ENEMY WAS EVIDENCE OF THE PRIDE AND INTEREST EACH MAN HAD IN THE SQUADRON'S WELFARE. AN IMPORTANT FACTOR WAS THAT THE SQUADRON WAS NO LONGER A TRAINING ORGANIZATION WITH ALL THE DRAWBACKS THAT SUCH A MISSION IMPLIES. NOW EACH MAN COULD BE SURE THAT HIS JOB, NO MATTER HOW MUCH IN THE BACKGROUND, WAS IN SOME SMALL WAY ESSENTIAL TO THE EFFICIENT



ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY, 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF, APO #244. (CONT'D)

S E C R E T

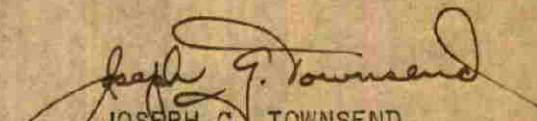
NARRATIVE HISTORY OF THE 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 1944. (CONT'D)

OPERATION OF THE SQUADRON. THE PROBLEMS OF MESS, SLEEPING, AND PERSONAL HYGIENE WERE CONSIDERED SECONDARY AND WILLINGLY ACCEPTED AS SUCH. A COMBINATION OF UNACCUSTOMED HARDSHIPS, HARD WORK, AND PERIODS OF PERSONAL FEAR SERVED TO WELD THE GROUP INTO A SMOOTH-WORKING UNIT. THE FEAR FACTOR WAS BOTH NATURAL AND HEALTHY. EXPERIENCED THE WORLD OVER BY ALL GREEN UNITS DURING THEIR FIRST FEW DAYS UNDER ENEMY FIRE, OURS WAS THE RESULT OF BOMBINGS AND UNCOMFORTABLY CLOSE SNIPER ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THESE EIGHT NIGHTS.

THE ONE MAJOR OPERATIONAL PROBLEM CONFRONTING THE SQUADRON DURING THESE FIRST FEW DAYS OF COMBAT FLYING WAS DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE ZEAL AND EAGERNESS OF THE PILOTS. DESIRE TO MAKE EVERY STRAFING PASS COUNT RESULTED IN AN UNEXPECTED NUMBER OF BURNED-OUT GUN BARRELS. HOWEVER, AS SOON AS THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION WAS APPARENT MORE CAUTION WAS USED AND THIS CONDITION WAS REDUCED TO A MINIMUM.

THE MONTH CLOSED IN A FLURRY OF EXCITEMENT FOR THE ENLISTED MEN OF THE SQUADRON. ON THE NIGHT OF JUNE 30TH, CPL. GEORGE T. COOPER AND PVT. ELMER G. STRAND, ON GUARD DETAIL AT THE ENLISTED MENS' BARRACKS, SUFFERED GUN-SHOT WOUNDS AS A RESULT OF AN EXCHANGE OF RIFLE FIRE WITH ENEMY SNIPERS. PVT. STRAND WAS HOSPITALIZED FOR TREATMENT OF A DEEP ARM WOUND WHILE CPL. COOPER WAS TREATED AND REPORTED FOR DUTY THE NEXT MORNING. THERE WAS NO FURTHER ACTIVITY THAT NIGHT, THUS BRINGING THE MONTH TO A CLOSE.

INCL. - MISSION REPORTS # 1 - 35

  
 JOSEPH G. TOWNSEND,  
 1ST LT., A.C.  
 HISTORICAL OFFICER



19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, AA  
A.P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_

22 JUNE 1944  
1900 (LOCAL)

MISSION NUMBER ONE.

1. A. EIGHT (8) P-47D-20'S  
B. ENEMY GROUND FORCES
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. AIR SUPPORT OF 4TH MARINE DIVISION ADVANCE ON MT. TAPOTCHAU
4. MAJ. MCAFEE, LTS. KENDALL, JACOBSON, FLAGERMAN, CAPT. TENNANT,  
LTS. COX, KENDLE, BACH.

TWO FLIGHTS OF FOUR SHIPS EACH, BLUEGRASS ONE AND TWO, AIRBORNE AT 1600 (LOCAL) TO PROVIDE AIR SUPPORT FOR THE 4TH MARINE DIVISION ADVANCE ON MT. TAPOTCHAU. BLUEGRASS LEADER REPORTED IN TO CHEROKEE AND WAS INSTRUCTED TO ORBIT AT XRAY. AFTER ORBITING FOR APPROXIMATELY THIRTY MINUTES FLIGHTS PROCEEDED TO MT. TAPOTCHAU AREA. FIVE MILITARY TRUCKS WERE SIGHTED IN AREA DESIGNATED 214A. FLIGHT COMMANDER REQUESTED PERMISSION TO STRIKE THESE TARGETS. PERMISSION REFUSED. NO AIR SUPPORT WAS REQUESTED BY GROUND TROOPS ON SAIPAN AND FLIGHTS WERE ORDERED TO PROCEED TO TINIAN TO DRAW OUT FIRE FROM AA GUNS ON THAT ISLAND AND TO ATTACK POSITIONS SO EXPOSING THEMSELVES. BOTH FLIGHTS PROCEEDED TO TINIAN AND MADE THEIR INITIAL PASS ON GURGUAN FIELD COMING IN ON VECTOR 90 DEGREES TO STRAFE BUILDINGS, INSTALLATIONS, VEHICLES, AND TWO WRECKED PLANES OBSERVED ON THE SOUTHEAST END OF THE AIRSTRIP. MODERATE AA FIRE WAS OBSERVED TO EMANATE FROM THE NORTH SIDE OF THE AIRSTRIP. FLIGHTS PROCEEDED IN AN EASTERLY DIRECTION ACROSS THE ISLAND TO ATTACK RADIO TOWER AND INSTALLATIONS SET OUT AT 559D. THENCE THE TWO FLIGHTS CIRCLED THE SOUTH END OF TINIAN TO COME IN ON VECTOR 30 DEGREES FOR AN ATTACK ON THE TOWN OF TINIAN. TEN TO TWELVE SMALL BOATS AND BARGES WERE OBSERVED IN THE HARBOR. ROCKETS WERE FIRED AT THE SMALL CRAFT AND AT BUILDINGS AND INSTALLATIONS IN THE TOWN PROPER. IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO OBSERVE THE EFFECT OF THE FIRE ON THIS PASS. MODERATE FIRE FROM POSITIONS RANGING FROM AUTOMATIC WEAPONS TO THREE AND FIVE INCH GUNS WAS OBSERVED TO COME FROM AREA 526L, M, S, AND Z. FLIGHTS CIRCLED AND CAME IN FOR PASSES ON THESE POSITIONS SUBJECTING THEM TO SUSTAINED BURSTS OF .50 CAL. FIRE. FLIGHTS SEPARATED



AFTER THIS PASS, BLUEGRASS ONE CIRCLING TO AGAIN COME IN ON THESE POSITIONS ON VECTOR 30 DEGREES SUBJECTING POSITIONS IN 526L AND M TO FIRE. BLUEGRASS TWO ATTACKED POSITIONS SHOWN IN 526 S AND Z, COMING IN FROM 45 DEGREES. WHILE IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO ACTUALLY OBSERVE THE RESULTS OF THIS FIRE IT WAS NOTED THAT FIRE FROM GROUND POSITIONS WAS CONSIDERABLY LIGHTER ON THE THIRD PASS THAN ON THE TWO PASSES PREVIOUSLY MADE ON THIS TOWN. FLIGHTS REJOINED AND CROSSED THE ISLAND FROM SOUTH TO NORTH STRAFING TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY INCLUDING THE RADIO TOWER AND INSTALLATIONS AT 559D AND INSTALLATIONS ON AND ABOUT THE USHI POINT FIELD. NO SIGNS OF ACTIVITY WERE OBSERVED ON THE LAST MENTIONED FIELD. LT. FLAGERMAN PANCAKED AT 1710 DUE TO OPERATIONAL DIFFICULTIES. FRONT END OF ROCK-ET TUBE CAME LOOSE FORCING HIM TO JETTISON ALL SIX ROCKETS AND TWO LAUNCHERS. HE DID NOT TAKE PART IN THE ATTACKS ON TINIAN ISLAND. BOTH FLIGHTS PANCAKED 1735 (LOCAL).

5. A. SCATTERED CLOUDS. VISIBILITY UNLIMITED.  
B. EXCELLENT. "B" CHANNEL ESPECIALLY LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. UNOBSERVED. IT IS BELIEVED THAT AT LEAST TWO OF THE GROUND POSITIONS IN AREA 526L AND M WERE DESTROYED, AND AT LEAST ONE POSITION IN 526S AND Z.
7. 14,000 ROUNDS .50 CAL., 41 - 4.5 ROCKETS EXPENDED.
8. 500 POUND BOMBS AND ADDITIONAL ROCKETS ARE BADLY NEEDED FOR THIS TYPE OF OPERATION. CHEROKEE APPEARED CONFUSED AS TO WHETHER OR NOT BLUEGRASS ONE AND TWO MADE UP AN AIR PATROL OR A SPECIAL AIR SUPPORT MISSION. THIS CONFUSION SHOULD NOT EXIST WHEN A STRICTLY AIR SUPPORT MISSION IS DISPATCHED. FLIGHTS CONSIDER THAT VALUABLE SUPPORT OF OUR GROUND TROOPS COULD HAVE BEEN GIVEN IF PROPERLY USED.

MCAFEE - SANDERS

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318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
A.P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_24 JUNE 1944  
1630 (LOCAL)19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON #2  
GROUP MISSION #6

1. A. THREE (3) P-47D20'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. PROVIDE AIR COVER FOR PBM DOWN AT SEA IN VICINITY OF ROTA
4. CAPT. VOGT, LT. BYRAM, AND LT. LOFLIN.

ONE FLIGHT OF THREE PLANES, BLUEGRASS 5, TOOK OFF AT 1320 TO COVER RESCUE OF DISABLED PBM. AFTER PLANES WERE AIRBORNE THEY WERE IN RADIO CONTACT WITH CHEROKEE. FLIGHT FLEW DOWN EAST SIDE OF MARIANAS TO A POINT TEN MILES NORTH OF ROTA AND SEARCHED AN AREA OF ABOUT 50 SQUARE MILES NORTH OF THE ISLAND. ON THE WAY DOWN FLIGHT SIGHTED DD ABOUT 25 MILES NORTH OF ROTA HEADING SOUTH. AFTER COMPLETING SEARCH OF AREA NORTH OF ROTA FLIGHT FLEW DOWN THE WEST COAST OF ROTA ABOUT 5 MILES OFF SHORE. LOCATED PBM ABOUT 10 MILES OFF HARNOM POINT ON A BEARING OF 285 DEGREES. THE PBM WAS AFLOAT AND HAD TAKEN ABOARD THE TWO MEN REPORTED TO BE IN WATER ON PREVIOUS MISSION. A YELLOW LIFE RAFT WAS TIED UP TO PBM.

