PILOT'S PERSONAL ENCOUNTER REPORT

LT. COL. ROBERT P. MONTGOMERY

a. Combat.

b. 5 February 1944.

Hq. 20th Fighter Group (leading 77th Fighter Squadron). c.

1100. d.

Bourges Airfield.

f.

Clear. FW 200 and HE 111.

1 FW 200 Destroyed (Shared with Capt. Sabo and 2nd Lt. Davis).

Account of Combat.

I was leading the 77th Fighter Squadron on close escort of a combat wing of B-17's. They were bombing an airfield in the Ste. Avord area from about 16,000 feet. Just prior to bombs away it was noticed that several large ships were taking off from the aerodrome below us. Col. Russell leading the group sent the 77th Squadron down after them with the 55th Squadron as high cover at about 10,000 feet. We dropped belly tanks and dove down to the deck. I located a FW 200 almost immediately at about 50 feet and closed in on him. I fired three 2-second bursts at him while he was in a vertical bank to the left. On the first burst I led him about 2 a ring and missed him. On the second and third bursts I corrected my lead to nearly a full ring and saw one burst making strikes on his fuselage and the other hit both right engines which immediately burst into flames. Then I pulled off to one side to let the other boys shoot at him before he went down. A total of about six ships fired at him before he blew up and went into the ground.

I then located a HE 111 about five miles away at an altitude of 500 feet. I closed in on his tail and fired one long burst at him. I did a certain amount of wiggling to confuse the rear gunner who was firing at me. I saw strikes on his fuselage and also on the right wing. This was a dead astern shot closing from 300 yards to about 100 yards. I pulled off to one side to give some one else a shot. My wingman, Lt. Frakes, fired and I saw strikes all over the fuse-lage. Lt. Morris, the third man in my flight, opened fire and both engines burst into flames. The left wing flew off and the ship rolled over and went into the

ground.

I claim one (1) FW 200 Destroyed (Shared with Capt. Sabo and 2nd Lt. Davis).

No claim made on HE 111.

j. Ser. No. of A/C: 42-68036 A/C Markings: LC-M 746 rds. 50 cal. 58 rds. 20 mm. Ammunition expended:

> ROBERT P. MONTGOMERY, Lt. Colonel, Air Corps.

CONFIRMATION OF CLAIM

I was flying Lt. Col. Montgomery's wing when he bounced a FW 200 flying about 50 feet off the ground. I saw Lt. Col. Montgomery open fire on the E/A at 5-10 degrees deflection. I saw the inboard starboard engine catch on fire and strikes on the right wing and cockpit. I pulled off to the right and looking back saw the FW 200 go into the ground and explode.

> ROBERT L. FRAKES 2nd Lt., Air Corps.

Trancis E. Larkin, 1st Lt. Air Corps, Asst. Gp. Intelligence O.

FILTER CONFIDENTIAL

2ND LT. JOHN W. REID

- A. Combat
- B. February 5, 1944
- C. 77th Fighter Squedron, 20th Fighter Group
- D. 1125
- E. Bourges Airfield
- F. Clear
- G. FW-200
- H. No claim

I+

feet. The Group leader told Rebuke leader to go down for bounce on aircraft taking off from sirfield below. Followed Colonel Montgomery down to fifty (50) feet where, after first three ships had fired, I fired a two-second burst at 20° from 200 yards. As I went by I noticed ship blezing from right intoard engine to fuselage.

Mo claim.

J. Flying plene LC-y Seriel Vo. 42-67716 Ammunition expended

Ammunition expended: 90 rounds of 50 celiber 20 rounds of 20mm cennon.

/s/ John 7. Feid JOFY T. RZID End Lieut., Air Corps

/s/ Francis W. Parkley
FRANCIS W. PARKLEY
lst Lieut., Air Corps
Intelligence Officer

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eptein, Air Corpe

se't 1-2, 67 FT

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NAUTHORITY 745005.

PILOT'S PARSONAL ENCOUNTER REPORT

2nd LT JACK E. DAVIS

- a. Combat
- J. 5 February 1944
- C. 77th Fighter Squadron
- D. 1122
- I. Bourges Airfield
- F. Clear
- G. FW 200
- H. 1 FW 200 DESTROYED (Shared with Capt Sobe and Lt Col Montgomery)
- at 18,000 feet. Capt Sabo and flight dove down to a position dead astern and slightly above. E/a appeared to have small fire in tail. We closed to approximately 100 yards I gave a two (2) second burst and saw strikes all over e/a and then saw it explode and crash. Capt Sabo was firing at the same time.

Capt Sabo was firing at the same time.

I claim one (1) F. 200 DESTROYFD (Shared with Capt Dabo and Lt Gol Montgomery).

J. Flying Plane LO-, Serial No 42-67442
Ammunition Expended 120 rounds of 50 caliber
28 rounds of 20mm cannon

/s/ Jack F. Davis, JACK E. DAVIS, 2nd Lt, Air Corps.

/s/ Joseph R. Genest JOSEPH R. GENEST, 1st Lt, air Corps, Intelligence Officer.

