

HEAD QUARTERS
 FIRST TACTICAL AIR FORCE
 European Theater of Operations
 Public Relations Section

17 May 1945

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DUTY</u>	<u>HOME ADDRESS</u>	<u>NO. OF SORTIES</u>
1. Lt. Col. George T. Lee	Group C.O.	26 Rock St., Norwood, Mass.	258
2. Maj. William B. Colgan	C.O. Sq. 525	412 Ronshart St., Waycross, Ga.	208
3. 1st Lt. John G. Weiner	Flt. Ldr. Sq. 526	1225 16th Ave., San Francisco, Calif.	148
4. Capt. Eli J. Setencich	Flt. Ldr. Sq. 525	436 18th St., Oakland, Calif.	142
5. Capt. Graydon S. Brown	Flt. Ldr. Sq. 525	RD #2, Seneca Falls, N.Y.	139
6. Maj. John H. Dolny	C.O. Sq. 527	5137 15th Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.	134
7. Capt. James R. Whiting	Flt. Ldr. Sq. 527	1320 N. 11th St., Waco, Tex.	123
8. Capt. James E. Schiro	Flt. Ldr. Sq. 527	10126 Wallece Ave., Chicago, Ill.	123
9. Capt. Lloyd K. Babcock	Flt. Ldr. Sq. 526	739 Manzinita Dr., Laguna Beach, Calif.	123
10. 1st Lt. Carl C. Baranek	Flt. Ldr. Sq. 525	Carrolville, Misc.	121
1st Lt. John E. Erink	Flt. Ldr. Sq. 525	742 Berkshire, Grosse Pointe Park, Mich.	121

2. None of the above pilots has gone home.

Respectfully submitted

James P. Fabick

JAMES P. FABICK
 Public Relations Officer
 86th Fighter Group

SECRET

CIP-86-141
APRIL 1945

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HEADQUARTERS 86TH FIGHTER GPO F AAF
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer

- D-V-3

A7 304.7

11 May 1945

SUBJECT: Historical Records.

TO : Commanding General, First Tactical Air Force (Prov)
Attention: Historical Section

1. OUTLINE HISTORY, Hq. 86th Fighter Group, period 1 - 30 April 1945.
 - a. Present designation: Hq. 86th Fighter Group AAF, XII Tactical Air Command, APO 374, U.S. Army.
 - b. Changes in organization: None.
 - c. Changes in designation, assignment, or attachment: None.
2. Subordinate units: None.
3. Changes in Command: None.
4. Changes of Staff officers: 1st Lt. G. H. Fry appointed Asst Sp. Operations Officer on 4 April 1945. 1st Lt. G. P. Maple transferred Hq. and appointed Asst Air Inspector, on 6 April 1945. Major W. P. Benedict relieved as Air Inspector and transferred to 1st T.A.C.I.A.F. Service Command, on 24 April 1945.
5. Changes in T/O: None.
 - d. Strength: 28 Officers, 1 Warrant Officer and 60 Enlisted Men.
 - e. Present Station: Y-72, Braunschweig, Germany, 18 April 1945.
 - f. Campaigns: Sicilian - 6 July 1943 to 17 August 1943.
Naples Foggia - 18 August 1943 to 21 January 1944.
Rome Arno - 22 January 1944 to 21 February 1945.
Southern France - 15 August 1944 to 26 September 1944.
German - 25 February 1945 - still in progress.
 - g. Operations:
 - (1) Nature of Operations: Bombing and strafing attacks on enemy communication targets, rolling stock, occupied areas and strongpoints, patrol, escort and close support with the ground forces.
 - (2) Number of Missions and Sorties:
 - a. 225 Missions
 - b. 2,359 Sorties

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- (3) Outstanding missions: See Sq. Histories.
- h. Leaders of outstanding missions: See Sq. Histories.
- i. Losses in action: None for Headquarters.
- j. Awards received during period: See Incl.

Incl. Ser Diary

PAUL E. THOMPSON,
Major, Air Corps,
Group 1-2.

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R E S T R I C T E D
HEADQUARTERS
XIV TACTICAL AIR COMMAND

APO 374, US ARMY,
9 April 1945.

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 33)

Award of Bronze Star Medal.....I
Award of Oak Leaf Cluster to Bronze Star Medal.....II

SECTION I -- AWARDS OF BRONZE STAR MEDAL.

