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59-FI-527-111
JUNE 1945

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OUTLINE HISTORY, 527th Fighter Squadron, 66th Fighter Group, June 1945.

a. Present Designation: 527th Fighter Squadron, 66th Fighter Group, attached to 64th Fighter Wing for operations only, XII Tactical Air Command, 9th Air Force.

SECRET

b. Changes in Organization:

(1) Changes in Designation, Assignment, or Attachment:

(a) None

(2) Subordinate Units: None

(3) Changes in Command: None

(4) Changes in Staff Officers: None

c. Strength: 80 Officers, 237 Enlisted Men.

d. Present Station: Braunschardt (Y-72), Germany, since 17 April 1945.

e. Movements: None

f. Campaigns: None

g. Operations:

(1) Nature of Operations: Transition flying, training of pilots.

(2) Number of Missions: None

(3) Outstanding Mission: None

h. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:

(1) For meritorious service in direct support of combat operations, the following named personnel were awarded the Bronze Star Medal on orders indicated:

19 May 1945. General Order #81, Hq. XII Tactical Air Command, Dated
Carl E. Crow, 35400118, S/Sgt.

Charles W. Straney, 15066954, S/Sgt.

19 May 1945. General Order #82, Hq. XII Tactical Air Command, Dated
Lee A. Herridge, 18037320, S/Sgt.

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General Order #101, Hq. XII Tactical Air Command, Dated
7 June, 1945.

Horace E. Bradford, 18040231, S/Sgt.
Louis J. Velletri, 32311931, Sgt.

General Order #102, Hq. XII Tactical Air Command, Dated
7 June, 1945.

Frank A. Glispin, Jr., 38058255, T/Sgt.
James E. Griffin, 18053707, T/Sgt.
Leonard J. Hill, Jr., 34136754, S/Sgt.
Everett E. Tolbert, 15066579, S/Sgt.

General Order #108, Hq. XII Tactical Air Command, Dated
14 June, 1945. For injuries sustained in combat, following enlisted man
is awarded the Purple Heart.

Clark E. McMillen, 35022857, Cpl.

(2) For meritorious service in direct support of combat operations,
the following named personnel were awarded the Bronze Star Medal on orders
indicated:

General Order #114, Hq. XII Tactical Air Command, Dated
22 June, 1945.

Thomas L. Rider, O-420061, Capt.
Owen J. Tilleson, O-562210, Capt.

(3) For meritorious achievement while participating in aerial
flight, the following named Officer was awarded the 5th Oak Leaf Cluster
to the Air Medal, on orders indicated:

General Order #108, Hq. XII Tactical Air Command, Dated
14 June, 1945.

Robert H. Boyett, O-2063784, 1st Lt.

Clayton S. Garber *els*
CLAYTON S. GARBEN
Captain, Air Corps,
527th Fighter Squadron.

S E C R E T

- | Day | Events |
|-----|---|
| 14. | No flying - Standdown. Rumor has it that we will move to Munich or Nuremberg. Everyone would like to go to Munich--it's new country to us and near Austria. We may have a rest camp in Austria one of these days. |
| 15. | Transition flying again today--The men that went DS to Innsbruck last month returned today. Sorry to back to the "Pines" after living in houses and wish they could stay there. Trout fishing in the streams there and skiing on the mountain slopes--fine time was had by all. |
| 16. | Flying continues as the weather remains fair--still cold. Cpl. Clark E. McMillen was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received while with the 36th Division at Salerno. |
| 17. | No. events. |
| 18. | Flying again--P.T. toc. Sgt. Louis J. Velletri back from the hospital after again recovering from Malaria. Everyone thought he was on his way back to the states. |
| 19. | More transition today--keeps the crew chiefs busy keeping them in the blue. Things are dull here, except for the ball games, shows and the Enlisted Men's club there is little to do. |
| 20. | Two more Enlisted Men left for the states today. S/Sgt. Charles W. Davidson and Sgt. Francis E. Scheuer both men over the age and have been with the outfit since the first days in Africa. |
| 21. | No events. |
| 22. | Other than transition flying--nothing new. |
| 23. | Training flights and P.T. - show tonight - Barbara Stanwyck in Connecticut Christmas. "Good Show". Shows are held out under the blue and because of the late sunset are not over until midnight. |
| 24. | Dance at the Enlisted Men's club, lots of Poles and Russians to dance with. The Poles "Polka" and GI's "Lindy"-- quite a sight to see when they are dancing together. Music was supplied by the Group Band. |
| 25. | Good show tonight--"Together Again". P.T. still going strong. The Group Band is planning on a trip to Paris and maybe to Belgium. |
| 26. | Flying today--nothing new. Band played at 319th Service Group. |
| 27. | No events. |

S E C R E T

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Page No. 3 . War Diary 527th Fighter Sq., 86th Fighter Gp., APO 374, U. S. Army

Month of June 1945. Prepared by Clayton S. Garber, Captain, 527th Fighter Sq.

