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302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON  
HISTORICAL RECORDS  
AR 345-105

O.H. - 13 Oct 1942 to 29 Feb 44.

54-11-302-H1  
13 OCT 42

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## A. ORIGINAL UNIT.

1. DESIGNATION -- 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON.
2. ACTIVATION - OCTOBER 13, 1942.
3. PLACE OF ACTIVATION - TUSKEGEE ARMY FLYING SCHOOL TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA.
4. AUTHORITY FOR ORGANIZATION - PER LTR. AGO 320.2 (7-3-42) NR-N-AF JULY 4, 1942 CONSTITUTION, ACTIVATION, AND REASSIGNMENT OF CERTAIN ARMY AIR FORCE UNITS AND GO. #312 HEADQUARTERS 3RD. AF. TAMPA, FLORIDA 10/13/42 CONSISTING OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS:

332ND FTR. GROUP  
100TH FTR. SQDN.  
301ST FTR. SQDN. AND THE  
302ND FTR. SQDN.

## 5. SOURCES FROM WHICH PERSONNEL OBTAINED:

MARCH 11, 43 SECOND LT. WILLIAM T. MATTISON O-792895 RELIEVED FROM ASSIGNMENT TO 100TH FTR. SQDN. 332ND FTR. GP. AND ASSIGNED TO 302ND FOR PURPOSE OF COMMAND. SO. #18.

MARCH 12, 43 SECOND LT. BENJAMIN F. BULLOCK RELIEVED FROM ASSIGNMENT TO 100TH FTR. SQDN. AND ASSIGNED TO 302ND. THE FOLLOWING EM. HAVING BEEN TRANSFERRED TO THIS ORGANIZATION THIS DATE PER PAR. 25 SO. #66 HQ. TUSKEGEE ARMY FLYING SCHOOL TUSKEGEE, ALA. ARE HEREBY ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. 332ND FTR. GP. AND WILL REPORT TO COMMANDER THEREBY FOR DUTY:

ONE FIRST SGT., ONE MASTER SGT., THREE TECH. SGTS., NINE STAFF SGTS., FOURTEEN SGTS., 33 CPLS., THIRTY-THREE PFCs., AND FOURTEEN PVTs. SO. #19.

MARCH 15, 43 VOCO MARCH 12, 43 ASSIGNED THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. 332ND FTR. GP., WHO HAVING BEEN ASSIGNED TO THIS ORG. PER PAR. 25 SO. #66 HQ. TUSKEGEE ARMY FLYING SCHOOL TUSKEGEE, ALA. DATED MARCH 11, 43 IS HEREBY CONFIRMED AND MADE OF RECORD: CAPTAIN NELSON S. BROOKS O-432774 AC., SECOND LT. MORRIS M. HATCHETT O-561230 AC., FIRST LT. CLARENCE G. SOUTHALE O-441996 AC., SECOND LT. SAMUEL L. FULLER O-373152 AC., AND ONE PFC. THE FOLLOWING EM. RELIEVED FROM ASSIGNMENT TO 302ND FTR. SQDN.: ONE TECH. SGT. TWO STAFF SGTS., SIX SGTS., 21 CPLS., TWENTY-SIX PFCs., AND ELEVEN PVTs. THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS HAVING REPORTED TO THIS ORG. PER PAR. SO. # 70 HQ. TUSKEGEE ARMY FLYING SCHOOL TUSKEGEE, ALA. DATED MARCH 15, 43 ARE HEREBY ASSIGNED TO THE 302ND FTR. SQDN. 332ND FTR. GP.: SECOND LT. RICHARD G. ALLEN O-1640166 SC., SECOND LT. CHARLES H. BELL O-1640212 SC., SECOND LT. ROBERT E. CAMPBELL O-1637848 SC.,

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SECOND LT. JAMES D. FRANKLIN O-1641299 SC., SECOND LT. WALTER HIGHT O-1637668 SC., SECOND LT. ROBERT L. KING O-1641468 SC., SECOND LT. GEORGE M. LOWTHER O-1639324 SC., SECOND LT. JAMES D. MORRIS O-1639605 SC., SECOND LT. HENRY P. MILE O-1642389 SC., SECOND LT. KENNETH C. PRICNE O-1636502 SC., SECOND LT. ARTHUR B. -POLITE O-1638276 SC., SECOND LT. ROGER L. RICHARDSON O-1638359 SC., SECOND LT. DUDLEY V. SIMMS O-1640963 SC., SECOND LT. GEORGE E. SMITH O-1640015 SC., SECOND LT. FREDERICK WHITE O-1640120 SC., SECOND LT. WILLIAM H. BAILOUS O-1636951 SC., SECOND LT. CHARLES A. BOWERS O-1637060 SC., SECOND LT. WHITTIE ENGLISH O-1637367 SC., SECOND LT. HOSEA HAYES O-1640540 SC., SECOND LT. JAMES P. JONES O-1640602 SC., SECOND LT. ROBERT W. LAWRENCE O-1640660 SC., SECOND LT. DEAN B. MOHR O-1638098 SC., SECOND LT. MILLEDGE D. MOSLEY O-1642411 SC., SECOND LT. WILLIAM N. MOULDEN O-1292373 SC., SECOND LT. FRANCES W. POTTER O-1640826 SC., SECOND LT. JAMES F. REYNOLDS O-1640864 SC., SECOND LT. WILLIAM ROBERTS O-1636547 SC., SECOND LT. WINSTON SIMMS O-1638519 SC., SECOND LT. ALEXANDER WASHINGTON O-1641971 SC., SECOND LT. WALDO E. WILLIAMS O-1641069 SC., WO(JR. GR.) BRUCE UNDERDUE (W-2105425) ALSO FOUR CPLs., THREE TECH. FIFTHS, THIRTY-SEVEN PFDS., AND ONE-HUNDRED AND NINETY-SIX PVTS. EM. ON DS. ONE STAFF SGT., ONE SGT., ONE TECH. FOURTH, ONE CPL., TWENTY-EIGHT PFCS., AND SEVENTEEN PVTS. AUTHORITY SO. #20.

MARCH 23, 43 ONE CPL ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SO. #22.

MARCH 29, 43 ONE PVT ASSIGNED 302ND FTR. SQDN. ALSO ONE PVT RELIEVED FROM 302ND FTR. SQDN. SO. #23.

APRIL 5, 43 THREE CPLs RELIEVED FROM ASSIGNMENT TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. AND ASSIGNED TO HQ. 332ND FTR. GP. SO. #25

APRIL 6, 43 FIRST LT. THEODORE H. ELBERT O-358578 AC. IS HEREBY RELIEVED FROM ASSIGNMENT TO 100TH FTR. SQDN. AND IS ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SECOND LT. WILLIAM M. WOMACH O-570848 AC. IS HEREBY RELIEVED FROM ASSIGNMENT TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. AND ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. ONE M/SGT. RELIEVED FROM 302ND FTR. SQDN. AND ASSIGNED TO 332ND HQ. SO. #26.

APRIL 8, 43 CAPTAIN NELSON S. BROOKS O-432774 AC. 302ND FTR. SQDN. IS APPOINTED TEMPORARY GROUP SUMMARY COURT OFFICER IN ADDITION TO OTHER DUTIES. SECOND LT. WILLIAM WOMACH GRANTED TWO DAYS LEAVE. SO. #27

APRIL 14, 43 CAPTAIN NELSON S. BROOKS O-432774 AC. RELIEVED FROM APPOINTMENT AS TEMP. GP. SUMMARY COURT OFFICER. SECOND LT. PRENTICE A. TOWNSEND O-1553920 ORD. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SO. #28.

APRIL 15, 43 PARA. 1 SO #28 AS PERTAINS TO CAPTAIN NELSON S. BROOKS IS REVOKED.

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FOLLOWING EM. RELIEVED FROM 302ND FTR. SQDN. ONE STAFF SGT. ONE PVT. AND ASSIGNED TO HQ. 332ND FTR. GP. SO. #29.

APRIL 19, 43 FOLLOWING EM. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. & SQDN. FROM HQ. LOWERY FLD. COLO.: ONE CPL., THREE PFCs. SO. #30.

APRIL 20, 43 FOLLOWING EM. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN.: THREE PFCs. SO. #31

MAY 1, 43 FOLLOWING EM. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. ONE STAFF SGT., TWO SGTS., ONE PFC., AND THREE PVTS. SO. #34.

MAY 3, 43. CPL. REDUCED TO GRADE OF PVT. FOR MIS-CONDUCT. ONE CPL. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. ONE CPL. RELIEVED FROM 302ND FTR. SQDN. SECOND LT. WILLIAM T. MATTISON O-792785 IN TRAINING AT OSCODA (SUB-BASE) SO. #35.

MAY 8, 43. SECOND LT. JOHN R. BEVERLY JR. O-571000 RELIEVED FROM ASSIGNMENT TO GP. HQ. AND ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SO. #36.

MAY 12, 43. FIRST LT. FRANK N. JORDAN O-482295 MC. RELEASED FROM ASSIGNED TO 100TH FTR. SQDN. AND ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SECOND LT. ROBERT B. TRESVILLE HAVING REPORTED TO GP. HQ. THIS DATE PER PAR. 22 SO. 105 HQ. ARMY AIR FORCES WASHINGTON, D. C. MAY 1, 43 ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. CAPTAIN NELSON S. BROOKS O-432774 IS IN ADD. TO OTHER DUTIES APPOINTED GP. INVESTIGATING OFFICER. THE FOLLOWING EM. 302ND FTR. SQDN. ARE ATTACHED TO 100TH FTR. SQDN. AND WILL PROCEED BY MOTOR TRANS. TO OSCODA, MICH. FOR TRAINING IN ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS AND ON COMPLETION OF SAID DUTIES WILL RETURN TO THIS STATION.: ELEVEN PFCs., SECOND LT. ROBERT B. TRESVILLE O-25761 AC. PLACED ON TD. AT OSCODA, MICH. FOR PURPOSE OF AERIAL AND GROUND GUNNERY AND IS ATTACHED TO 100TH FTR. SQDN. UNTIL SUCH TIME AS RELIEVED FROM TD. AT OSCODA, MICH. SO. #37.

MAY 16, 43. PURSUANT TO VOCO THIRD FTR. COMMAND, COLONEL ROBERT R. SELWAY JR. O-15673 ASSUMES COMMAND OF ALL UNITS OF 332ND FTR. GP. SO. #38.

MAY 19, 43. ONE PFC. PROMOTED TO RANK OF CPL. ONE CPL. RELIEVED FROM ASSIGNMENT TO 302ND AND ASSIGNED TO GP. HQ. ONE PVT. ATTACHED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SO. #39.

MAY 20, 43. FOLLOWING EM. ARE ATTACHED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. FOR ADM. AND RATIONS. ONE M/SGT., FIVE SGTS., TWO CPLs., TWO PFCs., AND ONE PVT. FOLLOWING HQ. OFFICERS ATTACHED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN.: O. FIRST LT. HAYWOOD J. BURNS O-512008 AC. SECOND LT. DENJAL T. HARNEY O-576965 AC. SO. #40.

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2052

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MAY 29, 43 FIRST LT. ROBERT B. TRESVILLE O-251761 AC. IS HEREBY APPOINTED CO. OF THE 302ND FTR. SQDN. VICE SECOND LT. WILLIAM T. MATTISON O-792785 AC. EFFECTIVE THIS DATE. SECOND LT. MORRIS M. HATCHETT O-561230 AC. 302ND FTR. SQDN. IS APPOINTED TO ATTEND THE AIR INTELLIGENCE SCHOOL AT SELF-RIDGE FLD., MICH. VICE SECOND LT. WILLIAM T. WOMACH O-570848 AC. 302ND FTR. SQDN. THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS REPORTING TO GP. HQ. JUNE 5, 43 PER PAR. SO. #134 TAAF TUSKEGEE, ALA. DATED MAY 24, 43 ARE ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SECOND LT. HEBER C. HOUSTON O-801170 AC., SECOND LT. LEONARD M. JACKSON O-801172 AC., SECOND LT. CURTIS C. ROBINSON O-801174 AC., SECOND LT. JAMES Y. CARTER O-801163 AC., SECOND LT. LUKE J. WEATHERS O-801178 AC., SECOND LT. CHARLES T. WILLIAMS O-801179 AC., THE ABOVE NAMED OFFICERS ARE ATTACHED TO THE 100TH FTR. SQDN FOR TRAINING. SO. #43.

MAY 31, 43 VOCO THE FOLLOWING EM. 302ND FTR. SQDN. SELFRIDGE FLD., MICH. ARE PLACED ON DS. AT OSCODA, MICH. ATTACHED TO THE 301ST FTR. SQDN.: THREE PVTS. VOCO AND LT. CHESTER A. BURTON O-1553409 ORD. RELIEVED FROM ASSIGNMENT TO THE 100TH FTR. SQDN. SECOND LT. PRENTICE D. TOWNSEND RELIEVED FROM ASSIGNMENT TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. AND ASSIGNED TO 100TH FTR. SQDN. VOCO SECOND LT. BENJAMIN D. JONES O-572185 AC., ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. ONE PFC. RELIEVED FROM 302ND AND ASSIGNED TO 302ST FTR. SQDN. SO. #44.

JUNE 1, 43 VOCO FIRST LT. HAYWOOD J. BURNS O-512008 RELIEVED FROM 302ND FTR. SQDN. ONE PFC ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SO. #45.

JUNE 8, 43 CAPTAIN NELSON S. BROOKS O-432774 AC. RELIEVED FROM ASSIGNMENT TO 302ND FTR. SQDN AND ASSIGNED TO HQ. 332ND FTR. GP. SO. #48.

JUNE 10, 43 SECOND LT. LEWIS C. SMITH O-801176 AC. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. ONE PVT. ASSIGNED 302ND. SO #49.

JUNE 11, 43 SECOND LT. MORRIS M. HATCHETT O-561230 AC. RELIEVED FROM 302ND AND ASSIGNED TO 302ST FTR. SQDN. ONE PVT. PROMOTED TO CPL. SO. #50.

