

Michael Frankian

777<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron

464<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group

55<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing

15<sup>th</sup> Air Force

## Glossary

A.B.: Air Base

B: Bombardier

B/F, B/I: B designates Black for the 779<sup>th</sup> Squadron. Second letter designates the specific plane.

Boxes: Boxes refer to the Combat Box Formation (developed by Curtiss E. LeMay...)

**COMBAT BOX** (Able, Baker Charlie, Dog...). The number following the name is the plane's position in the Box.

B.G.: Bomb Group (Air Force - Bomb Wing - Bomb Group - Squadron)

C.P.: Co-pilot

I.A.S.: Indicated Air Speed

IP: Initial Point. Generally last waypoint before you turn for target

M/Y: Marshalling Yards

M.I.A.: Missing in action

N: Navigator

O: Observer

P: Pilot

R.O.: Radio Operator

Tinsel: Dropped out of the plane to confuse radar.

Y/A, Y/C, Y/E, Y/L, Y/M, Y/O, Y/P, Y/S, Y/T, Y/Y, Y/V: Y designates Yellow for the 777<sup>th</sup> Squadron. Second letter designates the specific plane.

Waist: Waist gunner, middle of the plane

## Emergency Procedures B-24

### Landing Gear

Selector V. in Down Position

Crank Approx. 30 Turns

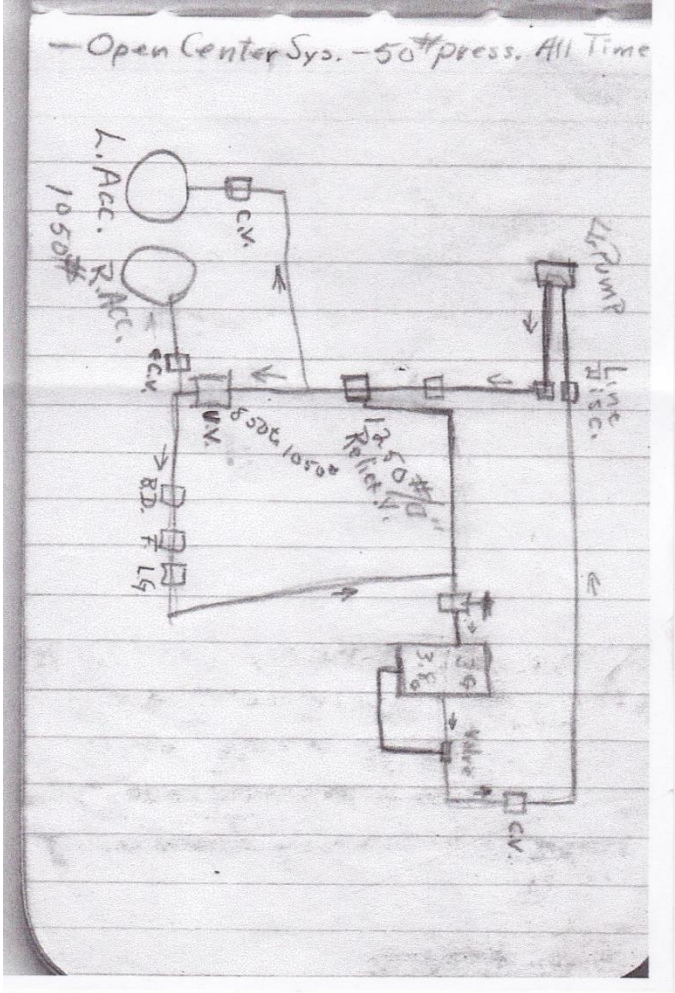
Inspect

## Voltage Regulator

Set at 28V



Emergency Lowering OR Flaps  
Close Forward \*V.  
Open Rear V.  
Make Down Selection For Flaps  
H. Pump Approx. 75 Times



Hydraulic Sys.

Pumps 7 to 10 Gals./min.

Tank - 6.8 Lines 10 Gals<sup>+</sup>

Fluid = AN-VVO-366A

L.G. -  $\begin{matrix} \text{Down} = 850 \text{ ft} \pm 25 \text{ ft} \\ \text{UP} = 1100 \text{ ft} \pm 50 \text{ ft} \end{matrix}$

L.G - UP - 1100 ± 50#

aps-Down-450  $\pm$  25 \* Up-750  $\pm$  25 \*

Flaps-Down-450# ± 25#  
Bomb Doors Open-600# ± 25#  
Closed-1000# ± 25#

Bomb Doors Closed -  $1000^{\pm 20}$

Left ACC.

## Outboard Brake

Right Acc.

## Inboard Brakes, AFCE

Gun Charges, Bomb Bay No.

## Utility Valve

Fuel S.V.  $\frac{1}{2}$  /  $\frac{1}{4}$  Tank to Eng.  
P + Feed

Insures Positive Feed

Transfer Fuel Pump - Pumps 15 Gals/min.

1 Gal. of Fuel Weighs APPX. 6lbs.

Eng. Driven Pump - 13  $\frac{1}{2}$  12 6/4/5

### Vain Type Eng. Pump

Vacuum Pressure -  $3.75 - 4.5 \text{ } \frac{\text{in}}{\text{Hg}}$

Vacuum Pumps On Eng. No. 1 + 2 Only

Vacuum SWS. Under Generator Panel.

Use 1 pump for Instruments + Other For  
Heizer Sys.

Teiler Sys.

Either Pump can Be Used For Instruments or HeIcer Sys.

Instruments or Ice-cream Sps.

Eng. Fire - Cut Off Fuel To Eng.  
+ Open Throttle Wide.

+ Open Throttle Wide.



+ Hyd.  
+ Hand  
+ Pump

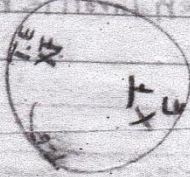
Equalizer Sw. is Used only on Emergency +  
When A.P.U. + Generators Are On Together.

Start A.P.U.

Turn On

To Stop Turn Off Fuel.