A TRUE CUPY

Captain, air Corps, ass't a-2, 67 Fu.

(D-12)

DECLASSIFIED S. Authority 745005.
BCC NARA Date 9/28/10

THOUSE FERSON LINCOUT E FERSET

END LT. FOBERT L. FRAME

Combet

₿. February 5, 1944

C. 77th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group

D. 1124

Bourges Airfield E.

Clear F.

G. He-111 and FW-200 H. He-111 destroyed (shored with 1st It. JAMES M. MOFFIS).

off et 16,000 feet end dove to deck approaching F7-200 from 7 o'clock position, turning in to attack. Both of us fired at same time getting its inboard sterboard engine which caught on fire. I was about 100 yds, behind leader on inside of turn and slightly above and got a 200 deflection shot. We broke right and climbed for altitude. Immediately after reaching about 1000 ft, We-111 was seen to my left. The made a pass at him by diving and turning slightly to left. I led one radius at 10° and opened fire at 250 yds, closing in to 100 yds. I saw strikes all over cookpit. Icader and I broke left very gently and climbed to regain altitude. Pe-111 was seen to go straight on and broke into flames after being fired upon by another plane efter us .

> I claim one (1) Fe-111 destroyed (shered with 1st It, Jemes M. Porris).

J. Flying p ne - LC-T Serial No. 42-67229

Ammunition expended: 14 rounds of 20mm cennon 235 rounds of 50 celiber.

/e/ Fobert L. Frakes ROSERT L. FRAKES End Mt., Air Vorps

/s/ Joseph E. Genest JOSEFF F. GENEST 1st Lieut., Air Corps Intelligence Officer

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Service Contraction Coptein, Air Corps .. 22 't A-2, 67 FT

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NV DECLASSIFIED SAUTHORITY 745005 BCC NARA Date 9/28/10

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PILOT'S PERSONAL ENCOUNT A REPORT

1st Lt Evan J. hachEn

- A. Combat
- L. February 5, 1944
- C. 77th Fighter squadron
- E. 1125
- F. Clear
- G. FW 200
- h. No claim

I. After leading Red Flight down from 18,000 feet to deck to attack e/a taking of I leveled off on tail of FV-200. I fired 2-5 second burst at 15 deflection at 300 yards closing to 200 yards. Then I broke off Liveraft was burning and I saw it hit ground and explode.

No claim.

J. Flying Plane - LC-J Serial No. 42-67281 Ammunition Expended 109 rounds of 50 caliber 25 rounds of 20mm cannon

> /s/ Evan J. Machen EVAN J. MacHEN 1st Lt, A, C.

's/ JOSEPH R. GILEST, lst lt, A. C., Intelligence Officer.

. THUE COPY

Grand F. Costano, Cuptain, air Corps, Ass't A-2, 67 FW.

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NAU DECLASSIFIED S. Authority 745005.
BLE NARA Date 9/28/10

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PILOT'S PERSCHAL ENCOUNTER REPORT

CAPT. PAUL J. S.30

- A. Combst
- 5 February 1944
- C. 77th Fighter Squadron
- D. 1122
- L. Bourges Airfield
- F. Clear
- G. FW 200 HE 111
- H. 1 FW 200 DESTROYED (Shared with 2nd Lt Davis and Lt Col Montgomery)
 No claim on HE 111

we sighted plane taking off airfield while flying at 18,000 facts. we dove down at dead astern slightly stove them. At the time sirplane appeared to have small fire in tall. I fired five (5) second burst closing to within 100 yds to 50 yds. Saw strike on left wing and center fuselage and cockpit, E/A immediately burst into flames and exploded. I flew over the wreckage.

I fired on hE 111 at 100 yds from dead astern about 1-2 second burst. Just as I fired the HE 111 went up on left wing and split-s into ground and exploded.

I claim one (1) Fw. 200 DESTROYED (Shared with Lt Col Montgomery and Lt Davis). .o claim on HE-131.

> J. Flying Plane - LC-S Serial No 42-67523 Ammunition Expended 4.2 Lounds of 50 Caliber 64 Rounds of 20MM Cannon

> > /s/ Paul J. Sabo Paul J. Sabo Capt, Air Corps

/s/ Joseph R. Cenest, lst Lt., Air Corps, Intelligence Officer.

VLRIFICATION OF CLAIM OF CAPT SANO

I was flyin ord ship behind Capt. Sabc . There was two ships in front of Capt. Sabo who made an attack on Fir 200 which was approximately 200 feet off ground. I saw flames coming from tail of Fw 200 from strikes made by 1st two ships that fired. Capt. Sabo fired at the ship and the ship exploded.

/s/ Robert . Holmes
ROBERT , HOLMES,

Capt., air Corps.

Fiel & Castelle Captain, air Corps, ass't .- 2, 67 14.