By direction of the President, under provision of AF 400-45, as amended and in accordance with authority delegated by First Tactical Air Force (Prov), the Bronze Star Medal is awarded the following named personnel, Air Corps; United States Army, for meritorious service in direct support of combat operations against the enemy between the dates indicated, residence as indicated:

JAMES K. THOMAS, 0917908, Lieutenant Colonel, 86th Str. Gp., from 6 July 1943 to 15 March 1945. -Charleston, W. Va.

PERCY C. RANKIN, 0552776, Major, 86th Str. Gp., from 6 July 1943 to 15 March 1945. Portland, V.D.

PAUL E. WADSWORTH, 0562252, Major, 86th Str. Gp., from 22 April 1944 to 15 March 1945. Grand Rapids, Mich.

JACK W. GROSS, 0561160, Captain, 86th Str. Gp., from 6 July 1943 to 15 March 1945. Harrisburg, Pa.

WILSON W. ROBERTSON, 0561920, Captain, 86th Str. Gp., from 30 December 1943 to 15 March 1945. Negaunee, Mich.

* * *

By Command of Brigadier General BARNES:

GEORGE L. HART, JR.,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

/s/ W. M. Reese
W. M. REESE,
Major, A. G. D.,
Adjutant General.

A TRUE EXTRACT COPY:

DONALD L. WHITNEY,
Captain, Air Corps.

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S E C R E T

WAR DIARY OF THE 86TH FIGHTER GROUP, AAF

D-V-3

- Group Headquarters -

Braunschardt Airbase, Germany

April

-
1. Easter Sunday. A dance was held at the enlisted men's club. The Girls came from Nancy and the surrounding villiages dressed up in their Sunday best. To have seen this one would never think that there was still a war going on, as everyone had a very good time.

 2. Weather hampered the activity of the day yet all in all there were very good results when the final tally was made. A new member to Headquarters, 1st. Lt. R.B. Royle was assigned today in the capacity of Ass't. Air Insp.

 3. Bad weather curtailed activity for the day. 1st. Lt. G. J. Frey was transferred to Group Headquarters in the position of Ass't. Operation's Officer.

 4. Today's major effort was directed against the enemy in Gloge Support missions, with very good results. For the first time this year Group Headquarters E.M. had their spring workout in baseball.

 5. Information and Education forms were distributed to the men of the Group for a survey which is being conducted in order to determine the various courses of instruction to be held after V-E Day.

 6. The film presented at Group theatre was "Roughly Speaking", with Rosalind Russell and Jack Carson. The book of the same name had been read by many and therefore the film made quite a hit with many of the men. Now that the push into Germany is going on, many of the Pilots can be seen driving German captured vehicles which were secured from the 7th Army.

 7. In today's missions we had two contacts with enemy aircraft - strikes were scored and both enemy formations were broken up.

 8. A wave of excitement prevailed when a P-51 attempted to land and was caught in a cross-wind and ran off the runway. Seeing that he was going to run into the 527th Intelligence area he hit his brakes and nosed over. The pilot was reported alright and the plane was damaged slightly.

 9. This was Flag day for the "Invaders", namely the most successful day in the Group's History against enemy aircraft. The Grand Total: Destruction of 3 FW-190's and 2 ME-109's in the air, 2 ME-109's on the ground, in addition to the damaging of 8 more FW-190's (5 on the ground, 3 in the Air) and one ME-262 in the air. 1 locomotive, 16 R/R cars, 20 M/T, 5 buildings, 2 tanks were destroyed, 2 locomotives, 12 R/R cars, 10 M/T, 32 buildings, 2 AFWS damaged and had a tendency to make the cheese more binding -- Congratulations are in order.
-

10. The following members of this Group have honored themselves by receiving the Bronze Star Award on General Order #63, dated 9 April 1945, 12th T.A.C.:

Lt. Col James K. Thomas	0917908	Charleston W. Va.
Major Paul E. Verseput	0512252	Grand Rapids Mich.
Major Percy C. Fauskin	0559776	Portland N.D.
Captain Julius D. Robertson	0561920	Negaunee Mich.
Captain Jack B. Gross	0561160	Harrisburg Pa.

The Group's total missions and sorties increased heavily today with the addition of 12 Missions and 137 Sorties to the total.

