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100-345-41 Aug 1944	RETURN TO RESEARCH STUDIES INSTITUTE U.S.A.F. HISTORICAL DIVISION ARCHIVE BRANCH
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Group 4
Downgraded at 3 year
interval; declassified
after 12 years

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MICROFILMED

GP-386-41
Aug 1944

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UNIT HISTORY
HEADQUARTERS
386TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) USAAF
August 1944

1. Organizational changes: Negative.
2. Strength: 64 Officers and 69 Enlisted Men.
3. Date of arrival at and departure from each station in ETO: Negative.
4. Losses in action: Major Rodgers and Captain Cunningham listed as MIA 11 August 1944.
5. Awards and Decorations:
 - a. Award of eighth Oak Leaf cluster to Air Medal, per General Order 187, 17 August 1944
Colonel Joe W. Kelly
Commanding Officer
 - b. Award of thirteenth Oak Leaf cluster to Air Medal, per General Order 188, dated 29 August 1944.
Major Albert L. Hill
Group Bombardier
 - c. Award of eleventh Oak Leaf cluster to Air Medal, per General Order 188, 29 August 1944.
Lt. Col. Leland O. Perry
Group Operations Officer.
 - d. Award of first Oak Leaf cluster to Air Medal, per General Order 181, 21 August 1944.
Captain Helmar K. Lemaster,
Group Public Relations Officer.
 - e. Award of eighth Oak Leaf cluster to Air Medal, per General Order #144, 3 August 1944
Major Thomas J. White
Air Inspector.

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HEADQUARTERS, 555TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H), UNIT HISTORY.....

- f. Award of seventh Oak Leaf cluster to Air Medal, per General Order 161, 21 August 1944.
Major Erwin A. Rodgers,
Assistant Group Operations Officer.
- g. Award of tenth Oak Leaf cluster to Air Medal, per General Order 165, 15 August 1944.
Lt. Col. Harry G. Hankey,
Air Executive Officer.
- h. Award of ninth Oak Leaf cluster to Air Medal, per General Order 144, 3 August 1944.
Captain John A. Miller,
Technical Inspector.
- i. Award of seventh Oak Leaf cluster to Air Medal, per General Order 168, 29 August 1944.
Major Emery L. Raper
Group Navigator.

Administrative changes for the month were as follows: Captain Cunningham, Robert L., assigned and joined and detailed to duty as Assistant Group Navigator as of 8 August; Major Hoover, Charles W. assigned and joined and detailed as Assistant S-3 Officer as of 8 August; 1st Lt. Mullins, Arvil B. assigned and joined and detailed to duty as Assistant Group Operations Officer as of 12 August; Lt. Colonel Cameron relieve and transferred to 12th AGC and Major Dougherty detailed as Group Ground Executive Officer as of 12 August; at the same time Captain Reffe detailed as Group Adjutant in place of Major Dougherty while 1st Lieutenant McDevitt was detailed to Group Statistical Officer in place of Captain Reffe; on 16 August, Captain Bingham, Justin M., assigned and joined and detailed as Assistant Group Navigator (Captain Cunningham having been listed as MIA since 11 August); Major Hoover reassigned to the 555th Bomb Squadron on 22 August, while Captain Meyers, Leroy C., was assigned from the same squadron and detailed as Assistant Group Operations Officer; Major Burhanna, Howard, and 1st Lieutenant Strand, John H., also were assigned and joined from the 553rd Bomb Squadron with Major Burhanna being detailed Assistant Air

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HEADQUARTERS, 338TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) UNIT HISTORY.....

Executive and Lieutenant Strand as Assistant Group Operations officer on 22 August; on 25 August Captain LeMaster, Group Public Relations Officer detailed on temporary duty to Headquarters, IX Bomber Command, and later in month on 30 August, returned to duty; Colonel Kelly departed on 26 August on temporary duty to the Zone of the Interior, and Lt.Col.Corbin, Thomas G., assigned and joined from IX Bomber Command and assumed command; on 29 August Lt.Col.Corbin went on temporary duty to Normandy and Lt.Col.Hankey assumed command in his absence; on 30 August, 1st Lt.Cook returned from temporary duty in the United States; on 31 August, Lt.Col.Corbin returned from temporary duty and again took command.

Promotions in the unit were as follows: Major Perry to Lt.Col. per par 3, SO 232, Hqs.IX AF, 19 August 1944; Captain Hill to Major per par 3, SO 232, Hqs.IX AF, 19 August 1944.

Record of operations for August is as follows:

1 August 1944

Thirty-two aircraft bombed enemy at Chateau du Loir with excellent results. All aircraft returned safely.

2 August 1944

Thirty-six aircraft bombed an ammunition dump at LeLude with good results. All aircraft returned safely.

6 August 1944

Thirty-five aircraft bombed enemy fuel dump at Forêt de Perseigne with good to excellent results. One aircraft of the 554th Bomb Squadron is missing.

7 August 1944

Thirty-four aircraft bombed fuel dump at LeLude with good results. All aircraft returned safely.

8 August 1944

Thirty-six aircraft bombed a railroad bridge at Joiny LaRoche with excellent results. All aircraft returned safely.

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HEADQUARTERS, 30th BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M), VIII AIR FORCE.....

9 August 1944

Thirty-nine aircraft bombed railroad bridge at Sur Oise with good to excellent results and all aircraft returned. Later in the afternoon, thirty-six aircraft bombed the railroad embankment at Epervon with good to excellent results. All aircraft returned safely.

10 August 1944

Thirty-five aircraft bombed railroad bridges at Fismes with poor to fair results. All aircraft returned safely.

Thirty-four aircraft took off for Pointoise but did not bomb. All aircraft returned safely.

11 August 1944

Thirty-six aircraft bombed railroad bridge at Criel with poor to good results. One aircraft of the 554th Bomb Squadron is missing.

12 August 1944

Thirty-four aircraft bombed road junction at Fiers with good results. All aircraft returned safely.

13 August 1944

Thirty-four aircraft bombed target in Lisieux Bernay area with fair to excellent results. All aircraft landed safely.

14 August 1944

Thirty-six aircraft bombed road bridge at Esternay with excellent results. All aircraft returned safely.

15 August 1944

Thirty-six aircraft bombed target at St. Malo with excellent results. All aircraft returned safely.

16 August 1944

Thirty-six aircraft took off for Fismes to bomb a road bridge but did not bomb due to weather. All aircraft returned safely. One ship of the 552nd is missing.

17 August 1944

Thirty aircraft bombed target at Pont Audouin with good results. All aircraft returned safely.

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HEADQUARTERS, 880TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) UNIT HISTORY.....

12 August 1944

Thirty-six aircraft bombed target at L'Isle Adam Bois de Casson area with fair to good results. One aircraft of the 54th Bomb Squadron is missing.

25 August 1944

Thirty-six aircraft bombed coastal defenses at Port du Corbeau with poor to excellent results. All aircraft returned safely.

26 August 1944

Thirty-three aircraft bombed target at Bois de Mont with good to excellent results. All aircraft returned safely.

27 August 1944

Thirty-five aircraft bombed target in Rouen area with good results. All aircraft returned safely.

28 August 1944

Thirty aircraft bombed target in Forêt de laigue with poor to excellent results. One aircraft landed on the coast of France with no injuries. All others returned safely.

30 August 1944

Thirty aircraft bombed Isle de Cezembre with fair to excellent results. All aircraft returned safely.