

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 *rls*
CLAYTON S. GARBEN
Captain, Air Corps,
527th Fighter Squadron.

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S E C R E T

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- | 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 W. 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

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

Month of June 1945. Prepared by Clayson 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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OUTLINE 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 coming 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 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....117)

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

I--BATTLE HONORS. --Under the provisions of Section IV, Circular No. 355, 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 now 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, 262 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)

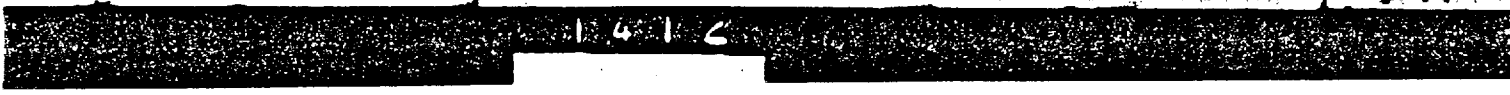
Page No. 1. War Diary - 527th Fighter Sq., 86th Fighter Gp., PO # 374, U.S. Army.

Month of August 1945. Prepared by Clayson S. Garber, Captain, AC, 527th Fighter Sq.

Day Events

1. Transition flying today--usual routine duties. Orders were cut today transferring Capt. Donald G. Bussey to Group. Capt. Bussey joined the squadron at Xantonville, France, and although he hasn't flown many missions with this squadron, he has had considerable experience overseas. Number of promotions today. Some of the squadron's old-timers will become "wheels". Rations today and personnel got one bottle of beer apiece. Group review. Sgts. Geib and Smith return from U.K. where where they attended school.
2. Sgts. Holmberg and Williamson return from Leave Center in London. Lts. Moore, Beck and DeSteven go to rest camp in Brussels.
3. Lt. Akin, Sgts. West, Whitley and Letchworth leave for London.
4. No flying today. Cpl. Bennie "I sell em cheap" Masurek was transferred to 64th Wing.
5. Usual duties. M/Sgt. Eugene T. "Daniel" Boone got orders sending him home. "Daniel" had 114 points. He was acting as Maintenance chief, and has had an excellent record. 11 men left today by plane for a 9 day rest to Oberammergau.
6. Seven promotions among enlisted men.
7. Transitions continue. More new faces continue to show up in the chow line as personnel continue to be transferred into the squadron as 13 more men were added. Lts. Leventhal, Hefner and Eckart return from Brussels.
8. Very little happening around the squadron area, as the wet weather continues. The line personnel went out to work on their planes, but were driven back to their socks by the cold driving rain. Lt. Setterlund, acting as S-2 Officer, while Capt. Garber is at Oberammergau, gave a short talk yesterday on GI insurance, and many facts were uncovered by his talk. Chicken today for lunch, and roast pork for dinner. There was to be a movie tonight but the wet weather cancelled that. Sgts. Harwood and Farish and Cpls. Terry and Lee transferred to 64th Fighter Wing.
9. No Events today as wet weather precluded all events.
10. Wet weather again--no events. In the late afternoon, word was flashed via the radio that Japan had asked for surrender terms. Immediately the news was passed around the squadron, and speculation ran high. Most of the personnel were very optimistic over an unconditional surrender, but a few followed the policy of "cautious optimism". All members of the squadron listened eagerly for news. The news was meager, and that there was, was undefineable. Most members believe the end was hastened by the entrance of the "Rocksies" into the conflict, and the new "Mitsubishi" bomb.
11. Saturday, no inspection, no review, no "nuttin". Because of the wet weather the past few days, the grounds were exceedingly wet. There were a few cross-country flights, but a few planes never got off the ground. As the news of Japan's defeat came over the air, personnel were eagerly listening to the news. Between 1730 and 1800 hours, a long tone was heard over AM stations, signifying that the Allies had agreed to accept Japan's offer of surrender, with the provisions that that they can rule through the Emperor. Usual dance tonight at the EM's club

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Page No. 2. War Diary-527th Fighter Sq., 86th Fighter Gp, APO 374 US Army.
Month of August 1945. Prepared by Clayson S. Garber, Capt. 527 Fighter Sq.

Day Events

11. (Cont'd) with the band playing. Although the band has been recently depleted, they carried on with little difficulty. Plenty of wine, cognac and beer for the womenfolks. Cpl. McMillen reports no deaths and no one wounded, and that was "SIW".

