

CONFIDENTIAL

F. O. 211

ENCOUNTER REPORT

LT. LINDOL F. GRAHAM

- a. ENCOUNTER
- b. 31 DECEMBER, 1943
- c. 79TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
- d. APPROXIMATELY 1157
- e. BORDEAUX
- f. VISIBILITY GOOD
- g. FW 190
- h. E/A DAMAGED
- i.

HEADQUARTERS
EIGHTH FIGHTER COMD.
REGISTRY No. <u>19503-A</u>
COPY No. <u>1</u>
A-2

I WAS LEADING THE 79TH FIGHTER SQUADRON FLYING LEAD SHIP IN WHITE FLIGHT. WE WERE SWEEPING THE TARGET AREA AND WE WERE SLIGHTLY SOUTH AND WEST OF THE TARGET AT 22,000 FEET. I SAW 2 FW 190'S BELLOW JUST AS THE GROUP LEADER REPORTED THEM. I PEELED OFF WITH MY FLIGHT AND STARTED DOWN KEEPING MY BELLY TANKS BECAUSE I WANTED THE GAS IN CASE OF A FIGHT ON THE WAY HOME. I USED 50 INCHES AND 2650 R.P.M. TO GAIN SPEED IN THE DIVE. MY WING MAN WAS F/O BYRD AND HE WAS FOLLOWING ME DOWN. THE 190 WAS IN A GENTLE TURN AS I APPROACHED FROM 45°. IN ORDER TO PULL OUT AND FOLLOW HIM I USED COMBAT FLAP TO HELP COME OUT OF MY DIVE. THE PLANE CAME OUT OF THE DIVE VERY NICELY EVEN WITH BELLY TANKS AND AN INDICATED SPEED OF OVER 375. I FOLLOWED THE 190 AND AT ABOUT 350 YARDS AND AN ANGLE OF 10° I OPENED FIRE WITH FOUR 50'S. I WAS CLOSING SLOWLY AND SAW FOUR OR FIVE HITS ON HIS RIGHT WING JUST BEFORE HE WENT INTO THE OVERCAST. I PULLED UP AND STARTED CLIMBING BACK UP FROM 10,000 FEET. MY SECOND ELEMENT STAYED ABOUT 3,000 FEET OVER ME DURING THE ENGAGEMENT AND ANOTHER FLIGHT STAYED AT 20,000 FEET. MY WING MAN AND THE REST OF THE FLIGHT PROVIDED PROTECTION DURING THE WHOLE ENGAGEMENT.

- j. SER NO OF A/C: 42-67497
- A/C MARKINGS: MC -L
- AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 340 ROUNDS.

*Noted 54e*

*OIC Allen  
confirmed*

/s/ LINDOL F. GRAHAM  
LINDOL F. GRAHAM,  
1st Lt, Air Corps,  
20th Fitr Sp.

/s/ EDWARD J. STEINER  
EDWARD J. STEINER,  
1st Lt, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

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Authority NNID 745005

By JG NARA Date 3-11-11

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ENCOUNTER REPORT

LT. ROBERT J. MEYER

- a. ENGAGEMENT
- b. 31 DECEMBER 1943
- c. 79th FIGHTER SQUADRON
- d. APPROXIMATELY 1210
- e. AREA OF BORDEAUX
- f. VISIBILITY GOOD
- g. 1 ME 109 F or G
- h. NONE
- i.

*Gen's file*

HEADQUARTERS
EIGHTH FIGHTER COMD.
REGISTRY No. <u>19503-B</u>
COPY No. <u>2</u>
A-2

FOLLOWED BY MY WING MAN, I WAS IN A LOOSE CLIMBING CIRCLE TO THE LEFT WITH A ME 109 180° ACROSS THE CIRCLE FROM ME. I HAD PREVIOUSLY DROPPED MY BELLY TANKS. I CUT DIRECTLY ACROSS THE CIRCLE PUTTING MY NOSE ON HIM. HE DOVE IN AND DOWN AND PULLED UP LEVEL-WITH ME FOLLOWING ASTERN. HE THEN DID A VIOLENT SKID TO THE RIGHT AND PUSHED OVER INTO A STEEP DIVE. I FOLLOWED AND FINDING I COULDN'T CLOSE - FIRED TWO SHORT BURSTS AT ABOUT 600 YARDS AND THEN BROKE OFF AT ABOUT 20,000 FEET BY PULLING UP INTO A SHARP RIGHT CLIMB. MY WING MAN FOLLOWED ME AT ABOUT 200 YARDS THE WHOLE TIME.

- j. SER NO OF A/C: 42-67652  
A/C MARKINGS: MC - M  
AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 6 ROUNDS.

/s/ Robert J. Meyer,  
ROBERT J. MEYER,  
1st Lt., Air Corps.  
20th FITR GROUP,

/s/ Edward J. Steiner,  
EDWARD J. STEINER,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

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