11. The Group flew 9 missions and 107 sorties today. The effort directed chiefly against enemy strongpoints and the town of ODHelm with the ultimate result in claims most satisfactory. Major Verseput and an enlisted man of his section left for the new field at Gross Gerau, Germany, to start the ball rolling and to expedite the Group's next move, the first one into Germany. The general feeling among the men regarding the proposed move to Nazi land is not of elacrity but perhaps one of curiosity. The prohibition of fraternization definitely cuts out the so successful dance of both officers and enlisted men's club -- Oh Well!!! C'Est La Guerre!!!

12. Col. Lee, Captains Relyea and Gross flew to the new field today to join Major Verseput primarily to check on housing and mess facilities for officers and enlisted men, designate areas for the line and various section, dispersal areas, etc. and check the general conditions of the field. Here at good Ol'e Tantonville the usual signs of hustle and bustle so common prior to moving are taking form, including (lest and but not least) the "Parting is such sweet sorrow" scenes between the men and their respective Mademoiselles, Rough!!! Especially considering the imminent move is to Germany where "Hands Off" is and must be the policy.

13. Friday the thirteenth, fortunately was uneventful with respect to "Old Man Hardluck", with no operations due to inclement weather. Advance parties of various sections have begun to leave for Germany and the new field. Reports drifting back (via the old "Grapevine") tell us the new locality is ideal for operation. Elevation of 350 feet with a East to West runway of approximately 5,600 feet, steel matting in the center with concrete on both ends. A great improvement over the virtual ski jump we have here in Tantonville. The new field we hear also boasts of approximately 75 dispersal areas on our side of the runway with approx. 40 on the other side which shall be used by the 415th Night Fighter Sq.

14. As it stands now, a goodly percentage of the group should be in Germany by Monday evening. Rumors have it, that as of now it shall be Lt. Col. Kirsch, Major Core, Major Bullard and Captain Meyle. Speaking of promotions, our ubiquitous S/Sgt. Anthony Sacco should be advised of being upped one grade to T/Sgt., also Cpl. Danny Sheerin of the Code room to Sgt. and Dick Williams of the power to Corporal. Congratulations to the well deserved promotions. Here come the cigars, if there were cigars.

15. Still operating out of Tantonville. Tomorrow will probably be our last day of flying from this field, and then to the land of the Tedeschi.

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This brings to mind our slogan way back in Gela, Sicily, "Thanksgiving in Rome, Christmas at home!". That was 1943. On well, at least the end of this theatre is now definitely imminent, and after that; who knows?

16. Wound up our last day of operations from Tantonville, France flying 8 missions and 88 sorties. Our move to the new field is now in full swing via motor transport and B-25. With the exception of the few necessary rear parties the group as a whole should be in Germany by Wednesday. Many of the men drew their last P.X. rations from this area in lieu of the potential possibility of no P.X. for awhile.

17. Our first mission from German soil off at 0620 hours, inaugurated with a day of air cooperation with VI Corps flying Armed Recces. The total for the day was 10 missions, and 92 sorties. Of necessity our initial menus consisted of "C" rations, but fortunately the new variety, which are definitely a big improvement, complaints - Nil. The setup here is most satisfactory. The villages of Gross Gerau and Buttelborn border the field. The bivouac area for the enlisted personnel is located in a beautifully wooded area bordering the South end of the field. The Group and Squadron Ops, and Int., Group Engineering, Armament, Ordnance and Communications Sections all line the edge of this wooded area. Running West to East adjacent to the runway are the line sections of 527 - 525 - 526 respectively. Group S-1 and S-4, enlisted mess and I and E are also situated in the wooded area. The officers are quartered in requisitioned houses in Gross Gerau. For the mess the local "Gasthaus" though partially damaged by artillery fire is being utilized to good advantage. A former cafe and pastry shop (replendent with outdoor terrace) serves as the officers club. Those officers who were fortunate enough to have been here last evening, enjoyed the privilege of participating in the informal opening and imbibing in local beer and the usual hard stuff. A partially destroyed photo shop will serve as the Group's photo shop. The town of Gross Gerau boasts of a good sized outdoor swimming pool (slightly damaged) on which repairs have already begun and which will afford many hours of relaxation for the men in the near future.

18. The men have all been sweating out K.P. duty, but lo and behold our good mess sergeants have acquired some brawny Russian lads to do the kitchen chores. A sign of relief is in order. An effort is being made to set up a barber shop, and none too soon as everyone is badly in need of tonsorial work. Looks as though everyone and his brother will have a civilian car of his own, but rumors have it, that Command will shortly call in all requisitioned cars. Well, it's fun while it lasts.

