

12. Narrative.

Mission took off in two plane elements at ten minute intervals. All elements glide bombed, releasing at 500'. Following details given by flights.

Red Flight: Bombed road at G-0557, four hits. Strafed with following results: 1 M/T destroyed (flamer) G-0658; 2 M/T damaged G-1158; 1 M/T destroyed (flamer) G-1365; 1 M/T damaged G-2664; 3 M/T damaged G-3261; 2 M/T damaged by the bombing at G-0557.

White Flight: Bombed town of Ceccano, bombs landing just S of bridge in town. Strafed and damaged the following vehicles; 1 M/T G-1010; 1 M/T G-0754; 1 M/T G-2543; 1 ambulance G-1562; 1 M/T G-1018; 1 M/T G-0759; 1 M/T G-0259; 1 vehicle towing artillery piece.

Blue Flight: Bombed road just outside of Velletri, destroying 1 M/T and holing road. Strafed, destroying 1 M/T and damaging 1M/T just below Montelanico; 3 M/T destroyed (flamers) F-0312; 2 20mm guns silenced and possible destroyed just above Velletri.

Yellow Flight: Flight contacted by Changer and directed to Genzano-Valmontone road. Located app. 100 M/T on Genzano - Velletri road. Bombed, scoring direct hits and destroying 4 M/T. Pulling up, flight estimated between 100-200 M/T on roads between Genzano-Nemi-Velletri, composed of halftracks, tanks, ambulances, artillery pieces, and M/T almost bumper to bumper. Planes made numerous strafing passes until ammunition was exhausted, destroying 30 M/T, mostly flamers, and dangging 10-15 additional. Two other planes, not indentified, were strafing the same column. Two tanks and two half tracks were damaged.

Totals for mission: 41 M/T destroyed; 36 M/T damaged.

MISSION NUMBER EIGHT

25 MAY 1944

HEADQUARTERS 86TH FIGHTER BOMBERS GROUP

Sq.

OPERATIONS NO 1262

~~OPERATIONS~~ NO. 421

DATE 25 May 1944

SOURCE XIII TAC GIVEN BY Directive RECD BY Brinley TWT 242200B

- 1. A. C. NO. 8
- 2. SQUADRON 525th
- 3. R/T CALL Canyon
- 4. ORDNANCE B
- 5. NO. A/C 8
- 6. TAKE OFF TIME 1730 if no call
- 7. TARGET AREA target
- 8. BOMB LOAD 16x500 lb.
- 9. BOMB "Q" .1 Nose .025 Tail
- 10. WING BRKS

11. SEARCH AND RESCUE: On call 1600 to 1730 (Pineapple)

12. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: If no call target take-off at 1730 on Armed Recce Frosinone-Subiaco-San Vito Romano -Valmontone-Frosinone. Alternate target - Ferentino, create road block in town if alternate is hit. 2 plane flights take-off at 10 min. intervals.

13. DANGER AREAS:

14. BOMB LINE COORDINATES:

TO: 525th SQUADRON; AT 1300 HOURS: RECD BY S-3 : GIVEN BY Brinley

<u>WARNING</u>	TO: _____	NO A/C _____	ETD: _____	INT. _____
			2	1620
<u>DEPARTURE</u>	TO: <u>CHANGER</u>		2	1630
	TO: _____	NO. A/C <u>2</u>	: T.O. <u>1635</u>	INT. <u>HDB</u>
		<u>2</u>	<u>1655</u>	
<u>ARRIVAL</u>	TO: <u>CHANGER</u>		2	1745
	TO: _____	NO. A/C <u>2</u>	: LAND <u>1750</u>	INT. <u>HDB</u>
		<u>2</u>	<u>1800</u>	
		<u>1</u>	<u>1820</u>	

OFFICIAL TIME OF MISSION: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

CASUALTIES AND DAMAGED AIRCRAFT:

PILOT: Lt. Dolny PLANE NO. 971 TIME _____

CRASH COORDINATES: Near Littoria airdrome, Lt. Dolny bailed out in friendly territory

REMARKS:

DATE May 25, 1944

SQUADRON 525th Ftr. Bmr.

