

751th Squadron History
March 1944 - April 1945

HISTORY FOR MARCH 1944
751st Bomb. sq.
457th Bomb. Group (HV)

The 751st Bombardment Squadron opened the month by participating in the March 2nd attack on Frankfurt supplying the low box in the Group. The following crew made the mission. Lt. Steward B. James, Richard T. Bennett, Louis O. Auld, Emanuel Hauf, Kenneth L. Anderson, and Richard H. Luebke, pilots.

Herbert B. Mayers was promoted to the rank of master sergeant.

On the following day squadron led the group in the first attempted raid on Berlin but was forced to abandon due to weather. The lead ship was flown by Lt. Col. Wilson and 1st Lt. Vinton H. Mays. Capt Fred A. Spencer the Squadron Commander flew as deputy group lead with Lt. Albert L. Sikkenga. Other pilots with their crews were Lts. Louis O. Auld, John W. Fay, Kenneth L. Anderson and Emanuel Hauf.

March 4th saw a second stab at Berlin but again weather interfered. This time the 751st squadron dispatched six aircraft in the high box being led by the operations officer Capt. George C. Hozier and Lt. Jerome B. Godfrey. Other pilots with their crews were Lts. Clyde B. Knipfer, Richard H. Luebke, Richard T. Bennett, Stuart B. James and Green C. Poore.

The first large scale penetration to Berlin on March 6th found the squadron relegated to the role of providing spares with Lt. Albert L. Sikkenga being fortunate enough to find a position in the group. This was compensated for however because the squadron commander Capt. Fred C. Spencer flew in the lead ship as Group Commander and Capt. George C. Hozier as Deputy Group Commander. All returned safely.

The following day the squadron lost the services of Capt. Hozier who was transferred to the 748th Squadron as its new Commander. Capt. William F. Smith took his place as the operations officer coming from the 749th squadron.

The Berlin mission of the 8th found the squadron flying low box in the group which itself was low box in the wing formation. All five aircraft returned safely. They were led over the target by Lt. Albert L. Sikkenga. Other pilots with their crews were Lts. Clyde B. Knipfer, Richard T. Bennett, Kenneth L. Anderson and Clyde B. Poore.

Lt. Stanley B. Gray, bombardier was sent on detached service for a 6 day course in gunnery at Suettisham.

Weather forced the Berlin mission on the 10th to return early to base so Lt. Hauf, Mays, Fay, James and Luebke were denied the privilege of bombing this target again.

On the 11th the squadron formed the high box in the group for an attack on targets in Munster. Lt. Richard T. Bennett leading followed by Lts. Auld Knipfer, Anderson, Poore, and Luebke. Undercast prevented observation of result.

Lt. Loyd T. Belanger the Squadron Bombardier was transferred to the 749th Squadron on the 12th in the same capacity.

Targets on the coast of France were attacked on the 13th and the three spare, Lts, Poore, Luebke, and Auld made the whole trip.

The squadron commander Capt. Fred C. Spencer was promoted to a major on the 16th. Five A/C and crews all attacked targets in the Augsburg area. Lts. Anderson, James, Hauf, Auld, Knipfer.

On the 18th Capt. Robert E. Ensminger came to the squadron as operations officer. He formerly served as A'sst Group Operations Officer. Capt. Smith was transferred to group. Five A/C of the squadron were dispatched on targets in the Augsburg area, led by a PFF ship which was leading the group. Lt. Jerome B. Godfrey flying the Deputy Group lead ship was forced to return early after receiving severe flak damage over Poix, France. Lts. Luebke, Poore, Bennett and Knipfer continued on to the target which was bombed visually.

On the 19th seven of our A/C participated in a mission over the Pas de Calais area.

On the 20th Major Spencer led the group on an abortive mission to Frankfurt. Weather interfered.

On the 22nd five A/C went to Berlin as the low squadron in the low group. Lts, Knipfer, Anderson, Luebke, Auld, and Fay made the trip with Lt. Fay leading.

On this day Lt. Jerome B. Godfrey was promoted to 1st Lt. and Lt. John J. Gides returned from the hospital, having been wounded on a mission in February.

On the 23rd the mission to Lippstadt and the Munster area was participated in by Lt. Godfrey, Bennett, Fay, Mays, Luebke, Anderson, James and Hauf.

On the next day Schweinfurt was the target and Lts Auld, Hauf, James, Anderson, Bennett and Godfrey made the mission with the latter leading the squadron.

Lt. Albert L. Sikkenga was promoted to a 1st Lt. on the 25th and the squadron acquired a new crew. Lt. Harris S. Mathis on the next day. Eight of our planes were airborne to attack targets in the Pas de Calais area.

Major Spencer led the 94th Wing over Tours on the 27th when the Wing Leader was forced to abort over France. Seven crews of squadron flew the mission.

Lt. Douglas Hickerson and his crew arrived from the states on the 29th at a time when six of our A/C were dropping bombs on Munster.

RALSTON B. REGAN,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Sq. Historian.

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SO-BOMB-751-H1
11 APR 1944

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EIGHTH AIR FORCE

1ST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

94th Combat Bomb Wing

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP

751ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON

PERIOD COVERING 1ST APRIL TO 30TH APRIL 1944

4-1-44**** to 5-31-44
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Bad weather which had restricted operations of the Eighth Air Force the first eight days in April, also reduced the activity of the 751st Bombardment Squadron. During this time the crews took part in many training flights whenever local weather conditions were favorable. Also there were classes arranged for the crews in Aircraft Recognition, Gunnery, Navigation, Bomb Trainer, Enemy Defenses and many other subjects necessary to maintain a fighting unit in trim.

Easter Sunday, 9 April, found seven crews from the Squadron flying on the longest mission of the war -- to Gdynia on the Baltic Sea in Poland. Major Spencer, the Squadron Commander led one of the two eighteen-ship boxes, dispatched by the 457th Group. In addition six other crews participated. This was the twenty-third mission for the Group and was the first mission in which the Squadron lost a crew. Lt. Walker, recently checked out, was making his first mission as a first pilot, was hit by fighters near the target and went down with several chutes seen emerging from the plane. Two months later P/W reports revealed that all were prisoners of war except Lt. Walker.

The next day was somewhat easier as six crews from the Squadron went to Brussels, Belgium and returned safely. However on the following day three crews went on the second longest mission of the war when they took part in the raid on the Fock Wolfe aircraft factory at Sorau, Germany, and then flew north to Stettin and back home across Denmark. Intense fighter opposition expected did not materialize and all returned safely.

At this time the Group had been operational about two months and had flown twenty-five missions, so promotions and seven-day leaves began coming in. Lt. Anderson got the first seven-day leave on the 13th and spent it at the Southport Red Cross home with the rest of his crew. When he returned, Lt. James and his crew went there and at the end of the month Lt. Hauf received orders to go to Southport.

On the promotions, Lt. Bennett was the first to get his during the month and he was followed by all the other first pilots in the Squadron on the 24th of the month. Lts. Fay, Auld, Hauf, James, Knipfer, Poore and Luebke all became First Lieutenants. Also Lts. Wright and Hoffman, the Squadron Bombardier and Navigator respectively became Captains. Lt. Mays, the model crew pilot since the inception of the Squadron, became a Captain.

Five crews were sent to Schweinfurt on the thirteenth, and six to Kassel on the nineteenth. On the latter mission, flak was very heavy and four of the Squadron's planes were damaged. Three days later the Squadron received its most serious blow to date, as well as being the most severe loss

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suffered by the 457th Group. The Squadron's new Operations Officer, Captain Ensminger was leading a box on a Noball target at Gorenflos in the Pas de Calais region of France, when he received a direct hit from anti-aircraft fire. The radio compartment was ripped open and the plane went down in a dive. Some crews reported seeing a couple of chutes and others said there were none. With him were some of the best airmen in the Group. Lt. Milne was the pilot and Lt. English, the Navigator. Lt. Canon flew as Lead Bombardier while Lt. Gamblin, the Co-pilot, was in the tail gun position. In addition there were Sgts. Fogleman, Haldeman, Johnson, Schaffner and Beck. P/W reports later disclosed that Lt. Gamblin and Sgt. Fogleman were prisoners of war.

Five crews went on the great raid to the railway marshalling yards at Hamm on the twenty-second, and a like number on the abortive mission to the Nancy-Essay airfield three days later. No bombs were dropped on this mission because the area was completely covered by clouds.