19. To date no regular P.X. has been established in this neck of the woods. However one package of cigarettes and one chocolate bar (tropical type) is the regular daily issue, in addition to tooth powder, soap, matches and gum. No complaints about chow these days, what with fresh meat once a day, fresh eggs several mornings during the week, and potential deer hunters already on the loose with promises of venison steaks any day now. The officers club is now in full swing and plans are being made to get the enlisted men's club going.

20. In addition to his other duties, 1st. Lt. James F. Short O-5, 0228 has been appointed base engineering officer, effective as of even date. Quartermaster called inquiring as to whether we'd care for a few kegs of beer. Would we??? Well, it was enjoyed by all! Our mess also acquired quite a cache of captured pickles and hors d'ouvres.

21. One of the local Burgermeisters was over today relative to obtaining permission for the farm workers to enter the field to work at their crops. Naturally for security reasons permission was not granted. Radio reports Bologna, Italy has been liberated, and the advance on Berlin is continuing at a steady pace. Good Snow...

22.

23. A meeting of the board of the enlisted men's club was held to discuss plans for the coming anniversary party, and to decide upon suitable location. The 527th bivouac area has been tentatively chosen. Everyone is looking forward to the coming celebration.

24. Chalk up two more ME-109's (in the air) during today's dusk patrol. Credit... 526th Squadron. The Group was fortunate in requisitioning a large assembly hall (former Nazi Versammlungs Saal) in the local canning factory. The swimming pool is ready for use, however the weather is still unseasonably on the chilly side

25. From the standpoint of morale this was V-day. The officers club furnished ice cream for men chew and for dinner the hunters came through and our appetites were satiated with delicious venison steaks and ice cream topped this grand meal. The day wound up with the showing of the riotous comedy "Follow the Waves" with Bing Crosby and Betty Hutton. Rough day, What??

26. As suspected, the boys have been notified to turn in all captured cars by noon today. Naturally there was plenty of the expected griping. The numerous cars gave one an idea of what the "Big Parade" of World War #1.

27. The popular subject for discussion these days is what the fate of the 86th will be after Germany surrenders. The optimists have hopes of going to the states, but generally the men expect C.B.I. The area in front of the groups OPS and INT sections reminded one of the parking lot at a Sunday ball game. Everything from two cylinder jobs to the expensive Mercedes Benz was parked there to be later turned over to Command.

28. Final preparations are being made for the big celebration tomorrow commemorating two years overseas. The group band will furnish the music, and from all reports there should be an abundance of food and drinks, but unfortunately no girls.

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29. Good news to the enlisted men was the announcement that the hall which is being used for the anniversary party tonight will serve as the enlisted mens club. From all reports tonight should really be quite a party. Champagne aplenty at a dollar a bottle, plenty of local beer and the usual cognac. Club members will be presented with a \$3.00 book of bar tickets and at least ten bottles of good American whiskey will be raffled off.

30. Outside of the usual few exceptions a grand time was had by all at the Group party. Officers and enlisted men had the opportunity to spend an evening together and exchange opinions, gripe to their hearts content, and really become acquainted. In addition to the drinks, delicious barbecued pig was served. Naturally the sincere hope of all is that it will never be necessary to have a celebration commemorating three years overseas.

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HEADQUARTERS 86TH FIGHTER GROUP AAF
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer
APO # 374 U. S. Army

10 April 1945.

Subject: Commendation.

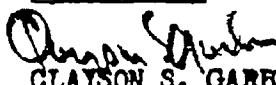
To : All Squadron S-2's.

1. The following message received from 100th Div. dated 060945B

The 100th Inf. Div. wish to send its sincere thanks for the help, excellent cooperation given the Division by the 86th Fighter Group on 5 April 1945. The most outstanding mission rendered the Division was when the 527th squadron bombed pillboxes at S-055715. Our troops only a few hundred yards N and S of the pillboxes and were catching hell from the pillboxes before bombing. All bombs were in the target area and with one direct hit. Since the bombing our troops have not received any fire. The mission was performed very close to our Inf. troops and they were able to see the great job you did and have expressed their great appreciation. The mission was exemplary in the close coordination between Air Corps and Ground Forces. Your work enabled them to continue the assault with minimum casualties.

PAUL E. VERESPUT,
Major, Air Corps,
Group S-2.