(D-12)

Authority 745005 SEC NARA Date 9/28/10

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PILOT'S PERSONAL ENCOUNTER REPORT

2ND LT ALBERT L. GEGE

- A. Combat
- B. 5 February 1944
- C. 77th Fighter Squadron
- D. 1123
- E. Bourges mirfield
- F. Clear
- G. FW 200
- H. No claim
- I. I was flying Lt Machen's wing at 18,000 feet when Fw 200 was sighted on deck and followed him down. Lt Colmontgomery's flight was in front of us and put the Fw 200 in flames just as we got in range. I shot a two (2) second burst into the Fw 200 and pulled away.

No claim.

J. Flying Plane - LC-. Serial No. 42-67758 Ammunition Expended 100 rounds of 50 19 rounds of 20mm

> /s/ Albert L. Gese ALBERT L. GESE, 2nd Lt, Air Corps,

/s/ Joseph R. Genest
JOSEPH R. GENEST,
Last Lt. Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.

TRUE COPY

GERALD F. COSTELLO Captain, air Corps, ass't a-2, 67 Fa.

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PILOT'S PERSONAL ENCOUNTER REPORT

1ST LT; MERLE J. GILBERTSON

A. Combat

B. February 5, 1944

C: 77th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group

D. 1126

E. Bourges Airfield

F. Clear

G. He-111 and FW-200

H. One (1) He-111 destroyed, shared with Lt. Frakes and Lt. Morris

I. Flying Yellow No. 3 at 18,000 feet heard Group Leader tell Rebuke go down for bounce on aircraft taking off from field below. Four or five P-38s were in turn firing on FW-200 flying at 50 feet. As last P-38 broke off flame and smoke was coming out of right inboard engine. I cut across the circle and opened fire with about one radius lead at 300 yards. Strikes appeared all over the target. After about five seconds of firing the entire target burst into flame, I flew through the smoke and saw FW-200 crash.

After this we made turn to port and saw He-III about 200-300 feet off ground. Three p-38s fired at this ship and I slid under third ship and as he broke off I opened fire at 250 yards dead astern and closed to 50 yards firing a five-second burst. Strikes seen on He-III on both fuselage and right wing root. Tail assembly and right wing seemed to disintegrate and large pieces of wing flew back over my plane. Saw He-III cartwheel flaming and crash and then explode.

I claim one (1) He-lll destroyed (shared with Lts. Morris and Frakes pending assessment of film).

J. Flying plane LC-P
Serial No. 42-67319
Ammunition expended:

Ammunition expended: 150 rounds of 20mm cannon. 800 rounds of 50 caliber.

/s/ Merle J, Gilbertson
MERLE J, GILBERTSON
lst Lieut,; Air Corps

/s/ Francis W. Barkley
FRINCIS T. BARKLEY
lst Lieut, Air Corps
Intelligence Officer

A TRUE COPY

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

(D-1)

NN DECLASSIFIED S. Authority 7/5005.
BYCC NARA Date 9/23/10

FILET'S PERSONAL ENCOUNTER REPORT

. CAFT. GROBERT V.CHCLMES

A. Combat

B. 5 February 1944

C. 77th Fighter Squadron, Soth Fighter Group

D. 1122

E. Bourges Airfield

F! Clear

G. FW 200

H. No claim

I.

I was flying 3rd ship behind Capt. Sabo. There were two ships in front of Capt. Sabo who made an attack on FW 200 which was approximately 200 feet off ground. I saw flames coming from tail of FW 200 from strikes made by first two ships that fired. Capt. Sabo fired at the ship and the ship exploded. I fired a short burst for good measure but the ship had already been totally destroyed.

No Claim.

J. Flying plane - LC-X
Serial No. 42-87901
Ammunition expended 34 rounds of 50 Caliber
11 rounds of 20mm cannon

Robert W. Holmes ROBERT W. HOLMES Cept., Air Corps

/s/ Joseph R. Genest
JOSEPH R. GENEST
lst Lt., Air Corps
Intelligence Officer .

TRUE COPY

SEPALE F. COSTELLO Sectain, Air Corps les't A-2, 67FW

(D-1)

OUTH IDENTIFIC PILOT'S PERSONAL ENCOUNTER REFORT LT. COL. ROBERT P. MONTGOMERY A. Combat B. 5 February 1944 C. Hq. 20th Fighter Group (leeding 77th Fighter Sq) D. 1100 E. Bourges Airfield F. Clear

F.

G. FW 200 and He 111 H. 1 FW 200 Destroyed (Shared with Capt. Sabo and 2nd Lt. Devis)

NN DECLASSIFIED S. Authority 745005

SCC NARA Date 9/28/10

I was leading the 77th Fighter Squadron on close escort of a combat wing of B-17s. They were bombing an airfield in the Sta. Avord area from about 16,000 feet. Just prior to bombs away it was noticed that several large ships were taking off from the erodrome below us. Col Pussell leading the group sent the 77th Squedon down after them with the 55th Squadron as high cover at about 10,000 feet. We dropped belly tanks and dove down to the deck, I located a F7 200 almost immediately at about 50 fact and closed in on him. I fired three 2-second bursts at him while he was in a vertical bank to the left. On the first burst [led him about } a ring and On the second and third bursts ! corrected my lead to missed him. nearly a full ring and sew one burst making strikes on his fuselege and the other hit both right engines which immediately burst into flames. Then I pulled off to one side to let the other boys shoot at him before he went down. A total of about six ships fired at him before he blew u, and went into the ground.

