

Monthly
unit
HISTORY



89th
AUGUST 1945

89TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L)
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF

MSK/HGN/jf

A.P.O. 337
9 September 1945

SECRET
Auth. CG VBC
Init.
Date.

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Unit History.

TO : Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, 25, D.C.

1. In accordance with AR 345-105 and AAF regulation No. 20-8, submit herewith the history of this organization for the month of August 1945, which has been inspected and verified by the undersigned.

2. The material submitted was prepared by S/Sgt. John F. Snobarger, 35166659, and Sgt. Jacob Faber, 39378309, all Air Corps, under the supervision of 1st Lieutenant Hans G. Walz, O-513794. Facts and observations included in the narrative and not otherwise credited are based on the personal knowledge and opinions of Lt. Walz.

Walter S. King
WALTER S. KING,
Major, Air Corps,
Commanding.

D E S I G N A T I O N S H E E T

FIFTH AIR FORCE

V BOMBER COMMAND

3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

89TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L)

AUGUST 1945

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HISTORY OF THE 89TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON

PERIOD

(1-31 August 1945)

89TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L)

3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

V BOMBER COMMAND

FIFTH AIR FORCE

UNITED STATES ARMY

SECTION I

CHRONOLOGICAL NARRATIVE

C O M B A T N A R R A T I V E

CHRONOLOGICAL NARRATIVE
COMBAT NARRATIVE
AUGUST 1945

During the month of August 1945 the 89th Bombardment Squadron (L) climaxed its very successful combat career beginning in New Guinea in August 1942 with its final mission over the Japanese homeland three long years later. Six minimum altitude missions were flown totalling 52 combat sorties (36 A-20 sorties and 16 A-26 sorties), 48 tons of bombs and 7,290 gallons of Napalm were dropped. 77,600 rounds of .50 caliber ammunition were expended and 27 rockets were fired. (1) Reaching as far north as Beigun Island in the Inland Sea with A-26s, the Squadron took part in a campaign of activity and destruction unparalleled in history. Credit is given for wholesale destruction in Kushikino, Kumamoto, Nanjiki, Akune and Aburatsu, all on the island of Kyushu.

At the start of August 1945 the 89th Squadron had a total of thirteen A-20s and six A-26s. During the month two A-20s were received through transfer, one A-20 was lost through transfer and one A-26 was lost not through combat. Therefore, at the end of the month there was a total of fourteen A-20s and five A-26s. 265:35 combat hours were flown during the month, or a total of 488:45 hours. (2)

The first mission of the month was a strike against Kushikino and Shimahira towns, Kyushu on 9 August. 6 A-20s and 5 A-26s reached the target making one pass in a nine plane abreast group formation. 10 x 165 gallon Napalm wing tanks were dropped in the vicinity of the railroad yards one third mile east of Kushikino. 116 x 100 lb. incendiaries were strung out from the railroad yards due south to Shimahira. 16 x 500 lb. incendiaries were strung out from north to south along the west edge of Kushikino. Several blocks of buildings in both towns were set afire and a direct hit was scored on one warehouse type building in southern Shimahira. Bomb coverage was excellent but due to extensive smoke and fire from preceding planes accurate damage assessment was difficult to observe. All planes strafed the area with 17,100 x .50-caliber ammunition. Two pilots and one navigator were slightly injured from plexi-glass splinters when light ack-ack hit the planes windshield. (3)

On 10 August nine A-20s and four A-26s attacked industrial targets in Kumamoto, Kyushu. A total of 8 x 165 gallon Napalm wing tanks, 72 x 100 lb. incendiaries and 33 x 500 lb. incendiaries were strung out for a distance of two miles at the southern edge of Kumamoto from west to east. Two hits were scored on a three story building 300 yards northwest of the railroad yard. Two warehouse type buildings, covered with green netting, were damaged at the southwest edge of the yard and another warehouse type building at the southeast edge of the yard was heavily damaged. The railroad yard was very heavily damaged, approximately thirty cars and their locomotive were left burning. The entire area was well strafed with 24,700 x .50 caliber ammunition. (4)

(1) See Ord. Apt., Appendix Page (30) (3) FFO 221-A-3
(2) See Opn Apt., Appendix Page (31) (4) FFO 222-A-2

Combat Narrative, August 1945, Cont'd.

The first of two missions on 11 August was for three A-26s of the 89th Squadron to conduct a shipping search from western Kyushu to Heigun Island in the Inland Sea. During this search one plane sighted a 50 foot barge about thirty miles southwest of Heigun Island and dropped one 500 lb. para-demo scoring a near miss which heavily damaged the barge. After not sighting any further shipping the three planes attacked the secondary target of Aburatsu, southeastern Kyushu. Two passes were made dropping 11 x 500 lb. parademos and 27 rockets from one half mile east of Aburatsu to the water. At least four fires were started in the town and one building was definitely destroyed. Two planes damaged a factory about two miles east of Aburatsu by strafing. The entire town of Aburatsu was left burning and smoking due to excellent bomb and rocket coverage. 8,900 x .50 caliber ammunition was expended in strafing. One plane was forced to make a belly landing at Bolo Strip, Okinawa because his hydraulic fluid had all leaked out making it impossible to lower the landing gear. (5)

The target for nine A-20s on 11 August was to attack the town of Kanjiki, southern Kyushu. All planes reached the target stringing out a total of 16 x 75 gallon Napalm wing tanks and 34 x 500 lb. para-incendiaries through the eastern half of the town. Direct hits were scored in a group of warehouse type buildings at Kanjiki. Bomb coverage was excellent, as the entire target was blanketed with fires, causing smoke to rise to 2000 feet. 7,400 x .50 caliber ammunition was expended in strafing. (6)