JUNE 21, 43 SECOND LT. WILLIAM WOMACH O-570848 AC. RELIEVED FROM ASSIGNMENT TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. AND ASSIGNED TO HQ. 332ND FTR. GP. SECOND LT. CHESTER BURTON ORD. GRANTED TEN DAYS LEAVE. SECOND LT. PAUL V. FREEMAN O-568206 AC. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. ONE SGT. ASSIGNED TO 302ND AND ONE PVT RELEASED SO. #54.

JUNE 25, 43 FOLLOWING EM. RELEASED FROM 302ND AND ASSIGNED TO HQ. ONE STAFF SGT. ONE SGT. ONE CPL TWO PFCs SO. #57.

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JUNE 26, 43 FOLLOWING EM. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN  
FOUR STAFF SGTS., THREE SGTS., SEVEN CPLs., AND SEVEN PFCS.  
SO. #58. FOLLOWING OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN.  
SECOND LT. JOHN F. BRIGGS JR. O-804546 AC., SECOND LT. CLEMEN-  
CEAU M. GIVING O-804551 AC., SECOND LT. SPURGEON N. ELLINGTON  
O-804549 AC., SECOND LT. GEORGE E. GRAY O-804553 AC., SECOND  
LT. LANGDON E. JOHNSON O-804554 AC., SECOND LT. JAMES A.  
WALKER O-804562 AC., SECOND LT. MAUNCE V. ESTERS O-804550 AC.,  
SECOND LT. JOHN L. HAMILTON O-1576078 AC., SECOND LT. HARRY  
A. SHEPPARD O-804559 AC., SECOND LT. JOHN J. SUGGS O-804561  
AC., SECOND LT. FREDDIE E. HUTCHINS O-801171 AC., SECOND LT.  
LUTHER H. SMITH JR. O-804560 AC., SECOND LT. CRAIG H. WILL-  
IAMS O-804565 AC., SECOND LT. JOSEPH P. GOMER O-804552 AC.,  
SECOND LT. FELIP K. KIRKPATRICK JR. O-804555 AC., SECOND LT.  
DUDLEY M. WATSON O-804563 AC., SECOND LT. ALBERT H. MANN-  
ING JR. O-804556 AC., SECOND LT. CHARLES M. BUSSEY O-804548  
AC., SECOND LT. LAWRENCE D. WILKENS O-804564 AC. SO. #59.

JULY 1, 43 FOLLOWING OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR.  
SQDN. SECOND LT. MCDANIEL O-796266 AC., SECOND LT. VERNON  
W. HAYWOOD O-801168 AC., SECOND LT. CHARLES R. STANTON  
O-796268 AC., SECOND LT. ALFOUZA W. DAVIS O-798944 AC.,  
SECOND LT. ROY M. SPENCER O-797223 AC., SECOND LT. WENDELL  
O. PRIUTT O-794600 AC., SECOND LT. MELVIA T. JACKSON  
O-793708 AC., SECOND LT. VERNON E. PUNCH RELIEVED FROM  
ASSIGNMENT WITH 100TH FTR. SQDN AND ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR.  
SQDN. SO. # 61.

JULY 6, 43 FIRST LT. ROBERT B. TRESVILLE O-25761 AC.  
RELIEVED FROM ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. FOR DUTY AS CO.  
SECOND LT. EDWARD C. GLEED O-794598 AC. RELIEVED FROM  
ASSIGNMENT TO 100TH FTR. SQDN. AND ASSIGNED TO 302ND FOR  
DUTY AS CO. FOLLOWING OFFICERS RELIEVED FROM ASSIGNMENT TO  
302ND FTR. SQDN.: SECOND LT. MELVIA T. JACKSON O-793708  
AC., AND SECOND LT. WILLIAM T. MATTISON O-792793 AC.  
FOLLOWING OFFICERS RELIEVED FROM 100TH FTR. SQDN. AND ASSIG-  
NED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN.: SECOND LT. LUTHER H. SMITH JR.  
O-804560 AC., SECOND LT. JAMES A. WALKER O-804562 AC. SO. #64.

JULY 14, 43 FOLLOWING EM. REPORTING FROM AAFTC  
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. THREE SGTS.,  
TWO T/FIVES, FIFTEEN PFCS, ONE CPL AND ONE T/FOUR. FOLLOW-  
ING EM. REPORTING FROM AAF SCHOOL OF APPLIED FACTERS  
ORLANDO, FLA. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN.: THREE SGTS.,  
SEVEN CPLs., TWENTY PFCS., EIGHT PVTS, AND TWO T/FOURS. SO.  
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JULY 15, 43 FOLLOWING EM. REPORTING FROM HQ. T AND C AAF AND C KEARNS, UTAH ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. TWO PVTS FOLLOWING EM. REPORTING FROM TRAINING DET. AAF AND C CURTIS TECH. TRAINING SCHOOL BUFFALO, N.Y. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. THREE CPLS. SO. #68.

JULY 16, 43 FOLLOWING EM. REPORTING FROM HQ. FT. MADMOUTH I.J. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. ONE PFC AND TWO PVTS. ONE PFC RELEASED FROM ASSIGNMENT TO 301ST AND ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SO. #69.

JULY 21, 43 FOLLOWING OFFICERS ATTACHED TO OSCODA BOMB AND GUNNERY DET.: SECOND LT. CHARLES M. BUSSEY O-801518 AC., SECOND LT. LEWIS C. SMITH O-801176 AC., SECOND LT. JOHN J. SUGGS O-801561 AC. FOLLOWING OFFICERS RELIEVED FROM ASSIGN. TO OSCODA BOMB AND GUNNERY DET.: SECOND LT. HEYER C. HOUSTON O-801170 AC. ONE CPL., ONE PVT. AND ONE PFC ASSIGNED TO 302ND. SO. #71.

JULY 24, 43 SECOND LT. ALFONZA DAVIS O-798944 AC. RELIEVED FROM ATTACHMENT TO OSCODA BOMB AND GUNNERY DET. ONE CPL., THREE PFCs AND TWO PVTS ASSIGNED TO 302ND. FOLLOWING EM. REPORTING FROM HQ. T.S. AAFTG, TOMAH, WIS. ARE ATTACHED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN.: ONE S/SGT., THREE SGTs., TWO T/FOURS, TWENTY-SIX CPLs. SO. #74.

JULY 27, 43 FOLLOWING EM. ASSIGNED 302ND FTR. SQDN.: TWO PFC., ONE PVT., TWO T/FOURS PROMOTED TO SGT. FOUR T/5s PROMOTED CPL. SO. #76.

JULY 31, 43 ONE PFC AND EIGHTEEN PVTS ASSIGNED TO 302ND

AUGUST 1, 43 FOLLOWING OFFICERS REPORTING FROM HQ. TAIF, TUSKEGEE, ALA. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN.: SECOND LT. ALEXANDER M. BRIGHT O-801326 AC., SECOND LT. WELDON K. GROVES O-806985 AC., SECOND LT. WILLIE S. HUNTER O-807097 AC., SECOND LT. CHARLES E. MOORE O-807103 AC., SECOND LT. JOHN S. SLOAN O-807109 AC., SECOND LT. JESSE WILLIAMS II O-862354 AC., TWO PVTS ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN.: TWO SGTs PROMOTED TO S/SGT., FOUR CPLs PROMOTED TO SGT., SEVEN PFCs PROMOTED TO CPL. SO. #80.

AUGUST 3, 43 FOLLOWING EM. REPORTING FROM HQ. TAIF, TUSKEGEE, ALA. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. ONE T/SGT., TWO S/SGTs., TWO SGTs., FOUR CPLs., ONE T/FIVE, SIX PFCs AND ONE PVT. SO. #82.

AUGUST 5, 43 FOLLOWING EM. ASSIGNED TO 302 D FTR. SQDN. TWELVE CPLs. SO. #82.

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AUGUST 7, 43 SECOND LT. BENJAMIN F. BULLOCK JR. O-846946 AC. GRANTED TEN DAYS LEAVE. SO. #84.

AUGUST 8, 43 ONE SGT. PROMOTED TO S/SGT. AND SEVEN PFCs PROMOTED TO CPL. SO. #85.

AUGUST 12, 43 ONE CPL. AND TWO PFCs. RELEASED FROM 302ND FTR. SQDN. AND ASSIGNED TO 3011ST. SO. #88.

AUGUST 13, 43 FOLLOWING OFFICERS ATTACHED TO GS202A BOMB AND GUNNERY DET.: SECOND LT. FREDDIE E. HUTCHINS O-801171 AC., SECOND LT. LUTHER H. SMITH JR. O-304560 AC., SECOND LT. LAWRENCE D. WILKINS O-104561 AC., SECOND LT. EVERETT W. JOHNSON JR. O-863703 AC., ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SO. #89.

AUGUST 19, 43 FOLLOWING EW. REPORTING FROM HQ. AAF LANGLEY FIELD, VA. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SIX PVTS. SO. #91.

AUGUST 18, 43 ONE SGT., SIX CPLs ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SECOND LT. EDWARD C. BLEED O-794598 RELEASED FROM INSTRUMENT FLYING PROFICIENCY BOARD. SECOND LT. WENDELL O. PRUITT APTC. INSTRUMENT FLYING PROFICIENCY BOARD. SO. #93.

AUGUST 19, 43 ONE CPL PROMOTED SGT. SIX PVTS ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SO. #94.

AUGUST 20, 43 FOLLOWING EW. REPORTING FROM HQ. TS, AAFTC, LINCOLN, NEB. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN.: NINE PFCs AND ONE PVT. SECOND LT. JAMES Y. CARTER SUSPENDED FROM FLYING PENDING INVESTIGATION. SO. #95.

AUGUST 21, 43 ONE CPL AND TWO PFCs ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SO. #96.

AUGUST 21, 43 SECOND LT. JAMES W. CONLEY O-581528 AC. AND SECOND LT. BENNIE PERKINS O-582234 AC. ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. THREE CPLs ASSIGNED TO 302ND FTR. SQDN. SECOND LT. WILLIAM W. MULDEN O-1292373 AC. ASSIGNED TO 302ND. SO. #98.

AUGUST 25, 43 SECOND LT. WILLIE S. HUNTER O-507097 SUSPENDED FROM FLYING PEND. EXAM. IN ACC. WITH AAF REG. CO-2. ONE T/SGT. ONE PFC, AND ONE PVT. ASSIGNED TO 302ND. SO. #99.

AUGUST 26, 43 FIRST SGT. WILLIAM H. CARTER REDUCED TO PVT. FRO MISCONDUCT. ONE SGT. AND ONE CPL ASSIGNED TO 302ND. SO. #100.

AUGUST 27, 43 SECOND LT. DEAN B. MOHR O-1638098 AC. ASSIGNED 302ND. THREE CPLs ASSIGNED 302ND. ONE PFC PROMOTED CPL. SO. #101.

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AUGUST 29, 43 SECOND LT. JAMES Y. CARTER O-801163  
RETURNED TO FLYING DUTY. ONE SGT. AND TWO PVTS ATTACH-  
ED TO OSCODA BOMB AND GUNNERY DET. SO. #102.

AUGUST 29, 43 ONE S/SGT. AND ONE CPL. ASSIGNED 302ND.  
SO. #103.

SEPTEMBER 1, 43 SECOND LT. PAUL ADAMS O-801160 AC.  
AND GUTMAN O. WALKER O-796269 AC. ASSIGNED TO 302ND.  
SO. #105.

SEPTEMBER 2, 43 FOLLOWING OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO 302ND:  
SECOND LT. LEE A. ARCHER O-809236 AC. SECOND LT. EDWARD  
N. SMITH O-809253 AC. SECOND LT. EDDIE A. McLAURIN O-  
809248 AC. SECOND LT. WILLIAM B. ELLIS O-1637362 AC.  
SECOND LT. WILLIAM W. GREEN O-809240 AC. SECOND LT. W.  
WALTER D. WESTMORELAND O-809257 AC. SECOND LT. ELMER W.  
TAYLOR O-809255 AC. SO. #106.

SEPTEMBER 4, 43 SECOND LT. WILLIAM R. MELTON JR.  
ASSIGNED 302ND. FOLLOWING OFFICERS ATTACHED TO OSCODA  
BOMB AND GUNNERY DET. FOR TRAINING. SECOND LT. HARRY  
A. SHEPPARD O-801559 AC. SECOND LT. FELIX J. KIRKPATRICK  
JR. O-801553 AC. SECOND LT. MILTON R. BROOKS O-801547 AC.  
SECOND LT. DUDLEY M. WATSON O-801563 AC. SECOND LT.  
CHARLES E. MC GEE O-801103 AC. SECOND LT. LAWRENCE D.  
WILKINS O-801564 AC. SECOND LT. JAMES A. WALKER O-  
801562 AC. AND FREDDIE E. HUTCHINS O-801171 AC. ONE  
PFC RELIEVED FROM 302ND. ONE PVT. PROMOTED TO SGT. AND  
ONE SGT. REDUCED TO GRADE OF PVT. LT. ALBERT H. MANN-  
ING JR. O-801556 AC. RELIEVED FROM ATTCH. TO OSCODA BOMB  
AND GUNNERY DET. SO. #107.

SEPTEMBER 7, 43 CAPTAIN VANCE H. MARCH ANKS JR. O-  
379389 AC. APTD. GP. MEDICAL OFFICER. FIVE CPLS RE-  
LIEVED FROM 302ND AND ~~XXX~~ ASSIGNED TO GP. ONE SGT. AND  
SIX CPLS RELIEVED FROM GP. AND ASSIGNED TO 302ND SO. #110.

SEPTEMBER 11, 43 SECOND LT. LUKE J. WEATHERS JR. O-  
801178 AC. SUSPENDED FROM FLYING PEND. APPEARANCE BEFORE  
FLYING EVALUATION BOARD. ONE PFC AND ONE PVT. ASSIGNED  
TO 302ND SO. #113.

