

[REDACTED]

71-366-41 DEC 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 13 years

[REDACTED]

MICROFILMED

[REDACTED]
HEADQUARTERS
386TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
APO#140, U.S.ARMY
Unit History
Installment XI

OCT 1944

1. Organization changes: On 5 October 1944, this group was reorganized under T/O & E 1-112, dated 26 June 1944.
2. Strength: 40 officers assigned, 7 officers attached; 53 Enlisted Men assigned, and 17 Enlisted Men attached.
3. Dates of arrival at and departure from each station in the ETO:
2 October 1944, 25 officers and 17 enlisted men departed AAF Sta 164 at approximately 1330 hours by aircraft and arrived at Sta A-60 (Beaumont-sur-Oise, France) at 1630 hours 2 October 1944. Reconnaissance and advanced echelons rejoined at Sta A-60. Rear Motor Convoy with one officer and 11 enlisted men departed AAF Sta 164 on 3 Oct and arrived Sta A-60 on 8 October.
4. Losses in action: Negative.
5. Awards and Decorations:

Major Howard Burhanna, Jr., Air Medal,
1 October 1944, per Par 1, Sect. I, 60, Hqs 9th Bomb Div.

1st Lt. John H. Strand, Jr., Air Medal
1 October 1944, per Par 1, Sect. I, 60, Hqs 9th Bomb Div.

1st Lt. Arvil B. Mullins, 2nd Oak Leaf cluster to Air Medal,
1 October 1944, per Par 2, Sect. I, 60, 9th Bomb Div.

Capt. Arthur L. Jacobs, 2nd Oak Leaf cluster to Air Medal,
1 Oct 1944, per Par 2, Section I, GO#7, Hqs, 9th Bomb Div.

Major Emery E. Raper, 8th Oak Leaf cluster to Air Medal,
10 Oct 1944, per Par 2, Sect. I, GO#7, Hqs IX Bomb Div.

Capt. Justin M. Bingham, 11th Oak Leaf cluster to Air Medal,
1 Oct 1944, per Par 2, Sect. I, 60, GO#70, Hqs, 9th Bomb Div.

HEADQUARTERS, 386TH BOMB GROUP (M), UNIT HISTORY.....

Lt.Col.Harry G.Hankey, 11th Oak Leaf to Air Medal,
1 Oct 1944, per Par 2, Sect.I, 60, GO#7, Hqs, 9th Bomb Div.

Capt.Jo n E.Miller, 2nd Silver Oak Leaf to Air Medal,
1 Oct 1944, per Par 4, Sect.I, 60, GO#7, Hqs, 9th Bomb Div.

Capt.William E.Smith, 13th Oak Leaf to Air Medal,
9 Oct 1944, per Par 2, Sect.III, 60, GO#12, Hqs, 9th Bomb Div.

Lt.Col.Jewell C.Maxwell, Distinguished Flying Cross,
12 Oct 1944, Par 2, Sec III, 60, GO#242, Hqs, 9th Air Force

Capt.Charles E.Hardy, Distinguished Flying Cross,
12 October 1944, per Par 2, Sect.III, 60, GO#242, Hqs, 9th AF.

Administrative changes for the month were as follows: on 2 Oct, Lt.Col Perry and Major Raper were relieved from assignment and assigned to the 12th RCD. On 3 Oct, Major Ferris and Capt Richardson were assigned to the 14th Bomb Group (L) as of 30 Sept. On 3 Oct, Capt Miller was absent sick at the 62nd General Hospital (non-battle) but returned to duty on the 15th. On the 7th, seven officers and 17 enlisted men were attached to the group from the squadrons. These men, mostly intelligence personnel, were moved as it was deemed impractical for them to work at Headquarters and return to the squadron areas (several miles away) for rations and quarters. On 11 Oct, Capt Meyers was detaile as Group Operations officer and at the same time, 2nd Lt. Howard A.Bardwick was assigned and joined from the 21st Weather Squadron and detailed as Group Weather Officer. Capt.Lippens departed on TD to Paris on the 11th and returned on the 13th. On that same day, WOJG Lord was detailed Group Technical Inspector (PD vice Capt Miller) and 1st Lieutenant Spencer w o was on DS with 1st Pathfinder squadron was relieved from assignment and assigned to the 98th Sta Compl Sq. On 17 Oct, Capt.Eh Charles E.Hardy joined from t e 344th Bomb Group and was detailed Assistant Group Operations Officer. Also on the 17th, 1st Lt.Millard P.Snyder joined from the 552nd and was detailed as Group Personal Equipment Officer. On 17 Oct, Major Rubenstein (attached) was absent sick at the 194th Med Disp (non-battle) but returned to duty on the 18th. The next day, Capt.Penzur(DC) was relieved and assigned to the 194th Med Disp (Avn), and Capt.Arthur M. Blumenthal (DC) was assigned from the 105th Med Disp (Avn), but did not join and was placed on DS with Hq.&Hqs.Sq, 9th Bomb Division as of 15 Oct. S/Sgt Peter E.Lucier was attached from t e 555th for rations, quarters and administration as of 19 Oct., and on 21 Oct, Cpl Kahley was transferred in grade to the 555th

HEADQUARTERS, 386TH BOMB GROUP (M), UNIT HISTORY.....