On the morning of 12 August four A-26s and six A-20s again attacked the industrial city of Kushikino, Kyushu. Six A-20s reached the target dropping 23 x 500 lb. para-incendiaries and 12 x 75 gallon Napalm wing tanks through the southern and northern parts of the city. At least fifteen large fires were observed in Kushikino and one bomb scored a direct hit on approximately 100 fuel drums on the dock area setting them afire. The four A-26s made two passes over Kushikino and dropped a total of 24 x 500 lb. para-incendiaries and 8 x 165 gallon Napalm wing tanks on scattered targets, thus starting an additional 35 fires. Three warehouse type buildings in the southeast section of Kushikino were destroyed and about six fishing smacks in the southern breakwater were set afire. The A-26s expended 10,500 x .50 caliber ammunition in strafing and the A-20s expended 2,720 x .50 caliber ammunition in strafing. (7)

(5) FFO 223-A-12

(6) FFO 223-A-3

(7) FFO 224-A-2

Combat Narrative, August 1945, Cont'd.

The final mission of the month and the last mission of the war, for the 89th Bombardment Squadron (L) was for six A-20s to attack the town of Akune on the west coast of Ayushu. A total of 12 x 75 gallon Napalm wing tanks and 23 x 500 lb. para-incendiaries were strung out from 500 yards south of the river to the north edge of Akune. Bomb hits were scored on the large buildings 200 yards south of the river causing a large black smoke fire to rise to 1500 feet. The town of Akune was completely burned out by excellent bomb coverage. 6,100 x .50 caliber ammunition was expended in strafing. On leaving Akune the entire town was covered with smoke and fires, the smoke rising to 2000 to 2500 feet and still visible from fifty miles away. (8)

(8) PFO 224-A-3

PREPARED BY:

Hans C. Walz
HANS C. WALZ,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Intelligence Officer.

APPROVED BY:

Walter S. King
WALTER S. KING,
Major, Air Corps,
Commanding.

HISTORY OF THE 89TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON

Period

(1-31 August 1945)

OUTLINE OF FACTS

a. Original Unit	Not applicable
b. Changes in Organization	Pp 5-6
c. Strength	Pp 6
d. Stations	Pp 5
e. Number of Sorties	Pp 1, Pp 31
f. Bombs dropped and ammunition fired	Pp 1, Pp 30
g. Aerial attacks on our ground installations	Not applicable
h. Ground battles engaged in by unit	Not applicable
i. Losses in action	None
j. Former and present members who have distinguished themselves in action	None
k. Photographs of personnel, important scenes, or events	Pp 12-14, Pp 18-22
l. Other relevant statistical data	Pp 23-29

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

CHRONOLOGICAL NARRATIVE
ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES
AUGUST 1945

The 89th Bombardment Squadron (L) was stationed at APO 337 during the month of August. The water echelon departed from APO 321 in the Philippines on 25 July 1945 and arrived at Okinawa on 6 August. The air echelon arrived on the seventh and eighth of August.

Following is a list of the Squadron Departments and officers in charge:

Commanding Officer	Major Walter S. King
Executive Officer	Capt. Frederic H. Mead
Adjutant and Supply Officer	Capt. John E. MacArthur
Asst. Adjutant	1st Lt. Dan F. Miller
Operations Officer	Capt. Douglas B. Hughmanick
Asst. Operations Officer	Capt. Peter G. Palmos
Engineering and Tech Supply Officer	Capt. Lawrence Farnum
Communications, Personal Equipment and Special Service Officer	Capt. William A. Bauer
Flight Surgeon	Capt. Edward Martin
Armament Officer	1st Lt. James H. Bouvet
Intelligence Officer	1st Lt. Hans G. Walz
Asst. Intelligence Officer, Post Exchange Officer and Postal Officer	1st Lt. Donald G. Heet
Ordnance Officer	1st Lt. Frank A. Brown
Transportation Officer	Capt. Roy D. Burkhart
Mess Officer	1st Lt. Weston F. Laughan

The flight leaders (not including the Commanding Officer, Operations Officer and Asst. Operations Officer) during August were: Capt. Robert Strouse, 1st Lt. Harvey C. Truesdale, 1st Lt. Marion P. Wilson, 1st Lt. Donald E. Hester, 1st Lt. Florindo W. DiCicco, and 1st Lt. Lyle C. Wilson.

Captain Homer Vorel was appointed Executive S-4 at Group Headquarters on 11 August. (1)

Captain Frederic H. Mead was detailed for the board for Enlisted Men's Classification on 11 August. (2)

(3) S/Sgt. Farrell J. Leavell was promoted to T/Sgt. effective 15 August.

Sgt. Eugene F. Gebolys and Pfc. Boyd G. Moore, combat crew members, were promoted to S/Sgt. as of 15 August. (4)

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- (1) SO# 55, 3rd B.G., App. Page (23) (3) SO# 57, 3rd B.G., App. Page (25)
(2) SO# 55, 3rd B.G., App. Page (23) (4) SO# 57, 3rd B.G., App. Page (25)

Chronological Narrative, Administrative Activities, August 1945, Cont'd.

