

CONFIDENTIAL

ENCOUNTER REPORT

LT. LINDOL F. GRAHAM

- a. ENCOUNTER
- b. 31 DECEMBER, 1943
- c. 79TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
- d. APPROXIMATELY 1157
- e. BORDERAUX
- f. VISIBILITY GOOD
- g. FW 190
- h. E/A DAMAGED
- i.

HEADQUARTERS
EIGHTH FIGHTER COMD.
REGISTRY No. <u>19503-A</u>
COPY No. <u>1</u>
A-2

I WAS LEADING THE 79TH FIGHTER SQUADRON FLYING LEAD SHIP IN WHITE FLIGHT. WE WERE SWEEPING THE TARGET AREA AND WE WERE SLIGHTLY SOUTH AND WEST OF THE TARGET AT 22,000 FEET. I SAW 2 FW 190'S BELOW JUST AS THE GROUP LEADER REPORTED THEM. I PEELED OFF WITH MY FLIGHT AND STARTED DOWN KEEPING MY BELLY TANKS BECAUSE I WANTED THE GAS IN CASE OF A FIGHT ON THE WAY HOME. I USED 50 INCHES AND 2650 R.P.M. TO GAIN SPEED IN THE DIVE. MY WING MAN WAS F/O BYRD AND HE WAS FOLLOWING ME DOWN. THE 190 WAS IN A GENTLE TURN AS I APPROACHED FROM 45°. IN ORDER TO PULL OUT AND FOLLOW HIM I USED COMBAT FLAP TO HELP COME OUT OF MY DIVE. THE PLANE CAME OUT OF THE DIVE VERY NICELY EVEN WITH BELLY TANKS AND AN INDICATED SPEED OF OVER 375. I FOLLOWED THE 190 AND AT ABOUT 350 YARDS AND AN ANGLE OF 10° I OPENED FIRE WITH FOUR 50'S. I WAS CLOSING SLOWLY AND SAW FOUR OR FIVE HITS ON HIS RIGHT WING JUST BEFORE HE WENT INTO THE OVERCAST. I PULLED UP AND STARTED CLIMBING BACK UP FROM 10,000 FEET. MY SECOND ELEMENT STAYED ABOUT 3,000 FEET OVER ME DURING THE ENGAGEMENT AND ANOTHER FLIGHT STAYED AT 20,000 FEET. MY WING MAN AND THE REST OF THE FLIGHT PROVIDED PROTECTION DURING THE WHOLE ENGAGEMENT.

- j. SER NO OF A/C: 42-67497
- A/C MARKINGS: MC -L
- AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 340 ROUNDS.

*Noted 542*

*OIC Allen  
confirmed*

/s/ LINDOL F. GRAHAM  
LINDOL F. GRAHAM,  
1st Lt, Air Corps,  
20th Fitr Gp.

/s/ EDWARD J. STEINER  
EDWARD J. STEINER,  
1st Lt, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

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Authority NNID 745005

By JG NARA Date 3-11-11

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ENCOUNTER REPORT

CAPT. L. F. GRAHAM

- a. COMBAT
- b. 14 JANUARY 1944
- c. 79th FIGHTER SQUADRON
- d. 1530
- e. ROUEN
- f. VISIBILITY GOOD
- g. ME 109s
- h. 1 ME 109 DAMAGED
- i.

HEADQUARTERS
EIGHTH FIGHTER COMD.
REGISTRY No. 19911-G
COPY No. 2
A-2

I WAS LEADING YELLOW FLIGHT AND WAS WEAIVING THE FLIGHT WITH BLUE FLIGHT ABOUT 20 MILES SOUTH OF ROUEN AT 14,000 FT. ABOUT 1530. WE WERE COVERING B24s. SEVEN S.E. E/A WENT OVER US HEADING SOUTHEAST. WE FOLLOWED ABOUT 10 MILES AND AS WE WERE NOT GAINING WE TURNED BACK TO THE BOMBERS. ON OUR SECOND WEAVE AS WE WERE CROSSING EACH OTHER WE WERE BOUNCED BY 7 ME 109s WHICH APPEARED TO HAVE CLIPPED TIPS BUT POSSIBLY NO TAIL STRUTS AS IN THE ME 109 E. I TURNED INTO THEM TO THE RIGHT. YELLOW 4 WAS HIT, LOST AN ENGINE AND WENT TO THE DECK. YELLOW 3 YELLED THAT HE HAD TWO ON HIS TAIL. I THREW FLAPS DOWN, DROPPED MY TANKS AND BROKE LEFT. ONE OF THE 109s PEELED OFF BUT THE OTHER STAYED ON YELLOW 3's TAIL. I TURNED INSIDE HIM AND AT 300 YDS. AND AN ANGLE OF 40 DEG. I OPENED FIRE. I SAW HITS ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE FUSELAGE AND A PUFF OF SMOKE. THE 109 HALF ROLLED AND WENT STRAIGHT DOWN. I BROKE OFF TO HELP YELLOW 3 WHO HAD A SMOKING RIGHT ENGINE.

