

12<sup>th</sup> Air Force, 57<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing  
310<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group  
History: May 1943



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*For my dad,  
Colonel John "Jack" Fitzgerald, U.S. Army (retired)*

*"Lil Butch"  
John J. Fitzgerald, SMSgt, U.S. Air Force (retired)*

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# 12<sup>th</sup> Air Force, 57<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing

## 310<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group

### History: May 1943

The following is a compilation of the 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group's Headquarters and individual Squadron War Diaries. They have been transcribed word for word, from the Squadron Histories provided by the Air Force Historical Research Agency (AFHRA), Maxwell Air Force Base Alabama. At the end of each Squadron's daily entry, the individuals cited in the entry are identified by *full name, rank and duty*, in alphabetical order. The day's entry begins with the Tactical Operations Statement, from the United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) Chronology, for the Mediterranean Theater of Operations (MTO). The history also includes mission reports, mission crew rosters, Missing Air Crew Reports (MACR), personal mission logs, journals, and diaries made available by various sources.

### *Invitation*

*Anyone who has documentation pertaining to the 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group or its members, and would like to have it included in this history, is welcome to participate. Copies of: photos (official or personal); orders (promotion, decoration, travel, etc.); Mission Reports; Missing Air Crew Reports; personal diaries, logs, journals, etc; other documentation; or information that will help identify **hi-lited** individuals will be greatly appreciated, as one of my goals is correctly identify every man and plane assigned to the 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group.*

*My only interest in this project is to honor those who served by perpetuating their story, and making it available for future generations, particularly the families and friends of our Great Heroes. If you are interested in helping, or if I may be of assistance in finding information about your 310<sup>th</sup> BG Hero, please contact me at: [Lil-Butch@nc.rr.com](mailto:Lil-Butch@nc.rr.com)*

### *Contributors*

*Agostino Alberti: Professor - historian (Soncino, Italy)*

*Michele Becchi: aviation history - archaeologist (Reggio Emilia, Italy)*

*Jack Brellenthin, great nephew of: Harold Ray Brellenthin, 2Lt, pilot, 446<sup>th</sup> BS*

*Cecile Burandt, daughter of: Charles Lawson "Chuck" Burandt, Capt, pilot, 446<sup>th</sup> BS*

*Sally Brown, daughter of: Barnard H. Seegmiller, Sgt, armament, 445<sup>th</sup> BS*

*Dave Charville, grandson of: Leighton Daniel "Danny" Charville, 1Lt, pilot, 445<sup>th</sup> BS*

*Barbara Connolly, daughter of: Edward Charles "Salvo" Ennis, T/Sgt, radar-radio-gunner, 447<sup>th</sup> BS*

*Ralph "Monguse" Gimenez: Software Architect, IL2-FB Skinner*

*Bob Haney, son of: Vincent M. Haney, M/Sgt, flight engineer, 341<sup>st</sup> BG*

*Ed Haney, cousin of: Gale Monroe Dickson, Capt, pilot, 446<sup>th</sup> BS*

## **Contributors (continued)**

John Hughes, son of: *John Jerome "Jack" Hughes, 1Lt, bombardier, 446<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 Patti Johnson: *genealogist, proofreader, and family friend of: James Raymond Orechia, T/Sgt, radio-gunner, 446<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 Don Kaiser, son of: *Quentin C. Kaiser, T/Sgt, radio-gunner, 489<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 John Lanza, nephew of: *William A. Lanza, Sgt, gunner, 446<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 Stephanie Lile, daughter of: *Keith B. Lile, S/Sgt, gunner, 445<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Joseph A. Malec: *bombardier, 448<sup>th</sup> BS and friend of: Vernon Curtis Dossey, Capt, pilot, 448<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 Vince Mango, son of: *Vincent A. "Vince" Mango, S/Sgt, aerial gunner, 447<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 John J. McCarthy: *Sgt, engineer-gunner, bombardier, 447<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 Lorraine McRae, daughter of: *James Arrington McRae, 1Lt, bombardier, 446<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 T/Sgt Rocco F. "Rocky" Milano & daughter Peggy Chatham: *Crew Chief of Peg O' My Heart, Lil Butch, and Haulin' Ass, 446<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 Bob Ritger, nephew of: *Frederic Charles Ritger, 1Lt, pilot, 446<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 Irving J. Schaffer: *T/Sgt, radio-gunner, photographer, 448<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Frederick H. Smith: *pilot, 447<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 Marsha Gurnee Suszan, daughter of: *Clarence E. "Shine" Gurnee, S/Sgt, gunner, 448<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 Dominique Taddei: *author, U.S.S. Corsica (Corsica)*  
 David Waldrip, nephew of: *Robert Laseter Waldrip, T/Sgt, radio-gunner, 447<sup>th</sup> BS*  
 Vinny J. White, son of: *Joseph P. White, T/Sgt, radio-gunner, 381<sup>st</sup> BS*

## **Crew lists**

<i>Aircraft information - serial #, name, etc</i>	<i>Sometimes used</i>
<b>P</b> <i>Pilot</i>	<b>Bomb/Nav</b> <i>Bombardier-Navigator</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Co-pilot</i>	<b>BN</b> <i>Bombardier-Navigator</i>
<b>N</b> <i>Navigator</i>	<b>EG</b> <i>Engineer-gunner</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Bombardier</i>	<b>RG</b> <i>Radio-gunner</i>
<b>E</b> <i>Engineer-gunner</i>	<b>TG</b> <i>Turret gunner</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Radio-gunner</i>	<b>AG</b> <i>Aerial gunner</i>
<b>G</b> <i>Gunner</i>	<b>PH</b> <i>Photographer</i>
<b>F</b> <i>Photographer</i>	<b>AP</b> <i>Aerial photographer</i>
<b>CL</b> <i>Cannon Loader (on B-25G)</i>	<b>CC</b> <i>Crew Chief</i>
<b>O</b> <i>Observer</i>	

*Note for the 381<sup>st</sup> BS only: The letter in ( ) following the A/C No. represents the position # of the aircraft in the formation. For example: A/C No. 41-13052 (P) - the P is position 16.*

**A-1 B-2 C-3 D-4 E-5 F-6 G-7 H-8 I-9 J-10 K-11 L-12  
 M-13 N-14 O-15 P-16 Q-17 R-18 S-19 T-20` U-21 V-22 W-23 X-24  
 Y-25 Z-26**

## *Acronyms & Abbreviations*

<b>A/C:</b> Aircraft	<b>M/G:</b> Machine Gun
<b>A/D:</b> Aerodrome	<b>MIA:</b> Missing In Action
<b>A/F:</b> Air Field, also Anti-Flak	<b>M/T:</b> Motor Transport (Truck)
<b>AA or AAA:</b> Anti-Aircraft (Artillery)	<b>MTB:</b> Motor Torpedo Boat
<b>abs:</b> absent	<b>M/V:</b> Military Vessel, Maritime Vessel
<b>AGL:</b> Above Ground Level	<b>M/Y:</b> Marshalling Yards
<b>ALO:</b> Allied Liaison Officer	<b>MC:</b> Maintenance Crew
<b>ALW:</b> Alive and Well	<b>NARA:</b> National Archives and Records Administration
<b>AMGOT:</b> Allied Military Government for Occupied Territories	<b>NASAF:</b> Northwest African Strategic Air Force
<b>A.R.C.:</b> American Red Cross	<b>NATC -</b> Northwest African Training Command
<b>ASN:</b> Army Serial Number (personnel)	<b>NATOUSA:</b> North Atlantic Theater of Operations USA
<b>Assg:</b> Assigned	<b>Nav:</b> Navigator
<b>ASV:</b> Anti-Surface Vessel (radar)	<b>N.B.S.:</b> National Bureau of Standards
<b>ATA:</b> Actual Time of Arrival	<b>NC:</b> Nurse Corps.
<b>ATC:</b> Air Transportation Command	<b>NCO:</b> Non-Commissioned Officer
<b>ATS:</b> Air Transport Service	<b>Nickels:</b> propaganda Leaflets
<b>Azon:</b> Azimuth only (guided bomb)	<b>(NMI):</b> No Middle Initial
<b>BC:</b> Bomber Command	<b>NOK:</b> Next Of Kin
<b>BIC:</b> Bruised in Crash	<b>NRO:</b> National Reconnaissance Office
<b>Bmb:</b> Bombardier	<b>OAF:</b> Occupation Air Forces
<b>Bn:</b> Battalion	<b>OD:</b> Officer of the day, also Olive Drab
<b>B.R.L.:</b> Ballistic Research Laboratory	<b>OLC:</b> Oak Leaf Cluster
<b>BSM:</b> Bomb System Maintenance	<b>OTU:</b> Operational Training Unit
<b>CA:</b> Heavy Cruiser	<b>PAX:</b> Passengers
<b>CAVU:</b> Ceiling and Visibility Unlimited	<b>PDI:</b> Pilot Direction Indicator
<b>C.B.I.:</b> China-Burma-India Theater	<b>POE:</b> Point of Embarkation
<b>C/D:</b> Coastal Defense	<b>POW:</b> Prisoner of War (also PW)
<b>CE:</b> Circular Error	<b>PRO-Kit:</b> Individual Chemical Prophylactic packet
<b>CEP:</b> Circular Error Probable	<b>PW:</b> Prisoner of War (also POW)
<b>Chaff</b> (US term): Radar countermeasure: tiny strips of aluminum, metalized glass fiber, or plastic. See <b>Window</b>	<b>PWB:</b> Psychological Warfare Branch
<b>CL:</b> Cannon Loader	<b>PX:</b> Post Exchange
<b>CO:</b> Commanding Officer	<b>QBB:</b> Base of cloud
<b>CG:</b> Commanding General	<b>QDM:</b> Course to steer
<b>CP:</b> Command Post	<b>QM:</b> Quarter Master
<b>CQ:</b> Charge of Quarters	<b>R/B:</b> Road Bridge
<b>C/S:</b> Call Sign	<b>RC:</b> Red Cross
<b>CWS:</b> Chemical Warfare Service	<b>R/J:</b> Road Junction

**D/H:** Direct Hit  
**DD:** Destroyer  
**DED:** Declared Dead - no body or remains found  
**Demo:** Demolition  
**DL:** Dead List  
**DNB:** Died Non-Battle / Died Not-Battle  
**DOW:** Died Of Wounds.  
**DOWRIA:** Died of Wounds Received in Action  
**DS:** Detached Service  
**E/A:** Enemy Aircraft  
**E/F:** Enemy Fighter  
**EM or E/M:** Enlisted Men  
**ETA:** Estimated Time of Arrival  
**ETIR:** Estimated Time In Route  
**EUS:** Evacuated to the United States  
**E/V:** Enemy Vessel  
**F Boat:** Flying Boat  
**F/L:** Formation Leader - also Flight Leader  
**FO or F/O:** Flying Officer  
**FOD:** Finding Of Death  
**Frag:** Fragmentation  
**F.S.:** Flight Section  
**GLO:** Ground Liaison Officer (UK)  
**GO:** General Order  
**GP:** General Purpose/Gun Position  
**GTC:** General Time Convention (railroad)  
**HE:** High Explosive  
**IAS:** Indicated Air Speed  
**I & E:** Information & Education  
**(i. o.):** Initials Only (initial is the name)  
**IP:** Initial Point  
  
**KNB:** Killed Not Battle  
**KIA:** Killed In Action  
**L/A:** Landing Area  
**LC:** Landing Craft  
**L/G:** Landing Ground  
**Lox:** Liquid Oxygen  
  
**L/S:** Landing Strip  
**L/V:** Large Vehicle  
  
**LST:** Landing Ship Tank  
**Ltr:** Letter  
  
**R/Y:** Railroad Yards  
**Repl:** Replacement  
**RMC:** Returned to Military Control  
  
**RON:** Remain OverNight  
**RR/B:** Railroad Bridge  
**RR/J:** Railroad Junction  
**RR:** Railroad  
**RTD:** Returned To Duty  
  
**R/V:** Rendezvous  
**SAP:** Semi-Armor Piercing  
**SD:** Special Duty  
**S/E:** Single Engine (plane)  
**S.E.:** Special Equipment (Shoran)  
**S/F:** Siebel Ferry  
**sk:** sick  
**S/M:** Submarine  
**SO:** Special Order  
**SOI:** Standard Operating Instructions?  
**S/P:** Sea Plane  
**Sq:** Squadron  
**Sqdn:** Squadron  
**SWA:** Seriously Wounded in Action  
**T/A:** Target Area  
**T/C:** Troop Concentration  
**T/E:** Twin Engine (plane)  
**TAC:** Theater Allied Command  
**TBF:** Tactical Bomber Force  
**TD:** Temporary Duty  
**TDY:** Temporary Duty  
**TLC:** Tactical Landing Craft  
**TO:** Take-Off (time), also Technical Order, and Transportation Officer  
**T/O:** Table of Organization  
**TOT:** Time Over Target/Time On Target  
**Trfd:** Transferred  
**TWX:** Teletypewriter Message  
**u/i:** Unidentified, also unit of issue  
**UNRRA:** United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration  
**Very Pistol or Verey Pistol:** Flare gun  
**VOCO:** Verbal Order of the Commanding Officer  
**W.O.:** Warrant Officer  
**WIA:** Wounded In Action

**LWA:** Lightly Wounded in Action

**MACR:** Missing Air Crew Report

**MATS:** Military Air Transport Service

**Window** (British term): Radar countermeasure: tiny strips of aluminum, metalized glass fiber, or plastic. See **Chaff**

**WP:** White Phosphorus (bombs)

**WT, W/T:** Watch Tower

**XC:** Cross Country

**ZI:** Zone of Interior (U.S.A.)

**Saturday, 1 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In Italy**, B-24's bomb the harbor at Reggio di Calibre. **In Tunisia**, P-40's bomb and strafe shipping and shore installations on the NE coastline.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In the Mediterranean**, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) B-26's and P-38's fly uneventful shipping sweeps.

**In Tunisia**, Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) fighters and A-20's hit shipping in the Gulf of Tunis and jetties at Sidi Daoud and Kelibia, and attack positions in the NE Tunisian battle area as Allied ground forces regroup for the final Tunisian offensive. During the month of May, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Air Defense Wing transfers from Oran, Algeria to Maison Blanche, Algeria. The wing will be redesignated the 63<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing in Jul 43. During the month of May, the 15<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron (Light), Twelfth Air Force with A-20's and A-36's transfers from Nouvion, Algeria to Sale, French Morocco. The squadron flew the first USAAF mission in Europe but is now relegated to a training role. The 81<sup>st</sup> and 82<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment Squadrons (Medium), 12<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (Medium) with B-25's transfer from Canrobert, Algeria to Thibar, Tunisia.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No mission.

**Sunday, 2 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In Tunisia,** P-40's attack shipping off the coast.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Tunisia,** bad weather restricts the Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) to reconnaissance missions. Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) fighters hit tank and troop concentrations near Massicault and Tebourba and fly battle area reconnaissance as the US II Corps occupies Kef en Nsour while the enemy withdraws toward Bizerte.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Boys called out early in the morning for a mission but it was cancelled.



## Monday, 3 May 1943

### USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):

#### EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):

In Tunisia, P-40's fly fighter-bomber missions against a bridge, buildings, and docks in the NE part of the country.

#### WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):

In Tunisia, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) B-25's bomb a landing ground near Protville and B-17's hit shipping at Bizerte. Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) fighters fly numerous reconnaissance missions over the battle area as Mateur falls to the US 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division. Other fighters escort NASAF bombers. Fighter-bombers bomb the Massicault area.

HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary: No Entry

#### HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 82:

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**Mission Report # 95, 3 May 1943** (*Mission Reports for both 30 Apr and 3 May 43 missions are designated Mission Report # 95*)

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Leaders: Capts. Cometh, Draemel and 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. VanDivort.

2. At 1235 18 B-25-C's took off to Bomb J-8875 (Mabtouha) L/G. One  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target

returned early and was replaced by a spare. 18 dropped 72 X 100 lb inst &  
No. A/C No & Type

.45 del tail fuse bombs on target at 1410 from 8500-9900 ft. 17 (S-1) returned at  
Time Altitude No. A/C

1520.  
Time

3. RESULTS: 10-20 A/C were dispersed in SE corner of the field. Bombs from first flight of six bombers patterned this area with direct hits on four planes. The other planes in the formation did not drop bombs because L/G was not observed until it was too late to start a proper bombing run. This was caused by very poor visibility due to heavy haze.

## Monday, 3 May 1943 (continued)

4. OBS: E/A--One crew saw six E/A five minutes before target. Escort went after them and E/A flew away. Flak--Approximately 5 miles SW of Chouigui at 36 deg 50 min N, 9 deg 45 min E, inaccurate. Intense heavy and very accurate flak came from hill 394 at 37 deg N, 9 deg 52 min E. Moderate, heavy flak from 36 deg 57 min N, 9 deg 49 min E hitting one plane and killing the gunner. Heavy moderate flak from Ain Rhelal, accurate as to both range and deflection. Heavy, intense flak from 36 deg 45 min N, 9 deg 44 min E, accurate as to range but trailing. Heavy intense flak with fair accuracy from 36 deg 53 min N, 9 deg 55 min E. From Sidi Athman (36 deg 58 min N, 9 deg 55 min E) intense light and inaccurate flak. At the target slight, heavy flak, accurate as to range, but off as to deflection.
- One B-25 was damaged by flak at 36 deg 57 min N, 9 deg 49 min E. Turret gunner was killed, and pilot was wounded.
- At least 50 vehicles, type unknown on road through Chouigui from NW to SE, direction of movement could not be determined.
- Heavy M/T moving NE from Bordj Toum to Djedeida.
- Two (2) large convoys of approx. 75 trucks each, heading E on Mateur-Tunis road.
- 20,000 German and Italian pamphlets were dropped in target area.
- Photographs were taken and are being forwarded.

5. WEATHER: At Target--Ceiling unlimited. Haze extending from ground to 12,000 ft. visibility 3-4 miles. Enroute--Same conditions existed, but further W clouds built up to 8-9/10 coverage at 5000 ft.

6. PRESS DATA: None

Eighteen (18) sorties flown 3/5/43.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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### **379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary:** (Ops Order ---/mission ---) **Group Mission # 82:** On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, eighteen of our planes were dispatched to bomb Mabtouha L/G. The entire field was well covered by hits, especially in the southeast corner including the dispersal areas where ten to twelve ships were parked. Intense heavy flak was encountered over the L/G and Lt. B.J. Leask's plane was again hit by flak, killing his Turret-Gunner, S/Sgt. Stanley J. Kida and slightly wounding the pilot and co-pilot.