SEPTEMBER 13, 43 ONE T/FIVE ASSIGNED AND ONE CPL RLVD.  
FROM 302ND. SO. #114.

SEPTEMBER 14, 43 ONE S/SGT. ATTACHED TO OSCODA BOMB  
AND GUNNERY DET. TO OPERATE POINT TO POINT COMM. ONE  
PFC ASSIGNED TO 302ND. SO. #115.

SEPTEMBER 16, 43 SECOND LT. EVERETT W. JOHNSON O-  
863703 AC. GRANTED TEN DAYS LEAVE. ONE T/FOUR AND ONE  
T/FIVE ASSIGNED TO 302ND. SO. #116.

SEPTEMBER 17, 43 SECOND LT. WILLIAM H. BAILOUS O-  
1636951 AC. RLVD. FROM HQ. AND ASSIGNED TO 302ND.

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SECOND LT. BENJAMIN D. JONES O-1636951 AC. RLVD. FROM HQ. AND ASSIGNED TO 302ND. TWO S/SGTS. APTD. T/SGTS., TWO SGTs. APTD. S/SGT. THIRTEEN CPLs PROMOTED SGT. NINETEEN PFCs PROMOTED CPL. SO. #117.

SEPTEMBER 20, 43 SECOND LT. VERNON V. HAYWOOD O-801118 AC. 302ND GRANTED FIVE DAYS LEAVE. ONE T/FOUR ASSIGNED TO 302ND. SO. #119.

SEPTEMBER 21, 43 LT. VERNON E. PUNCH O-573027 AC. GRANTED FOUR DAYS LEAVE. ONE FIRST SGT. ASSIGNED TO 302ND. SECOND LT. ELMER L. GORDON O-798947 AC. RELD. FROM DUTY WITH 301ST AND ASSIGNED TO 302ND. SECOND LT. JESSE WILLIAMS II O-562354 AC. RELD. FROM ASSIGNMENT TO 302ND AND ASSIGNED TO HQ. SO. #120.

SEPTEMBER 22, 43 SECOND LT. LUTHER H. SMITH JR. O-804560 AC. RELD. FROM ATTACHMENT TO OSCODA BOMB AND GUNNERY DET. SECOND LT. LUKE J. WEATHERS JR. O-801178 AC. AND SECOND LT. JOSEPH P. GOMER O-804552 AC. RETURNED TO FLYING DUTY. SO. #121.

SEPTEMBER 24, 43 FOLLOWING OFFICERS RELD. FROM ATTACHMENT TO OSCODA BOMB AND GUNNERY DET. SECOND LT. MILTON R. BROOKS O-804547 AC. SECOND LT. CHARLES E. MCGEE O-307103 AC. SECOND LT. DUDLEY M. WATSON O-804563 AC. FOLLOWING OFFICERS ATTACHED TO OSCODA BOMB AND GUNNERY DET. SECOND LT. ALEXANDER M. BRIGHT O-804626 AC. SECOND LT. WELDON K. GROVES O-805935 AC. SECOND LT. JOHN D. SLOAN O-807109 AC. ONE PFC RELD. FROM DUTY. SO. #123.

SEPTEMBER 25, 43 SECOND LT. WILLIE S. HUNTER O-807097 AC. RETURNED TO FLYING DUTY. SO. #124.

SEPTEMBER 29, 43 SECOND LT. ALEXANDER M. BRIGHT O-804626 AC. TEMP. SUSPENDED FROM FLYING DUTY. SO. #127.

SEPTEMBER 30, 43 FOLLOWING OFFICERS ATTACHED TO OSCODA BOMB AND GUNNERY DET. SECOND LT. EDWARD N. SMITH O-309253 AC. SECOND LT. ELMER W. TAYLOR O-309225 AC. SO. #128.

OCTOBER 1, 43 FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO 302ND. SECOND LT. WILLIAM E. HILL O-811281 AC. SECOND LT. LEON PURCHASE O-811207 AC. SECOND LT. HUBON R. BLACKWELL O-311193 AC. SECOND LT. WILLIAM B. MCCLEMIC JR. O-811285 AC. SECOND LT. SMITH V. GREEN O-811280 AC. SECOND LT. ROGER ROMINE O-811283 AC. THE ABOVE NAMED OFFICERS ATTACHED TO OSCODA BOMB AND GUNNERY DET. SO. #129.

OCTOBER 2, 43 SECOND LT. VERNON E. PUNCH O-573027 AC. ATTACHED TO OSCODA BOMB AND GUNNERY DET. AS DIRECTOR OF GROUND TRAINING. ONE S/SGT, ONE SGT. FIVE C-LS SIX PFCs OF 302ND ATTACHED TO OSCODA BOMB AND GUNNERY DET. SO. #130.

OCTOBER 5, 43 TWO PVTS ASSIGNED 302ND. SO. #132.

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2058

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OCTOBER 8, 43 CAPTAIN VANCH H. MARCHBANKS RECD. FROM ATTACHMENT TO OSCODA BOMB AND GUNNERY DET. SECOND LT. ELMER L. GORDON O-798917 AC. AND SECOND LT. QUITMAN C. WALKER O-796269 AC. ON TEMP. DUTY TO BUFFALO, N.Y. FOR PURPOSE OF PURSUING COURSE IN ENGINEERING SCHOOL BELL AIRCRAFT CORP. ONE PVT ASSIGNED 302ND. ONE S/SGT. PROMOTED TO T/SGT., FIVE SGTs PROMOTED S/SGTs., TWO CPLs PROMOTED TO SGTs., FIVE PFCs PROMOTED TO CPLs. SO. #135.

OCTOBER 11, 43 TWO CPLs., TWO PFCs., ONE PVT ASSIGNED TO 302ND. SO. #136.

OCTOBER 12, 43 ONE PFC ASSIGNED 302ND. SO. #137.

OCTOBER 14, 43 ONE S/Sgt. PROMOTED T/SGT., TWO SGTs FROM TO S/SGT., FOUR CPLs PROM. TO SGT., AND TWO PFCs FROM TO CPL. SO. #138.

OCTOBER 16, 43 SECOND LT. WILLIAM W. MOULDEN O-1292273 AC. ONE S/SGT., THREE SGTs., SEVEN CPLs AND ONE PVT ATTACHED TO OSCODA BOMB AND GUNNERY DET. FROM 302ND. SO. #140.

OCTOBER 19, 43 SECOND LT. WILLIE S. HUNTER O-807097 AC. SUSPENDED FROM FLYING PEND. APPEARANCE BEFORE FLYING EVALUATION BOARD. SO. #141.

OCTOBER 26, 43 SECOND LT. WILLIAM B. ELLIS O-1637362 AC. RETURNED TO FULL FLYING STATUS. SECOND LT. ROGER RUMINE O-811285 AC. SUSPENDED FROM FLYING. SECOND LT. WILLIE S. HUNTER O-807097 AC. RETURNED TO FLYING STATUS. SECOND LT. LUTHER H. SMITH JR. O-80456 AC. SUSP. FROM FLYING. SO. #146.

OCTOBER 27, 43 TWO CPLs, TWO PVTS ASSIGNED TO 302ND. SO. #147.

OCTOBER 28, 43 SECOND LT. JAMES Y. CARTER RETURNED TO FULL FLYING STATUS. SECOND LT. SMITH W. GREEN O-811280 AC. SUSP. FROM FLYING. ONE T/SGT PROMOTED TO F/SGT. FIVE CPLs PROMOTED SGT. SIX PFCs PROMOTED CPL. SO. #148.

OCTOBER 29, 43 SECOND LT. ROGER RUMINE RETURNED TO FLYING STATUS.

NOVEMBER 3, 43 SECOND LT. QUITMAN C. WALKER O-796269 AC. RECD. FROM ASSIGNMENT TO 302ND. SECOND LT. WILLIAM D. MCCLING O-811265 AC. SUSP. FROM FLYING DUTY. SECOND LT. SAMUEL FULLER O-373152 AC. RECD FROM ASSIGNMENT TO 302ND. SO. #151.

NOVEMBER 9, 43 ONE CPL PROMOTED SGT. SO. #155.

NOVEMBER 10, 43 ONE PVT. ASSIGNED 302ND. SO. #156.

NOVEMBER 12, 43 SECOND LT. LUTHER H. SMITH O-80456 AC. RETURNED TO FLYING STATUS. SO. #157.

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2059



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NOVEMBER 14, 43 SECOND LT. JAMES F. REYNOLDS O-164086 AC.  
ASSIGNED TO 302ND. SO. #160.

NOVEMBER 21, 43 FIRST LT. WILMADE D. LEONARD O-792821 AC.  
100TH FTR. SQDN APTD. INVESTIGATING OFFICER TO REPORT FACTS  
LEADING TO DEATH OF SECOND LT. LEON PURCHASE O-841237 AC. SO.  
#162.

NOVEMBER 25, 43 ONE SGT. PROM. S/SGT. ONE CPL FROM SGT.  
ONE PVT FROM CPL. ONE S/SGT AND TWO PVTS ASSIGNED 302ND. SO.  
#164.

NOVEMBER 27, 43 THREE T/SGTS PROM. W/SGT, THREE S/SGTS  
PROM. T/SGT. TWENTY-THREE SGTs PROM S/SGTS TWENTY-SIX CPLs  
PROM SGT, EIGHT PFCs PROM. CPL, AND FOUR PVTS PROM. PFC. SO.  
#165.

C. STRENGTH COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED.  
MARCH 1ST-31ST 1943.

1. AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD MARCH 1, 43 NO PERSONNEL.
2. NET INCREASE- 37 OFFICERS, 1W.O. 351 EM.
3. NET DECREASE- 69 E.
4. END OF PERIOD- 37 OFFICERS, 1W.O. 282 EM.

APRIL 1-30 1943

1. AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD- 37 OFFICERS, 1W.O. 282EM.
2. NET INCREASE- 3 OFFICERS, 7 EM.
3. NET DECREASE- 6 EM.
4. END OF PERIOD- 40 OFFICERS, 1W.O. 288 EM.

MAY 1-31 1943

1. AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD- 40 OFFICERS, 1W.O. 288 EM.
2. NET INCREASE- 12 OFFICERS, 6 EM.
3. NET DECREASE- 1 OFFICER, 3 EM.
4. END OF PERIOD- 51 OFFICERS, 1W.O. 291 EM.

JUNE 1-30 1943

1. AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD- 51 OFFICERS, 1W.O. 291EM.
2. NET INCREASE- 21 OFFICERS, 23 EM.
3. NET DECREASE- 6 OFFICERS, 7 EM.
4. END OF PERIOD- 68 OFFICERS, 1W.O. 304 EM.

JULY 1-31 1943

1. AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD- 68 OFFICERS, 1W.O. 304 EM.
2. NET INCREASE- 8 OFFICERS, 112 EM.
3. NET DECREASE- 5 OFFICERS, 74 EM. TWO.
4. END OF PERIOD- 65 OFFICERS, 332 EM.

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**SECRET****D. STATIONS OF UNITS**

1. ACTIVATED OCTOBER 15, 42 AT TUSKEGEE ARMY FLYING SCHOOL, TUSKEGEE, ALA. THE 302ND FTR. SQDN. DEPARTED TUSKEGEE, ALA. ON MARCH 27, 43 FOR PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATIONS AT SELFRIDGE FIELD, MICH. THE SQUADRON ARRIVED AT SELFRIDGE FIELD, MICH. MARCH 29, 43.

2. ON NOVEMBER 19, 43 THE 302ND FTR. SQUADRON DEPARTED SELFRIDGE FIELD, MICH. FOR OSCODA ARMY AIR FIELD, OSCODA, MICH. ARRIVING OSCODA AAF SAME DATE. ON DECEMBER 29, 43 THE 302ND FTR. SQDN. DEPARTED OAAF, OSCODA, MICH. ARRIVING SELFRIDGE FIELD, MICH. SAME DATE.

3. ON DEC. 22ND 43 THE 302ND FTR. SQDN DEPARTED SELFRIDGE FIELD, MICH. ON CHRISTMAS MORNING DEC. 25TH 43 THE 302ND FTR. SQDN. ARRIVED AT CAMP PATRICK HENRY, HAMPTON ROADS PORT OF EMBARKATION AREA, VIRGINIA.

4. ON JANUARY 3, 44 THE 302ND FTR. SQDN. DEPARTED HAMPTON ROADS PORT OF EMBARKATION FOR UNKNOWN DESTINATION. JANUARY 29, 44 THE 302ND FTR. SQDN. ARRIVED AT TARANTO, ITALY. ON FEBRUARY 7, 44 THE 302ND FTR. SQDN. DEPARTED TARANTO, ITALY ARRIVING AT MONTECOVINO AIR BASE, MONTECOVINO, ITALY.

BY DECEMBER 1, 43 THE PERSONNEL OF THE 302ND FTR. SQDN. 302ND FTR. GP. WAS COMPLETE. THE COMMANDING OFFICER WAS FIRST LT. GLEED. THE SQDN. CONSISTED 10 OFFICERS AND 250 EM.

**A. GROUND OFFICERS**

1. CAPTAIN ARNOLD H. MALONEY-MEDICAL OFFICER
2. FIRST LT. VERNON PUNCH-EXEC. OFFICER
3. SECOND LT. JAMES N. CONLEY-ADJUTANT
4. FIRST LT. JOHN R. BEVERLY-INTELLIGENCE
5. SECOND LT. PAUL ADAMS-INTELLIGENCE
6. FIRST LT. CHESTER BURTON-ORDNANCE
7. SECOND LT. ELMER GORDON-ENGINEERING
8. SECOND LT. EVERETT JOHNSON-ARMAMENT
9. FIRST LT. BENJAMIN BULLOCK-WEATHER
10. SECOND LT. VERNON LINCOLN-SUPPLY
11. SECOND LT. WILLIAM MOULDEN-COMMUNICATIONS
12. SECOND LT. DEAN B. MOHR-COMMUNICATIONS

**B. FLYING OFFICERS**

1. FIRST LT. EDWARD C. GLEED-COMMANDING OFFICER
2. FIRST LT. WENDELL O. PRUITT-OPERATIONS OFFICER
3. FIRST LT. MILTON R. BROOKS
4. FIRST LT. ALFONZA W. DAVIS
5. FIRST LT. VERNON HAYWOOD
6. FIRST LT. HARRY SHEPPARD
7. FIRST LT. ROY W. SPENCER
8. FIRST LT. DUDLEY N. WATSON

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## AUGUST 1-31 1943

1. AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD- 65 OFFICERS, 332 EM.
2. NET INCREASE- 11 OFFICERS,
3. NET DECREASE- 68 EM.
4. END OF PERIOD- 76 OFFICERS, 264 EM.