Bomb Sq. On 22 Oct, Pvt James F. Pigott was assigned and joined from the 20th Sta Comp sq. On the same date, Capt Moore was relieved from attached for rations as of 21 Oct. On the 22nd, Capt. Bing am was detailed Group Navigator (PD) vice Major Raper; Capt Arvil B. Mullins was assigned and joined from the 554th as of 26 Oct and was detailed as Assistant Group Operations Officer. 2nd Lt. Robert M. Lyon (attached from 552nd Bomb Sq) was promoted to 1st Lt as of 1 Oct (per Par 13, SO 275, Hqs, 9th AF.) Sgt Louis A. Pelletier was transferred in grade to Hq. & Hqs Sq, 9th Bomb Div. Pvt Frank J. Hein was assigned and joined from Hqs, 9th Bomb Div as of 27 Oct and on the same date, 1st Lt. Harold E. Pand who was on TD with 9th Bomb Div was assigned from the 554th. Also on 27 Oct, M/Sgt Joseph E. St. Arnaud was relieved from attached. Pvt. Jobe H. Bowen (attached from 552nd) was absent sick in the 62nd General Hospital as of 26 Oct. Major Howard Burhanna, Jr., was relieved from assignment on 26 Oct and assigned to the 39th Bomb Group. On 25 Oct, Lt. Col. Corbin was promoted to Colonel per Par 38, SO 296, Hqs, ETOUSA.

Record for Operations for October is as follows:

6 Oct 1944

36 aircraft bombed target at Duren with good to excellent results. One aircraft from the 555th Bomb squadron is missing; others returned safely.

7 October

36 aircraft bombed Hengelo with gross to excellent results. Two aircraft from the 555th are missing; others returned safely.

8 October

29 aircraft bombed Bad Munster with poor to excellent results. All returned safely.

12 October

36 aircraft bombed Aldenhoven with gross to excellent results. All returned safely.

13 October

36 aircraft bombed railroad bridge at Dilligen with unobserved results. All aircraft returned safely.

14 October

36 aircraft took off to bomb railway bridge at Venlo but did not bomb. All returned safely.

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~~SECRET~~
APPENDIX "A"

FROM: COMBOMDIV NINE 051737A
TO : CO 386TH BOMB GROUP
INF COPY TO CG 99TH COMBAT WING
ROUTINE CONFIDENTIAL

9BD G-338-A

REQUEST THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF YOUR ENTIRE COMMAND:

IT GAVE ME REAL PLEASURE AND DEEP SATISFACTION TO LEARN THAT ORDERS
HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED DESIGNATING THE 386TH BOMB GROUP AS A DISTINGUISHED
UNIT OF THE U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES, CONGRATULATIONS. I AM CONFIDENT
YOUR SUBSEQUENT WORK WILL JUSTIFY AND PROTECT THE HONOR SO JUSTLY
ACCORDED YOU.

ANDERSON

A TRUE COPY:

Warren J. Friedman
WARREN J. FRIEDMAN,
Captain, Air Corps.

~~SECRET~~
APPENDIX "B"

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH AIR FORCE

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER.....254)

APC 696, U S Army
28 October 1944

BATTLE HONORS

1. Under the provisions of Section IV, Circular Number 333, WD, 1943, the following-named units of the Ninth Air Force are cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy. The citations read as follows:

"The 386th Bombardment Group (M). For outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy in the European Theater of Operations from 30 July 1943 to 30 July 1944. During this period the 386th Bombardment Group (M) attained the most outstanding record of all B-26 Groups in the European Theater of Operations in terms of number of successful sorties flown, tonnage of bombs dispatched and enemy aircraft destroyed, while at the same time maintaining the highest bombing accuracy score. The eminently successful concentrated pattern bombing first employed by the 386th Bombardment Group (M) on 2 September 1943 established a technique in medium bombardment which was adopted with unusual success throughout subsequent operations over Western Europe, while missions of the group carried out against the Amsterdam Schipol airdrome, the pilotless aircraft launching sites in the Cherbourg Peninsula and Pas de Calais area, the attacks upon marshalling yards, aircraft installations, bridges, and communications and transportation centers both prior to and during operations of the Allied Ground Forces on the Continent, were of the utmost importance to the campaign in Northwest Europe. The untiring devotion to duty and extraordinary skill and courage demonstrated by the members of the 386th Bombardment Group (M) throughout the course of these exceedingly difficult and exacting operations reflect great credit upon the entire organization and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Service."

By command of Major General VALENBERG:

W. W. MILLARD
Colonel, GSC
C of S

OFFICIAL:

/s/ C. M. Seebach
/t/ C. M. SEEBACH
Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General

A TRUE EXTRACT COPY:

Warren J. Friedman
WARREN J. FRIEDMAN,
Captain, Air Corps.

~~SECRET~~