

~~RESTRICTED~~

SECRET

SIG-FI-72-#1
MAY 1945

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.
APO #86
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

R

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

10 June 1945

Organizational History, 72nd Fighter Squadron, 21st Fighter Group,
VII Fighter Command, Army Air Forces Pacific Ocean Area.

May 1, 1945 - May 31, 1945

1. Date of arrival and departure from each station occupied in this Theater:

Negative.

2. Losses in action:

Negative.

P.R.C.

3. Awards and Decorations:

On 1 May 1945, Major Paul J. Imig, O-660152, Commanding Officer of this squadron was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. (See Exhibit #1, Section I).

On 11 May 1945, 2nd Lts. Horace R. Brandenberger O-710646, Howard C. Brown O-829815, Alfred V. Stuart O-821800 and 1st Lt. (now Capt.) William E. Merritt O-677097 were awarded the Air Medal. (See Exhibit #2, Section III). Captains Adolph J. Eregar O-794193, James H. Carlyle O-730375, and Howard L. Russell O-797720 were awarded the First Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster To The Air Medal. (See Exhibit #2, Section IV). Captain Adolph J. Eregar O-794193 was awarded the Second Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster To The Air Medal. (See Exhibit #2, Section V).

4. Organization:

Negative.

5. Strength, Personnel:

May 1, 1945 - EM - 258	Officers - 68
May 31, 1945 - EM - 264	Officers - 70

06657215

6. Strength, Airplanes:

May 1, 1945 - 29 P-51D-20's.
May 31, 1945 - 26 P-51D-20's, 3 P-51D-25's.

7. Losses, Airplanes:

3 P-51D-20's - serial numbers: 44-638926, 44-63954, 44-63784.

719-10

6778-42

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9

~~RESTRICTED~~

Historical Division AAFPOA

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

G. Losses: (Airplanes)

Four Seventh Air Force aircraft destroyed. P-51D20, Serial No. 44-63968 (Operational). P-51D20, Serial No. 44-63917 (Combat). P-51D20, Serial No. 44-63987 (Combat). P-51D20, Serial No. 44-63911 (Operational).

SECRET72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.
APO #86
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

10 June 1945

Narrative History for the Month of May 1945.

The month of May found the squadron continuing the Air war against the enemy in a two-fold manner; one by providing fighter protection for Mariannas based B-29s hitting targets on the home islands of the Japanese; and by fighter strike missions to the Empire. Chichi Jima felt the weight of our explosives also.

In spite of the adverse weather conditions encountered, two (2) missions were flown to Chichi Jima and six (6) missions to the Japanese mainland. The squadron also flew several days CAP and stood several day alerts throughout the month.

On 2nd May, 14 aircraft, led by Capt. Bregar, flew a dive-bombing and strafing mission on Chichi Jima. Targets of opportunity were hit and all planes returned to base safely. (See Exhibit #3) On 8th May, 18 aircraft, led by Capt. Bregar, were airborne for fighter strike on Kisarazu Airfield, Japan. No enemy aircraft were found on the primary target so ground installations were strafed. Lt. Col. Taylor damaged a transport on the secondary target of Tateyama Naval Air Station. All planes returned safely to base. (See Exhibit #4) On 17th May, 24 aircraft, led by Capt. Carlyle were airborne for fighter strike against Atsugi Airfield, Japan. 13 returned early, 11 over the target. The primary target was strafed with the following results: five (5) enemy a/c destroyed, 1 probably destroyed, twenty-three (23) a/c damaged, all on the ground. Two (2) of our a/c were lost on this mission. Lt. Richardson's plane crashed short of the runway when his engine cut out on landing, pilot uninjured. The landing gear on Lt. Bruner's plane gave way as he landed at base after being hit over the target. Pilot sustained cut on forehead. (See

⁽¹⁾
SECRET

SECRET

Narrative History for the Month of May 1945 (continued)

Exhibit #5) On 19th May, 20 aircraft, led by Lt. Col. Taylor of Hq. 21st Fighter Group, airborne for B-29 escort mission over the Japanese Mainland. A front was encountered approximately 75 miles from the coast of Japan and flights were ordered to return to base. This is considered as an abortive mission. (See Exhibit #6) On 24th May, 19 aircraft, led by Capt. van Nada, airborne for fighter strike on Tokorozawa Airfield, Japan. A solid front was encountered approximately 350 miles from base so flights turned around and returned to base. This is also considered as an abortive mission. (See Exhibit #7).

On 25th May, another fighter strike on Tokorozawa Airfield was scheduled. This time, 20 aircraft, led by Lt. Col. Taylor of Hq. 21st Fighter Group, strafed buildings and installations and damaged one (1) T/E enemy a/c on the primary target. A steamer of the "Fox Tare Charlie" type was damaged and left burning in Tokyo Harbor. Lt. Col. Taylor was forced to bail out, due to hits received by enemy fire, and was picked up immediately by an Air Sea Rescue submarine. (See Exhibit #8) On 28th May, 14 aircraft, led by Capt. Van Nada, airborne for dive-bombing and strafing raid on Chichi Jima. Targets of opportunity were hit and all planes returned safely. (See Exhibit #9) On 29th May, 20 aircraft, led by Capt. Van Nada, airborne for B-29 escort mission attacking the Yokohama Area, Japan. Enemy aerial contact was made over the target and during the battle that followed, six (6) enemy a/c were shot down, one (1) probable and six (6) damaged in the air. Four (4) of our a/c were damaged slightly but all returned safely to base. (See Exhibit #10)

For a complete summary of enemy A/C destroyed, probably destroyed and damaged for the month of May by pilots of this squadron, see Exhibit #11.

Changes in Officer personnel were quite extensive for the month and were as follows: On the 1st, 2nd Lts. Leo M. Hines 0-719394, Harry McGuire

(2)

SECRET

SECRET

Narrative History for the Month of May 1945 (continued).

O-2064093 and F/O Roderick W. O'Donoghue T-64191, pilots, were assigned to the squadron from 7th Fighter Wing; on the 3rd, Major Paul J. Imig O-660152, Captains John S. Barker O-727381 and Walter S. Simonson O-662185, pilots, were transferred to AAFPOA unassigned and attached to AAFPOA Rest & Recreation Center, APO #953, for reassignment to the States. On the 12th, Capt. Frank J. Rodgers O-797715, in Tripler General Hospital, APO #958, and 2nd Lt. Glenn W. Reagan O-711019 carried as missing in action, both pilots, were transferred to Hq., 21st Fighter Group. On the 14th, 2nd Lts. Angelo C. Liberato O-754524 and William W. McDowell O-835038, pilots, were assigned from Hq., VII Fighter Command. On the 17th, 1st Lt. Joe T. Keister O-667725, pilot, was assigned from 7th Fighter Wing. On the 18th, Capt. Hugh A. Drane O-419120, Flight Surgeon, was assigned from VI Air Service Command. On the 25th, 2nd Lt. Bolestaw K. Borowski O-708397, new personnel equipment officer, assigned from Hq., 135th Replacement Battalion. On the 28th, Capt. Joseph J. Baird O-423074, Flight Surgeon, was transferred to Hq., VI Air Service Command.

The squadron experienced two changes of Commanding Officers during the Month of May. When Maj. Paul J. Imig left the squadron on the 3rd, Capt. James H. Carlyle assumed command, and upon returning to duty from the 21st General Hospital, APO #958, Capt. James C. Van Nada took over the command of the squadron. Other pilot activities found 2nd Lt. Harve H. Phipps O-758052 returned to duty on the 10th from 204th General Hospital, APO #248. Returning from rest leave at Rest & Recreation Center, APO #953, were 2nd Lt. Horace Wallace on the 17th, Capt. Howard L. Russell and 1st Lt. Clarence H. Bell on the 19th. Pilots going on rest leave were: 1st Lt. Gerard J. Dowds, 2nd Lts. Warren H. Ellison, Robert L. Erickson and Melvin B. Fleming on the 19th; 1st Lt. James A. Dickens, Jr., 2nd Lts. Horace R. Brandenberger, James W. Bradbury and Claude A. Lane on the 20th, and 1st Lt. Ralph L. Bruner on the 24th.

(3)
SECRET

SECRET

Narrative History for the Month of May 1945 (continued).

Also on the 20th, Capt. William E. Merritt, 2nd Lts. Leo M. Hines and Harry McGuire were placed on temporary duty to APO #294 to pick up new aircraft. Above pilots ferried new P-51D-25's back to base on the 25th of the month. Individual Combat Records of pilots leaving the squadron during the month may be found as Exhibit #12.

Changes in EM personnel were as follows: Newly assigned, four (4) on the 8th, one (1) on the 14th and two (2) on the 17th. The first and only EM to be affected by the newly announced point system for discharge was S/Sgt. William F. Ormond Jr. with 159 points, who left the squadron on the 23rd as a returnee transferred to POA unassigned and attached unassigned to CPBC Personnel Center APO #968. On the 10th one (1) EM left on an emergency furlough, and three (3) EM returned to the States on a 45 day Rest and Recuperation furlough. On the 24th, one (1) EM left on a 45 day furlough.

Promotions received during the month were as follows: On the 6th, 4 EM were promoted to PFC; on the 23rd, 1st Lts. Bocher and Warren to Captain and 2nd Lts. Cottle, Decker, Ellison, Erickson, Bradbury, Brandenberger, Czach, A. G. Jones, Phipps, Skripek, Stuart and Wallace to 1st Lts.

During the early morning hours of 15 May, a tropical storm with surface winds up to 50 MPH hit the line and living area of this unit. Fortunately, due to a forwarning, all planes and tents were staked and sand-bagged down. Several section tents, both on the line and in the living area were blown down. However, no damage was done to the squadron a/c and all living tents weathered the storm in fairly good shape.

Personnel got in some of the well-known "fox hole time" on 22 May. An air raid was sounded at 2158 as 5 to 7 enemy bombers were reported overhead. Two (2) were shot down by AA fire and some bombs were dropped; however, no damage or injury was sustained by the squadron. All clear sounded at 2326.

SECRET

SECRET

Narrative History for the Month of May 1945 (continued).

Laundry facilities were offered to the squadron this month of May, for the first time in our present location. Four to six day service which had proven satisfactory. Personnel have enjoyed nightly movies at the 21st Fighter Group open air theatre. Construction on a new quonset hut mess hall is nearing completion and should be in use early next month. A large I & E Board has been erected in the living area and among the various situation maps, pictures, etc., can be found a very interesting feature, "A Scalper Scans The News", a daily news sheet edited by Sgt. Ropollo of the Communications section.

All sections reported a very busy month with duties ranging from routine to extra special due to the combat conditions. The Engineering section was called upon to put forth every effort to keep the planes in commission during the rainy days and in preparing for the fore-mentioned strikes. The communications section also was kept extra busy when the wet weather set in, as the dampness greatly affected the radio sets in the aircraft. Linemen continued busy, as more wiring was done both on the line and in the living area. Lt. Gates, Communication Officer, was put on flying status from 1 May to 30 June, as he continued going on B-29s as communication observer. The Armament section boresighted the new a/c received, and during the month a total of 62,795 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition were expended; 4,500 rounds of this was fired while conducting a photo test for the VII Fighter Command. This test was conducted to determine the best setting for the G.S.A.P. camera when on missions over the Japanese Empire. Forty-eight (48) x 500 lb. GP bombs were dropped during the month of May.

A letter of Commendation from Brigadier General Moore, Commanding General, VII Fighter Command, was received by the squadron this month, congratulating the Officers and men for the Initial Appearance of Army Fighter Planes over the Japanese Empire. (See Exhibit #13)

(5)
SECRET

SECRET

Narrative History for the Month of May 1945 (continued).

A total of 960:35 hours were flown during the month. Of this total, 769:15 were combat hours.

With the announcement of V-E Day in Europe, no let-down was experienced by the Officers and EM of this unit. Instead, there was a grim determination to bear full weight on our Japanese enemy and hasten the day of complete victory.

(6)

SECRET

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

EXHIBIT #1.

HISTORY

MAY 1945

SECRET

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
APO # 86

Auth: -CG VII Ftr Comd
Initials: E.H.B.
Date 1 May 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 21)

Historical file for envelope.
Jay
1 May 1945.

	<u>SECTION</u>
AWARD OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL	I
AWARD OF FIRST BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO AIR MEDAL	II
AWARD OF SECOND BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO AIR MEDAL	III
AWARD OF THIRD BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO AIR MEDAL	IV
AWARD OF SOLDIER'S MEDAL	V
AMENDMENT OF GENERAL ORDER	VI

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL: - By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Bull. No. 3, W.D., 1944) and pursuant to authority contained in Change 3, AR 600-45, 25 April 1944, paragraph 3a(4), Circular No. 32, USAFPOA, 17 September 1944, and 1st Ind AAFFOA, 7 April 1945, to Letter, Hq VII Fighter Command, file 200.6, subject "Awards and Decorations", dated 21 March 1945, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, VII Fighter Command, to the following named officers, United States Army:

Captain FREDERICK JACK GIBSON, 0730450, Air Corps, United States Army. For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy on 26 March 1945. During the early morning of that day, approximately two hundred and fifty Japanese soldiers, armed with rifles, hand grenades and sabers, attacked the bivouac of his unit, firing through the living area, tossing hand grenades into open tents and invading them with drawn sabers. They killed and wounded many of our personnel, some still lying on cots asleep. Captain GIBSON, realizing the need for immediate action, and with utter disregard for his own safety, began rendering assistance to the wounded. Under enemy rifle and grenade fire, he ran from tent to tent, giving first aid and planning the escape of the injured to a safe area. By bandaging and evacuating many of the injured from further danger of attack Captain GIBSON demonstrated great courage and devotion to duty, reflecting great credit on himself and the Army Air Forces.

Major PAUL J. IMIG, 0660152, Air Corps, United States Army, for meritorious achievement and service in connection with military operations against the enemy from 1 June 1944 to 15 April 1945.

Major FRED A. SHIRLEY, 0388718, Air Corps, United States Army, for meritorious achievement and service in connection with military operations against the enemy from 20 November 1944 to 15 April 1945.