AC # _____ MISSION # 1262

<u>RED FLIGHT</u>	<u>A/C #</u>	<u>T.O.</u>	<u>LAND</u>	<u>BACK EARLY</u>	<u>BOMBS DP.</u>	<u>EDS. FIRE</u>
Lt. Angell	149-T	1620	1745 (1:25)		2	1600
Lt. Simmons	819-X	1620	1745 (1:25)		2	700

GREEN FLIGHT

Lt. Pearson	128-Z	1630	1800 (1:30)		2	1000
Lt. Brown	061-Q	1630	1800 (1:30)		2	1000

PINK FLIGHT

Lt. Pardon	081-S	1635	1750 (1:15)		2	1100
Lt. Borallo	131-N	1635	1750 (1:15)		2	900

YELLOW FLIGHT

~~BOESOX~~

Lt. Doany	971-P	1655	1820		2	
Lt. Finlayson	129-O	1655	1820 (1:25)		2	700

SQ. SORTIES 8
SQ. COMBAT TIME 11:10

HQ. SORTIES 0
HQ. COMBAT TIME 0:00

Group 526th Squadron 526th Date 25 May 1944 Mission No. 1262

1. No. off 8A-36 Time 1620-1655 Time down 1745-1820 Total hours 11:10
2. Type mission Bomb and strafe 3. Weather Large cloud covering area of Cati.
4. a. /C not completing mission CAVU, hazy elsewhere
b. /C not completing mission CAVU, hazy elsewhere
Reason CAVU, hazy elsewhere

5. a. Location of objective, coordinates. Armed recce along BSL - Ceccano-Ferrentino-Anagni-Pallino-Genazzano-San Vito Romano-Valcontone-Tivoli
b. No. A/C attacking 8
c. Altitude of objective 700'

6. a. Escorted by _____ b. Escorting _____
c. No. A/C carrying bombs _____ d. No. A/C not carrying bombs _____
7. Type explosive 500 lb. GP..1 Nose, 16 .025 Tail
Type fusing _____ (1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____ (4) _____ (5) _____
Number expended _____

Explosive Jettisoned Number _____ Reason _____ Location _____

8. Ammunition, Cal or MM _____ Carried _____ Expended _____
.50 cal 12,800 8600

9. Type Flak _____ Accuracy _____ Intensity _____ Location (Grid Coordinate) _____
hy inacc. scant F-8450
hy/med inacc. mod. F-8559
lt acc. int. G-0753
lt acc. int. G-085570

10. No & Type E/A Encountered _____ Location _____ Aggressiveness _____

11. a. Own A/C Losses 1 A-36A b. Cause Flak c. Crew Casualties Pilot bailed out, uninjured

d. A/C Rtd fr MIA _____ MIA Miss # _____ e. Crews & IA Rtd _____ MIA Miss # _____
SW, LW or Unwounded _____

12. E/A Destroyed (No. & Type) _____ E/A Incr Destroyed _____ E/A Damaged (No & Type) _____

Narrative: (Formation Enroute, Bombing Procedure, brief Description of Results)

Narrative on back of page

/s/ Robert J. Kirach
/t/ ROBERT J. KIRACH
Major, Air Corps
Operations Officer

RESTRICTED

12. Narrative

Mission took off in two plane elements at ten minute intervals. Planes glide bombed, releasing at 700'. Following details given by flights:
Red Flight: Four bombs made direct hit on road, destroying 4 M/T and creating road block; planes strafed, destroying 20 M/T and damaging 10 M/T between Artena and G-0745; strafed and destroyed one command car at G-9849. Totals for Red Flight: 24 M/T and 1 command car destroyed, 10 M/T damaged.

White Flight: Four bombs hit on road and 2 M/T F-8460. Strafing resulted in 2 M/T destroyed F-845569; 1 M/T destroyed F-915580; 1 jeep destroyed at F-915580; 2 M/T destroyed F-990582; 1 M/T destroyed F-9760; 1 M/T destroyed G-098498; 12 M/T destroyed between Artena and G-0744; 1 M/T damaged G-045559 7 M/T damaged between Artena and G-0744; 3 M/T damaged G-087560; supply dump strafed at G-0151. Total for White Flight-- 19 M/T & 1 jeep destroyed, 11 M/T damaged.

Blue Flight: 1 bomb direct hit on road at G-980444, 3 misses. Strafing resulted in following: 2 ambulances destroyed F-975444; 2 M/T destroyed G-055556; 1 M/T destroyed G-060464; 1 M/T destroyed G-1043; 1 M/T destroyed F-930485; 1 weapons carrier destroyed G-0655; 1 M/T damaged G-060464; 2 M/T damaged G-1043; 3 M/T damaged G-1042; bldgs and supply dump observed G-0753. Totals: 5 M/T, 2 ambulances, 1 weapons carrier destroyed; 6 M/T damaged.