A TRUE COPY:


CLAYSON S. GARBER,
Capt., Air Corps.

~~SECRET~~

III. Base

- 1. [Text obscured]
- 2. [Text obscured]
- 3. [Text obscured]
- 4. [Text obscured]
- 5. [Text obscured]
- 6. [Text obscured]
- 7. [Text obscured]

III. Story

III. Story

10. [Faint text, possibly describing a scene or event]

11. [Faint text, possibly describing a scene or event]

12. [Faint text, possibly describing a scene or event]

13. [Faint text, possibly describing a scene or event]

14. [Faint text, possibly describing a scene or event]

~~SECRET~~

III. News

Memorandum, 10th Floor News, 10th Floor News, 10th Floor News.

1. [Faded text paragraph 1]

2. [Faded text paragraph 2]

3. [Faded text paragraph 3]

4. [Faded text paragraph 4]

5. [Faded text paragraph 5]

6. [Faded text paragraph 6]

~~SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

26. [Illegible text]

27. [Illegible text]

28. [Illegible text]

29. [Illegible text]

30. [Illegible text]

31. [Illegible text]

IV. COMBAT OPERATIONS - NEGATIVE

V. NON-COMBAT OPERATIONS - NEGATIVE

VI. TRAINING

a. See Appendix for schedules of pilot and ground personnel training programs, as being carried out in accordance with 9th AF Memo No. 50-3, dated 21 June 1945.

VII. STATISTICS - NEGATIVE

VIII. STAFF ACTIVITIES AND CONFERENCES

a. Taking cues from Colonel Jackson's Weekly Letter, several staff conferences were held concerning an efficient solution to, or initiating action on, the following problems: Venereal Disease Control, Safety Program, Personnel Records (discrepancies), Cleanliness of Areas, Military Customs and Courtesies, Inspection of Motor Pool and proper preparation of Reports of Survey.

IX. PRESS RELEASES AND PHOTOGRAPHS - NEGATIVE

X. APPENDIX

1. See attached sheets for information on training program.
 - a. Schedule No. 1 - Pilot Training Program.
 - b. Schedule No. 2 - Ground School Schedule.

Theodore W. Peterson
THEODORE W. PETERSON,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Unit Historian.

PILOT TRAINING PROGRAM

SCHEDULE #1

JULY		525 TH		526 TH		527 TH	
DATE		A & B FLIGHT	C & D FLIGHT	A & B FLIGHT	C & D FLIGHT	A & B FLIGHT	C & D FLIGHT
23	am	GS	A	F	A	F	A
	pm	A	GS	A	F	A	F
24	am	F	A	GS	A	A	F
	pm	A	F	A	GS	F	A
25	am	A	F	A	F	GS	A
	pm	F	A	F	A	A	GS
26	am	A	GS	F	A	A	F
	pm	GS	A	A	F	F	A
27	am	F	A	A	GS	F	A
	pm	A	F	GS	A	A	F
28	am	SMI	SMI	SMI	SMI	SMI	SMI
	pm	A	A	A	A	A	A
Sunday 29							
30	am	F	A	GS	A	F	A
	pm	A	F	A	GS	A	F
31	am	A	F	A	F	A	GS
	pm	F	A	F	A	GS	A
AUGUST	am	GS	A	F	A	F	A
1	pm	A	GS	A	F	A	F
2	am	A	F	A	GS	A	F
	pm	F	A	GS	A	F	A
3	am	F	A	F	A	GS	A
	pm	A	F	A	F	A	F
4	am	SMI	SMI	SMI	SMI	SMI	SMI
	pm	A	A	A	A	A	A
Sunday 5							
6	am	F	A	F	A	GS	A
	pm	A	F	A	F	A	GS
7	am	A	GS	A	F	A	F
	pm	GS	A	F	A	F	A
8	am	F	A	GS	A	F	A
	pm	A	F	A	GS	A	F
9	am	A	F	A	F	A	GS
	pm	F	A	F	A	GS	A
10	am	GS	A	F	A	F	A
	pm	A	GS	A	F	A	F
11	am	SMI	SMI	SMI	SMI	SMI	SMI
	pm	A	A	A	A	A	A
Sunday 12							

LEGEND: F - FLYING
 A - ATHLETICS
 GS - GROUND SCHOOL
 SMI - SATURDAY MORNING INSPECTION

DETAILED GROUND SCHOOL SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE #2