## Monday, 3 May 1943 (continued)

	<b>A/C No. 1 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b>	<b>A/C No. 2 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Leask, Bertram J., 2Lt</i>	<i>Beachum, Graham C., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>		
<b>N</b>		
<b>B</b>		
<b>E</b>		
<b>R</b>		
<b>G</b>	<i>Kida, Stanley J., S/Sgt</i>	
<b>F</b>		

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

### **380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 82:**

Mission Report # 58

Date- May 3, 1943

Target- Landing Ground at J-8875

Squadron airplanes- eleven

The pilots didn't have to make any evasive action this afternoon, as the air was so rough that it practically tossed us all over the sky. A few planes were seen on the landing ground and the first flight was the lone section to be able to drop their pills.

Some hits were seen among the airplanes parked, but just how much damage was done is still uncertain. Flak came at us from all directions and one group plane came home with a dead gunner and four wounded men, but it did come home.

The weather was bad again and the haze extended to 11,000 feet. The ground looked like it was covered with a shroud. We all got back anxious to be able to go again when the weather breaks.

	<b>A/C No. 1 aircraft unidentified</b>	<b>A/C No. 2 aircraft unidentified</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Cometh, Lawrence (NMI), Capt</i>	<i>Cromartie, Harry L., Jr., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Miller, James I., 2Lt</i>	<i>Wright, John E., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Huffman, Arnie J., 2Lt</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Liverman, Ernest W. "Big Red", 2Lt</i>	<i>Kechter, Harry H., T/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Mount, Robert J., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Smith, Eldon M., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Melhus, Palmer C., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Kobasa, Joseph (NMI), S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>Wilder, Rodney R. "Hoss", Maj, Commander (observer)</i>	<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified</b>	<b>A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Batten, Earl E., Capt</i>	<i>Stutts, Earl Leeman, 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Shorsher, Fred A., 2Lt</i>	<i>Steger, Edward H., Jr., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Sessler, Howard A., 1Lt</i>	<i>Kessler, Paul E., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Talley, Edwin C., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Barbieri, Edward D., Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Szczesniak, Alfred A., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Janicki, Andrew J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>Hutchenrider, Willis E., Sgt</i>

**Monday, 3 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Amick, Cecil D., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Porter, Lloyd L., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Longrie, Kenneth R., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Meyer, Albert J., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Huffman, Herbert (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 7 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Santos, Carroll A., Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Picklesimer, Marion L., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Lively, Jake S., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Smith, Teddy L., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Redding, William D., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 9 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Grow, Clyde L., Capt*  
**CP** *Hubbard, Jack W., 2Lt*  
**N** *Coffey, John D., 2Lt*  
**B** *Hall, Paul R., Jr., 2Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Hill, Raiford B., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Pintar, John L., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 11 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Rich, Robert S., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Goss, Ralph R., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Jastrzemeski, Walter F., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Poknis, Paul A., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Rodgers, Lamar F., Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified (flight leader)**

*Draemel, Dean H., Capt*  
*Sours, Robert J., 2Lt*  
*Kanode, Robert C., 1Lt*  
*Mizerski, Richard C. "Bronco", 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Shambaugh, Robert M., T/Sgt*  
*Williams, John A., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 8 aircraft unidentified**

*Sacknoff, David A., 1Lt*  
*Walcott, Albert R., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Grossman, Stanley R., Cpl*  
*None*  
*Wesline, Richard L., T/Sgt*  
*Grace, John J., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 10 aircraft unidentified**

*Timmerman, Melvin E., 2Lt*  
*Rice, Carl E., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Donahue, Francis E., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Thomas, Cyril L., S/Sgt*  
*Tabor, George E., S/Sgt*  
*None*

## Monday, 3 May 1943 (continued)

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 82:  
MABTOUHA L/G, TUNISIA**

Group Mission # 82	Flight 18 B-25's
Sqdrn. Mission # 59	Escort 24 Spits and P-40's
Take Off 12:35	Bomb Load: (12 x 100)
Target 14:00	Bombs Dropped: None
Down 15:20	

Total Time: 2 Hrs. 45 Min.

Weather: Very Heavy en route to and from the target. CAVU at target.

REMARKS: No bombs were dropped by this flight. No Enemy air craft were encountered. S/Sgt. S. J. Kida (379<sup>th</sup> Gunner) was killed by flak, and three other men were slightly injured.

*Kida, Stanley J., S/Sgt, turret-gunner, 379<sup>th</sup> BS*

**A/C No. 42-32333 "Lorelei" (F)**

**P** *Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt*  
**CP** *Cook, Walter E., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Gullic, John F., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13065 (S)**

**P** *Wert, Donald S., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Houghtaling, Harold A., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Rogers, Lee C., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Dittmar, Francis A., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Bowden, Scott T., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13052 "TABOO" (N)**

(flight leader)

*VanDivort, Richard (NMI), 1Lt*  
*Campbell, Martin H., Jr., F/O*  
*Hickman, James G., 1Lt*  
*Myers, John H., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Chaffins, Ray (NMI), T/Sgt*  
*Nelson, Forest S., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 41-13074 "Balls of Fire" /  
"Royal Flush" (Q)**

*Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt*  
*Dauley, Charles G., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Daly, Donald J., T/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Nickelson, Royal C., T/Sgt*  
*Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt*  
*None*

## Monday, 3 May 1943 (continued)

### A/C No. 41-29980 (R)

**P** *Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Burt, Norman A., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Douglas, Edward (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Budde, Walter H., T/Sgt*  
**G** *White, John Edward, S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Mission scheduled with planes to fly in at 200 feet over shipping. Crews sweated the mission but it was called off at noon. Stewart, Black and Temple failed to return from town. B-17's flying below a storm late at night were directed to a safe landing by searchlights. The 1/Sgt had to go to town to find the missing boys.

*Black, James F., Cpl, gunner*

*Johnston, Melvin R., S/Sgt, 1st Sgt*

*Stewart, William W., Cpl*

*Temple, Robert W., Sgt, radio-gunner*

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 82:**

*(428<sup>th</sup> BS did not participate)*

**Tuesday, 4 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In Italy**, B-24's attack shipping at Reggio di Calabria and Taranto.

**In Tunisia**, B-25's hit Zaghouan, including a landing ground and a road running to Bou Ficha. P-40's fly sea patrol and escort, as well as fighter-bomber missions in the Zaghouan area.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Tunisia**, weather restricts Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) operations to a reconnaissance and uneventful shipping sweep; Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) fighters attack gun positions and vehicles near Zaghouan and Massicault and at other points in the surrounding areas. A-20's and medium bombers hit Zaghouan in support of the French advance.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Temple, Black and Stewart busted to private. "My Favorite Blonde" shown on the screen.

*Black, James F., Pvt, gunner*

*Stewart, William W., Pvt*

*Temple, Robert W., Pvt, radio-gunner*

**Wednesday, 5 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In Tunisia,** P-40's strafe and bomb a bridge, vessels, docks, warehouses, and other buildings at Nabeul harbor.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Sicily,** Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) B-17's bomb a vessel off Capo San Vito.

**In Italy,** B-25's and B-26's bomb shipping off Marettimo Island.

**In Tunisia,** NASAF B-17's hit Tunis harbor and attack ships and docks at La Goulette. B-25's and B-26's bomb shipping E of Cape Zebib, and hit a landing ground at Galaat el Andeless and near Protville. Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) fighters and bombers fly 6 missions against strongholds on the NE and E slopes of Djebel Bou Aoukaz as the British 5 Corps' 1 Division attacks and gains the position. Fighters hit shipping in Gulf of Tunis and attack landing grounds and concentrations near Protville. Wellingtons bomb roads at Bir Meherga. After regrouping and re-equipping, HQ 14<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group and its 37<sup>th</sup> and 49<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadrons with P-38's transfer from Mediouna, French Morocco to Telergma, Algeria.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 83:**

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**Mission Report # 96, 5 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Leaders: 1<sup>st</sup> Lts. Thorndike and VanDivort and Capt. Holstead. Observer: Colonel Ridenour.

2. At 1350 18 B-25-C's took off to Bomb L/G at K-0076. None returned  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target No. A/C

early. 18 dropped 216 X 100 lb inst & .45 del tail fuse bombs on target at  
No. A/C No & Type

1540 from 8500-10000 ft. 18 returned at 1710.  
Time Altitude No. A/C Time



### Wednesday, 5 May 1943 (continued)

3. RESULTS: 25/35 A/C well dispersed on L/G at K-0076. The main dispersal areas being in the NW, NE and SE corners of the L/G. Bombs from two flights covered these areas and many hits were reported. NE of the L/G and extending east as far as the coast there was a dispersal area having from 75 to 100 E/A. Planes of the third flight bombed in this area and reported at least 25 A/C destroyed or damaged.
4. OBS: No E/A observed or encountered in the air. E/A were observed on the ground at the following pin-points.
  1. Approximately 25 to 30 A/C 4 miles N of target at 37 deg 4 min N, 10 deg 7 min E.
  2. One crew reported approximately 100 A/C well dispersed from Protville (36 deg 59 min N, 10 deg 4 min E) to the coast.
  3. 9 to 11 large planes just off the beach at 37 deg 5 min N, 10 deg 10 min E.
  4. At 36 deg 58 min N, 10 deg 11 min E, 4-5 miles SE of target, 2 very large A/C and 12 S/E on N and S end of L/G.
  5. At 37 deg 7 min N, 10 deg 01 min E, 7-13 JU-52's.
  6. At 37 deg 02 min N, 10 deg 09 min E, 9-10 large T/E or tri-engine planes were seen.

No flak was observed or experienced.

1 medium size M/V apparently anchored close to shore at 37 deg 14 min N, 10 deg 12 min E. This ship had one stack amid-ships and two masts, one fore and one aft. 1 M/V leaving Bizerte heading 50 deg at 37 deg 17 min N, 10 deg 03 min E. 1 M/V in Bizerte Harbor at 37 deg 16 min N, 9 deg 53 min E., seemed to be burning and smoking. This observation was made from 400 ft and 12 miles distance. 4 barges, specific type unknown, along coast just E of Bizerte. One crew reported a tanker of a small to medium size between C. Ben Sekka and C. Bizerte, coordinates: 37 deg 22 min N, 9 deg 48 min E at 1550 hours. Heavy black smoke observed in SE area of Tunis. Observation made from 10-12 miles distance and at 10,000 feet. Heavy grey or white smoke seen over Bizerte from 5-7 miles distance at 500 ft.

One crew reports seeing a large cross 20 yards square in center of Sret Er Riana (36 deg 55 min N, 10 deg 15 min E) with "dots" all around it.

20,000 German and Italian leaflets dropped in target area.

Photographs were taken and are being forwarded.

5. WEATHER: At Target: High thin cirrus at 20,000 ft, hazy, visibility 6 to 8 miles. On Route: CAVU.

**Wednesday, 5 May 1943 (continued)**

6. PRESS DATA: None

Eighteen (18) sorties flown 5 May 1943.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 84:**

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**Mission Report # 97, 5 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Leader: Capt. Gshwandtner.
2. At 1420 6 B-25-C's took off to Sea Search Shipping. None returned  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target No. A/C  
  
early. 6 dropped 19 X 500 lb 4 sec del tail fuse bombs on target at 1632  
No. A/C No & Type Time  
  
from 100-200 ft. 6 returned at 1820.  
Altitude No. A/C Time
3. RESULTS: At 1622 hours, at 38 deg 04 min N, 12 deg 10 min E. Sighted convoy of one medium size M/V and two smaller M/V's, unescorted, heading NW. All three attacked, at 1632. Result-one sunk; one burning violently; one damaged. Fighter bombers attacked first with no direct hits observed.
4. OBS: Flak--M/G fire from boats attacked-ineffective. E/A--None.
5. WEATHER: CAVU.
6. PRESS DATA: None  
  
Six (6) sorties flown 5/5/43.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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**Wednesday, 5 May 1943 (continued)**

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** May 5<sup>th</sup> saw two missions successfully completed; the first being another sea Sweep of six planes. A convoy of one medium M/V and two smaller M/V's was sunk and the other damaged. No opposition was encountered and all six planes returned safely to the base. Unluckily this was one of the 3 missions of the month in which the 379<sup>th</sup> did not participate. May 5<sup>th</sup> also found our Commanding Officer Major Travis Hoover leaving the squadron to accept the position of Operations Officer of the 47<sup>th</sup> Wing. Capt. Heston C. Daniels was designated the new Squadron Commander.

*Daniel, Heston C., Capt, pilot, Commander*

*Hoover, Travis (NMI), Maj, pilot, Commander*

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 83:** The second mission of the day found eighteen of our planes in the air headed for a L/G at K-0076, The NW, NE and SE corners were well covered by the first two flights including 25 to 35 E/A dispersed in these areas. The third flight was equally successful in bombing the NE center portion of the L/G where from 75 to 100 E/A were parked, at least 25 of which were destroyed. No opposition was met and all eighteen planes returned to their base after a very successful day.

**A/C No. 1** *aircraft & crew unidentified*  
(flight leader)

**P** *Holstead, James R., Capt*

**CP**

**N**

**B**

**E**

**R**

**G**

**F**

**A/C No. 3** *aircraft & crew unidentified*

**P** *Blozel, Raymond C., F/O*

**CP**

**N**

**B**

**E**

**R**

**G**

**F**

**A/C No. 2** *aircraft & crew unidentified*

*Rogers, Harold E., 2Lt*

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 84:**

*(379<sup>th</sup> BS did not participate)*

## Wednesday, 5 May 1943 (continued)

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 83:**

Mission Report # 59

Date- May 5, 1943

Target- K-0076 Landing Ground

Squadron airplanes- three

We made one mistake today. We should have had twice as many airplanes on the mission, instead of the 18 that we had. It looked as though the entire German Luftwaffe was parked in that particular corner of Africa. For as far as the eye could see, airplanes were sitting at ease. Lieut. Amick bombed five miles from the original target and still was able to destroy planes on the ground.

The results were good and help to destroy any extra chances of the Axis forces getting off of this continent. A few boats could be seen in the harbor at Bizerte and Tunis and a few barges along the beaches, but nothing of any great importance could be seen.

### **A/C No. 1** *aircraft unidentified*

**P** *Batten, Earl E., Capt*  
**CP** *Shorsher, Fred A., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Sessler, Howard A., Capt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Dackiewicz, John A., Sgt*  
**G** *Szczesniak, Alfred A., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

### **A/C No. 2** *aircraft unidentified*

*Stutts, Earl Leeman, 1Lt*  
*Steger, Edward H., Jr., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Kessler, Paul E., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Barbieri, Edward D., Sgt*  
*Janicki, Andrew J., S/Sgt*  
*Hutchenrider, Willis E., Sgt*

### **A/C No. 3** *aircraft unidentified*

**P** *Amick, Cecil D., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Porter, Lloyd L., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Longrie, Kenneth R., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Meyer, Albert J., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Huffman, Herbert (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 84:**

*(380<sup>th</sup> BS did not participate)*

## Wednesday, 5 May 1943 (continued)

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 83:**

PROTVILLE (K-0076 L/G), TUNISIA

Group Mission # 83	Flight 18 B-25's
Sqdrn. Mission # 60	Escort 26 P-40's
Take Off 13:50	Bomb Load: (12 x 100)
Target 15:40	Bombs Dropped: 11(12 x 100); 13,200#
Down 17:10	

Total Time: 3 Hrs. 20 Min.

Weather: Visibility 6 to 8 miles at target. CAVU en route.

REMARKS: 25 to 35 Enemy air craft were well dispersed over the landing ground, and several were hit. No flak or Enemy fighters were encountered.

<b>A/C No. 42-53444 "PUNJAB" (C)</b>	<b>A/C No. 41-13061 "Lil Joe" (A) (flight leader)</b>
<b>P</b> <i>Rouch, Melvin R., 1Lt</i>	<i>White, Alpheus Wray, Jr., Maj, Commander</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Stagner, Howard C., F/O</i>	<i>Thorndike, Robert W., 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b> <i>None</i>	<i>Hickman, James G., 1Lt</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Grossi, Frank L., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Supple, Gilbert J., 1Lt</i>
<b>E</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Swanson, William M., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Boone, Edward W. W., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b> <i>Pontet, Emile A., Jr., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Molnar, William J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b> <i>None</i>	<i>Ridenour, Carlyle H., Col, 47<sup>th</sup> Wing Commander (observer)</i>
<b>A/C No. 42-53445 "Lottie's Goose" (B)</b>	<b>A/C No. 41-29957 (F)</b>
<b>P</b> <i>Lewis, Kenneth E., 1Lt</i>	<i>Collins, George Dennis, F/O</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Stecher, Robert Walter, 2Lt</i>	<i>Wirth, Thomas F., Jr., F/O</i>
<b>N</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Smith, Willie A., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Kelley, Donald C., T/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Starnes, Carl B., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Rogers, Mike D., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b> <i>George, Wade Clayton, S/Sgt</i>	<i>Dees, Paul (NMI), S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>A/C No. 41-13085 "Green Hornet" (D)</b>	<b>A/C No. 41-29962 (E)</b>
<b>P</b> <i>Coddington, Walter E., 1Lt</i>	<i>Denton, Richard D., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Ramsey, Thomas Upton, 2Lt</i>	<i>Donnovan, Gerald M., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Hornung, Willard R., 2Lt</i>	<i>Hartzell, James J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Thomas, Quentin W., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Potolsky, George (NMI), T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b> <i>Moxey, Orville E., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Miller, Foster Eugene, S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

**Wednesday, 5 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 42-32333 "Lorelei" (J)**

**P** *Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt*  
**CP** *Cook, Walter E., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Walsh, Richard J., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13092 "El Raunch" (H)**

**P** *Therrien, Robert W., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Durgin, James L., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Dombkowski, Stanley F., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Szymik, Emil (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**G** *Kim, Daniel (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13074 "Balls of Fire" /  
Royal Flush" (K)**

**P** *Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Dauley, Charles G., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Daly, Donald J., T/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Nickelson, Royal C., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13052 "TABOO" (G)  
(flight leader)**

*VanDivort, Richard (NMI), 1Lt*  
*Campbell, Martin H., Jr., F/O*  
*Forbes, Robert L., 2Lt*  
*Myers, John H., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Chaffins, Ray (NMI), T/Sgt*  
*Nelson, Forest S., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 41-13065 (M)**

*Wert, Donald S., 1Lt*  
*Houghtaling, Harold A., F/O*  
*None*  
*Rogers, Lee C., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Dittmar, Francis A., T/Sgt*  
*Bowden, Scott T., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 41-29980 (L)**

*Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt*  
*Burt, Norman A., F/O*  
*None*  
*Douglas, Edward (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Budde, Wilbur H., T/Sgt*  
*White, John Edward, S/Sgt*  
*None*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 84:**  
*(381<sup>st</sup> BS did not participate)*

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** 428<sup>th</sup> went out on a 6 ship formation to attack a 3 ship convoy with new tactics. A 2 ship element with 4 fighters on each wing to attack at 200 feet. Results: 1 freighter sunk, 1 left blazing and the third left badly damaged. All planes returned safely.