Yellow Flight: Four bombs on road at G-020574, one direct hit and three near misses, destroying 1 M/T. 3 M/T strafed and burned at Artena; 1 Motorcycle destroyed Artena 2 M/T damaged G-085570. Yellow element leader hit, bailed ou near Littoria A/D. Controller reported pilot landed safely. Totals: 4 M/T and 1 motorcycle destroyed, 2 M/T damaged.

Totals for mission: 50 M/T; 1 command car, 1 jeep, 2 ambulances, 1 weapons carrier destroyed; 27 M/T damaged.

FROM 525th SQUADRON
DATE 25 May 1944

AO-8
1262 A/C 8 16x500 ESCORT Nil

Enemy movements along route PSL-CECCANO-FERENTINO-ANAGNI-PALLIANO-
GENZANO-SAN VITO ROMANO-VALMONTONE-TIVOLI

See below

Enemy Plan Hy - Scant F-8450; Hy - Med - Mod F-8559; Lt - Int G-0753;
Lt - Int G-085570

Enemy W/C Nil

Weather Large cloud covering area of CORI - CAVU, hazy elsewhere

NAME OF PILOT	Angell 149	Purdum 081
	Simmons 819	Borello 131
	Pierson 128	Dolny 971
	Brown 061	Finlayson 129

POSITION OF WRECK (COORDINATES) See below

SHIP LOSS (SHIP NO.) 1x500 hung A/C 081 (Purdum)

OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS
 Angell & Simmons: TO 1620 - TD 1745; 4x500 DH on road destroying 4 M/T. Strafing: 1 command car destroyed G-9849; 20 M/T destroyed and 10 damaged on road from ARTENA to G-0745. Total - 24 M/T and 1 command car dest., 10 dam.
 Pierson & Brown: TO 1635 - TD 1750; 4x500 on road and 2 M/T at F-3460; 2 M/T destroyed F-845569; 1 M/T destroyed F-915580 - also 1 jeep; 2 M/T destroyed F-990582; 1 M/T destroyed F-9760; 1 M/T destroyed G-098498; 12 M/T destroyed between ARTENA and G-0744; 1 M/T damaged G-045559; 7 M/T damaged between ARTENA and G-0744; 3 M/T damaged G-087560; supply dump strafed at G-0151. Total: 19 M/T and 1 jeep destroyed, 11 M/T damaged.
 Purdum & Borello: TO 1635 - TD 1750; 1x500 F-980444 DH on road, 3x500 misses. 2 ambulances destroyed F-975444; 2 M/T destroyed G-045556; 1 M/T flamer G-060464; 1 M/T flamer G-1043; 1 M/T flamer F-930485; 1 weapons carrier G-0655; 1 M/T damaged G-060464; 2 M/T damaged G-1043; 3 M/T damaged G-1043; bldgs. & supply dump observed G-0753 vicinity. Total - 5 M/T, 2 ambulances, 1 weapons carrier destroyed; 6 M/T damaged

Dolny & Finlayson: TO 1655 - TD 1820; 4x500 on road (1 hit) destroying 1 M/T at G-020574; 3 M/T flamers ARTENA; 1 motorcycle destroyed ARTENA; 2 M/T damaged at G-085570. Total: 4 M/T & 1 motorcycle destroyed, 2 M/T damaged

SUMMARY: 50 M/T, 1 command car, 1 jeep, 2 ambulances, 1 weapons carrier destroyed; 27 M/T damaged

Dolny failed to return. He was last seen by Finlayson about 6,000' with ship streaming white smoke, somewhere in vicinity of CISTENNA/LITTORIA A/D. There was cloud cover over the area at 5,000', and he was flying about the clouds when last seen, had ship trimmed up and canopy discarded. No radio contact was made with him, he was heading SW and time was 1755 hours. Do not know whether he bailed out.