Oxygen Press. Over 350 #/sq to 450\*



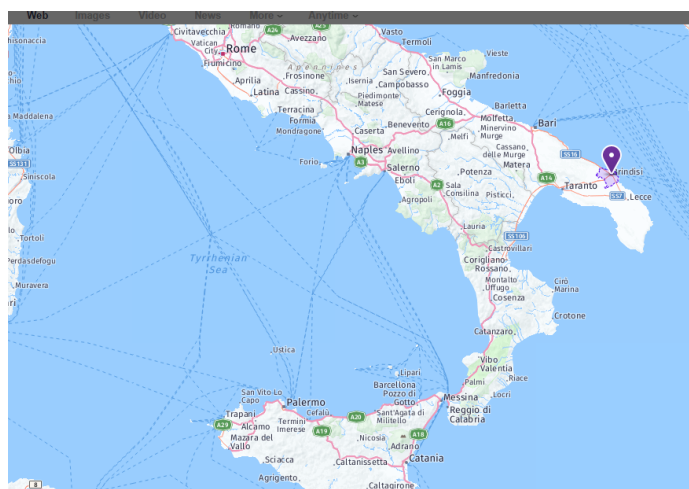
Left Patrick Henry, Camp. Va. on the 3 of March 1944 - 5 P.M. Sighted Land for the 1st time on the 21st. It was the Rock of Gibraltar, Spain, Africa + France. Pulled in Sicily on the 27 and from Brindisi to Bari we traveled alone. Bari to Pantanella A.B. by truck. We docked at Bari on the 29th of March - 10 P.M. Left Pantanella for Gioia A.B. on the 17th of April. "..."

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Left Pantanella for Gioia A.B. on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April.

Map showing Brindisi:



Map showing Pantanella and Bari:



May 7 - 1944 - Test Hop. "Y/O" 3:20 Hrs.  
May 10 - 1944 "Y/O" -- 8:45 Hrs.  
"1st" counted for 2 missions  
Target 1 - Wiener Neustadt.  
Aircraft factory for ME-109s  
in Austria.

May 7 - 1944 - Test Hop. "Y/O" 3:20 Hrs.

May 10 - 1944 "Y/O" -- 8:45 Hrs.

#1 + #2 counted for 2 missions

Target 1 - Wiener Neustadt Aircraft Factory for  
ME-109s in Austria.

Drunk On This Mission 1<sup>st</sup> Saddest Day Of My  
Life.

Very heavy, intense and accurate Flak also  
some enemy fighters and Rocket Fighters.

Drunk On This Mission 1<sup>st</sup>  
Sadest Day Of My Life.  
Very heavy, intense and  
accurate Flak also some  
enemy fighters and Rocket Fighters.



May 13 - "Y/O" 7:15 Hrs.

#3 - One Mission

Target - Parma - M/Y

Light Flak, No Fighters

May 14 - "Y/O" 6:10 Hrs.

#4 - One Mission

Target - Treviso - M/Y

Light Flak, Fighters some.

May 18 "Y/O" 4:20 Hrs.

#5 - One Mission

Target - Polesti - Hit Alternate

Target. Bad Weather.

Some Flak - No Fighters

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Light Flak, No Fighters

May 14 - "Y/O" 6:10 Hrs

Target - Treviso - M/Y

Light Flak, Fighters some.

May 18 "Y/O" 4:20 Hrs.

#5 - One Mission

Target - Polesti - Hit Alternate Target. Bad Weather.

Some Flak - No Fighters

May 22 "Y/O" 5:10 Hrs.  
#6 - One Mission

Target - Valmontone Above  
Anzio Beach-head. M/Y  
Heavy + Accurate Flak,  
No Fighters. No Bombs Dropped.  
Bad Weather Over Target.

May 23 "Y/O" 5:25 Hrs.  
#7 - One Mission - Bad Weather  
Target Valmontone M/Y  
No Flak - No Fighters  
Circled Target 3 Times. No Bombs Dropped

May 25 "Y/O" 9:45 Hrs.  
#8 One Mission  
Target Givors. M/Y  
Southern or Central France.  
Heavy, Moderate + Accurate Flak

Five Fighters Attacked Us From  
The Tail In Rotation. Tail Gunner  
Shot Down 1 - ME-109. A Probable.

May 22 "Y/O" 5:10 Hrs.

#6 - One Mission

Target - Valmontone Above Anzio Beachhead.  
M/Y

Heavy + Accurate Flak,

No Fighters. No Bombs Dropped.

Bad Weather Over Target.

May 23 "Y/O" 5:25 Hrs.

#7 - One Mission - Bad Weather

Target Valmontone M/Y

No Flak - No Fighters

Circled Target 3 Times. No Bombs Dropped.

May 25 "Y/O" 9:45 Hrs.

#8 One Mission

Target Givors M/Y

Southern or Central France

Heavy, Moderate + Accurate Flak

Five Fighters Attacked Us From The Tail In  
Rotation. Tail Gunner Shot Down 1 - ME-109.  
A Probable.

May 26 "B/F" 2:10 Hrs.  
Target Lyon M/Y  
Southern France  
Return Early Due To Gas leak.

May 27 "Y/O" Time 11:40 Hrs.  
#9 One Mission  
Target Nimes M/Y  
#Southern France  
Heavy, Moderate + Accurate Flak  
Fighters ME-109's + FW-190  
Landed At Corsica - low On Gas.  
May 29 "Y/O" 2:00 Hrs.

May 26 "B/F" 2:10 Hrs.

Target Lyon M/Y

Southern France

Return Due To Gas Leak.

May 27 "Y/O" Time 11:40 Hrs.

#9 One Mission

Target Nimes M/Y

#Southern France

Heavy, Moderate + Accurate Flak

Fighters ME-109s and FW-190

Landed at Corsica – Low On Gas.

May 29 "Y/O"

Missing a page or two here



Target Atzgersdoff, Vienna  
 Salvaging ME-109s For Reuse.  
 Very Heavy Intense + Accurate Flak  
 About 30 Fighters They got  
 Elrod's Crew - Elrod, Baker, Valenti,  
 Mezzatesta, Styer, Freeman, Close +  
 Jones's Crew -  
 Jones, Evans, Shiros, Blye + gang.  
 Cpt. Caters Crew - Cater Was Not Along  
 O'Rourke, Sampson, Sinnott + Fuzzy  
 Eaves Crew - Eaves, Fangman,  
 Christel, Petrone, Elders + Masterson  
 The Group Lost 6 Planes.  
 Just As Rough Or Rougher  
 Than Sour Krout.  
 "Y/O" May 31<sup>st</sup> 00:35 Hrs - Gioia To Pantanella  
 June 2 "Y/O" 8:00 Hrs.  
 #12 + 13 Two Missions  
 Cluj - M/Y Near Austria + Rumania  
 Milk Run - No Flak Or Fighters  
 But We Really Were Sweating +  
 Expecting To Get Jumped Anytime.

Continuing from missing page(s)...

Target Atzgersdoff, Vienna

Salvaging ME-109s For Reuse.

Very Heavy Intense + Accurate Flak

About 30 Fighters They got Elrod's Crew -  
 Elrod, Baker, Valenti, Mezzatesta, Styer,  
 Freeman, Close + Jones' Crew - Jones, Evans  
 Shiros, Blye + gang.

