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ENCOUNTER REPORT

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LT WILLIE B. TAYLOR

CAPTAIN CARL E. JACKSON

HEADQUARTERS, 20TH FIGHTER GROUP

- a. COMBAT
- b. 7 JANUARY 1944
- c. 55TH SQUADRON (ATTACHED FOR FLYING)
- d. 1145
- e. AREA OF LUDWIGSHAVEN
- f. VISIBILITY GOOD
- g. 1 ME 109 G
- h. 1 ME 109 G DAMAGED

FOLLOWED BY MY WING MAN, I WAS WEAVING BESIDE THE BOMBERS AND ABOVE THEIR LEVEL AT 28,000 FEET WHEN THE FLIGHT LEADER MADE A DIVING TURN TO THE LEFT TO BOUNCE 3 ME 109'S. I TOOK MY ELEMENT IN TO THE LEFT OF THEM, HOPING WE COULD BOX THEM. WHEN WE APPROACHED FROM ABOVE AND BEHIND, THE LAST MAN IN THE ENEMY FLIGHT HALF ROLLED AND WENT THROUGH THE OVERCAST. MY FLIGHT LEADER TOOK #2 AND I CUT IN ON #1, WHO ROLLED INTO A DIVE STRAIGHT DOWN. I HAD PELLY TANKS AND BUFFETED SO NEVER DID GET IN GOOD RANGE. I FIRED A LONG BURST, ABOUT 4 SECONDS, FROM ABOUT 550 YARDS AT 25,000 FEET AND OBSERVED SOME STRIKES ON COCKPIT AND INNER WING. I PULLED OUT AT 21,000 FEET AS I WAS GETTING TOO LOW AND SEPARATED FROM REST OF THE SQUADRON. MY WING MAN STAYED WITH ME ALL THE TIME. LT. STOCKTON, THE FLIGHT LEADER'S WING MAN SWUNG OVER AND FIRED AT THE SAME SHIP I DID. HE REPORTS HAVING SEEN STRIKES FROM HIS FIRE.

- J. A/C # 42-67681  
A/C MARKING KI-V  
AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 468 ROUNDS, 50 CALIBER.

I CLAIM A SHARED DAMAGED WITH LT. STOCKTON.

*Carl E. Jackson*  
CARL E. JACKSON,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
20th Fighter Group.

FRANCIS E. LARKIN,  
1st. Lt., Air Corps,  
Asst. Group Intelligence O.

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Authority *NND 745005*  
By *CEC* NARA Date *9/27/18*

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## ENCOUNTER REPORT

LT WILLIS B. TAYLOR

- a. COMBAT
- b. 7 JANUARY, 1944
- c. 55th FIGHTER SQUADRON
- d. 1220
- e. NEAR WORMS
- f. CLEAR, WITH LOW OVERCAST
- g. Me 109F
- h. 1 Me 109F DESTROYED
- i.

I WAS LEADING TOWNTALK BLUE FLIGHT COVERING THE PORT SIDE OF THE BOMBERS WHEN THREE ME 109s FLYING IN A FLAT VEE STARTED IN ON THE BOMBERS ABOUT TWO THOUSAND FEET BELOW US. MY FLIGHT WAS AT 26,000 FT. WE STARTED DOWN AFTER THEM AND THE RIGHT WING HALF-ROULLED AND WENT DOWN. THE OTHER TWO DID NOT TAKE ANY EVASIVE ACTION, AND I STARTED FIRING AT THE WING MAN AT ABOUT 350 YARDS AT A 30 DEGREE DEFLECTION. I DID NOT SEE STRIPES UNTIL AT ABOUT 100 YARDS WHEN ONE OF TWO STRIKES APPEARED ON EACH WING. HE THEN EXPLODED. I BROKE--DOWN AND TO THE LEFT. I COULD NOT SEE HIM AFTER THAT BECAUSE OF THE SMOKE AND DEBRIS FROM THE EXPLOSION.

I CLAIM ONE Me 109 DESTROYED.

- j. SER NO OF A/C: 267482  
A/C MARKINGS : KI - U  
AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 886 ROUNDS OF 50 CAL.  
119 ROUNDS OF 20 mm CANNON.

/s/ Willis B. Taylor,  
WILLIS B. TAYLOR,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
20th Fitr Gp.

