

ENCOUNTER REPORT

CAPT. WILLIS B. TAYLOR

- A. COMBAT
- B. 24 APRIL, 1944
- C. 55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 20TH FIGHTER GROUP
- D. 1445 HOURS
- E. WEST OF WORMS
- F. HAZY
- G. ME 109
- H. ONE ME-109 DESTROYED
- I.

I WAS LEADING YELLOW FLIGHT. WE HAD LEFT THE BOMBERS AND WERE HEADING WEST FOR HOME. OUR ALTITUDE WAS 19,000 FT. WE SAW AN A/D WEST OF WORMS AND THE GROUP LEADER DECIDED TO STRAFE IT. THERE WERE SILVER 109S AND T/E E/A AND 1 FOUR ENGINE JOB. WE STAYED AS TOP COVER WHILE WHITE AND RED FLIGHT WENT DOWN. I SAW 2 109S CIRCLING THE A/D AND I TOOK MY FLIGHT TO ATTACK. WE EASILY OVERTURNED THEM AND I LINED MY SIGHTS IN THE NO. 2 MAN. I FIRED A 2 SECOND BURST, SAW STRIKES ON THE FUSELAGE IN AREA OF COCKPIT. HE ROLLED OVER AND HIT THE GROUND UPSIDE DOWN.

I CLAIM ONE (1) ME 109 DESTROYED.

- J. SERIAL NO. OF A/C: 42-67823
- MARKING OF A/C: KI-N
- AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 80 RDS API 50 CAL.  
80 RDS INC 50 CAL.  
40 RDS AP 50 CAL.  
2 RDS BALL 20 MM  
36 RDS HEI 20 MM

*Willis B. Taylor*  
WILLIS B. TAYLOR  
CAPT., AIR CORPS

I WAS FLYING NO. 2 POSITION IN YELLOW FLIGHT. I SAW CAPT. TAYLOR GET INTO POSITION ON THE ME-109 AND OPEN FIRE. I SAW STRIKES ON THE E/A AND THEN SAW IT ROLL OVER, AND DIVE INTO THE GROUND IN AN EXPLOSION.

*John A. Pierson*  
JOHN A. PIERSON  
2ND LT., A.C.

*Dean E. Erlandson*  
DEAN E. ERLANDSON  
1ST LT. AIR CORPS  
INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

ENCOUNTER REPORT

2ND LT. WILLIAM G. SHULTZ

- A. ENGAGEMENT
- B. 24 APRIL, 1944
- C. 55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 20TH FIGHTER GROUP
- D. 1430 HOURS
- E. SOUTH OF BAD KREUZNACH
- F. HAZY
- G. LOCOMOTIVES, FLAK TOWER
- H. ONE LOCOMOTIVE DESTROYED  
ONE FLAK TOWER DESTROYED (SHARED)  
ONE RADAR TOWER DAMAGED
- I.

I WAS FLYING NO. 4 POSITION IN THE LEAD FLIGHT. AFTER WE HAD MADE OUR PASS OVER THE A/D AT WORMS AND I DESTROYED AN ME-109. WE CONTINUED ON OUR COURSE TOWARDS HOME. I SAW A LOCOMOTIVE SWITCH ENGINE NEAR BAD KREUZNACH. I MADE A PASS, FIRED A 2 SECOND BURST AND SAW THE LOCOMOTIVE EXPLODE. SHORTLY AFTER THAT COL. WILSON, LT. LOEHNERT AND I SAW A FLAK TOWER ON A HILL NEARBY. WE MADE A PASS AND I SAW MANY STRIKES ON THE TOWER. SHORTLY AFTER THIS PASS I SPOTTED A RADAR TOWER AND MADE ONE PASS AT IT. I GAVE A SHORT BURST AND SAW STRIKES ON THE TOWER.

I CLAIM ONE (1) LOCOMOTIVE DESTROYED  
ONE (1) FLAK TOWER DESTROYED (SHARED WITH COLONEL WILSON AND LT. LOEHNERT)  
ONE (1) RADAR TOWER DAMAGED

- J. SERIAL NO. OF A/C: 42-104314  
MARKING OF A/C: KI-P

AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 384 RDS API 50 CAL.  
384 RDS INC 50 CAL.  
193 RDS AP 50 CAL.  
2 RDS BALL 20 MM  
130 RDS HEI 20 MM

*Dean E. Erlandson*  
DEAN E. ERLANDSON  
1ST LT., A.C.  
INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

*William G. Shultz*  
WILLIAM G. SHULTZ  
2ND LT., A.C.