Pvt. David Jenkins was promoted to grade of Private First Class effective 18 August. (5)

Captain John B. MacArthur was named Class "A" Agent for purpose of paying officers and enlisted men for the months of July and August 1945 effective 21 August. (6)

T/Sgt. Farrell J. Leavell is promoted to the grade of First Sergeant effective 21 August. (7)

1st Lt. Egbert B. Close, T/Sgt. Myron M. Schwab and Sgt. John F. Lip-sinic assigned to the squadron effective 29 August. (8)

The personnel strength of the 89th Bombardment Squadron (L) during the month of August is as follows:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Flying</u>	<u>Ground</u>
(a) At beginning of period	28	9
(b) Net increase during period	0	0
(c) Net decrease during period	2	0
(d) At end of period	26	9
<u>enlisted men</u>		
(a) At beginning of period	48	179
(b) Net increase during period	0	0
(c) Net decrease during period	4	39
(d) At end of period	44	140

(5) SO# 58, 3rd B.G. App. Page (26)

(6) SO# 59, 3rd B.G. App. Page (27)

(7) SO# 59, 3rd B.G., App. Page (27)

(8) SO# 61, 3rd B.G., App. Page (29)

ARARDS AND DECORATIONS

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

There were no presentation of awards or decorations during the month of August and no General Orders were received authorizing any awards.

L O C A L I N T E R E S T

A N D

P E R S O N A L I T I E S

LOCAL INTEREST

After spending two weeks on an LST the 89th Squadron water echelon finally arrived at Okinawa on 6 August 1945. We started unloading about ten o'clock that night and by early morning had everything on land. Despite being up all night, rain and the stickiest mud on the universe, everyone pitched in and began the work of building up the camp area. By afternoon a temporary mess hall had been built and all the tents were pitched. Late that afternoon, 7 August, the air echelon arrived with all our A-20s and A-26s. After another day of improving the camp area and setting up tents on the line for Engineering, Tech Supply, Parachute, Communications, Ordnance, Intelligence and Operations, the squadron was ready to do its part toward finishing the war against the Japanese. From 9 August through and including 12 August the 89th Squadron flew six missions for a total of 52 combat sorties.

The 89th Squadron joined into the wild celebration on the night of 11 August when the first news of a Japanese surrender was announced. From all the tents men came rushing out, shouting and dancing in the company streets. For approximately thirty minutes everyone watched the sky which was a blanket of red tracers. It seemed that everyone on the island had the same idea in mind. Until the 14th all lingered near the radio for each and every broadcast of the news. On the morning of the 14th the official confirmation came and everyone relaxed again still trying to adjust their minds to the fact that the war was over. From that time on the thoughts of all men centered around points and going home. Morning, noon and night the talk was of points and more points. One greets his fellow work by "How many points do you have?". Then for some, their ship came in. All men with over 85 points were alerted and left early the next morning.

We wish a happy voyage to all our men now enroute to the United States and the following list includes all men who departed during the month of August. T/Sgt. Frederick R. Marvel, T/Sgt. Vincent Canipelli, T/Sgt. Ascension M. Mata, T/Sgt. Glenn V. Moffett, A/Sgt. Bruce Higginbotham, S/Sgt. William C. Boles, S/Sgt. John C. Hefferman, S/Sgt. Albert E. Noelle, S/Sgt. Robert F. Sutton, Sgt. Donald E. Benson, Sgt. Boyd F. Bedlyon Jr., Sgt. Alfred Osburn, Sgt. Ralph C. Niedermeyer, Sgt. Eldwon W. Smith, Sgt. Harry L. Rice, Sgt. Michael Pokrajac, Sgt. Joseph N. McCart, and Corporal Gerald F. Lappen.

Having completed the required number of missions and grounded for combat fatigue, the following pilots departed for home: 1st Lt. William M. Morgan, 1st Lt. Robert L. Mosley and 1st Lt. Ralph E. Smith.

Now comes the period of readjustment from the daily operations of combat flying. Soon we learned that the Group would be a part of the occupational Air Force scheduled for Japan. Already four of the squadron's A-26s are now at an airfield near Tokyo. Orientation lectures as to our conduct in Japan and a general briefing on conditions and customs in Japan are under way.

Local Interest, August 1945, Contd.

The squadron has been screened for instructions eligible to participate in the Information and Educational Program to be initiated in Japan.

All has gone well in the squadron with the exception of the daily complaints as to the chow. Under the able leadership of the First Sergeant the men now enjoy the benefits of a laundry system. Using the Okinawan women every man may turn in as much and as often all the laundry that he wants washed.

The softball team enjoyed a victorious month. Following is the story:

The rear echelon team won three and lost one at APO 321 before joining the rest of the squadron at APO 337, where they continued on their winning ways, taking 13 of their 16 games. During the month three regulars were lost from the team. The lucky boys who are now on their way to the good ole USA were Benson at shortstop, Hefferman at right field and pitcher Manning. The services of all three have proven to be quite beneficial to the team and it will be difficult to replace them.

3 August: The rear echelon team at APO 331 got off to a bad start losing to the 321st Engineers by a score of 6-4. Hughes started the game but had to be relieved by Gossett in the fourth when walks and shoddy fielding gave the opposition four runs.

4 August: Behind Gossett's no-hit pitching, the Falcons soundly whipped the 49th Fighter Control by the tune of 8-1. Hefferman's home run with the bases loaded in the second inning clinched the game.

5 August: With superb fielding the Falcons extended their string of victories at the expense of the Navy All Stars winning by the narrow margin of 2-0. Gossett gave up 5 hits but kept them well scattered. Cluff led the 89th attack with two of their four hits.

6 August: Cluff again led his teammates by getting three for three when the Falcons downed the 16th Radio 9-2. Gossett permitted one hit a home run in the seventh inning, thus accounting for the two runs scored by the opposition.

8 August: With the squadron reunited, the Falcons took it out on the 16th Marine AA downing them 12-1. Hefferman came through with two hits and a walk in three trips to the plate, one being a double with the bases loaded. Manning and Andruzis shared the duties on the mound.