With two losses in the Squadron and one crew being on leave each week, the crew shortage became very acute. The same crews were flying every mission. Replacements were needed to bring the Squadron up to strength. Some crews had been transferred to Deenethorpe in February and not replaced. Lt. Mathis had been sent to the Squadron in March but he was transferred to the 748th Squadron on the first of the month. On the seventeenth Lt. Whitlow joined the Squadron with his crew and he remained. He was followed shortly by Lt. Brackley and Lt. Birong. This eased the crew problem. These pilots started going on missions immediately as a copilot on one of the old crews in order to orient themselves. At the end of the month when they flew their own ships, a co-pilot from one of the old crews was put on the plane to provide that extra judgment acquired from long battle experience so often needed in combat.

On the twenty-sixth four crews in the Squadron participated in the mission to Brunswick and rendered invaluable service to the Intelligence Section of the Eighth Air Force. They made accurate observations on a German defensive phenomena that had been several times before seen without any accurate data being obtained. This was the "Swarm of Bees" anti-aircraft fire, and the observations of the four crews received wide publicity in the publications of the Eighth Air Force. These crews were, Lts. Poore, Hauf, Auld and James.

Operationally the month was brought to a close with a big rush when the Squadron participated in raids on the 27th, 29th and 30th. Two missions were flown on the 27th when six crews went to a Noball target in the Boulogne area in the morning and one crew returned to Nancy-Essay in the afternoon. On the 29th seven crews went to Berlin on a PFF mission and this was followed by Lyons, France airfield on the 30th in which four aircraft were dispatched.

The Squadron opened the month of May with a raid on the Roye/Amey airdrome in France, with six crews participating and this was followed by a lull of six days during which the crews attended classes in the Group ground school program. The opening of a new aerial offensive against Berlin on the fourth found the Squadron furnishing the spares for the mission with none having to fill in. However, on the seventh and eighth, days of successive Berlin raids, the Squadron dispatched six and five aircraft respectively. On the first day, Major Spencer flew as Deputy Wing Commander, while on the second day, Captain Mays flew with Major Watson as Deputy Leader.

The opening of the aerial offensive against the German synthetic oil industry on the twelfth, found the 751st Squadron furnishing eight planes to the two boxes of the 457th Group. Major Spencer led one of the boxes, flying with Captain Godfrey. The Squadron Intelligence Officer, Captain Roberts, went on this mission as an observer.

Lt. Cahelo and Lt. Pearman, Bombardiers had been transferred to the Squadron on the third of the month and Lt. Cahelo did a good job of bombing on the Lutzkendorf mission, acting as Lead Bombardier.

The Squadron had also been favored on the eighth by the assignment of Lt. Owens and his crew for operational duty. Lt. Knipfer and his crew had gone on a seven-day leave on the second, and was followed by Lt. Bennett on the ninth.

The mission to Berlin on the nineteenth was a memorable day for one of the best crews in the Squadron, as it was the 25th mission in this theatre. Lt. Anderson completed his tour of duty after having been to Berlin seven times, Augsburg three times, Gdynia, Stettin and many other places deep in Germany. However on this mission in which the Squadron supplied twelve crews, one grievous loss was suffered. Lt. Birong did not return. He had with him as Co-pilot Lt. Patty who has been on Lt. Iuebke's crew and was almost finished with his tour of duty. Lt. Anderson went on a seven-day sick leave four days later to await his order to return home.

May 1944 →
Five crews were sent on the PFF raid to Kiel on the 22nd and on the next day, Major Spencer with Captain Godfrey led the 457th "B" box to attack the railway marshalling yards at Blainville, France.

With the rising tempo in the raids against the German Fortress preparatory to the invasion, the Squadron was sending out crews and planes almost every day. On many occasions the planes returned badly damaged by anti-aircraft fire, but due to the heroic efforts of the Engineering Department headed by Lt. Maddern the number of operational planes were kept at a high

level all the time. This also was the period in which the targets were changed during the course of the night and the Ordnance Section after having loaded the planes with one type of bomb, would have to reload with another type for the new target. This was always done quickly and efficiently by the Ordnance personnel whose officer was Lt. Martin.

Just after the first of the month, six of the ground officers who had done so much to keep the planes in the air received their promotions. The Squadron Adjutant, Lt. McKone, was elevated to a Captain and the following were made 1st Lieutenants; Lt. Archambault in the Communications Section, Lt. Martin, Ordnance, Lt. Wolfer, Bombsight, Lt. Arvish, Armament, and Lt. Regan, Intelligence.

The flying personnel came in for their share of the promotions as F/O Rowe became a 2nd Lieutenant on the third followed by the elevation of Lts. Chandler and Graf to 1st Lieutenants on the 14th.

Lt. Wilmeth one of the Squadron Bombardiers was sent to Italy on the fourth of the month to engage in intensive high altitude bombing practice. On the 21st one of the Squadron's best crews was lost to the 15th Air Force, when Lt. Luebke and his crew received orders to go to Italy permanently.

Another crew was lost on the 27th, but that was to enemy fighter action. While flying to Ludwigshafen the Group received heavy and vicious fighter attacks. Lt. Whitlow was hit and went down. With him was Lt. McLaughlin, Bombardier, who had formerly been on Lt. James' crew. On this mission seven crews were dispatched from the Squadron.

This was followed the next day by the greatest loss suffered to date by the Squadron, when Lt. Hauf and Lt. Knipfer went down while participating in the raid on the aircraft engine factory at Dessau, Germany. Lt. Hauf flew all the way back from Leipzig with one engine afire and then his plane blew up over the Channel. Four other planes returned safely, but the Engineer on Lt. Brackley's crew, Sgt. Bernstein, was killed by an enemy fighter shell.

In the long round-about raid to Sorau, Germany on the 29th, six crews participated and all returned safely. Operationally the month was closed with the Oschersleben raid on the thirtieth, on which five crews were dispatched.

Somewhat warmer weather had begun with the coming of the summer months, so a volley ball court was fixed up near the Orderly Room and each afternoon there was always a lively game with both officers and enlisted men playing together. Baseball also drew the attention of many of the Squadron's men. In the evening after dinner they would go down to the Group field and

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play both hard and soft ball.

The Squadron Executive Officer, Captain Rethke, received his promotion to Major on the twenty-first of the month, while Lt. Godfrey became a Captain in recognition of the superb leading he had done on many missions to the Continent.

As a fitting close to this very important pre-invasion month and as a symbol of the end of the first phase of operations in this theatre, Lt. Anderson and his crew were given a very hearty farewell on the thirtieth of the month when they departed the Squadron area enroute to the United States and their homes.

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SO-BOMB-751-H
1 May 44

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EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST AIR DIVISION

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

751ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 May 1944 to 31 May 1944.

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Compiled by: JAMES G. FRANCE,
Capt., Air Corps,
Sqn Historian.

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7297-14-5

S E C R E T

1 May 1944

6 A/C on Roye, France. All returned.

2 May 1944

No mission.

3 May 1944

F/O Rowe discharged to become 2nd Lt. 30 enlisted men got boost up ladder. No mission.

4 May 1944

One man AWOL, 1 private to guardhouse. No mission.

5 May 1944

Squadron Adjutant Lt. McKone promoted to Captain. Lts. Archambault, Arvish, Martin, Regan and Wolfer promoted to 1st Lts. No mission.

6 May 1944

S/Sgt Tomey busted to private - result of AWOL. No mission.

7 May 1944

5 Officers, 6 enlisted men joined squadron. 6 A/C on Berlin-all back OK.

8 May 1944

5 A/C on Berlin - all returned OK.

9 May 1944

Lt. Knipfers' crew blew in from flak leave, and Lt. Bennett's crew went out on same, while Orderly Room door was still open. 6 A/C on Luxembourg, all came back.

10 May 1944

10 Enlisted Men from squadron attached temp duty to 1061 MP Co. - use as alert and AA crews. No mission.

11 May 1944

3 Officers, 6 Enlisted Men joined squadron. 1 A/C attacked Luxembourg, 1 A/C returned from Luxembourg.

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S E C R E T

12 May 1944

3 A/C on Iutzkendorf, Germany - all back.

13 May 1944

1 A/C on Politz, made it back.

14 May 1944

Lts. Chandler and Graf became lsts. Lt. Gides and F/O Mahn transferred to 749th while Lt. Cahelo and Pearman joined us. No mission.

15 May 1944

No mission.

16 May 1944

Lt. Bennett's boys back from flak leave. Cpl. Cass left for 306th Bomb Gp. No mission.

17 May 1944

Lts. Auld and Gumm accompanied by crew left on well-earned rest. Lt. Arvish and S/Sgt Konek left on DS to Anti-Gas School at Salisbury. No mission.

18 May 1944

Lt. Rittman on leave. No mission. T/Sgt Mackie was reclassified from Line Chief to Aerial Gunner.

19 May 1944

12 A/C attacked Berlin - we lost one.

20 May 1944

1 A/C attacked Paris, and returned.

21 May 1944

Capt. Rethke (Squad Exec Officer) promoted to Major. Lt. Birong and crew listed MIA as of target Berlin on 19th. No mission.

