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MISSION SUMMARY REPORT

24 April, 1944
Bomber Escort - Target Gablingen
Field Order #312
2 Sortie Credits

A. 55th Fighter Squadron - Col. Wilson leading.

B. 18 Up 1141 - 14 Down 1649

C. 4 (1 Escort)

D. Bomber Escort - F. O. #312

E. Nil

F. Nil

G. Nil

H. 3 - 0 - 0

One (1) Me 109 Destroyed - Captain Taylor

One (1) Me 109 Destroyed - Lt. Watson

One (1) Me 109 Destroyed - Lt. Shultz

I. L/F in 1232, 20,000 feet, No. of Knocks. R/V 1345 as first box of bombers were on bombing run. Formation poor, but bombing excellent. W/D 1435, 19,000 feet at briefed spot. Relieved by P-47's. Dropped to strafe A/D So. of Bad Kreuznach. Flak too heavy, so avoided going directly over field. Four Me109's, two Ju88's, one He 177 seen on A/D. Three Me109's circling this A/D were destroyed. L/F out 1555, Knocks, 17,000 feet. P-51's seen in Target area.

J. One (1) flk tower - Damaged - Lt. Anderson
One (1) flak tower- Destroyed - Shred by Lt. Loehnert, Lt. Shultz
One (1) flak tower- Destroyed - Lt. Loehnert
Two (2) Locomotives - Destroyed - Lt. Loehnert
One (1) Locomotive - Damaged - Lt. Loehnert
Personnel of two (2) Locomotives killed - Lt. Loehnert

Pilots scheduled for this flight:

Johnson	Taylor	Wilson	Pannell
Rowley	Eynum	Malchow	Anderson
Hower	Klink	Buie	Ford
Shultz	Watson	Martin	Cruickshank

Spares:

Loehnert : Went in for Early Return
Pierson

MISSION SUMMARY REPORT 24 APRIL 1944

- A. 77th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group, Captain Gustke leading.
- B. 16 up at 1143. Down at 1655.
- C. Two
- D. Target withdrawal support, Field Order No. 312.
- E. Nil.
- F. Nil.
- G. Nil.
- H. 1-0-0 Single engine on ground.

I.

In North of Knocke at 1232 at 20,000 feet. R/v at Gablingen with lead 2 of 4 boxes of B-24s at 1345 at 20,000 feet. Withdrawal vicinity of Speyer 1434 at 20,000 feet. LF out in two separate sections one at Gravelines at 1608 at 8,000 feet and other at Ostend at 1600 at 13,000 feet. P-51s in area as we R/V and P-47s relieved us as we Withdrew. One section of eight planes broke for deck at W/D and Captain Reihmer fired on Me-109 on ground on airfield near Worms. This Me-109 had been previous been fired on and hit in left wing by 55th Squadron pilot. It bellied in and pilot was seen to run away from it. Captain Reihmer saw hits all over plane as he fired and saw it burst into flame. Four airfields seen in general vicinity of Stuttgart-Reutlingen-Ulm-Gunzburg with many T/E aircraft, one field having as many as 75 and others, ten to twenty. Saw two T/E A/C on airfield near Valenciennes; three T/E A/C on airfield near Neustadt; four Me-109s, one He-177 and one He-111 on airfield near Worms. Escorted B-17 for five minutes near German-Belgium border with two inboard engines smoking. Saw dummy planes near Bethune airfield. Heavy flak in target area and in Mannheim area, light flak at Gravelines. B-24s scattered but formation within boxes good. Large amount of smoke over target and in Mannheim area, approximately one hundred barrage balloons in Mannheim area.

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MISSION REPORT

24 April 1944

- A. 79th Fighter Squadron Capt. D. E. Anderson, leading
- B. 17 P-38s Up: 1142; Down: 1635
- C. 4 P-38s (1 Escort)
- D. Ramrod - Target and withdrawal support -mF.O. #312
- E. Nil
- F. 1 P-38 Flak, Cat. A
- G. Nil
- H. C-C-C
- I. In: N. of Knoeke - 1232 - 20,000 ft.
R/V: W. of Gablingen - 1345 - 21,000 ft.
W/D: Mannheim - 1440 - 20,000 ft.
Out: S. of Ostende - 1540 - 19,000 ft.