SECTION II

AWARD OF FIRST BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO AIR MEDAL: - By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, 11 May 1942

SECRET

S E C R E T

(GO # 21 Hq VII FC AAF, 1 May 1945)

(Bull. No. 25, W.D., 1942) as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bull. No. 49, W.D., 1942), and pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 17, AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, paragraph 3a(1), Circular No. 32, USAFPOA, 17 September 1944, and 1st Ind, AAFPOA, 7 April 1945, to Letter, Hq VII Fighter Command, file 200.6, subject "Awards and Decorations", dated 21 March 1945, the First Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, VII Fighter Command, to the following-named officer:

Captain FREDERICK J. GIBSON, 0730450, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight on 19 April 1945. As a pilot of a fighter type aircraft, he destroyed one enemy aircraft over the Japanese Empire, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

SECTION III

AWARD OF SECOND BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL: - By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bull. No. 25, W.D., 1942) as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bull. No. 49, W.D., 1942), and pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 17, AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, paragraph 3a(1), Circular No. 32, USAFPOA, 17 September 1944, and 1st Ind, AAFPOA, 7 April 1945, to Letter, Hq VII Fighter Command, file 200.6, subject "Awards and Decorations", dated 21 March 1945, the Second Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, VII Fighter Command, to the following-named officers:

Captain RICHARD H. HINTERMEIER, 0799987, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight 22 April 1945. As pilot of a fighter-type aircraft Captain HINTERMEIER shot down one enemy aircraft over the Japanese Empire, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Captain HOWARD J. KENDALL, 0677051, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight on 19 April 1945. As a pilot of a fighter-type aircraft, he destroyed one enemy aircraft over the Japanese Empire, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Major FRED A. SHIRLEY, 0388718, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight on 12 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft

- 2 -

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

(GO # 21 Hq VII FC AAF, 1 May 1945)

over the Japanese Empire, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty, which reflected great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

SECTION IV

AWARD OF THIRD BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO AIR MEDAL: - By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bull. No. 25, W.D., 1942) as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bull. No. 49, W.D., 1942), and pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 17, AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, paragraph 3a(1) Circular No. 32, USAFPOA, 17 September 1944, and 1st Ind, AAFPOA, 7 April 1945, to Letter, Hq VII Fighter Command, file 200.6, subject "Awards and Decorations", dated 21 March 1945, the Third Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, VII Fighter Command, to the following-named officer:

Major FRED A. SHIRLEY, 0388718, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight on 12 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft over the Japanese Empire, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty, which reflected great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

SECTION V

AWARD OF THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL: - By direction of the President, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved 2 July 1926 (Bull. #8, W.D., 1926), and pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 8b(3), AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, paragraph 3a(1), Circular No. 32, USAFPOA, 17 September 1944, and 1st Ind AAFPOA, 7 April 1945, to Letter, Hq VII Fighter Command, file 200.6, subject "Awards and Decorations", dated 21 March 1945, a Soldier's Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, VII Fighter Command, to the following named enlisted men:

Sergeant JACK J. DIAMOND, 32010466, Air Corps, United States Army. For heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy displayed in rescuing a pilot pinned in the wreckage of his airplane. On 10 March 1945, a pilot of a fighter type airplane lost control of his airplane while landing on Motoyama Airfield, No. 1, Iwo Jima, in the Volcano Group of Islands and crashed into two parked airplanes. The pilot was rendered unconscious and pinned in the cockpit of his airplane. The wreckage burst into flames immediately. The danger of an explosion was imminent due to leaking gasoline and ammunition being exposed to fire. Sergeant DIAMOND with another soldier, witnessed the serious plight of the pilot, and with utter disregard for their own safety dashed to the scene of the accident and succeeded in removing the unconscious pilot and carrying him to safety. The heroism displayed by Sergeant DIAMOND on this occasion reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Technical Sergeant (then Staff Sergeant) MERRILL E. WEST, 16007615, Air Corps, United States Army. For heroism not involving actual conflict with an enemy displayed in rescuing a pilot pinned in the wreckage of his airplane.

- 3 -

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

(GO # 21 Hq VII FC AAF, 1 May 1945)

On 10 March 1945, a pilot of a fighter type airplane lost control of his airplane while landing on Motoyama Airfield, No. 1, Iwo Jima, in the Volcano Group of Islands and crashed into two parked airplanes. The pilot was rendered unconscious and pinned in the cockpit of his airplane. The wreckage burst into flames immediately. The danger of an explosion was imminent due to leaking gasoline and ammunition being exposed to fire. Technical Sergeant WEST with another soldier, witnessed the serious plight of the pilot, and with utter disregard for their own safety dashed to the scene of the accident and succeeded in removing the unconscious pilot and carrying him to safety. The heroism displayed by Technical Sergeant WEST on this occasion reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

SECTION VI

AMENDMENT OF GENERAL ORDER: - So much of paragraph 2, General Order #14, this headquarters, 11 April 1945, as reads:

Major JOHN S. HUDSON, 0429414, Air Corps, United States Army, is amended to read:

Major JOHN S. HUDSON JR, 0429414, Air Corps, United States Army.

So much of paragraph 2, General Order #14, this headquarters, 11 April 1945, as reads:

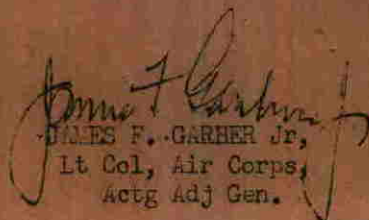
2D LIEUTENANT HARVE H. PHIPPS, 0758052, Air Corps, United States Army, is amended to read:

2D LIEUTENANT HARVE H. PHIPPS, JR, 0758052, Air Corps, United States Army.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL MOORE:

JAMES F. GARBER Jr,
Lt Col, Air Corps,
Actg Adj Gen.

OFFICIAL:


JAMES F. GARBER Jr,
Lt Col, Air Corps,
Actg Adj Gen.

DISTRIBUTION: "B"

LESS (6), (7), (8), (9), & (10); plus (5) - 6 cys.

- 4 -

S E C R E T

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

EXHIBIT #2.

HISTORY

MAY 1945

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COLLAND AAF
APO # 86

SECRET

Auth: -C.G., VII FC
Initials: E.H.B.
Date: 11 May 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)
NUMBER 25)

11 May 1945

SECTION

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL I
 AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART II
 AWARD OF THE AIR MEDAL III
 AWARD OF THE FIRST BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL. . . IV
 AWARD OF SECOND BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL V

SECTION I

AWARD OF THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL: - By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9419, 4 February 1944 (Bull. No. 3, W.D., 1944) and pursuant to authority contained in Change 3, AR 600-45, 25 April 1944, paragraph 3a(4), Circular No. 32, USAFPOA, 17 September 1944, and 1st Ind AAFPOA, 7 April 1945, to Letter, Hq VII Fighter Command, file 200.6, subject "Awards and Decorations", dated 21 March 1945, a Bronze Star Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, VII Fighter Command to the following named officers and enlisted men:

Technician Fourth Grade ROBERT L. ANDERSON, 32401437, Signal Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy on 1 March 1945.

Second Lieutenant JOHN W. BROCK, 0708888, Air Corps, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States on Iwo Jima on 26 March 1945. During a Japanese infiltration attack on his bivouac area, Lieutenant BROCK, under enemy fire for over an hour before retreating from the tent area, volunteered to return again with more men to establish a defense line against a numerically superior enemy. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, he advanced to a position within sixty feet of a Japanese entrenchment containing twenty or thirty of the enemy. Despite his lack of ground warfare training and in the face of intense fire, Lieutenant BROCK fired his rifle about one and one half hours, killing a number of the enemy and contributing greatly to the saving of many lives. Lieutenant BROCK'S courage and initiative reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Captain PAUL R. COCHRAN, 0729316, Air Corps, United States Army, for heroic service during a surprise Japanese infiltration attack on Iwo Jima, 26 March 1945. On being awakened by severe enemy fire he immediately proceeded to an elevation approximately sixty feet from the organized enemy attackers. He remained alone at this exposed position firing his M1 rifle, killing or wounding a number of the enemy. During this heroic action he was severely wounded in the chest by enemy fire and was then evacuated to a safer location. Captain COCHRAN'S initiative and courageous action reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

(GO # 25 Hq VII PC AAF, 11 May 45)

Captain BERT J. DECKER, 01635765, Air Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy from 24 February 1945 to 7 March 1945.

Sergeant ERNEST W. DWORAK, 16162305, Air Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy from 25 February 1945 to 15 March 1945.

Technical Sergeant THEODORE M. DYER, JR, 0149672, Air Corps, United States Army, for heroic action in connection with military operations against the enemy on 26 March 1945. During a pre-dawn organized infiltration attack by heavily armed Japanese soldiers on the 21st Fighter Group bivouac area on Iwo Jima, Technical Sergeant DYER was one of the first to volunteer for a counter-attack against the enemy. Although untrained in infantry tactics and with complete disregard for his own personal safety, he encircled a strong pocket of Japanese who were firing down on the tent area. Despite heavy rifle and grenade fire from the pocket, he was successful in killing several of the invaders. Sergeant DYER'S efforts were an important contributing factor in the annihilation of the pocket and successful conclusion of the counterattack. This deed reflects highest credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Technician Fourth Grade LELAND B. EMERSON, 32731401, Signal Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy on 1 March 1945.

Captain GORDON L. GILBERT, 0513770, Medical Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy from 26 February 1945 to 1 April 1945.

Private First Class ARMAND GREENBERG, 33577702, Signal Corps, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on 1 March 1945. As a member of a radar crew during the attack on Iwo Jima, he remained at his post and continued operation in the immediate vicinity of an exploding ammunition dump, displaying courage and devotion to duty above and beyond that normally expected. With two other men he went into the open, with shells exploding nearby, and extinguished a fire on the radar tent. Through his efforts, and the efforts of the entire crew, the 5th Marine Division and nearby units were given warning of an enemy air attack, which warning they otherwise might not have received. The heroism displayed by Private First Class GREENBERG on this occasion reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Technician Fourth Grade JENS G. HEDGREN, 36049418, Signal Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy on 1 March 1945.

Technician Fourth Grade GEORGE M. NORRIS, 38368621, Signal Corps, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on 1 March 1945. As a member of a radar crew during the attack on Iwo Jima, he remained at his post and continued operation in the immediate vicinity of an exploding ammunition dump, displaying courage and devotion to duty

SECRET

(GO # 25 Hq VII FC AAF, 11 May 45)

above and beyond that normally expected. With two other men he went into the open, with shells exploding nearby, and extinguished a fire on the radar tent. Through his efforts, and the efforts of the entire crew, the 5th Marine Division and nearby units were given warning of an enemy air attack, which warning they otherwise might not have received. The heroism displayed by Technician Fourth Grade MORRIS on this occasion reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Second Lieutenant PAUL E. SCHURR, 0767402, Air Corps, United States Army, for heroic action in connection with military operations against the enemy on 26 March 1945. During a pre-dawn organized infiltration attack by heavily armed Japanese soldiers on the 21st Fighter Group bivouac area on Iwo Jima, Lieutenant SCHURR helped defend the tent area against the invaders. In spite of heavy enemy fire from rifles and hand grenades, he stood his ground and killed and wounded several of the enemy, thereby aiding greatly in delaying the enemy attack until the tents could be evacuated and a counterattack organized. Without regard for his personal safety he joined in the counterattack and helped eliminate the enemy. This deed reflects highest credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Private First Class DE WAYNE E. SNEAD, 35547757, Signal Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy on 1 March 1945.

Second Lieutenant WILLARD J. SMITH, 0773843, Air Corps, United States Army, for heroic action in connection with military operations against the enemy on 26 March 1945. During a pre-dawn organized infiltration attack by heavily armed Japanese soldiers on the 21st Fighter Group bivouac area on Iwo Jima, Lieutenant SMITH helped defend the tent area against the invaders. In spite of heavy enemy fire from rifles and hand grenades he stood his ground and killed and wounded several of the enemy, thereby aiding greatly in delaying the enemy attack until tents could be evacuated and a counterattack organized. Without regard for his personal safety, he joined in the counterattack and helped eliminate the enemy. This deed reflects highest credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Staff Sergeant DENVER S. STE CLAIR, 37503123, Signal Corps, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on 1 March 1945. As Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of a radar crew during the attack on Iwo Jima, he inspired his crew to remain at their posts and continue operation in the immediate vicinity of an exploding ammunition dump. He personally led a fire-fighting detail into the open, with shells exploding nearby, and extinguished a fire on the radar tent. Through his efforts, and the efforts of his crew, the 5th Marine Division and nearby units were given warning of an enemy air attack, which warning they otherwise might not have received. The heroism displayed by Staff Sergeant STE CLAIR on this occasion reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Sergeant KEATHLEY M. WINTER, 14154612, Signal Corps, United States Army, for meritorious service in connection with military operations against the enemy on 1 March 1945.

- 3 -

SECRET

SECRET

(GO # 25 Hq VII Ftr Comd AAF, 11 May 45)

Technician Fifth Grade RICHARD R. YOUNG JR, 34463739, Signal Corps, United States Army, for heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy on 1 March 1945. As a member of a radar crew during the attack on Iwo Jima, he remained at his post and continued operation in the immediate vicinity of an exploding ammunition dump, displaying courage and devotion to duty above and beyond that normally expected. Through his efforts, and the efforts of the entire crew, the 5th Marine Division and nearby units were given warning of an enemy air attack, which warning they otherwise might not have received. The heroism displayed by Technician Fifth Grade YOUNG on this occasion reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

SECTION II

AWARD OF THE PURPLE HEART: - Pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 16, AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, a Purple Heart is awarded by the Commanding General, VII Fighter Command, to the following named officer and enlisted men for wounds received in action against the enemy on 26 March 1945:

Corporal MATTHEW DAVIS, 34126246, Air Corps, United States Army.

First Lieutenant HARRY LEVITT, 01308155, Infantry, United States Army.

Private First Class THEODORE STIMPSON, 36389295, Air Corps, United States Army.

Private First Class WILLIE G. TAYLOR, 34225403, Air Corps, United States Army.

Private First Class WILLIE R. WALKER, 34323486, Air Corps, United States Army.

SECTION III

AWARD OF THE AIR MEDAL: - By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bull. No. 25, W.D., 1942) as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bull. No. 49, W.D., 1942) and pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 17, AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, paragraph 3a(1), Circular No. 32, USAFPOA, 17 September 1944, and 1st Ind, AAFPOA, 7 April 1945, to Letter, Hq VII Fighter Command, file 200.6, subject "Awards and Decorations", dated 21 March 1945, an Air Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, VII Fighter Command, to the following named officers and enlisted men:

Second Lieutenant HORACE R. BRANDENBERGER, 0710646, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over the Japanese Empire on 19 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

- 4 -

SECRET

S E C R E T

(CO # 25 Hq VII FC, 11 May 1945.)