13 August: In an afternoon game the 89th Officers tried their luck against the Falcons. The sad results for the officers, 10-2 in favor of the enlisted men. Manning and Shandor worked for the Falcons, while Vorel and MacArthur toed the slab for the "wheels." Cluff, Wilkinson, Sakosky and Vorel garnered two hits apiece.

Local Interest, August 1945, Contd.

14 August: Manning lost a tough game to the Searchlight Battery of the 16th Marine AA by a close score 3-2. Benson's pinch single in the last inning accounted for the Falcons only score.

16 August: In an abbreviated contest the Falcons took the measure of the 8th Squadron 3-0. Gossett put his rivals down without a hit, while his teammates garnered three, including Cluff's mighty triple.

17 August: Behind the five hit pitching of Andruzis, the Falcons went on to win 2-1 from "B" Battery, 16th Marine AA. Benson got two of the teams hits, while MacArthur was credited with the only other hit. Tight fielding, including two double plays, were the highlights of the game.

19 August: The 4465th Salvage outfit ran up against tough opposition in the form of 4 hit shut out ball served up by Gossett. This coupled with the wildness of the "Boogie" pitcher in the sixth inning gave the Falcons a 1-0 victory.

20 August: In the afternoon the Falcons smeared the Officers 10-2. Hefferman pitched for the enlisted men with Miller and Vorel sharing the work for the officers. Phandor and Cluff led the Falcons with two hits apiece driving in four and three runs respectively. Venable's hit accounted for both of the Officer's runs.

20 August: In the second game of the day, the Falcons conquered the MCU 43, 9-2. Cluff and Sakosky both contributed home runs to the 89th cause. Andruzis gave 6 hits but was never in trouble.

21 August: The Falcons took time out to play a pick up team from the squadron trouncing them soundly 11-4. Manning pitched well before being relieved in the seventh by Gossett. Tiedmann and McGowan came through with a double and two RBI's apiece.

22 August: The Falcon's victory streak was stopped by the 8th Squadron with Gossett losing his first game by a score of 4-1. The 6 hits garnered off Davis were split up between six Falcon players. Gossett gave only 4 hits but his wildness in the first inning cost him the game.

25 August: Avenging a former defeat, the Falcons hopped all over the Searchlight Battery, 16th Marine AA, trouncing them 11-2. Andruzis was in fine form allowing only four hits while getting two himself. Benson and Cluff also got two hits for the winners.

26 August: The third defeat of the month was suffered at the hands of "C" Battery, 16th Marine AA by a score of 4-3. Shoddy fielding on both sides caused plenty of trouble for the pitchers. Vorel came thru with two hits, a single and a homer to lead the Falcons in that department. Manning was the losing pitcher although he pitched well, allowing only two hits.

Local Interest, August 1945, Cont'd.

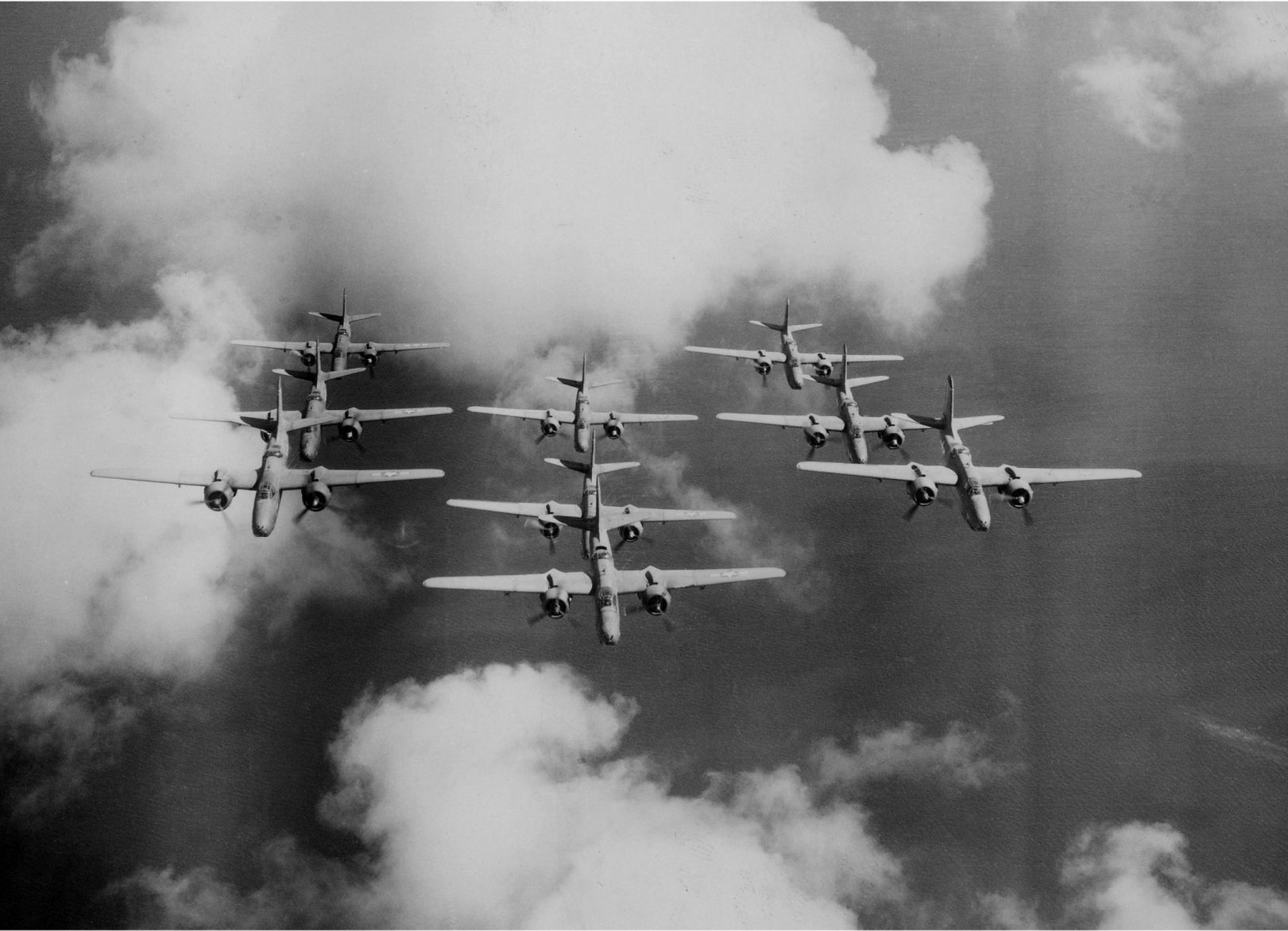
28 August: In another abbreviated game, the Falcons were leading 6-0 when a downpour prevented further play against the Fox's Wolves, 2nd Marine AA.

