

ENCOUNTER REPORT

1ST LT. HARRY B. BAKER

- a. COMBAT
- b. 24 JANUARY, 1944
- c. 55th FIGHTER SQUADRON
- d. 1125 HOURS
- e. COURTRAI
- f. 4/10 LOW CLOUDS
- g. FW-190
- h. FW-190 DAMAGED
- i. ACCOUNT OF COMBAT (IN NARRATIVE FORM, STRESSING OURS AND ENEMY'S TACTICS.)

I WAS FLYING AT ABOUT 15,000 FEET IN THE VICINITY OF COURTRAI. AT ABOUT 1125/1130 HOURS I SAW 2 FW-190s ON LT. AHERN'S TAIL. HE WAS FLYING AT ABOUT 8 O'CLOCK TO ME AND SLIGHTLY LOWER. I MADE A LEFT TURN IN ORDER TO ATTACK THESE E/A IN A HEAD ON PASS. IMMEDIATELY UPON TURNING INTO THEM THE SECOND MAN HALF-ROLLED AND DISAPPEARED. I PASSED OVER LT. AHERN'S PLANE AND FIRED A 1- OR 2-SECOND BURST AT THE REMAINING E/A ON LT. AHERN'S TAIL. I SAW STRIKES ON THE BELLY TANK. ABOUT THE TIME I WAS PASSING UNDER THE E/A THE BELLY TANK CAME LOOSE AND EXPLODED RIGHT OVER MY HEAD.

I CLAIM: 1 FW-190 DAMAGED.

- j. SER. NO. OF A/C: 42-67204
FLYING PLANE: KI-J
AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 98 RDS. 50 CAL.

/s/ Harry B. Baker
HARRY B. BAKER
1st Lt., Air Corps
20th Fighter Group

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

A TRUE COPY

Gerald F. Costello
GERALD F. COSTELLO,
Captain, Air Corps, *104W*
Ass't A-2, 67 FW.

(D-6)

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NND 745805
Authority
By *CEC* NARA Date *9/28/10*

ENCOUNTER REPORT

CAPT. DONALD H. MC AULEY

- a. COMBAT
- b. 24 JANUARY, 1944
- c. 55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
- d. 1129 HOURS
- e. COURTRAI
- f. 4/10 LOW CLOUDS
- g. FW-190
- h. FW-190 PROBABLY DESTROYED.
- i. ACCOUNT OF COMBAT (IN NARRATIVE FORM, STRESSING OURS AND ENEMY'S TACTICS).

AT APPROX. 1129 HOURS ON THE MORNING OF 24 JANUARY 1944 MY SQDN WAS JUMPED BY 6/8 FW 190 ALT. 14,000 FT. IN THE VICINITY OF COURTRAI. THEY CAME IN FROM 6 O'CLOCK AND AS WE MADE A 180-DEGREE TURN TO THE LEFT INTO THEM I SAW A 190 ON THE TAIL OF A P-38. I MADE A HEAD-ON PASS AT IT GIVING IT A 2-SECOND BURST. THEN SLIPPED TO THE SIDE TO AVOID COLLISION. AS IT PASSED ME I SAW PIECES OF THE PLANE FLYING OFF. I LOOKED BACK OVER MY SHOULDER AND SAW THE 190 PULLING UP IN A STEEP CLIMB AWAY FROM THE P-38 IT WAS CHASING, AND THEN IT STARTED TO ROLL OVER. NOTHING FURTHER WAS OBSERVED.

I CLAIM ONE (1) FW-190 PROBABLY DESTROYED

- j. HAD PLANE KI-A SERIAL NO. 42-67657
FIRED 440 ROUNDS 50 CAL.
82 ROUNDS 20 MM.

/s/ Donald H. Mc Auley,
DONALD H. MC AULEY,
CAPT., AIR CORPS,
20TH FIGHTER GROUP.

/s/ Dean E. Erlandson.
DEAN E. ERLANDSON.
1ST LT., AIR CORPS,
INTELLIGENCE OFFICER.

A TRUE COPY

Gerald F. Costello
GERALD F. COSTELLO,
Captain, Air Corps, *1944*
Ass't A-2, 67 FW.