Second Lieutenant JOHN W. BROCK, 0708888, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over the Japanese Empire on 12 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Second Lieutenant HOWARD C. BROWN, 0829815, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over the Japanese Empire on 19 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Second Lieutenant JOSEPH D. COONS, 0808227, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over the Japanese Empire on 19 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Captain ROBERT I. LALLIN, 0727496, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over the Japanese Empire on 22 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

First Lieutenant WILLIAM E. MERRITT, 0677097, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over the Japanese Empire on 7 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Second Lieutenant ALFRED V. STUART, 0821800, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over the Japanese Empire on 19 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Corporal JESSE V. TEW, 34001047, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight on the night of March 25, 1945. As observer on a P-61 aircraft, he directed his pilot's vision on to an enemy airplane, enabling the pilot to fire successfully on the target and destroy the plane. His achievement reflects great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

SECTION IV

AWARD OF FIRST BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL: - By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bull. No. 25, W.D., 1942) as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bull. No. 49, W.D., 1942) and pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 17, AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, paragraph 3a(1), Circular No. 32,

- 5 -

S E C R E T

SECRET

(CO # 25 Hq VII FC, 11 May 1945)

USAFPOA, 17 September 1944, and 1st Ind, AAFPOA, 7 April 1945, to Letter, Hq VII Fighter Command, file 200.6, subject "Awards and Decorations", dated 21 March 1945, a First Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to The Air Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, VII Fighter Command, to the following named officers:

Captain ADOLPH J. BREGAR, 0794193, Air Corps, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over the Japanese Empire on 7 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Captain JAMES H. CARLYLE, 0730375, Air Corps, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over the Japanese Empire on 19 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Captain FLOYD L. MANNING, 0799604, Air Corps, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over the Japanese Empire on 19 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Captain HOWARD L. RUSSELL, 0797720, Air Corps, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over the Japanese Empire on 19 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

SECTION V

AWARD OF SECOND BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO THE AIR MEDAL: - By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order No. 9158, 11 May 1942 (Bull. No. 25, W.D., 1942) as amended by Executive Order No. 9242-A, 11 September 1942 (Bull. No. 49, W.D., 1942) and pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 17, AR 600-45, 22 September 1943, paragraph 3a(1), Circular No. 32, USAFPOA, 17 September 1944, and 1st Ind, AAFPOA, 7 April 1945, to Letter, Hq VII Fighter Command, file 200.6, subject "Awards and Decorations", dated 21 March 1945, a Second Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster to The Air Medal is awarded by the Commanding General, VII Fighter Command, to the following named officers:

First Lieutenant JOHN F. AGRE, 02054049, Air Corps, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight on the night of March 25, 1945. As Radar Observer of a P-61 aircraft, he directed the pilot from a range of seven miles of an enemy plane to a point where it could be visually observed, making it possible for the pilot to press the attack until the enemy aircraft was shot down. His achievement reflects great credit on himself and the Army Air Forces.

Captain ADOLPH J. BREGAR, 0794193, Air Corps, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over the Japanese Empire on 19 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion

SECRET

(GO # 23 Hq VII FC, 11 May 1945)

to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

First Lieutenant EUGENE J. NABER, 0677111, Air Corps, United States Army, for meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight over the Japanese Empire on 12 April 1945. As a fighter pilot, he attacked and shot down one enemy aircraft, displaying high professional skill, courage, and devotion to duty which reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces.

Captain ERNEST R. THOMAS, 0730190, Air Corps, United States Army. For meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight on the night of March 25, 1945. As pilot of a P-61 aircraft, he achieved extraordinary success in pursuing, closing to within firing range of, and finally destroying an elusive enemy aircraft. His achievement reflects great credit on himself and the Army Air Forces.

BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL MOORE:

JAMES F. GARBER Jr,
Lt Col, Air Corps,
Actg Adj Gen.

OFFICIAL:

[Signature]
JAMES F. GARBER Jr,
Lt Col, Air Corps,
Actg Adj Gen.

DISTRIBUTION "B"

PLUS: 1 - ea Off & EM concerned.

- 7 -

SECRET

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

EXHIBIT #3.

HISTORY

MAY 1945

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L
72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.
APO # 86.

2 May 1945

MISSION REPORT

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-1.

1. a. 14 P-51D-20's.
- b. None

2. a. None.
- b. None.

3. Dive-bomb and strafe Chichi Jima - VII FC Field Order #77.

4. RED YELLOW BLUE JOSEPHINE & ESCORT
 Capt. Bregar Lt. Booher Lt. Gotwals Lt. Cameron
 Lt. Klipp Lt. Hines Lt. Zellweger F/O Springer
 Lt. Erickson Lt. A. Jones Lt. Czach
 Lt. Starr Lt. Eisele F/O Fleming

Take Off: 0858 - 0904
Left Target: 1000

Over Target: 0945
Landed: 1040 - 1048

14 P-51s of the 72nd Fighter Squadron airborne at 0904 thence to the primary target, Chichi Jima arriving there at 0945 at 12,000 feet. One of the 14 planes accompanied the squadron as a Josephine and one acted as Josephine escort. Flights formed just south of the island, made a 60 degree turn to the right and started their bombing run on their target. No enemy A/C was observed on Susaki Airfield and no shipping in Futami Harbor therefore Radio Station #6 was chosen as the target. The bombing run was initiated from the SE to NW beginning at 10,000 feet and going down to 4,000 feet. Bombs were dropped in grid areas 248M, N, R, V, X, and 231B, with disposition as follows: 10 in 248M, 2 in 248N, 2 in 248R, 6 in 248X, 2 in 248V, and 2 in 231B. Results of these hits were not observed. Small arms fire concentrated in grid areas 248M and 248N was heavy and seemed to be trained on the lead ship over target. While in the bombing run these positions were strafed and the enemy guns immediately ceased firing. Flights then rejoined east of Higashi Jima at 1000 at an altitude of 6,000 feet, picked up the Josephine who had been scissoring in this area, and returned to base, landing at 1048.

A possible AK was observed by one flight on the return trip off Haha Jima in grid area 412X. This vessel appeared to be in a beached condition. Airborne Dumbo was not sighted throughout the mission but contact was made by Red Leader, informing the Dumbo that flights were returning on vector to base. Surface vessel was noted on station.

5. a. CAVU to and from target. Over target: Few small cloud puffs at 10,000 ft.
- b. Excellent.
6. Unknown.
7. 24 X 500 lb. GP bombs. 3,125 rds. .50 cal. ammo. 1,943 gals. of gas.
8. Bomb hits believed to have been fairly accurate. Request observation of this target.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

EXHIBIT #4.

HISTORY

MAY 1945

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

APO #86

8 May 1945

MISSION REPORT

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-2.

1. a. 20 P-51D-20's.
b. None.
2. a. None.
b. 1 Transport (probable Tess) damaged on ground.
3. Fighter Strike on KISARAZU Airfield (primary) or TATEYAMA Naval Air Station (secondary) VII Fighter Command 10 W. 83.

4. <u>RED</u>	<u>YELLOW</u>	<u>BLUE</u>
Capt. Bregar	Lt. Bonner	Lt. Col. Taylor
Lt. Wilkinson	F/O Durlinger	Lt. King
Lt. Stuart	Lt. Cameron (Did not takeoff)	Lt. Walmer
Lt. Robinson	F/O Wachter	Lt. Roberts

GREEN
 Maj. Chapin
 Lt. Holm (abortive)
 Lt. Ellison (returned as spare-not needed)
 Lt. Fleming (did not take off)

SPARE
 Lt. Gotwals
 F/O O'Donoghue
 Lt. Johnstone
 Lt. Czach

Time of Takeoff: 0912 - 0919
 Left Target: 1315

Over Target: 1240
 Landed: 1608 - 1628

18 P-51s of the 72nd Fighter Squadron airborne at 0919, thence to Kita for rendezvous at about 0940 at 10,000 feet and en route to target making landfall at approximately 1215. Yellow 3 and Green 1 failed to take off. Green 2 landed at 0932 because his wheels would not retract. Spare 3 took over Yellow 3's position and the other three Spare planes filled up Green flight, with Lt. Czach as Green 2, Lt. Gotwals as Green 3 and F/O O'Donoghue as Green 4. Lt. Ellison, Green 3, landed at 1032 as he did not have a wing man and he was replaced by the Spare element.

Upon reaching landfall bad weather conditions were encountered but course was flown as briefed. Due to cloud coverage the flights let down through breaks in the clouds to 3,000 feet and came out slightly south of the target. Red flight turned on course which brought his flight about four miles north of the target and followed Popeye leader into the target, letting down to the deck. Red flight made this pass from the north-east to the south-west line abreast. The entire flight strafed the Naval Air Depot, observing their hits in and around the building concentrations. No fires were observed from this area. Red 1 strafed an automatic weapon position just north of the Depot and a dredge just south of the Airfield. This flight saw no aircraft on the airfield or in the air. After this strafing run, the flight climbed to 9,000 feet, orbited the south and central portion of the peninsula, then returned to Rally at 1330.

Yellow flight did not go north to make their first strafing run as there was a bit of confusion, so made a pass on the primary target from the south in line-abreast formation by elements, concentrating their fire on the

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-2 (con't).

replacement shop buildings on the east side of the Airfield. Hits were observed going into the buildings but no fires were started. Yellow 4 strafed and hit a truck on this pass. This flight saw no aircraft on the Airfield. This flight made a 180 degree turn and made another pass from directly north, strafing the same area again; continued out in the Bay and strafed a 50 foot boat about 10 miles north-west of Tateyama, but did not set it on fire; thence back to Rally Point at 1325.

Blue flight attacked Kisarazu on a heading of 180 degrees passing over shops in the NE corner and buildings in the SE corner of the field. There were no fires started on this pass. The flight then flew directly down to Tateyama Field and turning, made a pass from the south to north on a heading of 345 degrees. There were approximately 30 A/W observed, consisting mostly of S/E type planes. Blue 1 fired a burst at a transport type, believed to be a Tess. His fire penetrated the airplane but it did not burn. Blue 2 fired at what appeared to be a gas tank and it burst into flame. Blue 3 and 4 observed A/W fire blinking from tops of buildings on their approach and fired during the run. As the flight came off the Airfield, Blue Leader observed a fishing boat, approximately 30 feet long, directly in line of flight. He fired a burst and it caught fire before he passed over it. From here the flight flew off the southern tip of the peninsula and went to the Rally Point.

Green flight made landfall at a point near Choshi at 1230. From an altitude of 2,500 feet, Green flight was in formation with the Squadrons in string as it let down slowly to an altitude of 1,000 feet, nearing Kisarazu Field, making two or three turns for position to make passes. Green flight went over the target at an altitude of approximately 200 feet on a heading of 245 degrees. On the first pass in a line-abreast formation, it fired in building concentrations in the S/E corner of the field. As the flight went toward the target, it noticed A/W fire and blinking lights coming from the tops of the buildings. A/W fire also came from buildings just east of the field. A gas tank, water tower and small craft near the pier were also strafed. No fires were started from these passes. During a second pass on the same field and the same area of the target, the flight went over on a heading of 270 degrees. Two black smoke fires were observed near the SE end of the field. From here the flight flew off the peninsula on a heading of 150 degrees and thence to the Rally Point.

Intense A/W fire was noted also from the Naval Air Depot area and from the bend running out to Futtsu Point. Black flak bursts were observed at 600 feet altitude slightly east of Tateyama. Three possible large gun positions were observed east of Tateyama; however no guns were noted in the emplacements.

5. a. 6/10 to 8/10 cloud coverage from 5,000 to 6,000 feet to landfall. Over target - 2 cloud layers, one, 9/10 coverage from 2,500 to 4,000 feet, the other 10/10 coverage at 12,000 feet. Visibility 10 miles. No haze.

b. Excellent.

6. One gas truck and one carrier truck probably destroyed. Results of strafing building and shop installations unknown.

7. 16,030 rds. of .50 cal. ammo. 7,005 gals of gas.

8. None.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

EXHIBIT #5.

HISTORY

MAY 1945

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.
AFO #86

17 May 1945

MISSION REPORT

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-3.

1. a. 11 P-51D-20's.
b. None.
2. a. 2 P-51D -20's. 1 operational, 1 combat.
b. None
3. Fighter a/c will attack Atsugi Airfield (Primary); Tachikawa Airfield (Secondary) or Chofu Airfield (Target LR). VII FC NO. 91.

RED
Capt. Carlyle
Lt. Stevens
Lt. Decker
Lt. Richardson

YELLOW
Capt. Merritt
Lt. Allard
Lt. Skripek
Lt. A.G. Jones

BLUE
Capt. Van Nada
Lt. Fleming
Lt. Bruner
Lt. Fitzgerald

GREEN
Lt. Denman
Lt. C.E. Jones
Lt. Cottle
Lt. Zellweger

MAPLE
Lt. Dowds
Lt. Klipp
Lt. Erickson
Lt. Eisele
Lt. Lane

SPARE
Lt. Dickens
Lt. Schlosser
Lt. Ellison
Lt. Starr

Flights over target:

RED
Capt. Carlyle
Lt. Stevens
Lt. Dibble (531st)

BLUE
Capt. Van Nada
Lt. Fleming
Lt. Bruner
Lt. Schlosser

GREEN
Lt. Denman
Lt. Zellweger
Lt. Skripek
Lt. A.G. Jones

Lt. Dickens joined the 46th.

Take Off: 1011 - 1033

Left Target: 1415

Over Target: 1355

Landed: 1700 - 1720

24 P-51's of this squadron airborne at 1033 thence to rendezvous point at 1050 at 10,000 feet. Due to weather and mechanical difficulties 13 a/c pancaked base between 1038 and 1225. Lt. Richardson's engine cut-out and he crash landed slightly north of central airfield at 1152 with out personal injury, plane was a total loss. The remaining a/c reached the DP at 1335 at 14,000 feet thence to the initial point at 8,000 feet where turn was made toward the target area. Flights initiated the strafing pass from about 6,000 feet from NW to SE, hitting the deck approximately 2 miles from Atsugi with the flights in echelon and the planes in each flight line abreast. Red flight took the area in the center of the hangar line on the west side of the field, Green flight took the northern section of the hangars on the west side and Blue flight took the northern portion of the field.

Red 1 fired at a green twin engine a/c parked directly between two hangars at the center of the hangar area. Since he fired approximately 500 rounds into this plane and observed hits it is considered as probably

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-3 (con't).

destroyed. He then strafed a twin engine, green colored plane parked on the ramp in front of the southern-most hangar at the south end of the eastern line area. This plane exploded and is considered destroyed. He then fired at a single engine a/c in the parking area just east of the south turning circle. This plane caught fire in the right wing root and is considered as destroyed. Red 2 fired at three silver, single engine a/c parked rather closely together between two hangars on the western hanger line. Hits were observed going into these three planes but they were not seen to explode or catch on fire. These three planes are considered as damaged. Red 2 continued on over the airfield and fired at two single engine, green planes parked slightly south of the south turning circle. Hits were observed in one of these planes and it is considered as damaged. Red 3, Lt. Dibble of the 531st, sprayed 10 single engine a/c parked on the ramp in front of the west hangars. His hits were observed to go into these planes and they are considered as damaged. Red flight continued east, turned back to the west and south, continued strafing barracks and industrial buildings, thence to the rally point.

On the approach to the target Blue 1 strafed a parked steam engine with 10 box cars attached between Atsugi and Hachioji. Hits were seen going into the engine of the cab but it did not explode. Blue 1, at the target, lined up on a Betty parked in the NE corner of the field but one of our planes crossed in his line of flight so he could not fire; he then fired at a Tabby parked in the NE corner of the field. Hits were observed going into green-house and the left wing root and left engine and pieces were seen to fly away from the plane but it did not catch fire. This plane is considered as damaged. Blue 1 continued east, strafed a barracks area just east of the field then turned to the south for retirement. Blue leader's plane was hit by A/B fire in the vertical stabilizer, right stabilizer and right elevator. Blue 2 also fired at the steam engine and hit 2 or 3 box cars, continued to the target area and strafed a single engine a/c parked on the NW edge of the north parking area. This plane started burning, emitting brownish-black smoke and is considered as destroyed. Blue 2 turned to the south with Blue leader and fired on a radar tower east of Hiratsuka. Blue 3 fired a 3 second burst at a twin engine plane in a bunker at the northern end of the field knocking the canopy off. This plane is considered damaged. Blue 3 then strafed barracks east of the field then retired to the south with the flight observing two .50 caliber machine guns approximately 6 miles south of Atsugi firing at blue 1 and 2. Due to his speed and altitude he was not able to get into firing position on these emplacements. At this time he received hits on the underside of his fuselage. Blue 4, due to his position in line abreast, strafed the area immediately north of the airfield and barracks to the east, retired to the south with blue 3, thence to rally point.