Cpt. Caters Crew - Cater Was Not Along

O'Rourke, Sampson, Sinnott + Fuzzy

Eaves Crew - Eaves, Fangman, Christel,  
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June 2 "Y/O 8:00 Hrs.

#12 + 13 Two Missions

Cluj - M/Y Near Rumania

Milk Run - No Flak Or Fighters

But We Really Were Sweating +

Expecting To Get Jumped Anytime.

June 4 "Y/O" 8:30 Hrs.

#14 One Mission

Turin, ~~T~~ Italy M/Y

Heavy, Moderate + Inaccurate Flak  
No Fighters But Plenty Of Escort.

No - 15

June 6 "Y/O" 4:10 Hrs.

Ploesti - Oil Storage, Rumania

Return Oil Relief Valve #3 E. Inoper-

ative - ONE Credit Mission

June 7 "Y/O" 7:00 Hrs.

#16 One Mission

La Spezia, Italy - Oil Refineries

Hit Alternate Target Leghorn M/Y

+ Harbor Installation Due To Bad

Weather - Heavy, Moderate But

Inaccurate Flak. No Fighters Hit

Us. But Some Hit A Straggler.

June 4 "Y/O" 8:30 Hrs.

#14 One Mission

Turin, Italy M/Y

Heavy, Moderate + Inaccurate Flak

No Fighters But Plenty of Escort.

No - 15

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Ploesti - Oil Storage, Rumania

Return Oil Relief Valve #3 E. Inoperative - One  
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June 7 "Y/O" 7:00 Hrs.

#16 One Mission

La Spezia, Italy - Oil Refineries

Hit Alternate Target Leghorn M/Y

+ Harbor Installation Due To Bad Weather -  
Heavy, Moderate But Inaccurate Flak. No  
Fighter Hit Us. But Some Hit A Straggler.

June 13 "Y/O" 4:15 Hrs.  
Local Bomb Mission, Practice.

June 22 "Y/O" 6:15 Hrs.  
# 17

Bologna, Italy M/Y  
Heavy, Scant & Accurate Flak Over  
Target Also Heavy, Moderate &  
Accurate Flak Nearing Coast.  
Escort 30, P-38s That Took  
Care Of 3 Enemy Fighters.

June 26 "Y/O" 8:15 Hrs.  
# 18 + #19 Two Missions  
Target - Florisdorf, Austria  
Just Outside Vienna  
Oil Refineries & M/Y

Heavy, Intense & Accurate Flak.  
We Were Flying Off Col. Bonner's  
R. Wing When His Ship Got A Direct  
Hit By Flak Just In Front Of Cockpit.  
He Went Down In Flames Just Missing  
Our Tail. Our No. 2 Eng. Got Knocked  
out By Flak. Hit A Oil Line. We Flew  
A Few Minutes On One Engine.  
Lt. Fennimore + Another Plane  
Escorted Us When We Were  
Straggling. Flak Hit R.H. Ammo.  
Chute And Entered My Ball Turret.  
Maj. Carter + Lt. Locke Also Went Down In <sup>same ship</sup>

June 13 "Y/O" 4:1 Hrs.

Local Bomb Mission, Practice.

June 22 "Y/O" 6:15 Hrs.

#17

Bologna, Italy M/Y

Heavy, Scant + Accurate Flak Over Target  
Also Heavy, Moderate + Accurate Flak Nearing  
Coast.

Escort 30, P-38s That Took Care Of 3 Enemy  
Fighters.

June 26 "Y/O" 8:15 Hrs.

#18 + #19 Two Missions

Target - Florisdorf, Austria Just Outside  
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Oil Refineries + M/Y

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We Were Flying Off Col. Bonner's R. Wing  
When His Ship Got A Direct Hit By Flak Just In  
Front of Cockpit. He Went Down In Flames  
Just Missing Our Tail. Our No. 2 Eng. Got  
Knocked out By Flak. Hit A Oil Line. We Flew  
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+ Another Plane Escorted Us When We Were  
Straggling. Flak Hit R.H. Ammo. Chute And  
Entered My Ball Turret. Maj. Carter + Lt. Locke  
Also Went Down In same ship.



June 30 "Y/O" 6:40 Hrs.  
#20 + 21 Two Missions  
Target - Blechhammer, Germany  
Oil Refinery - 78 Guns + 200  
Fighters Expected.  
The Group Got As Far As Northern  
Austria + Had To Return Due To A

Very Bad Weather Front.  
We Saw About 30 Burst Of Flak  
But No Fighters. We Really  
Sweat This One Out.

July 2 "Y/P" 6:45 Hrs.  
#22 + 23 Two Missions  
Target Budapest, Hungary  
M/Y + Oil Refineries  
We Flew Another Ship (Y/P) As Ours  
Was In Bari + Couldn't Start #4 Eng.  
Heavy, Moderate + Inaccurate  
Flak. We Were The 1<sup>st</sup> Gp. Over Target.  
Two Boxes In Our Gp. + 3 Other Gps.  
Were Lower Than Us + They Caught  
Hell From The Flak. We Had P-38,  
P-51 + P-47 Escort. They Took Care  
Of The Enemy Fighters In The Area.  
There Isn't A Prettier Sight Then  
To Look Out + See Our Escort.

June 30 "Y/O" 6:40 Hrs.

#20 + 21 Two Missions

Target - Blechhammer, Germany

Oil Refinery - 78 Guns + 200 Fighters  
Expected.

The Group Got As Far As Northern Austria +  
Had To Return Due To A Very Bad Weather  
Front.

We Saw About 30 Burst of Flak But No  
Fighters. We Really Sweat This One Out.

July 2 "Y/P" 6:45 Hrs.

#22 + 23 Two Missions

Target Budapest, Hungary

M/Y + Oil Refineries

We Flew Another Ship (Y/P) As Ours Was In  
Bari + Couldn't Start #4 Eng.

Heavy, Moderate + Inaccurate Flak. We Were  
The 1<sup>st</sup> Gp. Over Target. Two Boxes In Our  
Gp. + 3 Other Gps. Were Lower Than Us +  
They Caught Hell From The Flak. We Had P-  
38, P-51 + P-47 Escort. They Took Care Of  
The Enemy Fighters In The Area. There Isn't  
A Prettier Sight Then To Look Out + See Our  
Escort.