FLIGHT CIRCLED OVER THE PBM AND AT 1500 A DD AND A TBF CAME INTO THE AREA. THE FLIGHT REMAINED UNTIL 1520 AND THEN RETURNED TO BASE.

DD PUT BOAT INTO THE WATER AND THIS BOAT'S CREW BOARDED THE PBM.

FLIGHT LEADER REPORTED TO CHEROKEE THAT DD HAD ARRIVED AT THE PBM.

FLIGHT PANGAKED AT 1550 AT ASLITO AIRFIELD.

5. A. VISIBILITY 5-8 MILES. HAZY. OVERCAST AT 1500 TO 4,000  
B. HALFWAY TO ROTA RADIO O.K.; AFTER THAT FLIGHTS COULD NOT CONTACT CHEROKEE OR LONDON CONTROL.
6. NONE
7. NONE 675 GALLONS GAS.
8. UPON ARRIVING AT ROTA THERE WAS AN UNIDENTIFIED PLANE ABOUT



19  
19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #2 GROUP MISSION #6 CONTINUED

8. CONT'D

FIVE MILES WEST OF PBM IN WATER. THIS SHIP KEPT CIRCLING AND AFTER ABOUT 15 MINUTES IT DISAPPEARED. THIS PLANE SIGHTED AT ABOUT 1500.

FLIGHT ALSO LOOKED OVER ROTA AIRFIELD. SAW TWO TRUCKS ON RUNWAY. IT APPEARED AS THOUGH THEY WERE WORKING ON THE RUNWAY AT THE NORTHEAST END. SAW 1 (1) PLANE ON SOUTHWEST END OF RUNWAY IN REVETMENT. IT APPEARED TO BE A DUMMY.

ON THE WAY BACK FLIGHT CONTACTED BLUEGRASS 9, ABOUT 9 MILES OFF ROTA PROCEEDING TO RESCUE AREA.

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A.P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_24 JUNE 1944  
1715 (LOCAL)19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #3  
GROUP MISSION #7

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D-20'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. PROVIDE AIR COVER DURING RESCUE OF PBM PERSONNEL BY DD OFF HARNOM POINT, ROTA ISLAND.
4. CAPT. TENNANT, LT. COX, LT. KENDLE, AND LT. BACH.

FOUR PLANES OF FLIGHT, BLUEGRASS # 9 TOOK OFF AT 1450 (LOCAL) AND PROCEEDED TO ROTA ISLAND, ARRIVED IN RESCUE AREA AT 1520 (LOCAL), TEN (10) MILES WEST OF HARNOM POINT. FLIGHT OBSERVED THAT A SMALL BOAT WAS ATTEMPTING TO TOW PBM. FINALLY GAVE THAT UP. BLUEGRASS LEADER WAS ORDERED TO STRAFE PBM AND SINK IT. THIS WAS DONE. FLIGHT ACCOMPANIED DD FOR A SHORT PERIOD, THEN CALLED CHEROKEE FOR PERMISSION TO LEAVE AREA. WHILE CIRCLING DD FLIGHT INVESTIGATED THREE UNIDENTIFIED PLANES IN AREA; FINALLY IDENTIFIED AS F6F'S. AFTER FLIGHT LEADER WAS SATISFIED THAT DD WAS WELL ON ITS WAY FLIGHT RETURNED TO BASE AND PANCAKED AT 1650.

5. OVERCAST 1500 FEET - 4000 FEET. 6/10 TO 7/10.  
LOUD AND CLEAR
6. SANK ONE (1) PBM AS ORDERED.
7. 80 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 1140 GALLONS OF GAS.
8. NONE

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318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
A.P.O. #244

25 JUNE 1944  
0700 (LOCAL)

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #4  
GROUP MISSION #10

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. STRAFE MARPI POINT AIRFIELD, SAIPAN ISLAND.
4. CAPT. VOGT, LT. BYRAM, LT. LOFLIN, LT. DUNNING  
(BLUEGRASS 5)

FOUR PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 5 TOOK OFF FROM BASE AT 0530 (LOCAL), AND PROCEEDED TO MARPI POINT. THE FIRST STRAFING PASS WAS MADE FROM 5500 FEET FROM 110 DEGREES. FLIGHT STRAFED TRUCK IN AREA 288K, AND BUILDING IN AREA 292U. BLUEGRASS LEADER OBSERVED WHAT APPEARED TO BE AMMUNITION STACKED IN AREA 287D AND E ON SECOND STRAFING PASS WHICH WAS MADE FROM 249 DEGREES. THERE WERE NO PLANES ON FIELD AND NO SIGN OF ANY ACTIVITY.

5. A. 7/10 COVERAGE AT 2,000 FEET OVER MARPI POINT.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. UNDETERMINED
7. 4600 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 600 GALLONS GAS.
8. NONE

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A.P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_

25 JUNE 1944  
0710 (LOCAL)19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5  
GROUP MISSION #11

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. STRAFE TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY AT USHI AIRFIELD, TINIAN.
4. LT. JACOBSON (BLUEGRASS 8) LT. MATHIS, LT. KENDALL, LT. FLAGERMAN.

FOUR PLANES FROM BLUEGRASS 8 TOOK OFF AT 0530 (LOCAL), AND PROCEEDED TO USHI AIRFIELD AT TINIAN. FIRST STRAFING PASS MADE FROM EAST TO WEST OVER FIELD. FLIGHT STRAFED BUILDING AND INSTALLATIONS IN AREA 6350 AND L, AND TOWER IN AREA 6471. SECOND STRAFING PASS MADE FROM 220 DEGREES, AND STRAFED GUN INSTALLATIONS IN AREA 643F. FLIGHT OBSERVED CAMOUFLAGED POSITIONS IN AREA 6460, M, I, AND E BUT WERE UNABLE TO TELL JUST WHAT THEY WERE. FLIGHT THEN MADE ANOTHER PASS OVER RUNWAYS STRAFING INSTALLATIONS IN AREA 643, 642, 641, AND 635R, S, T. FLIGHT DID NOT RECEIVE ANY AA FIRE. RUNWAYS UNSERVICEABLE AND NO ACTIVITY OBSERVED.

FLIGHT LEADER OBSERVED A TENT AND BOXED SUPPLIES IN AREA 642V. FLIGHT DID NOT START ANY FIRES. BLUEGRASS 8 LANDED AT 0650 (LOCAL).

5. A. 4/10 COVERAGE AT 2200 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. UNDETERMINED
7. 7960 .50 CAL. - 600 GALLONS GAS.

8. NONE

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318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
A.P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_25 JUNE 1944  
0745 (LOCAL)19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON #6  
GROUP MISSION #12

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. STRAFE TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY AT GURGUAN POINT AIRFIELD, TINIAN
4. CAPT. GUINNEE (BLUEGRASS 2), LTS. GRAY, LIEBGOTT, AND DANYLO.

FOUR PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 2 TOOK OFF AT 0520 (LOCAL) AND PROCEEDED TO GURGUAN POINT AIRFIELD. WHEN FLIGHT WAS AT 9,000 FEET EAST OF TINIAN THEY STARTED STRAFING RUN AND WENT ACROSS THE FIELD FROM THE SOUTHEAST TO NORTHWEST AND STARTED FIRING FROM ABOUT 5000 FEET. THE FLIGHT WAS LINE ABREAST AND STRAFED INSTALLATIONS IN AREA 553, 554, 566, 565, 564. FLIGHT RECEIVED M/G AND 20MM FIRE FROM AREA 554, AND 564S. BLUEGRASS LEADER STRAFED M/G POSITIONS IN AREA 564S AND BELIEVED IT WAS KNOCKED OUT. THE SECOND RUN WAS MADE FROM THE SOUTHWEST FROM 7000 FEET FLIGHT STRAFED BUILDINGS AND INSTALLATIONS IN AIRFIELD AREA. AND ALSO RADIO STATION IN AREA 605U. M/G FIRE WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE COME FROM AREA 605 WHEN RADIO STATION WAS BEING STRAFED. NO OPERATIONAL AIRCRAFT WERE OBSERVED ON FIELD, AND THE AIRSTRIP HAD MANY CRATERS ON THE RUNWAY. FLIGHT PANCAKED AT 0645 (LOCAL)

5. A. 7/10 COVERAGE AT 10,000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR
6. ONE (1) M/G EMPLACEMENT DESTROYED
7. 6900 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 800 GALLONS GAS.
- 8 NONE

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318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
A.P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_25 JUNE 1944  
1345 (LOCAL)19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 7  
GROUP MISSION # 14

1. A. EIGHT (8) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
  2. A. ONE (1) P-47D DAMAGED  
B. NONE
  3. STRAFE TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY ON TINIAN AND AGUIJAN ISLANDS.
  4. LTS. SLEPECKY, ANGELLE, RUFF, DECHARY. - (BLUEGRASS 7)  
LTS. SCHAFFLE, DOUGHERTY, PETTY, MARCINKO - (BLUEGRASS 9)
- 1145 AIRBORNE - LANDED 1345

AFTER COMPLETING C.A.P. AT 1315 (LOCAL) BLUEGRASS 7 AND 9 PROCEEDED TO TINIAN AND AGUIJAN ISLANDS. PLANES ARRIVED OVER GURQUAN POINT AIRFIELD AT 1330 (LOCAL). BLUEGRASS 9 WAS FIRED UPON FROM AREAS 565 AND 555 BY WHAT APPEARED TO BE 40MM AA. ONE (1) P-47D SLIGHTLY DAMAGED BY THIS FIRE. AA MEAGER. FLIGHTS OBSERVED ABOUT ELEVEN (11) PLANES IN BUNKERS AROUND THE FIELD, SOME OF WHICH WERE DESTROYED AND OTHERS THEY WERE UNABLE TO SAY WHETHER OPERATIONAL OR NOT. A STEAM SHOVEL WAS OBSERVED ON WEST END OF RUNWAY, AND ONE MAN WAS SEEN TO SEEK COVER UNDER SHOVEL. UNABLE TO OBSERVE WHETHER REPAIR OF RUNWAY WAS IN PROCESS. FIELD APPEARED INOPERATIONAL. FLIGHTS THEN PROCEEDED TO AGUIJAN AND STRAFED OBSERVATION TOWER IN AREA 806. FLIGHTS ALSO STRAFED INSTALLATIONS IN AREAS 813 AND 814, STARTING FIRES IN CANE FIELDS IN BOTH AREAS. PLANES DREW NO AA FIRE FROM AGUIJAN ISLAND. FLIGHTS RETURNED TO BASE AND PANGAKED AT 1345.