Blue 3, Lt. Bruner, upon returning to base and landing had the left landing gear of his plane give way apparently caused by the hits received over the target area. His plane skidded off the left side of the runway and crashed into parked vehicles. Lt. Bruner sustained no personal injury and the loss of this plane is considered due to combat.

Green flight made a pass on a heading of 145 degrees, flew over the hangars on the west side of the field. On the approach, Green 1 fired at a single engine a/c parked between the two northern hangars. Tracers were seen to penetrate but it did not burst into flame. The second burst was fired on a single engine a/c in the center of the field. This was a short

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

-2-

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-3 (cont')

burst and tracers were seen to penetrate. On the far side of the field a long burst was fired on a third single engine a/c, believed to be a Zeke. It did not burst into flame, but was completely riddled and is believed to be destroyed. Green 2 fired his first burst on a twin engine a/c which was painted bright yellow. A truck was parked along side of it and as he fired his burst tracers were observed to go through both the plane and truck and pieces flew in all directions. As he passed over the a/c he noticed flames coming out of his target and this a/c is considered destroyed. Green 3 made a pass down the lateral axis of three twin engine a/c which were spaced far enough apart to allow a 2 or 3 second burst on each. Tracers were seen to go into the wing roots and the center section of the fuselages. None of the a/c burst into flame but are considered damaged. Green 4 fired a burst at a twin engine a/c, believed to be a Tabby. Several tracers were seen to penetrate the a/c at the wing roots. It did not burst into flame but was completely riddled by a 3 second burst and is considered damaged. Upon leaving the target, Green 2 flight made a sharp turn to the right and came down between two rivers which flow on either side of Atsugi Airfield. Before breaking landfall, Green 2 fired a 2 to 3 second burst at a radar installation on the coast. Tracers were seen to penetrate this target. Green 3 fired at high tension wires and at this same radar installation. Green 4, while in his turn off the target, fired a long burst at cars of a freight train. A burst was fired at a radio, located two-thirds of the way down to the coast from Atsugi. From here, after breaking landfall, the flight returned to the rally point.

Lt. Dickens joined Yellow flight of the 46th Squadron and took up number 4 position. At Atsugi, the flight passed around the NE corner of the field, made a run from NE to SW firing on buildings east of the field. From here the flight continued south, and while coming off the target area, Lt. Dickens fired a burst at a locomotive. Tracers were observed to enter the cab. Before reaching the coast, he fired a burst at a radar station with hits observed. Upon breaking landfall, the flight returned to the rally point.

Approximately 105 T/E and S/E a/c were observed at Atsugi with the heaviest concentration at the north and south parking areas of the field. Aircraft in these two areas seemed to be dispersed as much as space would allow. Three or four a/c were observed to have a long camouflage netting draped over the canopy and part of the wing. At first glance these a/c seemed to be dummies. A/W fire was noted coming from the northern fringe of the target, Atsugi, also from a point about 6 miles below Atsugi. Intense A/W fire also noted coming from between the two rivers east of Hiratsuka.

It is entirely probable, due to the heavy concentration of a/c in the areas strafed, that more enemy a/c are destroyed or damaged than is claimed. Atsugi, on this mission proved to be a very lucrative target.

5. a. Over target - visibility 10 miles, slight haze, .7 cloud coverage with tops at approximately 11,000 feet.

b. Good.

6. Two T/E, three S/E destroyed; one T/E a/c probably destroyed; five Tabbys, 16 S/E, one T/E damaged. Damage done to 2 locomotives and radar installations.

7. 4,646 gals of gasoline. 8,160 rds of .50 cal. ammo.

8. This squadron on the approach to the target was not fired upon due to the excellent job the 531st squadron did in strafing A/W positions around the field.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

EXHIBIT #6.

HISTORY

MAY 1945

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L
72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.
APO #86.

19 May 1945

MISSION REPORT

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-4.

1. a. 20 P-51D-20's.
b. None.
2. a. None.
b. None.
3. Fighter a/c will provide escort for four wings of the XXI Bomber Command on 19 May 45 to Primary Target (Tachikawa Air Arsenal). VII FC FC NO. 94.

RED

Lt. Col. Taylor
Lt. English
Lt. Norton
Lt. Lane

YELLOW

Capt. Merritt
F/O Springer
Lt. Gotwals
Lt. Eisele

BLUE

Capt. Bregar
Lt. Pendergrass
Lt. Cottle
Lt. Fitzgerald

GREEN

Maj. Chapin
Lt. C.E. Jones
Lt. Johnstone
Lt. Starr

SPARE

Lt. Booher
F/O Wachter
Lt. Cameron
Lt. Allard

Time of Takeoff: 0753 - 0759

Time of Landing: 1340- 1410

16 P-51's of the 72nd Fighter Squadron and 4 Spares were airborne at 0759 and thence to Kita at 0830 where rendezvous was completed at 10,000 feet. Flights orbited until 0842 then turned on course. Blue 2 developed an oil leak and landed on North Field at 0815. He was replaced by Spare 2, F/O Wachter. Yellow 2 had air speed indicator failure and landed at 0945, being replaced by Spare 4, Lt. Allard. Spares 1 and 3 returned at 0945 as they were not needed.

Flights flew on course at altitude of 11,000 feet until 1113 and then started climb when contacting a front at approximately 75 miles from Japan. Flights spread out to climb through and above this front. Red flight climbed to 19,000 feet and made a turn to the South and returned to Rally Point. Red 3 observed a dye marker on heading of 80 degrees from Bayonnaise Rocks, 10 to 15 miles from these Rocks. He contacted Red Leader who gave the message to B-29's.

Yellow flight climbed through to 24,000 feet and came out on top. At this time the flight made visual contact with the bomber stream which was heading north. Upon call to return, the flight went down through holes to the deck and from here received a DU from Cloudhopper 6. Yellow 2 had left the flight during climb at 14,000 feet because his oxygen failed. He tacked on to Red flight which came back at 10,000 feet. Blue flight started to climb at 1115 and came out at 20,000 feet. At a point estimated as landfall at 1130, the bombers were seen to go into clouds at 16,000 feet. No enemy fighters were seen and the flight made a 180 degree turn and returned to the rally point.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

-1-

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-4 continued.

Green flight climbed to 19,000 feet and turned at 1135 thence on course to base. Red 2 observed a flight of P-51's make a shallow dive toward a wake in the water at approximately Boxkite 407's position. This flight disappeared from his line of vision.

5. a. On course to approximately 100 miles from Japan - 3 to 5 tenths coverage up to 9,000 feet, haze at 10,000 feet. From here on - layers of cirro-stratus from 11,000 to over 21,000 feet.

b. Poor to excellent.

6. None.

7. 6,877 gals. of gasoline. No ammo.

8. It is reported that there was entirely too much conversation on "B" Channell.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

EXHIBIT #7.

HISTORY

MAY 1945

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.
APO #86

24 May 1945

MISSION REPORT

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-5.

- 1.a. 19 P-51D-20's.
b. None.

- 2.a. None.
b. None.

3. Fighter a/c will attack TOKOROZAWA Airfield (Primary); CHOFU Airfield (Secondary) or ATSUGI (Tgt LR). VII FC FO #98.

4. RED

Capt. Van Nada
Lt. Zellweger
Lt. Decker
Lt. Klipp

YELLOW

Lt. Walmer
Lt. Wallace
Lt. Skripek
Lt. Wilkinson

BLUE

Lt. Booher
F/O O'Donoghue
Lt. Cameron
F/O Springer

GREEN

Lt. Denman
Lt. Phipps
Lt. A.G. Jones
Lt. King

SPARE

Capt. Carlyle (Did not takeoff)
Lt. Roberts
Lt. Robinson
F/O Ingalls

Time of take-off: 0915 - 0921

Time of landing: 1313 - 1336

19 P-51's of the 72nd Fighter Squadron airborne at 0921 thence to rendezvous at 0940 at 8,000 feet. Spare 1 did not take-off and the other three spare planes returned to base at 1112 as they were not needed. The four flights remained on course for approximately one hour then climbed to about 15,000 feet due to weather. At 1100 a solid front was encountered so flights turned NE seeking an opening. At 1115 the flights turned on course to return to base, pancaking from 1313 to 1336. No observations of any kind were noted on this mission.

5. a. 5/10 coverage, bases at 2,000 - tops at 11,000 feet to approximately 200 miles from base. 7/10 to 10/10 coverage with clouds up to 16,000 feet from 200 miles to approximately 350 miles from base.
b. Good.

6. None.

7. No ammunition expended. 3,520 gallons of gasoline.

8. None.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

EXHIBIT #8.

HISTORY

MAY 1945

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.
APO #86.

25 May 1945

MISSION REPORT

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-6.

1. a. 20 P-51D-20's.
b. None.
2. a. One P-51D-20. (Pilot - Lt. Col. Taylor picked up by submarine).
b. None.
3. Fighter a/c will attack TOKOROZAWA Airfield (Primary); CHOFU Airfield (Secondary) or MTSUGI Airfield (Tgt LR). VII FC FC NO 98.

RED Lt. Col. Taylor, Lt. Zellweger, Lt. Decker, Lt. Klipp
YELLOW Lt. Walmer, Lt. Wallace, Lt. Skripek, Lt. Wilkinson
BLUE Capt. Van Nada, Lt. Phipps, Lt. A.G. Jones, Lt. King
GREEN Lt. Booher, F/O O'Donoghue, Lt. Cameron, Lt. Stevens
SPARE Capt. Carlyle, Lt. Roberts, Lt. Robinson, F/O Ingalls

Time of take-off: 0940 - 0946
 Left Target: 1315

Over Target: 1310
 Time of landing: 1643 - 1701

20 P-51s of the 72nd Fighter Squadron airborne at 0946 thence to rendezvous at 1005 at 8,000 feet. Spare flight pancaked base at 1102 as they were not needed. Lt. Cameron returned to base at 1355 because his right magneto went out. Flights on course at 1030 and made landfall at approximately 1245, thence to target at approximately 1310 at 8,000 feet and 10,000 feet. The flights made a strafing run on A/W positions around the target from this altitude, pulling out from 2,000 feet down to the deck.

Red flight made its pass from NE to SW from 8,000 feet. Red Leader led his flight over the NE corner of the field in a tight left turn. Red Leader's tracers were observed to go into a T/E aircraft parked in the NE corner of the field but did not set it on fire. In the left turn he fired bursts in buildings in the center of the field and retired over the SW corner of the field. Red 2 was trying to release one remaining external wing tank and did not find a target. Red 3 fired a burst on a T/E aircraft on the NW corner of the field but the burst was ineffective. Red 4 fired a long burst at buildings in the center of the field. No fires were observed. The flight retired on the deck towards the mountains crossing over the Tama River and heading S along the river to the coast. While flying to the rally point, Red Leader observed a Fox Tare Charlie in the mouth of Tokyo Harbor. The steamer was moving from SW to NE. The flight flew to the south of it and made two passes, one from the SW and the other from the N. Both attacks were made on the deck and closed until forced to pull up. Bursts were from 3 to 4 seconds on each pass. The steamer retaliated with A/W fire. The flights fire was accurate and smoke was seen to mushroom from the vicinity of the stack. The ship did not sink. On the second pass Red Leader pulled up to go to the rally point and Red 3 came in close to estimate damage. The leading edge of the right horizontal stabilizer on Red Leader's plane had a large hole in it. The flight flew to the rally point and Red Leader could not climb to above 7,000 feet. Lt. Col. Taylor, Red Leader, then called and said he was going to bail out. The time was approximately 1345. He was

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

-1-

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-6 (continued).

observed to roll over and fell out at 1,000 feet, the chute opening almost immediately. Red 3 circled low over Lt. Col. Taylor until the submarine picked him up. Red 2 and 4 circled at 6,000 feet for cover. Red 2, 3 and 4 then tacked on to a B-29 and returned to base.

Yellow flight made their strafing run from NE to SW from 7,500 feet pulling out at 2,000 feet, concentrating their fire on Δ/W positions on the east edge of the field and swinging into position to pour a heavy concentration into the positions in the N edge of the center hanger line and into positions around the south hangers. Before this strafing run was made, intense Δ/W fire was noted coming from the center hanger area and from the hanger area south of the field. On retiring to the SW they strafed a power plant SW of Toyooka, setting it on fire. Yellow 3 strafed an administration building in the SW corner of Yokota airfield. The flight then climbed to 4,000 feet to retire over the base of Fuji San and made landfall E of Hiratsuka, firing on a 3,000 ton freighter 5 miles south of Hiratsuka. Results unobserved. Thence to rally 1345.

Blue flight made its pass from 10,000 feet on a heading of 165 degrees, crossing over the right side of the field. Blue 1 strafed buildings in the center of the field and continued strafing Δ/W positions on the south edge of the field. Blue 2, 3 and 4 fired several 1 to 2 seconds bursts into Δ/W area at the south end of the field. Clearing the target the flight took a vector of 250 degrees and returned on deck, crossing over reservoirs SW of the target. Continued to the foot of the mountains and down Tama River to the coast and took vector of 150 degrees to the rally point.

Green flight made their strafing run from the N from 10,000 feet pulling out at about 400 feet, strafing gun positions north of the center hanger line and positions around the hangers on the southern end of the airfield. Green flight retired west to the mountains, climbed to 4,000 feet and headed S to the rally point. However the flight had to pull down to the deck due to heavy Δ fire. This flight could not determine whether gun positions on the airfield were firing at them during their strafing run.

Yellow 3 reported 25 S/E and T/E dummy aircraft well dispersed on the east side of Yokota airfield. Green flight reported approximately 10 Bettys parked on the north edge of Yokota. Δ/W positions were reported on the tops of the center line of hangers at Tokorozawa. Approximately 8 to 10 heavy gun positions, possible 120MM were observed at the south edge of the dam of the western reservoir near the primary target. Heavy Δ noted at 10,000 feet in Kawagoe area and from the area around the mouth of Sagami River at 6,000 feet. Intense Δ/W fire from positions around primary target as briefed.

Two (2) P-51s of the squadron were slightly damaged. One sustained a bullet hole through the left wing, damaging the center wing gun. The other had a bullet hole in the right aileron trim tab. Both repairable within the squadron.

5. a. Enroute - 5/10 coverage, base 1500 feet building up to 22,000 feet at 29 degrees N. Over target - visibility 10 miles, slight haze, few clouds. On return same as route out.

b. Good.

6. One T/E aircraft damaged. One Fox Tare Charlie damaged and left burning. One power house left burning. Results of strafing Δ/W positions at target unknown.

7. 16,340 rds. of .50 cal. ammo. 6,113 gals. of gasoline.

8. None.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

EXHIBIT #9.

HISTORY

MAY 1945

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.
APO #86

28 May 1945

MISSION REPORT

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-7

1. a. 14 P-51D-20's.
b. None.2. a. None.
b. None.