## SEPTEMBER 1-30 1943

1. AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD- 76 OFFICERS, 264 EM.
2. NET INCREASE- 1 OFFICER, 4 EM.
3. NET DECREASE- 12 OFFICER, 5 EM.
4. END OF PERIOD- 65 OFFICERS, 263 EM.

## OCTOBER 1-31 1943

1. AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD- 65 OFFICERS, 263 EM.
2. NET INCREASE- 1 OFFICER, 5 EM.
3. NET DECREASE- 8 OFFICERS, 8 EM.
4. END OF PERIOD- 58 OFFICERS, 250 EM.

## NOVEMBER 1-30 1943

1. AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD- 58 OFFICERS, 250 EM.
2. NET INCREASE- 8 EM.
3. NET DECREASE- 15 OFFICERS
4. END OF PERIOD- 43 OFFICERS, 268 EM.

## DECEMBER 1-31 1943

1. AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD- 43 OFFICERS, 268 EM.
2. NET INCREASE- 0
3. NET DECREASE- 3 OFFICERS, 18 EM.
4. END OF PERIOD- 40 OFFICERS, 250 EM.

## JANUARY 1-31 1943

1. AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD- 40 OFFICERS, 250 EM.
2. NET INCREASE- 0
3. NET DECREASE- 0
4. END OF PERIOD- 40 OFFICERS, 250 EM.

## FEBRUARY 1-29 1943

1. AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD- 40 OFFICERS, 250 EM.
2. NET INCREASE- 0
3. NET DECREASE- 0
4. END OF PERIOD- 40 OFFICERS, 250 EM.

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- |                                  |                                  |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 9. FIRST LT. LUKE J. WEATHERS    | 18. SECOND LT. FELIX KIRKPATRICK |
| 10. SECOND LT. LEE ARCHER        | 19. " " CHARLES MOGEE            |
| 11. SECOND LT. HUBON BLACKWELL   | 20. " " WILLIAM MELTON           |
| 12. SECOND LT. CHARLES S. BUSSEY | 21. " " ROGER ROMINE             |
| 13. SECOND LT. WILLIAM GREEN     | 22. " " EDWARD N. SMITH          |
| 14. SECOND LT. WELDON K. GROVES  | 23. " " LUTHER SMITH             |
| 15. SECOND LT. GEORGE J. BAILEY  | 24. " " ELMER TAYLOR             |
| 16. SECOND LT. WILLIE HUNTER     | 25. " " JAMES WALKER             |
| 17. SECOND LT. FREDDIE HUTCHINS  | 26. " " WALTER WESTMORELAND      |
|                                  | 27. " " LAWRENCE WILKINS         |

## 3. ENLISTED MEN.

1. FIRST SGT.
2. THREE M/SGTS.
3. FOUR T/SGTS.
4. FORTY-ONE S/SGTS.
5. SEVENTY-TWO SGTS.
6. NINETY-FOUR CPLS.
7. TWENTY-ONE PFCs.
8. SEVENTEEN PVTS.

LONG BEFORE DECEMBER 1943 THERE HAD BEEN RUMORS THAT THE 332ND FTR. GP. WAS DESTINED TO SOON DEPART FOR OVERSEAS DUTY. DURING THE MONTH OF DEC. THOSE RUMORS PROVED TO BE WELL FOUNDED. INSPECTIONS OCCURRED DAY AFTER DAY UNTIL ALL EQUIPMENT FOR FOREIGN SERVICE HAD BEEN ISSUED. WHEN THAT WAS COMPLETED ALL CONCEIVED THAT IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF DAYS OR HOURS WHEN LT. GLEED WOULD TELL US "THIS IS IT". THAT TIME ARRIVED ON DEC. 20, 43 BUT PROVED TO BE A DRY RUN. BUT ON DEC. 22, 43 THE 302ND DEPARTED SELFRIDGE FIELD, MICH. FOR "DESTINATION UNKNOWN". THERE WAS ON THE NIGHT OF DEPARTURE THE USUAL BAND MUSIC, AND IN ADDITION THE 302ND WAS AWARDED A PROFICIENCY MEDAL BY THE POSTC COMMANDER WHICH WAS AN INCENTIVE FOR ALL MEN OF THE SQDN. TO CONTINUE THE EXCELLENT PERFORMANCES OF THE PAST, WHEREVER THEY MIGHT BE SENT IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY.

ON THE MORNING OF DEC. 25, 43 THE SQDN. ARRIVED AT CAMP PATRICK HENRY, HAMPTON ROADS PORT OF EMBARKATION AREA. THIS WAS INDEED A STRANGE CHRISTMAS MORNING FOR THE MEN OF THE SQDN. THERE WAS VERY LITTLE TALK CONCERNING THE HOLIDAY SEASON BUT I AM SURE THAT THE THOUGHTS OF EVERY MAN OF THE SQDN. WERE WITH THOSE THEY WERE LEAVING BEHIND.

AFTER MORE OF THE SAME TYPE OF INSPECTION PREVIOUSLY ENCOUNTERED THE SQDN. WAS PRONOUNCED READY FOR THE GREAT ADVENTURE. ON THE MORNING OF JAN. 3, 44 THE SQDN. BOARDED THE TRAIN FOR THE FINAL RIDE TO THE PORT OF EMBARKATION. THE MORALE OF THE MEN WAS HIGH AND THERE WAS LITTLE OUTWARD EVIDENCE OF THE EMOTIONS WHICH MUST HAVE BEEN MINGLING IN THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF THE MEN. THE SQDN. BOARDED THE LIBERTY SHIP T.B. ROBINSON AND ON THE AFTERNOON OF JAN. 4, 44 THE VOYAGE BEGAN. THERE WAS SOON PROOF THAT WE WERE PART OF A LARGE CONVOY WHICH QUIETED THE FEARS OF MANY OF THE MEN.

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THE TIME ON BOARD SHIP WAS PLEASANTLY SPENT. THERE WAS SOME TYPE OF LECTURE OR ENTERTAINMENT ALMOST EVERY NITE. THE SPECIAL SERVICE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF SECOND LT. LUTHER SMITH WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF FIRST LT. JOHN R. BEVERLY, SGT. ROBERT HALL AND PVT. SAMUEL CHAMBERS MADE NOBLE EFFORTS TO SUPPLY EVERY RECREATIONAL AND SPIRITUAL NEED OF THE MEN. AFTER A COMPARATIVELY NEVENTFUL VOYAGE, THE SQDN DISSEMBLED AT TARANTO, ITALY ON THE 29TH OF JAN. 44. AFTER SPENDING ABOUT TEN DAYS AT THE STAGING AREA AT TARANTO, THE SQDN WAS MOVED ON FEB. 7, 44 BY MOTOR TRANSPORT ACROSS THE MOUNTAINS OF ITALY TO MONTICOVINO AIR BASE, MONTICOVINO, ITALY. CAMP WAS QUICKLY SET UP AND THE SQDN AGAIN PROCEEDED TO EMULATION AS IT HAD BEFORE LEAVING THE STATES. THE REMAINDER OF THE MONTH OF FEB. WAS SPENT IN COMPLETING THE TRAINING FOR WHICH THE SQDN WAS ORIGINALLY ACTIVATED.

*John R. Beverly Jr.*  
JOHN R. BEVERLY JR.  
1st. LT. AC.  
INTELLIGENCE, OFFICER.

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302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON  
OUTLINE HISTORY, MAR. 1944

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HEADQUARTERS 332ND FTR. GP.  
APO #650

302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON  
1-31 MARCH 1944  
E.G.G.

SUBJECT: HISTORICAL RECORDS.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, *12TH Air Force*  
ATTENTION: HISTORIAN.

1. OUTLINE HISTORY OF THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 1, 1944 TO MARCH 31, 1944.

A. PRESENT DESIGNATION - 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON FOR THE 332ND FTR. G P, 62ND WING, 12 TH UNITED STATES ARMY AIR FORCE.

B. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION - NO CHANGES.

C. STRENGTH, COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED.

1. MONTH OF MARCH 1944

- A. AT BEGINNING - 250 EM AND 40 OFFICERS.
- B. NET INCREASE - 2 EM
- C. NET DECREASE - NONE
- D. AT END - 252 EM AND 40 OFFICERS.

D. STATIONS OF UNITS

1. NAME OF STATION - MONTECORVINO AIR BASE, MONTECORVINO, ITALY.

A. DATE OF ARRIVAL - FEB. 7, 1944

B. DATE OF DEPARTURE - MARCH 6, 1944

E. MOVEMENT OF UNIT

1. FROM MONTECORVINO AIR BASE, MONTECORVINO, ITALY TO CARODICHINO AIR BASE, CARODICHINO, ITALY.

- A. PURPOSE - CHANGE OF STATION
- B. DATE - MARCH 6, 1944
- C. GOV'T MOTOR CONVOY
- D. ROADS FAIR, WEATHER GOOD.

F. CAMPAIGNS - NONE

G. OPERATIONS -

1. CAMPAIGNS - MEDITERRANEAN

2. NATURE OF OPERATIONS - 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON IS ENGAGED IN FOLLOWING OPERATIONS:

- A. A-2 CONVOY ESCORT, FIGHTER BY DAY
- B. E-2 SCRAMBLES FOR E/A
- C. F-2 HARBOR PROTECTION, AND POINT PATROL
- D. G-2 AIR-SEA RESECUE, FIGHTER BY DAY.

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**SECRET**302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON  
OUTLINE HISTORY, MAR. 1944SECRET  
BY AUTH. CO  
302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON  
1-31-MARCH 1944  
E.C.C.HEADQUARTERS 332ND BTR. GP.  
APO #650

## 3. NUMBER OF MISSIONS AND SORTIES FOR PERIOD:

1. MISSIONS - 34
- 
2. SORTIES - 468

4. ON MARCH 14, 1944 A FLIGHT LED BY 1ST LT. D.M. WATSON OF WHICH SUB-FLIGHT OF TWO A/C LED BY 2ND LT. L.D. WILKINS ENCOUNTERED ONE JU-88 RECCE TYPE A-5. A FEW MILES WEST OF PT. 7. THE CHASE LASTED OVER 30 MINUTES. LT. WILKINS FIRED UNTIL HIS AMMO. WAS EXHAUSTED. SAW MANY PIECES BREAK AWAY FROM THE ENEMY AIRCRAFT. ALSO SAW MUCH SMOKE FROM LEFT ENGINE AND NOTICED A CONSIDERABLE LOSS IN SPEED. THE CHASE BROKE OFF WHEN AMMO. WAS EXHAUSTED. CANNON JAMMED AFTER TWO ROUNDS WERE FIRED.

ON MARCH 28, 1944 A FLIGHT LED BY 1ST LT. ROY W. SPENCER WAS PATROLLING TO PANZA ISLAND TO DISCHIA. TWO A/C FLOWN BY LTS. SPENCER AND MELTON ENCOUNTERED ONE JU-88 HEADED NORTH. A LONG CHASE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED AT HIGH SPEED, ABOUT 310 MPH. THE E/A BOBBED FROM FIVE TO FIFTY FEET ABOVE THE WATER AND MADE TURNS ALTERNATELY OF ABOUT 30 DEGREES. HE HEADED DIRECTLY INTO THE SUN ON ONE LEG AND NORTHWEST ON THE OTHER. MANY 50 CAL. TRACERS WERE SEEN TO ENTER THE FUSELAGE OF E/A AND THE RIGHT ENGINE WAS LEFT SMOKING. THE CHASE BROKE OFF AFTER AMMO. OF ONE PLANE WAS EXPENDED AND THE ARMAMENT ELECTRICAL SYSTEM OF THE OTHER WENT OUT. CLAIMS ON BOTH OCCASSIONS OF PATROL MISSIONS WERE E/A DAMAGED.

5. UNIT WAS SUBJECTED TO ENEMY ACTION AT ONE AM. ON MAR. 15, 1944. AIR BASE SUBJECTED TO ENEMY BOMBING WHICH RESULTED IN DESTRUCTION OF ONE PLANE AND DAMAGE OF ELEVEN OTHERS OF THE 302ND BTR. SQDN. NO PERSONNEL OF SQDN. INJURED.

## H. COMMAND OFFICERS IN IMPORTANT MISSIONS.

1. 1ST LT. DUDLEY M. WATSON LED FLIGHT ON MISSION #17 ON MAR. 14, 1944.