5. A. 6/10 - 7/10 COMULUS, 4000 - 8000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 4810 ROUNDS OF .50 CAL. - 1200 GALLONS GAS (INCLUDED C.A.P.)
8. NONE

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A.P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_25 JUNE 1944  
1530 (LOCAL)19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 8  
GROUP MISSION # 15

1. A. FIVE (5) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. STRAFE TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY, TINIAN TOWN AND SOUTHFIELD, ISLAND OF TINIAN.
4. CAPT. VILES, LTS. STAMPE, KOBLER. (BLUEGRASS 4)  
LTS. JACOBSON, MATHIS. (BLUEGRASS 8)

TAKEOFF 1255 - PANCAKE 1525

AFTER COMPLETION OF C.A.P. FIVE (5) PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 4 AND 8 PROCEEDED TO TINIAN TOWN AT 1445; ARRIVED OVER TARGET AT 1453. FLIGHTS MADE ONE STRAFING PASS ON THE TOWN AND REPORTED AA POSITIONS IN THE TOWN. NO AA FIRE FROM GROUND POSITIONS. THE FLIGHTS THEN MADE TWO STRAFING RUNS ON CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT AT SOUTH FIELD AND STARTED FIRES ON BOTH SIDES OF FIELDS. OBSERVED AA POSITION NORTHEAST CORNER RUNWAY. BOTH FLIGHTS THEN STRAFED RADIO STATION AND BUILDINGS IN AREA 580A, STARTING FIRES IN BUILDINGS. RETURNED TO BASE AND PANCAKED AT 1525.

5. A. SCATTERED CLOUDS 2,000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. UNDETERMINED
7. 6400 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 1350 GALLONS GAS.
8. OBSERVED LARGE FIRES BURNING ON AGUIJAN ISLAND IN AREAS 818, 813, 814, AND 808.

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318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
A.P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_25 JUNE 1944  
1620 (LOCAL)19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 9  
GROUP MISSION # 16

1. A. EIGHT (8) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. STRAFE TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY, ISLAND OF TINIAN.
4. CAPT. TENNANT, LTS. BACH, KENDLE, COX (BLUEGRASS 3)  
CAPT. VOGT, LTS. DUNNING, LOFLIN, BYRAM (BLUEGRASS 5)

AFTER COMPLETION OF C.A.P. AT 1530 (LOCAL) BLUEGRASS 3 AND 5 PROCEEDED TO THE ISLAND OF TINIAN. BLUEGRASS 3 MADE STRAFING RUN ON THREE BARGES AND ONE FISHING BOAT IN TINIAN HARBOR AT 1540 (LOCAL). BOATS HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN DAMAGED BY SIMILAR MISSIONS. FLIGHT PROCEEDED OVER TINIAN TOWN WHERE THEY STRAFED BUILDINGS. THEY THEN WENT TO SOUTH FIELD AND STRAFED A STEAM ROLLER ON THE RUNWAY. OBSERVED NO AA FIRE. FLIGHT PROCEEDED OUT TO SEA AND PANGAKED AT 1600. BLUEGRASS 5 STRAFED GURGUAN POINT AIRFIELD. THEY CENTERED THEIR ATTACK ON 5 AIRCRAFT IN REVETMENTS IN TARGET AREAS 553, 554, 585. FLIGHT RECEIVED M/G FIRE FROM ONE GUN IN AREA 554A. BLUEGRASS RETURNED TO BASE AND LANDED AT 1600.

5. A. SLIGHT OVERCAST AT 15,000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. UNDETERMINED
7. 5350 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 1440 GALLONS GAS (INCLUDED C.A.P.)
8. FLIGHTS OBSERVED OIL FIRE ABOUT 300 - 500 FEET DUE SOUTH OF EAST END OF SOUTH FIELD.  
OBSERVED FIRE IN AREA 511, H, I, AND J; APPEARED TO BE OIL FIRE, SPREADING INTO CANE FIELDS IN AREA.  
OBSERVED FIRES STILL BURNING IN CANE FIELDS ON AGUIJAN ISLAND TARGET AREAS 813, 814. FIELDS APPEARED TO BE WELL BURNT OUT.

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318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
A.P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_26 JUNE 1944  
0730 (LOCAL)19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON #10  
GROUP MISSION #21

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. STRAFE TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY, TINIAN ISLAND.
4. CAPT. TENNANT, LTS. KENDLE, COX, BACH. (BLUEGRASS 3)

TAKE OFF 0530 - LANDED 0725

AFTER COMPLETION OF C.A.P. AT 0700 (LOCAL), CHEROKEE ORDERED BLUEGRASS 3 TO OBSERVE BARGES AT TINIAN HARBOR. BLUEGRASS 3 REACHED TARGET AT 0710 (LOCAL), AND OBSERVED 8 BARGES, 8-10 OTHER SMALL CRAFT, AND ONE 100 FT. BOAT. ONE-HUNDRED FOOT BOAT WAS OBSERVED TO HAVE SMOKE COMING FROM ITS STACK. BLUEGRASS STRAFED BARGES, 100 FT. CRAFT, AND OTHER SMALL CRAFT. PIECES WERE SHOT OFF THE 100 FT. BOAT BUT NO FIRE STARTED. PASS ON BARGES MADE FROM OUT OF THE SUN. FLIGHT ALSO OBSERVED WHAT APPEARED TO BE A DUMP TRUCK ON WEST END OF SOUTH FIELD. MEAGRE M/G FIRE WAS OBSERVED TO EMANATE FROM MILL IN AREA 526. OBSERVED 12-15 TENTS SOUTH SIDE OF RUNWAY AT SOUTH FIELD. THESE TENTS WERE NOT OBSERVED ON 25 JUNE 1944. BLUEGRASS 3 LEADER ALSO STRAFED BLOCKHOUSE IN AREA 536U. OBSERVED BARRACKS IN AREA 589J; APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD SHAPE. FLIGHT RETURNED TO BASE AT 0725.

5. A. 1/10 COVERAGE AT 2000 FEET.  
B. COULD NOT CONTACT CHEROKEE; OTHER WISE LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. UNDETERMINED
7. 3200 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 1000 GALLONS GAS
8. RECOMMEND THAT SQUADRON BE INFORMED OF WHICH CONTROL TO CONTACT PRIOR TO FIRST C.A.P. MISSION EACH DAY.

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318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
A.P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_26 JUNE 1944  
0845 (LOCAL)19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #11  
GROUP MISSION #22

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. ONE P-47D (DAMAGED)  
B. NONE
3. STRAFE TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY, TINIAN ISLAND.
4. LTS. JACOBSON, KENDALL, FLAGERMAN, MATHIS. (BLUEGRASS 8)

TAKE-OFF 0845 - LANDED 0839

AFTER COMPLETION OF C.A.P. AT 0815 (LOCAL), BLUEGRASS 8 PROCEEDED TO GURGUAN POINT AIR FIELD. FIRST PASS FROM NORTHEAST OUT OF SUN ACROSS RUNWAY STRAFING BUILDINGS IN AREA 565 AND 564. FLIGHT OBSERVED EXPLOSION IN AREA 564H, I. BELIEVE AMMUNITION STORES THERE DESTROYED. SECOND PASS FROM SOUTH-WEST OUT OF CLOUDS STRAFING PLANES IN AREAS 553, 554, 566. ON THIS PASS FLIGHT STRAFED SMALL BUILDING IN AREA 565, AND OBSERVED THE BUILDING EXPLODE. FLIGHT PROCEEDED TO AREA 594 AND STRAFED RADIO STATION. NO AA FIRE ENCOUNTERED THROUGHOUT MISSION. ONE P-47 DAMAGED BY .50 CAL. RICOHET THROUGH WINDSHIELD.

5. SCATTERED CLOUDS 3000 FT.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR
6. TWO SMALL AMMUNITION DUMPS PROBABLY DESTROYED.
7. 3600 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 800 GALLONS GAS.
8. NONE

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318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
A.P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_26 JUNE 1944  
1010 (LOCAL)19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 12  
GROUP MISSION # 23

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. STRAFE TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY, TINIAN ISLAND.
4. CAPT. MOHR, LTS. ANDERSON, DOUGHERTY, LIEBOTT, (BLUEGRASS 6)

TAKEOFF 0800 -- LANDING 1000

AFTER COMPLETION OF G. A. P., FOUR PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 6 PROCEEDED TO TINIAN TOWN AT 0920. ARRIVED OVER TARGET AT 0935. FIRST STRAFING PASS MADE FROM NORTHWEST AND PLANES CENTERED FIRE ON SUGAR MILL, AND BUILDINGS IN SAME AREA. FLIGHT ENCOUNTERED MEAGRE M/G FIRE FROM SUGAR MILL. FLIGHT MADE SECOND PASS FROM THE WEST HITTING BARGES AND SMALL CRAFT IN HARBOR. FLIGHT CONTINUED OVER THE TOWN AND HIT THE SOUTH FIELD STRAFING BUILDINGS AND INSTALLATIONS. WHILE STRAFING SOUTH FIELD FLIGHT RECEIVED MEAGRE M/G FIRE FROM AREA 537, 548, 561 ALONG CREST OF RIDGE. FLIGHT REF TIRED OUT TO SEA AND RETURNED TO BASE.

5. A. 5/10 COVERAGE - 1500 TO 5000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. UNDETERMINED
7. 8475 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 820 GALLONS GAS.
8. OBSERVED NO ACTIVITY ON SOUTH FIELD, TINIAN. 100 FOOT CRAFT IN TINIAN HARBOR REPORTED IN EARLIER MISSION (6/26/44) STILL SEEMED TO HAVE SMOKE ISSUING FROM STACK.

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318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
A.P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_26 JUNE 1944  
1145 (LOCAL)19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 13  
GROUP MISSION # 24

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. STRAFE REPORTED A/A POSITIONS IN AREA 621, TINIAN ISLAND.
4. LTS. SCHAFFLE, PETTY, MALONE, MARCINKO. (BLUEGRASS 9)  
TAKEOFF 0915 .- LANDING 1140

UPON ORDER OF BLOODSHOT CONTROL FOUR (4) PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 9 PROCEEDED TO TINIAN TO STRAFE REPORTED A/A POSITIONS IN AREA 621 I. FLIGHT ARRIVED OVER TARGET AT 1115 (LOCAL). STRAFING RUN WAS MADE FROM THE SOUTHWEST STRAFING BUILDING IN AREA 621. SEVERAL BUILDINGS WERE SET AFIRE. FLIGHT DID NOT OBSERVE ANY A/A POSITIONS. NO A/A FIRE ENCOUNTERED IN TARGET AREA.

5. A. 5/10 COVERAGE 3,000 FEET.  
B. POOR
6. UNDETERMINED
7. 2,500 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 880 GALLONS GAS.
8. COULD NOT LOCATE REPORTED A/A POSITIONS AND THEREFORE DID NOT CONTINUE STRAFING AREA WITH ADDITIONAL RUNS.