3. Fighter a/c will bomb and strafe targets in the BONINS AREA. VII Fighter Command Field Order No. 108.

<u>RED</u>	<u>YELLOW</u>	<u>BLUE</u>
Capt. Van Nada	Capt. Merritt	Lt. Walmer
Lt. Schlosser	Lt. Allard	F/O Wachter
Lt. C.E.Jones	Lt. A.G.Jones	Lt. Cameron
Lt. Wilkinson	Lt. Fitzgerald	F/O O'Donoghue
	<u>JOSEPHINE</u>	
	Lt. Gotwals	
	Lt. Pendergrass (escort)	

Time of take-off: 0805 - 0809
Left Target: 0905Over Target: 0900
Landed: 1014

14 P-51Ds of the 72nd Fighter Squadron airborne at 0809 thence on course to target. There were three flights of four, one Josephine and one escort. Flights arrived at Chichi Jima at 0850 and due to cloud coverage were required to orbit once around the island in order to find a break in the overcast. They approached the target from the east and started their runs at 0900.

Red and Yellow flights flew around the north end of the island, made dive-bombing runs from 8,000 feet down to 2,000 feet in string from SW to NE over the mouth of Futami Harbor. Bombs of these flights hit in target grids 245 R, S, M, I and D; and 262 X. No fires were observed. Red flight retired to the north and east and Yellow flight pulled up, did a right turn and made a strafing pass from SE to NW. Strafing runs were made on target grids 263 D and R, A/W fire was stopped in 263 U and V, docks and small water craft in grids 246 and 245 received long bursts. Flights reformed on the west side of the island and proceeded to Haha Jima where strafing runs were made on the north side of the island in grids 413, 424 and 426. The flights reformed on the west side of Haha Jima and proceeded back to base.

Blue flight made a dive-bombing run from SE to NW from 8,000 feet pulling out around 2,000 feet. Two bombs dropped in grid 264 K, 2 on the pier along 263 X, T, O; 2 bombs in area of grid 263 M, the remaining two bombs hits of this flight unobserved. Blue 4 observed one grey colored freighter approximately 150 feet long next to the pier in grid 263 R - possible Fox Tare type ship. No activity noted around ship. Black smoke observed coming

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

-1-

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-7 (cont')

from grid 263 M. Blue flight retired to the east and proceeded to Haha Jima strafing grid 424 in line of breast formation.

5. a. 9/10 coverage over Chichi Jima - bases at 1,500 feet, tops at 3,500.
b. Good.

6. Unknown.

7. 1,960 gallons of gasoline - 7,920 rounds of .50 caliber and 24 x 500 lb G. P. bombs.

8. None.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

-2-

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

EXHIBIT #10.

HISTORY

MAY 1945

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.
APO #86

29 May 1945

MISSION REPORT

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-8

1. a. 16 P51D-20's.
b. 20-30 - All identified as Tojos with the exception of 1 (one) Zeke.
2. a. None.
b. 6 S/E destroyed, 1 S/E probably destroyed and 6 S/E damaged.
3. Fighter a/c will protect bombers attacking the YOKOHAMA AREA. VII Fighter Command Field Order No. 109.

4. <u>RED</u>	<u>YELLOW</u>	<u>BLUE</u>
Capt. Van Nada	Capt. Merritt	Capt. Carlyle
Lt. Pendergrass	Lt. Starr	Lt. Roberts
Lt. Stuart	Lt. Robinson	Maj. Chapin (21st F.G.)
Lt. Fitzgerald	Lt. Allard	Lt. Col. Rodgers (VII FC)
<u>GREEN</u>	<u>SPARE</u>	
Lt. Denman	Lt. Cottle	
Lt. Eisele	F/O Wachter	
Lt. Czach	Lt. Bradbury	
Lt. Brown	Lt. Brandenberger	

CLAIMS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DESTROYED</u>	<u>PROBABLY DEST.</u>	<u>DAMAGED</u>
Capt. Van Nada	1 Tojo		
Lt. Pendergrass			1 Tojo
Lt. Stuart	2 Tojos		
Lt. Fitzgerald			1 Tojo
Capt. Carlyle		1 Tojo	1 1/2 Tojos
Lt. Col. Rodgers			1/2 Tojo
Maj. Chapin	1 Tojo		
Capt. Merritt	1 Zeke		
Lt. Robinson	1 Tojo		1 Tojo
Lt. Allard			1 Tojo

Time of take-off: 0623 - 0629
Left target: 1100

Over target: 1020
Landed: 1357 - 1410

20 P-51s of the 72nd Fighter Squadron airborne at 0629 thence to rally point from 0650 to 0700 at 8,000 feet. Lt. Brown pancaked base at 0715 due to and oil leak, replaced by Spare 4, Lt. Brandenberger. The remaining three spares pancaked base 0930 as they were not needed. Remaining sixteen planes arrived at Initial Point at approximately 1020 at 20,000 feet with Red and

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-C-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-8 (cont')

Blue flights patrolling north side of the bomber stream and Yellow and Green flights patrolling south side of bomber stream. Enemy aerial contact was made in this patrol area, and also over the peninsula west of Tokyo Bay. Flights arrived at rally point from 1100 to 1115 thence back to base.

Red flight, after patrolling for about 20 minutes, let down across Tokyo Bay and observed about 10 Tojos in two formations of five Tojos each, east of Kisarazu at about 4,000 feet altitude. The flight attacked from altitude with Red 1 closing to 100 feet firing a 4 second burst at a Tojo turning in the circle. Hits were observed, causing parts to fly from the engine cowling, canopy and wing root. Red 2 following at about 200 yards saw this Tojo snap over on his back out of control and go straight down from 2,500 feet. This Tojo is claimed as destroyed. Red 1 then tried to fire on another Tojo but could not turn with him. Red 2, still 200 yards behind, reefed his plane in and fired a long burst closing to 100 feet. Tracers were seen to enter this Tojo but did not observe final results. This plane is claimed as damaged. At this time two Tojos managed to get on the tails of Red 1 and 2, closing fast, so they nosed over, picked up speed, and out ran them, heading for the rally point. After making landfall Red 1 saw a Tojo initiating a head on pass on he and his wing man from altitude from the east. Before this Tojo could come within range 4 P-51s attacked, possibly Maple flight, and the Tojo rolled over on his back and crashed into the water. When the first pass by their flight was initiated on these Tojos, Red 3 and 4 broke away as they observed 2 P-51s with a Tojo on their tail so they managed to get close enough to scare the enemy aircraft away. Then 2 other P-51s with a Tojo on their tail were observed east of Kisarazu at 4,000 feet so Red 3 made a pass from 10 degrees deflection firing a three second burst causing chunks to fly off the right wing and right side of the fuselage. The Tojo banked to the left with smoke coming from the right side, leveled out, then rolled over and into the ground. Red 4 confirmed the aircraft striking the ground. This Tojo is claimed as destroyed. Red 3 then got on the tail of another Tojo at the same level firing a short burst, saw that he was closing too fast, so pulled up and dropped on his tail again closing to 300 feet firing again causing pieces to fly from the fuselage and wing. The Tojo pulled over out of control and is claimed as destroyed. At this time a Tojo was on Red 3's tail. He pulled up sharply and Maj. Crim, of the 531st Fighter Squadron, shot him down. Red 4, in the meantime, attacked another Tojo 1,000 feet below at nine o'clock. He closed while the Tojo was in a turn to the right. His tracers were observed going into the wing but could do no more damage as his speed was too great and the Tojo turned tighter still so he had to break off the attack. This Tojo is claimed as damaged. While attempting to reform with his element leader a Tojo jumped him so he dumped his nose, hit the deck and lost the enemy plane. On the way out to the rally point Red 3 also fired at a Tojo coming toward the rally point with unobserved results.

Blue flight patrolling north of the bomber stream had their first encounter over Hachioji. One Tojo observed at 14,000 feet so the flight attacked from 20,000 feet with Blue 1 firing from 20 degrees deflection closing to 1,000 feet. Hits were observed going into the Tojo just as he split S'ed. This Tojo is claimed as damaged. Flight climbed back to 18,000 feet then toward Fuji San turned back toward the rally point losing altitude and scissoring and crossing Kisarazu at about 12,000 feet. A Tojo was sighted east of Kisarazu at about 10,000 at 10 o'clock. The flight pulled up and into the Tojo and Blue 1 fired a burst causing him to smoke. The Tojo split S'ed and Blue 1 and 2 tried to

C O N F I D E N T I A L

-2-

C-C-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 5-8 (con't)

remain with him but could not. Blue 4 who was in a better position managed to stay with the Tojo in his dive and followed him down to 3,000 feet firing at the same time. This Tojo is considered as damaged by Blue 1 and 4. Blue 4 pulled up to rejoin with the flight but was jumped by 4 Tojos at 8,000 feet. He turned into them, hit the deck and lost the enemy aircraft and headed for the rally point. Blue 4 received hits in his aircraft - one in the wing and one in the radio. Blue 1, after seeing that he could not remain with the Tojo that split S'ed continued toward the deck and attacked another Tojo at 4,000 feet. The Tojo lowered flaps and made a very sharp turn to the left causing Blue 1 to overshoot. While the enemy aircraft was in this turn, Blue 3, who was following behind and higher, managed to drop down on the Tojo from directly astern to 700 feet and fire a long burst. The Tojo caught fire, crashed and burned. This plane is claimed as destroyed. After over-shooting this Tojo, Blue 1 saw a P-51 with two Tojos on his tail going down, so he pulled over and fired at the lead Tojo from 90 degrees underneath as the Tojo passed him. Smoke came out of the enemy aircraft and he started flaming. This Tojo is claimed as probably destroyed. He then started to fire at the other Tojo but noticed tracers coming over his wing so he pulled over to the deck with a Tojo closing on his tail and firing; however, he quickly out-distanced the Tojo and returned to the rally point at 1115. Blue 2 remained with flight while Blue 1 and 3 bracketed the Tojo shot down by Blue 3, giving them high cover but was hopped by two Tojos and one got on his tail, so he hit the deck and went back to the rally point as he was alone.

Upon making landfall, Yellow flight continued on to Mt. Fuji where they were formed on the right side of the bomber stream behind two flights of the 531st Fighter Squadron. No enemy a/c were observed in the area between landfall and Mt. Fuji. Soon after leaving Mt. Fuji two bogies were sighted at two o'clock at 15,000 feet. Yellow flight broke away from the bomber stream and closed on one of the bogies. Yellow leader pulled right up behind this bogie, which was a Zeke, fired a short burst from about 150 yards and the Zeke immediately burst into flames, nosed over and started into a spiral spin. The flight followed the plane down and observed the pilot bail out at 5,000 feet. This Zeke was seen to crash and burn and is considered destroyed by Yellow leader, Capt. Morrill. The flight started to reform when another bogie was sighted at about 10,000 feet. Yellow leader sent his element after this bogie. Yellow 3 closed to approximately 300 yards and fired several bursts observing hits, but the plane, a Tojo would not burn. The Tojo did a split S to about 3,000 feet followed by Yellow 3 and 4, where he leveled off. Yellow 3 closed again firing a long burst, this time drawing smoke from the Tojo. Yellow 3 then followed the Tojo all the way to the deck, firing short bursts until he crashed into the ground. This a/c is considered destroyed by Yellow 3, Lt. Robinson. This action took place around the Hiratsuka area. At this point, Yellow leader lost visual contact with his element so called and told them to proceed to the rally point. Yellow 3 and 4 headed for the rally, gained altitude, proceeded out over the mouth of Tokyo Bay and across the peninsula. Upon reaching the water, a bogie was sighted below them headed north. They peeled off and Yellow 3 closed to about 250 yards on trail and fired several short bursts observing hits but drawing no fire. Several passes were made on this Tojo but the Tojo used evasive action and Yellow 3, due to damage sustained by his plane while following his first kill, was having trouble getting a good line on the Tojo. However as hits were observed going into this a/c it is considered as damaged. Yellow 4 observed still another Tojo further to the

C-C-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-8 (cont')

south and made a pass on him firing a long burst and observing hits in and around the fuselage. This enemy a/c is considered as damaged also. During this time, Yellow 3 and 4 became separated and proceeded to the rally point alone.

Green flight onto the bomber stream on the right side behind Yellow flight. This flight stayed high with the bombers for approximately 45 minutes patrolling the area between Mt. Fuji and Yokohama. No enemy a/c were observed making passes on the bomber stream in this area. The flight retired to the south over Yokosuka, observing light flak over both sides of Tokyo Bay, continued south meeting the homeward bound bombers at 1100 approximately 15 miles south of the rally point. While in the target area, large fires covered with heavy black smoke were observed coming from the southern sector of Yokohama with violent flames shooting up through the smoke.

Red 1 damaged his plane on landing and Yellow 3 had the leading edge of both wings damaged when he hit a high tension wire while following a Tojo to the deck. Blue 3 received a nick in his prop due to enemy fire.

No enemy aircraft were observed hitting the bomber stream. Enemy fighters were very aggressive. One B-29 seen to go down over Yokohama but no bail-outs were observed. Smoke from the fires at Yokohama rose to 12,000 feet. Heavy intense barrage type AA observed over Yokohama at 18,000 feet to 20,000 feet and Kisarazu. Light inaccurate AA fired at one flight at southern tip of Tokyo. A/W fire encountered over Hiratsuka and over Nojima-zaki.

5. a. Over target - Visibility 10 miles, hazy, cirro-stratus at 24,000 feet.
b. Good.

6. None.

7. 6,720 rds of .50 caliber ammo ----- 7,056 gals. of gasoline.

8. It may be noted that the Japanese pilots took full advantage of their highly maneuverable aircraft - and in one instance dropped flaps in order to increase his rate of turn. The Japs continued to use his old tactics of doing a split S when attacked and in trouble. In each case where our pilots were in an unfavorable position or at a disadvantage it was possible to throw the nose forward, pick up speed and pull away from these aircraft encountered on this mission.

One flight tacked onto one of the strike bombers for return to base and this B-29, with utter disregard for the chickens on his wing, flew through the clouds instead of over, under, or around as he could have done. Disaster in the form of collisions were avoided a couple of times due to the alertness of our pilots. It is requested that all B-29s be briefed before an escort mission that there is a possibility that the lives of several protecting pilots may be in their hands and if such is the case, to avoid weather whenever possible. In this case today, radio contact was established between fighters and the B-29.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

-4-

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-8 (cont')

STATEMENTS

CAPT. JAMES C. VAN NADA, O-727589

On May 29, 1945 while retiring from the target, Yokohama, I discovered about 6 to 10 Tojos flying low over Chiba Peninsula. I turned my flight of four down and into them. We came down from about 16,000 feet and therefore our speed was about 390 miles per hour when we hit the Tojos at about 3,000 feet. I drove right up on the first one I saw, firing from about 1,200 feet to about 1000 feet. The rate of closure was rapid but I managed to get in a good 4 second burst, and I saw large pieces flying off the engine, engine cowl, canopy and left wing root. As I went over him he was dropping off on the left wing. In my opinion he was destroyed. My wingman, Lt. Pendergrass, saw him roll over and dive straight for the ground from 2,000 feet.