NAME WILLIAM H. BLACKWELL
RANK Captain, Air Corps

Combat time: 10:40 ORGANIZATION 525th Squadron

MISSION NUMBER TWELVE

25 MAY 1944

HEADQUARTERS 86TH FIGHTER BOMBER GROUP

OPERATIONS NO. 126b Sq. ~~1000~~ NO. 422 DATE 25 May 1944

SOURCE XII TAC GIVEN BY Command, Phone RECD BY Kirsch TIME 251715B

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. A. C. NO. <u>67</u> | 6. TAKE OFF TIME <u>1830</u> |
| 2. SQUADRON <u>525th</u> | 7. TAKE OFF ALT <u>1915</u> |
| 3. W/T CALL <u>Canyon</u> | 8. BOMB LOAD <u>8 x 500 lb.</u> |
| 4. CHANNEL <u>B</u> | 9. BOMB "WON" <u>.1K, .025T</u> |
| 5. NO. A/C <u>4</u> | 10. WING BRKS |

11. TARGET AND RANGE:

M/T Traffic from Valmontone - Ardena- Velletri.

12. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

2 plane flights take off at 10 min. intervals

13. DANGER AREAS:

14. BOMB LINE COORDINATES:

TO: 525th SQUADRON; AT 1700 HOURS: RECD BY S-3 : GIVEN BY Kirsch

WARNING TO: _____ : NO A/C _____ : ESTD: _____ INT. _____

DEPARTURE TO: CHANGER
TO: _____ NO. A/C 4 : T.O. 1830 INT. RDR

ARRIVAL TO: CHANGER
TO: _____ NO. A/C 2 : LAND 1845 INT. RDR
1 2010

OFFICIAL TIME ON MISSION: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

CASUALTIES AND DAMAGED AIRCRAFT:

PILOT: Lt. Wood PLANE NO. 009 TIME 1930

CRASH COORDINATES: F-966546

REMARKS: Lt. Wood bailed out in enemy territory

DATE May 25, 1944

SQUADRON 525th Ftr. Bmr.

AO # _____ MISSION # 1266

<u>RED FLIGHT</u>	<u>A/C #</u>	<u>T.O.</u>	<u>LAND</u>	<u>PACK LOAD</u>	<u>BOMBS DP.</u>	<u>EDS. FIRE</u>
Lt. Wood	008-EE	1830	Missing		2	
Lt. Davis	982-I	1830	1950 (1:20)		2	600

WHITE FLIGHT

Lt. Correll	997-D	1845	2020 (1:35)		2	400
Lt. Anderson	961-C	1845	2020 (1:35)		2	700

BLUE FLIGHT

SPARES

SQ. SORTIES 4
SQ. COMBAT TIME 4:30

HQ. SORTIES 0
HQ. COMBAT TIME 0:00

Group 86th Ftr. Bnr. Squadron 525th Date 25 May 144 Mission No. 1266

1. We off 4 A-36A Time 1830-1845 Time In 1950-2020 Total Hours 4:30

2. Type Mission Bombing & strafing 3. We the 5/10 clouds 6000', vis. 4 miles, hazy
4. a. A/C not completing mission b. A/C completing mission
No. of Type _____ No. of Type _____ Reason _____

5. a. Location of Objective, Coordinates. Time over c. No. A/C d. Altitude of
_____ Objective _____ Release _____
Road recce. from Velletri north 1900-1915 4 800'

6. a. Escort by _____ b. Insertion _____

7. c. No. A/C Carrying Bombs 4 Duty of A/C not Carrying Bombs _____
Number Expended Each Objective Lost: 1st _____ 2nd _____
Type explosive Time Fusing (1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____ (4) _____ (5) _____
a. Lost A/C in Base _____

500 lb. GP .1K. .025T 8 8

Explosive Jettisoned Number Reason Location

8. Ammunition, Cal. or MM Carried Expended
.50 cal 6400 3300

9. Type Flak Accuracy Intensity Location (Grid Coordinate)
1t acc. int. Frascati
s/a inacc. int. F-9665

10. No & Type E/A Encountered Location Aggressiveness

11. a. Own A/C Losses b. Cause c. Crew Casualties

1 A-36A Flak pilot bailed out in enemy territory

d. A/C Rtd fr MIA _____ MIA Miss % _____ e. Crews MIA Rtd _____, MIA Miss % _____
SW, LW or Unwounded _____

12. E/A Destroyed (No. & Type) E/A Prob Destroyed E/A Damaged (No & Type)

Narrative: (Formation Enroute, Bombing Procedure, brief Description of Results)
Mission took off in two plane elements at a fifteen minute interval. Planes glide bombed, releasing at 800'. Red Flight obtained two direct hits and two near misses on road at F-9257; destroying 2 M/T. Strafled and destroyed 2 M/T at F-9257 and 1 M/T at F-9865; 2 flammers at F-0261 and 1 m/t damaged at F-9665. Lead plane was hit by small arms fire from trucks, pilot bailed out at F-966546. Plane was streaming black smoke from engine. White Flight bombed road at F-9457, four near misses. Strafled, destroying 1 M/T and damaging two M/T at F-9665; 1 M/T destroyed at F-9855; 1 jeep destroyed at F-9755; 1 M/T destroyed and 1 M/T damaged at F-9056.

