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SEPT 1949

19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF
318TH FIGHTER GROUP
A.P.O. #244

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ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY, 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 318TH FIGHTER GROUP, VII FIGHTER COMMAND, SEVENTH AIR FORCE.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1944 - SEPTEMBER 30 1944

1. ORGANIZATION :

NEGATIVE.

2. STRENGTH :

63 - OFFICERS
246 - ENLISTED MEN

3. DATE OF ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE FROM EACH STATION OCCUPIED IN THIS THEATER:

NEGATIVE.

4. LOSSES:

NEGATIVE.

5. AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

THE FOLLOWING DECORATIONS PRESENTED AT EAST FIELD, SAIPAN 19TH SEPTEMBER 1944.

DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS, AIR MEDAL, AND FIRST BRONZE OAK-LEAF CLUSTER.

MAJOR DE JACK WILLIAMS, O-433765
1ST. LIEUT. JOSEPH MALONE, O-677081

AIR MEDAL AND FIRST BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER.

CAPTAIN JOSEPH FITZSIMMONS, O-661302
CAPTAIN ROBERT P. GUINNEE, 0660140
CAPTAIN HENRY G. MOHR, 0663072
CAPTAIN MICHAEL SLEPECKY JR, 0794515
CAPTAIN CHARLES W. TENNANT, 0661396
1ST. LIEUT. LEON A. COX, 0807211
1ST. LIEUT. PATRICK C. FLAGERMAN, 0808248
1ST. LIEUT. ROY A. JACOBSON, 02054045
1ST. LIEUT. HOWARD J. KENDALL, 0677051
1ST. LIEUT. OTHO N. KENDLE, 0677052
1ST. LIEUT. EDWARD J. LIEBGOTT, 0806706
1ST. LIEUT. WILLIAM A. LOFLIN, 0677076
1ST. LIEUT. MELVIN F. PETTY, 0681698
1ST. LIEUT. BOONE N. RUFF, 0737261

P.R.C.

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ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY, 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF. CONT'DORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY, 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF. (CONT'D)S E C R E TAWARDS CONT'D.

2ND. LIEUT. RICHARD H. ANDERSON, 0694214
 2ND. LIEUT. JAMES C. ANGELLE, 0694111
 2ND. LIEUT. EARL R. BACH, 0694113
 2ND. LIEUT. HOWARD H. BARRETT, 0693217
 2ND. LIEUT. GEORGE H. BYRAM, 0695007
 2ND. LIEUT. MICHAEL DANYLO, 0763809
 2ND. LIEUT. PAUL L. DECHARY, 0693116
 2ND. LIEUT. JOHN J. DELP, 0816634
 2ND. LIEUT. DONALD DOHERTY, 0763526
 2ND. LIEUT. JOHN F. DUNN, 0811869
 2ND. LIEUT. HAL H. DUNNING, 0763529
 2ND. LIEUT. KENNETH C. ELENDER, 0763532
 2ND. LIEUT. EDWARD E. GRAY, 0693131
 2ND. LIEUT. STANLEY J. LUSTIC, 0759036
 2ND. LIEUT. CHARLES S. MARGINKO, 0758825
 2ND. LIEUT. WILLIAM H. MATHIS, 0759040
 2ND. LIEUT. RICHARD B. RHODY, 0697298
 2ND. LIEUT. CLAUDE A. SHAFFER, 0696715
 2ND. LIEUT. HENRY M. STAMPE, 02054072

BRONZE STAR AWARDED TO MASTER SERGEANT PAUL E. ELLIOT, 6947483 AT ISLEY FIELD, 16 SEPTEMBER 1944.

CITATIONS PRESENTED TO THE FOLLOWING GROUND OFFICERS BY MAJOR GENERAL SANFORD JARMEN, ISLAND COMMANDER, AGF.

CAPTAIN JOHN A. McDONALD, 0569211
 1ST. LIEUT. WILLIAM W. SHAW, 0579201
 1ST. LIEUT. ELDRIDGE PRICE, 0860400
 1ST. LIEUT. CLARKSON B. HEREFORD, 01553466
 1ST. LIEUT. JOSEPH G. TOWNSEND, 0579488

00055825

ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY, 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF, CONT'DS E C R E T

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

WHILE ON CAP SEPT. 21, AND IN MAKING A FORCED LANDING HERE AT EAST FIELD OVERSHOT THE RUNWAY AND CRASHED. PILOT WAS NOT INJURED, BUT PLANE WAS A COMPLETE LOSS.

THE TRAINING OF NEW PILOTS CONTINUES WITH EMPHASES ON GROUND GUNNERY, AERIAL GUNNERY, TACTICS, AND A COMPLETE GROUND SCHOOL COURSE COVERING COMMUNICATIONS, INTELLIGENCE, ARMAMENT, ORDNANCE, AND ENGINEERING.