ENCOUNTER REPORT

2ND LT. HARRY M. ANDERSON

- A. ENGAGEMENT
- B. 24 APRIL, 1944
- C. 55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 20TH FIGHTER GROUP
- D. 1430-1445 HOURS
- E. NEAR KREUZNACH
- F. HAZY
- G. FLAK TOWER
- H. FLAK TOWER DESTROYED (SHARED)

I. I WAS FLYING NO. 2 POSITION IN RED FLIGHT. WE HAD BEEN ON THE DECK FOR SEVERAL MINUTES WHEN IN THE VICINITY WEST OF KREUZNACH A FLAK TOWER SHOWED UP JUST AHEAD. COL. WILSON, LT. LOEHNERT AND I MADE A PASS AND I FIRED ABOUT A 2-SECOND BURST. I SAW MANY STRIKES.

I CLAIM ONE (1) FLAK TOWER DESTROYED (SHARED WITH COLONEL WILSON AND LT. LOEHNERT.

- J. SERIAL NO. OF A/C: 42-67901
- MARKING OF A/C: KI-C
- AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 152 RDS API 50 CAL.  
152 RDS INC 50 CAL.  
75 RDS AP 50 CAL.  
2 RDS BALL 20 MM  
80 RDS HEI 20 MM

*Harry M. Anderson*  
HARRY M. ANDERSON  
2ND LT., A.C.

*Dean E. Erlandson*

DEAN E. ERLANDSON, 1ST LT., A.C.,  
INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

ENCOUNTER REPORT

2ND LT. RODNEY P. WATSON

- A. COMBAT
- B. 24 APRIL; 1944
- C. 55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 20TH FIGHTER GROUP
- D. 1415 HOURS
- E. WEST OF WORMS
- F. HAZY
- G. ME 109
- H. ONE ME-109 DESTROYED
- I.

I WAS NO. 4 MAN IN YELLOW FLIGHT. AFTER LEAVING THE BOMBERS WE WERE FLYING AT ABOUT 19/20,000 FT. WE SAW AN A/D WEST OF WORMS. GROUP LEADER GAVE INSTRUCTIONS TO STRAFE IT. I SAW 2 ME-109S CIRCLING THE A/D AND AS CAPT. TAYLOR PEELED OFF TO GO DOWN I FOLLOWED HIM. THE 2 E/A WERE FLYING IN TRAIL. CAPT. TAYLOR WAS BEHIND BOTH SO I BROKE TO THE LEFT TO MAKE A HEAD ON PASS. THE LEAD MAN BROKE TO THE LEFT AND I CLOSED IN ON HIS TAIL. I GAVE A 2 OR 3 SECOND BURST AND SAW STRIKES THE FULL LENGTH OF THE FUSELAGE. THEN I MADE A TIGHT TURN AND MADE ANOTHER ATTACK. I GOT SEVERAL STRIKES AGAIN. I SAW HIM CRASH TO THE GROUND AND CARTWHEEL TO THE RIGHT. HE WAS SMOKING BADLY.

I CLAIM ONE (1) ME 109 DESTROYED

J. SERIAL NO. OF A/C: 42-67763

MARKING OF A/C: KI-1

AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 218 RDS. API 50 CAL.  
218 RDS. INC 50 CAL.  
109 RDS. AP 50 CAL.  
2 RDS. BALL 20 MM  
103 RDS. HEI 20 MM

*Rodney P. Watson*  
RODNEY P. WATSON  
2ND LT., A.C.

I WAS NO. 2 MAN IN YELLOW FLIGHT. IN THE VICINITY OF WORMS I SAW CAPT. TAYLOR AND LT. WATSON ATTACK 2 ME-109S CIRCLING THE A/D. LT. WATSON MADE A HEAD ON ATTACK AND THEN A REAR ATTACK ON THE LEAD PLANE. I SAW SEVERAL STRIKES ON THE FUSELAGE AND THEN I SAW THE ME-109 CRASH INTO THE GROUND AND CARTWHEEL TO THE RIGHT.

*Dean E. Erlandson*  
DEAN E. ERLANDSON  
1ST LT., A.C.  
INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

*John A. Pierson*  
JOHN A. PIERSON  
2ND LT., A.C.