29 August: Behind Gossett's brilliant pitching the Falcons went on to win another, 1-0 from the 90th Squadron.

30 August: The 90th Squadron constituted the opposition again as the Falcons rolled on, winning by a 4-1 score. Gossett held the rivals down to three hits, while his teammates gathered six hits off Utman. MacArthur's mighty triple with two men aboard in the first inning sewed up the game.

31 August: The Falcons put together 10 hits to ease out a 2-0 victory over "C" Battery, 17th Marine AA. Gossett limited the opponents to two hits. MacArthur, Jenko and Shandor each collected two bingles for the 8th.





(8985-3B.6)5M-223-A-3(7-0-37) AUG. 11-1025(63) "MIN" KANTIKI (KYU) (204)
Restn.



PERSONALITIES

Captain John E. MacArthur, one of the really "old men" of the 3rd Attack Group, is now the 89th Squadron's Adjutant. Coming overseas in September 1942 and immediately joining this group, he has participated in the tedious, sometimes heart breaking, but brilliant three year struggle from Charters Towers, Australia, through New Guinea, to the Philippines, to Okinawa and finally to Japan itself. He sometimes kids the troops by saying that it took "5-star Mac" and "2-bar Mac" to win this war. Needless to say though, men like Captain MacArthur who have faithfully worked and sweated for these three years in the tropics have done more than their part in this war. "Mac" is of average height, has an athletic build, black hair and has very prominent features, especially the nose. He is a very good-natured fellow, loves a funny story and a good party, and is right in the middle of most current arguments.

Captain MacArthur's home town is Santa Barbara, California. That is where he went to high school, graduating in 1936. After this he attended Santa Barbara State College, graduating in 1940 and excelling in football and baseball. During the next year and one-half he worked for the Santa Barbara Fire Department, until the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor.

On December 21, 1941 "Mac" enlisted in the army. After being physically disqualified from flying school he attended the Air Corps Technical School at Lowry Field, Colorado and graduated on July 3, 1942 as an Armament Officer. By September he was overseas and immediately assigned to the 13th Squadron of the 3rd Bombardment Group (L). During those early days he worked as Assistant Armament Officer on the squadron B-25s. Later he became Armament Officer and as a reward for his loyal and faithful service he was promoted to the rank of Captain. During this time Captain MacArthur did an excellent job in the Armament Section and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his armament section's outstanding record of loading bombs and for their ingenuity in solving several armament problems.

However, the war wasn't all work for "Mac". He managed to get down to Sydney, Australia three times and from all reports did a wonderful job in forgetting about the war. In the fall of 1944 he went home on Temporary Duty and after returning in March 1945 he was assigned to the 89th Squadron as Armament Officer to work on the A-26s. After moving up to Okinawa he became Adjutant which position he now holds. Everyone is confident that Captain MacArthur will do a superior job in Administration work, just as he did during his three years work in the armament section.

PERSONALITIES

Captain Robert Strouse, or "Ignatius" as some of his pals call him, is one of the crack pilots of the 89th Squadron who feels equally at home in the cockpit of an A-20 or A-26. Bob is of medium height, stocky, has slightly disheveled hair and is full of fun. His friends quickly learn the futility of trying to argue with "Ignatius", no matter who is right he will invariably twist the issue around so that everybody is confused. However, Captain Strouse is a very conscientious pilot, not a "hot" pilot but rather the steady type who live longer. Now at the close of his combat tour he is invaluable in imparting his knowledge of combat flying and tactics to the newer pilots.

Captain Strouse is a native Californian, being born in Los Angeles in 1924 and making his home at Long Beach with his parents. After completing high school he enlisted at Los Angeles and entered flying school. December 5, 1943 was a happy day, on that date at Luke Field, Arizona Bob won his pilots wings and his commission as a second lieutenant. The next few months were spent in transition learning to fly the B-25 and A-20 under all sorts of conditions. Finally the inevitable happened, Strouse was sent overseas in August 1944 and was immediately assigned to the 3rd Attack Group to fly A-20s.