## I. LOSSES IN ACTION- NONE

J. PERSONNEL WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION- NONE.

## K. NO. OF PHOTOGRAPHS BEING SUBMITTED - NONE

2. INCLOSED IS WAR DIARY 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 1, 1944 TO MARCH 31ST, 1944.

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**SECRET**SHEET NO. 1 WAR DIARY 302ND FTR. SQUADRON 332ND FTR. GP.MONTH OF MARCH 1944 PREPARED BY JAMES ROBINSON CPL. 302ND  
(NAME, RANK, & UNIT)

DAY	EVENTS
1	TWO MEN HOSP. TO DUTY. ROUTINE SQUADRON DUTIES.
2	ONE PLANE LOST THROUGH FIRE DUE TO FORCED LANDING ON A TRAINING FLIGHT. THE PILOT WAS UNHURT. CAPTAIN HALL OF THE 90TH VISITS THE 302ND. PX OPENED TODAY AT FIVE AND THE SUPPLIES ARE INCREASING. ONE EM. AWOL.
3	ROUTINE SQDN. DUTIES. TWO EM. DUTY TO HOSP.
4	ORDERS TO MOVE TO ANOTHER BASE CAME THROUGH TODAY. ONE EM. HOSP. TO DUTY. ONE EM. AWOL TO DUTY.
5	ROUTINE SQDN. DUTIES. TWO EM. HOSP. TO DUTY.
6	THREE EM. DUTY TO CONFINMENT. ONE EM. HOSP. TO DUTY. SQDN. DEPARTED MONTECCHINO AIR BASE, 1200 FOR CAPIDECHINO AIR BASE, ARRIVED CAPIDECHINO 1800; VIA GOVT. TRK. TRANS. WEATHER GOOD; MORALE GOOD. UP AR 615-5 SEC. II, PAR 15, AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF HIS ORGN. COMDR, FIRST SGT. (585) JOHN R. SPENCER, 32241841, 302ND FTR. SQDN. IS REDUCED TO THE GRADE OF PVT. SO. #13. UP AR 615-5, BTD. 30 JUNE 43 AS AMENDED, AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF HIS ORGN. COMDR, PVT. (585) JOHN R. SPENCER, 32241841, 302ND FTR. SQDN. IS PROMOTED TO THE GRADE OF STAFF SGT. SO. #13.
7	ROUTINE SQDN. DUTIES. ONE EM. DUTY TO HOSP.
8	PILOTS FLY POINT PATROL TODAY. SPECIAL SERVICE PROVIDES A COPY OF YANK FOR EACH TENT.
9	POINT PATROL. ONE EM. UNDER ARREST. ONE EM. DUTY TO HOSP.
10	HARBOR PATROL AND CONVOY ESCORT. ONE OFFICER AND ONE EM. DUTY TO HOSP.
11	POINT PATROL. DINGHY SIGHTED AND OCCUPANTS RESCUED. ONE EM. TO HOSP.
12	HARBOR PATROL. ONE EM. TO HOSP. AND ONE TO DUTY.

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SHEET NO. 2 WAR DIARY 302ND FTR. SQDN. SQUADRON 302ND FTR. SQDN.  
 MONTH OF MARCH 1944 PREPARED BY JAMES ROBINSON CPL 302ND  
 (NAME, RANK, & UNIT)

- | DAY | EVENTS  |
|-----|---|
| 13  | POINT PATROL AND CONVOY ESCORT. BOOGIE CHASED BUT ELUDES OUR PILOTS. ONE EM. DUTY TO HOSP. IN ADD. TO HIS OTHER DUTIES SECOND LT. ELLER L. GORDON O-795047 AC. IS HEREBY APTD. TECH. SUPPLY OFFICER, VICE SECOND LT. VERNON B. LINCOLN O-1288407 AC. RELIEVED. IN ADD. TO HIS OTHER DUTIES FIRST LT. BENJAMIN F. BULLOCK O-386980 AC. APTD. PERSONEL EQUIPMENT OFF.   |
| 14  | ONE EM. HOSP. TO DUTY. JU-88 CHASED TWENTY MILES BUT PROVES TO BE TOO ELUSIVE AND ESCAPES.  |
| 15  | POINT PATROL. BOMBING ATTACK SUSTAINED BY THIS FIELD. ONE PLANE OF THE 302ND DESTROYED AND ELEVEN DAMAGED. NO CASUALTIES AMONG THE PERSONNEL. TEN NEW PLANES RECIEVED. TWO NEW COOKS TRANS. FROM 100TH TO 302ND.  |
| 16  | HARBOR PATROL. BOOGIE CHASED TWENTY MILES BUT IS IDENTIFIED AS FRIENDLY. SECOND LT. VERNON B. LINCOLN APTD. TO A SUMMARY COURT BOARD. SO. #19.<br>UP AR 615-5, SEC 11, PAR 15, AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF HIS ORGN. COMDR, CPL. (OTO) HARVEY CARMEN 15372571, 302ND FTR. SQDN. IS REDUCED TO THE GRADE OF PVT. THIS DATE FOR DISCONDUCT. SO. #19.<br>PAR 7, SO. #13, CS, THIS HQ. AS PERTAINS TO PVT. (585) JOHN R. SPENCER, 3-241841, 302ND FTR. SQDN. IS AMENDED TO ADD: HE WILL RANK FROM 4 JAN. 43. DATE OF RANK HAS BEEN DETERMINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PAR 2B AR 615-5.<br>SECOND LT. JAMES M. CONLEY O-531528 AC. APTD. CL. "A" AGENT OFFICER. UP AR 35-320. SO. #19. |
| 17  | POINT PATROL. ROUTINE SQUADRON DUTIES.  |
| 18  | EIGHT PILOTS FROM 301ST FLYING CONVOY DUTY WITH THE 302ND FTR. SQDN. THE MEN OF THE 302ND WITNESSED MT. VESUVIUS IN ERUPTION TODAY.   |
| 19  | ROUTINE SQUADRON DUTIES.  |
| 20  | FIRST LT. EDWARD C. GLEED APTD. AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS BOARD.   |

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SHEET NO. 3 WAR DIARY 302ND FTR. SQUADRON CATEDICHINO  
 (STATION)  
 MONTH OF MARCH 1944 PREPARED BY JAMES ROBINSON CPL 302ND  
 (NAME, RANK, & UNIT)

DAY	EVENTS
21	TWO EM. HOSP. TO DUTY AND ONE EM. DUTY TO HOSP.
22	ONE EM. DUTY TO HOSP. AND ONE EM. HOSP. TO DUTY. UP AR 615-5, SEC 2, PAR 15, AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THEIR ORGN. COMMANDER, THE FOLLOWING NAMED EM., 302ND FTR. SQDN. ARE REDUCED TO THE GRADE OF PVT. THIS DATE, FOR MISCONDUCT. SGT. (501) DAVID J. NEDDS 39218101 CPL. (932) LACY CALLOWAY 35666340 SO. #21.
23	FOUR EM. DUTY TO HOSP. LT. WILKINS CRASHED ON TAKE OFF. PILOT UNHURT. POINT PATROL
24	TEMP. DUTY WITH THE 302ND FOR TEN DAYS. CAPT. FRANKLIN B. BECK G-482532 DC. CPL. (CG7) JOHN J. HILL 32215124 DENTAL SURVEY. SO. #22. HARBOR PATROL
25	THREE EM. HOSP. TO DUTY AND ONE EM. DUTY TO HOSP. ONE EM. CONF. TO DUTY. POINT PATROL
26	ROUTINE SQDN. DUTIES. THREE EM. HOSP. TO DUTY. HARBOR PATROL
27	ROUTINE SQDN. DUTIES. ONE EM. DUTY TO HOSP. HARBOR & POINT PATROL
28	ONE EM. HOSP. TO DUTY. LT. SPENCER AND LT. MELTON FIRE ON A JU-88 AND DAMAGE BUT DO NOT DOWN IT. POINT PATROL
29	ROUTINE SQDN. DUTIES. ONE EM. DUTY TO HOSP.
30	ROUTINE SQDN. DUTIES. ONE EM. HOSP. TO DUTY AND TWO EM. DUTY TO HOSP.
31	ROUTINE SQDN. DUTIES. POINT AND HARBOR PATROL.

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AIR FORCE XII Air Force

COMMAND XII Ftw. Cmd.

WING 62nd Ftw. Wing

GROUP 332nd Ftw. Grp.

SQUADRON 302nd Ftw. Sqdn.

AIR SEA RESCUE SQUADRON \_\_\_\_\_

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OUTLINE HISTORY, 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, APRIL 1944

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SUBJECT: HISTORICAL RECORDS.

1. OUTLINE HISTORY OF THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 1944 TO APRIL 30, 1944.

A. PRESENT DESIGNATION - 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, 332ND FIGHTER GROUP, 62ND FIGHTER WING, 12TH UNITED STATES ARMY AIR FORCE.

B. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION -

PAC FAR 7, AR 600-20, DATED 1 JUNE 1942, FIRST LT. EDWARD C. GLEED, 0794598, AC, 302ND F.S. IS HEREBY RECD. AS SQDN. COMDR. OF THE 302ND F.S. FIRST LT. EDWARD C. GLEED, 0794598, AC, IS HEREBY RECD. FR. DY WITH THE 302ND AND ASSIGNED TO THE 301ST. FIRST LT. MELVIN T. JACKSON 0793408, AC, IS HEREBY RECD. FR. DY WITH THE 100TH AND ASSIGNED TO THE 302ND. PAC FAR 7, AR 600-20, DATED 1 JUNE 1942, FIRST LT. MELVIN T. JACKSON, 0793408 AC, IS HEREBY APTD. SQDN. COMDR. OF THE 302ND. SO #31.

THE FOL. NAMED OFFICERS APTD. FIRST LTS. SECOND LT. CHARLES MCGEE O-807103 AC., SECOND LT. ELMER GORDON O-798947 AC, SECOND LT. CHARLES M. BUSSY O-805448 AC, AND SECOND LT. JAMES WALKER O-804562 AC. FIRST LT. BENJAMIN F. BULLOCK, O-856966 AC, IS HEREBY RECD. OF DY. AS SQDN. WEATHER OFFICER, EFF. THIS DATE. FIRST LT. BENJAMIN F. BULLOCK IS HEREBY APTD. SQDN. PERSONNEL EQUIPMENT OFFICER (PRIMARY DUTY) EFF. THIS DATE. IN ADD. TO HIS OTHER DUTIES FIRST LT. CHESTER R. BURTON O-1553409, IS HEREBY APTD. SQDN. SPECIAL SERVICE OFFICER. IN ADD. TO HIS OTHER DUTIES SECOND LT. PAUL ADAMS, O-801160, IS HEREBY APTD. PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER. IN ADD. TO HIS OTHER DUTIES FIRST LT. JOHN R. BEVERLY JR. O-571000, IS HEREBY APTD. SQDN. PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER, VICE FIRST LT. LUKE J. WEATHERS JR. RECD.

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OUTLINE HISTORY, APRIL 1944

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 BY AUTH. CO.  
 302ND FTR. SQDN.  
 1-30 APRIL 1944  
 MTG

HEADQUARTERS 332ND FTR. GP.  
 APO #650

B. (CONT.) A BOARD CONSISTING OF THE FOL. NAMED OFFICERS WILL MEET AT THE CALL OF THE SENIOR MEMBER THEREOF TO REVIEW AND ANALYZE THE CAUSE OF ALL AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS OCCURRING IN THIS ORGANIZATION AND RENDER A FULL AND COMPLETE WRITTEN REPORT OF THESE TO THE SQDN. COMDR. INCLUDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE PREVENTION. SUCH REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THIS OFFICE WITH THE LEAST POSSIBLE DELAY. FIRST LT. ALFONZA W. DAVIS O-798944 (PRESIDENT), FIRST LT. MILTON R. BROOKS O-804547 (RECORDER) AND FIRST LT. DUDLEY M. WATSON O-804663. SO #5.

C. STRENGTH COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED - 289

D. STATIONS OF UNIT

1. NAME OF STATION - CAPODICHINO AIR BASE, NAPLES, ITALY.

E. MOVEMENTS OF UNITS OR ECHELONS - NONE

B. CAMPAIGNS

1. MEDITERRANEAN  
 2. DURATION - NIL

G. OPERATIONS

1. CAMPAIGN - MEDITERRANEAN  
 2. NATURE OF OPERATIONS - PATROL AND AIR-SEA RESCUE.  
 3. NUMBER OF MISSIONS AND SORTIES FOR PERIOD -  
 1. SORTIES - 907  
 2. MISSIONS - 46

H. COMMAND OFFICERS IN IMPORTANT MISSIONS - THE FOL. NAMED OFFICERS LED RECCE. MISSIONS TO ROME. THESE WERE 12 SHIP FORMATIONS. FIRST LT. EDWARD C. GLEED, FIRST LT. WENDELL O. PRUITT, FIRST LT. DUDLEY M. WATSON AND FIRST LT. ALFONZA W. DAVIS.