CLAIM: 1 ME 109 DAMAGED

J. SER. NO. OF A/C: 42-67497

A/C MARKING: MC-L

AMMUNITION EXPENDED: 236 RDS. 50 CAL  
52 RDS. 20 MM

/s/ Lindol F. Graham  
LINDOL F. GRAHAM  
Capt., Air Corps  
20th Ftr Gp.

/s/ Edward J. Steiner  
EDWARD J. STEINER,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer

*Gerald F. Costello*  
GERALD F. COSTELLO,  
Capt., Air Corps,  
Ass't. A-2. 67 FW

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Authority NNID 745005  
By JG NARA Date 3-11-11

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ENCOUNTER REPORT

CAPT. LINDOL F. GRAHAM

HEADQUARTERS  
EIGHTH FIGHTER COMMAND  
REGISTRY No. 20385-J  
COPY No. 2  
A-2

*Handwritten:* 20385-J

- A. Combat
- B. 29 January 1944
- C. 79th Fighter Squadron
- D. 1135 and 1230
- E. Germany
- F. Visibility good
- G. FW 190s
- H. 3 FW 190s DESTROYED
- I.

I was leading blue flight and we were rejoining the bombers near Koblenz at 1135 after an unsuccessful bounce when I saw a FW 190 on the tail box of bombers. I gave chase and came up on him at 16,000 feet from the rear. From 250 yards and an angle off of 50°, indicating 375, I opened fire and closed to 75 yards. I saw many hits, an explosion and smoke - pieces flew off. The FW 190 fell off into a spin, still burning. He spun down, still burning and was still spinning when he went into the overcast at 4,000 feet.

On way home about 1230 E. of Lille while covering crippled bombers I saw two FW 190s on a bomber. Gave chase and after 15 miles drew up on the two ship flight. I headed for the wingman indicating 375 at 2,000 feet and at 200 yards. I opened fire - angle off 80° - saw hits, an explosion, pieces and smoke - broke off at 75 yards. My wingman saw plane spin down in flames. Turned to right and drew up behind leader and from 200 yards - angle off 100° I fired and closed to 75 yards. Saw hits and explosion, pieces flew off. FW 190 fell off to right. Wingman saw him falling down in flames. Attack was in 20 mile area hole in overcast.

Claim: 3 FW 190s DESTROYED.

J. Ser No of A/c: 42-67497  
A/c Markings: MC-L  
Ammunition Expended: 583 rds 50 cal.  
36 rds 20 mm.

/s/ Lindol F. Graham  
LINDOL F. GRAHAM,  
Capt., Air Corps,  
20th Ftr Group.

VERIFICATION OF CLAIMS

CAPT. LINDOL F. GRAHAM

On 29 January 1944 we were flying blue 2, 3 and 4 respectively and saw Capt Lindol F. Graham destroy the 3 FW 190s. All 3 planes were seen falling down in flames.

/s/ Zell M. Wyman  
ZELL M. WYMAN,  
2nd Lt., Air Corps,  
20th Ftr Group.

/s/ Frank H. Roark, Jr.  
FRANK H. ROARK, JR.,  
2nd Lt., Air Corps,  
20th Ftr Group.

/s/ Edward J. Steiner  
EDWARD J. STEINER,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

/s/ Thomas A. Hanzo  
THOMAS A. HANZO  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
20th Ftr Group.

A TRUE COPY:

Gerald F. Costello  
GERALD F. COSTELLO,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Asst A-2, 67 FW.

D-31

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Authority NND 745005

By JG NARA Date 3-11-11



PILOT Capt. L. Graham

SODN &amp; GP 79-20

29-1-44  
(DATE)

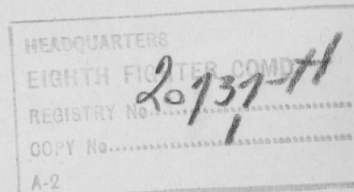
TARGET 3 FW-190's

CLAIM 3 FW-190's Destroyed

(a)(b)(c)