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 83:**  
*(428<sup>th</sup> BS did not participate)*

## Wednesday, 5 May 1943 (continued)

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 84:** By the fifth of May the Axis was indeed in dire straits. We were prepared to go all out once again in low level sea sweeps to annihilate the evacuating force. However, to minimize potential losses the flights of six were to make runs in elements of two. If just one vessel were found, only one element would cross it. The second two would stand by only if the first was unsuccessful.

Just off the Egadi Islands they flushed a convoy of one medium merchant vessel and two small ones. It was unescorted. All three vessels were attacked and all three hit. The largest sank immediately, another was sinking rapidly and the third was burning so furiously that its complete gutting could reasonably be assumed. It was strictly a 428<sup>th</sup> mission and another feather in the unit's Indian chief headdress. Machine gun fire from the vessels was ineffective.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 1</b> <i>aircraft unidentified</i> (flight leader)</p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Gshwandtner, Frank J. "Gish", Capt</i></p> <p><b>CP</b> <i>Williams, Edwin W., 1Lt</i></p> <p><b>N</b> <i>Doolittle, Leonard N., 1Lt</i></p> <p><b>B</b> <i>Herold, Armin F., Jr., 1Lt</i></p> <p><b>E</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>R</b> <i>Martin, Robert J., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>G</b> <i>Stage, Albert A., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>F</b> <i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 3</b> <i>probably 41-13094</i> <b>"Seasweep"</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Holley, James Taylor, 1Lt</i></p> <p><b>CP</b> <i>Walker, James P. "Chief", Maj, Commander</i></p> <p><b>N</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>B</b> <i>Connors, Charles L., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>E</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>R</b> <i>Glass, John D., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>G</b> <i>Langford, Alvin L., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>F</b> <i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 5</b> <i>aircraft unidentified - may be</i> <b>"Mickey II"</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Brennan, Samuel J., Jr., 1Lt</i></p> <p><b>CP</b> <i>Southward, Thomas H., 2Lt</i></p> <p><b>N</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>B</b> <i>Herring, William S., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>E</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>R</b> <i>Smit, Richard F., T/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>G</b> <i>Davis, Elvin A., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>F</b> <i>None</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 2</b> <i>aircraft unidentified - may be</i> <b>"Bad Seed"</b></p> <p><i>Brock, James C., 1Lt</i></p> <p><i>Blaauw, Harold A., 1Lt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Spencer, Ronald L., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Marrs, Horace S., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>Warlie, Roger Rickie, Pvt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 4</b> <i>aircraft unidentified - may be</i> <b>"Skunk Hunter"</b></p> <p><i>Marsh, Edward D., 1Lt</i></p> <p><i>Wescott, Robert M., 1Lt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Keys, Paul R., 2Lt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Bosworth, William H., T/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>Wink, Jacob A., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 6</b> <i>probably 41-13050</i> <b>"Virginia Sturgeon"</b></p> <p><i>Peterson, Arthur C., 1Lt</i></p> <p><i>Purifoy, Lawrence Lloyd "Peter Plink", 2Lt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Queen, Kenneth E., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Guilfoyle, Frederick J., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>Michalek, Joseph F., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>Reed, Robert H., Cpl</i></p>
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## Thursday, 6 May 1943

### USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):

#### EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):

**In Italy**, B-24's bomb Reggio di Calabria harbor, hitting several vessels and shore installations.

**In Tunisia**, B-25's attack Furna and Massicault and surrounding areas. P-40's hit shipping in the Gulf of Tunis and vehicles and buildings along the coast.

#### WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):

**In Sicily**, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) B-17's, escorted by fighters, bomb Marsala and Trapani.

**In Italy**, B-25's and B-26's, escorted by fighters, bomb a convoy SW of Marettimo Island, the port of Favignana, and vessels W of Mitrettimo.

**In Tunisia**, the British 18 Army Group opens the final assault on Tunis and Bizerte before dawn. The assault is supported by massed artillery fire and the most intensive air bombardment yet employed in North Africa. Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) airplanes bomb El Aouina, La Sebala, and Ariana Airfields during the night of 5/6 May. Today, fighters, A-20's, and medium bombers fly over 1,400 sorties, attacking Protville and La Sebala Airfields, trucks on the Massicault-Tunis road, Bordj Frendj, Djebel Achour, traffic SW of Tunis, troops N of Massicault, the Djedeida-Saint-Cyprien road, the road S of Djedeida, and numerous other points of strength in extreme NE Tunisia. B-25's and B-26's bomb 2 beached vessels at Cape Zebib, and ships, a lighthouse, and parked aircraft near Capes Fortass, Zebib, Cap Serrat and at Protville. Fighters escort the bombing missions. The 48<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, 14<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group with P-38's transfers from Mediouna, French Morocco to Telergma, Algeria.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 85:**

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**Mission Report # 98, 6 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Leaders: Capts. Cometh, Draemel, 1<sup>st</sup> Lts. VanDivort, Thorndike, and Capts., Gshwandtner and Canham.
2. At 0830 36 B-25-C's took off to Bomb Port Favignana, Favignana Island,  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target



**Thursday, 6 May 1943 (continued)**

Sicily. None returned early. 36 dropped 278 X 300 lb .1 & .025 sec del  
No. A/C No. A/C No & Type

tail fuse bombs on target at 1050 from 8500-10,000 ft. 36 returned at 1300.  
Time Altitude No. A/C Time

3. RESULTS: One large and one medium size M/V's in harbor. Several strings of bombs fell near M/V's. Near misses but no direct hits were reported. Strings of bombs covered the dock installations on E and W side of harbor. Two strings of bombs hit western section of town.
4. OBS: One crew reported one ME-109 off Bizerte, did not come close to formation. Another crew reported seeing two large E/A in the distance at the target. Did not come close enough for identification. No E/A observed on the ground. No traffic seen at target. Flak--Slight light and heavy flak inaccurate as to range and deflection from 37 deg 59 min N, 12 deg 19 min E and 37 deg 55 min N, 12 deg 17 min E. 10-15 bursts of heavy flak from Marettimo Island pin-pointed at 37 deg 57 min N, 12 deg 02 min E. Inaccurate. One battery on top of Lavanza Island at 38 deg 01 min N, 12 deg 20 min E, slight heavy and inaccurate. Flak at Target: Slight, heavy and inaccurate both as to range and deflection from boats in harbor and W and SW of harbor but exact positions could not be determined. Several ships seen in the area of 38 deg 08 min N, 12 deg 06 min E consisting of 1 large M/V of approximately 8-9000 tons, one Red Cross ship, one tanker, 1-2 escorting vessels and five small launches. 7-8 vessels at 38 deg N, 12 deg 12 min E of which one was a M/V with escort and 1-2 Seibel Ferries the others were unidentified. One destroyer trailed by one small freighter and two corvettes heading approximately 50 deg at 38 deg N, 12 deg 18 min E. Three Seibel Ferries heading toward Favignana Island at 37 deg 55 min N, 12 deg 25 min E. One to two M/V's and one to two naval vessels in harbor of Marsala and five to six smaller craft, type unidentified heading into Marsala Harbor. Photos were taken and are being forwarded.
5. WEATHER: At target 8/10 strato-cumulus at 12,000 ft. Visibility 6-8 miles. Hazy. En Route: Base to coast, high cirrus scattered at 15,000 ft, visibility 8-10 miles. Over Water: Varied from CAVU to 9/10 coverage at 10,000 ft, visibility varied from three miles to unlimited. Weather closing in on return.
6. PRESS DATA: None

Thirty six (36) sorties flown 6/5/43.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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**Thursday, 6 May 1943 (continued)**

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 85:** It was the residents of Sicily who became acutely aware of the growing power of the U.S. Air Force when 36 of our planes bombed shipping and installations in the Port of Favignana on May 6<sup>th</sup>. One large and one small M/V in harbor were completely surrounded with bombs although no direct hits were observed. Complete devastation was wrought to dock installations on E, and W, side of harbor and also warehouses in western section of town. Three E/A were sighted over the target but there was no attack. Flak encountered over the target was very slight and ineffectual and all 36 planes returned to base safely.

	<i>A/C No. 1 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>	<i>A/C No. 2 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>
<b>P</b>	<i>Johnson, Kenneth M. "Ken", 1Lt</i>	<i>Grant, Isaac E., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>		
<b>N</b>		
<b>B</b>		
<b>E</b>		
<b>R</b>		
<b>G</b>		
<b>F</b>		
	<i>A/C No. 3 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>	<i>A/C No. 4 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>
<b>P</b>	<i>Smith, Charles W., 2Lt</i>	<i>Logan, Harry R., Jr., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>		
<b>N</b>		
<b>B</b>		
<b>E</b>		
<b>R</b>		
<b>G</b>		
<b>F</b>		

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 85:**

Mission Report # 60

Date- May 6, 1943

Target- Port Favignana, Egadi Islands

Squadron airplanes- twelve

The three ships riding placidly in the harbor received nothing more than a jolt from the rude waves cast up by our misses, but the people in the town received the lion's share of the bombs. We overshot entirely today and for what reason no one seems to know. Bombs fell through the town and on the edge of the docks and fires were still seen burning 60 miles away.

A few enemy fighters could be seen in the distance, but none of them seemed to want action as the P-38 boys attempted to coax them on without success. All of the boys came back safe and sound.

**Thursday, 6 May 1943 (continued)**

	<b>A/C No. 1 aircraft unidentified</b> (flight leader)		<b>A/C No. 2 may be 41-13096 “The Question Mark”</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Cometh, Lawrence (NMI), Capt</i>		<i>McCormick, Robert J., II, 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Miller, James I., 2Lt</i>		<i>Toenjes, Norman L., 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Huffman, Arnie J., 2Lt</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Liverman, Ernest W. “Big Red”, 2Lt</i>		<i>Richardson, David L., T/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Mount, Robert J., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Oliver, Frank R., Jr., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Melhus, Palmer C., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Leanza, Anthony (NMI), S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified</b>		<b>A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Cromartie, Harry L., Jr., 1Lt</i>		<i>Batten, Earl E., Capt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Wright, John E., 2Lt</i>		<i>Shorsher, Fred A., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Kechter, Harry H., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Sessler, Howard A., Capt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Smith, Eldon M., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Dackiewicz, John A., Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Kobasa, Joseph (NMI), S/Sgt</i>		<i>Szczesniak, Alfred A., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified</b>		<b>A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Stutts, Earl Leeman, 1Lt</i>		<i>Amick, Cecil D., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Steger, Edward H., Jr., 2Lt</i>		<i>Porter, Lloyd L., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Kessler, Paul E., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Longrie, Kenneth R., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Barbieri, Edward D., Sgt</i>		<i>Meyer, Albert J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Janicki, Andrew J., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Huffman, Herbert (NMI), S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>Hutchenrider, Willis E., Sgt</i>		<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 7 aircraft unidentified</b> (flight leader)		<b>A/C No. 8 aircraft unidentified</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Draemel, Dean H., Capt</i>		<i>Santos, Carroll A., Jr., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Sours, Robert J., 2Lt</i>		<i>Picklesimer, Marion L., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Kanode, Robert C., 1Lt</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Mizerski, Richard C. “Bronco”, 2Lt</i>		<i>Lively, Jake S., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Shambaugh, Robert M., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Smith, Teddy L., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Williams, John A., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Redding, William D., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>Wilder, Rodney R. “Hoss”, Maj, Commander (observer)</i>		<i>None</i>

**Thursday, 6 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 9 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Sacknoff, David A., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Walcott, Albert R., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Grossman, Stanley R., Cpl*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Wesline, Richard L., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Grace, John J., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 11 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Timmerman, Melvin E., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Rice, Carl E., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Donahue, Francis E., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Thomas, Cyril L., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Tabor, George E., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 10 aircraft unidentified**

*Grow, Clyde L., Capt*  
*Hubbard, Jack W., 2Lt*  
*Coffey, John D., 2Lt*  
*Hall, Paul R., Jr., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Hill, Raiford B., T/Sgt*  
*Pintar, John L., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 12 aircraft unidentified**

*Rich, Robert S., 2Lt*  
*Goss, Ralph R., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Jastrzemski, Walter F., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Poknis, Paul A., S/Sgt*  
*Rodgers, Lamar F., Sgt*  
*None*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 85:**

**FAVIGNANA, SICILY**

Group Mission # 85	2 Flight 18 B-25's each
Sqdrn. Mission # 61	Escort 16 P-38's
Take Off 08:30	Bomb Load: (8 x 300)
Target Time 10:50	Bombs Dropped: 12 (8 x 300), 28,800#
Down 13:00	
Total Time: 4 Hrs. 30 Min.	

**Weather:** CAVU en route and over Target. Closed in on return.

**REMARKS:** The docks were well covered with bombs. Many near misses on two merchant vessels in the harbor. Several strings of bombs landed in the town and on the hills surrounding it.

**A/C No. 42-32333 "Lorelei" (P)**

**P** *Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt*  
**CP** *Cook, Walter E., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Walsh, Richard J., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13052 "TABOO" (N)**  
(flight leader)

*VanDivort, Richard (NMI), 1Lt*  
*Campbell, Martin H., Jr., F/O*  
*Forbes, Robert L., 2Lt*  
*Myers, John H., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Chaffins, Ray (NMI), T/Sgt*  
*Nelson, Forest S., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**Thursday, 6 May 1943 (continued)**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41-13092 "EL RAUNCH" (O)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Therrien, Robert W., 2Lt</i> <b>CP</b> <i>Houghtaling, Harold A., F/O</i> <b>N</b> <i>None</i> <b>B</b> <i>Dombkowski, Stanley F., S/Sgt</i> <b>E</b> <i>None</i> <b>R</b> <i>Szymik, Emil (NMI), S/Sgt</i> <b>G</b> <i>Kim, Daniel (NMI), S/Sgt</i> <b>F</b> <i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41- 13074 "Balls of Fire" / "Royal Flush" (Q)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt</i> <b>CP</b> <i>Dauley, Charles G., 2Lt</i> <b>N</b> <i>None</i> <b>B</b> <i>Daly, Donald J., T/Sgt</i> <b>E</b> <i>None</i> <b>R</b> <i>Nickelson, Royal C., T/Sgt</i> <b>G</b> <i>Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt</i> <b>F</b> <i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 42-53444 "PUNJAB" (C)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Rouch, Melvin R., 1Lt</i> <b>CP</b> <i>Stagner, Howard C., F/O</i> <b>N</b> <i>None</i> <b>B</b> <i>Grossi, Frank L., S/Sgt</i> <b>E</b> <i>None</i> <b>R</b> <i>Swanson, William M., T/Sgt</i> <b>G</b> <i>Pontet, Emile A., Jr., S/Sgt</i> <b>F</b> <i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 42-53445 "Lottie's Goose" (B)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Lewis, Kenneth E., 1Lt</i> <b>CP</b> <i>Stecher, Robert Walter, 2Lt</i> <b>N</b> <i>None</i> <b>B</b> <i>Smith, Willie A., T/Sgt</i> <b>E</b> <i>None</i> <b>R</b> <i>Starnes, Carl B., S/Sgt</i> <b>G</b> <i>George, Wade Clayton, S/Sgt</i> <b>F</b> <i>None</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41-13065 (S)</b></p> <p><i>Wert, Donald S., 1Lt</i> <i>Durgin, James L., 2Lt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Rogers, Lee C., S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Dittmar, Francis A., T/Sgt</i> <i>Bowden, Scott T., S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41-29980 (R)</b></p> <p><i>Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt</i> <i>Burt, Norman A., F/O</i> <i>None</i> <i>Douglas, Edward (NMI), S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Budde, Walter H., T/Sgt</i> <i>White, John Edward, S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41-13061 "Lil Joe" (A) (flight leader)</b></p> <p><i>White, Alpheus Wray, Jr., Maj, Commander</i> <i>Thorndike, Robert W., 1Lt</i> <i>Hickman, James G., 1Lt</i> <i>Supple, Gilbert J., 1Lt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Boone, Edward W. W., T/Sgt</i> <i>Molnar, William J., S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41-29957 (F)</b></p> <p><i>Collins, George Dennis, F/O</i> <i>Wirth, Thomas F., Jr., F/O</i> <i>None</i> <i>Kelley, Donald C., T/Sgt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Rogers, Mike D., T/Sgt</i> <i>Dees, Paul (NMI), S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i></p>
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## Thursday, 6 May 1943 (continued)

A/C No. 41-13085 "Green Hornet" (D)	A/C No. 41-29962 (E)
<b>P</b> <i>Coddington, Walter E., 1Lt</i>	<i>Denton, Richard D., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Ramsey, Thomas Upton, 2Lt</i>	<i>Donnovan, Gerald M., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Hornung, Willard R., 2Lt</i>	<i>Smith, Marion S, Cpl</i>
<b>E</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Thomas, Quentin W., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Potolsky, George (NMI), T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b> <i>Moxey, Orville E., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Miller, Foster Eugene, S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** 36 ship formation headed for Port Favignana. Results had best be forgotten as the mountain sides and sea claimed most of the bombs. Colonel Hunter called a meeting of all bombardiers and proceeded to chew their ---?

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 85:** The 6<sup>th</sup> of May raid on the Port of Favignana in the Egadi Islands was part of the policy to deprive the Axis of as many vessels as possible for an evacuation. The bombs were generally long, but a few near misses were scored on the two merchant vessels in the harbor. Bombs covered the dock areas so the raid was by no means a total loss.

Slight heavy, inaccurate flak was to no avail in the target area. An ME-109 off Bizerte kept a respectful distance. On return a few scattered bursts from positions on the other islands of the group were far enough off to be quixotic.

