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April 30, 1944

77th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group.

1005

Bricy airfield north of Orleans.

Clear.

Me-410, Me-210 and He-177.

1 Me-410 destroyed by Lt. Kuemmerle. 1 Me-210 destroyed by Lt. Fiebelkorn, and 1 He-177 destroyed by Capt. Morris. (on ground). 1 Flak tower damaged by Lt. Kuemmerle, 1 Control tower damaged by Lt. Reid, and 1 / hangar damaged by Lt. Fiebelkorn.

"I was flying as Squadron leader of squadron assigned to skip-bombing at Tours. At 12,000 feet, after disposing of bombs, saw airfield below in vicinity of Orleans. I called in other squadron leader and said that he was directly above airport-he was at 16,000 feet. I made a 270° diving turn leveling off at 500 feet approximately a mile from the airfield. In the meantime other squadron gave top cover. I saw enemy aircraft in hangar area lined up. I took extreme left plane, and told my wingman to take the second from left. I told the second element to take out all flak installations if any were observed. I opened fire at approximately 800 yards continuing fire until 50 yards. While firing I observed strikes, explosions, and fire on enemy aircraft.

Wingman White No. 2 opened fire from 800 yards observing hits on his enemy aircraft and flame burst from wing roots. Continuing out across the field White No. 2 fired at a hangar, observing hits in many sections of the hangar.

White No. 3, observing no flak emplacements, shot up the control tower.

White No. 4 took third plane from left opening fire from 1,000 yards closing to 100 yards and observed hits on wing roots and cockpit of enemy aircraft. After crossing field he fired at a flak tower at end of airfield observing hits on structure. As he chandelled off the field to the right he looked back and saw all three (3) planes violently burning. Columns of smoke rising from these aircraft rose to an altitude of from 6-7,000 feet."

Claims: 1 He-177 destroyed by Capt. Morris.
1 Me-410 destroyed by Lt. Kuemmerle.
1 Me-210 destroyed by Lt. Fiebelkorn.
1 Control tower damaged by Lt. Reid.
1 Flak tower damaged by Lt. Kuemmerle.
1 hangar damaged by Lt. Fiebelkorn.

J. Capt. Morris flew plane 42-68117
Ammunition expended: 237 rounds of 50 caliber.
53 rounds of 20mm cannon.

Lt. Reid flew plane 42-67770
Ammunition expended: 276 rounds of 50 caliber.
59 rounds of 20mm cannon.

(Over)

Lt. Fiebelkorn flew plane LC-R 42-68026
Ammunition expended: 552 rounds of .50 caliber.
4 rounds of 20mm cannon.

Lt. Kummerle flew plane LC-H 42-67767
Ammunition expended: 600 rounds of .50 caliber.
12 rounds of 20mm cannon.

James M. Morris

JAMES M. MORRIS,
Captain, Air Corps.

John W. Reid

JOHN W. REID,
1st Lieut., Air Corps.

Ernest C. Fiebelkorn

ERNEST C. FIEBELKORN,
2nd Lieut., Air Corps.

Walter F. Kummerle

WALTER F. KUMMERLE,
1st Lieut., Air Corps.

Joseph R. Ganest

JOSEPH R. GANEST,
1st Lieut., Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.