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A.P.O. # \_\_\_\_\_26 JUNE 1944  
1230 (LOCAL)19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 14  
GROUP MISSION # 25

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. STRAFE REPORTED GUN POSITIONS IN AREA 658M, V, TINIAN ISLAND.
4. CAPT. GUINNEE, LT9. PORTER, GRAY, DANYLO. (BLUEGRASS 2)

TAKEOFF 1035 - LANDING 1220

AFTER COMPLETION OF C.A.P. FOUR PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 2 WERE ORDERED BY BLOODSHOT TO STRAFE GUN POSITIONS IN AREA 658M, V, TINIAN ISLAND. FLIGHT WAS OVER TARGET AT 1205 (LOCAL). FLIGHT MADE ONE STRAFING RUN ON AREA AND OBSERVED WHAT APPEARED TO BE A NEW DIGGING 20 FEET BY 5 FEET PARRALLEL TO SHORE IN 658V. WHILE STRAFING AREA 658M FLIGHT WAS UNABLE TO OBSERVE ANY GUN POSITIONS DUE TO VEGETATION, BUT DID RECEIVE MEAGRE M/G FIRE FROM THIS AREA. FLIGHT RETURNED TO BASE AND LANDED AT 1220.

5. A. 6/10 COVERAGE 4000 - 8000 FEET.  
B. POOR
6. UNDETERMINED
7. 2100 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 880 GALLONS GAS.
8. NONE

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26 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 15  
GROUP MISSION # 29

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. ONE (1) P-47D DAMAGED.  
B. NONE
3. ROCKET MISSION AGAINST GUN INSTALLATIONS ON GURGUAN POINT AIRFIELD, TINIAN ISLAND.
4. MAJOR MCAFEE, LTS. DELP, WITZIG, BLENDER. (BLUEGRASS 1)

TAKEOFF 1455 - LAND 1535

SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVING ON STATION FOR GROUND SUPPORT MISSIONS AT 1500, CHEROKEE TURNED BLUEGRASS 1 (4) PLANES) OVER TO BLOOD-SHOT CONTROL, WHO ORDERED FLIGHT TO DESTROY GUN EMPLACEMENTS IN AREA 577Y, TINIAN ISLAND. FLIGHT WAS OVER TARGET AREA AT 1516 AND LOCATED GUN EMPLACEMENTS IN AREAS 56SK AND 564 O AND T. FLIGHT FIRED 15 ROCKETS AT GUN INSTALLATIONS AND PLANE IN REVETMENT IN AREA 566L. BLUEGRASS LEADER, WHILE FIRING ON TARGET HAD HIS LEFT WING PANEL DAMAGED BY WHAT APPEARED TO BE A 40MM SHELL OR POSSIBLY DEBRIS THROWN UP BY THE TERRIFIC EXPLOSION. NO AA FIRE WAS SEEN IN THE AREA. AFTER BLUEGRASS FIRED, HIS WINGMAN SAW THE TERRIFIC EXPLOSION AT GUN EMPLACEMENT IN AREA 565E AND 564O AND T, AND SAW AMMUNITION EXPLODING AND FLYING IN ALL DIRECTIONS. BLUEGRASS 1 WAS FORCED TO JETTISON HIS REMAINING FOUR ROCKETS AND RETURN TO BASE.

BLUEGRASS 1-2 FIRED ONE ROCKET AT BUILDING IN TARGET AREA 559D, ON TINIAN, AND DESTROYED THE STRUCTURE. THIS BUILDING WAS A PART OF A RADIO STATION IN THAT AREA. IT IS BELIEVED THAT ONE GUN EMPLACEMENT WAS DESTROYED ON THIS MISSION. FLIGHT COULD NOT DETERMINE THE SIZE OF THE GUN EMPLACEMENT BLOWN UP BY THE EXPLOSION, AS IT WAS COVERED BY EARTH AND CAMOUFLAGE. FLIGHT RETURNED TO BASE LANDING AT 1535.

5. A. 3/10 COVERAGE AT 3000 - 4000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. 1 GUN EMPLACEMENT DESTROYED, 1 BUILDING DESTROYED (15 X 15)
7. 16 4.5 ROCKETS
8. NONE

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26 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #16  
GROUP MISSION #30

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. ROCKET MISSION AGAINST FOUR MACHINE GUN EMPLACEMENTS, AREA 654P, Q, TINIAN.
4. CAPT. VOOT, LTS. LOFLIN, DUNNING, BYRAM. (BLUEGRASS 5)

TAKEOFF 1500 - LANDED 1550

AFTER ARRIVING ON GROUND SUPPORT STATION, BLOODSHOT CONTROL ORDERED FLIGHT TO DESTROY FOUR M/G EMPLACEMENTS IN AREA 654P, Q, TINIAN. TIME OVER TARGET 1533. FLIGHT MADE ONE RUN ON TARGET AND LAUNCHED NINE ROCKETS ON THE EMPLACEMENTS. ROCKETS WERE SEEN TO LAND WELL IN THE TARGET AREA. ALTHOUGH NO ROCKETS WERE SEEN TO LAND IN THE EMPLACEMENTS THEY LANDED VERY CLOSE. MEAGRE 20MM A/A FIRE WAS RECEIVED FROM AREA 647X. FLIGHT RETURNED TO BASE AND LANDED AT 1550.

5. A. 6/10 COVERAGE 2500 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR
6. UNDETERMINED
7. NINE 4.5 ROCKETS - 360 GALLONS GAS.
8. FLIGHT OBSERVED 3 GREEN TIN-ROOFED BUILDINGS IN WOODED AREA IN APPROXIMATELY AREA 650L, G AND THREE GREEN TIN-ROOFED BUILDINGS IN WOODED AREA 658V, C, Q.

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27 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 17  
GROUP MISSION # 31

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. FIGHTER SWEEP AGAINST MARPI POINT AIRFIELD, SAIPAN.
4. CAPT. GUINNEE, LTS. GRAY, PORTER, DANYLO. (BLUEGRASS 2)

TAKEOFF 0600 -- LAND 0655

FOUR PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 2 TOOK OFF AT 0600 ON FIGHTER SWEEP AGAINST MARPI POINT AIRFIELD, SAIPAN. PLANES WERE OVER TARGET AT 0615 (LOCAL). FIRST PASS WAS MADE FROM 110 DEGREES AND 24 ROCKETS WERE LAUNCHED AT 2000 FEET ALTITUDE. ROCKETS WERE SEEN TO EXPLODE IN 288L, F, B, T, AND N. FLIGHT OBSERVED WHAT APPEARED TO BE SMALL GUN EMPLACEMENTS IN THIS AREA. SECOND PASS WAS A STRAFING PASS MADE FROM 110 DEGREES. ON THIS PASS FLIGHT STARTED A BRUSH FIRE IN AREA 291Y, T, O, AND IN BUILDING IN AREA 288P AND K. FLIGHT RECEIVED MEAGRE SMALL ARMS FIRE WHILE RETURNING FROM FIRST PASS. BLUEGRASS 2 RETURNED TO BASE AND LANDED AT 0655.

5. A. CLEAR, VISIBILITY UNLIMITED.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. UNDETERMINED
7. 5600 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 24 4.5 ROCKETS - 600 GALLONS GAS.
8. FIELD APPEARS TO BE INOPERATIONAL. FEARLESS CONTROL INFORMED FLIGHT PRIOR TO MISSION THAT THEY WOULD RUN INTO HEAVY A/A. HOWEVER, SAME WAS NOT ENCOUNTERED. NO ACTIVITY OBSERVED ON AIRFIELD.

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27 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON #18  
GROUP MISSION #32

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. FIGHTER SWEEP AGAINST MARPI POINT AIRFIELD, SAIPAN.
4. CAPT. SLEPECKY, LTS. RUFF, DECHARY, ANGELLE. (BLUEGRASS 7)

TAKEOFF 0610 - LANDING 0720

FOUR PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 7 TOOK OFF AT 0610 (LOCAL) ON FIGHTER SWEEP AGAINST MARPI POINT AIRFIELD, SAIPAN. PLANES WERE ORDERED TO PROCEED TO LALO POINT, TINIAN, ALTITUDE 10,000 FEET, JOIN UP WITH BLUEGRASS 15, AND REPORT IN TO CAPTAIN CONTROL. CAPTAIN CONTROL ORDERED FLIGHT TO PATROL AREA LALO POINT. AFTER ABOUT FIFTEEN MINUTES BLUEGRASS 13 RELIEVED BLUEGRASS 15, AND BLUEGRASS 7 WAS THEN ORDERED TO REPORT TO FEARLESS CONTROL FOR INSTRUCTIONS. LEADER NOT ABLE TO RECEIVE FEARLESS ON DOG CHANNEL. FLIGHT THEN TOLD TO REPORT TO OXYGEN BASE, WHO WERE UNABLE TO GIVE FLIGHT FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS. BLUEGRASS 7 LEADER TOLD OXYGEN HE WOULD STRAFE USHI AIRFIELD, NORTH TINIAN ONLY ONE PASS WAS MADE, FROM WEST TO EAST, AND THE ATTACK WAS CENTERED ON THE DUAL PURPOSE GUN EMPLACEMENTS IN AREA 653C. TWO ROCKETS OF BLUEGRASS LEADER WERE SEEN TO EXPLODE IN EASTERN MOST GUN EMPLACEMENT OF THE INSTALLATION. BLUEGRASS 72 RELEASED FIVE ROCKETS ON THIS PASS IN AREA 648C AND D. PILOT DID NOT OBSERVE RESULTS OF HIS ATTACK. BLUEGRASS 73 RELEASED 3 ROCKETS ON WHAT APPEARED TO BE STEEL DRUMS AND GALVANIZED IRON BUILDING IN AREA 648G, H, BLUEGRASS 74 RELEASED 6 ROCKETS IN TARGET AREA 647. PILOT OBSERVED ROCKETS HIT AND ENTER TWO STORY CONCRETE BUILDING, BELIEVED TO BE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING IN THIS AREA.

5. A. 7/10 COVERAGE (USHI AIRSTRIP) - BASE 2000 - 13,000  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. UNDETERMINED
7. EIGHTEEN 4.5 ROCKETS - 620 GALLONS GAS.



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19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #18  
GROUP MISSION #32

8. WHILE AT MARPI POINT AIRFIELD, SIAPAN, FLIGHT RECEIVED INTENSE M/G FIRE, AND MEAGRE HEAVY A/A FIRE. HEAVY A/A FIRE SEEN TO EMANATE FROM AREA 287T. MACHINE GUN FIRE OBSERVED COMING FROM AREA 287F, G, H, L, M.