12. Cpl. Stiles returns from hospital. Usual field duties.

13. Sunday--no flying. Squadron area was deserted in the afternoon, as personnel took off for the local towns. In the evening a movie at "Mosquito Gulch" theater-----"Patrick the Great" with Donald O'Connor and Peggy Ryan. Very amusing. Personnel going out on pass have to report to the Medics when going out and coming in. There are very few KP's on duty these days as men "volunteer" for missing roll call, and failing to sign in or out when going on pass. S/Sgt. George T. Wilson leaves for the U.S.

14. The men that have been to Oberammergau returned today with glowing tales of the place and complimented Capt. Garber on his efficient method of running the place.

15. No Flying today. At 0930 hours, the new Group Dentist held a dental survey at the squadron day room. The movie, "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" was interrupted by a shower and had to be postponed. The news contained in today's radio broadcast continues to be conflicting. One hour has the news good, the next vice versa. More new personnel continue to arrive in the squadron. Rations today.

16. PEACE!!!!!!!!!!!! In the early hours of the morning 0106 hours, Paris time, the wonderful news was flashed that the Japanese Government had accepted the United Nations offer of surrender. For this moment, this squadron has been waiting long and patiently. From its activation until the present day, the squadron has been waiting for the time when all peoples of the earth will be free. A prayer of thanks will be offered at services. The group will salute its fallen comrades. The startling news was made available to all in the squadron as jubilant personnel made it their business to arouse all. And as eager hands switched on their radios, the hum of voices was heard throughout the area. All that remains is clarification of "when am I going home"? Rain all day and no flying. 1st Sgt. Parker leaves for a few days in Switzerland.

17. As the world breathlessly awaits news of the final capitulation of Japan, "high pointers" are busily figuring out ways and means of getting out of the army and home. Arguments continue to rage and some members have the squadron home by Thanksgiving. An indication of when high pointers will be getting home came today as the Mail Clerk passed out V Mail forms telling the folks back home not to send Christmas packages as they would be home by then. More personnel came into the squadron today. More men for 9 days leave to Oberammergau. 9 men leave for the Army University at Biarritz. Lts. Moore, Beck and DeStevens back from Brussels.

S E C R E T

Page No. 4 . War Diary-527th Fighter Sq. 86th Fighter ip. APO 274, US Army.

Month of August 1945. Prepared by Clayson S. Barber, Capt. AC. 527th Fighter GP.

Day

Events

29. Order s came today transferring a number of crew chiefs to the 370th Fighter Group, and when that group goes home, they will go with them. These men all had 98 or 99 points. As the squadron received a new T/O, a number of Officers were declared overages, and "Junior" Officers will take their places. The squadron lost Major Voris and Capt. Tilleson, and these were replaced with Lt. York as Executive and Lt. Ireland as Adjutant. There will also be a change in pilots. Movie tonight "Thunderhead" and in color.

30. Big news for high point men today as orders were cut sending 34 Enlisted Men out of the squadron on or about 4 September for the states. This is the largest single shipment of men. Capts. Rice and Hale and Lts. Plowden and Setterlund back from Brussels. Lts. Sauermlch and Johnson back from Cannes.

31. End of the month--no payday, although the other squadrons had their payroll in and are being paid off. Orderly Room getting the records in s shape for the men that are leaving this Sunday. Movie tonight, "The Clock" a first rate movie.

. S E C R E T .

IV. MILITARY OPERATIONS - NEGATIVE

V. NON-MILITARY OPERATIONS - NEGATIVE

VI. TRAINING

The squadron followed the group schedule.

VII. STATISTICS - NEGATIVE

VIII. STAFF ACTIVITY AND CONFERENCES

During the month of August, a staff meeting of the first two grades was held by the CO and discussed the possibilities of high point men leaving soon; possibility of the group returning to the States as a unit; discussed securing shortage of food and improvements in serving food.

Informal meetings with staff officers. Discussed reorganization of departments in regard to losing high point men and receiving low point experienced men; also discussed on-the-job training.

IX. PRESS RELEASES AND PHOTOGRAPHS - NEGATIVE

X. APPENDIX - NEGATIVE

Francis A. Dohn (r.o.)
FRANCIS A. DOHN,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Unit Historian.