Day

Events

28. Major Dolny and Sgt. Clark went to Austria today, Maybe the rest camp in Austria will be more than a rumor after all. Standdown no other events.

29. No events.

30. Excellent show tonight "And now Tomorrow" with Allan Ladd and Loretta Young. Payday - stakes will be high tonight. All of the Group were called to the Enlisted Men's club to hear Col Lee, Capt. Whitney, Lt. Bond, Lt. Fine and Lt. Schneidau explain the new I & E and P.T. program. I & E sounds good. P.T. rough.

S E C R E T

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CUTLINE HISTORY. 527th Fighter Squadron, 86th Fighter Group, July 1945.

a. Present Designation: 527th Fighter Squadron, 86th Fighter Group, attached to 64th Fighter Wing for operations only, XII Tactical Air Command, 9th Air Force.

b. Changes in Organization:

(1) Changes in Designation, Assignment, or Attachment:

(a) None

(2) Subordinate Units: None

(3) Changes in Command: None

(4) Changes in Staff Officers: None

c. Strength: 55 Officers, 233 Enlisted Men.

d. Present Station: Braunschardt (Y-72), Germany, since 17 April 1945.

e. Movements: None

f. Campaigns: None

g. Operations:

(1) Nature of Operations: Transition flying, training of pilots.

(2) Number of Missions: No combat.

h. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action:

General Order #121, Hq 9th Air Force, Dated 1 July 1945.

GEORGE W. DUNGAN, O-217000, 1st Lt, Air Corps, 86th Fighter Group. For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy. On 31 March 1945, Lt. DUNGAN led his squadron on an armed reconnaissance over western Germany, where observing an enemy convoy, he directed an attack upon the target. Despite the intensity of severe enemy antiaircraft fire, LT. DUNGAN repeatedly led his squadron on strafing passes which inflicted additional damage. The superior leadership and outstanding aerial technique displayed by LT. DUNGAN were contributing factors in the sustained air offensive in this same area. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

FREDRICK D. GATES, O-707682, Capt, Air Corps, 86th Fighter Group. For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy. On 16 April 1945, Capt GATES led a twelve-plane air-cooperation mission against enemy positions in the area of Beilstein, Germany, where, although visibility was limited he located and identified the target, directing them in a precision dive-bombing attack which enabled them to score direct hits.

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GATES (Con'td) Reforming his squadron, he led it in a series of strafing attacks which inflicted additional damage upon the enemy. Capt GATES' superior leadership and outstanding flying ability reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Maine.

CECIL E. HAYES, O-826429, 1st Lt, Air Corps, 86th Fighter Group. For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy. On 19 April 1945 Lt HAYES leading a formation on an armed reconnaissance mission over western Germany, displayed outstanding skill and superior leadership. Navigating through a heavy overcast which greatly limited visibility, Lt HAYES located a concentration of enemy trains. Disregarding a barrage of intense enemy fire, he led his flight in repeated dive-bombing and strafing attacks which destroyed and damaged much enemy equipment. Lt. HAYES' steadfast devotion to duty and superior air-anship reflect great credit upon himself and the Army Air Forces. Entered military service from Kentucky.

JAMES K. HOLT, O-766529, 1st Lt, Air Corps, 86th Fighter Group. For extraordinary achievement in aerial flight against the enemy. On 21 April 1945 Lt HOLT, serving as flight leader on an armed reconnaissance mission over western Germany, led his squadron through adverse weather until he sighted a concentration of enemy aircraft on the ground. Disregarding intense anti-aircraft fire, he led repeated bombing and strafing attacks upon the target, destroying several planes and damaging others. His superior leadership and courage reflect great credit upon himself and his organization. Entered military service from Texas.

All of the above named Officers received the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Clayson S. Garber
CLAYSON S. GARBER
Captain, Air Corps,
527th Fighter Squadron.