22 May 1944

7 EM reclassified. 5 A/C and 6 crews attacked Kiel, all returned.

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23 May 1944

S/Sgt McGee on DS to Bomb Recorm. School. 3 EM promoted. 8 A/C on Epinal, all OK.

24 May 1944

Lt. Auld and Co. back from leave, and Lt. Anderson's crew off on leave. Lt. Luebke's crew transferred to secret destination per 1st Bomb Division. 2 A/C on Berlin - all returned.

25 May 1944

Lt. McLaughlin promoted to 1st. Pvt. Blackhorse transferred to Base Disciplinary Institute. Lts. Fay, Carels and Cussons having snared three days leave, took off in a gale. 7 A/C attacked Metz - all came home.

26 May 1944

Capt. Crawford, Our Med. Officer 3 days leave. EM busted, S/Sgt Ray Palacin, popular Ops clerk transferred to Hq. this Group. No mission.

27 May 1944

Lt. Whitlow's crew to MIA on target today which was Ludwigshafen and which was visited by 6 A/C and 7 crews from our squadron - mentioned crew failing to return.

28 May 1944

Lt. Hauf's and Knipfer's crews put on MIA lists on today's target: Brunswick, Germany. S/Sgt Bernstein was killed on same mission. 5 A/C and 6 crews attacked and we suffered the loss of two of the best and most experienced crews in the group. This loss is being heavily felt by all the squadron personnel. 5 EM joined squadron and 2 men were busted.

29 May 1944

Lt. Godfrey promoted to railroad tracks. Lts. Cahelo, Monaghan, Oldenhage, Pearman and Silverman became 1st Lts. 4 A/C and 6 crews attacked Sorau - all returned.

30 May 1944

5 EM returned from duty with AA crew and 5 more were sent on temp duty in their place. Lt. Anderson's crew heading for Z of I for well earned rest. 5 A/C and crews on Oschersleben, Germany - all back.

31 May 1944

4 officers, 6 EM joined squadron. 2 A/C and 1 crew on Luxeuil, France, everyone came home.

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50-BOMB-751-H1
June 44

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RESTRICTED

EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST AIR DIVISION

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

751st BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 June 1944 to 30 June 1944

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Compiled by: JAMES G. FRANCE,
Capt., Air Corps,
Squadron Historian.

7792-14-1

S E C R E T

1 June 1944

Capt. Mays to sick leave, also 5 EM took off on flak leave. 8 officers, 12 EM joined squadron. No mission.

2 June 1944

Lt. Hoelzer promoted to Captain. 6 A/C on Hardelot, France - all returned.

3 June 1944

Lts. Silverman and Norman on 3 days sick leave. 2 EM promoted. 9 A/C accompanied by crews attacked Mesles, France - all came back OK.

4 June 1944

47 EM promoted. 4 officers and 6 EM joined squadron. 8 crews and 9 A/C attacked Marshalling Yards at Paris - all OK.

5 June 1944

Lt. Tangherlini (Sq. Eng. O) promoted to 1st Lt. No mission.

6 June 1944

1 EM busted. 7 crews and 10 A/C attacked Noball target - all returned.

7 June 1944

5 crews and A/C on Faloise - all returned.

8 June 1944

Sgt Hathaway transferred from S-2 Section to Cryptographic and Radar School at Kidderminster. Lt. Brackley promoted to 1st Lt. Capt. Mays back from leave. 9 crews and A/C attacked Etampes, France - all came back OK.

9 June 1944

Stand down and all quiet on the squadron front.

10 June 1944

Lt. Owens promoted to 1st. 5 A/C and crews attacked Gael Airfield in France. All came home OK.

11 June 1944 ~~████████~~

6 A/C and crews attacked Bernay St. Martin Airfield in France-no losses.

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12 June 1944

4 officers and 6 EM joined squadron, while 9 crews were away attacking Vitry En Artois, France - all returned.

13 June 1944

4 Officers, 6 EM joined squadron. No mission.

14 June 1944

Capt. Godfrey, Lts. Grimes, Graf and Cahelo plus 6 EM all off to rest home. 2 men busted, and Cpl Lester Fried, draftsman deluxe and potential sergeant, joined squadron from 748th. Major Beere joined squadron from Gp Hqs. 15 A/C and crews attacked Paris - all OK.

15 June 1944

11 A/C attacked Angouleme M/Y, France, and returned.

16 June 1944

Lt. Whitaker's crew on flak leave. No mission.

17 June 1944

6 A/C and crews attacked Monchy-Brieton airfield - all returned.

18 June 1944

Quiet. No mission.

19 June 1944

Lt. McNeal transferred to 750th. Lts. Hunnicutt, Cumulauskas, Cusson promoted to 1st Lt. 7 crews and A/C attacked Bordeaux, France - all came home.

20 June 1944

10 A/C and 8 crews attacked Hamburg - all returned. 3 crews and A/C attacked Watton - they too came home OK.

21 June 1944

5 EM to MIA over target Berlin. 11 attacked Berlin, lost 1 crew. Capt. Godfrey's crew came back to duty from leave.

22 June 1944

6 crews and planes attacked Rouen, France - all back OK.

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23 June 1944

Lt. Wilmeth promoted to 1st Lt., also Lts. Bichn, Grimes, Lamvik, Gumm, Lever, and Robb. 6 crews attacked Noball target - all returned.

24 June 1944

4 Officers and 6 EM joined sqdn. Capt. Mays, Lts. Cahelo, Graf, Gumm, Pearman and Silverman plus 16 EM all going home for that 30-day furlough in the States. 2 A/C and crews attacked a Noball target and returned safely.

25 June 1944

Lt. Rowe on DS to RAF Station Highgate Caerwood Towers. Lt. Carel's promoted to 1st Lt. Lt. Rowe promoted to 1st Lt. 9 A/C and crews attacked Montbartier, France - all returned.

26 June 1944

No mission. 1 man listed as AWOL.

27 June 1944

Nothing of interest occurred - Stand down.

28 June 1944

6 A/C and crews attacked Laon-Couvron, France - all returned.

29 June 1944

Lt. Gumulauskas and crew from duty to MIA target of opportunity. 3 crews and A/C attacked this target of opportunity - 2 returned.

30 June 1944

2 EM promoted and 2 EM reduced; 4 Officers and 6 EM joined sqdn. No mission.

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50-BOMB-751-H1
11 JULY 1944

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EIGHTH AIR FORCE

1ST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

157TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP

751ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON

Covering Period 1 July to 31 July 1944

DECLASSIFIED
DATE 08-15-2009

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Compiled by: *F. J. Rowe*
F. J. Rowe,
1st Lt., AC,
751st Sqdn.

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Through the first three days of July exceedingly heavy rain made combat operational flying an impossibility. However, it was during this period that the 751st Squadron granted leaves to the states to crews having completed a tour of duty. Lts. Auld, Hunicutt, James, Poore, Brice, and Cannon each received that coveted one-way ticket to the states.

The following day brought another bit of good news. 2nd Lt. Zigler left the gold standard; another 1st pilot was now sporting a well deserved silver bar.

July 4th, national holiday back in the U.S.A., was just another date to most of us over here, but to nine crews of the 751st it was a holiday celebrated by bombing axis Europe. All our crews returned, after doing a very nice job. It seems that good jobs was the order for the day because 79 of our enlisted men were shown appreciation for excellent performance of duty by being upped one grade. The largest percentage of these was Sergeants receiving their first rocket.

That ship to the states was really becoming crowded now. Lts. Wilmoth and Cusson had joined the boys already homeward bound. One new crew reported bringing as 1st pilot Lt. Marks. On that day, 1st Lt. Whitty K. Maddern, our "patching artist" received a set of railroad tracks -- yes, Captain Maddern's excellent supervision of repairing our battle damaged aircraft was recognized.

The superior maintenance accomplished by our line engineering was proven the next day when the 751st put a full dozen crews into the air. Yes, this squadron was really pulling its share of the load. Lt. Kulczycki might be mentioned as one of our ace bombardiers -- he did a mighty fine job that day.

The Leipzig aere engine works proved a rough target for us. Captain Godfrey was group leader and did an excellent job leading our boys, but Lt. Owens received crippling damage to his aircraft by flak, forcing them to ditch in the channel. The pilot did an exceptional job but luck was against that crew. Four of the boys went down with the ship, one was later picked up, drowned, and was buried at Cambridge. Lts. Owens, Bricks, and Lopakian, Sgts. Zeagler and Ward were rescued -- Lt. Minturn, Sgts. Roland and Mariswalder went down in the ship. Sgt. Murrillo was buried at Cambridge.