For the Group Commander:

/s/ Robert J. Kirsch
/t/ ROBERT J. KIRSCH
RESTRICTED Major, Air Corps

MISSION REPORT

FROM: 525th SQUADRON
DATE: 25 May 1944

MISSION # AO-67 1266 NO. OF A/C 4 BOMB LOAD 8x500 ESCORT Nil

TARGET Road nets from VELLETRI north

T.O. See below G.T. See below See below RETURNS Nil NO. RETURNED 4

ENEMY FLAK L/I/A at FRASCATI; small arms fire - F-9665

ENEMY A/C Nil

WEATHER Scattered clouds at 6,000' - 5/10 vis. 4 miles - hazy

NAMES OF PILOTS	Wood	009	Correll	997
	Davis	982	Anderson	961

DISPOSITION OF BOMBS (COORDINATES) Wood and Davis; TO 1830, OT 1905, Down 195
2x500 direct hits on 2 trucks, destroying them at F-9257.

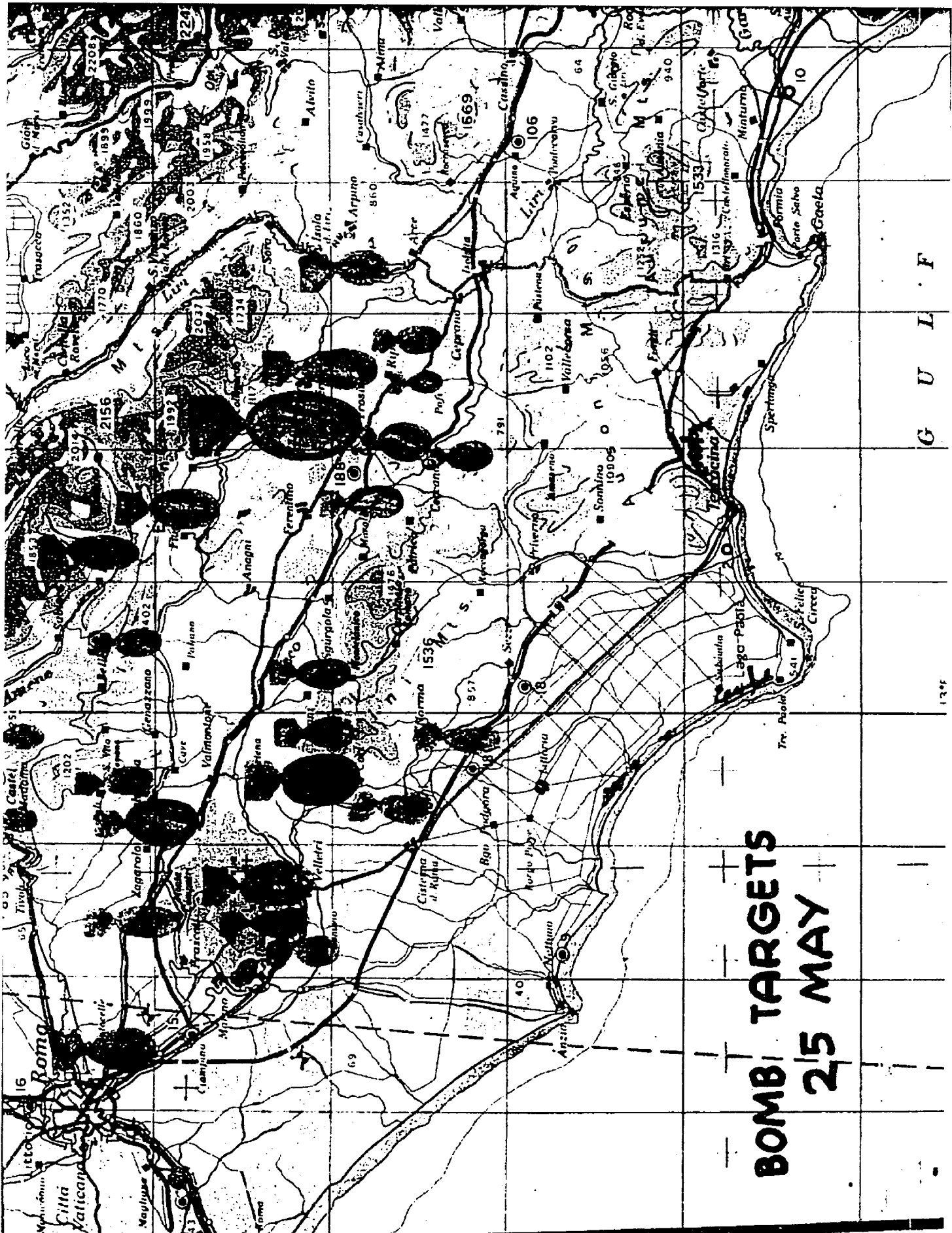
They then strafed, getting 2 M/T flamers at F-9257 and 1 M/T flamer at F-9865.
2 M/T destroyed at G-0261, and 1 M/T damaged at F-9665