LENGTH OF ATTACK IN SECONDS			TARGET POSITION		PILOTS AIMING INDICATED IN TERMS OF 100 MPH BTMS.			RESULTS OF ATTACK
BURST	TIME	HALF- SEC.	RANGE	ANGLE OFF	DEFL. REQD.	DEFL. GIVEN	ERROR IN I/S	
(a) 1	.2	--	---	--	--	--	--	E/A blurred.
2	3.9	0 to 2.5	240	--	--	--	--	E/A blurred. 3 visible hits E/A 1 " " Right wing 1 " " Left wing " " " " "
		2.9	--	--	--	--	--	
		3.0	110	30	1 1/4	-1/2	0	Aiming behind
		3.3	--	--	--	--	--	Visible hit tail
		3.5	--	--	--	--	--	E/A blurred
		3.9	--	--	--	--	--	E/A obscured by smoke
(b) 3	.8	0	335	4	1/8	1/4	1/8	Est. hit right wing
		.4	--	--	--	--	--	visible hits fuselage & engine.
		.5	--	--	--	--	--	E/A blurred.
		.6	--	--	--	--	--	2 visible hits E/A
		.8	--	--	--	--	--	" " " "
			--	--	--	--	--	E/A blurred.
4	1.4	0	--	--	--	--	--	" "
		.5	230	40	1 3/4	-1/2	1/2	Aiming behind & high
		1.0	195	46	1 3/4	-1/8	0	" " "
		1.4	180	40	1 3/4	-1/4	0	" " "
(c) 5	4.6	0	320	--	--	--	--	E/A blurred
		25	155	--	--	--	--	Aiming high
		3.0	135	5	1/4	1/8	1/2	Visible hit left wing
		3.5	110	5	1/4	0	3/4	Aiming high visible hit E/A
		4.0	75	7	1/4	1/4	3/4	Est. hit right wing.
		4.1	--	--	--	--	--	Visible hit cockpit & right wing
		4.5	65	9	1/2	1/4	1/2	Aiming behind & high
		4.6	--	--	--	--	--	E/A partially visible.

REMARKS: Fiducial marks have not been removed from camera.

*Confirmed*

HEADQUARTERS  
EIGHTH FIGHTER COMD.  
REGISTRY No. 213970  
COPY No. 2  
A-2

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Gen. File

ENCOUNTER REPORT

CAPT. LINDOL F. GRAHAM  
LT. MARION F. BENCH

- a. Combat.
- b. 20 February, 1944.
- c. 79th Fighter Squadron, 20th Fighter Group.
- d. 1330.
- e. SE of Brunswick.
- f. Visibility hazy but unlimited.
- g. Me 110s.
- h. 2 Me 110s Destroyed - shared.
- i.

We were flying Red 1 (Capt. Graham and Red 2 (Lt. Bench) and saw 2 Me 110s below us circling and climbing to get to the rear of the bombers. We were at 20,000 feet. The Me 110s were at 14,000 to 15,000 feet. Red flight went down and white flight covered. Approached from dead astern indicating 300 mph and both Red 1 and Red 2 opened fire on right at 250 to 300 yards and closed to 100 yards each firing 4 short bursts. Right engine blew up and strikes completely covered area between both engines. Left engine then went out and entire tail assembly fell off. Plane spun down on fire.

Flight swung left on to second Me 110 who was taking skidding, yawing and turning evasive action. Red 1 and Red 2 again both opened fire at 250 yards about 200 off E/A broke sharply to the left and pulled away. We caught up and followed his evasive action then opened fire from astern at 400 yards each firing a long burst. Strikes were observed and from under both engines white and black smoke poured out. E/A stopped all evasive action and fell off to the left in a gentle then steep dive as if out of control and still smoking. Element leader was covering from half way down and called Red leader to break off combat and return. Broke off at about 10,000 feet and climbed back to 20,000 and rejoined the bombers. The element leader saw the second plane crash and explode.

Claim: 2 Me 110s Destroyed - Shared.

j. Capt. Graham's Ser. No. of A/C: 42-67926

A/C Marking: MC-L

Ammunition Expended: 1027 rds 50 cal.  
149 rds 20mm.

Lt. Bench's Ser. No. of A/C: 42-67750

A/C Marking: MC-A

Ammunition Expended: 296 rds 50 cal.  
54 rds 20mm.

/s/ Lindol F. Graham,  
LINDOL F. GRAHAM,  
Capt., Air Corps.

/s/ Marion F. Bench,  
MARION F. BENCH,  
2nd Lt., Air Corps.

/s/ Edward J. Steiner,  
EDWARD J. STEINER,  
Capt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

A TRUE COPY:

Gerald F. Costello, *GFC*  
GERALD F. COSTELLO, (D-8)  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Ass't A-2, 67th FW.

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Authority NND 745005

By JLT NARA Date 3-11-11

## CONFIRMATION OF CLAIM

/s/James H. Corbet  
JAMES H. CORBET  
2nd Lt. Air Corps.

/s/Richard P. Gatterdam  
RICHARD P. GATTERDAM  
Capt., Air Corps.