(D-7)

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ENCOUNTER REPORT

CAPT. MAURICE R. MC LARY

- a. COMBAT
- b. 24 JANUARY, 1944
- c. 55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
- d. 1120 HOURS
- e. COURTRAI
- f. 4/10 LOW CLOUDS
- g. FW-190
- h. 1 FW-190 DESTROYED
- i. ACCOUNT OF COMBAT

I WAS LEADING YELLOW FLIGHT AT ABOUT 14,000 FT. THE TIME WAS APPROXIMATELY 1120 HOURS. I SAW 9 FW-190'S APPROACHING FROM 6 O'CLOCK LEVEL OR SLIGHTLY LOWER. I SAW THE LEAD FLIGHT OF 4 190'S FIRE CANNON EXPLOSIVE SHELLS AT THE LAST P-38 IN OUR SQDN. THESE 38'S WERE FLYING AT ABOUT 5 O'CLOCK FROM ME AND SLIGHTLY LOWER. AFTER SEEING THESE EXPLOSIONS I DEFINITELY DECIDED THEY WERE BANDITS, PULLED UP AND DROPPED MY TANKS. THEN I MADE A STEEP LEFT TURN TO MEET THE BANDITS COMING HEADON, BUT THE 2 190'S FLYING THE PORT SIDE OF THEIR FORMATION BROKE AND STARTED A STEEP CLIMBING TURN TO THE LEFT. (THE TWO ON THE STARBOARD SIDE LEFT THE AREA.) I CLOSED IN ON THE FIRST MENTIONED 190'S TO APPROXIMATELY 200 YARDS, TOOK A 1-SECOND BURST ON THE LAST SHIP AND SAW STRIKES ON THE LEFT HORIZONTAL STABILIZER. I THEN CORRECTED MY LEAD, CLOSED IN TO ABOUT 100 YARDS AND FIRED A 15-DEGREE DEFLECTION SHOT AND SAW HITS ON THE CANOPY. THE 190 THEN LEVELED OFF MOMENTARILY AND I COULD SEE HIS BELLY TANKS SO I PUT A 2-SECOND BURST INTO THE TANK FROM 75 YARDS AND THE E/A EXPLODED. THE DEBRIS OF THE PLANE WENT DOWN IN FLAMES. THE PILOT WAS NOT SEEN TO BALE OUT.

I THEN CLOSED IN ON THE OTHER 190 WHICH WAS FLYING AHEAD OF THE ONE I CLAIM DESTROYED.
I CLAIM ONE (1) FW-190 DESTROYED.

- j. FLYING PLANE KI-Y SERIAL NO. 42-67484
FIRED 242 ROUNDS OF 30-CALIBRE
38 ROUNDS OF 30 MM CANNON

/s/ Maurice R. Mc Lary
MAURICE R. MC LARY
Captain, Air Corps,
20th Fighter Group

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

A TRUE COPY:

Castello
1040
GERALD F. CASTELLO,
Captain, Air Corps,
Ass't a-3. 67 AF.

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PILOT'S PERSONAL ENCOUNTER REPORT

A. TYPE OF ACTION:

- (1) Combat, if casualties or damage is inflicted.
- (2) Engagement, if guns are fired. **Engagement.**
- (3) Encounter, if no guns fired.

B. DATE: **24 January 1944.**

C. UNIT: **77th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group.**

D. TIME ATTACK MADE: **1130.**

E. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF ATTACK: **Swevezeels.**

F. WEATHER: **4/10 to 5/10 clouds.**

G. TYPE OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT: **F W 190.**

H. ENEMY CASUALTIES (Pilot's claim): **No claim.**

I. ACCOUNT OF COMBAT (In narrative form, stressing ours and enemy's tactics.)

While leading Red flight in vicinity of Swevezeels I saw about 8 F W-190s behind and below attacking low box of B-17s from the rear. They were approaching in pairs firing on rear bomb ers and diving into clouds below. I dove from 23,000 feet down to 15-16,000 feet on two attacking and fired a 2 second burst from ab out 300 yards to scare them away. They immediately dove into clouds.

While climbing back up to altitude Red 4 called bogies to the rear and I went into a climbing turn and saw a 190 above turning toward me. I racked it in sharply and called to flight to drop tanks. 190 rolled over and away before I could gun enough to fire.

No Claim.

P-38J 42-67523 1C-S.

J. Rounds fired: **40 rounds caliber 50 ammunition.
6 rounds HEI from 20mm cannon.**

Paul J. Sabo
**PAUL J. SABO,
Capt, Air Corps.**

Joseph R. Genest
**JOSEPH R. GENEST,
1st Lt., Air Corps,**

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