His combat career started off with a few missions over western New Guinea. However, it was not until the latter part of January in the Philippines that he really began running up the number of his low level bombing and strafing missions. During these first six months of 1945 he flew missions against most of the Philippine Islands and one strike over Borneo. Due to his increasing skill in flying and combat knowledge he was advanced to flight leader and squadron leader while at the same time making his 1st lieutenantancy and Captaincy. Captain Strouse had fifty one missions as of the end of the war and has been awarded the Air Medal. His last few missions were over the Japanese homeland itself. In Strouse's opinion the most devastating strike that he participated in was the Squadron's first attack against Kushikino, Kyushu when the A-20s and A-26s left most of the city completely demolished. Captain Strouse is a typical product of this war; he is young, loves to fly, courageous, and now that the war is over would like to go back to civilian life and start from where he left off.

PERSONALITIES

Fall, muscular with a quick smile and an Arkansas drawl is our 1st Sergeant, Farrell J. Leavell. Born and raised in the country as a true man of the earth, a farmer; he went through the conventional type of schooling and finished with his graduation from Scotland High School, Scotland, Arkansas in 1940. Farrell was active in the sports field in basketball, but most of his time was devoted to his farm work. Upon the completion of his high school course, he worked around home until he entered the service in September 1942 at Camp Robinson, Arkansas. After the required course of basic training, he was sent to Armament school at Lowry Field, Colorado and then overseas to the Southwest Pacific Area.

Arriving at Fort Moresby as a private, he was soon assigned to the 38th Bombardment Group and then transferred to the 3rd Bomb Group where upon his arrival, he was assigned to the 89th Squadron in July 1943. As an armorer he acquitted himself well and soon earned the right to promotion to Corporal. In the spring of '44, he was transferred to squadron supply and made supply sergeant but did not receive his promotion to S/Sgt. until September 1944. His work as Supply Sergeant was well done and accepted as such by both officers and enlisted men.

A true test of real leadership ability came in March of 1945 when S/Sgt. Leavell was made acting 1st Sergeant as the 1st Sergeant was sent home on temporary duty. He immediately displayed his true abilities in handling men and constructing and reconstructing the camp area. A good example of excellent management was the move from Lindoro to Okinawa which was handled without loss of time or manpower. Upon arrival in Okinawa and despite the very limited area which was allotted as a camp site, 1st Sergeant Leavell again ably acquitted himself in setting up the camp in record time, even so far as setting up a shower, which is the only one put up by an individual squadron in the entire group.

The continuous good work displayed by 1st Sergeant Leavell clearly demonstrates a true American spirit of cooperation and leadership such as is evidenced throughout the entire Army Air Forces.

S E C T I O N II

A P P E N D I X

PART I MAPS

PART 2 PHOTOS





Camp area, 3rd Bomb Group
August 1945
V Bomber Command
Fifth Air Force





KUMAMOTO



PART 3 STATISTICS

89TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L)
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF

SPECIAL ORDERS
NUMBER 55

11 August 1945

1. CAPT HOMER WOOD 0634807 is aptd Executive S-4 (2120) vice 1ST LT ALVIN H FAIL JR 0562967 reasgd.

2. 2D LT ROBERT R HEST 0509376 is aptd 1st Lt in addition to his other dys vice CAPT WILLIAM J GULLEN 0626116 reld, confirming VOCC 9 Aug 45.

3. Under the prov of WRAF Reg 35-51 dtd 8 Aug 44 and 7 Bomber Command Memo No 1 dtd 1 Jan 45 an Enlisted Men's Classification Board is hereby aptd.

DETAILS FOR THE BOARD

MAJOR	GEORGE F GIBBY	0675642	(President)
CAPT	SAMUEL A MC DUFFELL JR	0563123	(Member)
CAPT	FREDERICK H HEND	0612677	(Member)
CAPT	FREDERICK L HARTNER JR	0665814	(Member)
1ST LT	SWORDEN STEWART	0650613	(Recorder)

The Board will convene at the call of the President thereof. This Board and its proceedings may be informal, but made a matter of record.

Par 10 SO 7, this Hq, dtd 31 Jan 45 is hereby rescinded.

4. CAPT MASON A COPELAND 0649614 is aptd Gp Adjutant with add dys of Gp Administrative Inspector vice CAPT WILLIAM T ROBINSON 0564153 reasgd, confirming VOCC 16 July 45.

5. CAPT MASON A COPELAND 0649614 is aptd Personal Affairs Off, Property Adjustment Off and Claims Off in addition to his other dys vice 1ST LT ALVIN H FAIL JR 0562967 reld, confirming VOCC 16 July 45.

By order of Lieutenant Colonel HOWE:

OFFICIAL:

Mason A Copeland
MASON A COPELAND,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

MASON A COPELAND,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

HEADQUARTERS
3D BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF
APO 307

SPECIAL ORDERS
NUMBER 56

14 August 1945

1. Having been asgd to this orgn per per 9 SO 195 V Bomber Command dtd 14 July 45 1ST LT WILLARD L MYER 01554787 (0000) is further asgd to the 90th Sq. EDCMR 11 July 45.
2. Having been asgd to this orgn per per 5 SO 201 V Bomber Command dtd 20 July 45 2D LT ROBERT E HEET 0588976 (4004) is further asgd to Gp Hq. EDCIR 24 June 45.
3. 2D LT ROBERT E HEET 0588976 is aptd I & E Off vice CAPT WILLIAM J CULLEN 0916116 reld, confirming VOOO 24 June 45.
4. Having been trfd in gr to this orgn per par 4 SO 141 Hq 93rd Repl Bn AAF (P) dtd 28 July 45 1st Sgt James T Pulliam 6255333 (940) is further asgd to Gp Hq. EDCMR 1 Aug 45.
5. Having been asgd to this orgn per par 3 SO 214 V Bomber Command dtd 2 Aug 45 1ST LT CHARLES M RUDOLPH 0579094 (4300) is further asgd to the 8th Sq. EDCIR 27 July 45.
6. Having been trfd in gr to this orgn per par 1 SO 219 V Bomber Command dtd 7 Aug 45 the fol-named EM (IDS 502) are further trfd in gr to orgns indicated. EDCMR 2 Aug 45.