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27 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 20  
GROUP MISSION # 34

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. FIGHTER SWEEP AGAINST GUN EMPLACEMENTS IN AREAS 565, 566, 567, TINIAN ISLAND.
4. CAPT. MOHR, LTS. LIEBGOTT, ANDERSON, DOHERTY (BLUEGRASS 6)  
TAKEOFF 1300 - LANDING 1510

AFTER COMPLETION OF C.A.P. AT 1430 FOUR PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 6 WERE ORDERED BY FEARLESS CONTROL TO STRAFE GUN EMPLACEMENTS IN AREAS 565, 566, 567, TINIAN ISLAND. PLANES WERE OVER TARGET AT 1445. THE FIRST PASS WAS MADE SOUTHWEST TO NORTHEAST IN AREAS 565, 566 ON WHAT APPEARED TO BE GUN EMPLACEMENTS. TRACER WAS SEEN TO ENTER THE INSTALLATIONS. PILOTS WERE NOT CERTAIN THAT GUN EMPLACEMENTS WERE OBSERVED, AS THERE ARE NUMEROUS BOMB GRATERS IN THE AREA. THE SECOND PASS WAS MADE FROM THE SOUTHWEST TO NORTHEAST. BLUEGRASS LEADER OBSERVED TRACER ENTER BUILDING IN AREA 565. BLUEGRASS 62, 63, 64, HIT AREA 565, 579M. BLUEGRASS 63 STRAFED GUN EMPLACEMENTS IN AREA 565A AND F ON THE SECOND PASS AND BLUEGRASS 64 OBSERVED AN EXPLOSION IN THE AREA.

BLUEGRASS 62 STRAFED BUILDING IN AREA 579M, DUE TO FACT THAT HE WAS NOT IN POSITION TO FIRE ON ASSIGNED TARGET AREA ON SECOND PASS.

FLIGHT DID NOT RECEIVE A/A FIRE DURING MISSION.  
FLIGHT RETURNED TO BASE AND PANCAKED AT 1510.

5. A. 4/10 COVERAGE, 1500 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 4,400 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 1020 GALLONS GAS.
8. FLIGHT OBSERVED STEAM ROLLER ON NEW RUNWAY (NORTH-SOUTH RUNWAY GURGUAN POINT AIRFIELD).

DURING PREVIOUS MISSIONS ON TARGET AREAS 565, 566, 567, A/A FIRE HAS BEEN ENCOUNTERED. ALTHOUGH THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE WAS PRESENT ON THE FIRST PASS, FLIGHT COULD NOT HAVE SURPRISED THE JAP PERSONNEL ON SECOND PASS. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE DIRECTION OF APPROACH HAS A GREAT DEAL TO DO WITH A/A FIRE IN THIS



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19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #19  
GROUP MISSION #33

1. A. SIX (6) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. TWO (2) P-47D'S DESTROYED
3. FIGHTER SWEEP AGAINST GURGUAN POINT AIRFIELD, TINIAN.
4. MAJOR MCAFEE, LTS, DELP, WITZIG, ELENDER, (BLUEGRASS 1)  
CAPT. VILES, LT. KOBLER. (BLUEGRASS 4)

TAKEOFF 1058 (LOCAL) - LANDED 1215 (LOCAL)

SIX PLANES, BLUEGRASS 1 AND 4, TOOK OFF ASLITO AIRFIELD AT 1058 ON GROUND SUPPORT MISSION. FLIGHTS AFTER BECOMING AIRBORNE WERE ORDERED BY FEARLESS CONTROL TO MAKE A FIGHTER SWEEP OF GURGUAN POINT AIRFIELD. PLANES WERE OVER TARGET AT 1143 (LOCAL) FIRST PASS MADE FROM EAST TO WEST BY BLUEGRASS 1 AND FROM 12 TO 10,000 FEET. ROCKETS WERE RELEASED OVER TARGET AREA 565 AND WERE SEEN TO EXPLODE IN AREA WHERE A/A GUN EMPLACEMENTS HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN REPORTED.

THE REMAINDER OF THE FLIGHT MADE THEIR PASS FROM THE SAME DIRECTION ABOUT ONE MINUTE LATER FROM 9,000 FEET. THEIR ROCKETS WERE ALSO SEEN TO EXPLODE IN THE SAME GENERAL AREA. IT WAS ON THIS PASS THAT LT. KOBLER WAS SEEN TO CRASH IN AREA 565, TINIAN, AND FLIGHT ALSO OBSERVED WRECKAGE OF ANOTHER P-47 WHICH WAS LT. WITZIG'S, ALTHOUGH THEY DID NOT SEE HIM CRASH. HIS PLANE WAS ALSO IN AREA 565. BLUEGRASS LEADER DESTROYED M/G EMPLACEMENT IN AREA 577 AFTER COMPLETION OF MISSION IN AND AROUND AIRFIELD. THE FLIGHT DID NOT OBSERVE ANY A/A FIRE DURING ENTIRE MISSION. SPEED OF AIRCRAFT ON ROCKET RUNS, 450 M.P.H.

5. A. SCATTERED CLOUDS 3000 - 4000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR
6. ONE M/G EMPLACEMENT DESTROYED. TWO SMALL FIRES STARTED IN AREA 565N.
7. THIRTY-SIX (36) 4.5 ROCKETS. - 1200 GALLONS GAS.
8. LT. WITZIG LISTED AS MISSING IN ACTION AS NO ONE SAW HIM CRASH, AND LT. KOBLER KILLED IN ACTION AS HE WAS OBSERVED TO GO IN, AND AT THAT SPEED COULD NOT HAVE SURVIVED.

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19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 20  
GROUP MISSION # 34

(CONTINUED)

8. CONT'D.

AREA, POSSIBLY IN THE WAY THE GUNS ARE SETUP.

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27 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 21  
GROUP MISSION # 37

1. A. SIXTEEN (16) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. FIGHTER SWEEP ROTA AIRFIELD, ROTA ISLAND.
4. MAJOR MCAFEE, LTS. DELP, JACOBSON, MATHIS. (BLUEGRASS 1)  
CAPT. VILES, LTS. STAMPE, PORTER, DANYLO. (BLUEGRASS 4)  
CAPT. TENNANT, LTS. SCHAFFER, COX, BACH. (BLUEGRASS 3)  
LTS. SCHAFFLE, MALONE, PETTY, MARCINKO. (BLUEGRASS 9)

TAKEOFF 1540 (LOCAL) - LANDING 1640 (LOCAL)

SIXTEEN PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 1, 3, 4, 9, AND SIXTEEN (16) PLANES OF THE 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON TOOK OFF AT 1540 (LOCAL) ON FIGHTER SWEEP AGAINST AIRFIELD AT ROTA ISLAND. BOTH SQUADRONS FLEW DIRECTLY SOUTHWEST TO ROTA WITH THE 73RD ACTING AS HIGH COVER FOR THE 19TH AT 12,000 - 14,000 FEET. BLUEGRASS 93 AND 94 RETURNED TO BASE OVER TINIAN AND DID NOT COMPLETE MISSION. THE SQUADRONS WERE OVER THE TARGET AT 1604.

EIGHT PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 1 AND 4 MADE THEIR STRAFING RUN FROM THE WEST FOLLOWED BY SIX PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 3 AND 9 FROM THE NORTH. RUNS WERE BEGUN AT 9,500 FEET DOWN TO 350 FEET.

A/A FIRE FROM AW WAS INTENSE AND INACCURATE.

AFTER STRAFING RUN, BLUEGRASS 1, 4, 3, 9 CLIMBED TO 5,000 FEET AND COVERED STRAFING BY 73RD SQUADRON.

ROTA RUNWAY APPEARED OPERATIONAL. FIRES WERE STARTED IN BUILDINGS IN AREA 207E.

PILOTS OBSERVED ONE PLANE ON EAST END OF RUNWAY THAT APPEARED INOPERATIONAL AND ANOTHER SOUTHEAST JUST OFF WEST END OF RUNWAY WITH COWLING REMOVED. COULD NOT DETERMINE WHETHER OPERATIONAL OR NOT. OBSERVED WHAT APPEARED TO BE A COMMAND POST IN AREA 208Q.

5. A. SCATTERED CLOUDS 3,000 TO 4,000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. FIRES STARTED IN AREA 207E.
7. 11,900 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 2,100 GALLONS GAS.
8. NONE.

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19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 22  
GROUP MISSION # 42

1. A. THREE (3) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. FIGHTER SWEEP TO USHI PT. AIRFIELD, TINIAN.
4. LTS. JACOBSON, MATHIS, AND FLAGERMAN. (BLUEGRASS 8)

TAKE OFF 0810 - LANDED 0955.

THREE PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 8 AFTER COMPLETION OF CAP AT 0930 WERE ORDERED BY FEARLESS CONTROL TO STRAFE USHI PT. AIRFIELD, TINIAN, TO DRAW FIRE FROM AA AND THEN TO ATTEMPT TO DESTROY THE POSITIONS. TIME OVER TARGET 0940. FIRST PASS WAS MADE FROM THE N-NW TO SW FROM 9,000 FT. FLIGHT FIRED ON AREA 635B AND C, 658T, 657P.Q., 634S.T. NO AA FIRE RECEIVED ON THIS PASS. THE SECOND PASS WAS MADE FROM SE FROM 5,000 FT. STRAFING AREAS 634, 641H. G., 646 AND 658.

FIRES WERE STARTED IN AREA 634 S.T. AND 647 P.Q. OBSERVED WHAT APPEARED TO BE A REVETTED POSITION IN 658L. PILOT COULD NOT SAY JUST WHETHER THERE WAS ANYTHING IN POSITION OR NOT.

NO AA FIRE FROM ENEMY POSITIONS DURING MISSIONS. NO ENEMY ACTIVITY OBSERVED.

5. A. 1/10 CLOUD COVERAGE, BASE 5000 FT.  
B. DIFFICULT TO RECEIVE FEARLESS CONTROL.
6. FIRES STARTED IN AREA 634 S.T. AND 647 P.Q.
7. 4700 RDS .50 CAL. - 600 GALLONS GAS.
8. NONE

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19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 23  
GROUP MISSION # 43

1. A. EIGHT (8) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. FIGHTER SWEEP MARPI POINT AIRFIELD, SAIPAN,
4. CAPT. VILES, LTS. STAMPE, DECHARY, LUSTIG. (BLUEGRASS 4)  
CAPT. MOHR, LTS. ANDERSON, RUFF, ELENDER. (BLUEGRASS 6)

TAKEOFF 0755 - LANDING 0840

EIGHT PLANES BLUEGRASS 4 AND 6 TOOK OFF AT 0755 FOR FIGHTER SWEEP AGAINST MARPI POINT AIRFIELD, SAIPAN. SHORTLY AFTER TAKEOFF, LT STAMPE HAD TO RETURN TO BASE DUE TO MECHANICAL DIFFICULTY. BLUEGRASS 4 MADE TWO PASSES ON INSTALLATIONS AROUND FIELD. THE SECOND PASS FROM THE EAST STRAFING GUN POSITIONS IN AREA 288T,Y AND THE FIRST PASS FROM 5500 FEET, 11 ROCKETS RELEASED IN AREA 288P,Q. BLUEGRASS LEADER OBSERVED TRACER ENTER ONE EMPLACEMENT. MEAGRE A/A FIRE FROM SMALL ARMS AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS RECEIVED FROM AREA 287Q,H,I.