July 5- "Y/O" 7:00 Hrs.  
#24 One Mission  
Target Toulon, France  
Submarine Docks  
Heavy Intense & Accurate Flak.  
Some Fighters.

lost Oil In #1 Eng. & Feathered It  
Then We Dropped Out Of Formation &  
Landed At Corsica. A Night Fighter  
Fld. (Bristol Beau fighters Flown By U.S.  
Pilots) This Happened After We left Target.  
We Tried To Take Off The Next Day  
But She Still Threw Oil So We Had  
To land. On The 8<sup>th</sup> The Operation  
Officer, Eng. Officer, Crew Chief & Assist.  
Came After Us. They Stayed & Fixed  
Our Ship & We Flew There Ship Home  
That Day. The Next Day They Flew

Our Ship Home. We Flew Around  
Rome On Our Way Back. We Were  
Reported As "M.I.A." & That Wasn't  
The First Time. We Were Sweating  
That Out.

July 5 "Y/O" 7:00 Hrs.

#24 One Mission

Target Toulon, France

Submarine Docks

Heavy Intense + Accurate Flak.

Some Fighters.

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We Tried To Take Off The Next Day But She  
Still Threw Oil So We Had to Land. On The 8<sup>th</sup>  
The Operation Officer, Eng. Officer, Crew Chief  
+ Assist. Came After Us. They Stayed + Fixed  
Our Ship + We Flew There Ship Home That  
Day. The Next Day They Flew Our Ship  
Home. We Flew Around Rome On Our Way  
Back. We Were Reported as M.I.A. + That  
Wasn't Our First Time. We Were Sweating  
That Out.

On July 10 "Y/A" 7 Day Rest leave  
To The Isle Of Capri.

Flew To Naples. From There To  
Capri By Boat. We Had A Hell-Of-  
A-Time There. Site Seeing, Shopping  
& Swimming During The Day. Drunk  
At Night. It Got Tiresome There  
So We Left One Day Early & Stayed  
At Naples. Too Many G.I.s There. We  
Flew Back To Our Base On The 17<sup>th</sup>  
& When We Got At The End Of Runway  
The Nosewheel Tire Blew Out & The  
Strut Caved In & The Nose Of Ship  
Plowed Into The Dirt & Skidded

Some 30 Or 40 Ft. Before It Stopped.  
About 22 persons In The Ship At  
The Time & I Was On The Catwalk In  
The Forward Bombay And Was Told To  
Get Out. I Headed For The Waist & Was  
At The Rear Of Rear Bombay When The  
Bombay Doors Opened So I Jumped  
Out. We Were Out like Flies, No body Was  
Injured. Blackie Took Some Pictures  
Of The Plane.

On July 10 "Y/A" 7 Day Rest Leave To The Isle  
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Flew To Naples. From There To Capri By  
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Get Out. I Headed For The Waist & Was At  
The Rear Of Rear Bomb Bay When The Bomb  
Bay Doors Opened So I Jumped Out. We  
Were Out Like Flies, Nobody Was Injured.  
Blackie Took Some Pictures Of The Plane.



July 25 "Y/O" 8 Hrs.  
#25 + 26 Two Missions  
Target - Linz, Austria, Herman Goerings Tank Works.  
Heavy Intense + Accurate Flak  
No Fighters.

We Were heading Hog Box  
+ Capt. Nance (Gp. Wt. + Bal. Off.) Flew  
Pilot. As Our Pilot Fractured His

Neck While At Capri. I Was  
Scared To Death When A Burst  
Of Flak Exploded Outside Of  
My Turret. My Heart Just Doubled  
Timed On Me.

July 25 "Y/O" 8 Hrs.

#25 + 26 Two Missions

Target - Linz, Austria, Herman Goerings Tank  
Works.

Heavy Intense + Accurate Flak

No Fighters.

We Were Leading Dog Box + Capt. Nance  
(Gp. Wt. + Bal. Off.) Flew Pilot. As Our Pilot  
Fractured His Neck While At Capri. I Was  
Scared To Death When A Burst Of Flak  
Exploded Outside Of My Turret. My Heart  
Double Timed On Me.

July 30 "B/I" 6:45 Hrs.  
#27 One Mission  
Target - Budapest, Hungary  
Aircraft Factory  
We Flew Deputy Lead With Capt.  
Nance As Pilot + Lt. Col. Goodyear (C.O.  
OX-779 Sq.) As Co-pilot, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jane As  
Nav. + Our Nav. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Goldthorp Flew  
The Nose Turret. We Were Supposed  
To Fly "Y/A" A New Radar Ship ~~Due To~~  
Last Minute Changes ~~So~~ We Flew "B/I"  
Gonyea + I Were Not Scheduled  
Due To The Wheels + No B.T. On A  
Radar Ship. I Froze My Toes

+ Finger Tips + Had The Chills  
The Whole Mission. I Was Never  
So Uncomfortable On A Mission  
Before. A Few Fighters Made A  
Pass At The Rear Of The Formation.  
Beautiful Escort By P-38, P-47  
& P-51s. Heavy, Moderate + Accurate  
Flak.

July 30 "B/I" 6:45 Hrs.

#27 One Mission

Target - Budapest, Hungary

Aircraft Factory

We Flew Deputy Lead With Capt. Nance As  
Pilot + Lt. Col. Goodyear (C.O. OX-779 Sq.) As  
Co-Pilot, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jane As Nav. + Our Nav. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt.  
Goldthorp Flew The Nose Turret. We Were  
Supposed To Fly "Y/A" A New Radar Ship Due  
To Last Minute Changes We Flew "B/I".

Gonyea + I Were Not Scheduled Due To The  
Wheels + No B.T. On A Radar Ship. I Froze  
My Toes + Finger Tips + Had Chills The Whole  
Mission. I Was Never So Uncomfortable On A  
Mission Before. A Few Fighters Made A Pass  
At The Rear Of The Formation. Beautiful  
Escort By P-38, P-47, and P-51s. Heavy,  
Moderate + Accurate Flak.

Aug. 14 "Y/S" Hrs. 7:20

#28 One Mission

Target - St. Tropez, S. France  
Gun Installations

I Flew Ball Turret For Lt. Campbell. This Mission Was In Preparation Of The Invasion To Come. My 1<sup>st</sup> Mission In 14 Days + I Didn't Know The Crew. I Had A Loaf Of Bread + 1 Gal. Of Orange Marmalade On The Trip As We

Took Off At 12:30 Noon + I Didn't Get Back Till 19:50 + The Bread + Marmalade Came In Handy. It Was A Milk Run. No Flak + No Fighters. I Saw 3 Separate Convoys Headed For France. Approx. 150 Ships.

Aug. 15 "Y/V" Hrs. 8:50

#29 One Mission

Target - Donzere, S. France  
Bridges

I Flew Ball Turret For Lt. Campbell. This Was Invasion Day + Ours Was To Knock Out A Bridge So The Enemy Couldn't Bring Troops Down To Check Our Invasion. I Brought A Loaf Of Bread + Two Small Jars Of Jam Along. It Came In Very Handy. We Also Passed Over Another Large Convoy Going

To France. No Flak. No Fighters  
Very Happy To Say.