2ND LT. ALFRED V. STUART, O-821800

On 29 May 1945 while retiring from the target, Yokohama, bandits were sighted at 3 o'clock. The flight leader dived after them and I followed. I saw one Tojo on the tail of 2 P-51s. I scissored with and fired at the Tojo. He split S'ed and I do not believe I hit him. This was at 4,000 feet. I observed another Tojo on the tail of 2 P-51s. I was able to get on his tail but could not fire at first for fear of hitting the P-51s. The P-51s then turned and they cleared my sight. I then fired a 4 second burst at the Tojo closing fast. Parts were seen to fly off the fuselage and wing, and an explosion was seen in the tail. He then pulled up and my wingman saw him go into a dive and hit the ground.

As soon as I pulled up from this last Tojo I got onto the tail of another Tojo. I closed very fast firing a 3 second burst. He turned to the left and I pulled up and dropped on his tail again. I fired another 3 second burst and saw parts falling off his fuselage and wing. He then snapped on his back at 2,000 feet. I do not think he could pull out. I did not observe him hit the ground because at that moment I looked around and saw a Tojo on my tail. I raked it in so he could not get any lead and a P-51 then came up and shot him off my tail. This was at about 2,000 feet.

CAPT. WILLIAM E. MERRITT, O-677097

On an escort mission of May 29, 1945 shortly after leaving the target area, Yokohama, Saltwater Red flight took out after an enemy fighter, low and about 2 o'clock to our position. At about the same time I saw an enemy fighter farther away but in the same clock sector at about 15,000 feet. I called for my flight to follow and peeled off to attack. I came in directly behind the Jap fighter, a Zeke, I believe, and when less than 200 yards away opened fire. The aircraft burst into flame and started a spiral dive to the ground. I kept the Zeke in sight until I saw a parachute open behind the burning plane. Destruction of this enemy aircraft is confirmed by the other three members of my flight.

1ST LT. WILLIAM A. ROBINSON, O-449798

On escort mission of 29 May 1945 I peeled off on a Jap S/E fighter from about 12,000 feet where I had been top cover for Yellow leader. The bogie was at approximately 8,000 feet. I closed up to approximately 300 yards and fired several bursts, and observed strikes, but the plane would not burn.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION # 5-8 (cont')

The Jap plane, a Tojo I think, split S'ed to about 3,000 feet where I fired at him again and observed hits and smoke, but no fire. I then chased the enemy plane all the way to the deck, fired another burst into him as he crashed into a sandbank along a river. I hit a high tension wire as I ran him into the ground. It was very hazy, and my wing leader and I were separated by this time, so my wing man and I started for the rally point. We were gaining altitude all the time. We dodged flak to the coast. Just as we passed out over the water another Jap S/E fighter passed under us headed north. My wing man saw him first I think, and I hurriedly switched to "A" channel and told him to peel off on him. He pulled off to the right. I knew he would have a hard time overtaking him from that direction so I peeled off to the left. That was the last I saw of my wingman until I landed. (He ran into another bogie I think). I closed on the Jap that I had peeled off on to about 300 yards and fired. My wings had big dents in them where I had run into the high tension lines and my airspeed was out. The plane began to buffet or porpoise as I closed on the Jap. I observed strikes, but again I could get no fire. My first shot was almost in trail, but as I chased him I got other shots at about 20 to 30 degrees. Here too, I got strikes but was having quite a time with my plane porpoising.

From there on that Jap out-turned me no matter what I would do. I used flaps, and I would zoom up until my plane was almost stalled and try to split S onto his tail. (All this was on the deck except when I zoomed) I had speed and could out zoom, but that Jap out-turned me like an AT-6 would a P-40. He met me head on every time. Once we were both firing at each other like head - head on. I didn't like that though. The fighters were leaving the rally point, and I was getting low on gas, so I had to leave. I tacked on to a B-29 and came home.

MAJ. CHARLES H. CHAPIN, 0-406479

On 29 May 1945 at 1100 I was over the Chiba area at 7,000 feet. I was the element leader of Captain Carlyle's flight. Captain Carlyle started after a Tojo that was approximately 2,000 feet above us and at 9 o'clock. Capt. Carlyle started after him and I was top cover when the Tojo made a left turn with Capt. Carlyle shooting at him making strikes. The Tojo dropped flaps and made a tight turn causing Capt. Carlyle to overshoot. I, being higher, dropped down on the Tojo about 700 feet directly behind him and fired a 20 round burst. He caught fire with pieces coming off him, then he crashed and burned.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

-6-

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MISSION #5-8 (con't).

WITNESSES

2ND LT. LOUIS A. PENDERGRASS, O-722145

On an escort mission to Yokohama, May 29, 1945, I was flying Capt. Van Nada's wing. After leaving the target area we started for the rally point - crossing Tokyo Bay just north of Tokyo, where we sighted enemy aircraft low at 2 and 3 o'clock. I fell in trail of Capt. Van Nada as he closed in on a Tojo. Approximately 200 yards behind Capt. Van Nada. I saw his tracers hitting the Tojo and parts of the canopy and engine cowling were flying everywhere. The Jap flipped over on his left wing out of control and headed straight down. At that time the altitude of the Jap was 2,500 feet and under the conditions he could not have possibly recovered. There's no doubt in my mind what-so-ever but that the Jap was a sure kill.

Louis A. Pendergrass
LOUIS A. PENDERGRASS,
2nd Lt. Air Corps.

2ND LT. CHESTER F. FITZGERALD, O-834991

On escort mission to Yokohama on 29 May 1945 I was flying wing position for Lt. Stuart. I confirm an enemy aircraft destroyed by Lt. Stuart as I saw the enemy aircraft crash into the ground.

Chester F. Fitzgerald
CHESTER F. FITZGERALD,
2nd Lt. Air Corps.

CAPT. JAMES H. CARLYLE, O-730375

I overshot the second Tojo that we attacked in the Chiba area, looking back I saw Blue 3 - Major Chapin, start firing at him. After completing a turn I looked down and saw the plane burning on the ground and Major Chapin pulling back up. I confirm this plane as a kill for Major Chapin.

James H. Carlyle
JAMES H. CARLYLE,
Captain, Air Corps.

2ND LT. ROBERT S. STARR, O-824763

Yellow Leader and I sighted a Zeke on the right of the bomber stream and started a pass on him. Capt. Merritt closed on him to approximately 700 or 800 feet at an altitude of about 15,000 feet. He fired a short burst which set the Zeke on fire. We followed him down to 5,000 feet, there the pilot of the Zeke bailed out.

Robert S. Starr
ROBERT S. STARR,
2nd Lt., Air Corps.

2ND LT. ALBERT J. ALLARD, O-714838

Just before reaching Yokohama, bogies were sighted. Capt. Merritt and his wing man went after one and Capt. Merritt shot him down. He then sent Lt. Robinson and myself after a second bogie. On his first pass Lt. Robinson made strikes on the Tojo. We made 3 passes in all and Lt. Robinson fired on this Jap plane till it hit the ground. I strafed him after he hit the ground.

Albert J. Allard
ALBERT J. ALLARD,
2nd Lt., Air Corps.

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

EXHIBIT #11.

HISTORY

MAY 1945

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.
APO #86
INTELLIGENCE OFFICE.

Summary of enemy A/C destroyed, probably destroyed and damaged for the month of May 1945 by pilots of the 72nd Fighter Squadron. This report covers Squadron Mission Numbers 5-2, 5-3, 5-6 and 5-8.

EVENT A/C - ATR

Type	Pilot Claiming	Squadron Mission No.	Credited by Claims Board	Destroyed	Probably Destroyed	Damaged
1 Tojo	Capt. James C. Van Neda	5-8 ✓		X		
2 Tojos	1st Lt. Alfred V. Stuart	5-8 ✓		X		
1 Zeke	Capt. William E. Merritt	5-8 ✓		X		
1 Tojo	1st Lt. William A. Robinson	5-8 ✓		X		
1 Tojo	Maj. Charles H. Chapin (Hq. 21st Fighter Group)	5-8 ✓		X		
1 Tojo	Capt. James H. Carlyle	5-8			X	
1 Tojos	Capt. James H. Carlyle	5-8				X
1 Tojo	2nd Lt. Louis A. Pendergrass	5-8				X
1 Tojo	2nd Lt. Chester F. Fitzgerald	5-8				X
2 Tojo	Lt. Col. Robert J. Rodgers (Hq. VII Fighter Command)	5-8				X
1 Tojo	1st Lt. William A. Robinson	5-8				X
1 Tojo	2nd Lt. Albert J. Allard	5-8				X
TOTALS - - - - -				6	1	6

Summary of enemy A/C destroyed, probably destroyed and damaged for the month of May 1945 (cont).

ENEMY A/C - GROUND

<u>Type</u>	<u>Pilot Claiming</u>	<u>Squadron Mission No.</u>	<u>Credited by Claims Board</u>	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Probably Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
1 T/E UI	Capt. James H. Carlyle	5-3		X		
1 S/E UI	Capt. James H. Carlyle	5-3		X		
1 T/E UI	Capt. James H. Carlyle				X	
1 S/E UI	1st Lt. Thomas W. Denman	5-3		X		
1 T/E UI	2nd Lt. Arthur Zellweger	5-3		X		
1 T/E UI	Lt. Col. Charles E. Taylor (Hq. 21st Fighter Group)	5-2				X
1 T/E UI	Lt. Col. Charles E. Taylor (Hq. 21st Fighter Group)	5-6				X
5 S/E UI	2nd Lt. Jack O. Stevens	5-3				X
1 Tabby	Capt. James O. Van Mada	5-3				X
1 T/E UI	1st Lt. Ralph L. Bruner	5-3				X
2 S/E UI	1st Lt. Thomas W. Denman	5-3				X
3 Tabbys	1st Lt. John E. Skrippek	5-3				X
1 Tabby	1st Lt. Alfred G. Jones	5-3				X
10 S/E UI	1st Lt. Edward H. Dibble (531st Fighter Squadron)	5-3				X
1 S/E UI	2nd Lt. Melvin B. Fleming	5-3				X
<u>TOTALS</u>				<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>25</u>

Flight of four: Lt. Col. Charles E. Taylor, 2nd Lt. Arthur Zellweger, 1st Lt. Clyde M. Decker and 2nd Lt. Donald R. Klipp, damaged a "Fox Tare Charlie" in mouth of Tokyo Bay on Mission No. 5-6.

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

EXHIBIT #12.

HISTORY

MAY 1945

C O N F I D E N T I A L

REMARKS

Joined Squadron 15 April 1944.

Transferred on or about 1 May 1945 to assigned AAFPOA, unassigned and attached to AAFPOA Rest and Recreation Center APO #953 for purpose of reassignment to mainland.

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the entries on this form are a true and correct record of the combat missions of PAUL J. IMIG, Major,
for the dates shown (Name, rank Serial No.)
0-660152


KENNETH R. POWELL, Colonel, AC
(Name, rank)

27 April 1945
(Date)

21st Fighter Group, AAF, APO #86
(Organization)

Commanding

FOOTNOTES

- (1) Missions followed by "X" have been used as basis for awards
- (2) Time to be obtained from Pilot's Form 1
- (3) Last entry represents credit sorties to date
- (4) All combat interceptions, including those turned friendly, where no contact with enemy has been made.
- (5) Does not include sortie time

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

COMBAT MISSION RECORD

C O N F I D E N T I A L

PARTEE, JOHN S.

CAPTAIN

0-727981

(Name)

(Rank)

(Serial Number)

Date	Mission No		Type Mission	Target	Sortie Time	Total Sorties to Date	Abort Time	Cap Time	Inter-cept Time	Total Combat Time
	Sq	Gp								
1945 3/27	3-1	3-1	DB/Strafe (1)	HABA JIMA (320H)	1:50	1				1:50
3/29	3-3	3-5	Strafe	HABA JIMA (320H)	2:00	2				3:50
3/30			Cap	OVER IWO JIMA				2:20		6:10
3/30			Cap	OVER IWO JIMA				2:35		8:45
4/7	4-1	4-1	Escort	TOKYO	7:30	3				16:15
4/11			Cap	OVER IWO JIMA				1:55		18:10
4/17			Cap	Over Iwo Jima				2:00		20:10
4/20	4-6	4-8	DB/Strafe	HABA JIMA (320H)	1:45	4				21:55
4/22	4-7	4-9	Fighter Sweep	TOKYO			2:40			24:35
4/23			Cap	OVER IWO JIMA				2:40		27:15
4/26	4-8	4-10	Escort	KANOKA - JAPAN	7:20	5				34:35

C O N F I D E N T I A L

72ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, AAF.

EXHIBIT #13.

HISTORY

MAY 1945

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS VII FIGHTER COMMAND AAF
Office of the Commanding General
APC #86

12 April 1945

201.22

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : All Officers and Men, VII Fighter Command.


1. The following congratulatory messages received by this command are paraphrased and published for your information:

From Deputy Commander 20th Air Force PCA: "GENERAL ARNOLD DISPATCHED THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO BE TRANSMITTED TO YOU. QUOTE. 20TH AIR FORCE CONGRATULATES VII FIGHTER COMMAND ON THE OCCASION OF INITIAL APPEARANCE OVER JAPAN. WE KNOW THAT, IN DAYS TO COME, THESE FINE GROUPS WILL WRITE HISTORY. UNQUOTE. ANTICIPATING EVEN GREATER VICTORIES, I ADD MY CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR MAGNIFICENT PREMIER."

From Commanding General 73d Bomb Wing: "REQUEST EVERY MEMBER OF YOUR COMMAND BE INFORMED OF HEARTFELT APPRECIATION OF THE 73D WING FOR A JOB WELL DONE. GOOD HUNTING AND MAY YOUR SCORE INCREASE ON EACH SUCCEEDING MISSION."

From Commanding General Strategic Air Force: "A HEARTY WELL DONE".

2. I take pleasure in forwarding these messages to the officers and enlisted men of this command, who well merit the commendations received. I desire also to add my heartiest congratulations to the officers who flew on the first fighter mission over the Empire and to the other officers and men who contributed much to the success of the first Tokyo mission by their hard work and careful preparation. A splendid chapter in Army Air Forces history has been written by the officers and enlisted men of the VII Fighter Command and I feel confident that this fine record will continue until Victory is ours.