I then located a He lll about five miles away at an altitude of 500 feet. I closed in on his teil and fired one long burst at him. I did a certain amount of wiggling to confuse the rear gunner who was firing at me. I saw strikes on his fuselage and also on the right wing. This was a dead estern shot, closing from 300 yards to about 100 yards. I pulled off to one side to give someone else a shot. My wingman, Lt. Frakes, fired and I sew strikes all over the fuselage. It. Morris, the third man in my flight, opened fire and both engines burst into flames. The left wing flew off end the ship rolled over and went into the ground.

I claim one (1) F" 200 Destroyed (Shared with Capt. Sabo and End It. Tavis). No claim made on we 111.

J. Ser. No. of A/C: 42-68036 A/C Markings: LC-M 746 rds. 50 cel. Ammunition expended: 58 rds. 20mm.

> /s/ Pobert F. Montgomery ROBERT F. MONTGOMERY Lt. Colonel, Air Corps

CONFIRMATION OF CLAIM

I was flying It. Col. Montgomery's wing when he bounced a FT 200 flying about 50 feet off the ground. I saw It. Col. Montgomery open fire on the E/A at 5-10 degrees deflection. I saw the inboard starboard engine catch on fire and strikes on the right wing and cockpit. I pulled off to the right and looking back the F7 200 go into the ground and explode.

Francis E. Larkin Francis E. Larkin
FIANCIS E. LARKIN
let Lt., Air orps let Lt., Air orps Asst. Gt. Intelligence O. /s/ Robert L. Frakes - ROBERT L. FRAKES 2nd Lt., Air Corps

VERIFICATION

Flying white 4 I saw Colonel Montgomery open fire on FW -200 at approximately 200 feet. I saw strikes on fuselage and right inboard engine. As he pulled away I saw right engine break into flame. I fired short bursts and then also pulled away. I looked back and saw FW-200 burning on ground.

/s/ John W. Reid JOHN W. REID, 2nd Lt., Air Corps.

/s/ Francis w. Barkley
FRACIS d. BARKLEY,
1.st Lt. Air Corps,
Intulligence Officer.

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Serself - Costello Saptain, air Corps, ass't n-2, of Fa.

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Authority 745005.
BCC NARA Date 9/28/10

FILCT'S FERSONAL ENCOUNTER REFORT

NAU DECLASSIFIED S. Authority 745005. By Canara Date 9/28/10

1ST LT. JAMES M. MORRIS

.. Combat

B. February 5, 1944

C. 77th Fighter Squedron, 20th Fighter Group

D. 1123

E. Pourges Airport

F. Clear

G. He-111

H. He-111 destroyed. (Shared by It. James M. Morris and Lt. R. L. Frakes.)

T .

Saw E/A taking off from airfield below end Group leader told Rebuke leader to take squadron down. Bounce was made from 18,000 feet to 50 feet. I was flying White No. 3 and leading second element of this first flight. Leveled off and repidly drew up on FW 200 and E/A took evesive action turning sharply to left. White leader chandelled up and came back on E/A tail. I approached E/A at 150 deflection firing three (3) second burst from 400 yards to 300 yards. Saw strikes on left wing. Fulled by E/A and looking back saw FW 200 crash in field and explode.

Continuing turn 180° sew He-Ill at eltitude of approximately 500 feet. Leed element overshot He-Ill very rapidly and I throttled back and opened fire dead estern at approximately 450 yards. Fired 10-1% second burst closing to 200 yards. Hew pieces flying from wing and fuselage and broke off as E/A started toward ground. Sew He-Ill hit and explode.

I claim one (1) Fe-111 destroyed (Shared with 2nd Lt. Robert L. Frakes).

J. Flying plane 10-0 Serial No. 42-67871

Ammunition expended: 862 rounds of 50 celiber 150 rounds of 20mm cannon.

/s/ James M. Morris JAMES M. MOFRIS lst Lieut., Air Corps

CONFIRMATION OF CLAIM

I was third ship behind it. Porris when he attacked He-Ill approximately 100 to 200 feet off the ground. It. Morris fired several bursts, the last burst cutting right wing off about midway. The enemy aircraft than rolled over, hit the ground and burst into flame.