I. LOSSES IN ACTION - NONE

J. PERSONNEL WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES IN ACTION  
 NONE.

K. NUMBER OF PHOTOGRAPHS BEING SUBMITTED - NONE

2. INCLOSED IS WAR DIARY 302ND FTR. SQDN. FOR THE PERIOD  
 APRIL 1-30, 1944.

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SHEET NO. 1 WAR DIARY 302ND FTR. ~~SECRET~~ SQUADRON 338ND FTR. GP.  
 MONTH OF APRIL 1944 PREPARED BY JAMES ROBINSON CPL, 302ND  
 (NAME, RANK, & UNIT)

DAY	EVENTS
1	ONE EM. AB. SK. TO DY. ONE EM. DY TO CONFINMENT. HARBOR AND POINT PATROL
2	HARBOR PATROL AND SCRAMBLE. TWO CRASH LANDINGS DUE TO DARKNESS * AND INTENSE DUST CLOUDS CREATED BY PREVIOUSLY LANDED CRAFT. AIRCRAFT DAMAGED. NO INJURY TO PILOTS.
3	ONE EM. RELD. FROM ASSIGNMENT AND TRANS. TO HOSP. THREE EM. HOSP. TO DUTY. POINT AND HARBOR PATROL.
4	POINT PATROL. REGULAR SQUADRON DUTIES.
5	ONE EM. RELD. FROM ASSIGNMENT AND TRANS. TO HOSP. THREE MEN HOSP. TO DY. THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS 301ST FIGHTER SQUADRON ARE HEREBY PLACED ON BS. EFF. THIS DATE WITH THE 302ND F.S. SECOND LT. CLAYBOURNE A. LOCKETT 0808246 AC., SECOND LT. CORNELIUS G. ROGERS 0809252 AC. AND FIRST LT. JOHN H. PROWELL 0797222 AC. HARBOR AND POINT PATROL. SO #25
6	TWO EM. DY TO AB. SK. THE FOL. NAMED OFFICER AND EM. WILL TAKE THE "MALARIA CONTROL TRAINING COURSE" SECOND LT. JAMES M. CONLEY 0581528 AC. AND SGT. BENJAMIN F. CURRY (801) 3417-0879. SO #27 HARBOR PATROL.
7	THREE EM. HOSP. TO DY. TWO EM. DY. TO HOSP. ROUTINE SQDN. DUTIES.
8	THE FOL. NAMED OFFICERS DY. TO TD. AAFRC. FIRST LT. ROY M. SPENCER 0797223 AC., SECOND LT. CHARLES M. BUSSY 0801178 AC., SECOND LT. ROGER ROMINE 0801288 AC., AND SECOND LT. LAURENCE D. WILKINS 0804564 AC. AIR-SEA RESCUE AND POINT PATROL.
9	ONE EM. HOSP. TO DY. HARBOR PATROL.
10	ONE EM. HOSP. TO DY. HARBOR AND POINT PATROL. UP AR 615-5, SEC 11, PAR 15, AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF HIS ORGN. COMDR, S/SGT. (685) ROBERT P. BALL 12132188, 302ND F.S. IS REDUCED TO THE GRADE OF PVT, THIS DATE FOR MISCONDUCT. SO #29. SECOND LT. JAMES C. CONLEY 0581528 AC. IS APPOINTED CL. "A" AGENT OFFICER. SO #29.
11	ONE EM. DY TO AB. SK. THE FOL. NAMED OFFICERS TD TO DY FROM AAFRC FIRST LT. ROY M. SPENCER 0797223 AC., SECOND LT. CHARLES M. BUSSY 0801178 AC., SECOND LT. ROGER ROMINE 0801288 AC., AND SECOND LT. LAURENCE D. WILKINS 0804564 AC. AIR-SEA RESCUE AND POINT PATROL.
12	ROUTINE SQUADRON DUTIES. HARBOR AND POINT PATROL.

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SHEET NO. 2 WAR DIARY 302ND FTR. SQUADRON 332ND FTR. GP.

MONTH OF APRIL 1944 PREPARED BY JAMES ROBINSON CPL. 302ND

DAY	EVENTS
13	ROUTINE SQUADRON DUTIES. HARBOR PATROL.
14	TWO EM. AB. SK. TO DY. CAPTAIN FRANKLIN D. BECK 0482532 DC. AND CPL. JOHN L. HILL 32215129 RELD. FR. ATCHD FOR RAT. AND QRS. TO 302ND. SCRAMBLE, HARBOR AND POINT PATROL.
15	POINT PATROL AND SCRAMBLE. P-39'S AIDING IN AIR-SEA RESCUE WERE FIRED ON BY ACK-ACK AT PT. 9.
16	HARBOR PATROL AND SCRAMBLE. FOUR EM. AB. SK. TO DY. COOKS TOUR TO ROME FOR RECCE BY TWELVE P-39'S. LT. WESTMORELAND BAKLED OUT DUE TO EXHAUSTATION OF FUEL SUPPLY. LTS BUSSY AND HUNTER MADE FORDED LANDINGS AT LARGO AIRBASE AT CAS-TEL VOLTURNO.
17	POINT AND HARBOR PATROL. ONE EM. DY TO AB. SK. FIRST LT. JOHN H. PROWELL 0797222 AC, SECOND LT. CLAYBOURNE A. LOCKETT 0808246 AC, AND SECOND LT. CORNELIUS G. ROGERS 0809-252 AC, RELD. FR. ATCHD FOR RAT. AND QRS. WITH THE 302ND.
18	POINT PATROL. ONE EM. HOSP. TO DY.
19	POINT PATROL. ONE EM. HOSP. TO DY.
20	HARBOR PATROL. ROUTINE SQUADRON DUTIES.
21	COOKS TOUR TO ROME FOR RECCE. HEAVY FLAK ENCOUNTERED. FIRST LT. BENJAMIN F. BULLOCK, O-856966 AC, IS HEREBY RELD OF DY AS SQDN. WEATHER OFFICER, EFF. THIS DATE. FIRST LT. BENJAMIN F. BULLOCK O-856966 AC, HEREBY APTD. SQDN. PERSONELL EQUIPMENT OFFICER (PRIMARY DUTY), EFF. THIS DATE. IN ADD. TO HIS OTHER DUTIES FIRST LT. CHESTER R. BURTON O-1553409, IS HEREBY APTD. SQDN. SPECIAL SERVICE OFFICER. IN ADD. TO HIS OTHER DUTIES SECOND LT. PAUL ADAMS, O-801160 IS HEREBY APTD. SQDN. PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER. IN ADD. TO HIS OTHER DUTIES FIRST LT. JOHN R. BEVERLY JR., O-571000, IS HEREBY APTD. SQDN. PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER, VICE FIRST LT. LUKE J. WEATHERS JR., RELD. A BOARD CONSISTING OF THE FOL. NAMED OFFICERS WILL MEET AT THE CALL OF THE SENIOR MEMBER THEREOF TO REVIEW AND ANALIZE THE CAUSE OF ALL AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS OCCURING IN THIS ORGANIZATION AND RENDER A FULL AND COMPLETE WRITTEN REPORT OF THESE TO THE SQDN. COMDR. INCLUDING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURURE PREVENTION. SUCH REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THIS OFFICE WITH THE LEAST POSSIBLE DELAY. FIRST LT. ALFONZA W. DAVIS O-798944 (PRESIDENT), FIRST LT. MILTON R. BROOKS O-804547 (RECORDER) AND FIRST LT. DUDLEY W. WATSON O-804663, SO #5.

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SHEET NO. 3 WAR DIARY ~~302ND FTR.~~ SQUADRON 332ND FTR. GP.  
 MONTH OF APRIL 1944 PREPARED BY JAMES ROBINSON CPL 302ND FTR.

- 22 ONE EM. DY TO HOSP. PAC PAR 7, AR 600-20, DATED 1 JUNE 1942, FIRST LT. EDWARD C. GLEED, 0794598, AC, 302ND F.S. IS HEREBY RELED. AS SQDN. CMDR. OF THE 302ND. FIRST LT. EDWARD C. GLEED, 0794598, AC, IS HEREBY RELED. FR. DY WITH THE 302ND AND ASSIGNED TO THE 301ST. FIRST LT. MELVIN T. JACKSON 0793408, AC, IS HEREBY RELED. FR. DY WITH THE 100TH AND ASSIGNED TO THE 302ND. PAC PAR 7, AR 600-20, DATED 1 JUNE 1942, FIRST LT. MELVIN T. JACKSON, 0793408, AC, IS HEREBY APTD. SQDN. CMDR. OF THE 302ND. SO #31. PAC PAR 3, AR 600-68, 189 EM. OF THE 302ND AWARDED THE "GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL", POINT PATROL
- 23 HARBOR PATROL. THE FOL. NAMED OFFICERS APTD. FIRST LTS. SECOND LT. CHARLES MCGEE O-807103 AC., SECOND LT. ELMER GORDON O-798947 AC., SECOND LT. CHARLES M. BUSSY O-804-548 AC., AND SECOND LT. JAMES WALKER O-804562 AC. ONE EM. DY TO AB, SK.
- 24 ROUTINE SQUADRON DUTIES, ONE EM. DY TO HOSP.
- 25 ROUTINE SQUADRON DUTIES, POINT PATROL.
- 26 ONE EM. RELED. FROM ASSIGNMENT AND TRANS. TO HOSP. COOKS TOUR AND HARBOR PATROL.
- 27 ROUTINE SQUADRON DUTIES, POINT PATROL.
- 28 POINT AND HARBOR PATROL

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SHEET NO. 4 WAR DIARY 302ND FTR. SQUADRON 332ND FTR. GP.  
 MONTH OF APRIL 1944 PREPARED BY JAMES ROBINSON CPL 302ND

DAY	EVENTS
28	THE FOL. NAMED OFFICERS ARE PLACED ON TD. W/AAFRC, EFF. 30 APRIL 1944, FOR A PERIOD OF THREE DAYS. SECOND LT. HUBRON R. BLACKWELL 0811193 AC. SECOND LT. FREDDIE HUTCHINS 0801171 AC. AND SECOND LT. LUTHER H. SMITH 0804-560 AC. THE FOL. NAMED EM. ARE HEREBY PLACED ON BS. WITH 1057TH MILITARY POLICE CO. (DET.) FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED THIRTY DAYS AND WILL RETURN TO PROPER STATION FOR DUTY. CPL. (826) ROY BELL 35281271, CPL. (756) DALE G. DIGGS 37012129, CPL. (759) JESSE D. HARGRAVE 13152445, CPL. (650) EDWIN L. WHITE 16135834, AND COL. (928) EDWARD V. LEIGHTEN 31157117. SO #32.
29	ONE EM. DY. TO HOSP. ONE EM. HOSP. TO DY. ONE EM. RELD. FROM ASSIGNMENT AND TRANS. TO 70TH STATION HOSP. POINT PATROL.
30	ONE EM. AB. SK. TO DY. ONE EM. DY. TO AB. SK. HARBOR PATROL.

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Hq. 332nd F. Gp.

APO 520

302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON.  
332ND FIGHTER GROUP  
APO-520, U.S. ARMY

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10 JUNE 1944

SUBJECT: HISTORICAL RECORDS.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, 15TH AIR FORCE, ATTENTION: HISTORIAN,  
APO-520, U.S. ARMY.THRU : COMMANDING GENERAL, 306TH WING (US), APO-520, U.S. ARMY,  
ATTENTION: HISTORIAN.

1. UNIT HISTORY OF THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON FOR THE PERIOD  
1 MAY TO 31 MAY, 1944.  
A. PRESENT DESIGNATION-302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, 332ND FIGHTER  
GROUP, 306TH FIGHTER WING, 15TH AIR FORCE, U.S. ARMY.

B. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION.

1. NONE

2. PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY CONTAINED IN GO#28 HQ, AAF, MTO THE  
FOLLOWING UNIT IS RECEIVED FROM ASSIGNMENT WITH THE 12TH AIR FORCE  
AND IS ASSIGNED TO THE 15TH AIR FORCE EFFECTIVE 22 MAY 1944: 332ND  
FIGHTER GROUP.

3. NONE

4. NONE

C. STRENGTH, COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED.

1. MONTH OF MAY 1944.

A. AT BEGINNING- 289

B. NET INCREASE- 10 OFFICERS

C. NET DECREASE- 1 OFFICER

D. AT END- 298

D. STATION- CAPODICHINO AIR BASE, CAPODICHINO, ITALY. THE 302ND  
FIGHTER SQUADRON DEPARTED CAPODICHINO AIR BASE 26 MAY 1944 ARRIV-  
ING RAMITELLI AIR BASE 1 JUNE 1944.

E. THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON MOVED FROM CAPODICHINO AIR  
BASE DURING THE PERIOD 26 MAY TO 1 JUNE 1944. THE PURPOSE OF THE  
MOVEMENT WAS CHANGE OF BASE DUE TO TRANSFER OF UNIT TO THE 15TH AIR  
FORCE. THE UNIT MOVED IN SECTIONS COVERING THE DAYS NOTED. MOVEMENT  
WAS BY GOVERNMENT MOTOR TRANSPORTATION WITH EXCELLENT TRAVEL CON-  
DITIONS.

F. THE ITALIAN CAMPAIGN WHICH IS STILL IN PROGRESS.

G. DURING THE MONTH OF MAY THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON PARTI-  
CIPATED IN THE FOLLOWING TYPES OF MISSIONS: HARBOR PATROL, POINT  
PATROL, STRAFING MISSIONS, AND AIR SEA RESCUE. THE SQUADRON GAVE  
CONTINUOUS COVER TO THE NAPLES HARBOR AREA AND POINTS FROM THE HAR-  
BOR TO ANZIO. NO ENEMY AIRCRAFT WERE ENCOUNTERED DURING THIS HAR-  
BOR AND POINT PATROL THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE MONTH.

ON 4 MAY THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON ENGAGED IN A STRAFING  
MISSION. THE TARGET WAS 22 MILES OF ROAD BETWEEN SORA AND AVEZZANO.  
12 A/C OF THE SQUADRON WERE AIRBORNE AT 1300 HOURS AND LANDED 1450

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HOURS. THE FORMATION SIGHTED A GROUP OF ENEMY TRUCKS AND STRAFED SAME. THEY ALSO ENCOUNTERED HEAVY FIRE FROM ENEMY BATTERIES IN THE SORA AREA, BUT THE BATTERIES PROVED TO BE INACCURATE. THE LEADER OF THE FORMATION WAS 1ST LT. MELVIN T. JACKSON, COMMANDING OFFICER.

ON 18 MAY THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON GAVE CONTINUOUS COVER TO THE CONVOY "BRUNETTE" DURING INTENSE COASTAL SHELLING OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE 5TH ARMY AND ITS ADVANCE TOWARD GAETA POINT. NO ENEMY AIRCRAFT WERE ENCOUNTERED, COVERAGE EXTENDING FROM 0530 UNTIL 2000 HOURS.

ON THE AFTERNOON OF 19 MAY 1ST LT. DUDLEY M. WATSON AND 2ND LT. J.J. SUGGS WERE SCRAMBLED IN SEARCH OF BANDITS TO A POINT 12 MILES N.N.E. OF BASE. NO BANDITS WERE SIGHTED BUT THE FLIGHT WAS THEN VECTORED TO POINT 7 WHERE THEY SIGHTED A BOMBER CREW IN THE WATER. AN IMMEDIATE CALL WAS MADE TO "SPONGEBAG" AND THE FLIGHT PROVIDED COVER FOR THE AIR SEA RESCUE UNTIL IT WAS COMPLETED.