The following two days saw two missions to France, our squadron furnishing six and seven crews respectively. All returned safely.

On the 11th the memorable "battle of Munich" started. We furnished eight crews and all came through unscathed. Newly made 2nd Lt. Price gained another rung toward the top, now it was 1st Lt. Price.

Major Spencer, our commanding officer, on July 12th, led the 457th Group and the Combat Wing to Munich. This squadron also supplied seven crews. Major Fred A. Spencer acting as air commander brought them successfully to the target and safely home.

Munich again the next day. Six crews out and all back. Lts. Levers, Auten, Carson, and Kulczycki were promoted to 1st, the former three being given a westward trip as a bonus -- yes, three more men going back to the states.

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Another new crew — Lt. Salzer — arrived. Our squadron was rapidly changing. Many of the "original gang" had gone. Today, on July 15th, Fay and Carels left for the states.

Eight crews to Munich; eight crews returned safely — extended the records on the 16th of July.

Lts. Deloach, Long, Parks, Phyllides, Norman, Brice, Conner, and Rittman were made 1st Lts. on the 17th; the advancement notices being forwarded to the latter three officers in the U.S. A. Five new crews arrived that day and a tent city really sprung up in the squadron area. This squadron now had a great potential striking power. Soon continental Europe would be darkened with the shadows of aircraft piloted by Lts. Frost, Ford, Fox, Gay and Dow.

"Shack" at Peenemunde! That's the story we heard on the 18th when our lead crew under Lt. (now Captain) Erbe, with the ace bombardier Lt. Auten, returned from Germany. Major Beere was group leader. Extensive damage was done to the Wright Field of Germany.

This excellent job of the previous day was disastrously overshadowed when we lost Capt. Godfrey on the mission to Augsburg. Jerry Godfrey was our operations officer and his loss was actually felt by all in the squadron. There is, however, some hope for this crew. They were seen heading toward Switzerland after enemy fighters had cut them from the formation and damaged the aircraft. Members of other crews said this gallant Godfrey crew was last seen knocking four enemy fighters off their tail and swiftly heading toward safety in Switzerland.

The heart of the Reich — Leipzig — was visited by five crews on the 20th; all returned safely.

Flak at Schweinfurt, intense and accurate, was the report given to the interrogation officers by the seven crews we put into the group's effort on the 21st. Some excellent bombing was done and the exceptional photography by one of our bombardiers conclusively proved there WAS heavy flak at the target. An enlargement of the Schweinfurt flak picture hangs in our officers club.


On the 24th we gave direct support to the U.S. ground forces. Eleven of the 751st crews bombed tactical targets just in advance of the lines southwest from St. Lo, France. All returned safely. The next day proved to be a return engagement with a dozen crews participating.

Richard T. Bennett had finished a tour of duty. Now he had transferred from the "big ones" to Mustangs. On the 26th Bennett crashed here in Britain. He was buried at Cambridge. Sadly enough the 751st was becoming too well represented down there.

Merseburg Oil Refinery on the 28th and 29th. Excessive destruction on the second day was the verdict from P.R.U. photos. Ten and nine crews were supplied respectively for those missions. 2nd Lts. Franz, Graham, Vizanek and Shaffer were promoted to 1st.

Major Fred A. Spencer, as Air Commander, for the 457th Group, successfully climaxed the month by leading our Wing over Munich and doing an excellent job

~~SECRET~~



of bombing by P.F.F. technique. Strike photos, through minute holes in the clouds, showed hits in the built-up area of the city. Let's hope those incendiary bombs really started a huge holocaust in the city that gave birth to the Hitler movement. We gained two new crews that day, first pilots being Lyons and Marrow.

The squadron strength for the month of July read, on the last day: three majors, 9 captains, 40 1st Lts., 61 2nd Lts., 1 W/O, 3 F/O, and 483 E.M.

SD- BOMB-751-H1
AUG 1944

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[REDACTED]

EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

751ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 August to 31 August 1944

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DTIC 2008
[REDACTED]

Compiled by: *Edwin R. Roberts*
EDWIN R. ROBERTS,
Captain, A. C.,
Sqn Historian.

[REDACTED]

5610-80

[REDACTED]

1 August 1944

The squadron got off to a good start for August by sending 8 crews to Chatcaudun Airfield in France. All returned safely. 22 enlisted men received promotions effective 1 August 1944.

2 August 1944

Lts. Price and Lyons received promotions to 1st Lt. No mission today.

3 August 1944

F/O Battley became a 2nd Lt. 10 more EM received promotions. We furnished 10 crews and planes for a mission to Strasbourg, Germany and all returned safely.

4 August 1944

2 missions today! We sent 3 crews to Anklam, Germany and all returned. In the afternoon 6 crews went on a mission to a No-ball target in France and all returned.

5 August 1944

Nienburg, Germany was the target for today's mission. We furnished 9 crews and planes, all returning safely.

6 August 1944

Today marked our first loss for the month. We sent 9 crews on a mission to Berlin and one of them, Lt. Frost's crew, failed to return, having been hit by flak over the target.

7 August 1944

Lts. Fisk, Marks and Whitaker got their silver bars today. We sent 9 crews to a No-ball target in France and all returned safely.

8 August 1944

Stand Down

9 August 1944

6 crews went to Munich today. All returned safely.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

10 August 1944

Stand Down for the day.

11 August 1944

Brest was the target today for 8 of our crews, all of whom returned safely.

12 August 1944

No mission today

13 August 1944

No-balling in France today. 8 crews out, all back safely.

14 August 1944

The squadron has a new C.O. today. Major Spencer having returned to the states on a leave, Major Raymond A. Syptak took command of the squadron. Lts. Stortz, Wasserman and Foster were promoted to 1st Lt. Capt. Mays, Lts. Brackley, Zigler, Parks and Wasserman were made flight commanders. 9 crews went to Stuttgart, Germany and all returned.

15 August 1944

No mission today

16 August 1944

Lt. Lyles got his silver bar today. We sent 10 crews to Leipzig, Germany and all returned.

17 August 1944

Stand Down today

18 August 1944

Lt. Sydejko became a 1st Lt. today. 9 crews went to Huy, Belgium and all returned.

19 August 1944

Lt. Shapiro promoted to 1st Lt.

20 August 1944

Stand Down

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

21 August 1944

Stand Down

22 August 1944

Stand Down

23 August 1944

Lt. Anthony Kulczcki became Squadron Bombardier, replacing Capt. Wright.

24 August 1944

Lt. Brackley received his railroad tracks today. 8 crews went to Merseburg, Germany, and all returned.

25 August 1944

Lt. Topakium promoted to 1st Lt. 2 missions again today. We sent 9 crews to Peenemunde, Germany in the morning and 2 crews to Lens, France in the afternoon. All returned safely.

26 August 1944

Lts. Kolstoe, Ford, Galesich and Durrett promoted to 1st Lt. today.

27 August 1944

Back to big "B" today. 9 crews out, all returned.

28 August 1944

Stand Down

29 August 1944

Stand Down

30 August 1944

Back to Kiel, Germany today. 8 crews out, all returned.

31 August 1944

Stand Down

Strength of Squadron - 1 August 1944 ... Strength of Squadron - 31 August 1944

Officers
119

EM
483

Officers
110

EM
419

[REDACTED]

EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

751ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 September to 30 September 1944

Compiled by:

Edwin R. Roberts

EDWIN R. ROBERTS,
Captain, A. C.,
Sqn Historian.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1 September 1944

The Squadron got off to a slow start for the month since there was a stand down. 24 enlisted men received promotions effective 1 September 1944.

2 September 1944

A lot of new silver in the squadron today as Lts. Bow, Lawlis, Stauff, Berts, Cook, Gay and Salzer became first lieutenants. Again the squadron was stood down due to bad weather.

3 September 1944

The squadron finally got into the air today by sending 9 crews to the railroad yards at Ludwigshaven, Germany. All returned safely.

4 September 1944

Nothing new today. The bad weather returned and everyone was grounded.

5 September 1944

The squadron lost some rank today with the transfer of Major George A. Beere to the 12th R.C.D. Another stand down.

6 September 1944

Still fog bound.

7 September 1944

No change in status. Everyone is getting nervous and restless from being on the ground so long.

8 September 1944

Back to Ludwigshaven today. We furnished 9 crews for the mission and all returned safely.

9 September 1944

It's Ludwigshaven again today with the usual number of 9 crews - all returning safely.

10 September 1944

We suffered our first loss of the month today. Lt. Passmore and crew went down during a raid to Gaggenau, Germany.

[REDACTED]

11 September 1944

Back to normal - Another stand down today.