. THUE COPY

GEFAID F. COSTELLE Captain, Air Corps Ass't 4-2, 67FW /s/ Robert W. Holmes ROBERT W. HOLMES Cept., Air Corps

/s/ Joseph R. Genest
JOSEPH R. GENEST
lst Lieut., Air Corps
Intelligence Officer

FILOT'S PERSONAL ENCOUNTER REPORT

LT. COL. ROBERT P. MONTGOMERY

A. Combat

B. 5 February 1944

C. Hq. 20th Fighter Group (leeding 77th Fighter Sq)

D. 1100

E. Bourges Airfield F. Clear

G. FW 200 and He 111

H. 1 FW 200 Destroyed (Shared with Capt. Sabo and 2nd It. Devis)

I was leading the 77th Fighter Squadron on close escort of a combat wing of B-17s. They were bombing an airfield in the Ste. Avord area from about 16,000 feet. Just prior to bombs away it was noticed that several large ships were taking off from the aerodrome below us. Col Pussell leading the group sent the 77th Squad-ron down after them with the 55th Squadron as high cover at about 10,000 feet. We dropped belly tanks and dove down to the dack, I located a FW 200 almost immediately at about 50 feet and closed in on him. I fired three 2-second oursts at him while he was in a vertical bank to the left. On the first burst fled him about & a ring and missed him. On the second and third bursts I corrected my lead to nearly a full ring and saw one burst making strikes on his fusclage and the other hit both right engines which immediately burst into flames. Then I pulled off to one side to let the other boys shoot at him before he went down. A total of about six ships fired at him before he blew u, and went into the ground.

I then located a He lll about five miles away at an altitude of 500 feet. I closed in on his tail and fired one long burst at him. I did a certain amount of wiggling to confuse the rear gunner who was firing at me. I saw strikes on his fuselage and also on the right wing. This was a dead astern shot, closing rom 300 yards to about 100 yards. I pulled off to one side to give omeone else a shot. Ly wingman, Lt. Frakes, fired and I sew strikes ell over the fuselage. Lt. Forris, the third man in my flight, opened fire and both engines burst into flames. The left wing flew

off and the ship rolled over and went into the ground.

I claim one (1) F 200 Destroyed (Shared with Capt. Sabo and End It. Pavis).

To claim made on We 111.

J. Ser. No. of A/C: 42-68036 A/C Markings: LC-M Ammunition expended: 746 rds. 50 cel. 58 rds. 20mm.

> /s/ Robert F. Montgomery ROBERT F. MONTGOMERY Lt. Colonel, Air Corps

CONFIRMATION OF CLAIM

I was flying It. Col. Montgomery's wing when he bounced a FT 200 flying about 50 feet off the ground. I saw It. Col. Montgomery open fire on the E/A at 5-10 degrees deflection. I sew the inboard sterboard engine catch on fire and strikes on the right wing and cockpit. I pulled off to the right and looking back the F7 200 go into the ground and explode.

Francis E. Larkin /s/ Robert L. Frakes
Francis E. Larkin ROBERT L. FRAFES
let Lt., Air orps 2nd Lt., Air orps let Lt., Air orps Asst. Go. Intelligence O.

Flying white 4 I saw Colonel Montgomery open fire on FW -200 teapproximately 200 feet. I saw strikes on fuselage and right nboard engine. As he pulled away I saw right engine break into lame. I fired short bersts and then also pulled away. I looked back and saw FW-200 burning on ground.

/s/ John w. Reid JOHN w. REID, 2nd Lt., Air Corps.

/s/ Francis n. Barkley
FRANCIS N. BARKLEY,
lst Lt. Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.

A TRUE CO Y

Seals F. Costalo Captain, air Corps, ass't a-2, 67 Fu.

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Authority 745005.
BLANARA Date 428/10

PILOT'S PERSON I AMCOUNTER REPORT

DECLASSIFIED S. Authority 74505.
BYCC NARA Date \$\frac{428}{40}\$

- A. TYPE OF ACTION:
 - Combat, if casualties or damage is inflicted.
 - (2) ймужуживы указарымых кыхымыхы.
 - (3) EREKNEERYXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
- B. DATE: February 5, 1944
- C. UNIT: 77th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group
- D. TIME ATTACK MADE: 1123
- E. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF ATTACK: Bourges Airport.
- F. WEATHER: Clear.
- G. TYPE OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT: He-111
- H. ENERY CASUALTIES (Pilot's claim): He-111 destroyed. (Shared by Lt. James M. Morris and Lt. R. L. Prakes)
- I. ACCOUNT OF COMBAT (In narrative form, stressing ours and enemy's tactics.)

Saw E/A taking off from airfield below and Group leader told Rebuke leader to take squadron down. Bounce was made from 18,000 feet to 50 feet. I was flying White No. 3 and leading second element of this first flight. Leveled off and rapidly drew up on FW 200 and E/A took evasive action turning sharply to left. White leader chandelled up and came back on E/A tail. I approached E/A at 15° deflection firing three (3) second burst from 400 yards to 300 yards. Saw strikes on left wing. Pulled by E/A and looking back saw FW 200 crash in field and explode.

Continuing turn 1800 saw He lll at altitude of approximately 500 feet. Lead element overshot He-lll very rapidly and I throttled back and opened fire dead astern at approximately 450 yards. Fired 10-12 second burst closing to 200 yards. Saw pieces flying from wing and fuselage and broke off as E/A

started toward ground. Saw He-111 hit and explode.

I claim One (1) He-111 destroyed (Shared with 2nd Lt. Robert L. Frakes).

7. Flying Plane - IC-G Serial No. 42-67871
Ammunition expended 862 rounds of 50 caliber
150 rounds of 20mm Cannon.

James M. Morris

JAMES M. MORRIS, 1st Lieut., Air Corps.