A/C No. 1 <i>aircraft unidentified</i> (flight leader)	A/C No. 2 <i>probably</i> 41-13053 "Stormy Weather"
<b>P</b> <i>Gshwandtner, Frank J. "Gish", Capt</i>	<i>Wheeler, William A. K., "Gus", 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Williams, Edwin W., 1Lt</i>	<i>Moulder, Robert W., F/O</i>
<b>N</b> <i>Doolittle, Leonard N., 1Lt</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Herold, Armin F., Jr., 1Lt</i>	<i>Swim, Lowell W., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Stilp, John P., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Mathis, Paul E., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b> <i>Davis, Elvin A., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Kirkland, Robert Olin "Kirk", S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
A/C No. 3 <i>aircraft unidentified - may be "Sweet Alice"</i>	A/C No. 4 <i>aircraft unidentified - may be "Skunk Hunter"</i>
<b>P</b> <i>Bingham, Henry G., Jr., 1Lt</i>	<i>Marsh, Edward D., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Knight, Gerald R., 1Lt</i>	<i>Wescott, Robert M., 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Queen, Kenneth E., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Keys, Paul R., 2Lt</i>
<b>E</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Martin, Robert J., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Bosworth, William H., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b> <i>Wink, Jacob A., S/Sgt</i>	<i>McDonald, Donald E. "Mac", Sgt</i>
<b>F</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

**Thursday, 6 May 1943 (continued)**

	<b>A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified - may be "Bad Seed"</b>		<b>A/C No. 6 probably 41-13070 "Shanghi Lil" (flight leader)</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Brock, James C., 1Lt</i>		<i>Canham, Arthur E., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Blaauw, Harold A., 1Lt</i>		<i>Wilson, Kieth Gordon, 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Hartman, William J., 1Lt</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Spencer, Ronald L., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Vestal, Marion S., 2Lt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Marrs, Horace S., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Rebello, John E., Jr., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Warlie, Roger Rickie, Pvt</i>		<i>Myers, Loy G., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 7 probably 41-13083 "Old 83"</b>		<b>A/C No. 8 probably 41-13050 "Virginia Sturgeon"</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Loutrel, John McCluney, 1Lt</i>		<i>Peterson, Arthur C., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Smith, Merle E., 2Lt,</i>		<i>Purifoy, Lawrence Lloyd "Peter Plink", 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Naworski, Edward F., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Herring, William S., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Bennett, Robert L., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Guilfoyle, Frederick J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Glover, Harold E., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Michalek, Joseph F., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Amirault, Osborne J., Sgt</i>

**Friday, 7 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In Tunisia,** B-25's hit the town of Kelibia. P-40's bomb and strafe shipping in the Gulf of Tunis, severely damaging 3 boats.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Sicily,** during the night of 6/7 May, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) Wellingtons bomb the docks and shipping at Trapani as a diversion for a mine-laying mission off Malta.

**In Tunisia,** NASAF P-40's attack motor vessels, the quay and dock area at Tunis harbor. Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) fighters, A-20's, and medium bombers hit El Aouina Airfield and traffic on the roads around Tunis, especially the Tunis-Bizerte road, as the Allied forces of Lieutenant General Harold R. Alexander's 18 Army Group overrun both Tunis and Bizerte, splitting the enemy's forces.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** May 7<sup>th</sup> was a day of rest for the group and all were in the best of spirit. However it was a day that will be well remembered by all. It was in the evening at app. 1800 hrs and the entire group had turned out to hear a Band Concert and Jam Session given by a nearby C.A. outfit. The program was just under way when Capt. Rupert A. Nock, our Squadron S/2 Officer, appeared on the scene, very excited, to give us a special news flash.....TUNIS and BIZERTE are now in the hands of the ALLIES! Silence prevailed for a fraction of a second, then the entire courtyard turned into a madhouse. For it was evident to all that it would only be a matter of a few days until the Tunisian Campaign would be a thing of the past.

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** The news of the fall of Tunis and Bizerte was greatly hailed. The band put on a show.



**Saturday, 8 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In the Mediterranean,** B-25's hit the landing ground on Pantelleria Island.

**In Tunisia,** P-40's strafe and bomb shipping in the Cap Bon area and shipping and shore installations on the Gulf of Tunis. Fighters claim 5 Bf 109's destroyed.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In the Mediterranean,** Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) P-38's and Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) fighters and A-20's bomb the landing ground on Pantelleria Island.

**In Tunisia,** NASAF B-26's and P-40's attack small vessels off NE Tunisia. Weather prevents the success of other shipping sweeps, but B-25's hit a road junction and railroad at Korba and a highway N of Beni Khalled. P-40's bomb docks near Thonara. NATAF fighters and A-20's bomb shipping between Tunisia and Sicily, convoys and road network near Soliman and Hammamet, tanks near Protville, troops, emplacements, trucks, landing grounds, and vessels on and near Cap Bon and in the area S of Tunis. On the ground, CORPS FRANC D'AFRIQUE makes an official entry into Bizerte as the British 7 Armored Division pushes N from Tunis toward the US II Corps zone. The British 6 Armored and Indian 4 Infantry Divisions, pushing SE toward Hammamet, are stopped at Hammam Lif as the enemy strives to keep their line of retreat to the Cap Bon peninsula open. The British 5 Corps' 1 Division and 4 Indian Division push E with the French 19<sup>th</sup> Corps which meets firm resistance near Zaghuan. HQ 52<sup>nd</sup> Troop Carrier Wing arrives at Oujda, French Morocco from the US. This begins the buildup of troop carrier units for the planned airborne assault on Sicily.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 85:**

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**Mission Report # 98, 6 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Leaders: Capts. Cometh, Draemel, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Hamilton.
2. At 1315 18 B-25-C's took off to Bomb Highway and RR Crossing at K-  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target

4545 and 2 opportunity targets. See results.

## Saturday, 8 May 1943 (continued)

None returned early. 18 dropped 136 X 300 lb .1 & .025 sec del bombs on  
No. A/C                      No. A/C                      No & Type

target at 1505 from 7000-8700 ft. 18 returned at 1640.  
Time                      Altitude                      No. A/C                      Time

3. RESULTS: One flight bombed road junction S of Korba. Hits were observed on this road. Another flight bombed the railroad at Korba. Hits were observed on this railroad. A third flight bombed highway S of railroad crossing N of town of Beni Khalled. This road was torn up with hits.
4. OBS: 10 unidentified A/C observed off C. Mamoura. No E/A were encountered. 5 unidentified A/C seen on a L/G at 36 deg 39 min N, 10 deg 49 min E. No runway could be seen. Approximately 8 ME-109's observed on L/G 2 miles N of Korba at 36 deg 36 min N, 10 deg 53 min E. 4 widely dispersed S/E seen on L/G at 36 deg 38 min N, 10 deg 36 min E. 2 S/E parked on beach at 36 deg 40 min N, 10 deg 55 min E.

Flak--At primary target, intense heavy flak, accurate as to range but off as to deflection. Main source seemed to be coming from a point half way between Menzel Bou Zelfa and Soliman at 36 deg 42 min N, 10 deg 33 min E. Heavy intense flak from both Menzel Bou Zelfa and Beni Khalled, good range and fair deflection. Slight, heavy flak SE of Beni Khalled at 36 deg 38 min N, 10 deg 38 min E., accurate. One battery 2 miles W of Menzel Bou Zelfa on N side of road. This was moderate, heavy and accurate flak. Another battery was observed 2 miles due S of the previously mentioned battery, pin-pointed at 36 deg 41 min N, 10 deg 34 min E and 36 deg 40 min N, 10 deg 34 min E. Slight heavy and inaccurate flak from Korba at 36 deg 35 min N, 10 deg 54 min E. Slight, heavy flak, accurate as to range, but deflection off at 36 deg 38 min N, 10 deg 38 min E. Intense, heavy flak from Grombalia.

One crew reported seeing 2 large M/V's just off shore from C. Bon, 4-5 small craft just off coast between C. El Drek and C. El Melah and 3 small craft between C. Mostefa and Menzel Heurr. Another crew reported 3-4 barges on the beach at 36 deg 36 min N, 10 deg 54 min E, but no activity was seen about these barges.

A steady stream of trucks with trailers headed NE on Korba-Kelibia road, stretching as far as the eye could see. M/T with trailers also observed heading SE on Beni Khalled-Korba road. This was a steady convoy with vehicles about 50 feet apart. These sightings were made at 1500 hours from approximately 8000 ft. 15,000 German and Italian leaflets dropped from Korba to primary target.

5. WEATHER: At Target: 6/10 coverage at 8000 ft., visibility unlimited. En Route: Same.

**Saturday, 8 May 1943 (continued)**

6. PRESS DATA: None

Eighteen sorties flown 8/5/43.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** New Officers transferred into Squadron on May 8<sup>th</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert L. Harrop, *pilot*

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Robert R. Blades

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Albert B. Farry, *pilot*

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Douglas L. Fidler

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Alvin Ira. Sutton, *pilot*

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 86:** May 8<sup>th</sup> found us back in the air again and this time the target was the Highway and R.R. Crossing at K-4545. 18 planes were used to cover this assigned target. The first flight of six was to bomb road junction south of Korba, the second, the railroad at Korba and the third, the Highway situated south of R.R. crossing and north of town of Beni Khalled. Direct hits were observed on all three targets in spite of the intense heavy flak encountered. 15,000 German and Italian leaflets were dropped over the targets.

<b>P CP N B E R G F</b>	<b>A/C No. 1 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Johnson, Kenneth M. "Ken", 1Lt</i>	<b>A/C No. 2 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Smith, Charles W., 2Lt</i>
<b>P CP N B E R G F</b>	<b>A/C No. 3 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Logan, Harry R., Jr., 2Lt</i>	<b>A/C No. 4 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> (flight leader) <i>probably "June Bug"</i> <i>Hamilton, Robert M. "Ham", 1Lt</i>

**Saturday, 8 May 1943 (continued)**

**P** A/C No. 5 aircraft & crew unidentified      A/C No. 6 aircraft & crew unidentified  
**CP** Rogers, Harold E., 2Lt      Grant, Isaac E., 2Lt  
**N**  
**B**  
**E**  
**R**  
**G**  
**F**

A/C No. 7 aircraft & crew unidentified  
**P** Bosel, Raymond C., F/O  
**CP**  
**N**  
**B**  
**E**  
**R**  
**G**  
**F**

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 86:**

Mission Report # 61

Date- May 8, 1943

Target- K-4545 Railroad and Highway Junction

Squadron airplanes- ten

Bombs fell all over the Cape Bon this afternoon as we went forth with strong heart bolstered by the news that Bizerte and Tunis were now in our hands. The road junction received some bombs and quite a few others tore up a section of railroad track.

The highway from Hammamet to the end of the Cape was heavy with traffic streaming northeast. They were German trucks and trailers bearing no resemblance of a convoy but madly in retreat. It was a sight long awaited and a sight that could be enjoyed to see the so-called finest running away in shame.

Some flak was thrown up at us, but not enough to really bother about. It looked like a last sad salvo to the end of the African campaign. All of our airplanes returned safely.

	A/C No. 1 aircraft unidentified (flight leader)	A/C No. 2 may be 41-13096 "The Question Mark"
<b>P</b>	Cometh, Lawrence (NMI), Capt	McCormick, Robert J., II, 1Lt
<b>CP</b>	Miller, James I., 2Lt	Toenjes, Norman L., 1Lt
<b>N</b>	Huffman, Arnie J., 2Lt	None
<b>B</b>	Liverman, Ernest W. "Big Red", 2Lt	Richardson, David L., T/Sgt
<b>E</b>	None	None
<b>R</b>	Mount, Robert J., S/Sgt	Oliver, Frank R., Jr., S/Sgt
<b>G</b>	Melhus, Palmer C., S/Sgt	Leanza, Anthony (NMI), S/Sgt
<b>F</b>	Wilder, Rodney R. "Hoss", Maj, Commander (observer)	None

**Saturday, 8 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Cromartie, Harry L., Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Wright, John E., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Kechter, Harry H., T/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Smith, Eldon M., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Kobasa, Joseph (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified (flight leader)**

**P** *Draemel, Dean H., Capt*  
**CP** *Sours, Robert J., 2Lt*  
**N** *Kanode, Robert C., 1Lt*  
**B** *Mizerski, Richard C. "Bronco", 2Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Shambaugh, Robert M., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Williams, John A., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Dent, James J., Jr., Capt (observer)*

**A/C No. 7 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Sacknoff, David A., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Walcott, Albert R., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Grossman, Stanley R., Cpl*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Wesline, Richard L., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Grace, John J., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 9 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Timmerman, Melvin E., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Rice, Carl E., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Donahue, Francis E., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Thomas, Cyril L., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Tabor, George E., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified**

*Batten, Earl E., Capt*  
*Shorsher, Fred A., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Sessler, Howard A., Capt*  
*None*  
*Dackiewicz, John A., S/Sgt*  
*Szczesniak, Alfred A., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified**

*Santos, Carroll A., Jr., 1Lt*  
*Picklesimer, Marion L., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Lively, Jake S., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Smith, Teddy L., S/Sgt*  
*Redding, William D., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 8 aircraft unidentified**

*Grow, Clyde L., Capt*  
*Hubbard, Jack W., 2Lt*  
*Coffey, John D., 2Lt*  
*Hall, Paul R., Jr., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Hill, Raiford B., T/Sgt*  
*Pintar, John L., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 10 aircraft unidentified**

*Rich, Robert S., 2Lt*  
*Goss, Ralph R., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Jastrzemski, Walter F., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Poknis, Paul A., S/Sgt*  
*Rodgers, Lamar F., Sgt*  
*None*

## Saturday, 8 May 1943 (continued)

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 86:**  
HIGHWAY AND R.R. CROSSING (K-4545) CAP BON, TUNISIA

Group Mission # 86	Flight 18 B-25's
Sqdrn. Mission # 62	Escort 19 P-40's
Take Off 13:15	Bomb Load: (8 x 300)
Target Time 15:05	Bombs Dropped: 1 (8 x 300), 2,400#
Down 16:40	
Total Time: 3 Hrs. 25 Min.	

Weather: CAVU

REMARKS: Results were uncertain. A road was bombed which probably hindered Enemy traffic. No Enemy aircraft were seen. Flak: Heavy, accurate, intensive from one small area. Lt. Rouch's ship received a hit in the port engine nacelle.

**A/C No. 42-53444 "PUNJAB" (L)**

**P** *Rouch, Melvin R., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Stagner, Howard C., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Grossi, Frank L., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Swanson, William M., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Pontet, Emile A., Jr., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Crews alerted but no mission scheduled.

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 86:**  
*(428<sup>th</sup> BS did not participate)*

**Sunday, 9 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In Italy**, B-24's attack harbor facilities at Messina, scoring hits on the ferry terminal, roundhouse, 2 ferries, and a ship.

**In the Mediterranean**, B-25's hit the landing ground on Pantelleria Island.

**In Tunisia**, over 300 P-40's fly escort and reconnaissance missions, and strafing and bombing raids on landing grounds vessels, vehicles, bridges, and gun positions in the areas of Zembra Island, Cap Bon, and Pantelleria Island. HQ 316<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group transfers from Fayidk Egypt to Nouvion, Algeria and begins training for the invasion of Sicily.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Sardinia**, during the night of 9/10 May, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) Wellingtons bomb Villacidro, Elmas, and Decimomannu Airfields.

**In Sicily**, B-17's, with P-38 escort, bomb Palermo; B-26's follow immediately with an attack on the same target.

**In Tunisia**, during the night of 9/10 May, Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) Blenheims, bomb troops and vehicle concentrations in the Homemade-Nabeul-Menzel Bou Zelfa-Soliman-Tazorhrane areas. Fighter sweeps over the battle area provide cover for destroyers, strafe barges, bomb buildings in the battle area, strafe trucks between Hammamet and Soliman and bomb a landing ground near Menzel Temime. A-20's and medium bombers also bomb shipping, hit concentrations in the battle area and in the town of Soliman, and bomb the airfield on Pantelleria Island. The US II Corps receives the unconditional surrender of enemy troops in its zone. HQ 313<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group and its 47<sup>th</sup> and 49<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadrons with C-47's arrive at Oujda, French Morocco from the US and begin training for the invasion of Sicily.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 87:**

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**Mission Report # 100, 9 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Commander: Col. Hunter; Flight Leaders: Capts. Helsabeck, Cometh, Draemel, Canham, Gshwandtner and 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Phillips; Observer, General Partridge.

**Sunday, 9 May 1943 (continued)**

2. At 0910 36 B-25-C's took off to Bomb Palermo. None returned early.  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target No. A/C

36 dropped 286 X 300 lb .1 & .025 sec del bombs on target at 1505 from  
No. A/C No & Type Time

9500-10,500 ft. 36 returned at 1525.  
Altitude No. A/C Time

3. RESULTS: The entire assigned target area was completely covered with bomb bursts. Also two (2) strings of bombs landed on tracks and railroad yards just N of target. Huge column of grey smoke from city and harbor area rising to 8000 feet.
4. OBS: No E/A observed in the air or on the ground. Flak--At target intense, heavy, barrage-type, accurate as to both range and deflection was encountered. Also on approaching target and on turn away from target.  
Flak Elsewhere: Moderate, heavy flak from C. Zaffarano, 38 deg 06 min N, 13 deg 31 min E. From C. Gallo intense, heavy flak, accurate both as to range and deflection 38 deg 13 min N, 13 deg 19 min E. Heavy, intense flak was experienced on a line from Bagheria to the target.  
Naval: 5 large M/V's in Palermo harbor, several of these appeared as if they might have been previously hit. 12 or more medium size M/V's and possibly several submarines observed in Bagheria Harbor, 2 medium, 1 large M/V's and 10 small boats seen at Termini, 37 deg 59 min N, 13 deg 42 min E. A destroyer, moving W at 38 deg 13 min N, 13 deg 15 min E at 1224 hours. 6/7 small craft, possibly TLC seen at Trabia, 38 deg 13 min N, 13 deg 40 min E.
5. WEATHER: At Target--4/10 to 9/10 broken cloud coverage from 12/15,000 ft, with some haze. Visibility 8-10 miles. En Route--Some strato-cumulus at 1500 ft, thickness 500 feet extending 100 miles W of Sicily.
6. PRESS DATA: None

Thirty-six (36) sorties flown 9/5/43.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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## Sunday, 9 May 1943 (continued)

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Also on May 9<sup>th</sup>, Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker visited our field and gave a very interesting talk on his experiences with the boys in the islands. He also informed us that this would be a long, hard war and not to get over confident by the rapid Allied progress in Tunisia!