12 September 1944

The squadron sent 9 crews on a mission to Ruhland, Germany today and suffered its second loss of the month. Lt. Selling and his crew failed to return.

13 September 1944

The synthetic oil refinery at Lutzkendorf, Germany was the target today for 8 of our crews, all of whom returned safely.

14 September 1944

Lts. Battley, Bricka, Fox and White became 1st Lts. today, while Lts. Parks and Zigler became captains. No mission today.

15 September 1944

No mission today.

16 September 1944

Still on the ground - weather bad.

17 September 1944

We got our first chance to help out the ground troops today by attacking gun emplacements in Holland. 13 crews went out and all returned safely.

18 September 1944

Stand down.

19 September 1944

The squadron welcomed some old friends back today as Capt. Mays and Lts. Cahelo, Graf, Gumm, Pearman and Silverman returned here from the States after 30-day leaves at home. F/O Leksan became a 2nd Lt. We sent 9 crews to a marshalling yard in Germany and all returned.

20 September 1944

No mission today.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

21 September 1944

Stand down again.

22 September 1944

Still on the ground - bad weather.

23 September 1944

Same old story - stand down.

24 September 1944

No mission.

25 September 1944

The weather finally cleared sufficiently to allow us to send 10 crews to Frankfurt, Germany. All returned safely.

26 September 1944

10 crews out again today, this time to Osnabruck, Germany. All returned safely.

27 September 1944

Cologne, Germany was the target today for 9 crews. Everyone back safely.

28 September 1944

We suffered a severe blow today when we lost 2 crews on a raid to Magdeburg, Germany. Lts. Sikkenga and Gay, together with all their crews, failed to return. 8 other crews got back O.K.

29 September 1944

Stand down.

30 September 1944

We wound up the month with a raid on Munster, Germany. 9 crews out and all returned safely.



Strength of Squadron - 1 Sept 1944

Strength of Squadron - 30 Sept 1944

Officers

EM

Officers

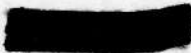
EM

111

430

107

413



SP-BOMB-751-H1
OCT 1944



R



EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

94th Combat Bomb Wing
457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

751ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 October to 31 October 1944

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 52009



Compiled by:

JAMES G. FRANCE,
Capt., Air Corps,
Sqn Historian.



5295-65-

[REDACTED]

1 October 1944

No mission today.

2 October 1944

Ten crews attacked Kassel today; all returned safely. Much new brass in the squadron as 1st Lts. Cussons and Chandler returned to duty from Zone of Interior; Lt. Kulzycki became Captain Kulzycki, and Lts. McGregor, Newman and Tonkin became first lieutenants.

3 October 1944

No mission today. Lts. Barnes and Kaplan promoted to first lieutenant.

4 October 1944

Again no mission. One crew joined the squadron.

5 October 1944

Mission today was to Cologne. Nine crews all returned safely. 1st Lt. Pearman was transferred to 749th Squadron to become bombardier.

6 October 1944

The squadron lost its navigator and bombardier as Captains Hoffman and Kulzycki left for the Zone of Interior with 1st Lt. Cook. Captain Selwyn, veteran pilot, joined from 750th Squadron.

7 October 1944

A big effort for the squadron today; 12 crews attacked a synthetic oil plant at Politz; one crew ditched but was picked up safely. On the mission Captain Mays was killed, one of our veteran pilots and serving his second tour of duty.

8 October 1944

Stand down today.

9 October 1944

Stand down again. One crew joined the squadron.

10 October 1944

Another stand down. Monotony was relieved by a squadron party at the mess hall which all present voted a howling success.

[REDACTED]

11 October 1944

Weather prohibited operations again.

12 October 1944

Still no operations. Recognition for squadron excellence came as Lts. Chandler and Cahelo were transferred to Group to become Group Navigator and Bombardier respectively.

13 October 1944

Still weather bound; everyone now getting itchy and tired of ground school.

14 October 1944

Cologne again today; ten crews took off and all returned safely. Captain Zigler and Lt. Battley left for 70th Replacement Depot. Captain Selwyn left for a new assignment with 94th Combat Wing, and Major Williams with Third Bombardment Division.

15 October 1944

Cologne was the target again today; eight crews attacked and eight returned safely. Two officers and four enlisted men joined the squadron.

16 October 1944

Stand down today.

17 October 1944

Nine crews went on mission to Cologne, returning safely. Captain Hoelzer and Lt. Robb left for the States via Replacement Depot. Lts. Korb and Hamel changed their gold bars for silver.

18 October 1944

Bad weather today precluded operations.

19 October 1944

Mannheim was the target today for a change. Ten crews attacked and ten returned safely. One enlisted man joined.

20 October 1944

Weather closed in again today. Only the usual ground activity.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

21 October 1944

Captain Edwin Roberts, Squadron Intelligence Officer since activation of the squadron, left to become Group S-2.

22 October 1944

Our old commander resumed command as Major Fred A. Spencer returned from leave in the Zone of Interior. Ten crews attacked Hannover, all returning safely.

23 October 1944

Captain Maddern, Engineering Officer left for new assignment with the Post Hostilities Planning Commission. Lt. Anderson was appointed assistant operations officer. No mission today.

24 October 1944

Again no mission. Lts. Anderson, Lyons, Dawson, Fish, Ford and Jeffers were appointed Flight Commanders. Lts. Hollis, Morrow, Sale, Schobert and Yap all became first lieutenants. Lt. Richard McDonald, recently assigned to the Group, was appointed squadron Gunnery Officer, and Lt. William Rice was appointed Squadron Radar Officer.

25 October 1944

Hamburg was the target today, with ten crews, all returning safely. Lt. Stone joined as assistant Intelligence Officer, replacing Lt. Ralston Regan, transferred to Group Headquarters.

26 October 1944

Ten crews attacked Bielefeld today; all returned safely.

27 October 1944

Major Syptak, Commanding during the absence of Major Spencer, left to command the 749th Squadron. One crew joined the squadron.

28 October 1944

Nine crews attacked Munster without loss. Four officers and seven enlisted men joined the squadron.

29 October 1944

Stand down today.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

30 October 1944

Nine crews attacked Munster again, no losses. Lt. Tangherlini appointed Engineering Officer, replacing Captain Maddern. Captain France appointed Intelligence Officer, replacing Captain Roberts.

31 October 1944

The squadron lost experienced officers as Captain Brackley and 1st Lts. Marks, Newman and Wasserman were transferred to 70th Replacement Depot.

During the month the squadron reached second place in Station League softball and beat 88th Station Complement 13-0 in football.

Strength of Squadron, 1 October 1944

Officers
106

EM
413

Strength of Squadron, 31 October 1944

Officers
115

EM
413

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 28002

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DECLASSIFIED
[REDACTED]

EDRITH AIR FORCE

FIRST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

94th Combat Wing

157TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

751ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 November to 30 November 1944

DECLASSIFIED
DOD FORM 5200.9
[REDACTED]

Compiled by: JAMES G. FRANCE,
Capt., A. C.,
Squadron Historian.

[REDACTED]

5887-111

[REDACTED]

1 November 1944

Lt. Frank S. Foster promoted to 1st Lt. Eight enlisted men left on their way to the states - tour of duty completed. No mission today.

2 November 1944

We went on a mission to Merseberg-Leuna Oil Plant, Germany. Nine of our crews went out and only 3 returned. This is the greatest loss the squadron has suffered since we hit the ETO. Two men were wounded on the returning ships. Lt. Charles E. Graf got his railroad tracks today.

3 November 1944

Capt. David B. Jones and Lt. George C. Lawlis left for the 70th Repl Depot, the first step homeward. No mission.

4 November 1944

A happy day for 26 enlisted men of the squadron who moved up a stripe each. Five more boys left for Southport on a well earned combat leave. Weather bad, no mission.

5 November 1944

We went out today, 7 crews strong to Frankfurt and back we came with no losses.

6 November 1944

14 enlisted men took a step up the army ladder of success. 8 Officers and 12 Enlisted Men came into our squadron from the 749th as we are short of crews because of the unlucky November 2nd. We went out to plater Hatzburg today and lost one of the 9 crews we put in the air.

7 November 1944

Capt. Franklin S. Rollins came to us from the 750th to be our new Operations Officer. Lts. Fisk and Kaplan are going home. 2nd Lts. Leksan, Moore, Steffen, and Wilks are now eligible to put on Silver Bars as of today.

8 November 1944

We received in 13 Officers and 23 Enlisted Men as combat replacements. We only put 1 ship in the air on the mission to Merseberg today and it returned OK.

9 November 1944

Mission to Metz today, 10 crews out and all back safely.

[REDACTED]

SECRET

10 November 1944

Newly inscribed on the roll of Captains are the names; Anderson, Jeffers, and Traylor. 4 Officers and 5 Enlisted Men joined us today. Lt. Stauff left for the 750th. No Mission.