CONFIRMATION OF CLAIM

I was third ship behind Lt. Norris when he attacked He-Ill approximately 100 to 200 feet off ground. Lt. Morris fired several bursts, the last burst cutting right wing off about mid-way. The enemy aircraft then rolled over, hit the ground and burst into flames.

ROBERT W. HOLMES, Capt, Air Corps.

psepl R.

JOSE H R. GENEST, 1st Lieut., Air Corps, Intelligence Officer.

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PTIOT'S PERSON ! AMCOUNTER REPORT

- A. TYPE OF ACTION:
 - (1) Combat, if casualties or damage is inflicted.
 - Engagement, if guns are fired.

 Shoomfer if no guns fired.
- B. DATE: February 5, 1944
- C. UNIT: 77th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group.
- D. TIME ATTACK MADE: 1125
- E. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF ATTACK: Bourges Airfield.
- F. WEATHER: Clear.
- G. TYPE OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT: PW-200
- H. ENEMY CASUALTIES (Pilot's claim): No claim.
- ACCOUNT OF COMBAT (In narrative form, stressing ours and enemy's tactics.)

After leading Red flight down from 18,000 feet to deck to attack E/A taking off I leveled off on tail of FW-200. I fired 2-3 second burst at 15° deflection at 300 yards cleaing to 200 yards. When I broke off Aircraft was burning and I saw it hit ground and explode.

No claim.

J. Flying Plane - IC-J Serial No. 42-67281 Ammunition expended 109 rounds of 50 ciliber. 25 rounds of 20 mm Cannon.

> EVAN J. MACHEN, 1st Lieut., Air Corps.

Joseph R. Genest, lst Lieut., Air Corps, Intelligence Officer.

> NN DECLASSIFIED S. Authority 745005. BCC NARA Date 9/28/10

COMPINENTIAL

PILOT'S PLASON I AMOUNTER REPORT

- A. TYPE OF ACTION:
 - (1) Combat, if casualties or damage
 - is inflicted.
 - (3) ERRENEZEZEZEZEZEZEZEZEZEZEZEZE
- B. DATE: 5 Pobreary 1944
- C. UNIT: 77th Fighter Squadron, 2 th Fighter Group.
- D. TIME ATTACK MADE: 1122
- E. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF ATTACK: Bourges Airfield
- F. WEATHER: GOOF
- G. TYPE OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT: 7 W 200
- H. ENEMY CASUALTIES (Pilot's claim): One (1) P W 200 Destroyed (Shared with Sapt. Sabe and Lt. Sol. Mentgemery)
- ACCOUNT OF COMBAT (In narrative form, stressing ours and enemy's tactics.)

First sighted B/A lew on deck while flying at 18,000 feet. Gapt. Sabe and flight dove down to a position dead astern and dightly above. B/A appeared to have small fire in tail. We closed to approximately 100 yards I gave a two (2) second burst and new strikes all over B/A and then saw it explode and grash. Gapt. Sabe was firing at the same time.

OR RESERVED IN STREET BUT

I claim one (1) F W 200 Destroyed (shared with Capt. Sabo and Lt. Col. Mentgomery)

J. Flying Plane 10-A Serial No. 42-67442
Amountaion Expended 120 rounds of 50 Caliber
25 rounds of 20mm Cannon

JACK H. DAVIS, 2nd Lt., Air Corps.

JOSEPH R. GENEST, let Lt., Air Corps, Intelligence Officer.

DECLASSIFIED SAUTHORITY 745005.
BY CENARA Date \$\frac{928}{28}\$

PILOT'S PERSON I AMCOUNTER REPORT

- A. TYPE OF ACTION:
 - Combat, if casualties or damage is inflicted.
 - (2) récreterent discrete de libri.
- B. DATE: 5 FRE BUARY 1944
- C. UNIT: 7798 PIGHTER SQUADROS, 20TH FIGHTER GROUP.
- D. TIME ATTACK MADE: 1123
- E. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF ATTACK: DOUBGES AIRPINED.
- F. WEATHER: CLAR
- G. TYPE OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT: P.V. 200
- H. ENEMY CASUALTIES (Pilot's claim): NO CLAIM.
- ACCOUNT OF COMBAT (In narrative form, stressing ours and enemy's tactics.)

I WAS PLYING LT. MACHEM'S WING AT 15,000 feet WHEN P W 200 WAS SIGHTED OF DECK AND POLLOWED HIM DOWN. LT. GOL. MONTGOMERT'S FLIGHT WAS IN PROMY OF US AND PUT THE P W 200 IN PLANES JUST AS WE GOT IN RAMES. I SHOT A TWO (2) SECOND BURST INTO THE P W 200 AND PULLED AWAY.

HO CLAIM.

J. FINING PLANS - LO-Q SERIAL NO. 42-67758 AMMUNIZION EXPENDED 100 rounds of 90 19 rounds of 20mm

> albert L. Sise ALBERT L. GREE. 200 LT., AIR CORPS.

JOSEPH R. GENERA, 187 LT., ALR CORPS, 187 LLIGHTON OFFICER.