S E C R E T

S - E - C - R - E - T

527TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
86TH FIGHTER GROUP AAF (SE)

UNIT HISTORY

1. ORGANIZATION AND CURRENT STATUS

(1) Organization

a. The current T/O of this organization: 1-27 A.C. dated 22 December 1944. Total strength authorized: 39 Officers, 245 enlisted men.

(2) Strength

a. For the period of this report: 38 Officers, 137 enlisted men.
b. Gains and losses for September: Gains: none, Losses: 11 Officers, 136 enlisted men and 16 attached from other organizations.

(3) Stations

a. Change in station: Departed from Braunschardt Y-72 on 20 September 1945, for Schweinfurt R-25.

(4) Losses in Action: Negative.

(5) Awards and Decorations

**a. The following men were awarded the Purple Hearts:
1st Lt. Leland F. Lewis 0-821735 16 March 1945
2nd Lt. Paul Lefkow 0-824515 23 September 1944
2nd Lt. James W. Smedley 0-616006 15 February 1945

b. The following men were awarded an Oak Leaf Cluster to the Air Medal for meritorious achievements in action.

1st Lt. James S. Johnson 0-2062821
1st Lt. Warren Luce 0-766580
1st Lt. John Schrack 0-817110
1st Lt. William Willner 0-21578

* Information compiled from the morning report, 527th Fighter Squadron, 86th Fighter Group.

** AS per General Orders # 151, 12th TAC, dated 1 September 1945

S - E - C - R - E - T

S-E-C-R-E-T

527TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
86TH FIGHTER GROUP AFF (SE)

2. NARRATIVE

The big thing in our squadron history for this month of September, is the change in station. It was goodbye to tent city, and all the inconveniences that go with it. The unit moved from BRAUNSCHARD Y-72, to permanent quarters at SCHWEINFURT, R-25.

After a few days at our new site, the 527th Squadron had been order to assume all operational procedures for Headquarters, Ninth Air Force. In a way, we are a base unit, doing all administrative work, and the repair and maintenance of all Ninth Air Force plane's. There be plenty of ground work for all our pilots, and very little flying outside of the regular training schedules.

The ASR scores of the entire personell of the squadron have been recomputed as of V-J Day.

The following is the figures of events for the month of September. Promotions-- 41, Mos. changes: officers -2, enlisted men-22. Men sent to school-7, rest camps and TD officers-1, enlisted 11. returned from TD and DS, officers-2, Em.-10.

S-E-C-R-E-T

(3)

S E C R E T

Page 1. DAILY DIARY 527TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 86TH FIGHTER GROUP

Month of September 1945.

Prepared by: JAMES S. JOHNSON, JR.
1st. Lt, Air Corps,
527th Fighter Squadron

DAY

EVENTS

1. The steady deletion from the enlisted ranks continued unabated today when ten more high-point enlisted men were transferred to re-deployment units. By way of compensation, we received in turn one (1) low-point enlisted man; hardly a fair exchange in our humble opinion and quite disastrous from an operational stand-point. However, we have managed to carry on with our skeleton crews and are confident of the future. High-points and low-points notwithstanding, our flight training program proceeded normally.

2. There was another exchange of enlisted men today with a score of eight (8) to three (3) in favour of the home team. We most certainly are not on the receiving end of the deal but our three new recruits constitute a promising gain over yesterday's take. There were the usual field duties and, of course, the training flights.

3. The officer ranks took a nose dive today but not all of them flew the same vector. Here's the set-up: Four officers dispatched to a casual reinforcement depot; one officer to the 27th Fighter Group; another to the 324th Fighter Group; two officers to the AAF/EFO Reinforcement Depot. One officer, a fraternity brother of long and honorable standing, returned to the squadron, and Lt. G.J. Dungan rose to the heights with a recomputed ASR score of ninety-one. We are happy to report that every bit of nine enlisted men joined the outfit today although one man was placed on TD to Army University Centre No. 2. There were no training flights today.

4. This morning thirty-four (34) enlisted men were transferred to Casual Pool R.D. # 579. Two men were placed on TD and sent to Switzerland and four new men were assigned to the squadron.

5. Promotions, assignments and transfers make up today's report. Aside from these, the day was uneventful: One officer was relieved from assignment and sent to the AAF/EFO Reinforcement Depot. Three enlisted men joined the squadron and another returned from detached service. In the promotion department we had six S/Sgts. promoted to the grade of Technical Sergeant; fifteen (15) sergeants promoted to the grade of Staff Sergeant; fourteen (14) corporals were awarded sergeancy ratings and a lowly PFC escaped his stigma with his promotion to the grade of Corporal. There were the usual field duties and, inevitably, the training flights.