ON JANUARY 7TH AT APPROXIMATELY 1220 HOURS IN THE VICINITY OF LUDWIGSHAFEN, LT TAYLOR CALLED AND SAID HE WAS TAKING A BOUNCE AND IMMEDIATELY I AFFORDED TOP COVER WITH MY FLIGHT. FROM THIS POSITION I SAW HIM ATTACK 3 Me 109s. HE DOVE WITH HIS FLIGHT TO ABOUT 24,000 FT AND THE ENEMY AIRCRAFT LT TAYLOR PICKED OUT MADE A SLOW CLIMBING TURN TO THE LEFT. I SAW LT TAYLOR FIRING AT HIM AND AT ABOUT 26,000 FT THE Me 109 EXPLODED, WENT DOWN IN A SPIN AND THE LAST I SAW OF HIM HE WAS SPINNING DOWN AND ON FIRE.

/s/ J. C. Serros,  
J. C. SERROS,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,

I WAS FLYING LT. SERROS' WING AT 26,000 FT. LT TAYLOR CALLED IN AT ABOUT 1220 THAT HE WAS GOING TO MAKE A BOUNCE AND ASKED LT SERROS' FLIGHT TO COVER HIM. LT. TAYLOR'S FLIGHT PROCEEDED TO MAKE THE BOUNCE AND ATTACK THREE ME-109s, FLYING AT 24,000 FT. THE ENEMY, FLYING IN VEE, SPLIT UP AND LT. TAYLOR FOLLOWED ONE. AS HE FOLLOWED HE FIRED SEVERAL BURSTS. THE Me-109 CLIMBED WITH LT. TAYLOR ON HIS TAIL. AT ABOUT 26,000 FT THE Me-109 EXPLODED AND SPUN DOWN IN FLAMES. THIS COMBAT HAPPENED IN THE VICINITY OF WORMS, NEAR MANNHEIM.

/s/ J. W. Lundin,  
J. W. LUNDIN,  
2nd Lt., Air Corps,

/s/ Dean E. Erlandson,  
DEAN E. ERLANDSON,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

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By EC NARA Date 9/27/18

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## ENCOUNTER REPORT

LT VINCENT R. STOCKTON

- a. COMBAT
- b. 7 JANUARY, 1944
- c. 55th FIGHTER SQUADRON
- d. 1220
- e. VICINITY OF MANNHEIM
- f. CLEAR WITH LOW OVERCAST
- g. ME 109
- h. 1 Me 109 DAMAGED
- i.

ON JANUARY 7TH I WAS FLYING TOWNTALK BLUE TWO, ESCORTING THE BOMBERS AT ABOUT 26,000 FT ON THE PORT SIDE IN THE VICINITY OF MANNHEIM. AT 1220 HOURS BLUE LEADER CALLED OVER THE P/T THAT HE WAS TAKING A BOUNCE AND FOR YELLOW LEADER TO COVER HIM. WE WERE IN THE SUN TO THE 3 Me 109s (WHO WERE ON THE BOMBER LEVEL) AND WE WERE ABOUT 2,000 FT ABOVE THEM. WE MADE A 180 DEGREE DIVING TURN TO THE LEFT AND CAME OUT ON THEIR TAIL. THE RIGHT HAND WING MAN S'D AND DOVE AWAY. BLUE LEADER ENGAGED UP THE RIGHTHAND POSITION. THE LEADER WENT INTO A DIVING TURN TO THE LEFT. I FOLLOWED HIM DOWN WITH CAPTAIN JACKSON LEADING THE SECOND ELEMENT BEHIND ME. I FIRED TWO DEFLECTION SHOTS WITH NO RESULTS. I OBSERVED CAPTAIN JACKSON A LITTLE ABOVE AND TO MY LEFT FIRING. THEN WHILE GOING ALMOST STRAIGHT DOWN TO APPROXIMATELY 18,000 FT I FIRED AN ABOUT A 2-SECOND BURST AND SAW ABOUT 5 CANNON FLASHES ON EITHER THE PORT WING ROOT, OR IN THE COCKPIT AREA. WHEN LAST OBSERVED THE 109 WAS STILL GOING STRAIGHT DOWN AND HE ENTERED THE CLOUDS.

I CLAIM ONE ME 109 DAMAGED, SHARED WITH CAPTAIN JACKSON.

- j. SER NO OF A/C: 267649
- A/C MARKINGS: KI - M
- AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 366 ROUNDS OF 50 CAL.
- 70 ROUNDS OF 20MM CANNON.

/s/ Vincent R. Stockton  
VINCENT R. STOCKTON,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
20th Ftr Gp.

/s/ Dean E. Erlandson  
DEAN E. ERLANDSON,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

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