NN DECLASSIFIED S. Authority 7/5005.
BCC NARA Date 1/28/10

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PILOT'S PEASON I AMOUNTER FIGRE

- A. TYPE OF ACTION:
 - (1) Combat, if casualties or damage is inflicted.
 - урасцосовановоской сущем банкура (3) Encountercontractorocogunecutivadex
- B. DATE: February 5, 1944
- C. UNIT: 77th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group.
- D. TIME ATTACK MADE: 1124.
- GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF ATTACK: Bourges Airfield.
- WEATHER: Clear.
- G. TYPE OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT: He-111 and FW 200.
- H. ENDAY CASUALTIES (Pilot's claim): He-lll destroyed (shared with 1st Lt. JAMES M. MORRIS)
- I. ACCOUNT OF COMBAT (In narrative form, stressing ours and enemy's tactics.)

I was flying White 2. White leader peeled off at 16,000 ft and dove to deck approaching FW 200 from 7 o'clock position, turning in to attack. Both of us fired at same time getting it's inboard starboard engine which caught on fire. I was about 100 yds. behind leader on inside of turn and slightly above and got a 20° deflection shot. We broke right and climbed for altitude. Immediately after reaching about 1000 ft, He lll was seen to my left. We made a pass at him by diving and turning slightly to left. I led one radii at 10° and opened fire at 250 yds. closing in to 100 yds. I saw strikes all over cockpit. Leader and I broke left very gently and climbed to regain altitude. He-lll was seen to go straight on and broke into flames after being fixed when he are the seen to go traight on and broke into flames after being fired upon by another plane after us.
I claim One (1) HE-111 destroyed (Shared with 1st Lt. James M. Morris)

J. Flying Plane - IC-T Serial No. 42-67229 Ammunition expended 14 rounds of 20mm Cannon. 235 rounds of 50 caliber.

ROBERT L. FRAKES, 2nd Lieut., Air Corps.

JOSEPH R. GENEST lst Lieut., Air Corps, Intelligence Officer.

NO DECLASSIFIED SAUTHORITY 745005
BYCK NARA Date \$\frac{9}{28}\frac{1}{28}

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PTIOT'S PERSON I AMOUNTED REPORT

- A. TYPE OF ACTION:
 - (1) Combat, if casualties or damage is inflicted.
 - (2) IMPROPERTALIZATION PROPERTY .
- B. DATE: February 5, 1944
- C. UNIT: 77th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group.
- D. TIME ATTACK MADE: 1125
- E. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF ATTACK: Bourges Airfield.
- F. WEATHER: Clear.
- G. TYPE OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT: FW-200
- H. ENERY CASUALTIES (Pilot's claim): No claim.
- ACCOUNT OF COMBAT (In narrative form, stressing ours and enemy's tactics.)

I was flying white four position at 18,000 feet. The Group leader told Rebuke leader to go down for bounce on aircraft taking off from airfield below. Followed Scionel Montgomery down to fifty (50) feet where, after first three ships had fired, I fired a two second burst at 200 from 200 yards. As I went by I notaced ship blazing from right inboard engine to fuselage.

No claim.

J. Flying Plane IC-Y Serial No. 42-67716
Ammunition expended:

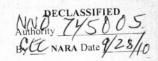
90 rounds of 50 caliber. 20 rounds of 20mm cannon.

> John W. Reid John W. REID, 2nd Lieut., Air Corps,

FRANCIS W. BARKLEY, Ist Lieut., Air Corps, Intelligence Officer.

NV DECLASSIFIED
Authority 745005.
BCC NARA Date \$\frac{9}{28}\frac{40}{10}

PILOT'S PERSON I AMCOUNTER REPORT



A. TYPE OF ACTION:

- Combat, if casualties or damage is inflicted.
- (2) Annexes in it annumenties in (3)
- B. DATE: 5 FEBRUARY 1944
- C. UNIT: 77TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 20TH FIGHTER GROUP.
- D. TIME ATTACK MADE: 1122.
- E. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF ATTACK: BOURGES AIRFLIELD.
- F. WEATHER: CLEAR
- G. TYPE OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT: F W 200 HE 111.
- H. ENEMY CASUALTIES (Pilot's claim): ONE (1) F W 200 DESTROYED (SHARED WITH 2ND LT. DAVIS AND LT. COL. MONTGOMERY)

 NO CLAIM ON HE 111.
- I. ACCOUNT OF COMBAT (In narrative form, stressing ours and enemy's tactics.)

WE SIGHTED PLANE TAKING OFF AIRFIELD WHILE FLYING AT 18,000 FEET. WE DOWN AT DEAD ASTERN SLIGHTLY ABOVE THEM. AT THE TIME AIRFLANE APPEARED TO HAVE SMALL FIRE IN TAIL. I FIRED FIVE (5) SECOND BURST CLOSING TO WITHIN 100 YDS TO 50 YDS. SAW STRIKE ON LEFT WING AND CENTER FUSELAGE AND COCKPIT. B/A IMMEDIATELY BURST INTO FLAMES AND EXPLODED. I FLEW OVER THE WRECKAGE.