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S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Page 2. DAILY DIARY 527TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 66TH FIGHTER GROUP

Month of September 1945.

Prepared by: JAMES S. JOHNSON, Jr.
1st Lt, Air Corps,
527th Fighter Squadron

DAY

EVENTS

6. In compliance with Organizational Order # 91, dated 23 August 1945, the unit was reorganized under TO 1-27 with 2 changes. Total Strength: Officers: 39. Enlisted Men: 245. Lt. P.C. Donn was assigned to the squadron as Intelligence Officer.

7. The MOS numbers of eight (8) enlisted men were changed to 747 and one man's number was changed to 502. The usual field duties and training program were followed without mishap. Attendance at the nightly motion picture show has grown considerably. Apparently, the men are enjoying the movies much more since the cooler weather makes the theatre a much more comfortable place.

8. Twenty-five enlisted men joined the squadron today, five men were placed on DS with Army University Centre # 2 and eight enlisted men were placed on temporary duty at our Rest Camp in Oberammergau, Belgium. Two other enlisted men returned from detached service. Tomorrow we are scheduled to take part in the big Air Show but the weather makes debatable the question of whether or not the air circus will take place. Most of the boys are sweating it out, however. Perhaps tomorrow shall be a bright sunshiny day. We've got our fingers crossed.

9. Well, the big event came off tip-top! Despite the inclement weather at our home base, pilots reported that the skies over Copenhagen were fit for the angels. The city itself, they said, was a sight to behold; beautiful beyond words. The squadron returned after five hours aloft.

10. Today nine enlisted men were transferred to the casual pool. There they shall begin the first phase of their trip back to God's country. Replacing today's losses were thirteen (13) enlisted men. Other than this, there is nothing particularly to report. It's a sad world.

11. Our personnel roster suffered another blow today. By this time we're becoming accustomed to sudden changes, so we weren't a bit abashed. Thirty-six (36) enlisted men were slated for the casual pool and one officer and one enlisted man transferred to another fighter group. There is a noticeable reluctance on the part of the enlisted men to enter upon the training program with any amount of enthusiasm. Grunts and groans accompany each session.

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S E C R E T

Page 3. DAILY DIARY 527TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 86TH FIGHTER GROUP

Month of September 1945.

Prepared By: JAMES S. JOHNSON, JR.
1st Lt., Air Corps,
527th Fighter Squadron

DAY EVENTS

12. Nothing of any importance happened today. No men lost, no men gained. No hits, no miss. no errors.

13. Well, it's shoulder to the wheel again! Things were too normal to be true, so this morning six new enlisted men joined our happy family. One man was transferred to the 526th Fighter Squadron....a fate worse than....????? Two other enlisted men had their ASR scores changed for the better.

14. What with the weather and re-deployment and stuff, the pilots are seeking some respite from boredom by enticing less susceptible cronies into their very profitable pinochle sessions. From the sidelines, four EM's joined the squadron and one went off on TD to Belgium.

15. Captain Garber, of this squadron, presently on DS at Oberammergau has been transferred to Group Headquarters. Five enlisted men received promotions and two enlisted men had their ASR recomputed. In the rumor department there seems to be increased speculation regarding our movement to Schweinfurt. Alledgedly, ours shall be the first squadron to shove off.

16. Lt. W.E. York's MOS has been changed from 4113 to 2120. Whether that will get him a ham sandwich is debatable. Also in the records is the DS of one enlisted man who left for Army University Centre # 2. The movies are still a popular diversion and the food at the squadron has improved considerably. Everyone is wondering how quarters and facilities at Schweinfurt will compare with our present set-up. The general opinion is that we shall move into a higher strata, socially speaking. Here's hoping!

17. Now things seem to be getting back to normal. Four new enlisted men shuffled into the orderly room today and thirty-five (35) ran out. Of course, it was rather a one-sided swap but everybody's going crazy these days. Besides, look at the experience we're getting! Flying activity has been reduced to a minimum due to an acute shortage of crew chiefs. Boys, we really need you badly!

18. Ten EM's had their MOS changed today. One man returned from TD at 12th T&C and an advanced party left for Schweinfurt. There is no local flying today due to movements and lack of crew chiefs. Everyone is anxious to glimpse our new home.

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