E. MOORE,
Brigadier General, USA,
Commanding.

R E S T R I C T E D

21ST FIGHTER GROUP AAF
72d Fighter Squadron AAF
APO # 86

22 November 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 19)

AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED UNIT BADGE

General Orders No. 106, Headquarters Twentieth Air Force, dtd 13 November 1945, cites the 72d Fighter Squadron, 21st Fighter Group AAF for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy in a citation extracted therefrom and reading as follows:

DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION**As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (Sec I, WD Bul 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9075 (Sec III, WD Bul 11, 1942), and under the provisions of paragraph 2d(1), Section IV, Circular No 333 WD 1943, and letter, Headquarters United States Army Strategic Air Forces, file AG 200.6, subject: "Distinguished Unit Badge," dated 11 October 1945, the following unit is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy:

The 21st Fighter Group is cited for outstanding performance of duty in armed conflict with the enemy. Notified to prepare the maximum number of fighters to escort B-29 aircraft for the first time in the vitally important strike on 7 April 1945 against the huge and heavily defended Nakajima Aircraft Factory, Musashino Plant, just outside of Tokyo, the ground crews worked with enthusiasm and determination to have all possible aircraft in commission. The Group had landed at Iwo Jima just a few days before, and shortly after their arrival they were attacked during the night by more than two hundred desperate Japanese armed with mortars, grenades and rifles in a fierce Banzai charge. The group sustained casualties of fourteen killed and fifty wounded. Undaunted by this critical loss of personnel, additionally handicapped by the limited and damaged repair and maintenance facilities, and using a crudely repaired runway wrested from the enemy only a few days before, this group worked steadily throughout the day and night to prepare for its first escort mission from Iwo Jima. On 7 April 1945, after an overwater flight of more than 700 miles, forty-six of the Group's P-51's met 104 Superfortresses off the coast of Honshu and escorted them to the heavily defended primary target. Immediately engaged by more than 125 aggressive enemy fighters and at the same time subjected to heavy and intense anti-aircraft fire, the pilots skillfully and courageously warded off repeated attacks to enable the heavily loaded B-29's to successfully drop their bombs without a loss due to enemy fighter action. The intrepid fighter pilots, attacking enemy planes only when they threatened the bombers, destroyed four enemy aircraft and probably destroyed five. The conspicuous gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps of the 21st Fighter Group in the face of extremely adverse conditions and concentrated defenses of an aggressive and determined foe reflect the highest credit on themselves and the Army Air Forces.

The following named individuals were assigned or attached and present for duty on the occasion for which citation was awarded and are entitled to wear the Distinguished Unit Badge as a permanent part of the uniform.

MAJORS

Paul J Imig 0-660152

CAPTAINS

Joseph J Baird 0-423674
 John S Barker 0-727381
 Adolph J Brogar 0-794193
 James H Carlyle 0-730375
 John W. French 0-561047
 Charles Luckenbill 0-578381
 William F Morrill 0-677097
 Howard L Russell 0-797720
 Walter T Stovos Jr 0-570399
 Douglas J Titus 0-582987

1ST LTS

Chester F Adams 0-1553388
 Clarence H Bell 0-762448
 Roy F Bocher 0-798244
 Ralph L Bruner 0-694043
 Richfield Cameron 0-676741
 Thomas W Danna 0-806332
 Edward H Dibble 0-791679
 James A Dickens 0-807264
 Gerard J Dowds 0-805588
 Jacob W Gotwals 0-754100
 Clifton F Jones 0-813170
 Thomas H LeCompte 0-858065
 Harry W Norton Jr 0-759061
 Stanley E Pacella 0-866067
 William A Robinson 0-449798
 Raymond C Shallis 0-566636
 Harry E Walner 0-794372
 William T Warren 0-2054074
 Kenneth T Wilson 0-579687
 Thomas V Gates 0-862018
 James H Beattie 0-741020

2ND LTS

Albert J Allard 0-714838
 James W Bradbury 0-710038
 Horace B Brandonberger 0-710646
 Howard C Brown 0-829815
 Garland R Cottle 0-763507
 James F Czach 0-735752
 Clyde M Decker 0-763519
 C. M. Riese Jr 0-722034
 Warren H Ellison 0-763533
 Lloyd L English 0-2057588
 Robert L Fricksen 0-763537
 Chester Fitzgerald 0-834991
 Melvin B Fleming 0-829966
 Hans C Holm 0-2057625
 Thomas Johnston Jr 0-2059789
 Alfred G Jones 0-809156
 William E D King 0-2059794
 Donald R Klipp 0-767281

2ND LTS (Cont'd)

Glenn W Reagan 0-711019
 Claude A Lane 0-2059315
 Harrison V Parker 0-2059824
 L A Fordgrass 0-722145
 Harve H Phipps Jr 0-758052
 James T Richardson 0-820414
 Walter H. Roberts 0-2059840
 Vernon J Schlosser 0-835069
 John F Stripek 0-820659
 Robert S Starr 0-824763
 Jack O Stevens 0-824765
 Alfred V Stuart 0-821800
 Horace Wallace 0-820630
 W C Wilkinson 0-829787
 Arthur Zellweger 0-722199

PLT O's

Philip B Ingalls T-062982
 William C Springer T-064076
 James T Wichter T-063067

MASTER SERGEANTS

Thomas P Kinble Jr 14028203
 William B Leath 6973309
 Harry D Powell 6559259
 Robert T Smith 6949781
 Taylor H Weaver 13067658
 John I Burk (1ST SGT) 37117153

TECHNICAL SERGEANTS

Donald W Bryant 16050052
 Sheldon G Prugess 35277879
 Ernest Collins 34261345
 Harry T Cronk 36327216
 Joseph O DeLost 36327976
 Stuart R Douglas 34028566
 Roland L Felske 36174574
 Lynn A Ferguson 37100839
 Terro Fosso 35220351
 Anthony V Fuller 34211310
 Lorey S Gaustad 37166268
 Masinino R Gonzales 37164857
 George T Harbringer 35039269
 Olin A Hoifner 6253041
 Richard T Jameson 17004122
 Lloyd V Johnson 17055354
 Benjamin H Kearrey 16034963
 Lamar H Moberly 14031155
 Bernard J Retz 13102437
 Howard F Rice 36327964
 Dale W Sartwell 16012818
 Chester W Shaw 6711529
 Francis J Smith 36237421
 Robert L Spayd 11042561

R E S T R I C T E D
HEADQUARTERS
 21st FIGHTER GROUP AAF
 APO 244, Unit 6

GENERAL ORDERS)

29 January 1946

NUMBER 2)

1. General Order No. 28, this Hq, dtd 17 January 1946, is amended to read: General Order No. "1".

BATTLE PARTICIPATION CREDIT

2. Under the provisions of General Orders No. 33, WD, 1945, as amended and pursuant to authority contained in Section I, General Order No 7, Hq United States Army Forces, 11 January 1946. The following Officers, orgns indicated are entitled to credit for battle participation in Air Combat (Iwo Jima) at some time during the period 10 August 1944 to 16 March 1945, and are atzd to wear one (1) Bronze Service Star on the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon for this engagement.

1st Lt DONALD G DOWNS	C 866691 AC	72nd Ftr Sq AAF
Capt HERMAN S JONES	O 572188 AC	Hq 21st Ftr Gp AAF
1st Lt FREDERICK H MONSON	O 865779 AC	72nd Ftr Sq AAF
1st Lt JOHN H MUSSER	O 1556944 AC	72nd Ftr Sq AAF
1st Lt BERT F SHOWMAN	O 367908 AC	Hq 21st Ftr Gp AAF
1st Lt HERBERT H TOONE	O 867906 AC	Hq 21st Ftr Gp AAF
2nd Lt ROBERT D WRIGHT	O 932838 AC	46th Ftr Sq AAF
2nd Lt ERNEST J ZIGA	O 866875 AC	46th Ftr Sq AAF

BY ORDER OF COLONEL EADES:

GEORGE J. WILSON JR.,
 Capt., Air Corps,
 Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

George J. Wilson Jr.
 GEORGE J. WILSON JR.,
 Capt., Air Corps,
 Adjutant.

R E S T R I C T E D

R E S T R I C T E D
HEADQUARTERS
21st FIGHTER GROUP AAF
APO 244 Unit 6

17 January, 1946

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 28)

BATTLE PARTICIPATION CREDIT

1. Under the provisions of Circular 62, WD, 1944 as amended by Section I, Circular 195, WD, 1944 and pursuant to authority contained in GO #31, Hq USASTAF, 22 September, 1945, Sgt Joseph Fox, 120L2972, Hq 21st Fighter Group AAF is entitled to credit for battle participation in the Eastern Mandates Campaign at some time during the period 16 April 1944 to 15 August 1945, and is authorized to wear one (1) Bronze Service Star on the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon for this engagement.

2. Under the provisions of Circular 62, WD, 1944 as amended by Section I, Circular 195, WD, 1944 and pursuant to authority contained in GO #17, Hq USAFMIDPAC, 6 August 1945, Sgt Joseph Fox, 120L2972, Hq 21st Fighter Group AAF is entitled to battle participation credit for participation in the Air Offensive, Japan Campaign at some time between 17 April, 1942 and 31 July, 1945, and is authorized to wear one (1) Bronze Service Star on the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon for this engagement.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL EADES:

GEORGE J. WILSON JR.,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

George J. Wilson Jr.
GEORGE J. WILSON JR.,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS 21ST FIGHTER GROUP AAF
APO #36

18 December 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 26)

JMX

BATTLE PARTICIPATION CREDIT

1. Under the provisions of Circular 62, WD, 1944 as amended by Section I, Circular 195, WD, 1944 and pursuant to authority contained in GO #31, Hq USASTAF, 22 September 1945, S Sgt William R. Jaster, 15125641, Hq 21st Fighter Group AAF is entitled to credit for battle participation in the Eastern Mandates Campaign at some time during the period 16 April 1944 to 15 August 1945, and is authorized to wear one (1) Bronze Service Star on the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon for this engagement.

2. Under the provisions of Circular 62, WD, 1944 as amended by Section I, Circular 195, WD, 1944 and pursuant to authority contained in GO #17, Hq USAFMIDPAC, 6 August 1945, S Sgt William R. Jaster, 15125641, Hq 21st Fighter Group AAF is entitled to battle participation credit for participation in the Air Offensive, Japan Campaign at some time between 17 April, 1942 and 31 July, 1945, and is authorized to wear one (1) Bronze Service Star on the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon for this engagement.

BY ORDER OF COL EADES:

GEORGE J. WILSON JR
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

George J. Wilson Jr
GEORGE J. WILSON JR
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

21ST FIGHTER GROUP AAF
531st Fighter Squadron AAF
APO #244 Unit 6

15 December 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 25)

AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED UNIT BADGE

General Orders No. 106, Headquarters Twentieth Air Force dtd 13 November 1945, cites the 531st Fighter Squadron, 21st Fighter Group AAF for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy in a citation extracted therefrom and reading as follows:

DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION***As authorized by Executive Order 9896 (Sec I, WD Bul 22, 1943), superceding Executive Order 9075 (Sec III WD Bul II 1942), and under the provisions of paragraph 2d (1), Section IV, Circular No 333 WD 1943, and letter, Headquarters United States Army Strategic Air Forces, file AG 200.6, subject: "Distinguished Unit Badge", dated 11 October 1945, the following unit is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy:

The 21st Fighter Group is cited for outstanding performance of duty in armed conflict with the enemy. Notified to prepare the maximum number of fighters to escort B-29 aircraft for the first time in the vitally important strike on 7 April 1945 against the huge and heavily defended Nakajima Aircraft Factory, Musashino Plant, just outside of Tokyo, the ground crews worked with enthusiasm and determination to have all possible aircraft in commission. The Group had landed at Iwo Jima just a few days before, and shortly after their arrival they were attacked during the night by more than two hundred desperate Japanese armed with mortars, grenades and rifles in a fierce Banzai charge. The Group sustained casualties of fourteen killed and fifty wounded. Undaunted by this critical loss of personnel, additionally handicapped by the limited and damaged repair and maintenance facilities, and using a crudely repaired runway wrested from the enemy only a few days before, this Group worked steadily throughout the day and night to prepare for its first escort mission from Iwo Jima. On 7 April 1945, after an overwater flight of more than 700 miles, forty-six of the Group's F-51's met 104 Superfortresses off the coast of Honshu and escorted them to the heavily defended primary target. Immediately engaged by more than 125 aggressive enemy fighters and at the same time subjected to heavy and intense anti-aircraft fire, the pilots skillfully and courageously warded off repeated attacks to enable the heavily loaded B-29's to successfully drop their bombs without a loss due to enemy fighter action. The intrepid fighter pilots, attacking enemy planes only when they threatened the bombers, destroyed four enemy aircraft and probably destroyed five. The conspicuous gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps of the 21st Fighter Group in the face of extremely adverse conditions and concentrated defenses of an aggressive and determined foe reflect the highest credit on themselves and the Army Air Forces.

The following named individuals were assigned or attached and present for duty on the occasion for which citation was awarded and are entitled to wear the Distinguished Unit Badge as a permanent part of the uniform.

FIRST LIEUTENANTS

Fred H. Sickler, Jr	0678959
Wade W. Marsh	01216551
William F. Savidge	0801782

SECOND LIEUTENANTS

Howard M. Lane	0824630
John D. Thompson	0810767

BY ORDER OF COLONEL FADDS-

OFFICIAL:

GEORGE J. WILSON JR,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

George J. Wilson Jr
 GEORGE J. WILSON JR,
 1st Lt., Air Corps,
 Adjutant

21ST FIGHTER GROUP AAF
531st Fighter Squadron AAF
APO #244 Unit 6

15 December 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 25)

AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED UNIT BADGE

General Orders No. 106, Headquarters Twentieth Air Force dtd. 13 November 1945, cites the 531st Fighter Squadron, 21st Fighter Group AAF for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy in a citation extracted therefrom and reading as follows:

DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION***As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (Sec I, WD Bul 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9245 (Sec III WD Bul II 1940), and under the provisions of paragraph 2d (1), Section IV, (Circular No 333 WD 1943, and letter, Headquarters United States Army Strategic Air Forces, file AG 200.6, subject, "Distinguished Unit Badge", dated 11 October 1945, the following unit is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy;

The 21st Fighter Group is cited for outstanding performance of duty in armed conflict with the enemy. Notified to prepare the maximum number of fighters to escort B-29 aircraft for the first time in the vitally important strike on 7 April 1945 against the huge and heavily defended Nakajima Aircraft Factory, Musashino Plant, just outside of Tokyo, the ground crews worked with enthusiasm and determination to have all possible aircraft in commission. The Group had landed at Iwo Jima just a few days before, and shortly after their arrival they were attacked during the night by more than two hundred desperate Japanese armed with mortars, grenades and rifles in a fierce Banzai charge. The Group sustained casualties of fourteen killed and fifty wounded. Undaunted by this critical loss of personnel, additionally handicapped by the limited and damaged repair and maintenance facilities, and using a crudely repaired runway wrested from the enemy only a few days before, this Group worked steadily throughout the day and night to prepare for its first escort mission from Iwo Jima. On 7 April 1945, after an overwater flight of more than 700 miles, forty-six of the Group's P-51's met 104 Superfortresses off the coast of Honshu and escorted them to the heavily defended primary target. Immediately engaged by more than 125 aggressive enemy fighters and at the same time subjected to heavy and intense anti-aircraft fire, the pilots skillfully and courageously warded off repeated attacks to enable the heavily loaded B-29's to successfully drop their bombs without a loss due to enemy fighter action. The intrepid fighter pilots, attacking enemy planes only when they threatened the bombers, destroyed four enemy aircraft and probably destroyed five. The conspicuous gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps of the 21st Fighter Group in the face of extremely adverse conditions and concentrated defenses of an aggressive and determined foe reflect the highest credit on themselves and the Army Air Forces.

The following named individuals were assigned or attached and present for duty on the occasion for which citation was awarded and are entitled to wear the Distinguished Unit Badge as a permanent part of the uniform.

FIRST LIEUTENANTS

Fred H. Sickler, Jr	0678959
Wade W. Marsh	01296551
William F. Savidge	0801782

SECOND LIEUTENANTS

Howard M. Lane	0824630
John D. Thompson	0810767

BY ORDER OF COLONEL TRADES.