Bombers were B24s in at least 4 Ows. 79th took starboard side of bombers. P51s with bombers at same time. P47s joined bombers before 20th withdrew. After W/D 55th and 77th Sqs. hit the deck but 79th stayed up because of engine trouble of one plane.

No E/A seen and no bombers seen in trouble.

2 A/Ds near Donauworth with many yellow u/i a/c.

Some P47s and P51s made simulated attacks on flights of this squadron. One P51 with numbers A9X came in from eight o'clock in such a manner that would have endangered flight if plane had not been friendly.

EDWARD J. STEINER
Capt., A. C.
Intelligence Officer

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TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 312DATE 22 APRIL 1944.

(Not to be teletyped)

(Not to be teletyped)

a. Designation of Unit	20TH FIGHTER GROUP.
b. Time of Landing	1650
c. Aircraft NYR (State if believed Lost)	NIL.
d. Estimated Claims	Destroyed 3 Probable 0 Damaged 0
e. Brief description of Mission	L/F IN 1232, KNOCKE, 20,000 FEET. R/V 2 C.W.'s B-24's JUST BEFORE TARGET, .21,000 FEET. 79TH SQ. W/D 1440 20,000 FEET SPEYER. 55th & 77th Sq. HIT DECK 1432 TO STRAFE. OUT OSTEND.
f. Weather - Battle Damage	Sqdns OUT 8 (1540-1610) KNOCKE TO OSTEND, (8,000 - 17,000 FEET). NO E/A SEEN....

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TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 312

DATE 24 APRIL 1944.

(Not to be teletyped)

(Not to be teletyped)

a. Designation of Unit	55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON.
b. Time of Landing	1649
c. Aircraft NVR (State if believed Lost)	NIL.
d. Estimated Claims	W.B. Taylor 1-109, Lt. Watson, 1-109 & Lt. Schultz Destroyed 3 Probable 0 Damaged 0 1-109.
e. Brief description of Mission	L/F 1232 NORTH KNOCKE 20,000 FEET. R/V 1345 1st. Box Bombers. Formation Poor. Bombing excellent. Target 1343, 20,000 FEET. P-51'S target. W/D as briefed 1435, 19,000 feet. P-47's relieved. Dropped to strafe A/D S. Bad Kreugnad. 4-109's, 2-JU 88's, 1-HE 177 on field. L/F out 1555 KNOCKE 17,000 feet....
f. Weather - Battle damage	

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TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 312

DATE 24 April 1944.

(Not to be teletyped)

(Not to be teletyped)

a. Designation of Unit	77th Fighter Squadron.
b. Time of Landing	1655.
c. Aircraft NYR (State if believed Lost)	NIL.
d. Estimated Claims	1 ME 109 Captain Reihmer. Destroyed 1 Probable 0 Damaged 0
e. Brief description of Mission	L/F IN 1232, NORTH KNOCKE, 20,000 FEET. R/V JUST TARGET, 1353, 20,000 FEET. W/D SPEYER, 1432, 20,000 FEET. L/F OSTEND AND GRAVELINES N. CALAIS, 1600-1608, 8,000-13,000 FEET. GREAT SMOKE GAVENGER, AND MANNHEIM. 100 BALDONS OVER MANNHEIM.
f. Weather - Battle Damage	1 B-17, 2 engines smoking at German, Belgium border....

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TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 312

DATE 24 APRIL 1944.

(Not to be teletyped)

(Not to be teletyped)

a. Designation of Unit	79th Fighter Squadron.
b. Time of Landing	1635.
c. Aircraft NYR (State if believed Lost)	NIL
d. Estimated Claims	Destroyed <input type="checkbox"/> Probable <input type="checkbox"/> Damaged <input type="checkbox"/>
e. Brief description of Mission	L/F IN 1232, KNOCKE, 20,000 FEET. R/V 1345, JUST BEFORE TARGET, 21,000 FEET. W/D MANNHEIM 1440, 20,000 FEET. L/F OSTEND (SOUTH), 1540, 19,000 FEET. P-51'S and P-47'S JUST BEFORE W/D. NO E/A SEEN....
f. Weather - Battle Damage	