11 November 1944

15 enlisted combat men were today made sergeants. Lt. Wilmoth is going home. No mission.

12 November 1944

All quiet, weather bad, no mission.

13 November 1944

Hull lingers on, no mission and even worse weather than usual.

14 November 1944

Usual station duties with no mission and weather still bad.

15 November 1944

Everything calm, planes on the ground, Weather-English.

16 November 1944

Action at last! with clearing weather 9 of our crews were in on the mission to Eschweiler and all returned safely after hitting the target.

17 November 1944

1st Lt. Eldon J. Foster left for home and Lt. Raymond R. Lyons received his captain bars. No mission today.

18 November 1944

1st Lt. McCormick left for the 88th Station Complement. Mission - nil.

19 November 1944

Very quiet - no mission.

20 November 1944

Weather unfit for flying, so crews spent most of the day at school and in the sack.

SECRET

[REDACTED]

21 November 1944

Lt. Colonel V. Cussner is appointed Squadron Navigator. We sent out 9 crews on Merseberg and all came back OK.

22 November 1944

Planes grounded, usual squadron duties and school for the crews.

23 November 1944

Mission to Gelsenkirchen, 9 A/C attacking and all coming home.

24 November 1944

Lts. Bricks, Hays and T/Sgt. George Stephani left for the States. No mission.

25 November 1944

Mission bound today. 10 crews on Merseberg and all back.

26 November 1944

Lt. Gordon S. Gunn joined us from the 88th Station Complement. Lts. Anderson, Dennison, Hirman, Rochlit, Tolbert are now 1st Lts. 9 A/C attacked various targets of opportunity in Germany today and all returned.

27 November 1944

Sgt. William F. Benfro died at 0330 on 26 November, a non-battle casualty in line of duty, cause unknown. He died of a fractured skull and an investigation is being made. No mission today.

28 November 1944

5 Officers and 6 Enlisted Men joined the squadron. Weather bad, no mission.

29 November 1944

12 A/C attacked Merseberg and all came home from the fair.

30 November 1944

Last day of this month's history and we flew to Merseberg. Nine crews went out and 7 returned.

Strength of Squadron 1 November 1944

Officers-105 EM-430

Strength of Squadron, 30 November 1944

Officers-103 EM-426

SB-BOMB-751-H1
1 Dec 44

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[REDACTED]

EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
94th Combat wing
457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

751ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 December 1944 to 31 December 1944

Compiled by: JAMES G. FRANCE,
Capt., Air Corps,
Sqn Historian.

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DISC 2009

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

7292-14-E

[REDACTED]

1 December 1944

The month opened with a stand down. Eighteen Enlisted Men were reclassified.

2 December 1944

Again a stand down. Pilot Lt. Kenneth L. Yap left for replacement depot as first stop on his trip home. Two crews joined the squadron.

3 December 1944

Lts. Cassman and Kelly went on the silver standard as first lieutenants, and 32 Enlisted Men received promotions.

4 December 1944

Nine crews attacked Kassel, Germany, with only eight returning. Another crew joined the squadron.

5 December 1944

No mission and no special events. All was quiet and sleepy on a stand-down day.

6 December 1944

Nine crews joined in the Group's attack on Merseburg, all returning safely. Lt. Gunn, Officers Mess Officer, transferred to 88th Station Complement Squadron.

7 December 1944

Stand down today, with Lt. Keksan becoming Assistant Squadron Bombardier, and Warrant Officer (jg) Miller appointed Assistant Adjutant. Lts. Fauntleroy and Cummings, co-pilots checked out as first pilots.

8 December 1944

Again there was no mission. Three Enlisted Men were "busted" today.

9 December 1944

Nine crews attacked Boblingen Airfield near Stuttgart today, all returning safely with little battle damage.

10 December 1944

There was another quiet day today, with no mission, no squadron changes and the usual squadron duties.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

11 December 1944

Nine crews joined in the Group's attack on Frankfurt, all returning safely.

12 December 1944

Still another mission to Merseburg with nine crews participating. All attacked and returned safely.

13 December 1944

Another crew joined the squadron, just in time for another stand down.

14 December 1944

Again we were grounded by bad weather, with only the usual squadron duties to record.

15 December 1944

The squadron sent out nine crews on the month's second mission to Kassel.

16 December 1944

A chance to rest up for all crews when the weatherman said "no mission." Lt. Rakel checked out as a first pilot.

17 December 1944

Again a stand down.

18 December 1944

The squadron furnished nine crews for a group mission to Cologne today, all returning safely. One officer and one enlisted man left for replacement depot on their way home.

19 December 1944

In poor flying weather today, four out of nine scheduled crews from the squadron got off the ground for a combat mission, attacked targets of opportunity.

20 December 1944

A change of rank in the Communications section as Lt. Archimbault became Captain Archimbault. Bad weather kept aircraft on the ground.

[REDACTED]

21 December 1944

Again no mission today as the weatherman frowned. Good Conduct Medals went to several among the squadron personnel.

22 December 1944

Still grounded while the squadron congratulated four more enlisted combat crew members leaving for the states by way of replacement depot.

23 December 1944

Much flashing of silver in the area as pilots Cummings, Reese and Fauntleroy became first lieutenants, and Flight Officer Nally was discharged to become a Second Lieutenant. Two new crews joined today.

24 December 1944

The target was Cologne today as nine crews went out, all returned safely, but not to this base as weather closed in the field.

25 December 1944

Christmas Day without many of our crews as weather prevented their return to base. Lt. Ford promoted to Captain.

26 December 1944

The nine crews returned today from the diversionary bases they had landed on from the mission of the 24th.

27 December 1944

Today's target for nine crews was Gerolstein railway junction for the first visual mission in several weeks. Flight Officer Crispin became a Second Lieutenant.

28 December 1944

Captain Jeffers, Flight Commander left for home after completing his tour of duty.

29 December 1944

Nine crews attacked Coblenz, PFF today, all returning. Our line chief, M/Sgt. Mackie was transferred to 88th Station Complement.

30 December 1944

In the second mission in as many days, nine crews hit Kaiserslautern,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

all returning safely. One officer and one enlisted man left on completion of their tour of duty. Flight Officer Sect became a Second Lieutenant.

31 December 1944

To wind up the year nine crews attacked Krefeld-Uerdingen, without loss.

DECLASSIFIED
BY DIR 23003

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50-BOMB-751-HI
Jan 45

RESTRICTED

EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST AIR DIVISION

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

751ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 January 1945 to 31 January 1945

DO NOT
RESTRICTED
CLASSIFIED
5200.9

Compiled by: JAMES G. FRANCE,
Capt., Air Corps,
Sqn Historian.

~~SECRET~~

7292-14-D

S E C R E T

1 January 1945

Lt. Salzar promoted to Captain. 9 crews and planes attacked Kassel, all returned safely.

2 January 1945

Major Spencer, Sqdn C.O. relieved of command and transferred to Group. Major Eugene A. Peresich assumes command of the squadron. Lt. Cusson is promoted to Captain; and 9 crews and A/C of the squadron attacked Mayen; all returning safely.

3 January 1945

Lt. Monson checked out today as a 1st Pilot. Lt. Post received a promotion to 1st Lt. 9 crews and A/C were on Cologne and all returned.

4 January 1945

There was no mission today and only usual squadron duties.

5 January 1945

16 EM received promotions today. No mission.

6 January 1945

9 crews and A/C attacked Kempenich and all returned safely. 7 more EM received promotions.

7 January 1945

9 crews and A/C on Bitberg - no losses.

8 January 1945

Lt. DeWald promoted to 1st Lt. No mission.

9 January 1945

9 crews and A/C attacked Boblingen A/F near Stuttgart. No casualties.

10 January 1945

2 EM busted and 12 promoted. 9 crews attacked Euskirchen, all planes returned home to base.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

11 January 1945

Lt. Parker appointed Squadron supply officer and Lt. Shapiro was made squadron adjutant. Captain McKone becomes assistant squadron adjutant. No mission today.

12 January 1945

A quiet day with no promotions or busts, and no mission.

13 January 1945

4 EM and 4 Officers transferred to replacement duty on their way home. 8 crews and A/C attacked Maximiliansau. One plane did not return.

14 January 1945

3 crews attacked Cologne and returned safely.

15 January 1945

Lt. Popham and crew to MIA in morning report as of 13 January over Maximiliansau. Lt. Smalling appointed snow removal officer, and Lt. Page detailed as his assistant. No mission today.

16 January 1945

All quiet - the weather is very bad and there is no mission out.