GEORGE J. WILSON JR,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Adjutant.

OFFICIAL:

George J. Wilson Jr

GEORGE J. WILSON
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS 21ST FIGHTER GROUP AAF
APO # 86

29 November 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 24

Under the provisions of AR 600-20, dtd 1 June 1942, the undersigned hereby assumes command of the 21st Fighter Group AAF.

William Eades
WILLIAM EADES,
Colonel, Air Corps,
Commanding.

DIST: "H"

HEADQUARTERS 21ST FIGHTER GROUP AAF
APO # 86

28 November 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 23)

1. 21st Fighter Group AAF will close at APO #86 at 2400 30 November 1945 and will open at APO #237 at 0001 1 December 1945.

BY ORDER OF LT COL PARSONS:

WILLIAM J. HOFFMANN,
1st Lt, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

OFFICIAL: *William J. Hoffmann*
WILLIAM J. HOFFMANN,
1st Lt, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

DIST: "B" FLUS:

2-TAG, Wash, D.C.	5-CO, Air Depot, APO 264
2-AAF Library, Wash, D.C.	5-CO, Air Depot, APO 331
5-CG, AAF	1-Master Locator, APO 958
5-USASTAF Liaison	1-Theater Postal Officer, APO 958
5-USASTAF Advon	1-Postal Officer, APO 958
5-CG, Eight Air Force	1-Postal Officer, CPBC, APO 958
5-CG, Twentieth Air Force	1-Postal Officer, APO 953
2-CINCPOA	2-33rd SCU
5-CINCPAC	5-USASTAF SCU
5-CG, FEF	1-Ea AGF
15-CG, USAFMIDPAC	4-Orgn Control
5-CG, AAF MIDPAC	2-Ea Orgn Concerned
16-CG, CPBC	5-File
1-CPBC Publications	2-37th SCU
2-CG, ASCOMO, APO 315	2-MRU, APO 958
2-CG, Pacific Division, ATC	1-USASTAF Postal Officer.
2-CG, AG Depot, Ogden, Utah	2-Postal Officer, APO 86.
2-57th Stat Control, APO 902	

21ST FIGHTER GROUP AAF
72d Fighter Squadron AAF
APO # 86

22 November 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 19) AWARD OF DISTINGUISHED UNIT BADGE

General Orders No. 106, Headquarters Tenth Air Force, dtd 13 November 1945, cites the 72d Fighter Squadron, 21st Fighter Group AAF for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy in a citation extracted therefrom and reading as follows:

DISTINGUISHED UNIT CITATION***As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (Sec I, WD Bul 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9075 (Sec III, WD Bul 11, 1942), and under the provisions of paragraph 2d(1), Section IV, Circular No 333 WD 1943, and letter, Headquarters United States Army Strategic Air Forces, file AG 200,6, subject: "Distinguished Unit Badge," dated 11 October 1945, the following unit is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy:

The 21st Fighter Group is cited for outstanding performance of duty in armed conflict with the enemy. Notified to prepare the maximum number of fighters to escort B-29 aircraft for the first time in the vitally important strike on 7 April 1945 against the huge and heavily defended Nakajima Aircraft Factory, Musashino Plant, just outside of Tokyo, the ground crews worked with enthusiasm and determination to have all possible aircraft in commission. The Group had landed at Iwo Jima just a few days before, and shortly after their arrival they were attacked during the night by more than two hundred desperate Japanese armed with mortars, grenades and rifles in a fierce Banzai charge. The group sustained casualties of fourteen killed and fifty wounded. Undaunted by this critical loss of personnel, additionally handicapped by the limited and damaged repair and maintenance facilities, and using a crudely repaired runway wrested from the enemy only a few days before, this group worked steadily throughout the day and night to prepare for its first escort mission from Iwo Jima. On 7 April 1945, after an overwater flight of more than 700 miles, forty-six of the Group's P-51's met 104 Superfortresses off the coast of Honshu and escorted them to the heavily defended primary target. Immediately engaged by more than 125 aggressive enemy fighters and at the same time subjected to heavy and intense anti-aircraft fire, the pilots skillfully and courageously warded off repeated attacks to enable the heavily loaded B-29's to successfully drop their bombs without a loss due to enemy fighter action. The intrepid fighter pilots, attacking enemy planes only when they threatened the bombers, destroyed four enemy aircraft and probably destroyed five. The conspicuous gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps of the 21st Fighter Group in the face of extremely adverse conditions and concentrated defenses of an aggressive and determined foe reflect the highest credit on themselves and the Army Air Forces.

The following named individuals were assigned or attached and present for duty on the occasion for which citation was awarded and are entitled to wear the Distinguished Unit Badge as a permanent part of the uniform.

MAJORS
Paul J Imig 0-660152

CAPTAINS
Joseph J Baird 0-423674
John S Barkor 0-727381
Adolph J Bregar 0-794193
James H Carlyle 0-730375
John W. French 0-561047
Charles Luckenbill 0-578381
William E Merritt 0-677097
Howard L Russell 0-797720
Walter T Steves Jr 0-570399
Douglas J Titus 0-582987

1ST LTS
Chester F Adams 0-1553388
Clarence H Bell 0-762448
Roy F Bocher 0-798244
Ralph L Bruner 0-694043
Richfield Cameron 0-676741
Thomas W Denman 0-806332
Edward H Dibble 0-791679
James A Dickens 0-807264
Gerard J Dows 0-805588
Jacob W Gotwals 0-754100
Clifton E Jones 0-813170
Thomas H LeCompte 0-858065
Harry W Norton Jr 0-759061
Stanley B Pac'la 0-866067
William A Robinson 0-449798
Raymond C Shallis 0-566686
Harry E Walmer 0-794372
William T Warren 0-2054074
Kenneth F Wilson 0-579687
Thomas V Gates 0-862018
James H Beattie 0-741020

2ND LTS
Albert J Allard 0-714838
James W Bradbury 0-710038
Horace B Brandonberger 0-710646
Howard C Brown 0-829815
Garland R Gottle 0-763507
James F Czach 0-735752
Clyde M Decker 0-753519
C. M. Bisele Jr 0-722034
Warren H Ellison 0-764533
Lloyd L English 0-2057588
Robert L Erickson 0-763537
Chester Fitzgerald 0-834991
Melvin B Fleming 0-829966
Hans C Holm 0-2057625
Thomas Johnston Jr 0-2059789
Alfred G Jones 0-309156
William E D King 0-2059794
Donald R Klipp 0-767281

2ND LTS (Cont'd)
Glenn W Reagan 0-711019
Claude A Lang 0-2059315
Harrison V Parker 0-2059824
L A Pendergrass 0-722145
Harve H Phipps Jr 0-758052
James T Richardson 0-820414
Walter W. Roberts 0-2059840
Vernon J Schlosser 0-835069
John E Skripek 0-820659
Robert S Starr 0-824763
Jack O Stevens 0-824765
Alfred V Stuart 0-821800
Horace Wallace 0-820630
W C Wilkinson 0-829787
Arthur Zellweger 0-722199

PLT O's
Philip B Ingalls T-062982
William C Springor T-064076
James F Wichter T-063067

MASTER SERGEANTS
Thomas P Kimble Jr 14028203
William B Leath 6973309
Harry D Powell 6559259
Robert T Smith 6949781
Taylor H Weaver 13067658
John F Burk (1ST SGT) 37117153

TECHNICAL SERGEANTS
Donald W Bryant 16050052
Sheldon G Prugess 35277879
Ernest H Collins 34261345
Harry T Cronk 36327216
Joseph O DeLost 34327976
Stuart R Douglas 34028566
Roland L Folske 36174574
Lynn A Ferguson 37500839
Terro Fosso 34220351
Anthony V Fuller 34211310
Lacey S Gaustad 37166268
Domingo L Gonzalez 37164857
George W Harbrueger 35039269
Clara A Heifner 6283041
Richard T Jameson 17004122
Lloyd V Johnson 19055354
Benjamin H Kearney 16034963
Lemar H Moberly 14031155
Bernard J Ratz 13102437
Howard T Rice 36327964
Dale W Sartwell 16012818
Chester W Shaw 6711529
Francis J Smith 36237421
Robert L Spayd 11042561

TECHNICAL SERGEANTS (Cont'd)

Lawrence L Trotter	16053869
Garland B Vaught	15060447
Leslie A Weaver	15059590
John P Young	6152389
Lawrence L Horst	17031505

STAFF SERGEANTS

Walter A Binkley	35331236
Samuel F Bridge Jr	11041435
Thomas L Brown	35350373
Harman L Byers	38151713
Joseph T Casey	36336126
Rudolph G Craider	35112310
James R Deman	35325604
Cletus A Dato	35112165
Harold A Gillott	35363646
Robert Goodson	37137559
Roman S Gorny	36238759
Samuel M Gunter Jr	14055504
Cosker Hairelson	14013447
Lloyd A Hild	19015514
Paul W Just	31113633
Robert L Koerth	36075232
John F Kusior	36076830
Franklin C Kyle	11029421
Andrew Leicht	37134520
Aaron Lovinson	32324994
Winford W Maddox	20400131
Eugene W Mader	35291757
Anthony J Mozauski	32246376
Don F McClintock	15075196
Everett E Murray	39836985
Joseph Napoli	32195863
Belvia L Nelson	16061907
William F Ormond Jr	16012657
Victor Pasci	32436313
L. H. Pethorbridge	12073070
Robert E Sadler	11013339
Albert R Sanders	6885183
Victor Santaniello	31042480
Robert C Schwenzer	32300572
James E. Shuhler	33057760
Andrew Smith	35043074
Harold T Westfall	37118324
Robert D Woodside	34302920
Homer R Boatright	16072180
Paul F Thayer	11031623
Stanley H Urlago	35870757
James R Floyd	35033411

SERGEANTS

John D Adams	18199862
Paul J Alexander	32330079
Charles W Allen	34275509
Charles R Allred	15394026

SERGEANTS (Cont'd)

Joseph F Austin	31097551
Robert C Bell	36328011
Joseph V Bodner	32077469
Willis T Bond	36070121
Benjamin F Brown	35400372
Earl J Brown	35325062
Carroll T Brown Jr	18045824
William R Campbell	38046680
Walton G Chaney	13103933
Carl Cooper	35483429
Oscar R Dixon	16070652
John P Delvig	35311603
Anthony J D'Onofrio	12050585
Thomas J Elias	15099035
George W Ferguson	11090471
Myron A Ferrell	35373065
Charles F Francetic	16062000
Mitchell A Fye	33240435
Charles E Gibson	35350191
John C Givens	33150326
Walter Getch	36368242
Clarence Grady	36327853
Albert P Granda	36060017
John C Gravan	35475254
Ralph G Greenburg	15320731
James F Haloy (KIA)	31138502
Marshall D Harmon	35483297
Odcul G Henderson	34345185
Jack T Hennocke	39234701
Tommas D Hisaw	34343317
Ernst W Isler	19082501
Rufus H Jones	34357256
Jay W Kirkman	39392747
John T Kite	35350412
Vasco V Kitts	35161637
Conrad G Koenig	32298702
Hubert S Kowalski	36349479
William J Lambo	31272709
Carl W Mikkelsen	16068233
Herbert A Miller	36176111
Gilbert E Morrow	35041422
John D Mulligan	31271607
Raymond A Murdock	31155843
John L Nespoli	32409302
John T Nehner	19099916
Milton O Oberg	31168662
Charles J Obin	31089550
Fernando J Obledo	18198849
Robert W Odle	39181928
Albert L Owens	35153830
Harvin B Page	33219070
William C Parker	16053997
Santiford W Purcell	37222997
Silvestre Ramos	38143656
Herbert Raskin	32352902

SERGEANTS (Cont'd)

William F Roach	37146679
Joseph P Roppolo	14059000
Tverett R Shrider	35135288
Clifton G Sousie	32446945
Harry A Sunbury	33159985
Philip R Wally	19013030
Paul Walsko	35111721
John Wone	11031907
Bow C Williford	34359470
Lee O Winland	18046771
James V Brewer	38009617

CORPORALS

William R Agricola	33544024
Anthony Ayello	32443062
Richard D Barrow Jr	35479298
John B. Boidermann	16100703
Burton A Bogardus	32374464
Walter J Boyle	32486052
Wilbur Brumfield	36327226
Alton R Carvo	36182348
Morris W Cohen	32439108
Clark Coleman Jr	14095556
Albert E De Franco	32278633
Clifford W Dixon	34263071
Kola B Farabow Jr	34450305
Carlos C Farley	35483548
Domingo T Gago	39254400
Benjamin L Gamble	13689471
Charles F DeFalco	32309916
Joseph A Genova	17091620
Roman Hranoy	35332075
Stephen M Hanrahan	12122877
Russell G Hanson	17109520
Frank M Higgins	36249851
Thomas W Hogan	31189405
Harold D Hollensbe	38183848
Guy L Holland Jr	13073987
George D Hoots	37368050
Albert G Hopkins	35533288
Harry P Houghton	36525062
William P Houk	35483751
Michael Jambik	35358967
Edward A Jones	16132071
Pamnee C Jordan	34259315
Leonard R Kelroy	36306614
Raymond S Kennedy	16100218
Keith W Klatt	37350511
Raymond C Knapp	37088595
James F Kolar	16132060
Walter Konacki	36348261
Antonio Koumelas	31108722
Joseph R LaPerte	31173132
Ralph O Libby	31151634

CORPORALS (Cont'd)

George D Loyd	35301891
John J Lucas	32434456
George E Lynn	15394598
George H R McQueen	11130761
Boyd D Morningstar	36198529
Frank J Muccioli	32270395
Frederick L Kees	35356235
Irving L Peryam	36182093
Carl W Peterson	37279037
Lester L Davidson	35475298
Joseph W Petrosky	33231876
Harold R Puthoff	35620001
Matthew W Reuter Jr	36237547
John B Sage	11073173
Steven Sebo Jr	16133774
William L Shapiro	32491665
James H Smith	15112329
Frank J Smith	32246033
Harold D Starke	32126023
Clarence J Taton	39272526
Oscar W Teveson	35356379
Dominic F Tomaiuolo	31276755
William L Urciuoli	32335908
Louis J Wald	16024528
James F Yodor	39533116
Sidney A Diamond	12066412
Worth E Goodman	14124007
Vito Volpe	32475695
Earl J Wenzel	39553760

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

Edward F Bauers	33297073
Lyman A Cook	36654352
Earl H Cooper	32452818
Anthony Darcano	36363208
Guy Glenn	34399134
David Graham	31329137
Donald J Hand	33273230
Eugene E Jaeger	15330258
Andrew Knaller	32489172
Michael Krahlik	33291919
John J Lechiara	33302241
Clement W McGrath	37430837
Randall F Munn	31155029
Clancy O Meyers Jr	34315108
Edward J Oldenburg	16093646
Roy H Olin	37282272
Francis J O'Neill	12945392
Glen F Palmberg	39111895
Joel C Phillips	42109932
Louis Plechar	32241310
Hoye A Richards	34167829
Charles C Stickles	31061846
Otis D Nush	36483230