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AIR FORCE

... 27, 9 3 AFHQ
27 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....117)

BATTLE HONORS - Citation of Units.....Section I

I--BATTLE HONORS. --Under the provisions of Section IV, Circular No. 335, WD, 1943, the following-named units of the Ninth Air Force are cited for extraordinary heroism in armed conflict with the enemy. The Citations read as follows:

*The 86th Fighter Group. For extraordinary heroism in action against the enemy on 20 April 1945. During the early weeks of April 1945 it became increasingly evident that the enemy was hastily withdrawing his ground and air forces from northern Germany. In a tremendous effort to disorganize the enemy's withdrawal and prevent his establishing his forces in the Munich area, the 86th Fighter Group launched nine missions for a total of 23 sorties against hostile convoys and airfield installations. Despite the fact that additional artillery had been installed to protect the greatly augmented numbers of aircraft dispersed on the airfields at Leupheim, Ulm, Ingolstadt, and Munich, the airmen attacked the airdromes with unmitigated fury, accounting for the destruction of a total of 46 hostile fighters and the damging of 45. The 5 additional missions launched by the 86th Fighter Group on this date were directed against troop concentrations and convoys of men and equipment proceeding hastily southward. Despite determined resistance from gun positions and small arms a total of 70 motor trucks and buildings reported as troop concentrations were destroyed, and 111 trucks and 34 railroad cars were damaged. In striking this dual thrust at the military might of the Nazi war machine the airmen of the 86th Fighter Group materially weakened the ability of the enemy to continue resisting the advance of the Allied ground forces. By the unstinted courage and determination of their attacks against the enemy on this occasion the pilots of the 86th Fighter Group reflect the highest traditions of the Army Air Forces.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL WYLAND:

ROBERT W. LEE
Brig Gen, USA
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL

F H MONAHAN
Lt Col, AGC
Adjutant General

S E C R E T

Page No. 1 . War Diary 527th Fighter Sq., 86th Fighter Group, AEC 374, U.S. Army.
 Month of July 1945. Prepared by Clayson S. Garber, Captain, 527th Fighter Sq.

- | Day | Events |
|-----|---|
| | 1. The usual training flights, physical training and evening softball games, movies. Captain Hale our operations Officer returned today with many tales of the good times to be had in England. |
| | 2. Rumors run high as to squadron movements, transfers to other groups and men going home on high points. Usual training and P.T. |
| | 3. Three pilots Capt. James R. Whiting, Lt. Cluf W. Jefson and Lt. Cecil B. Hayes and one ground officer Lt. Oscar Schneidau transferred today. The pilots to return home and Lt. Schneidau who has been with us since the first shot was fired to Hq XII TAC. |
| | 4. The National Holiday turned out bleak and dreary. The swimming meet and the afternoon party planed for today were canceled. Tonight there is a dance at the Officers and Enlisted Men's clubs. The group band the Invaders now known as "Lee's Lieutenants" will play at the Officers club and the "Jive Bombers" at E.L.'s. No doubt both parties will be huge success. |
| | 5. Nothing doing today---both parties were huge success. |
| | 6. Two of the old enlisted men returned today. They returned from the infantry replacement pool where they had been transferred a few months ago. At that time there was a shortage of men in the Infantry and some of our men were lost to the Ground Forces. They are Cpl. Bruce A. Conrad and Pfc. William W. Terry. |
| | 7. Another of the used to be Infantry men returned to the roost to day, Cpl. Gordon R. Flunley. Usual training flights and P.T. |
| | 8. Two deserving men were promoted today, Cpl. Clark E. McMillen and Cpl. Leonard R. Parkhurst to Sgt. McMillen had been a Cpl. so long that he could hardly believe his eyes when he read the order. |
| | 9. Two Enlisted Men left today for the states. M/Sgt. Otis D. Regan and T/Sgt. Jimmie Harrant. Both were a way up there in points and will no doubt be called "LX." very soon. |
| | 10. No events. |
| | 11. One Capt., 7 1st Lt's, 5 2nd Lt's transferred to the Zone of the Interior today. This cuts down our Officer personnel and also the amount of training time, and makes it a little easier for the crew chiefs. |
| | 12. No events, just the usual training flights and daily chores. |