*Rickenbacker, Edward Vernon, Capt, pilot*

The following Officers were promoted on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. *Kenneth M. "Ken" Johnson, pilot* - Capt.

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. *Robert M. "Ham" Hamilton, pilot* - Capt

1<sup>st</sup> Lt. *Donovan W. Rulien, bombardier* - Capt

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 87:** The mission of May 9<sup>th</sup> was a Hallmark in the annals of American bombing. And we are sure it will forever linger in the minds of the residents of Palermo, Sicily. Information gained revealed that the enemy was attempting to conceal military objectives within the heart of the city. So, with no alternative, the target was the city of Palermo. App. 100 B-17's went in first escorted by 75 fighters. The majority of their bombs fell in the dock area creating devastation to shipping, dock installations and warehouses in this area. Next came app. 100 medium bombers including 36 planes of our group escorted by another 75 fighters. Our bombs completely wrecked R.R. station, R.R. yards and nearby Chemical factory. Crews on this mission reported smoke and bomb dust from the city and harbor rising 8,000 ft. as they were leaving target. In spite of the intense heavy flak barrage over target all of our planes returned safely. No fighter interception was encountered.

	<i>A/C No. 1 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>	<i>A/C No. 2 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>
<b>P</b>	<i>Holstead, James R., Capt</i>	<i>Johnson, Kenneth M. "Ken", Capt</i>
<b>CP</b>		
<b>N</b>		
<b>B</b>		
<b>E</b>		
<b>R</b>		
<b>G</b>		
<b>F</b>	<i>Meehan, Edward P., 2Lt (observer)</i>	
	<i>A/C No. 3 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>	<i>A/C No. 4 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>
<b>P</b>	<i>Smith, Charles W., 2Lt</i>	<i>Logan, Harry R., Jr., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>		
<b>N</b>		
<b>B</b>		
<b>E</b>		
<b>R</b>		
<b>G</b>		
<b>F</b>		

**Sunday, 9 May 1943 (continued)**

<b>P CP N B E R G F</b>	<i>A/C No. 5 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified Rogers, Harold E., 2Lt</i>	<i>A/C No. 6 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified Grant, Isaac E., 2Lt</i>
<b>P CP N B E R G F</b>	<i>A/C No. 7 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified Blosel, Raymond C., F/O</i>	

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 87:**

Mission Report # 62

Date- May 9, 1943

Target- Palermo, Sicily

Squadron airplanes- nine

“When we got there the docks were burning and when we left the whole town was burning,” was a description of Palermo after the largest American raid in history. The Fortresses opened the battle with bombing on the docks and left huge fires burning for us to line our sights up by.

We linked them up and entire assigned target area was well covered. The fires were burning so bright that the same evening when the Wellingtons went over they did not have to use their flares but bombed by the fires still burning from our mission this afternoon.

The flak was heavy and of a barrage type and caused Lieut. Coffey to crack that “Between the smoke and the flak I had to navigate by celestial means.” All of our ships returned safely.

**Sunday, 9 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 1 aircraft unidentified** (flight leader)

**P** *Cometh, Lawrence (NMI), Capt*  
**CP** *Miller, James I., 2Lt*  
**N** *Huffman, Arnie J., 2Lt*  
**B** *Liverman, Ernest W. "Big Red", 2Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Mount, Robert J., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Melhus, Palmer C., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Partridge, Earl E., BG, HQ 12<sup>th</sup> AF*  
*(observer)*

**A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Cromartie, Harry L., Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Wright, John E., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Kechter, Harry H., T/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Smith, Eldon M., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Kobasa, Joseph (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Santos, Carroll A., Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Picklesimer, Marion L., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Lively, Jake S., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Smith, Teddy L., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Redding, William D., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 7 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Grow, Clyde L., Capt*  
**CP** *Hubbard, Jack W., 2Lt*  
**N** *Coffey, John D., 2Lt*  
**B** *Hall, Paul R., Jr., 2Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Hill, Raiford B., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Pintar, John L., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 2 may be 41-13096 "The Question Mark"**

*McCormick, Robert J., II, 1Lt*  
*Toenjjes, Norman L., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Richardson, David L., T/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Oliver, Frank R., Jr., S/Sgt*  
*Leanza, Anthony (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified** (flight leader)

*Draemel, Dean H., Capt*  
*Sours, Robert J., 2Lt*  
*Kanode, Robert C., 1Lt*  
*Mizerski, Richard C. "Bronco", 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Shambaugh, Robert M., T/Sgt*  
*Williams, John A., S/Sgt*  
*Dent, James J., Jr., Capt (observer)*

**A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified**

*Sacknoff, David A., 1Lt*  
*Walcott, Albert R., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Grossman, Stanley R., Cpl*  
*None*  
*Wesline, Richard L., T/Sgt*  
*Grace, John J., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 8 aircraft unidentified**

*Timmerman, Melvin E., 2Lt*  
*Rice, Carl E., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Donahue, Francis E., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Thomas, Cyril L., S/Sgt*  
*Tabor, George E., S/Sgt*  
*None*

## Sunday, 9 May 1943 (continued)

### A/C No. 9 aircraft unidentified

**P** Rich, Robert S., 2Lt  
**CP** Goss, Ralph R., 2Lt  
**N** None  
**B** Jastrzemski, Walter F., S/Sgt  
**E** None  
**R** Poknis, Paul A., S/Sgt  
**G** Rodgers, Lamar F., Sgt  
**F** None

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

### **381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 87:**

#### PALERMO, SICILY

Group Mission # 87	2 Flight 18 B-25's each
Sqdrn. Mission # 63	Escort 60 P-38's
Take Off 09:10	Bomb Load: (3 x 1,000)
Target Time 12:15	Bombs Dropped: 10(3 x 1,000), 30,000#
Down 15:25	
Total Time: 6 Hrs, 15 Min	

Weather: CAVU

REMARKS: All of our bombs landed within the target area, which was the entire Northern part of the city. Smoke rose to a height of 8,200 feet. A large explosion was seen through the smoke, which was probably the effect of hitting ammunition stores or oil stores. Two ships were hit in the harbor.

The entire round trip was 950 miles. Lt. Wightman's ship was hit ten times by flak. One burst severed the control cables which regulate the starboard throttle and port prop pitch. S/Sgt. R. J. Walsh, Bombardier, opened an inspection plate in the navigator's compartment. Sgt Walsh and S/Sgt. F. J. Fox, gunner, then pulled the cables, when necessary as directed by Lt. Wightman.

Other Squadron aircraft were hit by flak as follows:	Lt. Marlow	10
	Lt. Wert	5
	Lt. VanDivort	6
	Lt. Therrien	7
	Lt. Collins	6
	Lt. Denton	3

**Sunday, 9 May 1943 (continued)**

**First Flight:**

**A/C No. 41-29957 (M)**

**P** *Collins, George Dennis, F/O*  
**CP** *Wirth, Thomas F., Jr., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Kelley, Donald C., T/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Rogers, Mike D., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Dees, Paul (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-29962 (L)**

**P** *Denton, Richard D., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Donnovan, Gerald M., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Miller, Foster C., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Potolsky, George (NMI), T/Sgt*  
**G** *Miller, Foster Eugene, S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13052 "TABOO" (N)**

**P** *VanDivort, Richard (NMI), 1Lt*  
**CP** *Campbell, Martin H., Jr., F/O*  
**N** *Forbes, Robert L., 2Lt*  
**B** *Myers, John H., 1Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Chaffins, Ray (NMI), T/Sgt*  
**G** *Nelson, Forest S., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13065 (S)**

**P** *Wert, Donald S., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Houghtaling, Harold A., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Rogers, Lee C., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Dittmar, Francis A., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Bowden, Scott T., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13085 "Green Hornet"  
(K)**

*Coddington, Walter E., 1Lt*  
*Ramsey, Thomas Upton, 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Hornung, Willard R., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Thomas, Quentin W., T/Sgt*  
*Moxey, Orville E., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 42-32333 "Lorelei" (P)**

*Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt*  
*Cook, Walter E., F/O*  
*None*  
*Walsh, Richard J., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., T/Sgt*  
*Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 41-13092 "EL RAUNCH"  
(O)**

*Therrien, Robert W., 2Lt*  
*Durgin, James L., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Dombkowski, Stanley F., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Szymik, Emil (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*Kim, Daniel (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 41- 13074 "Balls of Fire" /  
"Royal Flush" (Q) (flight leader)**

*Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt*  
*Dauley, Charles G., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Daly, Donald J., T/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Nickelson, Royal C., T/Sgt*  
*Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt*  
*None*

## Sunday, 9 May 1943 (continued)

### A/C No. 41-29980 (R)

**P** *Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Burt, Norman A., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Douglas, Edward (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Budde, Walter H., T/Sgt*  
**G** *White, John Edward, S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

### Second Flight:

### A/C No. 42-53444 "PUNJAB" (L)

**P** *Rouch, Melvin R., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Stagner, Howard C., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Grossi, Frank L., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Swanson, William M., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Pontet, Emile A., Jr., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** The ancient Roman ruins at Timgad have been visited by many of the boys these past few days. Amphitheater built on the hillside still stands as does the huge archway in the center of the village. Frenchmen along the countryside were waving flags in celebration of "Victoire". 428<sup>th</sup> had 10 of the Group's 36 planes that bombed Palermo in Sicily. 300 pound bombs were dropped all over the R.R. Yards and tracks. Harbor installations were wrecked. Huge columns of grey smoke could be seen rising from the city and harbors. No enemy aircraft observed. Over 400 Allied planes participated in this raid.

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 87:** In many respects the mass raid on Palermo on May 9<sup>th</sup> marks a change or a hallmark in the development and use of our air power in the Mediterranean. The fact that mass coordinated attacks were possible reflected our increased strength. That we were able to attack the Axis closer to the roots of its effort thereby crippling its capabilities more or less permanently rather than hitting vessels, planes, and other more tactical targets, is indicative of another important change.

## Sunday, 9 May 1943 (continued)

Captain Helsabeck led better than one hundred medium bombers in an effort against the marshalling yards and docks of Palermo. The entire operation was a complete success. It was the largest daylight operation in the history of air warfare in this theater.

Assigned marshalling yards area was covered. Many direct hits on the tracks were noted.

The flak was intense, heavy, and described as very accurate. There were enough guns to throw up barrage flak and the tracking type also. Old timers declared it was the most intense concentration they had ever braved. All aircraft returned safely. The news of the Axis crumbling in Northern Tunisia wasn't at all hard to take. Joy reigned supreme in the group bar that night.

**A/C No. 1 probably 41-13077 "The Reluctant Dragon"** (later "Old Patch")  
(flight leader)

**P** *Helsabeck, Chester J. "Joe", Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Cunningham, Robert L., 1Lt*  
**N** *Colvin, Jay W., Jr., 1Lt*  
**B** *Upchurch, Jerry E., 1Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Lockhart, James H., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Davis, Elvin A., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Hunter, Anthony G., Col, 310th BG*  
*Commander (observer)*

**A/C No. 3 probably 41-13094 "Seasweep"**

**P** *Holley, James Taylor, 1Lt*  
**CP** *Butterfield, William M., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Connors, Charles L., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Glass, John D., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Langford, Alvin L., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 5 probably 41-13053 "Stormy Weather"**

**P** *Wheeler, William A. K., "Gus", 1Lt*  
**CP** *Moulder, Robert W., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Swim, Lowell W., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Mathis, Paul E., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Black, James F., Pvt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 2 aircraft unidentified - may be "Bad Seed"**

*Brock, James C., 1Lt*  
*Blaauw, Harold A., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Spencer, Ronald L., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Marrs, Horace S., S/Sgt*  
*Warlie, Roger Rickie, Pvt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified - may be "Skunk Hunter"**

*Marsh, Edward D., 1Lt*  
*Wescott, Robert M., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Keys, Paul R., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Bosworth, William H., T/Sgt*  
*McDonald, Donald E. "Mac", Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified - may be "Sweet Alice"**

*Bingham, Henry G., Jr., 1Lt*  
*Knight, Gerald R., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Queen, Kenneth E., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Martin, Robert J., S/Sgt*  
*Wink, Jacob A., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**Sunday, 9 May 1943 (continued)**

	<b>A/C No. 7 probably 41-13070 “Shanghi Lil” (flight leader)</b>		<b>A/C No. 8 probably 41-13083 “Old 83”</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Canham, Arthur E., 1Lt</i>		<i>Loutrel, John McCluney, 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Wilson, Kieth Gordon, 1Lt</i>		<i>Smith, Merle E., 2Lt,</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Hartman, William J., 1Lt</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Vestal, Marion S., 2Lt</i>		<i>Naworski, Edward F., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Rebello, John E., Jr., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Bennett, Robert L., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Myers, Loy G., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Glover, Harold E., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 9 probably 41-13050 “Virginia Sturgeon”</b>		<b>A/C No. 10 aircraft unidentified (flight leader)</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Peterson, Arthur C., 1Lt</i>		<i>Gshwandtner, Frank J. "Gish", Capt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Purifoy, Lawrence Lloyd "Peter Plink", 2Lt</i>		<i>Williams, Edwin W., 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Doolittle, Leonard N., 1Lt</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Foley, Patrick L., Sr., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Herold, Armin F., Jr., 1Lt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Guilfoyle, Frederick J., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Stilp, John P., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Michalek, Joseph F., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Ciampi, Francis (NMI), Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>Reed, Robert H., Cpl</i>		<i>None</i>



## Monday, 10 May 1943

### USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):

#### EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):

**In the Mediterranean,** B-25's and P-40's bomb Pantelleria landing ground.

**In Tunisia,** P-40's bomb the Medi and Cap Bon peninsula. Fighters claim 4 airplanes destroyed. The 36<sup>th</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadrons, 316<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group with C-47's transfer from Egypt to Nouvion, Algeria and begin training for the aerial assault on Sicily.

#### WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):

**In Sicily,** during the night of 9/10 May, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) Wellingtons bomb Palermo and the surrounding area. B-17's follow up, shortly past noon, with raids on the airfields at Milo and Bo Rizzo.

**In Tunisia,** Northwest Tactical Air Force (NATAF) fighters, A-20's, and medium bombers attack Pantelleria harbor in the Mediterranean, Korba bridge, Menzel Temime landing ground, Kelibia areas, and town of Menzel Bou Zelfa. Numerous motor transport and troop concentrations on Cap Bon peninsula are bombed and strafed as British 6 Armored Division drives to Hammamet, cutting off the peninsula. HQ 17<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (Medium) transfers from Telergma, Algeria to Sedrata, Algeria. The ground echelon of the 414<sup>th</sup> Night Fighter Squadron, Twelfth Air Force, arrives at La Senia, Algeria from the U.S. The air echelon is in England training on Beaufighters.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** May 10<sup>th</sup> was a much deserved day of rest for the group. It was used extensively by the different squadrons in issuing African Campaign Medals to the personnel. Capt. Heston C. Daniel, the new Squadron Commanding Officer was formally introduced to the squadron and his policies set forth. He in turn introduced Capt. Plummer, our new Medical Officer, who replaced Capt. Maloney. Capt. Maloney having been ordered back to the States, to attend Flight Surgeon School.

*Daniel, Heston C., Capt, pilot, Commander*

*Maloney, William R., Capt, surgeon, Medical Officer*

*Plummer, Thomas O., Capt, surgeon, Medical Officer*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**Monday, 10 May 1943** (continued)

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Communications jeep on the way to Roman ruins over-turned and Sgt McCarthy received a broken collar bone. Eschert received a fractured rib. Eichenseer and Trombley were bruised and Metz and McGuire untouched.

*Eichenseer, Joseph R., S/Sgt, communications*

*Eschert, Herman E., T/Sgt, communications*

*McCarthy, William F., Sgt, communications*

*McGuire, Robert E., Cpl, communications*

*Metz, William J., S/Sgt, communications*

*Trombley, Donald J., Sgt, communications*

**Tuesday, 11 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In Sicily**, B-24's strike Catania harbor, severely damaging the harbor area and several ships.

**In Tunisia**, B-25's strike the battle area in NE Tunisia. P-40's fly escort and armed reconnaissance, and carry out bombing and strafing missions in the Cap Bon area against motor transport, concentrations, roads, docks, and AA batteries.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Sicily**, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) B-17's, B-26's, and B-25's bomb Marsala, hitting the warehouse, docks, railroad yards, seaplane base, and city area.

**In Italy**, NASAF P-40's bomb and strafe harbor at San Michele.

**In Tunisia**, Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) fighters and A-20's attack vehicles, gun positions and troop concentrations in the Zaghouan-Sainte-Marie du Zit area and on Cap Bon as the British 4 Division completes an uneventful sweep around the Cap Bon peninsula, revealing no important forces there. Resistance in the Zaghouan sector weakens. The 29<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadrons, 313<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group, with C-47's arrive at Oujda, French Morocco from the US. The 310<sup>th</sup>, 311<sup>th</sup> and 312<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadrons (Dive), 86<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (Dive), with A-36's, arrive at La Senia, Algeria from the US.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 88:**

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**Mission Report # 101, 11 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Commander: Lt. Col. Hinman. Flight Leaders: Capt. Cometh, Lt Thorndike, Capts. Draemel, Canham, Lts. VanDivort, Hamilton and Col. Crosthwaite as Observer.
2. At 0915 36 B-25-C's took off to Bomb Asgd area at Marsala. None  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target No. A/C  
  
returned early. 36 dropped 105 X 1000 lb .1 & .025 sec del bombs on target  
No. A/C No & Type

## Tuesday, 11 May 1943 (continued)

at 1128 from 9600-11000 ft. 35 returned at 1335.  
Time Altitude No. A/C Time

3. RESULTS: Entire assigned area was completely covered by bomb bursts. Column of billowing smoke 8000 ft high seen from a distance of 60 miles after leaving target. Three E/A were shot down by the bombers.
4. OBS: E/A: 20-30 seaplanes observed at S/P base at Stagnone. Four crews reported seeing 15-17 two or three engine E/A at Bo Rizzo A/D. 12-15 E/A consisting of ME-109's, FW-190's, and RE-2001's attacked the formation just after it left the target at 1130 hours. These E/A attacked in pairs and then singly from all directions. Three ME-109's were shot down by our bombers. Flak--Slight, heavy flak was encountered at the target and although most of the crews reported it as inaccurate, one plane was hit and crash-landed at the base. Moderate light and inaccurate flak was also encountered at the target. Gun positions were seen approx 1 mile S of jetty, 1 heavy just N of the N jetty and several guns from the vicinity of Stagnone S/P base. Moderate, heavy and inaccurate flak came from an undetermined point on Favignana Island. This was inaccurate probably because of insufficient range. Naval: 1 Large M/V E of Favignana Island at 1125 anchored at 37 deg 55 min N, 12 deg 24 min E. 3 medium size M/V's observed in Marsala harbor. One crew reported seeing at least six landing barges in this harbor. 3 vessels, identity unknown, heading N at 1110 hours at 37 deg 15 min N 11 deg 30 min E. 1 unidentified medium sized M/V was observed heading SE down the coast from Marsala. One large ship was observed in the harbor at Favignana at 1130 hours. One B-25 crash-landed at C. Zebib after an encounter with E/A. The crew is believed safe.
5. WEATHER: CAVU with slight haze enroute and over target.
6. PRESS DATA: None

S/Sgt. Francis J. Fox (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), 93 Bridge St., Hamilton, Mass. One ME-109 destroyed.