HUNG BOMBS (SHIP NO.) A/C 982 1 bomb hung. A/C 997 1. bomb hung

OBSERVATIONS AND RESULTS While Davis was trying to get rid of his hung bomb,
Wood was strafing other vehicles and evidently was destroying or damaging these.
Wood received acc. small arms fire from a truck at F-9665 and was hit. His plane
was smoking, and he got to an altitude of 2,500', when Davis saw one puff of
black smoke, then saw Wood bail out. He saw him as low as 500', and pinpointed
it at F-966546.

Correll and Anderson: TO 1845, OT 1925, Down 2020. 2x500 near misses on road at
REMARKS F-9257. Strafing: 1 M/T destroyed and 2 M/T damaged at F-9665; 1 M/T
flamer at F-9855; 1 jeep destroyed (personnel killed) at F-9755; 1 M/T destroyed
and 1 M/T damaged at F-9056

Sq. Sorties - 4 Combat time: 7:30 NAME WILLIAM H. BLACKWELL
Sp. Sorties - RANK Captain, Air Corps
Total Sorties -



**BOMB TARGETS
25 MAY**

G U L F

HEADQUARTERS 66TH FIGHTER BOMBER GROUP
Office of the Operations Officer

APO 650, U. S. Army

25 May 1944

SUBJECT: Sorties and Combat Time.

TO : Statistical Officer, XII Tactical Air Command.

SQUADRON	PREVIOUS SORTIES	SORTIES TODAY	TOTAL SORTIES	PREVIOUS COMBAT TIME	COMBAT TIME TODAY	TOTAL COMBAT TIME
HDQRS	304	2	306	437:45	2:45	440:30
50TH SQ.	3905	28	3933	5995:55	40:40	6036:35
606TH SQ.	4087	27	4114	6063:10	31:20	6094:30
527TH SQ.	3984	29	4013	5990:00	37:35	6027:35
TOTAL FOR GROUP	12280	86	12366	18486:50	112:20	18599:10
TOTAL MISSION	--1266					

For the Group Commander:

/s/ Robert J. Kirsch,
/t/ ROBERT J. KIRSCH,
Major, Air Corps,
Operations Officer.

HEADQUARTERS 86TH FIGHTER GROUP
Office of the Group Engineering Officer
APO # 650 U. S. ARMY

CERTIFICATE

I certify that on 25 May 1944 the following losses were sustained by this organization:

<u>A/C No.</u>	<u>Cause</u>	<u>Status</u>
42-83971	Flak	Crashed in friendly territory
42-84009	Small arms fire	Crashed in enemy territory
42-10499	Flak	Salvaged, lost to Group
42-10838	Flak	Salvaged, lost to Group
42-83925	Flak	Repairable by this Group
42-84005	Flak	Repairable by this Group
42-84090	Flak	Repairable by this Group
42-84057	Flak	Repairable by this Group

I further certify that the average airplane time of this Group's A-36A aircraft on 25 May 1944 was 376:00 hours. Seven (7) aircraft had over 400:00 hours time.

John W. Hendrickson
JOHN W. HENDRICKSON
Captain, Air Corps,
Group Engineering Officer.

HEADQUARTERS 86TH FIGHTER GROUP
APO 650 U. S. ARMY

C E R T I F I C A T E

I certify that the 86th Fighter Group expended the following ammunition and bombs during operations on 25 May 1944.

