

ENCOUNTER REPORT

LT. COL. CY WILSON

- A. COMBAT
- B. 25 June 1944
- C. 79th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group
- D. 1930 Hours
- E. 20 Miles S of Paris at Malesherbes
- F. Overcast
- G. ME-109
- H. ME-109 Destroyed
- I.

On the afternoon of 25 June 1944, while patrolling in the area of Paris we were notified by the controller that there were bandits about twenty miles to the south of the city. I immediately headed in that direction and in about five minutes observed some fifteen plus aircraft at about our level (21,000 feet) and coming in from about three o'clock in a diving turn to the left. I was able to climb slightly and turn with them so as to come in on their tail as they passed underneath. The ships were easily recognizable as 109's but I was unable to warn the Group as my transmitter had been out during the entire mission -- nobody else in the Group had said anything up till this time and it was not until I started shooting that somebody sounded off.

The 109's were in a fairly loose rough "V" formation -- I fired one long burst at about 45 degree deflection at the last right-hand 109 and as the whole formation half-rolled I took the nearest one on my left hand side and went down with him. I dropped dive flaps as I rolled over (P-38J-20) and was able to keep pretty well on the tail of the 109 although we were going almost straight down and he tried rolling first one way and the other. At between seventeen thousand and eighteen thousand I glanced at the airspeed and it was showing about 450 indicated. I fired about five bursts from a dead astern position from 250 to 300 yards and expected the ship to blow up at any time. My windshield had cracked all over during the dive and I was unable to observe strikes. At about nine thousand feet the 109 whipped sharply to the left and went into a spin. I started my pull-out which was made without any undue difficulty.

One of the men in the squadron with which I was flying stated that he saw the 109 on fire after I had pulled out. Statement is included.

I claim One (1) ME-109 Destroyed.

- J. Flying KI-W Serial No. 43-283-93
- Ammunition Expended - 307 Rounds 50 Cal. A.P.I.
- 65 Rounds 20 MM.

CY WILSON,
Lt. Col. Air Corps,
20th Fighter Group,
Commanding.

D. J. NIGHTINGALE,
Major, Air Corps,
Group Intelligence Officer.

CONFIRMATION

I was leading Red Flight of the 79th Squadron. Lt. Col. Wilson was leading the squadron and the Group. We were bounced by approximately 30 E/A and Group Leader split essed and followed one Me 109 down. About 15 seconds later I saw 2 E/A spinning down in flames. One of these planes was hit and destroyed by Lt. Col. Wilson.

William W. Smith
WILLIAM W. SMITH
Captain, Air Corps

I was flying White 3, witnessed the above encounter and saw the two E/A spin down in flames. I confirm the claim of Lt. Col. Wilson.

Arthur W. Heiden
ARTHUR W. HEIDEN
1st Lt., Air Corps