FIRST PASS BLUEGRASS 6 ORIGINATED IN THE NORTHWEST AND 12 ROCKETS WERE FIRED IN TARGET AREAS 291Y,F,E,R. FIRES WERE STARTED IN AREA 288A. THE NEXT STRAFING PASS OF THIS FLIGHT MADE FROM THE WEST. THIS PASS WAS MADE TO DRAW AA FIRE FROM THE AREA AROUND THE AIRFIELD. NO A/A FIRE RECEIVED.

FLIGHTS WERE ASKED BY FEARLESS CONTROL TO OBSERVE GUN EMPLACEMENTS IN AREA 291M. FLIGHT SEARCHED AREA BUT COULD NOT LOCATE REPORTED DUAL PURPOSE GUNS IN THE AREA.

FLIGHTS RETURNED TO BASE AND PANCAKED AT 0840.

5. A. SCATTERED CLOUDS AT 2,000 FEET.  
B. FEARLESS CONTROL FADED OUT AT TIMES.
6. UNDETERMINED
7. 3,100 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - TWENTY-THREE 4.5 ROCKETS - 560 GALS GAS.
8. NONE

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518TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
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19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #24  
GROUP MISSION #45

1. A. EIGHT (8) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. FIGHTER SWEEP MARPI POINT AIRFIELD, SAIPAN ISLAND.
4. CAPT. GUINNEE, LTS. DUNN, LIEBOTT, DOHERTY. (BLUEGRASS 2)  
CAPT. VOGT, LT RHODY, CAPT. SLEPECKY, ST. ANGELLE. (BLUEGRASS 5)

TAKEOFF: 1500 - LAND: 1645

EIGHT (8) PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 2 AND 5 TOOK OFF FROM ASLITO AIRFIELD AT 1500 (LOCAL) FOR GROUND SUPPORT MISSION. AFTER ARRIVING ON STATION FEARLESS CONTROL ORDERED FLIGHTS TO BOMB AND LAUNCH ROCKETS AT MARPI POINT AIRFIELD AND A/A POSITIONS THEREAT. PLANES WERE OVER THE TARGET AT 1540.

FIRST PASS BY BLUEGRASS 2 WAS DIVE BOMB RUN FROM THE NORTHWEST FROM 11,500 FEET. BOMBS WERE RELEASED AT 5000 FEET. THEY WERE OBSERVED TO EXPLODE IN AREAS 287E, O, AND 281E. AFTER THIS FLIGHT LEFT THE TARGET AREA BLUEGRASS 5 DIVE BOMBED TARGET AREA FROM 10,500 FEET, AND BOMBS WERE RELEASED AT ABOUT 4000 FEET. BOMBS WERE OBSERVED TO FALL IN AREA 288T, N, K. BOMB THAT EXPLODED IN AREA 288N CAUSED A SMALL AMMUNITION DUMP TO EXPLODE.

AFTER COMPLETING BOMBING RUNS BLUEGRASS MADE ANOTHER PASS ON TARGET FROM 9000 FEET AND RELEASED ROCKETS AT 1500 FEET. ROCKETS WERE FIRED SINGELY. BLUEGRASS 2 OBSERVED HIS ROCKETS HIT BUILDINGS IN AREA 288Q AND R. BLUEGRASS 24 OBSERVED ROCKETS HIT UNIDENTIFIED INSTALLATIONS IN AREA 287B, H, I.

FOUR PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 5 BEGAN ITS ROCKET RUN FROM THE NORTHWEST AT 8000 FEET DOWN TO 2500 FEET WHERE FIRST ROCKETS WERE FIRED. ROCKETS WERE OBSERVED TO HIT BUILDINGS IN AREAS 287, 288, 291. FIRES WERE STARTED IN AREA 288Q. MEAGRE HEAVY A/A FIRE OBSERVED TO EMANATE FROM AREA 287G, H, N, M, AND MEAGRE MEDIUM A/A FROM AREA 288P. FLIGHT RETURNED TO BASE AND PANCAKED AT 1645.

5. A. 2/10 CUMULUS AT 5900FEET.  
B. D BAND: FLIGHT HAD DIFFICULTY IN CONTACTING FEARLESS.
6. UNDETERMINED
7. EIGHT 500 LB. BOMBS (GP) - 8-11 SEC. DELAY. FORTY (40) 4.5 ROCKETS. 1,600 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 1760 GALLONS GAS.
8. RECOMMEND THAT MISSIONS TO MARPI POINT FIELD BE DIRECTED AGAINST CLIFFS IN AREA 287G, H, N, S, X, M, WHERE FIRE HAS BEEN OBSERVED ON PREVIOUS MISSIONS.

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318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
A.P.O. # 244

28 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 25  
GROUP MISSION # 46

1. A. TEN (10) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. BOMB AND STRAFE RUNWAY AT ROTA AIRFIELD, ROTA ISLAND.
4. MAJOR MGAFFEE, LTS. DELP, GRAY, ELENDER. (BLUEGRASS 1)  
CAPT. VILES, LT. DECHARY (BLUEGRASS 4)  
LTS. SCHAFFLE, MALONE, PETTY, MARCINKO. (BLUEGRASS 9)

TAKEOFF: 1545 - LANDED: 1730

SIX PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 1 AND 4 TOOK OFF AT 1545 WITH SIXTEEN PLANES OF 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON TO BOMB AND STRAFE THE AIRSTRIP AT ROTA ISLAND. AT 1620 FOUR PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 9 TOOK OFF ON THIS MISSION. FLIGHTS FLEW DIRECTLY SOUTHWEST AND WERE OVER THE TARGET AT 1610.

WHILE THE 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON PERFORMED HIGH COVER BLUEGRASS 1 AND 4 STARTED THEIR DIVE BOMB RUNS FROM 10,000 FEET, AND RELEASED THEIR BOMBS AT 5000 FEET. BOMBS WERE OBSERVED TO FALL WELL IN THE TARGET AREA. AFTER COMPLETION OF BOMB RUN FLIGHTS PULLED UP TO 10,000 FEET WHILE PLANES OF 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON WENT IN TO STRAFE AND LAUNCH ROCKETS.

BLUEGRASS 9 ARRIVED IN AREA DURING STRAFING RUN OF 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON. AFTER 73RD COMPLETED ITS RUN FOUR PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 9 DIVE BOMBED RUNWAY. ALL BOMBS LANDED ON RUNWAY FROM THE CENTER TO THE EAST END. BOMB RUN MADE FROM 12,000 TO 5,000 FEET WHERE BOMBS WERE RELEASED.

BLUEGRASS 1 AND 4 THEN WENT DOWN ON STRAFING RUN, AND STRAFED A KATE IN AREA 208M AND AN UNIDENTIFIED PLANE IN AREA 207T. KATE APPEARED TO BE OPERATIONAL AND WAS DESTROYED ON THIS RUN.

THE FIELD WAS RENDERED NON-OPERATIONAL AS A RESULT OF MISSION. NO A/A FIRE ENCOUNTERED. TOTAL OF NINETEEN (19) 500 LB. BOMBS OBSERVED TO LAND IN TARGET AREA.

5. A. 5/10 CLOUD COVERAGE AT 4000 - 10,000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. RUNWAY NON-OPERATIONAL. ONE (1) KATE DESTROYED ON GROUND. ONE (1) UNIDENTIFIED PLANE DESTROYED ON GROUND.
7. TWENTY (20) 500 LB. GP BOMBS, 8-11 SECOND DELAY FUZE. 2800 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 1100 GALLONS GAS.
8. NONE

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318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
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29 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 26  
GROUP MISSION # 47

1. A. EIGHT (8) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. FIGHTER SWEEP MARPI POINT AIRFIELD, SAIPAN,
4. CAPT. MOHR, LTS. ANDERSON, LIEBGOTT, DOHERTY. (BLUEGRASS 6)  
CAPT. SLEPECKY, LTS. ANGELLE, PORTER, DANYLO. (BLUEGRASS 7)  
TAKEOFF: 0600 - LANDED: 0715

EIGHT PLANES BLUEGRASS 6 AND 7 TOOK OFF AT 0600 ON STRIKE AGAINST MARPI POINT AIRFIELD. FLIGHTS WERE OVER THE TARGET AT 0620 (LOCAL).

BLUEGRASS 63 AND 64 MADE THEIR BOMBING RUN FROM 11,000 FEET FROM THE NORTH ON TARGET AREAS 287Y. OBSERVED BOMBS LAND WELL IN THE AREA. BLUEGRASS 61 AND 62 BOMBED AREA 287H.

TWO STRAFING RUNS WERE MADE BY THIS FLIGHT FROM THE NORTH AND NORTHWEST, HITTING TARGET IN AREA 287, 288, 281. FIRES WERE STARTED IN AREAS 288 AND 281.

FOUR PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 7 BOMBED AREAS 287X, Y, AND 288N FROM OUT OF THE SUN. RUN BEGAN AT 8000 FEET AND BOMBS RELEASED AT 1400 FEET. BOMBS OBSERVED TO LAND IN AREAS 287D, X, Y AND 288N. FLIGHT THEN MADE TWO STRAFING PASSES ON BUILDINGS AND INSTALLATIONS IN AREAS 287X, Y, 288, 291, AND 281. RESULTS UNOBSERVED. DURING STRAFING RUNS A/A GUNS IN AREAS 287 AND 281 CEASED FIRING. INTENSE AA FIRE FROM AREAS 287O, S, T, AND 282N, O. MEAGRE M/G FIRE AREA 288I, E. MEAGRE SMALL ARMS FIRE FROM AREAS 282N, O. MEAGRE HEAVY A/A FIRE FROM VICINITY GARAPAN. OBSERVED 10 M/G EMPLACEMENTS IN AREA 287 O, S, T. OBSERVED VERY LARGE CAVE IN AREA 282P OR Q.

OBSERVED MOUNDS OF DIRT ON RUNWAY WHICH APPEARED TO BE USED TO FILL BOMB CRATERS ON FIELD.

WHILE ON THIS MISSION FLIGHT ALSO FLEW OVER GURGUAN POINT AIRFIELD TO OBSERVE INSTALLATIONS. THEY NOTED A WELL CAMOUFLAGED RUNWAY RUNNING NORTH TO SOUTH CONNECTING THE OLD EAST TO WEST RUNWAY.

FLIGHT PANCAKED AT BASE AT 0715.