Aug. 14 "Y/S" Hrs. 7:20

#28 One Mission

Target - St. Tropez, S. France

Gun Installations

I Flew Ball Turret For Lt. Campbell. This Mission Was In Preparation Of The Invasion To Come. My 1<sup>st</sup> Mission In 14 Days + I Didn't Know The Crew. I Had A Loaf Of Bread + 1 Gal. Of Orange Marmalade On The Trip As We Took Off at 12:30 Noon + Didn't Get Back Till 19:50 + The Bread + Marmalade Came In Handy. It Was A Milk Run. No Flak + No Fighters.

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Aug. 15 "Y/V" Hrs. 8:50

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Aug. 16 "Y/V" Hrs. 8:10  
#30 + 31 Two Missions

Target - Ober Raderach, Friedrichshafen  
Germany, Chemical Works.

I Flew Ball Turret For Lt

Campbell. Heavy, Accurate + Intense  
Flak. No Fighters. We Had Beautiful  
Cover By P-38's + P-51's. Our No. 4  
Engine Was Hit By Flak + We Had To  
Feather It. Approx. 14 Holes In #4 Eng.  
Our Hydraulic System Was Shot Out.  
The Bombadier Got Hit By A  
piece Of Flak In The Back But The  
Flak Suit Saved Him. The Waist G's  
Threw Out All Ammo., Dingy Radio, +  
Hydraulic Fluid + Clothes. I Was In  
The Top Turret After We Feathered

No. 4. We Had To Crank The Bomb  
Bay Door's Closed. At One Time We  
Were Headed For Switzerland. No.

2 Eng. Was Troubling Us On The Way  
Up + Back Due To Oil Leak. We Lost  
#2 Eng. Coming In For A Landing.  
We Had To Crank Down The Main  
Landing Gears + The Left Gear  
Wouldn't Lock. We Didn't Have  
Any Brakes Or Flaps. We Had Two  
Parachutes Fixed In The Waist To  
Act As Brakes But Didn't Use 'Em.  
The Engineer Kicked Out The Nose  
Wheel Just Before We Hit The Run-  
way. Our R. Tire Was Flat. The Co-  
pilot Worked The Throttles + The  
Pilot The Controls. We Landed At  
150 I.A.S. + Landed On The R. Wheel  
<sup>Stayed</sup> As long As He Could Then Let It  
Rest On The Left Side + Nose

Aug. 16 "Y/V" Hrs. 8:10

#30 + 31 Two Missions

Target - Ober Raderach, Friedrichshafen  
Germany, Chemical Works.

I Flew Ball Turret For Lt. Campbell. Heavy,  
Accurate + Intense Flak. No Fighters. We Had  
Beautiful Cover By P-38s + P-51s. Our No. 4  
Engine Was Hit By Flak + We Had To Feather  
It. Approx. 14 Holes In #4 Eng. Our Hydraulic  
System Was Shot Out. The Bombadier Got Hit  
By A Piece Of Flak In The Back But The Flak  
Suit Saved Him. The Waist G's. Threw Out All  
Ammo. Dingy Radio, Hydraulic Fluid + Clothes.  
I Was In The Top Turret After We Feathered  
No. 4. We Had To Crank The Bomb Bay  
Doors Closed. At One Time We Were Headed  
For Switzerland. No. 2 Eng. Was Troubling Us  
On The Way Up Back Due To Oil Leak. We  
Lost #2 Eng. Coming In For A Landing. We  
Had To Crank Down The Main Landing Gears  
+ The Left Gear Wouldn't Lock. We Didn't  
Have Any Brakes Or Flaps. We Had Two  
Parachutes Fixed In The Waist To Act As  
Brakes But Didn't Use 'Em. The Engineer  
Kicked Out The Nose Wheel Just Before We  
Hit The Runway. Our R. Tire Was Flat. The  
Co-pilot Worked The Throttles + The Pilot The  
Controls. We Landed At 150 I.A.S. + Landed  
On The R. Wheel Stayed As Long As He Could  
Then Let It Rest On The Left Side + Nose  
Wheel. The Left Gear Gave Way + We  
Skidded Off To The Side Of Runway +  
Stopped. There Were 7 Of Us Up On The  
Flight Deck + 3 In The Waist. I Was 3<sup>rd</sup> To  
The Last Out Of The Top Hatch. The Ship  
Didn't Burn After We Stopped It Was Luck For  
Us. I Was Never So Scared In My Life Before  
As I Was Today.

Wheel. The left gear gave way & we skidded off to the side of runway & stopped. There were 7 of us up on the flight deck & 3 in the waist. I was the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the last out of the top hatch. The ship didn't burn after we stopped. It was lucky for us. I was never so scared in my life before as I was today.

Aug. 20 "Y/L" Hrs. 8:00  
#32 + 33 Two Missions  
Target Czechowice, Poland  
Oil Refineries  
Our crew flew & Capt. Stoll  
was pilot, Dupuis as R.O. for  
Komara who is at Cairo, Egypt  
& Bolduc in place of Blackie.  
We lead Baker Box. On the

Bomb Run A B-17 came in at us from 2 o'clock level & we open fire on it. They came in about 600 yds. My left gun froze & the R. gun would fire about 10 stop & fire. All in all I fired 150 rds. from the left gun. We didn't knock him down but our tracers were all around him. There were no markings on that plane & it was painted black. Scant to moderate, light & heavy & inaccurate. The flak was bursting the same as on the last one I was on & I sure got scared as hell as I thought we were going right through it but still lead our box to the left & over Able box. But I wasn't happy until I could no longer see flak. About 50 P-51's for escort.

## NMR: Narrative Mission Report

Aircraft #42-78415 was the one plane that crashed at the base. No one was hurt.

Aug 20 "Y/L" Hrs. 8:00

#32 + 33 Two Missions

Target Czechowice, Poland Oil Refineries

Our crew flew & Capt. Stoll was pilot, Dupuis as R.O. for Komara who is at Cairo, Egypt & Bolduc in place of Blackie. We lead Baker Box. On the bomb run a B-17 came in at us from 2 o'clock level & we open fire on it. They came in about 600 yds. My left gun froze & the R. gun would fire about 10 stop & fire. All in all I fired 150 rds. from the left gun. We didn't knock him down but our tracers were all around him. There were no markings on that plane & it was painted black. Scant to moderate, light & heavy & inaccurate. The flak was bursting the same as on the last one I was on & I sure got scared as hell as I thought we were going right through it but still lead our box to the left & over Able box. But I wasn't happy until I could no longer see flak. About 50 P-51's for escort.