17 January 1945

Lts. Kirkman, Monson, Ricker, Straus and Wood all became 1st Lts. and Lts. Hollis and Schobert were made Flight Commanders. 9 crews went on mission to Palderborn and all came home.

18 January 1945

No mission today, but had the interesting novelty of a private being placed from duty to AWOL and back from AWOL to duty in the same day.

19 January 1945

F/O Hampton discharged to receive commission as 2nd Lt. Lt. Rakel was checked out as a 1st Pilot and there was no mission due to inclement weather.

20 January 1945

Lts. Moor and Wilks and S/Sgt. Fleming left us today on the way home.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Lt. Bobbitt was promoted to 1st and Lt. Parker was transferred to the 88th Station Complement. 4 Officers and 5 EM joined the squadron. 8 of our crews were on the mission to Rheine and the only casualty was a Radio Operator who was killed.

21 January 1945

Lts. Moch and Smith became 1st Lts. and 9 crews and A/C attacked Aschaffenburg, returning safely.

22 January 1945

5 crews on target at Sterkrade. One EM was wounded.

23 January 1945

40 EM were reclassified today. No mission.

24 January 1945

No mission today, and T/Sgt. Mackie came back from the 88th Station Complement and was put on flying status to fly a second tour.

25 January 1945

No mission - Lt. Page relieved from flying status.

26 January 1945

Capt. Salzer transferred to 70th Replacement Depot - going home. No mission today.

27 January 1945

5 combat crews members promoted to Sergeant. No mission.

28 January 1945

Lt. Bell now has the right to wear silver. 6 EM transferred to 12th Reinforcement Depot for infantry replacements. The squadron hopes that this is not the precedent type of occurrence. No mission.

29 January 1945

M/Sgt. Berger transferred to 316 Troop Carrier Group. 9 crews and A/C attacked Siegen - all returned.

30 January 1945

Lt. McBride of TD for 6 weeks to go to Radar-Navigator-Bombardier school

S E C R E T

SECRET

No mission, and the rains fell and the snow blew.

31 January 1945

A quiet day in sleepy and snowy England, with no mission.

Squadron Strength- 1 Jan 1945

Officers 112
Enlisted Men 436

Squadron Strength- 31 Jan 1945

Officers107
Enlisted Men 421

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 23003

SECRET

SQ-BOMB-751-HI
Feb 45

R

EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST AIR DIVISION

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

751ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 February 1945 to 28 February 1945

DECLASSIFIED
DOD, DFR 5200.9

Compiled by: JAMES G. FRANCE,
Capt., Air Corps,
Sqn Historian

SECRET

7292-14-0

[REDACTED]

1 February 1945

9 crews and A/C attacked Ludwigshafen. 8 crews returned.

2 February 1945

No change - usual station duties with no mission.

3 February 1945

Lt. Hollis made Captain and T/Sgt Conger lost a stripe for misconduct. 12 gd EM and 35 combat EM received promotions. Nine crews and A/C attacked Berlin, all returned safely.

4 February 1945

Four officers and five enlisted men joined the squadron. There was no mission today.

5 February 1945

1st Sgt Singer, who has been with the squadron from its early conception, was transferred to the 49th Station Hospital, preparatory to going home. All the squadron feels the loss deeply. Lt. Rice changed his bar from gold to silver; there was no mission today.

6 February 1945

3 officers and 6 EM joined the squadron. Nine crews and 10 A/C attacked Schmalkalden, all returned.

7 February 1945

1st Lt. Hinman was headed on the way home this morning. Six combat EM were promoted today. There was no mission today.

8 February 1945

Today was quiet with another stand down.

9 February 1945

Mission today to Lutzkendorf. 9 of our crews and 10 planes went out, one of our crews failed to return.

10 February 1945

Three EM joined squadron. 9 crews and A/C attacked Dulmen and made it back OK. Sgt Mitrenga is going home and F/O O'Shea was placed on TD for two weeks study with another group.

[REDACTED]

11 February 1945

S/Sgt Eddy Kawas, our supply sgt became our new 1st Sgt today and was promoted accordingly. Good luck Eddy!

12 February 1945

No mission today, usual squadron duties.

13 February 1945

Another quiet day with no changes in the squadron lineup and no mission.

14 February 1945

Nine crews and A/C went on this morning's run to Dresden, near the Russian front lines, and all returned home safely.

15 February 1945

Capt. Ford was transferred to RCD, first stop on the way home. Lt. Bowers and Francisco are taking bows on making 1st Lt. Lt. Pitelka came in for some of the glory by becoming our Squadron Bombardier. We sent out 6 crews and A/C to attack Dresden again, and again everyone came through alright.

16 February 1945

Lt. Seil is now a 1st Lt. 6 EM were reclassified. 6 crews along with their favorite airplanes went to Gelenkirchen and none had to walk home.

17 February 1945

A quiet day with no mission and usual squadron duties.

18 February 1945

Lts Anderson, Russell and Schneller promoted to 1st Lt. and F/O Wissmiller became a commissioned officer. Lt. Dolph was transferred to the 750th Sqdn. No mission today.

19 February 1945

We lost a crew today in a tragic A/C accident while landing at Grafton-Underwood. Nine of our crews and planes attacked Gelenkirchen - all returned.

20 February 1945

Lts Arvish and McDonald became Captains. Nine crews and A/C returned safely from the day's work over Nuremberg.

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21 February 1945

Today completes 1 year of combat operations for the squadron. We celebrated by sending out 8 crews to conduct a little fireworks over Nuremberg. They really did a good job of it and then came home.

22 February 1945

Capt. Graf and Lt. Page were started on their way home. The squadron will miss the two of them deeply. Lt. Regan, S-2 officer rejoined the squadron from Group Hqs today. 9 crews and 8 A/C attacked Selzwedel and all made it back.

23 February 1945

Eleven EM were reclassified and 6 EM left us for Infantry training - this is the second draft on the squadron manpower and no infantry replacements as yet. Lt. Schobert is now called Captain and Lt. Gronberg became a 1st Lt. at the same time. Nine crews and A/C attacked Ellingen, all back OK.

24 February 1945

9 crews on Harburg, returned safely, nothing else of importance today.

25 February 1945

Seven A/C and crews went to Munich where one of the crews is listed as MIA.

26 February 1945

1st Lt. Hamel is now the Squadron Navigator, while Lt. Kirkman was made a flight commander. Nine of our crews went to Big B. There was meagre flak and no fighters were seen; all came back.

27 February 1945

Lt. Ricker was made a flight commander, also Lt. Dudley. Nine crews were sent to Leipzig and returned without loss.

28 February 1945

Capt. James G. France our Squadron S-2 Officer was transferred to Group today. 9 crews and 10 A/C attacked Soest. Our own crews returned safely but one of the other squadron's crews flying one of our A/C failed to return.

Squadron Strength-1 February 1945

Officers 107
Enlisted Men 421

Squadron Strength-28 February 1945

Officers 113
Enlisted Men 439

~~SECRET~~

SQ-130MB-751-H
1 Mar 45

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~~SECRET~~

EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST AIR DIVISION

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

751ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 March 1945 to 31 March 1945

Compiled by: JAMES G. FRANCE,
Capt., Air Corps,
Sqn Historian.

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SECRET

7292-14-B

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1 March 1945

F/O Wissmiller became a 2nd Lt. S/Sgt Hamrick started on his way toward a well earned furlough in the States. 8 of our crews and 7 A/C were sent on Goppingen Marshalling Yards. All returned.

2 March 1945

T/Sgt Skidmore going home. 9 crews and 8 A/C on Chemnitz, all back safely.

3 March 1945

Lts. Birdseye and Robinson turned gold into silver. 30 lucky combat EM received promotions. 9 crews and 8 A/C attacked Chemnitz for the second day running. All came back OK.

4 March 1945

Quiet day with no mission and usual squadron duties.

5 March 1945

8 crews and 10 A/C went out on our steady target, Chemnitz, all returned.

6 March 1945

Lts. Broughton, Crispin, Lester and Nally all made 1st Lt. There was no mission today.

7 March 1945

Lt. Dudley was appointed Flight Commander. 9 crews and 8 A/C were sent out against Siegen, all returned.

8 March 1945

Lt. Ralston B. Regan was today appointed Squadron Intelligence Officer. 9 crews and 9 A/C attacked Bottrop with no losses to the squadron.

9 March 1945

Lt. Miles was transferred to the 750th squadron today. 10 crews and 12 A/C attacked Kassel, all OK.

10 March 1945

Lts. Manson and Wood are going home today, also Capt. Cusson and Lt. Kelley. Lts. Blair, Paruta, Uhrlaub were all promoted to 1st Lts. 6 EM were promoted to sgt. 10 crews and 9 A/C attacked Hamm - all returned safely.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

11 March 1945

10 crews and 10 A/C attacked Bremen and returned. Otherwise quiet day.