S/Sgt. Matthew L. Bozovich (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), 409 West 43<sup>rd</sup> St., New York City. One ME-109 destroyed.

A joint claim by:

S/Sgt. John L. Pintar (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*)

Sgt. Lamar F. Rodgers (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*)

Thirty-six (36) sorties flown 11/5/43.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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**Tuesday, 11 May 1943 (continued)**

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 88:** The second all-out raid was made on May 11<sup>th</sup>. This time the target was an assigned area in the town of Marsala, Sicily. The same procedure was used as in the raid of May 9<sup>th</sup>. The B-17's again covering any shipping in harbor and all surroundings docks installations. No large shipping was sighted in the harbor but numerous small craft, the docks and dock installations were completely wrecked. Next came the medium bombers, 36 of which were from our group, their target being the R.R. yards and warehouses in the western section of the city. This area was completely covered by bombs resulting in numerous fires and a large explosion. Crews again reported, as in the last raid, a column of billowing smoke 8,000 ft. high seen from a distance of 60 miles after leaving target. In spite of heavy fighter cover 12 to 15 E/A consisting of ME-109's, FW-190's and RE-2001's managed to get into the formation just as it was leaving the target. A running fight then took place between the E/A and our bombers which lasted app. Ten minutes. The result of the fight being 3 ME-109's crashing into the waters, one of our B-25's crash landing on beach near C. Zebib, entire crew safe and another crash landing at base, entire crew safe. Of the three E/A destroyed, one is claimed by S/Sgt. Francis J. Cox, another by S/Sgt. Matthew L. Bozovich and a joint claim between S/Sgt. John L., Pintar and Sgt. Lamar F. Rogers for the other. Flak over the target was reported to be slight heavy, inaccurate.

*Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt, gunner, 381<sup>st</sup> BS      Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt, gunner, 381<sup>st</sup> BS*  
*Pintar, John L., S/Sgt, gunner, 380<sup>th</sup> BS      Rodgers, Lamar F., Sgt, gunner, 380<sup>th</sup> BS*

P CP N B E R G F	A/C No. 1 aircraft & crew unidentified (flight leader) <i>probably "June Bug"</i> <i>Hamilton, Robert M. "Ham", Capt</i>	A/C No. 2 aircraft & crew unidentified <i>Johnson, Kenneth M. "Ken", Capt</i>
P CP N B E R G F	A/C No. 3 aircraft & crew unidentified <i>Grant, Isaac E., 2Lt</i>	A/C No. 4 aircraft & crew unidentified <i>Rogers, Harold E., 2Lt</i>

**Tuesday, 11 May 1943 (continued)**

<b>P CP N B E R G F</b>	<b>A/C No. 5 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Smith, Charles W., 2Lt</i>	<b>A/C No. 6 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Logan, Harry R., Jr., 2Lt</i>
<b>P CP N B E R G F</b>	<b>A/C No. 7 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Bloesel, Raymond C., F/O</i>	

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 88:**

Mission Report # 63

Date- May 11, 1943

Target- Marsala, Sicily

Squadron airplanes- twelve

It was a real show this afternoon as huge billows of smoke could be seen rising from the target area, after we had traveled 60 miles on the return leg. Three ME-109's were knocked down by the guns of the Group with Sgts. Pintar and Rodgers making a joint claim for one of them.

Just to top the afternoon off, Lieut. Timmerman had to get shot up and crash land on the beach, east of Bizerte, just the short space of 24 hours after Allied ground troops had taken over the territory. It was a running fight for several minutes before our escort helped out and after being wounded, Sgt. Tabor continued to sit in the turret, the wind slapping him in the face, and pour tracers into an enemy fighter. He did not get to make his claim until his return from the hospital. Sgts. Thomas and Donahue were also the recipients of flak while Lieut. Timmerman received a cut hand and Lieut. Rice came through unscathed. Just to make it a good afternoon, a fire broke out in the navigator's compartment and Sgts. Thomas and Donahue beat it out with the jackets, when the fire extinguisher failed to work. Sgt. Donahue aided the flight by hanging into the bomb bay and strapping the doors shut with his belt, following the failure of the hydraulic system, the recipient of some enemy machine gun fire.

## Tuesday, 11 May 1943 (continued)

The landing in the sand proved to be the better type belly landing and with the officers seeking aid, a half-track was finally commandeered and all arrived at the hospital at Mateur.

“They are certainly the best,” was the comment of the pilots.

### ADDITIONAL:

Distinguished Flying Cross awarded to S/Sgt. Francis E. Donahue and to S/Sgt. Cyril L. Thomas for bravery beyond the call of duty. (See Citation Section)

<b>A/C No. 1</b> <i>aircraft unidentified</i> (flight leader)	<b>A/C No. 2</b> <i>may be 41-13096</i> “The Question Mark”
<b>P</b> <i>Cometh, Lawrence (NMI), Capt</i>	<i>McCormick, Robert J., II, 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Miller, James I., 2Lt</i>	<i>Toenjes, Norman L., 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b> <i>Huffman, Arnie J., 2Lt</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Liverman, Ernest W. “Big Red”, 2Lt</i>	<i>Richardson, David L., T/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Mount, Robert J., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Oliver, Frank R., Jr., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b> <i>Melhus, Palmer C., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Leanza, Anthony (NMI), S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>A/C No. 3</b> <i>aircraft unidentified</i>	<b>A/C No. 4</b> <i>aircraft unidentified</i>
<b>P</b> <i>Cromartie, Harry L., Jr., 1Lt</i>	<i>Batten, Earl E., Capt</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Wright, John E., 2Lt</i>	<i>Shorsher, Fred A., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Kechter, Harry H., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Sessler, Howard A., Capt</i>
<b>E</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Smith, Eldon M., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Dackiewicz, John A., Sgt</i>
<b>G</b> <i>Kobasa, Joseph (NMI), S/Sgt</i>	<i>Szczesniak, Alfred A., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>A/C No. 5</b> <i>aircraft unidentified</i>	<b>A/C No. 6</b> <i>aircraft unidentified</i>
<b>P</b> <i>Stutts, Earl Leeman, 1Lt</i>	<i>Amick, Cecil D., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Steger, Edward H., Jr., 2Lt</i>	<i>Porter, Lloyd L., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Kessler, Paul E., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Longrie, Kenneth R., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Barbieri, Edward D., Sgt</i>	<i>Meyer, Albert J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b> <i>Janicki, Andrew J., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Huffman, Herbert (NMI), S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b> <i>Hutchenrider, Willis E., Sgt</i>	<i>None</i>

**Tuesday, 11 May 1943 (continued)**

<b>A/C No. 7 aircraft unidentified</b> (flight leader)		<b>A/C No. 8 aircraft unidentified</b>	
<b>P</b>	<i>Draemel, Dean H., Capt</i>		<i>Santos, Carroll A., Jr., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Sours, Robert J., 2Lt</i>		<i>Picklesimer, Marion L., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Kanode, Robert C., 1Lt</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Mizerski, Richard C. "Bronco", 2Lt</i>		<i>Lively, Jake S., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Shambaugh, Robert M., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Smith, Teddy L., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Williams, John A., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Redding, William D., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>A/C No. 9 aircraft unidentified</b>		<b>A/C No. 10 aircraft unidentified</b>	
<b>P</b>	<i>Sacknoff, David A., 1Lt</i>		<i>Grow, Clyde L., Capt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Walcott, Albert R., 2Lt</i>		<i>Hubbard, Jack W., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Coffey, John D., 2Lt</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Grossman, Stanley R., Cpl</i>		<i>Hall, Paul R., Jr., 2Lt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Wesline, Richard L., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Hill, Raiford B., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Grace, John J., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Pintar, John L., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>A/C No. 11 aircraft unidentified</b>		<b>A/C No. 12 aircraft unidentified</b>	
<b>P</b>	<i>Timmerman, Melvin E., 2Lt</i>		<i>Rich, Robert S., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Rice, Carl E., 2Lt</i>		<i>Goss, Ralph R., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Donahue, Francis E., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Jastrzemski, Walter F., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Thomas, Cyril L., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Poknis, Paul A., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Tabor, George E., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Rodgers, Lamar F., Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 88:**

**MARSALA, SICILY**

Group Mission # 88	2 Flights 18 B-25's
Sqdrn. Mission # 64	Escort 60 P-38's
Take Off 09:15	Bomb Load: (3 x 1,000)
Target Time 11:28	Bombs Dropped: 12 (3 x 1,000), 36,000#
Down 13:35	
Total Time: 4 Hrs 20 Min	
<u>Weather:</u> CAVU. Visibility 60 miles. Slight haze over target.	



## Tuesday, 11 May 1943 (continued)

### RESULTS, AS OBSERVED BY 1ST LT. ROBERT PEMBERTON:

Col. Hunter advised us that Intelligence Officers would be allowed to go along on missions occasionally as observers, so when Lt. Rouch asked me to go in "Punjab" with him today, I accepted; and after a 06:45 breakfast we met in the briefing room to learn all of the up to the minute facts about the Enemy flak and aircraft situation, plus the usual and important details about bombing, radio, formation and weather (by the best damn weather man in North Africa, Captain Cole).

*Cole, Frederick J., Capt, Group Weather Officer*

*Hunter, Anthony G., Col, pilot, 310th BG Commander*

*Rouch, Melvin R., 1Lt, pilot*

This was to be another coordinated attack with 98 B-17's, 38 B-26's, with their escorts, and our escort of 24 P-38's.

It was a beautiful morning, just cool enough for a leather jacket, with the visibility over 50 miles, and only an occasional small cloud well to the North.

Melvin Rouch made one of his typical, smooth, in formation take-offs, with Lt. Thorndike our Flight Leader, and after a few minutes climbing and circling, the 36 Mitchells crossed the field, on course, in two nice 18 ship formations. On our way to the coast the mountains, valleys, lakes, villages and live stock seemed to creep by, although we were indicating 200 miles per hour at 7,000 feet altitude.

*Rouch, Melvin R., 1Lt, pilot*

*Thorndike, Robert W., 1Lt, pilot*

The first sight of Bone and the Mediterranean didn't show any activity, but soon we were able to see the port crowded with all kinds of shipping and the air fields where our P-38's and P-40's and Spits are based.

By this time, 10:45, we were over the sea and a nervous convoy of 6 freighters, one with balloons flying, and an escort of 5 small naval craft put on speed and zig-zagged as they saw us approaching. However, as we held to a steady course to one side of them, no recognition signals were fired.

At least 60 vessels were seen in all; many in and around Tunis and Bizerte harbors, three other Allied convoys and many destroyers patrolling between Sicily and Cap Bon were the last of the battle for control of the continent was being fought --- we could see two large columns of smoke well to the South --- probably burning tanks.

Our target was not only 40 miles to the North-East, and although we couldn't see them, we knew the B-17's were turning off their bombing run because smoke and dust was billowing up from the harbor area.

I had just returned from the bombardier's compartment in the nose, when Rouch called my attention to the flak bursting in front of us. He was enjoying himself immensely and I began to understand why he complained so when he wasn't scheduled for one of these missions. He wanted to be in on every one of them.

*Rouch, Melvin R., 1Lt, pilot*

## Tuesday, 11 May 1943 (continued)

Now things began to happen so rapidly that one man just couldn't see all of it. Exploding bombs were throwing up smoke that covered large sections of the city, guns were flashing along the beach road, black smoke in round puffs would suddenly appear on all sides, above and below us, there were Enemy sea planes to count in the cove just North of our target; Thorndike's bombs were on their way down, and at that point Punjab gave three jolts as our 1,000 pounders were released by S/Sgt. Grossi, from an altitude of 10,400 feet at 11:29 Hours.

*Grossi, Frank L., S/Sgt, bombardier-gunner*

*Thorndike, Robert W., 1Lt, pilot*

Rouch said, "Bob, do you see those two 109's just ahead?" I did, and the ship shook as Grossi opened up with his flexible 50 in the nose. His shots fell short, for the 109's were diving at the flight ahead of us and doing four or five hundred miles an hour. However, we saw one of three go down smoking and later learned that S/Sgt. Bozovich and S/Sgt. Fox, gunners in Lt. Phillips' and Lt. Wightman's ships, were each officially credited with the destruction of an Enemy aircraft. In the meantime --- this all happened in a matter of seconds as we were diving off the target --- three more Me's attacked the rear of our formation but were driven off by our gunners and the splendid chaps in the Lightning "Pea-shooters".

*Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt, gunner*

*Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt, gunner*

*Grossi, Frank L., S/Sgt, bombardier-gunner*

*Pemberton, Robert (NMI) "Bob", 1Lt, intelligence*

*Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt, pilot*

*Rouch, Melvin R., 1Lt, pilot*

*Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt, pilot*

The return journey was uneventful; everything was calm and so peaceful that F/O Stagner moved out of the Co-Pilot's seat and I flew (with assistance from Rouch) for a while, which was quite a thrill after a year's lay off --- previously I had flown small grasshoppers with Horsepower ranging from 55 to 220 --- while 3,500 H.P. responded to these throttles.

*Rouch, Melvin R., 1Lt, pilot*

*Stagner, Howard C., F/O, pilot*

Shortly after landing, Lt. Therrien slid in for a crash landing on one wheel --- his hydraulic system, radio and fuselage having been shot up by explosive 20 M/M shells from one of the Enemy fighters. Parts of two of these shells are now souvenirs which Therrien will take home at some future date. His ship also caught fire --- twice --- but the crew took care of that as smoothly as they performed their other duties.

*Therrien, Robert W., 2Lt, pilot*

After the interrogation forms had been filled out --- each man having reported to the S-2 Officers what he saw, where he saw it, and when he saw it --- we all gathered in the court yard for the good hot coffee and delicious doughnuts which the Red Cross girls serve after each mission. It was then that word was received that Lt. Timmerman and his crew had crash landed at Bone (This was the Mitchell that we had seen loosing altitude). Each of the 5 was badly shot up by flak and Jerry's machine gun bullets, but they were all safe.

**Tuesday, 11 May 1943 (continued)**

*Donahue, Francis E., S/Sgt, bombardier-gunner, 380<sup>th</sup> BS*

*Rice, Carl E., 2Lt, pilot, 380<sup>th</sup> BS*

*Tabor, George E., S/Sgt, gunner, 380<sup>th</sup> BS*

*Thomas, Cyril L., S/Sgt, radio-gunner, 380<sup>th</sup> BS*

*Timmerman, Melvin E., 2Lt, pilot, 380<sup>th</sup> BS*

**A/C No. 42-53444 “PUNJAB” (C)**

**P** *Rouch, Melvin R., 1Lt*

**CP** *Stagner, Howard C., F/O*

**N** *None*

**B** *Grossi, Frank L., S/Sgt*

**E** *None*

**R** *Swanson, William M., T/Sgt*

**G** *Pontet, Emile A., Jr., S/Sgt*

**F** *Pemberton, Robert (NMI) “Bob”, 1Lt  
(observer)*

**A/C No. 42-53445 “Lottie’s Goose”  
(B)**

**P** *Lewis, Kenneth E., 1Lt*

**CP** *Stecher, Robert Walter, 2Lt*

**N** *None*

**B** *Smith, Willie A., T/Sgt*

**E** *None*

**R** *Starnes, Carl B., S/Sgt*

**G** *George, Wade Clayton, S/Sgt*

**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13085 “Green Hornet”  
(D)**

**P** *Coddington, Walter E., 1Lt*

**CP** *Ramsey, Thomas Upton, 2Lt*

**N** *None*

**B** *Hornung, Willard R., 2Lt*

**E** *None*

**R** *Thomas, Quentin W., T/Sgt*

**G** *Moxey, Orville E., S/Sgt*

**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13061 “Lil Joe” (A) (flight  
leader)**

*Thorndike, Robert W., 1Lt*

*White, Alpheus Wray, Jr., Maj,  
Commander*

*Hickman, James G., 1Lt*

*Supple, Gilbert J., 1Lt*

*None*

*Boone, Edward W. W., T/Sgt*

*Molnar, William J., S/Sgt*

*None*

**A/C No. 41-29957 (F)**

*Collins, George Dennis, F/O*

*Wirth, Thomas F., Jr., F/O*

*None*

*Kelley, Donald C., T/Sgt*

*None*

*Rogers, Mike D., T/Sgt*

*Dees, Paul (NMI), S/Sgt*

*None*

**A/C No. 41-29962 (E)**

*Denton, Richard D., 2Lt*

*Donnovan, Gerald M., 2Lt*

*None*

*Miller, Foster C., S/Sgt*

*None*

*Potolsky, George (NMI), T/Sgt*

*Miller, Foster Eugene, S/Sgt*

*None*

## Tuesday, 11 May 1943 (continued)

### A/C No. 42-32333 "Lorelei" (P)

**P** *Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt*  
**CP** *Cook, Walter E., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Walsh, Richard J., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

### A/C No. 41-13092 "EL RAUNCH" (H)

**P** *Therrien, Robert W., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Durgin, James L., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Dombkowski, Stanley F., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Szymik, Emil (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**G** *Kim, Daniel (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

### A/C No. 41- 13074 "Balls of Fire" / "Royal Flush" (K)

**P** *Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Dauley, Charles G., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Daly, Donald J., T/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Nickelson, Royal C., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

### A/C No. 41-13052 "TABOO" (G) (flight leader)

*VanDivort, Richard (NMI), 1Lt*  
*Campbell, Martin H., Jr., F/O*  
*Forbes, Robert L., 2Lt*  
*Myers, John H., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Chaffins, Ray (NMI), T/Sgt*  
*Nelson, Forest S., S/Sgt*  
*None*

### A/C No. 41-13065 (M)

*Wert, Donald S., 1Lt*  
*Houghtaling, Harold A., F/O*  
*None*  
*Rogers, Lee C., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Dittmar, Francis A., T/Sgt*  
*Bowden, Scott T., S/Sgt*  
*None*

### A/C No. 41-29980 (L)

*Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt*  
*Burt, Norman A., F/O*  
*None*  
*Douglas, Edward (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Budde, Walter H., T/Sgt*  
*White, John Edward, S/Sgt*  
*None*

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Another 36 ship formation from the Group, 6 of ours bombed Marsala, Sicily. The load was 1000 pounders this time. The entire area was filled with bomb bursts. Columns of billowing smoke could be seen for a distance of 60 miles. 12 to 15 enemy aircraft attacked the formation. Three ME-109's shot down.