ENCOUNTER REPORT

2ND LT. RICHARD O. LOEHNERT

- A. ENGAGEMENT
- B. 24 APRIL, 1944
- C. 55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 20TH FIGHTER GROUP
- D. 1430 HOURS
- E. BAD KREUZNACH
- F. HAZY
- G. LOCOMOTIVE, FLAK TOWERS,
- H. 2 LOCOMOTIVES DESTROYED, 1 LOCOMOTIVE DAMAGED  
1 FLAK TOWER DESTROYED (SHARED)  
1 FLAK TOWER DESTROYED (SHARED)
- I.

I WAS FLYING NO. 3 POSITION IN COL. WILSON'S FLIGHT. WE WERE AT ABOUT 19,000 FT. WE WENT DOWN TO STRAFE AN A/D. THEN COL. WILSON PULLED UP TO GIVE TOP COVER. WE SAW ABOUT 30 LOCOMOTIVES LINED UP NEAR BAD KREUZNACH. WE WENT DOWN, MADE A PASS AND SAW PIECES FLY OFF OF ONE AND GOT MANY STRIKES ON A SECOND ONE. THEN WE PULLED UP AND SAW A FLAK TOWER ON A HILL NEARBY. WE DIVED IN ON THAT ONE. THERE WERE MANY CONCENTRATED STRIKES. WE CONTINUED TOWARDS HOME AND IN ONLY A FEW MINUTES COL. WILSON SAID THERE WAS A TRAIN HEADED NORTH-BELOW US. WE MADE A PASS AT IT AND SAW A FEW STRIKES. THEN I MADE A SECOND PASS AND GOT MANY STRIKES. IT EXPLODED AFTER THIS PASS. ABOUT 5 MINUTES LATER I SAW ANOTHER FLAK TOWER. COL. WILSON, LT. ANDERSON, AND I MADE A PASS AND WE GOT MANY STRIKES.

- I CLAIM 2 LOCOMOTIVES DESTROYED  
1 LOCOMOTIVE DAMAGED  
1 FLAK TOWER DESTROYED (SHARED WITH COL. WILSON AND LT. SHULTZ)  
1 FLAK TOWER DESTROYED (SHARED WITH COL. WILSON AND LT. ANDERSON)

J. SERIAL NO. OF A/C: 42-67916

MARKING OF A/C: KI-S

AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 214 RDS API 50 CAL.  
214 RDS INC 50 CAL.  
106 RDS AP 50 CAL.  
2 RDS BALL 20 MM  
106 RDS HEI 20 MM

*Dean E. Eerlandson*  
DEAN E. ERLANDSON  
1ST LT., A.C.  
INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

*Richard O. Loehnert*  
RICHARD O. LOEHNERT  
2ND LT., A.C.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

ENCOUNTER REPORT

CAPT DONALD A. REIHMER

- a. Combat
- b. 24 April 1944
- c. 77th Ftr Sq, 20th Ftr Gp
- d. 1350
- e. A/F nr Worms
- f. Clear
- g. Me-109
- h. One (1) Me 109 destroyed
- i.

I was flying top cover at 10,000 ft when 55th Ftr Sq went down to strafe. Two E/A took off and weren't noticed by the men on the deck. Thinking that they might clobber some of our boys, I called for cover and went down. By the time I got there they were in a fight with two other P-38s so I stayed above to cover them. The Me-109 was hit and crashed and blew up. The pilot flying FI-P hit the Me-109 on the left wing and he started in for a belly landing. I fired a 90° deflection burst at him and missed. He made a beautiful belly landing in a field with probably very little damage to the plane. The pilot took off over a fence, chute and all. I came in and fired a 3 second burst and got strikes all over the plane setting it on fire. I claim One (1) Me-109 destroyed (shared with Lt Schultz of the 55th Ftr Sq).

- j. Ser No of A/C - 42-68016
- Markings of A/C - LC-R
- Ammo Exp - 420 rds 50 cal, 78 rds 20 mm canon

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

/s/ Donald A. Reihmer  
DONALD A. REIHMER,  
Capt, Air Corps,

A TRUE COPY  
*Karl S. Elebash*  
KARL S. ELEBASH,  
2nd Lt, Air Corps,  
Asst A-2, 67 FW.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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By ED NARA Date 10-1-10