I FIRED ON HE 111 AT 100 YDS FROM DEAD ASTERN ABOUT 1-2 SECOND BURST. JUST AS I FIRED THE HE 111 WENT UP ON LEFT WING AND SPLIT-S INTO GROUND AND EXPLODED.

I CLAIM ONE (1) F W 200 DESTROYED (SHARED WITH LT. COL. MONTGOMERY AND LT. DAVIS)
NO CLAIM ON HE 111.

J. FLYING PLANE - LC-S SERIAL NO. 42-67523
AMMUNITION EXPENDED 432 ROUNDS OF 50 CALIBER
64 ROUNDS OF 20MM CANNON

PAUL J. SANO, CAPT., AIR CORPS.

JOSEPH R. GENEST, 1ST LT., AIR CORPS, INTELLIGENCE OFFICER.

VERIFICATION OF CLAIM OF

CAPT. SABO

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I WAS FLYING 3RD SHIP BEHIND CAPT. SABO. THERE WAS TWO SHIPS IN FRONT OF CAPT. SABO WHO MADE AN ATTACK ON F W 200 WHICH WAS APPROXIMATELY 200 FRET OFF GROUND. I SAW FLAMES COMING FROM TAIL OF F W 200 FROM STRIKES MADE BY 1ST TWO SHIPS THAT FIRED. CAPT. SABO FIRED AT THE SHIP AND THE SHIP EXPLORED.

ROBERT W. HOLMES, CAPT., AIR CORPS. GUNFIDENTIAL

PILOT'S PERSON ! AMCOUNTER REPORT

- A. TYPE OF ACTION:
 - (1) Combat, if casualties or damage is inflicted.
 - (2) TRANSPORTER TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT
- B. DATE: 5 Pebruary 1944
- C. UNIT: 77th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group.
- D. TIME ATTACK MADE: 1199
- E. GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF ATTACK: Bourges Airfield.
- F. WEATHER: CLOSE
- G. TYPE OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT: 7 V 200.
- H. ENEMY CASUALTIES (Pilot's claim): To Claim
- I. ACCOUNT OF COMBAT (In narrative form, stressing ours and enemy's tactics.)

I was flying 3rd ship behind Gp t. Sabe. There was two ships in front of Gapt. Sabe who made an attack on F V 200 which was approximately 200 feet off grand. I saw flames coming from tail of F V 200 from strikes made by let two ships that fired. Gapt. Sabe fired at the ship and the ship exploded. I fired a short burst for good measure but the ship had already been totally destroyed.

No Claim.

J. Flying Plane - LC-X Serial No. 42-67901 Ammunition Expended 64 rounds of 50 Caliber 11 rounds of 20mm Gammon

> ROBERT W. HOLIES, Gapt., Air Gorpe.

JOSEPH R. GENEST, lot Lt., Sir Gorpe, Intelligence Officer.

DECLASSIFIED S. Authority 745005.

PTIOT'S PERSON I ARCOUNTER REPORT

- A. TYPE OF ACTION:
 - (1) Combat, if casualties or damage is inflicted.
 - (2) Ingrammatic if and are fined.
- B. DATE: February 5, 1944
- C. UNIT: 77th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group.
- D. TIME ATTACK MADE: 1126
- E. GEOGRAFHICAL LOCATION OF ATTLCK: Bourges Airfield.
- F. WEATHER: Clear.
- G. TYPE OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT: HE-111 and FW-200.
- H. ENERY CASUALTIES (Pilot's claim): One (1) He-111 destroyed, shared with Lt..
 Frakes and Lt. Norris.
- ACCOUNT OF COMBAT (In narrative form, stressing ours and enemy's tactics.)

Flying Yellow No. 3 at 18,000 feet heard Group Leader tell Rebuke go down for bounce on aircraft taking off from field below. Four or five P-38s were in turn firing on FW-200 flying at 50 feet. At last P-38 broke off flame and smoke was coming out of right inboard engine. I cut across the circle and opened fire with about one radii lead at 300 yards. Strikes appeared all over the target. After about five seconds of firing the entire target burst into flame. I flew through the smoke and saw FW-200 crash.

After this we made turn to port and saw He-III about 200-300 feet off ground. Three P-38s fired at this ship and I slid under third ship and as he broke off I opened fire at 250 yards dead astern and closed to 50 yards firing a five second burst. Strikes seen on He-III on both fuselage and right wing root. Tail assembly and right wing second to disintegrate and large pieces of wing flew back over my plane. Saw He-III cartwheel flawing and crash and then explode.

I claim one (1) He-111 destroyed (shared with Lts. Morris & Frakes pending assessment of film)

J. Flying Plane LC-P Serial No. 42-67819

Ammunition expended: 150 rounds of 20mm cannon. 800 rounds of 50 caliber.

> Merle J. Gilbertson, 1st Lieut., Air Corps,

FRANCIS W. BARKLEY, lst Lieut., Air Corps, Intelligence Officer.

NINOTES TYS 0 5. Authority 7/5005. BCC NARA Date 9/28/10

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