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MISSION SUMMARY REPORT

1 MAY 1944
FIELD ORDER 323
BOMBER ESCORT - LIEGE
STRAFING

- A. 55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, COL. WILSON LEADING
- B. 18 P-38'S TAKING OFF 1614 HOURS DOWN 2015 HOURS
- C. 2 (HOWER AND KLINK)
- D. BOMBER ESCORT -- PENETRATION, TARGET SUPPORT AND STRAFING
FIELD ORDER 323
- E. 2 LOST DUE TO ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE
- F. 1 CAT B DUE TO LOW FLYING
- G. LT. SHULTZ LAST SEEN OVER HODY A/D NYR
LT. PEARSON SEEN TO CRASH INTO HODY A/D AREA MIA
- H. NIL
- I. SQUADRON MADE LANDFALL IN 1700 HOURS WEST SCHOUWEN 18,000 FEET.
R/V 1700 HOURS B-24'S IN POOR FORMATION. SAW GOOD BOMBING
RESULTS AT TARGET. SQUADRON LEFT BOMBERS AT TARGET AND FLEW
A 150-DEGREE COURSE FOR SEVERAL MINUTES THEN A COURSE OF 30 DEGREES
WHICH WOULD TAKE THEM TO SENHEIM, ON THE MOSEL RIVER WHERE
RAILROAD YARDS, LOCOMOTIVES AND GOODS TRAINS WERE ATTACKED WITH
THE CLAIMS LISTED BELOW. SQUADRON STARTED HOME THEN AND IN THE
AREA OF LIEGE THREE PLANES OF WHITE FLIGHT WENT DOWN TO STRAFE
THE HODY A/D. LT. PEARSON WAS SEEN TO CRASH JUST NORTH OF THE
FIELD. LT. SHULTZ WAS LAST SEEN AT ABOUT 1,000 FEET OVER THE
FIELD. FLAK, LIGHT AND HEAVY GUN-FIRE WAS THROWN AT ALL PLANES
OVER THIS FIELD. SQUADRON SAW B-17 CRASH NEAR LIEGE AT 1900 HOURS
NO CHUTES SEEN. LANDFALL OUT 1915 HOURS BETWEEN KNOCKE AND
OSTEND 12,000 FEET.
- J. GROUND TARGETS:
 - 6 BOX CARS DAMAGED -- CAPT. SERROS
 - 2 ~~XXXXXX XXXXXX XXXXXX~~ -- ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
 - 5 BOX CARS DAMAGED -- LT. HALLBERG
 - 4 BOX CARS DAMAGED -- LT. CONNOR
 - 5 BOX CARS DAMAGED -- CAPT. TAYLOR
 - 5 BOX CARS DAMAGED -- LT. LARRABEE
 - 4 BOX CARS DAMAGED -- LT. FORD
 - 2 SIGNAL TOWERS DAMAGED -- CAPT. SERROS
 - 1 SIGNAL TOWER DAMAGED -- LT. HALLBERG
 - 1 SIGNAL TOWER DAMAGED -- LT. CONNOR
 - 1 LOCOMOTIVE DESTROYED -- SQUADRON
 - 3 LOCOMOTIVES DAMAGED -- SQUADRON
 - 1 FLAK EMPLACEMENT DAMAGED -- LT. COL. WILSON
 - 4 GERMAN SOLDIERS KILLED IN ABOVE EMPLACEMENT -- LT. COL. WILSON

STATEMENT ON LT. PEARSON SUBMITTED BY LT. PANNELL
STATEMENT ON LT. SHULTZ SUBMITTED BY LT. COL. WILSON

PILOTS DISPATCHED ON THIS MISSION WERE:

COL. WILSON	PANNELL	SERROS	TAYLOR
SHULTZ NYR	PIERSON	FORD	LARRABEE
HOWER E.R.	MALCHOW	HALLBERG	KLING E.R.
WASIL	MARTIN	CONNOR	BURFORD

SPARES:

BOELE -- WENT IN TO REPLACE EARLY RETURN
PEARSON -- WENT IN TO REPLACE EARLY RETURN

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ANNEX TO MISSION SUMMARY REPORT, 20TH FIGHTER GROUP - F. O. 323.

J. GROUND DAMAGE, ALL BY 55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

6 BOX CARS DAMAGED	-	CAPTAIN SERROS
5 " " "	-	LIEUTENANT HALLBERG
4 " " "	-	LIEUTENANT CONNOR
5 " " "	-	CAPTAIN TAYLOR
5 " " "	-	LIEUTENANT LARRABEE
4 " " "	-	LIEUTENANT FORD
2 SIGNAL TOWERS DAMAGED	-	CAPTAIN SERROS
1 " " "	-	LIEUTENANT HALLBERG
1 " " "	-	LIEUTENANT CONNOR
1 LOCOMOTIVE DESTROYED	-	SQUADRON
3 LOCOMOTIVES DAMAGED	-	SQUADRON
1 FLAK EMPLACEMENT DAMAGED	-	LIEUTENANT COLONEL WILSON
4 GERMAN SOLDIERS KILLED AT SAME EMPLACEMENT	-	LIEUTENANT COLONEL WILSON.