Aug. 24 "Y/M" Hrs. 8:20  
No. 34 + 35 Two Missions  
Target. Pardubice, Czechoslovakia  
Oil Refinery  
Campbell's Crew With Lt. Davis  
As Pilot + Me In The Ball Flew On  
Their Last Mission. We Flew  
Baker 31 + There Were 2 Other  
Boxes In Back Of Us. It looked  
like A Good Mission Until We Were  
A Half Hour Off The Target Then  
We Got Hit By About 40 ME-109's  
+ FW-190's. They Came In From  
The Rear About 10 Abreast. The  
2 Boxes Behind Us Came Up Under  
Able + Baker Box + That Left  
Us In The Rear Of The Formation.  
We Fought About 10 To 15 Minutes.

Left Waist Claimed A Fighter. I  
Sure Was Scared. I Just About  
Fired 400 rds From Each Gun +  
The Tracers Were Flying All  
Around The Fighters. I Believe  
I Hit Some But I Was Too Busy  
Firing At The Next Ones Coming  
In For An Attack. I Got In The Ball  
Over Yugo. To Find Both My Guns  
Were Out Of Order + I Had To Take  
The Cartridge Stops + Link Chutes As  
Well As The Cover Gps. On Both  
Guns To Get 'Em Working Again. The  
Gun Heater Cord On The R.G. Was Be-  
tween The Rounds + Prevented 'Em  
From Feeding Into The Feedway.  
I Had To Cut The Cord. A Link Was  
The Reason For The L.G. Not Working  
I Had The Guns Working When  
The Nav. Said, "5 Minutes Before  
The IP." Time Sure Did

Aug. 24 "Y/M" Hrs. 8:20

No. 34 + 35 Two Missions

Target. Pardubice, Czechoslovakia Oil  
Refinery

Campbell's Crew With Lt. Davis As Pilot + Me  
In The Ball Flew On Their Last Mission. We  
Flew Baker 31 + There Were 2 Other Boxes In  
The Back Of Us. It Looked Like A Good  
Mission Until We Were A Half Hour Off The  
Target Then We Got Hit By About 40 ME-109's  
+ FW 190's. They Came In From The Rear  
About 10 Abreast. The 2 Boxes Behind Us  
Came Under Able + Baker Box + That Left Us  
In The Rear Of The Formation. We Fought  
About 10 To 15 Minutes. Left Waist Claimed a  
Fighter. I Sure Was Scared. I Just About  
Fired 400 rds From Each Gun + The Tracers  
Were Flying All Around The Fighters. I Believe  
I Hit Some But I Was Too Busy Firing At The  
Next Ones Coming In For An Attack. I Got In  
The Ball Over Yugo. To Find Both My Guns  
Were Out Of Order + I Had To Take The  
Cartridge Stops + Link Chutes As Well As The  
Cover Gps. On Both Guns To Get 'Em Working  
Again. The Gun Heater Cord On The R.G.  
Was Between The Rounds + Prevented 'Em  
From Feeding Into The Feedway. I Had To  
Cut The Cord. A Link Was The Reason For  
The L.G. Not Working I Had The Guns Working  
When The Nav. Said, "5 Minutes Before the  
IP." Time Sure Did pass By. In The End We  
Were All Happy That My Guns Were Working  
When The Fighters Hit Us.

We Had P-51's + P-38's For Escort But They  
Had Their Hands Full With Fighters Up Ahead  
Of Us. That Wasn't Enough Though, As We  
Flew Over Styer, Iems + St. Valentine The  
Places We Were Told To Stay Away From And



pass By. In The End We Were  
All Happy That My Guns Were  
Working When The Fighters Hit Us.  
We Had P-51's + P-38's For Escort  
But They Had Their Hands Full  
With Fighters Up Ahead Of Us.  
That Wasn't Enough Though, As  
We Flew Over Syer, Iems St.  
Valentine The Places We Were  
Told To Stay Away From And We  
Caught Plenty Of Flak. The 465 B.G.  
Lost A Ship - Direct Hit By Flak  
Our Gp. Lost 3 Ships By Fighters.  
The Boys That Finished Up Fired  
2 Boxes Of Flares Over The Fld.  
Before We Landed. A Happy Day  
For Them. I Still Have 15 More  
To Go. The Target Was Hit With  
Good Results. Campbells Crew  
Finished Up To-day.

We Caught Plenty Of Flak. The 465 B.G. Lost  
A Ship - Direct Hit By Flak + Our Gp. Lost 3  
Ships By Fighters. The Boys That Finished Up  
Fired 2 Boxes Of Flares Over The Fld. Before  
We Landed. A Happy Day For Them. I Still  
Have 15 More To Go. The Target Was Hit  
With Good Results. Campbells Crew Finished  
Up Today.

Aug. 25 "Y/T" Hrs. 8:20  
No. 36 + 37 Two Missions  
Target - Prostějov, Czechoslovakia  
Air Drome

Lt. Davis Flew As Our Pilot & Lt.  
Abrams As Bomb. & Dupius As R.O.  
This Target Was A Little South Of  
The One Yesterday & I Was Scared  
Before We Took Off. Davis, <sup>Gonyea</sup> & I Knew  
What We Were Up Against As We Were  
The Only Ones That <sup>were</sup> Up Yesterday On  
The Crew. Or We Thought We Knew.  
We Had About 150, P-51's & P-38's  
For Escort. The Escort Was In A  
Dog Fight After We Left The Target  
& 1/2 Way Home. A P-38 With A  
Feathered Prop Joined Our For-  
mation After The Fight And

Aug. 2 "Y/T" Hrs. 8:20

No. 36 + 37 Two Missions

Target - Prostějov, Czechoslovakia Air Drome

Lt. Davis Flew As Our Pilot & Dupius As R.O.  
This Target Was A Little South Of The One  
Yesterday & I Was Scared Before We Took  
Off. Davis, Gonyea & I Knew What We Were  
Up Against As We Were The Only Ones That  
Were Up Yesterday On The Crew. Or We  
Thought We Knew. We Had About 150, P-51's  
& P-38's For Escort. The Escort Was In A Dog  
Fight After We Left The Target 1/2 Way Home.  
A P-38 With A Feathered Prop Joined Our  
Formation After The Fight And

Missing a page here

Aug. 29. "Y/E" Hrs. 1:15  
No Credit

Target - Czecho - M/Y Moravaka  
Gas Leak From L. Out Board  
Fuel Cap + R. In Board Fuel Cap. 5  
We Had To Land. We Refueled  
+ Was Ready To go Again, But  
We Wouldn't Have Been Able To  
Catch The Formation. So Didn't Go  
It Turned Out To Be A Good One

Aug 29. "Y/E" Hrs. 1:15

No Credit

Target - Czecho - M/Y Moravaka

Gas Leak From L. Out Board Fuel Cap + R. In Board Fuel Cap So We Had To Land. We Refueled + Was Ready To Go Again, But We Wouldn't Have Been Able To Catch The Formation. So Didn't Go. It Turned Out To Be A Good One.