5. A. 3/10 COVERAGE AT 2000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. UNDETERMINED
7. SIXTEEN 500 LB. GP BOMBS, 8-11 SECOND DELAY FUZE. 10,000 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 1680 GALLONS GAS.
8. NONE

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29 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #27  
GROUP MISSION #50

1. A. EIGHT (8) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. BOMB THREE A/A POSITIONS IN AREA 535-1 AND 536-P,U, TINIAN ISLAND  
STRAFE AMMUNITION STORES IN AREA 554M,1, TINIAN ISLAND.
4. CAPT. GUINNEE, LTS. DUNN, PORTER, ANGELLE. (BLUEGRASS 2)  
CAPT. VOGT, LTS. DUNNING, LOFLIN, RHODY. (BLUEGRASS 5)

TAKEOFF: 1100 - LANDING 1225

EIGHT PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 2 AND 5 TOOK OFF FROM ASLITO AIRFIELD AT 1100 (LOCAL). FLIGHTS ARRIVED OVER THE FIRST TARGET (AREA 5351) AND 536P AND U) AT 1120 (LOCAL)

BLUEGRASS 2 MADE THEIR RUN FROM THE SOUTHEAST, 9000 FEET DOWN TO 6000 FEET WHERE BOMBS WERE RELEASED.

BLUEGRASS 5 MADE ITS BOMB RUN FROM THE NORTHEAST, 9000 FEET WITH RELEASE AT 5000 FEET.

THREE BOMBS WERE OBSERVED TO HIT THE THREE HEAVY A/A EMPLACEMENT AND THREE NEAR MISSES WERE OBSERVED.

AFTER BOMB RUN FLIGHT RENEVOUSED AT LALO POINT, AND CHEROKEE THEN ORDERED FLIGHTS TO STRAFE AMMUNITION SUPPLIES IN TARGET AREA 554M, 1. BOTH FLIGHTS STARTED THEIR STRAFING RUNS FROM 9000 FEET AND BEGAN FIRING AT 2000 FEET. RESULTS WERE UNOBSERVED AND NO EXPLOSIONS OCCURRED.

MEAGRE M/G FIRE RECEIVED FROM AREA 5680, K. AFTER COMPLETION OF STRAFING PASS FLIGHTS REJOINED AND RETURNED TO BASE.

5. 5/10 TO 6/10 CLOUD COVERAGE AT 4000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR
6. THREE HEAVY A/A GUN POSITIONS DESTROYED.
7. SIXTEEN 500 POUND BOMBS, 8-11 SECOND DELAY FUSE. 7500 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 1340 GALLONS GAS.
8. LT. PORTER BLUEGRASS 23 WAS UNABLE TO RELEASE ONE 500-POUND BOMB AND HAD TO RETURN TO BASE WITH BOMB STILL ATTACHED TO SHIP. WHILE ATTEMPTING TO LAND, BOMB FELL OFF PLANE AND EXPLODED IN CENTER OF RUNWAY. NO DAMAGE RESULTED TO PLANE AS BOMB HAD AN 8-11 SECOND DELAY FUSE NOR WAS THERE ANY DAMAGE TO AIRDROME INSTALLATIONS. HEAVY A/A GUNS IN AREA 556 SUGAR APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN BOMBED RECENTLY AS THERE ARE A NUMBER OF CRATERS NEAR THE INSTALLATIONS.



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19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #27  
GROUP MISSION #50

CONTINUED

NO ACTIVITY OBSERVED IN THE AREA.  
NORTH-SOUTH RUNWAY AT GURGUAN POINT AIRFIELD, TINIAN APPEARS TO  
BE OPERATIONAL.

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18TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
A.P.O. # 244

29 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 28  
GROUP MISSION # 51

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. GROUP SUPPORT MISSION IN AREA 203-I AND J, 212P, SAIPAN ISLAND.
4. MAJOR MCAFEE, LTS. DELP, GRAY, ELENDER. (BLUEGRASS 1)

TAKEOFF: 1140 - LANDING: 1340

AFTER COMPLETION OF C.A.P. MISSION, FOUR PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 1 WERE ORDERED BY CHEROKEE CONTROL TO SUPPORT GROUND TROOPS BY STRAFING ENEMY TROOPS AND ACTIVITY IN AREAS 203-I AND J; 212P, SAIPAN ISLAND.

PLANES WERE OVER THE TARGET AT 1325 AND AFTER COMPLETING A DRY RUN OVER THE TARGET FROM 230 DEGREES, FLIGHT COMPLETED STRAFING RUN ON AREA FROM 180 DEGREES.

RESULTS OF MISSION UNOBSERVED AS AREA IS HEAVILY WOODED. NO A/A FIRE RECEIVED DURING MISSION. FLIGHT RETURNED TO BASE AND PANCAKED AT 1340.

5. A. 6/10 COVERAGE AT 4000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR
6. UNDETERMINED
7. 1700 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 1600 GALLONS GAS.
8. NONE

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## 318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF

29 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #29  
GROUP MISSION #58

1. A. SIXTEEN (16) P-47D'S
2. B. NONE
2. A. ONE (1) P-47D CRASHED ON TAKEOFF
- B. NONE
3. STRIKE ON ROTA AIRFIELD TO RENDER AIRSTRIP UNSERVICEABLE FOR NIGHT OPERATIONS.
4. MAJOR MCAFEE, LTS. STAMPE, KENDALL, FLAGERMAN. (BLUEGRASS 1)  
LTS. SHAFFLE, MALONE, PETTY, MARCINKO. (BLUEGRASS 9)  
CAPT. MOHR, LTS. ANDERSON, RUFF, SHAFFER. (BLUEGRASS 6)  
CAPT. VILES, LTS. LUSTIC, KENDLE, DEGHARY. (BLUEGRASS 4)

TAKEOFF: 1630 (LOCAL) - LANDING: 1809 (LOCAL)

SIXTEEN PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 1, 4, 6, 9, AND SIXTEEN PLANES OF 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON TOOK OFF AT 1630 FOR STRIKE ON ROTA AIRSTRIP ON TAKE OFF A TIRE BLEW OUT ON LT. PETTY'S PLANE: SHIP CRASHED AT EAST END OF RUNWAY. LT. PETTY WAS UNINJURED, AND SHIP WAS A COMPLETE WASHOUT.

SQUADRONS WERE OVER THE TARGET AT 1700. THE 73RD SQUADRON ACTED AS HIGH COVER AT 10,000 FEET WHILE 19TH SQUADRON WENT IN ON BOMB RUN. BOMB RUNS WERE MADE FROM 10,000 FEET WITH RELEASE AT 5000 FEET. TWENTY-EIGHT 500 POUND GP BOMBS DROPPED OVER RUNWAY; 80% BOMBS HIT TARGET.

AFETR BOMB RUN, FLIGHTS OF 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON PULLED UP AND ACTED AS HIGH COVER WHILE THE 73RD FIGHTER SQUADRON BOMBED THE TARGET. AS THE 73RD COMPLETED ITS BOMB RUN, FLIGHTS OF THE 19TH STRAFED TARGET AREA.

FIRES WERE STARTED IN AREAS 191, 175, 207. FIRE IN AREA 191 SEEMED TO BE OIL OR FUEL FIRE. GUN EMPLACEMENT IN AREA 220X DESTROYED. FIELD RENDERED UNSERVICEABLE. INTENSE MACHINE GUN FIRE RECEIVED FROM AREAS 206, 207, 208. SQUADRON RETURNED TO BASE AND LANDED AT 1809 (LOCAL)

5. A. 4/10 COVERAGE AT 4000 FEET
- B. LOUD AND CLEAR
6. GUN EMPLACEMENT DESTROYED. RUNWAY RENDERED UNSERVICEABLE. FIRE STARTED IN AREAS 191, 175, 207.
7. THIRTY (30) 599 LB. GP BOMBS, 8-11 DELAY FUSE. 8,600 ROUNDS .50 CAL. 3000 GALLONS GAS.
8. RUNWAY AT ROTA HAD BEEN REPAIRED SINCE RAID OF 28 JUNE 1944. NO OPERATIONAL AIRCRAFT OBSERVED. OBSERVED OPEN FIELDS IN TARGET AREAS 191, 192, 175, 176, AND 186, 187, 188 THAT MIGHT BE USED AS LANDING STRIP, ALTHOUGH PILOTS COULD NOT TELL EXTENT OF UNDERGROWTH.



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19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #29  
GROUP MISSION #58

(CONTINUED)

8. CONT'D.  
OBSERVED THREE 50-60 FOOT BOATS 305 MILES SOUTHWEST OF HARNOM  
POINT. RECOMMEND FUSES WITH LONGER DELAYED ACTION BE USED ON  
AIRSTRIPE.

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318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
A.P.O. #244

30 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #30  
GROUP MISSION #59

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. BOMB AND STRAFE HEAVY A/A GUN POSITIONS REPORTED IN AREA 596 V. W, TINIAN ISLAND.
4. LTS. JACOBSON, MATHIS, KENDALL, FLAGERMAN, (BLUEGRASS 8)

TAKEOFF 0800 - LANDING 0900

FOUR PLANES BLUEGRASS 8 TOOK OFF AT 0800 (LOCAL) TO BOMB AND STRAFE HEAVY A/A GUN POSITIONS IN AREA 596V, W, TINIAN ISLAND. FLIGHT OVER TARGET AT 0817. BOMB RUN WAS MADE FROM 11,500 FEET WITH RELEASE AT 5,500 FEET. BOMBS OBSERVED TO EXPLODE IN AREA 596W AND 584B, G. AFTER COMPLETION OF BOMB RUN FLIGHT MADE A STRAFING PASS FROM 30 DEGREES AND ANOTHER PASS FROM 90 DEGREES.

FLIGHT DID NOT OBSERVE GUN POSITIONS AS AREA 596W IS HEAVILY WOODED. HOWEVER, THEY DID OBSERVE TWO GROUPS OF BUILDINGS IN AREAS 596V, W.

FIRES STARTED IN AREAS 596W AND 584B. OIL FIRE OBSERVED IN AREA 570. LOCATED OBSERVATION TOWER ABOUT 40 FEET HIGH IN AREA 602Q. MEAGRE M/G FIRE RECEIVED FROM AREA AROUND GURGUAN POINT FIELD. AFTER COMPLETION OF MISSION, FLIGHT RETURNED TO BASE AND LANDED AT 0900.

5. A. 3/10 CLOUD COVERAGE AT 3,000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR
6. UNDETERMINED
7. 5,200 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - EIGHT 500 POUND GP, 8-11 SECOND FUSE BOMBS. - 700 GALLONS GAS.
8. NONE

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A.P.O. # 244

30 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 31  
GROUP MISSION # 60

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. STRAFE GUN POSITIONS AND INSTALLATIONS IN TARGET AREAS 613A, B,  
AND 620V, W, TINIAN ISLAND.
4. LTS. SCHAFFLE, MALONE, PETTY, MARGINKO. (BLUEGRASS 9)

TAKOFF: 0755 - LANDING: 1000

AFTER COMPLETION OF C.A.P. OVER SAIPAN FLIGHT WAS ORDERED TO TINIAN ISLAND TO STRAFE GUN INSTALLATIONS IN AREAS 613A, B, AND INSTALLATIONS IN AREA 620W, AND V. FLIGHT OVER TARGET AT 0940 (LOCAL).

