

A. 20TH FIGHTER GROUP, MAJOR, JOHNSON LEADING.

B. 51, P-38's UP 0955 DOWN 1430

C. 3

D. VIII F.C.F.O. 236 PENETRATION, AREA AND ~~XXXXXXXX~~ SUPPORT. WITHDRAWAL

E. 1 M.I.A. (UNKNOWN)  
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

F. NIL

G. M.I.A., F/O ~~BYRD~~, ( ~~UNKNOWN~~ ) BYRD UNKNOWN

H. 0-0-0-

I. IN HARDELAT 1045, 21000 FEET. R/V SOUTH EAST SOISSONS 1109. 16000FEET:

~~THE~~ 3 BOXES B-17'S ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ 1ST DIV. TARGET 1149, 16000 FEET. LEFT

BOMBERS 1305, 16000 FEET VICINTY DREUX. OUT LA HAVRE 1300, 13000 FEET.

NO E/A SEEN. HEAVY MEAGER ACCRATE FLAK DREUX, EVREUX /FAUVILLE AND BEAUMONT

AIRFIELDS , R/T GOOD.

## MISSION SUMMARY REPORT

F.O. 236  
6 JANUARY, 1944  
BOMBER ESCORT - NANCY  
2 SORTIE CREDITS

- A. 55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, CAPT. MCLARY, LEADING
- B. 19 A/C UP WITTERING 0950, DOWN 1410
- C. 3 EARLY RETURNS
- D. BOMBER ESCORT - F.O. 236
- E. F, G, H, NIL

- I. L/F IN HARDELOT 1045 HOURS AT 21,000 FEET. CAME DOWN TO 15/16,000 FEET TO R/V WITH 3 BOXES OF B-17S (TRIANGLE WITH G) AT 1108 VICINITY OF LAON. BOMBER FORMATION WAS GOOD AND CLOSE. CONTINUED ON COURSE WITH BOMBERS. OVER TARGET 16,000 FEET 1149 HOURS. SAW NO BOMB RESULTS DUE TO OVERCAST. LEFT BOMBERS 1235 PROBABLE VICINITY OF CHATEAU THIERRY. P-51'S GAVE EXCELLENT TOP COVER IN TARGET AREA. COURSE OUT WAS SOUTH OF BRIEFED COURSE. L/F OUT HONFLEUR 1310 HOURS AT 10,000 FEET. F/O BYRD HIT BY FLAK OVER EVREUX AT 12,000 FEET SEEN TO BALE OUT. GEIGER HIT BY LIGHT MEAGER VERY ACCURATE FLAK OVER A/D AT BEAUMONT. P-47'S SEEN ON ROUTE IN AS FAR AS R/V.

JACKSON DID A GOOD JOB.

11

MISSION SUMMARY REPORT 6 FEBRUARY 1944

- A. 77th FIGHTER SQUADRON, 20TH FIGHTER GROUP, MAJOR JOHNSON LEADING.
- B. 18 UP AT 0952. 16 DOWN AT 1430.
- C. Nil.
- D. PENETRATION AND TARGET SUPPORT, FIELD ORDER NO. 236.
- E. 2 NYR.
- F. Nil.
- G. 1st LT. EVAN J. MACHEN )  
1st LT. CLAUDE G. HORNE. ) NOT YET REPORTED BELIEVED TO BE OVER ENGLAND.
- H. 0-0-0-
- I. ENEMY LANDFALL NORTH OF LE TOUQUET 1040 AT 20,000 FT. R/V WITH THREE BOXES OF BOMBERS OF FIRST DIV. AT 16,000 FT TO 20,000 FT AT 1110. ROUTE FROM TARGET SEEMED TO BE SOUTH OF BRIEFED COURSE AND LANDFALL BACK WAS OVER LE HAVRE AT 1330 AT 16,000 FT. HEAVY FLAK AT LE HAVRE ACCURATE TO HEIGHT BUT OFF TO SIDE. INACCURATE FLAK IN VICINITY OF CHARTRES AND EVREUX AIRFIELDS. SOMEONE HEARD ON R/T OVER FRANCE TO SAY "BAIL OUT". NO E/A SEEN. NO BOMBERS IN DISTRESS. GOOD BOMBER FORMATION.