Sept. 1, 44 "Y/T" Hrs. 7:00  
No. 40 One Credit

Target Szajol, Hungary  
Marshalling Yards  
Pilot Lt. Davis, Lt. Martin, B. Lt. Dewil  
N. We Flew Dog 13. We Had Above  
100 P-38's + P-51's For Escort. We

Expected To Encounter About  
70 Enemy Fighters. Flak Was  
Moderate To Scant, Inaccurate  
+ Heavy. There Were White + Black  
Flak Bursts. My Right Gun  
Solenoid Was Burnt Out. We didn't  
See Any Fighters But We Sure  
Sweat Them Out.

Sept. 1, 44 "Y/T" Hrs. 7:00

No. 40 One Credit

Target Szajol, Hungary Marshalling Yards

Pilot Lt. Davis, Lt. Martin, -B Lt. Dewil (?) N.  
We Flew Dog 13. We Had Above 100 P-38's +  
P-51's For Escort. We Expected To Encounter  
About 70 Fighters. Flak Was Moderate To  
Scant, Inaccurate + Heavy. There Were White  
+ Black Flak Bursts. My Right Gun Solenoid  
Was Burnt Out. We didn't See Any Fighters  
But We Sure Sweated Them Out.



Sept. 2, 44 "Y/E" Hrs. 5:40  
No. 41 One Credit  
Target Supovac, Yugoslavia  
R.R. Bridge  
Lt. Davis - P., Lt. Martin - B. And Our  
Crew. We Flew Charlie 23. We Had  
30 P-51's As Escort. Also Briefed  
On About 25 Enemy Fighters.  
No Flak + No Fighters.

Sept. 2, 44 "Y/E" Hrs. 5:40

No. 41 One Credit

Target Supovac, Yugoslavia R.R. Bridge

Lt. Davis - P., Lt. Martin - B. And Our Crew.  
We Flew Charlie 23. We Had 30 P-51's As  
Escort. Also Briefed On About 2 Enemy  
Fighters. No Flak + No Fighters.

Sept. 4 Y/T Hrs. 6:15  
No. 42 One Mission  
Target - Bronzolo, Italy  
South M/Y  
Lt. Davis - P., Lt. Martin, B. + Our  
Crew. Lt. Martin Finished Up  
Today. No Flak, No Fights +  
We Had A Beautiful P-51 Escort  
They Were Within 100 Yds. OR U.  
They Were The Checker Board  
Tail Gp. The Temperature Was  
21 Below 0° Centigrade.

Sept. 4 Y/T Hrs. 6:15

No. 42 One Mission

Target - Bronzolo, Italy Sout MY

Lt. Davis - P., Lt. Martin, B. + Our Crew. Lt.  
Martin Finished Up Today. No Flak, No Fights  
+ We Had A Beautiful P-51 Escort. They Were  
Within 100 Yds. OR U??? They Were The  
Checker Board Tail Gp. The Temperature  
Was 21deg Below 0deg Centigrade.

Sept. 5. Y/T Hrs. 6:50  
No. 43 One Mission  
Target - Szob, Hungary  
R.R. Bridge

Lt. Davis - P + Lt. Stacy - B. +  
Our Crew. This Target Is N.W.  
Of Budapest. We Caught Flak On  
The I.P. + Had A Flak Hole In The  
Waist Large Enough To Put Your  
Fist Thru. It Came In One Side  
+ Went Out The Other. We Had  
Beautiful P-51 Escort, Yellow Tail,  
Red Tail + Checker Board Tail Gps.  
Medium, Moderate + Accurate  
No Enemy Fighters Encountered

Sept. 5. Y/T Hrs. 6:50

No. 43 One Mission

Target - Szob, Hungary R.R Bridge

Lt. Davis - P. + Lt. Stacy - B. + Our Crew.

This Target Is N.W. Of Budapest. We Caught  
Flak On The I.P. + Had A Flak Hole In The  
Waist Large Enough To Put Your Fist Thru. It  
Came In One Side + Went Out The Other. We  
Had Beautiful P-51 Escort, Yellow Tail, Red  
Tail + Checker Board Tail Gps. Medium,  
Moderate + Accurate. No Enemy Fighters  
Encountered.



Sept. 10 Hrs. 7:25  
No. 44-45 Two Missions  
Target Vienna  
Austria, Diesel Factory  
Lt. Davis P - Lt. Wynatt - B.  
Like All Vienna Raids It Was  
Rough. We Went Right Down

The Main St. Better Known  
As Flak Alley. We Got 10 Holes  
In The Ship. We Were Lucky To  
Have An Undercast To-day. Or  
I Might Not Be Here To-day.  
Tinsil Does Wonders On A Cloudy  
Day To The German Radar Control  
A.A. Guns. We Went Into A 90°  
Bank To Get Away From A B-24  
That Was Hit In The Bomb Bay  
On Fire. We Were In Flak For  
10 Minutes + It Seemed Like  
10 Hours. Esp. When It Gets Close  
+ You Can't Do Anything About It  
But Pray. And I did Plenty Of  
It To-day. We Had Good P-51 +  
P-38 Escort. Flak Was Heavy,  
Intense + Accurate + Too Close  
For Comfort. Lt. Wynatt Finished  
His Missions To-day.

Sept. 10 Hrs. 7:25

No. 44-45 Two Missions

Target Vienna Austria, Diesel Factory

Lt. Davis P - Lt. Wynatt - B.

Like All Vienna Raids It Was Rough. We Went  
Right Down The Main St. Better Known As  
Flak Alley. We Got 10 Holes In The Ship. We  
Were Lucky To Have An Undercoat Today. Or  
I Might Not Be Here Today. Tinsil Does  
Wonders On A Cloudy Day To The German  
Radar Controlled A.A. Guns. We Went Into A  
90deg Bank To Get Away From A B-24 That  
Was Hit In The Bomb Bay + On Fire. We Were  
In Flak For 10 Minutes + It Seemed Like 10  
Hours. Esp. When It Gets Close + You Can't  
Do Anything About It But Pray. And I Did  
Plenty Of It Today. We Had Good P-51 + P-38  
Escort. Flak Was Heavy Intense + Accurate +  
Too Close For Comfort. Lt. Wynatt Finished  
His Missions To-day.