S E C R E T

- | Day | Events |
|-----|---|
| 13. | Usual training flights no other events. |
| 14. | Some of the men returned to the Squadron after spending a week in England at school. England sounds like the real thing. Almost as good as the States. |
| 15. | No events. |
| 16. | Good softball game tonight - these games serve to break the monotony of the day when there is no shows. The enlisted mens club continues to do a thriving business. |
| 17. | Lt. John Schrack and F/O Wilfred R. MacGormick returned from the Officers rest camp at Cannes. This is one of the finest rest camps on the Riviera and is enjoyed by everyone that spends a short vacation there. |
| 18. | Nothing new just the training flights and P.T.--Good show tonight. Received a cluster to the Presidential Citation, swells everyones chest a little. (see attached) |
| 19. | New men keep coming in the organization and some of the old ones leave who do not have over 35 points. Keeps us wondering when we will be back in the good old United States again. |
| 20. | No events. |
| 21. | No events. |
| 22. | Training continues with the planes and pilots going full blast. Weather continues to be cool and chilly in the mornings with the full blast of the sun warming things up at noon. Good show tonight "Son of Lassie". |
| 23. | The enlisted men's club has done a thriving business lately and today ran out of everything that is possible to drink. Looks like the B-26 will have to run a sortie somewhere to replenish its' stock. Some more men with under 35 points transferred to other outfits today. |
| 24. | Group was stooddown in the afternoon to see Bob Hope show. Cast included Jerry Collona, Gale Robbins and Pat Thomas and others. One of the best shows we have ever seen. Night Flying begins, heres hoping for few accidents. |
| 25. | All pilots on flying status complete 3 hours of night flying. Good Show Movie tonight "Enter Arnaud Lupin" with Ella Ranies. These shows are one of the few things that keep the men from getting "stir crazy" in the woods here. |
| 26. | The B-26 returned from Bologna, Italy with a load of Sarti Cognac for the Officers and Enlisted Men's Clubs. There will be a hot time in the old town tonight.....with hot pipes tomorrow. We heard today that we have been awarded the 6th Battle Star. 5 more points toward being a civilian. |

SECRET

Day

Events

- 27. Thre. more of the Enlisted Men returned today from school in England. Makes everyone want to go to school, even if it does mean hard study some of the time. The usual training flights and physical training every day.
- 28. Lt. James K. Holt transferred today to Wright Field, Dayton Ohio. Lt. Holt was one of the best liked men in the entire Squadron. Quiet intelligent and one of the steadiest pilots of the entire group.
- 29. Definite authorization for the North Apennines Campaign received and we know know that we have another battle star for certain. That increases most of our scores by 5 more points. The Enlisted Men's and officers clubs continue to do rushing business on nights that there is not a show.
- 30. Lt. Richard L. Silver left today for the U.S.A. Lt. Silver with his slow southern drawl was one of the officers in the Squadron that everyone liked. Training goes on and pilots and planes are gaining in hours.
- 31. Nothing new today, same old thing--show tonight "When Irish Eyes are Smiling" with Dick Haynes.

527TH FIGHTER SQUADRON SE, AAF
86TH FIGHTER GROUP AAF
APO # 374 US ARMY

August 1945

UNIT HISTORY

I. ORGANIZATION AND CURRENT STATUS

1. Organization

a. The current T/O of this organization: 1-27 dated 29 December 1943.
Total strength authorized: 39 Officers and 245 Enlisted Men.

2. Strength

a. For the period of this report: 52 Officers, 232 Enlisted Men.

b. Gains and losses for August: Gains: 3 Officers, Losses: 50 Enlisted men.

* Information compiled from morning report, Hq 527th Fighter Squadron.

3. Stations:

a. No change in station. Present station Y-72, Braunschardt, Germany, 18 April 1945.

4. Losses in Action: Negative.

5. Awards and Decorations: Negative.

II. NARRATIVE

August was a month of comparative inactivity for the group. Wet weather hampered outdoor training activities and curtailed flying.

The end of the Japanese War threw plans for rapid reorganization into the discard, and impending changes in eligibility for discharge based on ASR scores, left command and subordinate personnel somewhat confused on the future status of the outfit. Departure of Major Voris and Captain Tilleson along with all men of 112 points and upward ASR interfered with orderly administration, but appointment of Lts York and Ireland as Executive and Adjutant respectively, assured speedy betterment of the situation.

Transition of the squadron from a combat outfit to a peacetime occupational force is well underway, but will entail long and arduous work.

III DIARY (Attached)