GERALD F. COSTELLO  
Capt., Air Corps,  
Ass't A-2.

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

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NNID 745005  
By JG NARA Date 3-11-11



CFC Form #460

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ASSESSMENT OF COMBAT FILM NO. 72

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NNID 745005  
By JCT NARA Date 3-11-11

PILOT Capt. L. F. Graham

SOPN & GP 79-20

20-2-44

(DATE)

TARGET 2 Me-110's

CLAIM

No pilot's report received  
2 ME 110's Dest. (Shaned)

LENGTH OF ATTACK IN SECONDS			TARGET POSITION		PILOTS AIMING INDICATED IN TEE'S OF 100 YD RINGS			RESULTS OF ATTACK
BURST	TIME	HALF- SEC.	RANGE	ANGLE OFF	DEPL. RECD.	DEPL. GIVEN	ERROR IN 1/S	
(a) 1	1.0			-				E/A blurred
2	.3			-				" "
3	1.0	0.0 .5 1.0	420 350	16 17	$\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	0 $\frac{1}{4}$	Est. hit on tail Aiming low
4	.7	0.0 .5 .7	340 340	18 18	$\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{8}$	E/A blurred Est. hit on L-engine Est. hit on L-engine, fuselage, L-Wing and tail
5	1.0	0.0 .5 1.0	320	23	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	E/A blurred Insufficient lead E/A blurred
6	.1			-				" "
7	.5	0.0 .2 .5	260 250	15 18	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{2}$	Est. hit on L-engine Visible hit on L-Wing Est hit on L-Wing, 2 visible hits on L-Wing
8	.3	0.0 .2 .3	250	14	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	Est. hit on fuselage E/A explodes E/A obscured by smoke
9	.5	0.0 .3 .4 .5		-				E/A blurred Visible hit on E/A E/A blurred
(b) 10	.4			-				" "
11	.3			-				" "
12	.3			-				" "
13	.4			-				" "
14	.5			-				" "
15	.7			-				" "
16	2.4			-				" "
17	1.9	0.0 to .5 .8 .9 1.0 to 1.9		-				" " 3 Visible hits on E/A 3 " " " " E/A blurred

Remarks: This pilot is doing good shooting and definitely hitting both E/A. Impossible to tell results of Lt. Bench's firing.

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

ENCOUNTER REPORT

CAPT LINDOL F. GRAHAM (MIA)

- a. Comlat
- b. 18 March 1944
- c. 79th Fighter Squadron
- d. 1400
- e. Ulm, Germany
- f. Visibility hazy
- g. Me 110s
- h. 1 Me 110 Destroyed (Shared with Lt Heiden)
- i.

HEADQUARTERS
EIGHTH FIGHTER COMD.
REGISTRY No. <u>22716-F</u>
COPY No. <u>2</u>
A-2

Red Leader at 20,000 feet called in 2 Me 110s taking off from an airport. Red flight went down and when the E/A were 300 to 500 feet above the ground the flight was closing fast. One Me 110 broke to the left and Red Leader and Red 2 followed it. The E/A was travelling about 200 mph and Red Leader about 400 mph and overshoot after a short burst.

Red Leader made an effective gunnery pattern with combat flaps firing on each pass from 300 and closing to dead astern. He made at least six passes in this manner firing from 300 to dead astern and 300 yards to less than 100 yards. The E/A was indicating about 100 mph and Red Leader about 150 mph with combat flaps. On several passes Red 2 also fired from 300 yards and about 300 and strikes were concentrated mainly on the right wing, wing root, right engine and right side of the fuselage. The E/A crash landed in the snow and Red Leader made a 360 and returned to strafe the plane. While strafing it, he hit the ground, pulled up as if into a right hand barrel roll and while on his back his nose dropped and he crashed at about a 600 angle.

Claim: 1 Me 110 Destroyed (Shared with Lt Heiden)

- j. Ser No of A/C: 42-67926
- A/C Markings: MC-L
- Ammunition Expended: Unknown

/s/ Lindol F. Graham  
by Edward J. Steiner

/s/ Edward J. Steiner

EDWARD J. STEINER,  
Capt., Air Corps.

LINDOL F. GRAHAM,  
Capt., Air Corps.

CONFIRMATION OF CLAIM

I witnessed and took part in the above encounter and saw the enemy plane destroyed.

/s/ Arthur W. Heiden

ARTHUR W. HEIDEN,  
2nd Lt., Air Corps.

A TRUE COPY:

*Gerald F. Costello*  
GERALD F. COSTELLO,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Asst A-2, 67 FW.

(D-3)

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

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Authority NNID 745005

By JG NARA Date 3-11-11