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary:** (Ops Order ---/mission ---) **Group Mission # 88:** Marsala on the 11<sup>th</sup> was a repetition of Palermo. Area assigned again was devastated. Smaller Marsala was more completely demolished than Palermo. Columns of billowing smoke 8,000 feet high could be seen sixty miles away. The coordinated attack seems the air forces' most deadly weapon.

## Tuesday, 11 May 1943 (continued)

Slight heavy flak at the target was bolstered by an attack of from twelve to fifteen ME-109's, FW-190's and RE-2001's from nearby airdromes. Three ME-109's were destroyed by the bombers in the attack just after target. One B-25 that was piloted by Lt. Timmerman of the 380<sup>th</sup> was crippled by fighters and then from flak coming from guns on Favignana. Though four members of the crew were hurt, the plane made a successful crash landing at Cape Zebib. The plane was a total loss.

*Timmerman, Melvin E., 2Lt, pilot, 380<sup>th</sup> BS*

<p><b>A/C No. 1 probably 41-13070 "Shanghi Lil" (flight leader)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Canham, Arthur E., 1Lt</i></p> <p><b>CP</b> <i>Wilson, Kieth Gordon, 1Lt</i></p> <p><b>N</b> <i>Hartman, William J., 1Lt</i></p> <p><b>B</b> <i>Vestal, Marion S., 2Lt</i></p> <p><b>E</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>R</b> <i>Rebello, John E., Jr., T/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>G</b> <i>Myers, Loy G., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>F</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>A/C No. 3 probably 41-13050 "Virginia Sturgeon"</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Peterson, Arthur C., 1Lt</i></p> <p><b>CP</b> <i>Purifoy, Lawrence Lloyd "Peter Plink", 2Lt</i></p> <p><b>N</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>B</b> <i>Foley, Patrick L., Sr., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>E</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>R</b> <i>Guilfoyle, Frederick J., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>G</b> <i>Michalek, Joseph F., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>F</b> <i>Amirault, Osborne J., Sgt</i></p> <p><b>A/C No. 5 probably 41-13094 "Seasweep"</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Holley, James Taylor, 1Lt</i></p> <p><b>CP</b> <i>Butterfield, William M., 2Lt</i></p> <p><b>N</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>B</b> <i>Connors, Charles L., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>E</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>R</b> <i>Glass, John D., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>G</b> <i>Langford, Alvin L., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>F</b> <i>None</i></p>	<p><b>A/C No. 2 probably 41-13083 "Old 83"</b></p> <p><i>Loutrel, John McCluney, 1Lt</i></p> <p><i>Smith, Merle E., 2Lt,</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Naworski, Edward F., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Bennett, Robert L., T/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>Glover, Harold E., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><b>A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified - may be "Skunk Hunter"</b></p> <p><i>Marsh, Edward D., 1Lt</i></p> <p><i>Wescott, Robert M., 1Lt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Keys, Paul R., 2Lt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Bosworth, William H., T/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>McDonald, Donald E. "Mac", Sgt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><b>A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified - may be "Bad Seed"</b></p> <p><i>Brock, James C., 1Lt</i></p> <p><i>Blaauw, Harold A., 1Lt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Spencer, Ronald L., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Marrs, Horace S., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>Warlie, Roger Rickie, Pvt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p>
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**Wednesday, 12 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In Tunisia,** B-25's bomb targets in the battle area in NE Tunisia.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Sicily,** Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) Wellingtons bomb the docks at Marsala during the night of 11/12 May; some bombs fall on Mazara del Vallo and Trapani.

**In Tunisia,** Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) fighters, A-20's, and medium bombers fly sweeps and tactical reconnaissance over the battle area and hit positions S of Bou Fichta which form the last link between the enemy forces and the sea. By night, enemy resistance in the S is almost ended. Enemy troops, including Colonel-General Jurgen von Arnim, Commander-in-Chief, Army Group Africa, are surrendering en masse. HQ 86<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (Dive) and its 309<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron (Dive) with A-36's arrive at La Senia, Algeria from the US. The 92<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Squadron, 81<sup>st</sup> Fighter Group, with P-39's, transfers from Maison Blanche, Algeria to Warnier, Algeria. The ground echelon of the 415<sup>th</sup> Night Fighter Squadron, Twelfth Air Force arrives at La Senia, Algeria from the US. The air echelon is in England training with Beaufighters.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** The Tunisian Campaign was officially announced as over on May 12<sup>th</sup> and a very welcome day of rest granted to the group.

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** The Red Cross doughnutteers were here this morning. Squadron being broken into Flight, Air, and Ground Echelons.

**Thursday, 13 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In Italy**, B-25's bomb Augusta while RAF Liberators, under operational control of the IX Bomber Command, attack the Messina ferry terminal.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Italy**, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) Wellingtons bomb the area of the railroad station, marshalling yard and docks in Naples during the night of 12/13 May.

**In Sardinia**, B-17's, B-25's and B-26's from 7 bomb groups, escorted by fighters from 4 fighter groups, bomb Cagliari, hitting shipping, the dock area, marshalling yard, oil dump, chemical plant, and city area.

**In Tunisia**, the Tunisian campaign ends with the surrender of Marshal Giovanni Messe, commander of Axis forces in Africa. HQ 51<sup>st</sup> Troop Carrier Wing transfers from La Senia, Algeria to Mascara, Algeria. HQ 60<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group and its 11<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadrons with C-47's, transfer from Relizane, Algeria to Thiersville, Algeria. The 34<sup>th</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup> and 432<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment Squadrons (Medium), 17<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (Medium), with B-26's transfer from Telergma, Algeria to Sedrata, Algeria.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 89:**

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**Mission Report # 102, 13 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Leaders: Capt. Allan, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Hamilton, Capts. Draemel and Gshwandtner, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. VanDivort, Capt. Batten and Col. Walsh, Lt. Col. Johnson and Capt. Hill Observers.

2. At 1120 36 B-25-C's took off to Bomb Asgd area at Cagliari. None  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target No. A/C

returned early. 36 dropped 105 X 1000 lb .1 & .025 sec del tail fuse bombs on  
No. A/C No & Type

target at 1328 from 10,500-11,700 ft. 36 returned at 1445.  
Time Altitude No. A/C Time

## Thursday, 13 May 1943 (continued)

3. RESULTS: Assigned area consisting of RR, marshalling and freight yards and adjacent installations were completely covered by our bombs. Direct hits were reported on Chemical Plant causing an explosion and a huge column of smoke. Large fire reported from area just N of E end of dock area with billowing clouds of black smoke seen on approach. One merchant vessel of medium size was observed burning in harbor.
4. OBS: One ME-109, black with white wing tips attacked from above and at 12 o'clock. Escort engaged this E/A and he failed to press his attack. 4 unidentified E/A were circling over Cagliari harbor at 1000 feet. These A/C headed N and did not attack. 12-15 S/P were seen at the Elmas S/P base. 4-5 unidentified E/A seen behind hangars at Elmas. 10-12 E/A were on the ground at the A/D at Monserrato.

Flak--Moderate, heavy and accurate flak was experienced at the target, coming from C.S. Elia, and just S of the road. 2-3 batteries were observed in a field between two roads one half mile SE of the edge of the city. One battery was also located in a field on the other side of the road just NE of the previously mentioned battery. 3-4 gun positions were seen at SE edge of town in dock area. 1 battery of heavy at K-12, (see target chart No. 1-100-NA). 1 battery was located on the causeway between the harbor and Lake Cagliari. One crew reported a line of flak coming from road leading from NW end of town to Elmas.

Four, what appeared to be submarines were moored to dock and jetty at SE end of inner harbor. 8 M/V's of different sizes were anchored or moored to docks in inner harbor. 3 M/V's were anchored near W jetty in outer harbor.

Photos were taken and are being forwarded.

5. WEATHER: CAVU over target and en route with slight haze.
6. PRESS DATA: None

Thirty-six (36) sorties flown 13/5/43.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2

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**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** On May 13<sup>th</sup> two new crews were assigned to the 379<sup>th</sup> squadron.

<b>P</b> <i>Ewan, Carl F., Jr., 2Lt</i>	<i>West, Fielding F., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Ford, Richard E., 2Lt</i>	<i>Werner, Robert G., 2Lt</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Pennel, Harvey W., S/Sgt</i>	<i>O'Meara, Benedict J., 2Lt</i>
<b>E</b> <i>Burch, Haines H., Sgt</i>	<i>Moore, John C., S/Sgt</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Maine, William H., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Teeple, Richard E., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b> <i>Posey, Philip E., Jr., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Edwards, Lester W., Sgt</i>



**Thursday, 13 May 1943 (continued)**

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 89:** The third and final all-out effort of the month left Cagliari a smoking shambles. On this day, May 13<sup>th</sup>, Cagliari received 981,000 lbs. of death-dealing explosives. This raid was probably the most successful of these mass efforts. Better than 100 B-17's made the initial attack in this coordinated raid which surpassed all previous AAF raids both for the number of planes and total load dropped. The Heavies did the bulk of their damage in the dock areas and the Adjacent warehouse district in the eastern part of town. In addition they left one M/V of medium size burning. 36 B-25's of the 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb. Group formed the vanguard of the 100 medium bombers that came in for the kill. The area assigned our bombers consisted of the railroad marshalling and freight yards and adjacent installations. The mission was accomplished with exceptional success and for good measure they destroyed a Chemical Plant. The resultant explosion in the Chemical Plant left a column of billowing, black smoke that was visible from the African Coast. Only one enemy fighter attempted to contact the medium bombers and it was quickly discouraged by the escort. Accurate, heavy flak of moderate intensity was encountered in target area but none of our planes were seriously damaged.

	<b>A/C No. 1</b> <i>aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i> (flight leader)	<b>A/C No. 2</b> <i>aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>
<b>P</b>	<i>Allan, John T., Capt</i>	<i>Holstead, James R., Capt</i>
<b>CP</b>		
<b>N</b>		
<b>B</b>		
<b>E</b>		
<b>R</b>	<i>Marple, Louis F., T/Sgt</i>	
<b>G</b>	<i>Pagano, Salvatore A., S/Sgt,</i>	
<b>F</b>	<i>Meehan, Edward P., 2Lt (observer)</i>	<i>Goeckel, Frank Edward, 2Lt (observer)</i>
	<b>A/C No. 3</b> <i>aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>	<b>A/C No. 4</b> <i>aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i> <i>ship (flight leader) probably “June</i> <b>Bug”</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Johnson, Kenneth M. “Ken”, Capt</i>	<i>Hamilton, Robert M. “Ham”, Capt</i>
<b>CP</b>		
<b>N</b>		
<b>B</b>		
<b>E</b>		
<b>R</b>		
<b>G</b>		
<b>F</b>		

Thursday, 13 May 1943 (continued)

**P**  
**CP**  
**N**  
**B**  
**E**  
**R**  
**G**  
**F**

<b>A/C No. 5 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Beachum, Graham C., 2Lt</i>	<b>A/C No. 6 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Leask, Bertram J., 2Lt</i>
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**P**  
**CP**  
**N**  
**B**  
**E**  
**R**  
**G**  
**F**

<b>A/C No. 7 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Smith, Charles W., 2Lt</i>	<b>A/C No. 8 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Logan, Harry R., Jr., 2Lt</i>
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**P**  
**CP**  
**N**  
**B**  
**E**  
**R**  
**G**  
**F**

<b>A/C No. 9 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Grant, Isaac E., 2Lt</i>	<b>A/C No. 10 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Rogers, Harold E., 2Lt</i>
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**P**  
**CP**  
**N**  
**B**  
**E**  
**R**  
**G**  
**F**

<b>A/C No. 11 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Bloesel, Raymond C., F/O</i>	
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## Thursday, 13 May 1943 (continued)

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 89:**

Mission Report # 64

Date- May 13, 1943

Target- Cagliari, Sardinia

Squadron airplanes- eight

It was just another coordinated raid with the scourge of North Africa, 36 B-25's picking out the hard target, the railroad yards and the edge of town. We picked it out in fine shape and smoke could be seen, attempting to obscure the sun and the Chemical plant, the prize target for the afternoon, also fell to the aim of our bombardiers.

It seemed as though "Jerry" was not quite as brave as he used to be, as he came swarming up, but when the escort jumped him, he failed to mix it up, and headed back for home. Seaplanes could be seen at Elmas, but none made any attempt to take off. The flak was heavy and accurate and although a few of the ships came back sporting holes, nothing serious occurred during the mission.

Except for a slight haze on our side of the battle-line, the weather was fine all the way, and not a cloud could be found to obscure our vision.

<b>A/C No. 1 aircraft unidentified</b> (flight leader)		<b>A/C No. 2 aircraft unidentified</b>	
<b>P</b>	<i>Draemel, Dean H., Capt</i>		<i>Santos, Carroll A., Jr., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Sours, Robert J., 2Lt</i>		<i>Picklesimer, Marion L., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Kanode, Robert C., 1Lt</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Mizerski, Richard C. "Bronco", 2Lt</i>		<i>Lively, Jake S., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Shambaugh, Robert M., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Smith, Teddy L., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Williams, John A., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Redding, William D., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified</b>		<b>A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified</b>	
<b>P</b>	<i>Sacknoff, David A., 1Lt</i>		<i>Grow, Clyde L., Capt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Walcott, Albert R., 2Lt</i>		<i>Hubbard, Jack W., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Coffey, John D., 2Lt</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Grossman, Stanley R., Cpl</i>		<i>Hall, Paul R., Jr., 2Lt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Wesline, Richard L., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Hill, Raiford B., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Grace, John J., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Pintar, John L., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>

**Thursday, 13 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Rich, Robert S., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Goss, Ralph R., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Jastrzemski, Walter F., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Poknis, Paul A., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Rodgers, Lamar F., Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 7 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Stutts, Earl Leeman, 1Lt*  
**CP** *Steger, Edward H., Jr., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Kessler, Paul E., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Barbieri, Edward D., Sgt*  
**G** *Janicki, Andrew J., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Hutchenrider, Willis E., Sgt*

**A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified (flight leader)**

*Batten, Earl E., Capt*  
*Shorsher, Fred A., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Sessler, Howard A., Capt*  
*None*  
*Dackiewicz, John A., Sgt*  
*Szczesniak, Alfred A., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 8 aircraft unidentified**

*Amick, Cecil D., 1Lt*  
*Porter, Lloyd L., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Longrie, Kenneth R., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Meyer, Albert J., S/Sgt*  
*Huffman, Herbert (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*None*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 89:**

**GAGLIARI R.R. YARDS**

Group Mission # 89	2 Flights 18 B-25's each
Sqdrn. Mission # 65	Escort: 1 Group P-40's,
Take Off 11:20	1 Sqdrn P-38's
Target Time 13:28	Bomb Load: (3 x 1,000)
Down 14:45	Bombs Dropped: 11(3 x 1,000), 33,000#
Total Time: 3 Hrs. 30 Min.	

**Weather:** CAVU over target and en route, with slight haze.

**REMARKS:** The marshalling and freight yards and adjacent installations at Cagliari were completely covered by our bombs. Direct hits were reported on a chemical plant, causing an explosion, which produced a huge column of smoke.

**A/C No. 42-53444 "PUNJAB" (M)**

**P** *Rouch, Melvin R., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Stagner, Howard C., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Grossi, Frank L., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Swanson, William M., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Pontet, Emile A., Jr., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 42-53445 "Lottie's Goose" (S)**

*Lewis, Kenneth E., 1Lt*  
*Wolfe, Warren M., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Smith, Willie A., T/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Starnes, Carl B., S/Sgt*  
*George, Wade Clayton, S/Sgt*  
*None*

**Thursday, 13 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 42-32333 "Lorelei" (J)**

**P** *Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt*  
**CP** *Cook, Walter E., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Walsh, Richard J., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., T/Sgt*  
**G** *None listed - probably Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-29969 (H)**

**P** *Therrien, Robert W., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Durgin, James L., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Dombkowski, Stanley F., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Szymik, Emil (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**G** *Sentlingar, Charles W., PFC*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41- 13074 "Balls of Fire" /  
"Royal Flush" (K)**

**P** *Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Dauley, Charles G., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Daly, Donald J., T/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Nickelson, Royal C., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-29957 (S)**

**P** *Collins, George Dennis, F/O*  
**CP** *Wirth, Thomas F., Jr., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Kelley, Donald C., T/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Rogers, Mike D., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Dees, Paul (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13052 "TABOO" (G)  
(flight leader)**

*VanDivort, Richard (NMI), 1Lt*  
*Campbell, Martin H., Jr., F/O*  
*Forbes, Robert L., 2Lt*  
*Myers, John H., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Chaffins, Ray (NMI), T/Sgt*  
*Nelson, Forest S., S/Sgt*

*White, Alpheus Wray, Jr., Maj,  
Commander (observer)*

**A/C No. 41-13065 (M)**

*Wert, Donald S., 1Lt*  
*Houghtaling, Harold A., F/O*  
*None*  
*Rogers, Lee C., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Dittmar, Francis A., T/Sgt*  
*Bowden, Scott T., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 41-29980 (L)**

*Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt*  
*Burt, Norman A., F/O*  
*None*  
*Douglas, Edward (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Budde, Walter H., T/Sgt*  
*White, John Edward, S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 41-13085 "Green Hornet"  
(Q)**

*Coddington, Walter E., 1Lt*  
*Ramsey, Thomas Upton, 2Lt*  
*Hickman, James G., 1Lt*  
*Hornung, Willard R., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Thomas, Quentin W., T/Sgt*  
*Palicki, Daniel E., S/Sgt*  
*None*

## Thursday, 13 May 1943 (continued)

### A/C No. 41-29962 (R)

**P** *Denton, Richard D., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Donnovan, Gerald M., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Miller, Foster C., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Potolsky, George (NMI), T/Sgt*  
**G** *Miller, Foster Eugene, S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Another Group 36 ship formation set out for the Marshalling and freight installations of Cagliari, Sardinia. A direct hit was scored on a chemical plant which caused an explosion and a huge column of smoke. One merchant vessel was seen burning in the harbor.