12,  
MISSION REPORT

6 January 1944

- A. 79th Fighter Squadron      Capt. Carl E. Jackson, leading.
- B. 14 P-38s:    Up: 0959      Down: 1410
- C. None
- D. Ramrod - bomber escort    F.O. 236
- E. One P-38 Cause unknown - right engine caught on fire and exploded.
- F. None
- G. F/O Markrel L. Byrd - bailed out over Evreux, France.
- H. O-O-O
- I. Landfall in Berk's sur Mer 1045 at 24000 ft. R/V with bombers south of Soissons at 1115 at 19000 ft. Target area from 1145 to about 1200 at 19000 ft. Completely overcast and no bombs seen. Bombers split up into numerous groups and went north to vicinity of Metz and may have bombed. Bombers then turned southwest to what is believed to be vicinity of Montargis. Left bombers at this point at 1240 at 19000 ft. P47s with bombers at this time. Landfall out LeHavre at 1310 at 14000 ft.

No E/A seen and no bombers seen in trouble. Bombers split up into so many groups it was difficult to cover. Last box was particularly far behind and was covered by this squadron.

Some flak was seen near Dreux and Evreux and F/O Byrd may have been hit although it did not appear to be close to squadron formation. At 1257 he called that his right engine was smoking. At 1259 his engine exploded and plane was on fire. He bailed out and parachute was seen to open. Plane crashed between two hangars on large airfield probably Evreux-Fauville. Pilot probably came down within one or two miles of airfield.

EDWARD J. STEINER  
1st Lt. A. C.  
Intelligence Officer

13

## TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 236

DATE 6 FEBRUARY 1944.

(Not to be teletyped)	(Not to be teletyped)
a. Designation of Unit	20TH FIGHTER GROUP
b. Time of Landing	1430
c. Aircraft NYR (State if believed Lost)	1 F/O BYRD. HIT BY FLAK. 5 NYR'S. 77TH BELIEVED IN ENGLAND.
d. Estimated Claims	Destroyed 6 Probable 0 Damaged 0
e. Brief description of Mission	LANDFALL IN WARDELOT 1045. AT 21,000 FEET. R/V AT 1117 NEAR LAON 16, TO 21,000 FEET. TARGET 1149 AT 16,000 FEET. LEFT BOMBERS NEAR DREAUN 1258, 16,000 FEET. AIT DE LE HAVRE 13,000 FEET AT 1330. BATTLE DAMAGE 1. CAT. A....
f. Weather - Battle damage	



14

TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 236

DATE 6 February 1944

(Not to be teletyped)	(Not to be teletyped)
a. Designation of Unit	55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
b. Time of Landing	1410
c. Aircraft NYR (State if believed Lost)	NIL
d. Estimated Claims	Destroyed 0 Probable 0 Damaged 0
e. Brief description of Mission	L/F in Hardelot, 1045, 21,000 feet. R/V 3 boxes B-17's 1108, probably near Laon, 21,000 feet, thence to 16,000 feet. Bomber formation close and good, target 1149, 16,000 feet. Left Bombers 1235 near Chateau-Thierry, 16,000 feet. L/F out Honfleur, 1310, 10,000 feet. F/O Byrd seen hit by flak at 12,000 feet, bailed out, chute opened over Evreux Field. Lt. Geiger hit by light, meagre, accurate flak near Beaumont, 1300, 16,000 feet, Cat. A. No E/A or bombing seen.
f. Weather - Battle damage	

15

TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 236

DATE 6 February 1944

(Not to be teletyped)

(Not to be teletyped)

a. Designation of Unit	77TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
b. Time of Landing	1430
c. Aircraft NYR (State if believed Lost)	5 NYR (Believed in England).
d. Estimated Claims	Destroyed <input type="checkbox"/> Probable <input type="checkbox"/> Damaged <input type="checkbox"/>
e. Brief description of Mission	In 1040, 20,000 feet, Hardelet. R/V 1110 3 boxes 1st Div. Bombers at 16,000 feet, location unknown. Swung so. of Paris. L/F out over Le Havre at 1330, 16,000 feet. Left bombers vicinity Dreux, west of Paris. Saw no E/A.
f. Weather - Battle damage	

16.  
TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 236

DATE 6 February 1944

(Not to be teletyped)	(Not to be teletyped)
a. Designation of Unit	79th Fighter Squadron.
b. Time of Landing	1410
c. Aircraft NYR (State if believed Lost)	1 NYR F/O Byrd (M.I.A.)
d. Estimated Claims	Destroyed 0 Probable 0 Damaged 0
e. Brief description of Mission	L/F in Berck-sur-Mere, 1045, 24,000 Feet. R/V 1117, North of R/V point near Epernay, 19,000 feet. Thence to target on time 1149, 19,000 feet (no bombing seen). Bombers went south and west of Paris. Left bombers 1240 at Montargies so. of Paris, 19,000 feet. Out Le Havre, 1310, 14,000 feet. No E/A seen.
f. Weather - Battle Damage	