Sept. 17 "Y/C" Hrs. 7:40

No. 46 One Mission

Target – Budapest, Hungary Shell O/R

Lt. Davis – P, Lt. Seaver – B. + Lt. Wills, A C.P. As Observer. This Was Seaver's 1<sup>st</sup> Mission. We Hit The South End Of The City + We Were In Flak For 5 ½ Min. It Was Too Long For Me. Flak Is Getting Too Close For Comfort. We Had P-38 Escort. Flak Was Moderate To Intense, Inaccurate To Accurate + Heavy.

Sept. 17 "Y/C" Hrs. 7:40  
No. 46 One Mission  
Target Budapest, Hungary  
Shell O/R

Lt. Davis-P, Lt. Seaver-B. + Lt. Wills  
A C.P. As Observer. This Was Seaver  
1<sup>st</sup> Mission. We Hit The South End  
Of The City + We Were In Flak For  
5 ½ Min. It Was Too long For Me.  
Flak Is Getting Too Close For Com  
fort. We Had P-38 Escort. Flak  
Was Moderate To Intense, Inaccurate  
To Accurate + Heavy.

Sept. 18 "Y/C" Hrs. 8:05

No. 47 One Mission

Target Szob, Hungary R.R. Bridge

Lt. Davis – P., Lt. Schiller – B. + Lt. Costello – N. We Were After This Bridge On The 5<sup>th</sup> But To-day We Took A Different Route. We Went Up To Czechoslovakia + Then To The Target. This Was The 1<sup>st</sup> Time Our Gp. Carried 2,000lbs Bombs. We Had P-38 + P-1 Escorts. No Flak Or Fighters Encountered. Our Copilot Lt. Gonyea Completed His 50 Missions Today.

Sept. 18 "Y/C" Hrs. 8:05  
No. 47 One Mission  
Target Szob, Hungary  
R.R. Bridge

Lt. Davis-P, Lt. Schiller-B, + Lt.  
Costello-N. We Were After This  
Bridge On The 5<sup>th</sup>. But To-day  
We Took A Different Route. We  
Went Up Into Czechoslovakia +  
Then To The Target. This Was The  
1<sup>st</sup> Time Our Gp. Carried 2,000 lbs  
Bombs. We Had P-38 + P-51 Escor  
No Flak Or Fighters Encountered.  
Our Copilot Lt. Gonyea Completed  
His 50 Missions To-day.

Sept. 20 "Y/Y" Hrs. 7:00

No. 48 One Mission

Target Hatvan, Hungary M/Y

Lt. Davis - P, Capt. Stoll - CP, Lt. Schiller - B,  
Lt. Greshmer C.P. + ???

The Target Was N.E. Of Budapest + We  
Carried 10 - 500lb. Incendiary Bombs. And  
The Target Area Looked Like A Christmas  
Tree With Blinking Lights. We Had P-38 and  
P-51 Escort. No Flak Or Fighters  
Encountered.

Sept. 20 "Y/Y" Hrs. 7:00  
No. 48 One Mission  
Target Hatvan, Hungary  
M/Y  
Lt. Davis - P, Capt. Stoll - CP, Lt.  
Schiller - B, Lt. Greshmer C.P. + C  
The Target Was N.E. Of Budapest  
+ We Carried 10 - 500lb. Incendiary  
Bombs. And The Target Area  
looked like A Christmas Tree  
With Blinking Lights. We Had P-38  
+ P-51 Escort. No Flak Or Fighter.  
Encountered.



Sept. 24 "Y/M" Hrs. 6:50

No. 49 One Mission

Target - Scaramanta, Greece Submarine  
Docks + Harbor Inst.

Lt. Davis - P, Lt. Greshmer, C.P., Lt. Schiller -  
B, Lt. ?? - N, Capt. O'Hara, O.

It Turned Out To Be A Pretty Good Mission.  
Flak Was Moderate, Intense + Heavy. No  
Enemy Fighters Encountered + No Escort.  
This Was The P - C.P. - B. Blackies' 50<sup>th</sup>  
Mission. Lt. Goldthorp Flew Able 11 With Maj.  
Nance + It Was His 50<sup>th</sup> Also. Blackie Had 39  
Cans Of Beer With Him On This Flight + When  
We Got On The Ground We Had Cold Beer.

Sept. 24 "Y/M" Hrs. 6:50  
No. 49 One Mission  
Target - Scaramanta, Greece  
Submarine Docks + Harbor Inst.  
Lt. Davis - P, Lt. Greshmer, C.P.  
Lt. Schiller - B, Lt. N. Capt.  
O'Hara, O. It Turned Out To Be  
A Pretty Good Mission. Flak Was  
Moderate, Intense + Heavy. No  
Enemy Fighters Encountered +  
No Escort. This Was The P - C.P. - B.  
Blackies' 50<sup>th</sup> Mission. Lt. Goldthorp  
Flew Able 11 With Maj. Nance + It  
Was His 50<sup>th</sup> Also. Blackie Had  
39 Cans Of Beer With Him On This  
Flight + When We Got On The Ground  
We Had Cold Beer.



Oct. 7 "Y/Y" Hrs. 7:30

No. 50 + 51 Two Missions

Target Ersekujvar Hungary MY

Maj. Nance - P, Maj. Shoemaker - CP, Lt. Stinson - B, Lt. Morton, N. Lt. Grimm N. + N. G. Holiday, W. This Was My Last Mission + I Don't Mind Saying I Was Scared + Nervous. We Didn't Get Hit By Flak But Other Gps. Did. It Was A Beauty To Finish Up. On No Flak, No Fighters. The Target Was Between Vienna + Budapest + They Hit Oil Installations At Vienna As We Could See The Smoke. At Least 15,000'. Our Escort Wasn't Too Good. We Had 12 P-51's For A Short While.

Oct. 7 "Y/Y" Hrs. 7:30  
No. 50 + 51 Two Missions  
Target Ersekujvar Hungary  
M/Y  
Maj. Nance - P, Maj. Shoemaker - CP, Lt. Stinson - B, Lt. Morton, N. Lt. Grimm N. + N. G. Holiday, W. This Was My Last Mission + I Don't Mind Saying I Was Scared + Nervous. We Didn't Get Hit By Flak But Other Gps. Did. It Was A Beauty To Finish Up. On No Flak, No Fighters. The Target Was Between Vienna + Budapest + They Hit Oil Installations At Vienna As We Could See The Smoke. At Least 15,000'. Our Escort Wasn't Too Good. We Had 12 P-51's For A Short While.