1st Sgt	Samuel G Johnson	57135101	90th Sq
T Sgt	John F Gerst	16011220	Gp Hq
T Sgt	William A Fiser	36049340	13th Sq
T Sgt	Clifford H Wakeman	35273384	Gp Hq
S Sgt	Reginald A Sparks	32042281	8th Sq

By order of Lieutenant Colonel FOWE:

OFFICIAL:

Mason A Copeland

MASON A. COPELAND,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

MASON A. COPELAND,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

HEADQUARTERS
3D BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF
AFO 33V

SPECIAL ORDERS
NUMBER 57

15 August 1945.

1. CAPT JOHN N TOLAR 0912180 is aptd Gp Intelligence Off vice MAJOR IVAN P HEAD 0912570 reld, confirming VOCO 28 July 45.
2. Having been trfd in gr to this orgn per par 7 SO 197 V Bomber Command dtd 16 July 45 Cpl Isidore Friedman 32979105 (938) is further ased to Gp Hq. EDCMR 11 July 45.
3. CAPT MASON A COPELAND 0849614 is aptd Clearance Processing Off in add to his other dys.
4. Under the prov of AR 615-5 as amended S Sgt Farrell J Leavell 38288486, 89th Sq, is promoted to the gr of Technical Sergeant (temp).
5. Under the prov of AR 615-5 as amended the fol-named EM, 88th Sq, combat crew members, are promoted to the grades (temp) indicated.

Sgt Eugene F Gebolys	36554657	To be aptd Staff Sergeant
Pfc Boyd G Moore	16188014	To be aptd Sergeant
6. Under the prov of AR 615-5 as amended Cpl Elias J Elgin 34659522, 90th Sq, is promoted to the gr of Sergeant (temp).
7. Under the prov of AR 615-5 as amended the fol-named EM, 90th Sq, combat crew members, are promoted to the grades (temp) indicated.

S Sgt Paul E Dozier	34525797	To be aptd Technical Sergeant
Cpl Roswell N Austin	16120585	To be aptd Sergeant
Cpl Jesse A Witkowski	33295477	To be aptd Sergeant

By order of Lieutenant Colonel HOWE:

OFFICIAL:

Mason A Copeland
MASON A COPELAND,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

MASON A COPELAND,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

H E A D Q U A R T E R S
3D BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF
APO 337

SPECIAL ORDERS
NUMBER 58

18 August 1945.

1. So much of par 4 SO 55 this Hq dtd 11 Aug 45 as reads "with add dys of Gp Administrative Inspector" is revoked.

2. LT COL CHARLES P MARTIN 0250368 is aptd Gp Administrative Inspector vice CAPT WILLIAM T ROBINSON 0564153 reasgd, confirming VOCO 16 July 45.

3. Under the prov of AR 615-5 as amended Pvt David Jenkins 6391974, 89th Sq, is promoted to the gr of Private First Class.

By order of Lieutenant Colonel HOWE:

OFFICIAL:

Mason A Copeland

MASON A COPELAND,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

MASON A COPELAND,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

H E A D Q U A R T E R S
3D BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF
APO 337

SPECIAL ORDERS
NUMBER 59

21 August 1945.

1. Under the prov of AP 35-1460 S Sgt Peter G Petras 32801400, 8th Sq, is reld fr dy requiring regular and frequent participation in aerial flts, confirming VOCO 13 Aug 45.

2. Under the prov of AR 35-320 the fol-named Off are aptd Class "A" agents for F R BURR, CAPT FD, for purpose of paying O and EM of orgns indicated for the months of July and August 1945; amount to be intrusted not to exceed \$50,000.00 at any one time:

CAPT	MASON A COPELAND	0649614	Gp Hq
CAPT	DAVID J DONOVAN	0649037	8th Sq
CAPT	JOHN M WALLACE	0649131	13th Sq
CAPT	JOHN E MacARTHUR	0854569	89th Sq
1ST LT	ALVIN H FAIL JR	0562967	90th Sq

3. Under the prov of AR 615-5 as amended the fol-named EM, 13th Sq, combat crew members, are promoted to the grades (temp) indicated:

TO BE APTD STAFF SERGEANT

Sgt Ralph L Newkirk 34782234	Sgt James Salem 31355618
Sgt John H Swenson 38455042	Sgt Charles W White 35656970

TO BE APTD SERGEANT

Cpl Robert S Nugent 42060335

4. Under the prov of AR 615-5 as amended T Sgt Farrell J Leavell 38288486, 89th Sq, is promoted to the gr of First Sergeant (temp).

By order of Major KLIVE:

OFFICIAL:

Mason A Copeland

MASON A COPELAND,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

MASON A COPELAND,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

H E A D Q U A R T E R S
3D BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF
APO 337

SPECIAL ORDERS
NUMBER 60

25 August 1945.

1. Having been asgd to this orgn per par 5 SO 228 V Bomber Command dtd 17 Aug 45 2D LT ROBERT H RODGERS JR 0872575 (4822) is further asgd to the 13th Sq. EDCMR 5 Aug 45.
2. Under the prov of AR 615-5 as amended Pvt Burt L Johnson 33293046, 90th Sq, is promoted to the gr of Private First Class.
3. 1ST LT CARLELO A DiGICIA 0865926 is aptd Inventory Off to inventory the accounts and assets of Gp Hq Branch Exchange for the month of August 1945.
4. Under the prov of AR 615-5 as amended Cpl William J Neidlinger 14140629, 8th Sq, is rd to the gr of Private (for misconduct).
5. Under the prov of AR 615-5 as amended Pfc Jack L Patten 36454720, Gp Hq, (DS to 5278th Bomber Communication Sq) is promoted to the gr of Corporal (temp).