* * CLASS TIMES & SUBJECTS * *

DATE	0830 - 0920	0930 - 1020	1030 - 1120
	1330 - 1420	1430 - 1520	1530 - 1620
JULY 23	Weather	Chemical Warfare	Link
24	Weather	Chemical Warfare	Link
25	Weather	Chemical Warfare	Link
26	Code	Censorship Security	Engineering
27	Code	Censorship Security	Engineering
28	SATURDAY MORNING INSPECTION		
30	Code	Tactics	Aircraft Recognition
31	Code	Censorship Security	Engineering
AUGUST 1	Practical Engineering - (actual line work)		
2	Practical Engineering - (actual line work)		
3	Practical Engineering - (actual line work)		
4	SATURDAY MORNING INSPECTION		
6	Code	Tactics	Aircraft Recognition
7	Code	Tactics	Aircraft Recognition
8	Code	War Review	Link
9	Code	War Review	Link
10	Code	War Review	Link
11	SATURDAY MORNING INSPECTION		

PILOT TRAINING PROGRAM

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SCHEDULE #1

AUGUST		526 TH		527 TH		525 TH	
DATE		A & B FLIGHT	C & D FLIGHT	A & B FLIGHT	C & D FLIGHT	A & B FLIGHT	C & D FLIGHT
13	am	GS	A	F	A	F	A
	pm	A	GS	A	F	A	F
14	am	F	A	GS	A	A	F
	pm	A	F	A	GS	F	A
15	am	A	F	A	F	GS	A
	pm	F	A	F	A	A	GS
16	am	A	GS	F	A	A	F
	pm	GS	A	A	F	F	A
17	am	F	A	A	GS	F	A
	pm	A	F	GS	A	A	F
18	am	S.M.I.	S.M.I.	S.M.I.	S.M.I.	S.M.I.	S.M.I.
		A	A	A	A	A	A
Sunday 19		-----		-----		-----	
20	am	F	A	GS	A	F	A
	pm	A	F	A	GS	A	F
21	am	A	F	A	F	A	GS
	pm	F	A	F	A	GS	A
22	am	GS	A	F	A	F	A
	pm	A	GS	A	F	A	F
23	am	A	F	A	GS	A	F
	pm	F	A	GS	A	F	A
24	am	F	A	F	A	GS	A
	pm	A	F	A	F	A	F
25	am	S.M.I.	S.M.I.	S.M.I.	S.M.I.	S.M.I.	S.M.I.
	pm	A	A	A	A	A	A
Sunday 26		-----		-----		-----	
27	am	F	A	F	A	GS	A
	pm	A	F	A	F	A	GS
28	am	A	GS	A	F	A	F
	pm	GS	A	F	A	F	A
29	am	F	A	GS	A	F	A
	pm	A	F	A	GS	A	F
30	am	A	F	A	F	A	GS
	pm	F	A	F	A	GS	A
31	am	GS	A	F	A	F	A
	pm	A	GS	A	F	A	F
SEPT. 1	am	S.M.I.	S.M.I.	S.M.I.	S.M.I.	S.M.I.	S.M.I.
	pm	A	A	A	A	A	A
Sunday 2		-----		-----		-----	

LEGEND:

- F - FLYING
- A - ATHLETICS
- GS - GROUND SCHOOL
- S.M.I. - SATURDAY MORNING INSPECTION

DETAILED GROUND SCHOOL SCHEDULE

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SCHEDULE #2

* * CLASS TIMES & SUBJECTS * *

DATE	0830 - 0920	0930 - 1020	1030 - 1120
	1330 - 1420	1430 - 1520	1530 - 1620
AUGUST 13	PRACTICAL ENGINEERING (LINE WORK)		
14	PISTOL QUALIFICATION (REPORT TO THE FIRING RANGE)		
15	G. C. A. EQUIPMENT	AIRCRAFT RECOGNITION	LINK
16	G. C. A. EQUIPMENT	AIRCRAFT RECOGNITION	LINK
17	G. C. A. EQUIPMENT	AIRCRAFT RECOGNITION	LINK
18	SATURDAY MORNING INSPECTION		
20	PRACTICAL ENGINEERING (LINE WORK)		
21	PISTOL QUALIFICATION (REPORT TO THE FIRING RANGE)		
22	NAVIGATION	WAR REVIEW	CHEMICAL WARFARE
23	NAVIGATION	WAR REVIEW	CHEMICAL WARFARE
24	NAVIGATION	WAR REVIEW	CHEMICAL WARFARE
25	SATURDAY MORNING INSPECTION		
27	PRACTICAL ENGINEERING (LINE WORK)		
28	PISTOL QUALIFICATION (REPORT TO THE FIRING RANGE)		
29	AGF ORGANIZATION	SQDN ADMINISTRATION	CUSTOMS AND COURTESIES
30	AGF ORGANIZATION	SQDN ADMINISTRATION	CUSTOMS AND COURTESIES
31	AGF ORGANIZATION	SQDN ADMINISTRATION	CUSTOMS AND COURTESIES
SEPT 1	SATURDAY MORNING INSPECTION		