TWO STRAFING PASSES WERE MADE FROM WEST TO EAST OVER TARGET AREAS. FLIGHT BELIEVES IT DESTROYED RADAR SCREEN IN NORTHWEST CORNER OF AREA 620W.

NO DEFINITE GUN EMBLEMMENTS WERE OBSERVED IN TARGET AREAS. HOWEVER, NUMEROUS PITS WHICH COULD BE USED AS INSTALLATIONS WERE OBSERVED. A NUMBER OF BUILDINGS WERE OBSERVED IN THE AREA.

WHILE ON SECOND STRAFING RUN, BLUEGRASS 93 OBSERVED M/G POSITION IN AREA 622L WHICH HE STRAFED AND OBSERVED MANY DIRECT HITS.

MODERATE 20MM AND M/G FIRE ENCOUNTERED IN AREA 620C, R, V, W.

AFTER COMPLETION OF MISSION, FLIGHTS RETURNED TO BASE AND LANDED AT 1000.

5. A. 5/10 CLOUD COVERAGE FROM 1000 TO 4000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. RADAR SCREEN AND M/G EMBLEMMENT PROBABLY DESTROYED.
7. 4,100 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 680 GALLONS GAS.
8. NONE

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19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #32  
GROUP MISSION #81

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. BOMB AND STRAFE HEAVY A/A GUN POSITIONS IN AREA 613W, B,  
ISLAND OF TINIAN.
4. CAPT. SLEPECKY, LTS. DECHARY, RUFF, ANGELLE. (BLUEGRASS 7)

TAKEOFF: 0910 - LANDING: 1015

FOUR PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 7 TOOK OFF AT 0910 TO BOMB AND STRAFE HEAVY A/A POSITIONS REPORTED IN AREA 613 AB, TINIAN ISLAND. FLIGHT WAS OVER TARGET AT 0920. FLIGHT OBSERVED EMPTY GUN POSITIONS IN AREA WHERE HEAVY A/A INSTALLATIONS HAD BEEN REPORTED. SIX BOMBS WERE DROPPED ON TARGET. FOUR WERE OBSERVED TO LAND IN AREA 613BC AND ONE IN AREA 620U AND ONE IN 629Y. BLUEGRASS 72 COULD NOT GET HIS BOMBS AWAY OVER THE TARGET, AND HAD TO JETTISON THEM OVER THE ISLAND. AFTER BOMB RUN FLIGHT MADE THREE STRAFING PASSES ON THE TARGET AREA. ONE PASS FROM NORTHEAST TO SOUTHWEST; AN OTHER FROM WEST TO EAST AND THE LAST PASS FROM EAST TO WEST. FIRE WAS STARTED IN AREA 613F. THIS FLIGHT ALSO OBSERVED AND STRAFED RADAR STATION IN AREA 620V OR W. NO A/A FIRE ENCOUNTERED. FLIGHT RETURNED TO BASE AND PANGAKED AT 1015.

5. 6/10 COVERAGE AT 2000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. UNDETERMINED
7. EIGHT (8) 500 POUND GP .50 CAL. - 500 GALLONS GAS
8. FLIGHT OBSERVED FIRE STARTED IN AREAS 598W AND 584B, TINIAN, BY BLUEGRASS 8 AT 0817 (30 JUNE 1944). FIRE HAD SPREAD OVER AN LARGE AREA AND BURNING INTENSELY.

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30 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #33  
GROUP MISSION #63

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. BOMB TWO HEAVY A/A INSTALLATIONS IN AREA 614A, STRAFE INSTALLATIONS IN AREA 602QVR, TINIAN ISLAND.
4. CAPT. GUINNEE, LTS. DUNN, PORTER, DANYLO. (BLUEGRASS 2)  
TAKEOFF: 1030 - LANDING 1145.

AT 1030 (LOCAL) FOUR PLANE OF BLUEGRASS 2 TOOK OFF TO BOMB TWO HEAVY A/A INSTALLATIONS IN TARGET AREA 614A, AND STRAFE INSTALLATIONS AND TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY IN AREA 602Q, V, R., ISLAND OF TINIAN.

FLIGHT WAS OVER THE TARGET AT 1100 (LOCAL). EIGHT (8) 500 POUND BOMBS (GP) WERE RELEASED OVER TARGET AREA 614A, SIX BOMBS WERE OBSERVED TO EXPLODE IN AREA 614A, ONE IN 614F, AND ONE IN 621U.

PILOTS COULD NOT LOCATE ANY INSTALLATIONS THAT WERE DEFINITELY GUN EMPLACEMENTS. HOWEVER, THEY OBSERVED THAT THE AREA HAD BEEN HIT ON PREVIOUS MISSIONS AS MANY CRATERS COULD BE SEEN.

AFTER COMPLETION OF DIVE BOMB RUN, FLIGHT WITHDREW TO AREA 602QVR AND MADE ONE STRAFING PASS IN THAT AREA FROM EAST TO WEST. FIRES WERE STARTED IN THAT AREA. NO A/A FIRE OBSERVED.

AFTER STRAFING RUN, BLUEGRASS 2 RETURNED TO BASE AND PAN-CAKED AT 1145 (LOCAL).

5. A. 4/10 TOWERING CUMULUS - 2000 TO 11,000 FEET.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. EIGHT (8) 500 BOUND G.P. BOMBS, 8-11 SECOND DELAY FUSE.  
2,900 ROUNDS, .50CAL. - 849 GALLONS GAS.
8. PILOTS OBSERVED LARGE OIL FIRE IN AREA 609R, S, WHICH APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN STARTED BY NAVY PLANES WHICH WERE IN THE AREA AT THE TIME.

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318TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF  
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30 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 34  
GROUP MISSION # 64

1. A. FOUR (4) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. STRAFE ENEMY TROOPS IN AREA 263 SAIPAN.
4. CAPT. TENNANT, LTS. SHAFFER, KENDLE, BACH. (BLUEGRASS 3)

TAKOFF: 1030 - LANDING: 1220

AFTER COMPLETION OF G.A.P. FLIGHT WAS ORDERED BY CHEROKEE CONTROL TO STRAFE ENEMY TROOP CONCENTRATIONS REPORTED TO BE IN AREA 263, SAIPAN. FLIGHT WAS OVER THE TARGET AT 1200 (LOCAL)

THREE STRAFING PASSES FROM SOUTH TO NORTH WERE MADE ON THE TARGET. FIRES STARTED IN AREAS 263L, H, D. PILOTS COULD NOT SEE TROOPS AS AREA IS HEAVILY WOODED, BUT DID FIRE INTO NUMEROUS CAVES LOCATED IN THE CLIFFS IN THAT AREA. BLUEGRASS STRAFED A CONCRETE BUILDING AND 40-FOOT TOWER IN AREA 276. OBSERVED A/A GUN EMPLACEMENT IN AREA 276J.

AFTER COMPLETION OF MISSION, FLIGHT RETURNED TO BASE AND PANCAKED AT 1220.

5. A. 5/10 CLOUD COVERAGE AT 2000 FEET.  
B. COMMUNICATIONS WITH CHEROKEE CONTROL LOUD AND CLEAR INTER-FLIGHT COMMUNICATIONS POOR.
6. UNDETERMINED.
7. 6,300 ROUNDS .50 CAL. - 1,000 GALLONS GAS.
8. NONE

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30 JUNE 1944

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #35  
GROUP MISSION #66

1. A. TWELVE (12) P-47D'S  
B. NONE
2. A. NONE  
B. NONE
3. STRIKE ON ROTA AIRSTRIP TO RENDER AIRSTRIP UNSERVICEABLE FOR NIGHT OPERATIONS.
4. MAJOR MCREE, LTS. DELP, GRAY, ELENDER. (BLUEGRASS 1)  
LT. COL. TAYLOR, LTS. BYRAM, KENDALL, DUNNING. (BLUEGRASS 32)  
CAPT. TENNANT, LTS. BACH, KENDLE, COX. (BLUE-GRASS 3)

TAKEOFF: 1500 - LANDING: 1625

TWELVE PLANES OF BLUEGRASS 1-32-3 TOOK OFF AT 1500 FOR STRIKE ON ROTA AIRSTRIP, ROTA ISLAND. FOUR PLANES BLUEGRASS 1, CARRIED 3 X 5 500 LB. GP BOMBS EACH, AND EIGHT OF BLUEGRASS 32 AND 3 CARRIED 2 X 500 LB G.P. BOMBS EACH. FLIGHTS RENDEZVOUSED WITH SIXTEEN PLANES OF 73RD SQUADRON AT 10,000 FEET OVER AGUIJAN ISLAND.

SQUADRON WERE OVER TARGET AT 1525. WHILE THE 73RD SQUADRON ACTED AS HIGH COVER AT 10,000 FEET, THE 19TH SQUADRON RELEASED ITS BOMBS ON THE TARGET. THE FOUR SHIPS OF BLUEGRASS 1 RELEASED WING BOMBS ONLY ON THE RUNWAY. OF THE 24 X 500 LB. G.P. BOMBS RELEASED ON THE RUNWAY, 21 EXPLODED ON THE TARGET, AND THREE WERE NEAR MISSES. AFTER ALL WING BOMBS WERE RELEASED FLIGHTS CLIMBED TO 10,000 FEET AND TOOK UP HIGH COVER FOR THE 73RD SQUADRON WHILE THEY RELEASED THEIR BOMBS. AFTER BOMBING BY 73RD SQUADRON, THE 19TH SQUADRON RELEASED REMAINING 4 X 500 LB. G.P. BOMBS ON POSSIBLE GUN EMPLACEMENTS IN AREA 220X, Y, AND HOUSING AREA SOUTH OF RUNWAY. WHEN ALL BOMBS WERE AWAY THE 19TH MADE ONE STRARING PASS ON BUILDINGS AND INSTALLATIONS AROUND AIRSTRIP, MEAGRE M/G FORE RECEIVED FROM AREA INSIDE SOUTHEAST TAXI LOOP.

AFTER COMPLETION OF MISSION, SQUADRON RENDEZVOUSED 3 MILES NORTH OF ROTA AT 2,00 FEET AND RETURNED TO BASE.

5. A. CLEAR AND VISIBILITY UNLIMITED.  
B. LOUD AND CLEAR.
6. RUNWAY RENDERED UNSERVICEABLE, FIRES STARTED IN HOUSING AREA SOUTHEAST OF RUNWAY.
7. 28 X 500 LB. G.P. BOMBS, 1/10 SECOND FUSE DELAY, 10,000 ROUNDS .50 CAL - 3,000 GALLONS GAS
8. PRIOR TO BOMB RUN, PILOTS OBSERVED STRIP STILL UNSERVICEABLE SINCE PREVIOUS MISSION 29 JUNE 1944

SANDERS