DURING THE MONTH THE FOLLOWING FLYING OFFICERS WERE ASSIGNED TO THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON: 2ND LT'S TURNER W. PAYNE, EMORY ROBBINS, ROBERT H. SMITH, WILLIAM H. THOMAS, HUGH ST. CLAIR WARNER, GWYNNE W. PIERSON, HENRY POLLARD, EUGENE D. SMITH, AND FLIGHT OFFICER EDWARD J. WILLIAMS. THE SQUADRON ALSO BEGAN P-47 TRANSITION TRAINING IN THE P-47 TYPE AIRCRAFT DURING THE MONTH. ON 22 MAY 2ND LT. HENRY POLLARD WAS KILLED WHEN HIS AIRCRAFT CRASHED AND BURNED DURING AN ATTEMPTED FORCED LANDING ONE AND ONE FOURTH MILES NORTHWEST OF CASALNUOVA. THE PLANE CRASHED, IMPRISONING LT. POLLARD IN THE COCKPIT BEFORE HE COULD ESCAPE.

IN THE COURSE OF THE MONTH'S OPERATIONS, THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON COMPILED A TOTAL OF FORTY ONE (41) MISSIONS AND EIGHT HUNDRED AND TWENTY (820) SORTIES.

H. NONE  
I. NONE  
J. NONE  
K. NONE

2. INCLOSED IS WAR DIARY, 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, FOR THE PERIOD 1 MAY TO 31 MAY, 1944.

*Melvin T. Jackson*  
MELVIN T. JACKSON,  
1ST LT., AG.,  
COMMANDING OFFICER.

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SHEET NO. 1 WAR DIARY 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON 332ND FIGHTER GROUP.

MONTH OF MAY 1944 PREPARED BY JAMES C. HILL CPL. 302ND FTR. SQ.

NAME RANK UNIT

DAY EVENTS

1-THE MONTH OF MAY BEGAN WITH BRIGHT WARM WEATHER WHICH WAS A RELIEF TO THOSE WHO HAD BEEN FORCED TO IMPROVISE VARIOUS MEANS OF KEEPING WARM DURING THE WINTER MONTHS. THE MORALE OF THE SQUADRON WAS HIGH DUE IN A LARGE MEASURE TO THE FACT THAT OUR COOKS SEEMED TO BE "GETTING ON THE BALL". ROUTINE SQUADRON DUTIES.

2-USUAL SQUADRON DUTIES. 2ND LT. WALTER WESTMORELAND, WHO HAD INJURED HIS ANKLE WHEN FORCED TO BAIL OUT OF HIS PLANE WHILE ON A POINT PATROL MISSION, PLACED ON TD/AAFC FOR A PERIOD OF SIX DAYS EFFECTIVE THIS DATE. POINT PATROL.

3-302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON PARTICIPATED IN A STRAFING MISSION WHICH THE PERSONNEL OF THE SQUADRON HOPED WOULD BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PILOTS TO SHOW "JERRY" A FEW THINGS, BUT THE MISSION WAS UNEVENTFUL.

4-1ST LT. HARRY SHEPPARD, 2ND LT. WILLIAM R. MELTON, 2ND LT. GEORGE HALEY PLACED ON TD/AAFC FOR A PERIOD OF THREE DAYS EFFECTIVE THIS DATE. THE FOLLOWING NAMED ENLISTED PERSONNEL RECEIVED PROMOTIONS; 2 T/SGT'S TO M/SGT., 3 S/SGT'S TO T/SGT., 19 SGT'S TO S/SGT., 10 CPL'S TO SGT., 19 PVT'S TO CPL., 2 PVT'S TO PFC. 1 CPL. REDUCED TO PVT.

5-REGULAR SQUADRON DUTIES. POINT PATROL.

6-CPL. BERNARD MODESTE AND CPL. JOSEPH HART LEFT FOR SIX WEEKS TRAINING IN CRYPTOGRAPHY IN ALGIERS.

7-THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS ASSIGNED TO THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON: 2ND LT'S TURNER W. PAYNE, EMORY ROBBINS, ROBERT H. SMITH, WILLIAM H. THOMAS, HUGH ST. CLAIR WARNER AND GAYNE W. PIERSON. THESE OFFICERS WERE ALL FLYING OFFICERS ASSIGNED AS REPLACEMENTS.

8-REGULAR SQUADRON DUTIES. ENLISTED MEN ALLOWED OFF DUTY PASSES EACH DAY, WHICH GIVES MORE TIME TO SEE THE SIGHTS AND HISTORICAL POINTS OF INTEREST IN ITALY.

9-CPL. LUTHER FRIDAY AND PFC. JOHN PATTERSON PLACED ON DS FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED THIRTY(30) DAYS. M/SGT. CHESTER BURRIS, S/SGT. JAMES ROSS AND S/SGT. WASHINGTON CARTER PLACED ON DS FOR A PERIOD OF THIRTY(30) DAYS WITH THE 325TH FIGHTER GROUP TO STUDY MAINTENANCE OF THE P-47 TYPE AIRCRAFT. 1ST LT. MILTON R. BROOKS, 2ND LT. WELDON K. GROVES PLACED ON TD/AAFC FOR A PERIOD OF THREE(3) DAYS THIS DATE

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SHEET NO. 2 WAR DIARY 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON 332ND FIGHTER GROUP.

## DAY

## EVENTS

9 CONT.-AND 2ND LT. E.N. SMITH PLACED ON TD/AAFRC FOR A PERIOD OF THREE DAYS.

10-1ST LT. WENDELL O. PRUITT, 1ST LT. JAMES A. WALKER AND 2ND LT. J.J. SUGGS PLACED ON TD/AAFRC FOR A PERIOD OF THREE DAYS. M/SGT. LAWRENCE JUSTICE, ARMAMENT CHIEF, T/SGT. AUGUST CARPLE, COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICAL INSPECTOR, S/SGT. JAMES R. BURTON, IFF CHIEF, S/SGT. GEORGE APPLEWAITE, COMMUNICATIONS LINE CHIEF PLACED ON DS FOR A PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED THIRTY DAYS WITH THE 325TH FIGHTER GROUP TO GAIN EXPERIENCE IN WORKING ON THE ARMAMENT AND RADIO EQUIPMENT OF THE P-47 TYPE AIRCRAFT.

11-ANNOUNCEMENT MADE TO PERSONNEL OF SQUADRON THAT TRAINING IN SMALL ARMS AND MARKSMANSHIP PRACTICE TO BEGIN MAY 15. IT WAS ALSO STATED THAT HIGH COMPETITIVE SCORE WOULD BE AWARDED A PRIZE. M/SGT. LAWRENCE JUSTICE CITED FOR DEVELOPING A DEVICE WHICH REDUCED THE TIME OF PERFORMING ARMAMENT INSPECTIONS ONE HUNDRED PERCENT.

12-2ND LT. DEAN B. MOHR APPOINTED CRYPTOGRAPHIC OFFICER VICE 1ST LT. JOHN R. BEVERLY JR. 2ND LT. JAMES CONLEY APPOINTED MALARIA CONTROL OFFICER. 2ND LT. VERNON LINCOLN APPOINTED MALARIA DISCIPLINE OFFICER. 1ST LT. BENJAMIN BULLOCK APPOINTED VENEREAL DISEASE OFFICER.

13-2ND LT. HENRY POLLARD, FLIGHT OFFICER JULIUS WILLIAMS AND 2ND LT. EUGENE SMITH ASGD. TO 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON AS FLYING OFFICER REPLACEMENTS. CPL. WILLIE WOODFORD AND SGT. HERMAN WHITE BEGIN TRAINING IN CONTROL TOWER OPERATION.

14-CAPT. ARNOLD H. MALONEY, SQUADRON FLIGHT SURGEON, ANNOUNCED AS WINNER OF THE "NAME IT" CONTEST SPONSORED BY THE GROUP'S NEWSPAPER. THE WINNING NAME WAS "SPIN-UP'S".

15-REGULAR SQUADRON DUTIES. TODAY MARKS THE FINISH OF WINTER CLOTHING AND THE DONNING OF KHAKI. MANY MEMBERS OF THE SQUADRON EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE NEXT TIME THAT THEY WORE THE WOOLEN UNIFORM WOULD BE AT HOME IN AMERICA.

16-15 NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS APPOINTED VENEREAL DISEASE CONTROL NON-COM'S. THE SQUADRON WAS ENTERTAINED BY THE 94TH ENGINEERS BAND, A REAL "IN THE GROOVE JAM SESSION" WAS ENJOYED BY ALL.

17-THE PX WAS OPENED WITH A MORE EXTENSIVE VARIETY OF COMMODITIES AVAILABLE. THE MAIL CLERK ALSO PASSED OUT A LARGE NUMBER OF PACKAGES FOR THE BOYS THAT WERE SENT FROM HOME IN AMERICA.

18-MEETING OF KEY NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS TOGETHER WITH THE SQUADRON COMMANDER AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER. PROBLEMS EFFECTING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SQUADRON WERE DISCUSSED AND SOLUTIONS OFFERED.

19-REGULAR SQUADRON DUTIES. NOTHING OF INTEREST TO RELATE.

20-SQUADRON MOVIE "STANDING ROOM ONLY" SHOWN IN SPECIAL SERVICE TENT.

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SHEET NO. 3 WAR DIARY 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON 332ND FIGHTER GROUP.

## DAY

## EVENTS

21-REGULAR SQUADRON DUTIES.

22-THE SQUADRON SUFFERED THE FIRST OVERSEAS FATALITY WHEN 2ND LT. HENRY POLLARD JR. WAS KILLED ON A ROUTINE TRAINING FLIGHT. HIS PLANE CRASHED AND BURNED. LT. POLLARD WAS A RECENT ADDITION TO THE SQUADRON BUT HAD ALREADY WON A PLACE IN THE HEARTS OF THE MEN BECAUSE OF HIS GENIAL PERSONALITY AND MUCH APPRECIATED MUSICAL ABILITY. HE WAS A FORMER MEMBER OF THE FAMOUS "JIMMIE LUNCEFORD ORCHESTRA".

23-REGULAR SQUADRON DUTIES.

24-NOTHING OF NOTE HAPPENED.

25-MEMBERS OF THE SQUADRON BEGAN TO PREPARE FOR MOVEMENT TO A NEW BASE.

26-31-DURING THE PERIOD BETWEEN MAY 26 TO MAY 31, THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON WAS ENGAGED IN PERMANENT MOVEMENT TO A NEW BASE. THE PERSONNEL WERE MOVED IN SECTIONS BY GOVERNMENT MOTOR TRANSPORTATION. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT MANY OF THE MEN HAD MADE NUMEROUS FRIENDS IN THE NAPLES VICINITY, SEVERAL PASSES WERE REQUESTED FOR FINAL "ADIEUS". SECURITY REGULATIONS LIMITED THE MAJORITY OF THE PASSES. THE MOVEMENT OF THE SQUADRON WAS ACCOMPLISHED WITH ONLY ONE SERIOUS MISHAP. S/SGT. GEORGE ROSS WAS INJURED WHEN THE TRAILER IN WHICH HE WAS RIDING OVERTURNED AND HE SUFFERED A BROKEN COLLAR BONE. BY THE END OF THE MONTH, THE NEW CAMP SITE WAS IN ORDER AND THE SQUADRON WAS READY TO OPERATE ONE HUNDRED PERCENT.

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302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON  
APO-520, U.S. ARMY

Avn CO 332nd F Gp  
MAY 19 1944

JUNE 30, 1944.

SUBJECT: HISTORICAL RECORDS. DECLASSIFIED  
DOD DIR 52009

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE, ATTENTION: HISTORIAN. (THROUGH CHANNELS)

1. UNIT HISTORY OF THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 1 TO JUNE 30, 1944.

A. PRESENT DESIGNATION- 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, 332ND FIGHTER GROUP, 306TH FIGHTER WING, 15TH AIR FORCE, U.S. ARMY.

B. CHANGES IN ORGANIZATION-

- (1) NONE
- (2) NONE
- (3) NONE
- (4) NONE

C. STRENGTH, COMMISSIONED AND ENLISTED-

- (1) MONTH OF JUNE 1944
  - (A) AT BEGINNING - 293
  - (B) NET INCREASE - 2
  - (C) NET DECREASE - 2
  - (D) AT END - 293

D. STATION- RAMITELLI AIR BASE, CAMPOMARINO, ITALY.

E. MOVEMENTS- NONE

F. CAMPAIGN- ITALIAN, WHICH IS STILL IN PROGRESS.

G. OPERATIONS-

(1) THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON PARTICIPATED IN FIFTEEN (15) MISSIONS AND ACQUIRED A TOTAL OF TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY ONE (221) SORTIES DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE.

(2) THE GENERAL NATURE OF THE OPERATIONS WAS AS FOLLOWS:

- (A) BRIEF TRANSITION PERIOD IN THE P-47 TYPE AIRCRAFT.
- (B) PENETRATION ESCORT.
- (C) FIGHTER SWEEP.
- (D) STRAFING.

(3) THE MISSIONS OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE WERE THE PENETRATION ESCORT TO THE MUNICH AREA ON JUNE 10 AND THE STRAFING MISSION IN NORTHERN ITALY ON JUNE 25. IN EACH INSTANCE, THE MAXIMUM EFFORT WAS GIVEN AND THE TARGETS WERE OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE IN OUR EFFORTS TO HALT THE SUPPLY LINE OF THE ENEMY. THE PENETRATION ESCORT WAS THE INITIAL ENCOUNTER WITH THE ENEMY OF OUR SQUADRON SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF THE P-47 TYPE AIRCRAFT. OUR PILOTS DESTROYED THREE (3) OF THE ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED WITHOUT LOSS TO ANY OF OUR PERSONNEL. THE STRAFING MISSION TO NORTHERN ITALY WAS EVENTFUL IN THAT OUR SQUADRON WAS AGAIN ABLE TO STRIKE AT THE ENEMY AND ON THIS OCCASION, SANK AN ENEMY DESTROYER AS WELL AS TO SUCCESSFULLY INFLICT HITS ON A LIGHTHOUSE AND SEVERAL BUILDINGS ALONG THE COASTLINE.