12 March 1945

3 EM and one F/O joined squadron. 7 crews and 10 A/C attacked Swinemunde, all returned safely.

13 March 1945

A very quiet day with no mission. Lt. Miller appointed 1st Pilot and 4 EM joined squadron.

14 March 1945

Lt. Kirkman became a Captain. 9 crews and 9 A/C attacked Lohne - no losses.

15 March 1945

Lts. Gavin and Kelsey became 1st Lts. 3 officers and 5 EM joined the squadron. 9 crews and 10 A/C attacked Zossen - all OK.

16 March 1945

Standdown today. Lt. Hensen made 1st Lt.

17 March 1945

Usual station duties plus 10 crews and 7 of our A/C on target, Altenburg. No losses - no casualties.

18 March 1945

Lt. Brock became a 1st Lt. 8 crews and 7 A/C attacked Berlin, all returned. Sgt. Crosby was wounded.

19 March 1945

Lts. Pitelka, Regan and Tangherlini became Captains. 9 crews and 10 A/C attacked Fulda-Plauen, 1 A/C returned, the rest were diverted to the continent.

20 March 1945

The 8 crews and 9 A/C diverted to continent yesterday, returned today.

21 March 1945

Lts. Cummings, Straus and Sgt. Olsen, Dunn, La Picca and Rogers left us

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on the road to the States. 9 crews and 12 A/C were sent on target, Hopsten. All returned safely.

22 March 1945

Lt. DeWald appointed Flight Commander. 8 of our crews and 11 A/C attacked Barmingholten and returned. Quiet day with usual squadron duties.

23 March 1945

10 crews and 9 A/C attacked Recklinghausen with no casualties.

24 March 1945

3 officers and 6 EM joined the squadron. 10 crews and 13 A/C attacked Hopsten, one crew is missing and Sgt. Hasting was wounded by flak. 2 crews and 1 A/C attacked Twente/Enschede and returned to base safely.

25 March 1945

Lt. Dudley is now Captain Dudley. Lts. Clark and Miller became 1st Lts. 11 combat EM made Sgt and F/O O'Shea became a 2nd Lt. There was no mission and the usual squadron duties were carried on.

26 March 1945

Capt. Kirkman and Lt. Nally going home. Lt. Dennison appointed squadron Bombardier. There was no mission today.

27 March 1945

Our squadron C.O. is now Lt. Colonel Peresich, receiving his promotion from Major today. Again there was a stand down with no mission.

28 March 1945

13 EM were reclassified today. 8 officers and 10 EM joined the squadron. 7 crews and 8 A/C attacked Berlin, all returned but Lt. Self was wounded.

29 March 1945

Stand down with usual squadron duties prevailing.

30 March 1945

Lt. Hamel is now Captain Hamel. 5 crews and 8 A/C attacked Bremen, all returned. Sgt. Wilson was wounded on the mission.

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31 March 1945

9 crews and 9 A/C attacked Halle safely.

Squadron Strength-1 March 1945

Officers..... 112
Enlisted Men..... 438

Squadron Strength-31 March 1945

Officers..... 113
Enlisted Men..... 443

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RESTRICTED

EIGHTH AIR FORCE

FIRST AIR DIVISION

457TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

751ST BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Covering period 1 April 1945 to 30 April 1945

RESTRICTED

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Compiled by: JAMES G. FRANCE,
Capt., Air Corps,
Sqn Historian.

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7292-14-A

S E C R E T

1 April 1945

There was no mission today, no one even woke the crews up at 0300 for an April Fool's joke. But five aircrew men were promoted to Sergeant, and no fooling. Lt. Smalling was transferred to Tenth RCD.

2 April 1945

A mission took off today but was recalled before it could bomb. Lt. Gronberg was made flight commander; S/Sgt Freudman (bombsight maintenance) was taken off flying status.

3 April 1945

Still another day with no mission as two new crews joined us.

4 April 1945

The squadron went to war today; seven crews went out to bomb airfields in northern Germany, undercast prevented bombing and the bombs came back, so did all the crews.

5 April 1945

Nine crews went to Ingolstadt, bombed and returned safely. Two more new crews were welcomed to the squadron. Lt. Carr and 26 combat enlisted men were promoted.

6 April 1945

Lts. Anderson and Renfro transferred out on their way home. Capt. Archimbault went to 303rd Station Hospital, first step on a trip home for the popular Communications Officer.

7 April 1945

Lt. Bane became a 1st Lt. today. On today's mission nine crews attacked Luneberg and Uelzen, all returned safely.

8 April 1945

Shades of last year's bombing of aircraft factories. Ten crews went out on a visual mission to Halberstadt, all returning safely. Three officers and five enlisted men started on their trip back to the states.

9 April 1945

Eight crews attacked an airfield at Furstenfeldbruck, all returning safely, as four more new crews joined the squadron.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

10 April 1945

Ten crews went out to attack Oranienburg, all returning safely. Capt. Lyons, Lt. Horn and three enlisted men left for RCD on their way home.

11 April 1945

Eight of our crews attacked Frieham visually, all returning safely. Two officers and six enlisted men left for home, and eight enlisted men left for the infantry. Lt. Bowers became squadron navigator, and Lt. Ashe joined from the 748th Squadron.

12 April 1945

No mission today. Lt. Walmer became a 1st Lt. We change intelligence officers again, Capt. Regan going to Group Headquarters; Capt. France returning to the squadron.

13 April 1945

Again no mission. Capt. Archimbault formally transferred out to Detachment of Patients at 2404th Hospital. Two officers and three enlisted men started home.

14 April 1945

Nine crews attacked a strongpoint at Royan, France; as two enlisted men left for the states and two combat men were promoted.

15 April 1945

Nine crews went on mission to Pointe de Grave, all returning safely.

16 April 1945

The target today was Regensberg for eleven crews, all coming back.

17 April 1945

Nine crews went to Dresden today without incident as four officers and four enlisted men joined the squadron.

18 April 1945

Capt. Anderson left us for home. Lt. DeWald is now Capt. DeWald and Lts. Beck, Gunderson, Moore and Spore are now 1st Lts. 8 crews attacked Freising, one crew is missing in action.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

19 April 1945

S/Sgt Freudman returned to flying status. S/Sgt Whatley headed home. Lt. Bocckino appointed flight commander of Flight A. 7 crews and 8 A/C attacked Falkenberg, all returned.

20 April 1945

Lt. Thistle and crew listed as MIA as of mission of 18 April to Freising. Lt. Demison won his railroad tracks and Lt. Patulski took over his silver bar. Lt. Hill has been appointed flight commander of Flight B. 3 enlisted men returned from furloughs. Today the group and our squadron as part of the group, flew its last ETO combat mission.. No. 236. It saw 8 of our crews and 9 of our A/C attack Seddin and all returned safely.

21 April 1945

1 officer and 3 enlisted men transferred to RCD for homeward journeys. 3 enlisted men returned from furlough and 2 set out on theirs. No mission - usual station duties.

22 April 1945

S/Sgt Rex going home. Sgt Konsek placed on DS with 401st Signal Co. 3 combat boys got another stripe. Lt. Bane and crew came back off furlough to duty en masse. 7 other enlisted men reported from furlough to duty. Usual station duties.

23 April 1945

Capt. Hamel and Lt. Tolbert going home. Lt. McMakin promoted to 1st Lt. Lt. Tubbs is starting a 7-day leave. 12 combat enlisted men promoted to Sgt. Lt. Cantarella appointed flight commander of Flight F. No mission today.

24 April 1945

5 combat enlisted men going home. No mission - usual duties.

25 April 1945

Lts. Bronck, Rodgers and Self became 1st Lts. 4 combat boys made Sgt. 7 enlisted men reclassified. 18 combat crew enlisted men reclassified.

26 April 1945

9 officers and 1 enlisted man transferred to RCD headed for the United States of America. Usual station duties.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

27 April 1945

Capt. Kneisley joined the squadron from Group Headquarters. Lt. Hansen was appointed Squadron Bombardier. Lts. Mason and Koch are appointed first Pilots. Capt. Tangherlini went from duty to sick quarters. No mission - quiet day.

28 April 1945

Cpl Zells was transferred to an Air Depot Co. F/O Koch was a citizen for a moment while becoming Lt. Koch. Capt. Tangherlini on deck again. 9 combat boys made another stripe.

29 April 1945

Lt. Merritt made 1st Lt. No mission - usual squadron duties.

30 April 1945

S/Sgt Rogers going home. Lt. Terrill promoted to 1st Lt. 8 enlisted men reclassified. No mission and the month ends on a quiet note.

GROUP 1
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DATE 03-25-00

S E C R E T