51,720 rounds - 50 cal. ammunition
116 bombs HE, 500 lb.
22 bombs HE, 1000 lb.
24 bombs fragmentation - 20 lb.

James C. Collins
JAMES C. COLLINS
1st Lt., Ordnance
Group Ordnance Officer

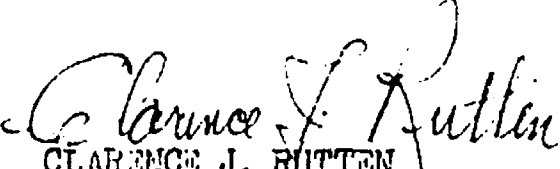
HEAD QUARTERS 86TH FIGHTER GROUP
APO 650 U. S. ARMY

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S/CJR/g

C E R T I F I C A T E

I certify that 1st Lt. Miles C. Wood, 0671830 AC, 525th Fighter Squadron, this Group, is Missing in Action from a fighter bomber mission flown in the vicinity of Velletri, Italy on 25 May 1944. Lt. Wood was shot down by intense accurate flak; his plane was seen to crash and burn after the pilot bailed out over enemy territory.

I further certify that Captain John R. Dolny, 0672579 AC, 527th Fighter Squadron, this Group, did not return from a fighter bomber mission on 25 May 1944. Captain Dolny's aircraft was hit and set afire by intense anti-aircraft fire and was last seen headed toward cloud cover at 5000 feet. Captain Dolny maintained his plane in flight until it reached friendly territory, bailed out, and rejoined this Group on 26 May 1944.


CLARENCE J. RUTTEN
Captain, Air Corps
Assistant Adjutant

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

525th Fighter Sq

Outline History June 44

HEADQUARTERS, 525TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
AFC 650

G/WHB/hrd

AG 314.7

SUBJECT: Historical Records.

TO : Commanding General, XII Tactical Air Command, AFC 374.

1. Outline History of the 525th Fighter Squadron for the period 1 June 1944 to 1 July 1944.

a. Present designation: 525th Fighter Squadron, 86th Fighter Group, XII TAC.

b. Changes in organization.

1. Changes in designation, assignment or attachment.

(a) 525th Fighter Squadron, 86th Fighter Group, formerly 525th Fighter Bomber Squadron, 86th Fighter Bomber Group, effective 23 June 44, Authority GO 77, Headquarters XII AF, 14 June 44.

(b) Changes in assignment: None

(c) Changes in attachment: None

2. Subordinate units: None

3. Changes of Commanding Officers: None

4. Changes of staff officers:

(a) Capt. Dolny, John R., O-672579, Squadron Operations Officer, assigned to 527th Fighter Squadron, 86th Fighter Group, 23 June 44, as Commanding Officer, 527th Fighter Squadron.

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2.

(b) 1st Lt. Purdum, Lemuel W., III, O-797901, appointed Squadron Operations Officer, 23 June 44.

(c) 1st Lt. Decker, Howard G. Jr., O-424659, appointed Assistant Operations Officer, 23 June 44.

(d) 1st Lt. Henderson, James E., O-812089, appointed "B" Flight Leader, 23 June 44.

(e) 1st Lt. Watson, John H. Jr., O-795673, appointed "D" Flight Leader, 23 June 44.

5. Changes in T/O: None

c. Strength, commissioned and enlisted.

1. Month of June 44.

(a) At beginning: 31 officers; 234 enlisted men.

(b) Net Increase: 0 officers; 12 enlisted men.

(c) Net Decrease: 2 officers; 0 enlisted men.

(d) At end : 29 officers; 246 enlisted men.

d. Stations;

1. Marcianise Airfield, Italy.

(a) Date of Arrival: 30 April 44.

(b) Date of Departure: 11 June 44 (advance echelon);
13 June 44 (remainder of squadron).

2. Ciampino A/D, Italy.

(a) Date of Arrival: 11 June 44 (advance); 13 June 44
(remainder).

(b) Date of Departure: 18 June 44 (advance echelon);
20 June 44 (remainder of squadron).

3. Orbetello Airfield, Orbetello, Italy.

(a) Date of Arrival: 18 June 44 (advance echelon);
20 June 44 (remainder of squadron).

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3.

8

(b) Date of Departure: present station.

e. Movements.

1. From Marcianise Airfield, Italy to Ciampino A/D, Italy.

(a) Change of station.