(4) NO ENEMY ACTION WAS SUFFERED BY THIS UNIT.

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H. 1ST LT. MELVIN T. JACKSON, COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, LED THE SQUADRON ON THE PENETRATION ESCORT MISSION TO THE MUNICH AREA ON JUNE 10 AND WAS CREDITED WITH HAVING DESTROYED ONE (1) ME-109. LT. JACKSON AGAIN WAS THE SQUADRON LEADER WHEN OUR PILOT'S DESTROYED THE ENEMY VESSEL ON JUNE 25 DURING THE PROCESS OF THE SCHEDULED STRAFING MISSION.

I. LOSSES IN ACTION-

(A) OFFICERS:

(1) JUNE 2, 1944 WHILE ON A TRANSITION FLIGHT IN A P-47 TYPE AIRCRAFT, 2ND LT. ELMER W. TAYLOR, PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA WAS KILLED WHEN HIS AIRCRAFT CRASHED INTO THE GROUND.

(B) ENLISTED MEN:

(1) JUNE 2, 1944 WHILE IN PERFORMANCE OF HIS ROUTINE DUTIES AS FLIGHT LINE CHIEF, M/SGT. WILLIAM M. HARRIS, PIQUA, OHIO, WAS KILLED WHEN STRUCK BY AN AIRCRAFT WHICH WAS IN THE PROCESS OF TAKING OFF ON A LOCAL TRAINING FLIGHT.

J. MEMBERS WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES-

(1) 1ST LT. MELVIN T. JACKSON

(A) DESTROYED ONE (1) ME-109.

(B) WHILE IN PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES AS FLIGHT LEADER ON A SCHEDULED ESCORT MISSION TO THE MUNICH AREA.

(C) RECOMMENDED FOR THE AIR MEDAL.

(2) 1ST LT. WENDELL O. PRUITT.

(A) DESTROYED ONE (1) ME-109.

(B) WHILE IN PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES AS FLIGHT LEADER ON A SCHEDULED ESCORT MISSION TO THE MUNICH AREA.

(C) RECOMMENDED FOR THE AIR MEDAL.

(3) 1ST LT. WILLIAM BUSSEY.

(A) DESTROYED ONE HALF (1/2) ME-109 AS WELL AS TO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED FIVE (5) COMBAT MISSIONS.

(B) WHILE IN PERFORMANCE OF HIS ROUTINE DUTIES AS PILOT ON A PENETRATION ESCORT MISSION TO THE MUNICH AREA AND ALSO ON FOUR (4) OTHER SCHEDULED MISSIONS.

(C) RECOMMENDED FOR THE AIR MEDAL.

(4) 2ND LT. WILLIAM W. GREEN.

(A) DESTROYED ONE HALF (1/2) ME-109 AS WELL AS TO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED FIVE (5) COMBAT MISSIONS.

(B) WHILE IN PERFORMANCE OF HIS ROUTINE DUTIES AS PILOT ON A PENETRATION ESCORT MISSION IN THE MUNICH AREA AND ALSO ON FOUR (4) OTHER SCHEDULED MISSIONS.

(C) RECOMMENDED FOR THE AIR MEDAL.

(5) 2ND LT. GAYNE W. PEIRSON.

(A) CREDITED WITH AN ASSIST IN THE SINKING OF AN ENEMY DESTROYER.

(B) WHILE IN PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTIES AS PILOT AND WING MAN ON A SCHEDULED STRAFING MISSION IN NORTHERN ITALY.

(C) RECOMMENDED FOR THE AIR MEDAL.

2. ENCLOSED IS THE WAR DIARY OF THIS UNIT FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 1 TO JUNE 30, 1944.

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*Melvin T. Jackson*  
MELVIN T. JACKSON,  
1ST LT., AC.,  
COMMANDING OFFICER.

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WAR DIARY

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SHEET NO. 1 WAR DIARY 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON 332ND FIGHTER GROUP

MONTH OF JUNE 1944 PREPARED BY JAMES C. HILL CPL. 302ND FIGHTER SQDN.

NAME RANK UNIT

DAY

EVENTS

1. AS THE MONTH OF JUNE BEGAN THE MEMBERS OF THE 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON WERE RAPIDLY BECOMING ADJUSTED TO THEIR NEW HOME AT RAMITELLI AIR BASE. THE NEW SURROUNDINGS PROVED QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF THE NAPLES AREA. MANY WERE GRIPING OVER THE CHANGED CONDITIONS, BUT NONE COULD DENY THAT THE PRESENT LOCATION IS MUCH MORE CONDUCTIVE TO EFFICIENT OPERATION. THE PILOTS OF THE SQUADRON WERE STILL ENGAGED IN TRANSITION TRAINING IN THE P-47 TYPE AIRCRAFT. ON SO# 48, HQ. 332ND FTR. GP. THE FOLLOWING PROMOTIONS BECAME EFFECTIVE THIS DATE: 2 SGT. TO S/SGT., 2 CORPORALS TO SGT., 2 PFC'S TO CPL., 3 PVT'S TO CPL., AND 2 PVT'S TO PFC.

2. TRANSITION TRAINING CONTINUES. SO# 49, HQ. 332ND FTR. GP., 1ST LT. VERNON E. PUNCH APTD. MEMBER OF GROUP MALARIA BOARD FOR MALARIA CONTROL.

3. ROUTINE SQUADRON DUTIES. TRANSITION TRAINING IN P-47 A/C.

4. ROUTINE SQUADRON DUTIES.

5. SO# 50, 1ST. LT. VERNON E. PUNCH APTD. SUMMARY COURT OFFICER FOR PURPOSE OF INVENTORYING AND SECURING THE PERSONAL EFFECTS OF M/SGT. WILLIAM M. HARRIS (752) 302ND FTR. SQDN. M/SGT. HARRIS WAS KILLED ON JUNE 2, WHEN TRUCK IN WHICH HE WAS RIDING WAS STRUCK BY AIRCRAFT ON TAKEOFF. HIS DEATH WAS A SEVERE LOSS TO THE SQUADRON. 1 CPL. REDUCED TO PVT.

6. SO# 51 2ND LT. JOHN MCCLURE 0791538, AC, FIGHTER PILOT PLACED ON TD AT 15TH AF FOR PURPOSE OF APPEARING BEFORE MEDICAL DISPOSITION BOARD. 2ND LT. LEE A. ARCHER APTD. SUMMARY COURT OFFICER FOR THE PURPOSE OF INVENTORYING AND SECURING THE PERSONAL EFFECTS OF 2ND LT. ELMER W. TAYLOR. LT. TAYLOR WAS KILLED ON A TRAINING FLIGHT WHEN HIS AIRCRAFT CRASHED. HE WAS UNABLE TO BAIL OUT.

7. THE SQUADRON ENGAGED IN THE FIRST COMBAT MISSION SINCE JOINING THE 15TH AF. LED BY 1ST LT. MELVIN J. JACKSON 16 A/C TOOK PART IN A FIGHTER

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SHEET NO. 2. WAR DIARY 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON 332ND FTR. GP.

7. CONTINUED.

SWEEP OVER THE FERRARA, BOLOGNA AREA. THE MISSION WAS UNEVENTFUL. ALL A/C RETURNED SAFELY TO BASE.

8.

FIRST BOMBER ESCORT MISSION. 16 A/C ESCORTED BOMBERS TO POLA. SOME FLAK BUT NO ENEMY A/C ENCOUNTERED. ALL A/C RETURNED SAFELY.

9.

THE NINTH OF JUNE PROVED TO BE A HISTORIC DAY IN THE RECORDS OF THE SQUADRON. ON AN ESCORT MISSION TO THE UDINE AREA ENEMY A/C WERE ENCOUNTERED FOR THE FIRST TIME AND THE PILOTS MET THEIR FIRST TEST IN A MERITORIOUS MANNER. THREE ENEMY A/C WERE SHOT DOWN. THE VICTORIOUS PILOTS WERE 1ST LT. MELVIN T. JACKSON, 1ST LT. WENDELL O. PRUITT, AND A VICTORY WAS SHARED JOINTLY BY LT'S GREEN AND BUSSEY. THE SQDN. SUFFERED NO LOSSES.

10.

SO# 52 1ST LT. CHARLES W. BUSSEY, 2ND LT. LEE A. ARCHER, AND 2ND LT. WILLIAM R. NELTON PLACED ON T/D/AAFC EFF. JUNE 11 FOR A PERIOD OF THREE DAYS. ROUTINE SQUADRON DUTIES.

11.

PENETRATION ESCORT MISSION. NO SIGHTINGS OR FACTS OF INTEREST.

12.

SO# 53 2ND LT. JAMES W. CONLEY APTD. CL "A" AGENT OFFICER TO THE FINANCE OFFICER. 1 SGT. REDUCED TO PVT. FOR MISCONDUCT.

13.

DAY OFF PASSES TO FOGGIA BEGAN. SQUADRON ON ESCORT MISSION TO MUNICH AREA. NO ENEMY ACTION. ALL A/C RETURNED SAFELY.

14.

REGULAR SQUADRON DUTIES.

15.

MEMBERS OF SQUADRON WENT TO BARI TO ATTEND MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR M/SGT WILLIAM HARRIS. THE MEMBERS OF THE SQUADRON CONTRIBUTED GENEROUSLY FOR WREATH TO PLACE ON GRAVE OF SGT. HARRIS. SO# 55 2 SGT'S REDUCED TO GRADE OF PVT. FOR MISCONDUCT.

16.

PX OPENED TODAY. BEER ON SALE ALSO. SO# 56 1ST LT. ALPHONZO W. DAVIS

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SHEET NO. 3 WAR DIARY 302ND FIGHTER SQUADRON 332ND FIGHTER GROUP.

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16. CONTINUED.

2ND LT'S GEORGE J. HALEY, EUGENE D. SMITH, F/O EDWARD J. WILLIAMS  
PLACED ON T/D, W/AAFC EFF. THIS DATE FOR A PERIOD OF 7 DAYS. SQUADRON  
BEGINS TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION TO BARI ON DAY OFF PASSES.

17.

SQUADRON MEETING DISCUSSING VARIOUS PROBLEMS SUCH AS MALARIA CONTROL,  
V. D. CONTROL, DAY OFF PASSES, ETC. CAPTAIN MALONEY GAVE VERY EFFECTIVE  
PANTOMINE ON MALARIA AND V.D. CONTROL. NO FLYING. REGULAR DUTIES.

18.

NO FLYING. "SACKTIME" REGULAR DUTIES.

19.

REGULAR SQUADRON DUTIES. NO FLYING.

20.

REGULAR SQUADRON DUTIES.

21.

AMERICAN RED CROSS SHOW PRESENTED AT GROUP THEATER. ENJOYED BY ALL.  
DOUGHNUTS AND COFFEE SERVED BY RED CROSS GIRLS. S/SGT'S LEVI THORN-  
HILL, JOHN R. SPENCER, GILBERT C. KENNER, AND CPL. JOHN E. GRINES  
PLACED ON T/D W/ AAFC EFF. JUNE 23<sup>rd</sup> FOR A PERIOD OF THREE DAYS.

22.

MOVING PICTURE AT GROUP THEATER. "HEAVENLY BODY" STARRING HEDY LAMARR  
AND WILLIAM POWELL. SQUADRON ON STRAFING MISSION TO AIRASCA A/D IN  
NORTHERN ITALY. FAILED TO REACH TARGET BECAUSE OF WEATHER. ALL A/C  
RETURNED SAFELY.

23.

PENETRATION ESCORT TO BUCHAREST AREA. NOTHING OF INTEREST OCCURRED.

24.

PENETRATION ESCORT TO PLOESTI AREA. NO ENEMY ACTION. ALL A/C RETURNED.  
M/SGT. CHESTER A. BURRIS, S/SGT. LOUIS F. BROWN, SGT'S FRANK HUNTER  
AND CLIFFORD MOREHEAD PLACED ON T/D W/AAFC FOR A PERIOD OF THREE DAYS.

25.

STRAFING MISSION TO TRIESTE AREA. DESTROYER ESCORT SIGHTED AND STR-  
AFED. LT'S PRUITT AND PIERSON CREDITED WITH ESPECIALLY GOOD JOB OF  
STRAFING SHIP. PILOTS REPORTED SHIP LEFT BURNING AND BELIEVED TO HAVE  
SUNK.

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SHEET NO. 4 WAR DIARY 32ND FIGHTER SQUADRON 332ND FIGHTER GROUP

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26.  
2ND LT'S HUBRON R. BLACKWELL, ROBERT H. SMITH, HUGH S. WARNER, AND LAWRENCE D. WILKINS PLACED ON T/D W/AAFRC EFFECTIVE 26 JUNE FOR A PERIOD OF SEVEN DAYS. SQUADRON ON PENETRATION ESCORT TO HUNGARY. NO ENEMY ACTION.

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27.  
REGULAR SQUADRON DUTIES. PENETRATION ESCORT TO BUDAPEST AREA.

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28.  
PENETRATION ESCORT TO FERDINAND AREA. NO ENEMY ACTION. SQUADRON BEGAN TRANSITION TRAINING IN P-51 TYPE AIRCRAFT.

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29.  
REGULAR SQUADRON DUTIES. TRANSITION TRAINING IN P-51 A/C CONTINUED.

---

30.  
SQUADRON ENGAGED IN PENETRATION ESCORT TO VIENNA AREA. NO ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED. ALL OF OUR AIRCRAFT RETURNED SAFELY. TRANSITION TRAINING IN P-51 CONTINUED. PERSONNEL HOPEFUL THAT WHEN SQUADRON BEGINS COMBAT MISSIONS IN P-51 MORE "JERRIES" WILL BE SIGHTED. AS THE MONTH ENDED THE MORALE OF THE SQUADRON WAS HIGH DUE TO RECENT VICTORIES ON ALL FRONTS CAUSING VISIONS OF CHRISTMAS DINNER IN THE STATES.

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