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MISSION SUMMARY REPORT 1 MAY 1944

- A. 77th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group, Captain Gustke leading.
- B. 18 up at 1617. Down at 1910.
- C. Nil.
- D. Penetration, Target and Withdrawal Support. F.O. #323.
- E. Nil.
- F. Nil.
- G. Nil.
- H. Nil.
- I. LF in and R/V with one CW of B-24s at Maamstede at 21,000 at 1710. B-24s in loose formation. P-51s seen near Hasselt and 47s seen near Maastricht. 55th Fighter Group seen ahead at all times. Out at Nieupoort at 1831 at 17,000 feet. W/D off Belgium coast at 1833 at 17,000 feet. No e/a. No flak. Lone B-17 seen in channel off Bradwell. Possibly ASR plane. At Dutch coast saw 2 boxes of B-24s, one larger than other. Took second box which headed south then turned east again. Several turns madethen. Hit marshalling yards east of river in city with airfield further east. Target believed to be Brussels. Rocket seen coming up from target area. Target bombed at 1830.
- J. Nil.

MISSION REPORT

1 May 1944

- A. 79th Fighter Squadron Lt. Col. H.J. Rau, leading
 B. 16 P-38s Up: 1413; Down: 2005
 C. Nil
 D. Ramrod - Bomber escort F. O. #323
 E. Nil
 F. Nil
 G. Nil
 H. 0-0-0
 I. In: Dutch Islands - 1705 - 18,000
 R/V: Channel - 1703 - 18,000
 Tgt.: 1730 - 18,000
 Out: Knocke - 1855 - 12,000

Friendly fighters and bombers: P-51s in target area; 38s going in as group came out. R/V with B-24s was in early, made land fall in and sighted bombers over channel and made 360° turn to R/V. B-24 blew up and went down in Brussels area no chutes seen.

Flak: Flak sighted at Brussels, Aachen, Duren and Laige, none of which was concentrated.

E/A: 1 He 177 sighted on airdrome in Germany.

Sweep: Swept area in Germany. From Leige flew 90° then 30° then 300° and followed course out.

ORVILLE E. MINTUN
 1st Lieut., Air Corps
 Asst. S-2

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TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

P.O. 323.DATE 1 May 1944.

(Not to be teletyped)

(Not to be teletyped)

a. Designation of Unit	20TH FIGHTER GROUP.
b. Time of Landing	2005.
c. Aircraft NYR (State if believed Lost)	2. NYR('S. Lt. Pearson (M.I.A.) 2 Lt. Schultz (M.Y.R.Q)
d. Estimated Claims	Destroyed 0 Probable 0 Damaged 0
e. Brief description of Mission	(GROUND TARGETS. L/F IN 1700, HAMSTEAD 18,000 FEET. R/V REAR BOX 1 C.W. B-24'S SAME PLACE AND TIME. ESCORTED BOMBERS TO TARGET WHICH WAS BRUSSELS, NOT LIEGE AS BRIEFED. ON TARGET 1730, 18,000 FEET. 77TH SQ. CONTINUED ESCORT TO 20 MINUTES OFF BELGIUM COAST MAKING L/F OUT 1831 NIEUPORT 17,000 FEET. 55TH SQUADRON AND 79TH SQUADRON SWEEP S.W. TO KYLL, RIVER AT PELM. 55TH HIT DECK SHOOTING UP RAILROAD TARGETS IN THAT VICINITY....
f. Weather - Battle damage	

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TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 323DATE 1 May 1944.

(Not to be teletyped)

(Not to be teletyped)

a. Designation of Unit	55TH FIGHTER SQUADRON.
b. Time of Landing	2015.
c. Aircraft NYR (State if believed Lost)	PEARSON (CRASHED <u>HODY</u> A/D. SCHULTZ NYR.
d. Estimated Claims	Destroyed 0 Probable 0 Damaged 0
e. Brief description of Mission	L/F IN 1700 W. SCHOWUEN 18,000 FEET. R/V 1700 B-24's GOOD TO EXCELLENT RESULTS. BRUSSELS. THEN SWEPT TOWARD FRANKFURT AND KOBLENZ 15,000 FEET 1734 TO 17....
f. Weather - Battle damage	

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TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 323.

DATE 1 May 1944.

(Not to be teletyped)

(Not to be teletyped)

a. Designation of Unit	77th Fighter Squadron.
b. Time of Landing	1910.
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 & R/VHAMSTEAD. 1710, 21,000 FEET. OUT NIEUPORT 1831, 17,000 FEET. W/D OFF BELGIUM COAST 1833, 17,000 FEET. 55th Gp MK AHEAD. NO E/A seen No flak. Bombs away 1730....

f. Weather - Battle damage

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TELEPHONE FLASH REPORT

F.O. 323

DATE 1 May 1944.

(Not to be teletyped)

(Not to be teletyped)

a. Designation of Unit	79th Fighter Squadron.
b. Time of Landing	2005
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 DUTCH ISLANDS 1708, 18,000 FEET. R/V OVER BHANNEL 1703, 18,000 FEET. TARGET 1734, 18,000 FEET. SWEPT 110, then 30 degrees & 300 degrees, target then out Knocke 1855, 12,000 feet. P-51's target area. 38's coming in as 79th went out. B-24 blew up Brussels on way out. Flak Flak at Brussels moderate. Liege Aachen, Duren-Leige. He 177 on A/D in Germany....
f. Weather - Battle damage	