~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS, 35TH FIGHTER GROUP AAF
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer

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S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS 86TH FIGHTER GROUP AAF (SE)

September 1945

UNIT HISTORY

1. ORGANIZATION AND CURRENT STATUS

1. Organization

a. The current T/O of this organization: 1-12 A.C. dated 28 December 1943, with Change 1 dated 26 February 1944 and Change 2 dated 23 November 1944. Total Strength authorized: 30 officers, 70 enlisted men.

2. Strength

a. For the period of this report: 27 officers, 54 enlisted men.
b. Gains and losses for September: Gain: none, Losses: 27 enlisted men, 3 officers.

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

3. Stations

a. Departed Y-72, Braunschweig, Germany, 27 September 1945 for present station of R-25, Schweinfurt, Germany, 28 September 1945.

4. Losses in Action: Negative

5. Awards and Decorations:

a. SOLDIER'S MEDAL to Harold (HAI) Kanter, Captain, Dental Corps, ASI. 0369767, for heroism (no description of act available), per General Order No. 151, XII TACTICAL AIR COMMAND, dated 1 September 1945.

II. NARRATIVE

There was some hope aroused among low point men, because of several drops in critical scores necessary for discharge, that the future will see them "under the line and on the way". The replacement depot, operated by this Group, having fulfilled its purpose in processing men for shipment to the Zone of the Interior, is now inoperative. Training programs and Information and Education activity, understandably, were nil due to the Group's moving to a new station; however, the I & E Office did manage to submit nine applications of enlisted men for attendance at vocational schools in England. The few remaining "Lee's Lieutenants" were sorry to see Col Lee leave the organization this month. Major Buckner is the new Commanding Officer. The last day of the month revealed this Headquarters personnel strength as 26 officers and 54 enlisted men, many new at their tasks, with the resultant confusion inevitably following the disintegration of efficiently functioning offices through the transfers of old personnel.

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III. DIARY

September, 1945.

1. According to Stars & Stripes, the War Department G-1 has approved a plan whereby all soldiers, thirty-five years of age or over, who have been in the army for two years, would be made eligible for discharge regardless of their number of points; all such men anxiously await more detailed information.

2. World War II is now officially over with the Japanese delegates signatures affixed to surrender documents today, V-J Day. The news that additional points will be computed from V-E through V-J Day was glad tidings for some men, who were formerly just below the critical score.

3. Generally, the only interest shown here currently by soldiers, pertaining to happenings in Japan, is limited to how it affects them, individually, and their chances of going home. Captain Richard B. Moyle and Lt Col Robert J. Kirsch, an old-timer of the Group, both pilots, left for the Reinforcement Depot in England; Captain Dale M. Redding took over the responsibilities of Group Adjutant in place of Major Fauskin who is going home. Other new Headquarters Officers are 1st Lieutenants Warren S. Williams and Theodore A. Peterson, assigned to Special Services and Intelligence, respectively.

4. Much conversation about the number of points needed for discharge being lowered from eighty-five to eighty has caused some elation among the lucky ones and has aroused hopes of lower score individuals that further cuts are on the way.

5. Captain Robert W. Price joined Group Headquarters as Communications Officer today. The Office of Information and Education has posted lists of various type schools; only low point men or volunteers for the Army of Occupation may now make application for attendance.

6. A good number of replacements for men going home from this Group are from England; they are low in points, notwithstanding almost two years service overseas, since their type of work did not entitle them to campaign stars. Current talk of these soldiers reveals their belief that they have not been given proper consideration insofar as points are concerned and, with this attitude, it remains to be seen whether or not they will diligently apply themselves to tasks assigned them. Eight enlisted men in this Headquarters discovered themselves to be one grade higher than formerly.