By order of Major KLINE:

OFFICIAL:

MASON A COPELAND,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

Mason A Copeland
MASON A COPELAND,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

H E A D Q U A R T E R S
3D BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF
AFO 337

SPECIAL ORDER 3
NUMBER 61

29 August 1945

1. MAJ GEORGE T OWEN 0235642 is aptd Gp Executive Off with additional dys of Gp Administrative Inspector vice LT COL CHARLES P MARTIN 0250368 reld, confirming VOCC 28 Aug 45.

2. 1ST LT JOSEPH R FORTUNATO 0650516 is aptd Statistical Control Off vice 1ST LT SNOWDEN STEUART 0650613 reasgd, confirming VOCC 17 Aug 45.

3. Having been asgd and trfd in gr to this orgn per par 5 Ltr Order 30, Hq 360th Air Serv Gp (FEAFGR&TC) dtd 14 Aug 45 the fol-named O & EM are further asgd & trfd in gr to orgns indicated. EDCIR 23 Aug 45.

2D LT ROBERT A MANAKER 0765019 (1022) ^{8th Sq} Sgt Warren Lashbrook 35149494 (748)
Sgt Howard I Lowe 39925943 (612)

1ST LT JACK D HARRIS 0753350 (1022) ^{90th Sq} 2D LT JAMES A PETERSON 0838729 (1022)
Sgt Arthur E Elvin 33739999 (612) Sgt James E Moad 18242624 (612)
Sgt Raymond J Nelson 17152186 (748) Sgt Peter J Petkus 36361164 (748)

4. Having been asgd and trfd in gr to this orgn per par 2 Ltr Order 36, Hq 360th Air Serv Gp (FEAFGR&TC) dtd 22 Aug 45 the fol-named O & EM are further asgd & trfd in gr to orgns indicated. EDCIR 31 Aug 45.

CAPT MAX E WOLFSON 0792086 (1022) ^{8th Sq} T/Sgt Thomas Humphrey Jr 18050650 (748)
S/Sgt Roy M Hutchinson 19103065 (612)

1ST LT EGBERT B CLOSE 0800837 (1022) ^{89th Sq} T/Sgt Myron M Schwab 19074316 (748)
Sgt John F Lipsinic 33767831 (612)

By order of Lieutenant Colonel HOWE:

OFFICIAL:

Mason A Copeland
MASON A COPELAND,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

MASON A COPELAND,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

PART A REPORTS

89TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L)
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)

SUBJECT: Armament Report.

APO 337.
31 August 45.

TO : Historical Officer, 89th Bombardment Squadron (L) APO 337.

1. The following information is hereby submitted for the Squadron History for the Month of August 1945.

The following bombs were dropped during the month.

159-500#M76.
18-500#M64
192-100#M47A2.
70,180 Rounds of Ammunition expended.

For the Squadron Commander:

Frank R. Brown,
FRANK R. BROWN,
1st Lt., ORD.,
Ordnance Officer.

89TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L)
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF

DEH/mw

APC 337,
4 September 1945.

SUBJECT: Operations Report.

TO : Historical Officer, 89th Bombardment Squadron (L),
APC 337.

1. The following information is hereby submitted for the Squadron History for the month of August, 1945:

a. Strength, airplanes:

- (1) At beginning of period: 6 A-26-B's, 8 A-20-G's, 5 A-20-H's.
TOTAL: 19 Airplanes.
- (2) Net increase during period: 2 A-20-H's.
- (3) No. lost through combat: Nil.
- (4) No. lost not through combat: 1 A-26-B.
- (5) No. lost on ground due to enemy action: Nil.
- (6) No. lost through transfer: 1 A-20-G.
- (7) No. received through transfer: 2 A-20-H's.
- (8) At end of period: 5 A-26-B's, 7 A-20-H's, 7 A-20-G's.
TOTAL: 19 Airplanes.

b. The Squadron flew 52 combat sorties during the month of August, 1945.

c. The Squadron flew 265:35 combat hours during the month of August, 1945.

d. The Squadron flew a total of 488:45 hours during the month of August, 1945.

e. Operations:

(1) On the 9th of August, 1945, the Squadron flew its first mission over the Japanese homeland. Within the following three days, a total of six missions were flown over enemy home territory with the most amazing results. Reaching as far north as Heigun Island in the Inland Sea with A-26's, the Squadron took part in a campaign of activity and destruction almost unparalleled in its history. Credit is given for wholesale destruction in Kushikino, Kumamoto, Kanjiki, Akune and Abaratsu, all on the island of Kyushu. Rocket firing in combat was made an actuality and proved its worth as illustrated in intelligence reports and photographs.

(2) The 89th Squadron climaxed its very successful combat career beginning at Lae, New Guinea in August, 1942, with its final missions over the Japanese homeland in August, 1945, a record of extreme success in low

level flying tactics.

Douglas B. Hughmanick
DOUGLAS B. HUGHMANICK,
Captain, Air Corps,
Operations Officer.

SECTION III

BIBLIOGRAPHY

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Intelligence Section.

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Morning Reports, 89th Squadron Personnel Section.

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