(b) Dates: 11 June 44 (advance echelon); 13 June 44 (remainder of squadron).

(c) Motor convoy for majority of movement, air transport for line equipment.

(d) Condition of roads, conveyances, and weather: roads in fair condition, conveyances good, weather rainy.

2. From Ciampino A/D, Italy to Orbetello Airfield, Italy.

(a) Change of station.

(b) Dates: 18 June 44 (advance echelon); 20 June 44 (remainder of squadron).

(c) Motor convoy for majority of men and some equipment, line equipment by air transport.

(d) Condition of roads, conveyances, and weather: roads good, conveyances good, weather fair generally, with some showers.

f. Campaigns:

1. Sicilian; Italian.

2. Duration: 3 July 43 to 17 August 43 (Sicilian); Italian, 18 August 43 to date, still in progress.

g. Operations.

1. Campaign: Italian.

2. Nature of Operations: Dive and low level bombing of railroad tracks, roads and road intersections, bombing and strafing enemy movements by rail and road, enemy positions and airfields.

3. Number of missions and sorties for period: 43 missions and 253 sorties during the month of June 1944.

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

4.

4. Results of the most important missions.

(a) Bombing and strafing mission on 1 June 44, by formation of eight A-36 Invaders, led by 1st Lt. Carl E. Pierson. Target was a motor truck concentration at F-949614, North of Rome. The importance of target lay in the fact that enemy communications were already greatly depleted, and further attacks had direct bearing upon his ability to effectively withdraw his troops. Lt. Pierson led the flight in bombing the primary target. Good coverage was obtained, though actual results were impossible to ascertain. After hitting the target, six motor trucks and one jeep were strafed and destroyed, and four motor trucks damaged. Lt. Pierson was killed in a plane crash on this mission.

(b) Bombing and strafing mission on 4 June 44, by formation of eight A-36 Invaders, led by 1st Lt. John R. Dolry. Target was a road bridge at F-974731, with a road recce over highways North of Rome. Importance of the mission lay in the fact that if the bridge were knocked out, the enemy would have his communication lines further disrupted. Several direct hits were secured on the bridge, and there were also several near misses. En route home, eighteen motor trucks, one trailer, one jeep and one command car were destroyed, and fifteen motor trucks damaged. Intense flak was encountered. All pilots returned from the mission.

(c) Bombing and strafing mission on 4 June 44, by a formation of six A-36 Invaders, led by 1st Lt. Edward H. Ryan, Jr. Continuing their successful attacks upon enemy communications, this six ship mission created a road block (F-6761) and cut the road (F-5569), and through bombing and strafing damaged or destroyed the amazing total of seventy one motor vehicles, some of which were towing guns. Though light intense flak was encountered, all ships returned from the mission.

(d) Bombing and strafing mission on 5 June 44, by a formation of eight A-36 Invaders, led by 1st Lt. Felix F. Simmons. The objective was to effect rail cuts North of Rome and then recce the highways for enemy traffic. After cutting the track in two places, the flight strafed and destroyed sixteen motor trucks, ten railroad boxcars, strafed a large supply dump, and damaged three motor trucks. All planes returned.

5. Unit was subjected to enemy action: None (excepting pilots on missions)

h. Commanding Officers in important missions.

1. Capt. Nicholas J. Kasun, Jr., was Squadron Commander during entire month. Mission leaders are named in foregoing accounts.

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

5.

i. Losses in action:

1. Bombing and strafing mission on concentration of enemy motor trucks North of Rome, 1 June 44.

(d) Killed.

Pierson, Carl H., O-687449, 1st Lt.
Greene, New York.

2. Bombing mission town of Arcidesso, Italy, 10 June 44.

(d) Killed.

Correll, Carl E. Jr., O-812053, 2nd Lt.
Akron, Chic.

j. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action.

1. Weigle, Graham (NMI), Captain, O-662995

(a) Bombing and strafing mission North of Rome, 22 Jan 44.

(b) Capt. Weigle led twelve plane formation in very successful bombing and strafing attack on enemy communications, creating road block, destroying and damaging a large number of enemy motor transport.

(c) Distinguished Flying Cross.

2. Inclosed is War Diary, 525th Fighter Squadron, for the period 1 June 44 to 1 July 44.

For the Commanding Officer:

William H. Blackwell
WILLIAM H. BLACKWELL,
Captain, Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.

Incl: War Diary

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