AS A RESULT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEFINITE REASSIGNMENT AND FURLOUGH POLICY, THE MORALE OF THE SQUADRON HAS BEGUN TO RISE RAPIDLY TOWARD THE END OF THE MONTH. PRIOR TO THIS THERE WAS MUCH UNCERTAINTY ABOUT REASSIGNMENT AND CONSEQUENTLY MORALE WAS EFFECTED.

FOOD IS STILL A PROBLEM. FRESH MEAT IS NON-EXISTENT ON THE ISLAND. MANY MEN QUESTION THIS AND WONDER WHY REFRIGERATION FACILITIES HAVE NOT BEEN SET UP. THREE AND A HALF MONTHS HAVE ELAPSED SINCE D-DAY AND OUR DIET HAS NOT CHANGED VERY MUCH. IT IS FELT THAT IF AND WHEN, AN OCCASSIONAL MEAL CONSISTING OF A FEW FRESH VEGETABLES AND MEAT IS SERVED, THE MENTAL ATTITUDE AND PHYSICAL HEALTH OF THE PERSONNEL WILL PICK UP. A RECENT MEDICAL SURVEY SHOWS A DEFINITE CALCIUM DEFICIENCY, AND AN AVERAGE LOSS IN WEIGHT OF FROM EIGHT TO EN POUNDS PER MAN IN THE ORGANIZATION.

ON SEPTEMBER 19, MAJOR GENERAL DOUGLAS, CO VII AAF, BRIG. GENERAL MOORE, 7TH FIGHTER COMMAND, AND BRIG. GENERAL LANDON, 7TH BOMBER COMMAND, DECORATED PILOTS OF THE 318TH FIGHTER GROUP, HAVING PARTICIPATED IN COMBAT MISSION IN THE MARIANAS CAMPAIGN. THE CEREMONY WAS HELD HERE AT EAST FIELD, SAIPAN, AND IS BELIEVED TO BE THE FIRST MASS DECORATION OF FIGHTER PILOTS TO BE HELD IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC AREA. THIRTY-FIVE PILOTS OF THIS ORGANIZATION WERE AWARDED THE AIR MEDAL AND 1ST OAK LEAF CLUSTER, AND TWO PILOTS AWARDED THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS. W/SGT. PAUL E. ELLIOT, #6947483, WAS AWARDED THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL ON THE 16 SEPTEMBER, 1944, BY MAJOR GENERAL SANFORD JARMIN, ISLAND COMMANDER, FOR OUTSTANDING MILITARY ACHIEVEMENT DURING THE ASSAULT PHASE OF THE MARIANAS CAMPAIGN. CITATIONS WERE PRESENTED TO CAPT. JOHN A. McDONALD 1ST LT. W.W. SHAW, 1ST LT. J.L. PRICE, 1ST LT. C.B. HEREFORD, AND 1ST LT. J.G. TOWNSEND, BY MAJOR GENERAL JARMINE, AGF COMMANDER, FOR OUTSTANDING WORK AND ATTENTION TO DUTY DURING THE CONQUEST OF SAIPAN ISLAND. ALTHOUGH SUBJECT TO ENEMY ACTION THESE OFFICERS CONTINUED TO CARRY ON UNLOADING OPERATIONS AND PROCEEDED TO CAPTURED ASLITO AIRFIELD WHERE THEY SET UP THE SQUADRON FOR COMBAT OPERATIONS.

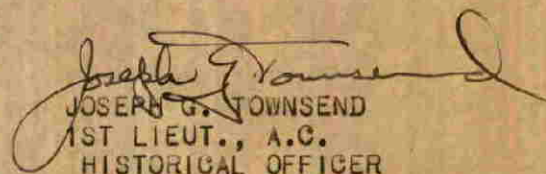
FOR THE PAST SIX WEEKS THE OFFICERS OF THE SQUADRON HAVE SPENT ALL THEIR SPARE TIME IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CLUB. IT HAS BEEN BUILT OF SCRAP LUMBER, WING TANK BOXES, JAPANESE PAINT, JAPANESE CEMENT, AND NUMEROUS OTHER SALVAGABLE ITEMS. THE SQUADRON IS FORTUNATE IN THAT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF SKILLED CARPENTERS, DRAFTSMEN, CABINET MAKERS, AND ARTISTS AMONG THE OFFICER PERSONNEL WHO WERE ABLE TO MAKE THE CLUB THE FINEST ON SAIPAN.

ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY, 19TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF, CONT'D

S E C R E T

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

AT THE CLOSE OF THE MONTH THE ENLISTED MEN WERE BUSILY ENGAGED IN BUILDING NEW FLOORS FOR THEIR TENTS AND THE PILOTS ERECTING QUONSET HUTS AS LIVING QUARTERS. PLANS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW LINE AREA AND OTHER BUILDINGS AND INSTALLATIONS. THE SQUADRON HAS TRULY TAKEN ON THE APPEARANCE OF ONE REMOTE FROM COMBAT WHAT WITH COMBAT MISSIONS REDUCED TO A MINIMUM AND THE SETTING UP OF AN EXTENSIVE TRAINING SCHEDULE.


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