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 89:** By May 13<sup>th</sup> the final issue in Tunisia seemed a matter of hours--and so it proved to be. Another serial armada made for Cagliari that morning. Almost a million pounds of explosives were dropped in this record-breaking daylight raid. The 310<sup>th</sup> again was in the vanguard of the medium bombers.

The marshalling yards was in ruins the next day. A terrific explosion followed by a spurting black column of smoke was a result of a direct hit on the chemical plant. The bulk of the town was obliterated from view by a pall of gray and black smoke. Cagliari boasted a population of 100,000 early that morning. After this raid a few weeks later it dropped to 7,000.

Moderate heavy accurate flak came from the target area and at least one flight of six suffered substantial damage. All planes returned. Heavy units reported that smoke was visible from the African coast.

A/C No. 1 <i>aircraft unidentified</i> (flight leader)	A/C No. 2 <i>probably</i> 41-13053 "Stormy Weather"
<b>P</b> <i>Gshwandtner, Frank J. "Gish", Capt</i>	<i>Wheeler, William A. K., "Gus", 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Williams, Edwin W., 1Lt</i>	<i>Moulder, Robert W., F/O</i>
<b>N</b> <i>Doolittle, Leonard N., 1Lt</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Herold, Armin F., Jr., 1Lt</i>	<i>Swim, Lowell W., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Stilp, John P., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Mathis, Paul E., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b> <i>Stage, Albert A., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Kirkland, Robert Olin "Kirk", S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b> <i>Johnson, C.R., Col (observer)</i>	<i>Reed, Robert H., Cpl</i>

**Thursday, 13 May 1943 (continued)**

	<b>A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified - may be "Sweet Alice"</b>		<b>A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified - may be "Skunk Hunter"</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Bingham, Henry G., Jr., 1Lt</i>		<i>Marsh, Edward D., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Knight, Gerald R., 1Lt</i>		<i>Wescott, Robert M., 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Queen, Kenneth E., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Keys, Paul R., 2Lt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Martin, Robert J., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Bosworth, William H., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Wink, Jacob A., S/Sgt</i>		<i>McDonald, Donald E. "Mac", Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Akers, Ernest A., 1Lt, HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG</i>
	<b>A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified - may be "Mickey II"</b>		<b>A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified - may be "Bad Seed"</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Brennan, Samuel J., Jr., 1Lt</i>		<i>Brock, James C., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Southward, Thomas H., 2Lt</i>		<i>Blaauw, Harold A., 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Herring, William S., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Spencer, Ronald L., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Smit, Richard F., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Marrs, Horace S., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Davis, Robert M. "Slugger", S/Sgt</i>		<i>Warlie, Roger Rickie, Pvt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Basich, George F., 1Lt</i>

## Friday, 14 May 1943

### USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):** P-40's fly sea patrol and escort for bombers.

### **WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Sardinia,** during the night of 13/14 May, Wellingtons hit Cagliari. During the day, B-25's and P-38 escorts bomb the dock and town area of Olbia claiming destruction of 3 vessels. B-26's hit Porto Ponte Romano.

**In Italy,** B-17's bomb Civitavecchia. During the day, P-38's bomb tunnel, barracks, airfield, industry, power station, and town areas at Sassari and Abbasanta, Italy; and Alghero and Porto Torres, Sardinia. HQ 1<sup>st</sup> Air Defense Wing transfers from Casablanca, French Morocco to Sousse, Tunisia. The unit will be redesignated the 62<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing in Jul 43. The 10<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, 60<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group, with C-47's, transfers from Relizane, Algeria to Thiersville, Algeria. The 14<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, 61<sup>st</sup> Troop Carrier Group, with C-47's, arrives at Lourmel, Algeria from the US. The 95<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron (Medium), 17<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (Medium), with B-26's, transfers from Telergma, Algeria to Sedrata, Algeria. The 347<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, 350<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group, with P-39's, transfers from Le Sers, Tunisia to Djidjelli, Algeria.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

### **HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 90:**

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**Mission Report # 103, 14 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Leaders: Capt. Cometh, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Hamilton, Capts. Coddington, Helsabeck, Canham and Grow. Observers: Lt. Col. Johnson, Majors Bower and Bremicker.

2. At 1010 36 B-25-C's took off to Bomb Asgd dock area and shipping at  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target

Olbia.. None returned early. 36 dropped 216 X 500 lb .1 & .025 sec del  
No. A/C No. A/C No & Type

bombs on target at 1313 from 9800-11600 ft. 36 returned at 1525.  
Time Altitude No. A/C Time



## Friday, 14 May 1943 (continued)

3. RESULTS: Three M/V's of medium size were at the dock in the assigned harbor area. Direct hits were made on two M/V's and many near misses on a third ship. Docks and harbor installations were well covered by our bombs. One fire was seen on the NW side of target area. Huge column of black smoke came up from this area. One crew reports sinking one small vessel of approximately 200 tons in the port area. Escort made a direct hit on a large M/V in outer harbor. Oil slick and fire seen coming from this ship. One crew reported that the bombs of 321<sup>st</sup> Gp bracketed two M/V's at outer end of pier.
4. OBS: E/A--13 unidentified E/A were observed as approach to the target was being made. 3 ME-109's were engaged by the escort over the target and one of these was hit and seen heading down. One unidentified E/A, possibly a seaplane, was intercepted at 31 deg 2 min N, 8 deg 53 min E and was shot down by the escorts. 12-15 S/P were seen at the base at Olbia. One crew reported seeing ten S/E planes on the ground at the Olbia L/G.  
Flak--Slight heavy and light flak at the target. It was inaccurate both as to range and deflection. Positions were seen at N. edge of town, on S shore of estuary approximately 2 miles SE of target area, at S edge of own near docks and from M/V's at end of the pier. Flak was also seen coming from a small island at A-17 (see target chart No. 1-105-NA). Slight heavy and inaccurate flak came from Porto Torres. Slight M/G fire was experienced from Istintino.  
Naval--4-5 M/V's, 2 of which were large, and several smaller craft were seen at Porto Torres harbor. One large freighter was seen in a cove at 41 deg 5 min N, 8 deg 15 min E at 1325 hours. One crew reported sighting about 12 large ships in La Maddalena Harbor.
5. WEATHER: Base to coast, 2/10 coverage at 7000 feet, visibility 8-10 miles. Over water ceiling unlimited, visibility 8-10 miles and moderate haze. Target: CAVU with slight haze.
6. PRESS DATA: None

Thirty-six (36) sorties flown 14/5/43.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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**Friday, 14 May 1943 (continued)**

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary:** (Ops Order ---/mission ---) **Group Mission # 90:** A coordinated attack of medium bombers was carried out on May 14<sup>th</sup>. 36 B-25's of our group and 36 B-25's of the 321<sup>st</sup> Group comprised this formation. The unlucky target of the day was the dock area and shipping in Olbia Harbor, Sardinia. Our boys again led the attack and upon arriving at the target three M/V's of medium size were anchored at the docks in the assigned target area. With uncanny accuracy two of the M/V's received direct hits and several near misses on the third. Docks and Harbor installations were well covered by our bombs and one large fire started on the NW side of the target area. One crew reported sinking another M/V, of app. 200 tons in the outer port area. It was also a field day for the escort dive-bombers and 321<sup>st</sup> Group. The dive-bombers accounted for a large M/V in the outer harbor scoring a direct hit which resulted in a terrific explosion and a mass of flames. While all this was going on the 321<sup>st</sup> spotted two more M/V's anchored to the outer pier and they too suffered a similar fate. Bombs of their planes completely enveloped the two M/V's and end of pier, leaving nothing but a mass of wreckage. 13 E/A were observed over target, one of which was shot down by escort. Heavy flak encountered was of slight intensity and ineffectual.

	<i>A/C No. 1 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>	<i>A/C No. 2 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>
<b>P</b>	<i>Holstead, James R., Capt</i>	<i>Johnson, Kenneth M. "Ken", Capt</i>
<b>CP</b>		
<b>N</b>		
<b>B</b>		
<b>E</b>		
<b>R</b>		
<b>G</b>		
<b>F</b>		
	<i>A/C No. 3 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>	<i>A/C No. 4 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>
	<i>(flight leader) probably "June Bug"</i>	
<b>P</b>	<i>Hamilton, Robert M. "Ham", Capt</i>	<i>Smith, Charles W., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>		
<b>N</b>		
<b>B</b>		
<b>E</b>		
<b>R</b>		
<b>G</b>		
<b>F</b>	<i>Goeckel, Frank Edward, 2Lt (observer)</i>	

**Friday, 14 May 1943 (continued)**

**P**      *A/C No. 5 aircraft & crew unidentified*      *A/C No. 6 aircraft & crew unidentified*  
**CP**      *Logan, Harry R., Jr., 2Lt*      *Grant, Isaac E., 2Lt*  
**N**  
**B**  
**E**  
**R**  
**G**  
**F**

**P**      *A/C No. 7 aircraft & crew unidentified*      *A/C No. 8 aircraft & crew unidentified*  
**CP**      *Rogers, Harold E., 2Lt*      *Leask, Bertram J., 2Lt*  
**N**  
**B**  
**E**  
**R**  
**G**  
**F**

**P**      *A/C No. 9 aircraft & crew unidentified*  
**CP**      *Blozel, Raymond C., F/O*  
**N**  
**B**  
**E**  
**R**  
**G**  
**F**

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 90:**

Mission Report # 65

Date- May 14, 1943

Target- Olbia, Sardinia

Squadron airplanes- nine

Thirty six ships went out again this afternoon and the results were as good as ever. Three merchant vessels in the harbor received direct hits and a small one was seen to go down.

A hit in the dock area started a fire and huge cloud of black smoke could be seen spiraling up to 5,000'. Credit was received for two vessels sunk and another damaged in the final analysis. Three fighters came up to great us but the escort took good care of them and one was last seen heading for the drink.

The flak was slight and very inaccurate and not a scratch was received as all the ships came back home to roost.

**Friday, 14 May 1943 (continued)**

	<b>A/C No. 1 aircraft unidentified</b> (flight leader)		<b>A/C No. 2 may be 41-13096 “The Question Mark”</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Cometh, Lawrence (NMI), Capt</i>		<i>McCormick, Robert J., II, 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Miller, James I., 2Lt</i>		<i>Toenjjes, Norman L., 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Huffman, Arnie J., 2Lt</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Liverman, Ernest W. “Big Red”, 2Lt</i>		<i>Richardson, David L., T/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Mount, Robert J., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Oliver, Frank R., Jr., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Melhus, Palmer C., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Leanza, Anthony (NMI), S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>Wilder, Rodney R. “Hoss”, Maj, Commander (observer)</i>		<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified</b>		<b>A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified</b> (flight leader)
<b>P</b>	<i>Cromartie, Harry L., Jr., 1Lt</i>		<i>Grow, Clyde L., Capt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Wright, John E., 2Lt</i>		<i>Hubbard, Jack W., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Coffey, John D., 2Lt</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Kechter, Harry H., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Hall, Paul R., Jr., 2Lt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Smith, Eldon M., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Hill, Raiford B., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Kobasa, Joseph (NMI), S/Sgt</i>		<i>Pintar, John L., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified</b>		<b>A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Rich, Robert S., 2Lt</i>		<i>Stutts, Earl Leeman, 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Goss, Ralph R., 2Lt</i>		<i>Steger, Edward H., Jr., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Jastrzemeski, Walter F., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Kessler, Paul E., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Poknis, Paul A., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Barbieri, Edward D., Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Rodgers, Lamar F., Sgt</i>		<i>Janicki, Andrew J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Hutchenrider, Willis E., Sgt</i>
	<b>A/C No. 7 aircraft unidentified</b>		<b>A/C No. 8 aircraft unidentified</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Draemel, Dean H., Capt</i>		<i>Santos, Carroll A., Jr., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Sours, Robert J., 2Lt</i>		<i>Picklesimer, Marion L., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Kanode, Robert C., 1Lt</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Mizerski, Richard C. “Bronco”, 2Lt</i>		<i>Lively, Jake S., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Shambaugh, Robert M., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Smith, Teddy L., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Williams, John A., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Redding, William D., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>

**Friday, 14 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 9 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Sacknoff, David A., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Walcott, Albert R., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Grossman, Stanley R., Cpl*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Wesline, Richard L., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Grace, John J., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 90:**  
**TERRANOVA HARBOR, SARDINIA**

Group Mission # 90	2 Flights 18 B-25's
Sqdrn. Mission # 66	Escort 100 P-38's, 18 with bombs.
Take Off 10:10	Bomb Load: (6 x 500)
Target 13:13	Bombs Dropped: 9 (6 x 500), 27,000#
Down 15:25	

Total Time: 5 Hrs. 15 Min.

**REMARKS:** The harbor area and town were well covered with bombs. Much smoke was observed to be rising from the target area.

**1<sup>st</sup> Flight:**

**A/C No. 41-29957 (P)**

**P** *Collins, George Dennis, F/O*  
**CP** *Wirth, Thomas F., Jr., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Kelley, Donald C., T/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Rogers, Mike D., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Dees, Paul (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-29962 (O)**

**P** *Denton, Richard D., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Donnovan, Gerald M., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Miller, Foster C., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Potolsky, George (NMI), T/Sgt*  
**G** *Miller, Foster Eugene, S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13085 "Green Hornet"**  
**(N) (flight leader)**

*Coddington, Walter E., Capt*  
*Ramsey, Thomas Upton, 2Lt*  
*Hickman, James G., 1Lt*  
*Hornung, Willard R., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Thomas, Quentin W., T/Sgt*  
*Sentlingar, Charles W, PFC*  
*None*

**A/C No. 42-32333 "Lorelei" (S)**

*Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt*  
*Cook, Walter E., F/O*  
*None*  
*Walsh, Richard J., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., T/Sgt*  
*Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt*  
*None*

## Friday, 14 May 1943 (continued)

A/C No. 41-13052 "TABOO" (Q)		A/C No. 41-29969 (R)	
<b>P</b>	<i>VanDivort, Richard (NMI), 1Lt</i>		<i>Therrien, Robert W., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Campbell, Martin H., Jr., F/O</i>		<i>Cox, Harold E., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Myers, John H., 1Lt</i>		<i>Dombkowski, Stanley F., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Chaffins, Ray (NMI), T/Sgt</i>		<i>Szymik, Emil (NMI), S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Nelson, Forest S., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Kim, Daniel (NMI), S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
A/C No. 41-13065 (M)		A/C No. 41- 13074 "Balls of Fire" / "Royal Flush" (K)	
<b>P</b>	<i>Wert, Donald S., 1Lt</i>		<i>Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Houghtaling, Harold A., F/O</i>		<i>Dauley, Charles G., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Rogers, Lee C., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Daly, Donald J., T/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Dittmar, Francis A., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Nickelson, Royal C., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Bowden, Scott T., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
A/C No. 41-29980 (L)			
<b>P</b>	<i>Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt</i>		
<b>CP</b>	<i>Burt, Norman A., F/O</i>		
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		
<b>B</b>	<i>Douglas, Edward (NMI), S/Sgt</i>		
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		
<b>R</b>	<i>Budde, Walter H., T/Sgt</i>		
<b>G</b>	<i>White, John Edward, S/Sgt</i>		
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Again Sardinia with the docks and shipping at Olbia as the target. Direct hits were scored on 2 merchant vessels and a near miss on a third. Harbor installations were covered with hits. One small vessel approximately 200 tons was sunk in the port. Direct hit on a large merchant vessel outside of the harbor. Very little flak. Strong rumor of a three day pass for the Group.

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 90:** The campaign in Tunisia is over but for the air forces the war goes on. On the 14<sup>th</sup> of May 36 B-25's of the 310<sup>th</sup>, nine from the 428<sup>th</sup>, took off to bomb Olbia Harbor in Northeastern Sardinia. With Cagliari soon to be out, Olbia looms doubly important. The targets for the last two weeks have included many important harbors. It looks as though the design was much greater than just to cripple a potential evacuation effort.

## Friday, 14 May 1943 (continued)

Direct hits were made on two of three merchant vessels and many near misses were scored on a third. The docks were plastered by one flight of twelve. The escorting fighter bombers achieved a direct hit on a large merchant vessel anchored in the outer harbor. A large oil slick began spreading and a fire was started as a result of the P-38's effort.

Slight heavy and light flak came up from the target area. As they proceeded across land, inaccurate fire of the guns of Port Torres was short. The escort destroyed at least one of a dozen enemy fighters on the approach to the target and they destroyed a sea plane on the return trip. All of our aircraft returned safely.

**A/C No. 1 probably 41-13077 "The Reluctant Dragon"** (later "Old Patch")  
(flight leader)

**P** *Helsabeck, Chester J. "Joe", Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Cunningham, Robert L., 1Lt*  
**N** *Colvin, Jay W., Jr., 1Lt*  
**B** *Upchurch, Jerry E., 1Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Lockhart, James H., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Davis, Elvin A., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Pell, Robert T., Maj, HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG*  
*(observer)*

**A/C No. 3 probably 41-13094 "Seasweep"**

**P** *Holley, James Taylor, 1Lt*  
**CP** *Butterfield, William M., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Connors, Charles L., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Glass, John D., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Langford, Alvin L., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Bower, William M., Maj, HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG*  
*(observer)*

**A/C No. 5 probably 41-13053 "Stormy Weather"**

**P** *Wheeler, William A. K., "Gus", 1Lt*  
**CP** *Beatty, John H., 1Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Swim, Lowell W., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Mathis, Paul E., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Kirkland, Robert Olin "Kirk", S/Sgt*  
**F** *Amirault, Osborne J., Sgt*

**A/C No. 2 aircraft unidentified - may be "Bad Seed"**

*Brock, James C., 1Lt*  
*Blaauw, Harold A., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Spencer, Ronald L., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Marrs, Horace S., S/Sgt*  
*Warlie, Roger Rickie, Pvt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified - may be "Skunk Hunter"**

*Marsh, Edward D., 1Lt*  
*Wescott, Robert M., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Keys, Paul R., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Bosworth, William H., T/Sgt*  
*McDonald, Donald E. "Mac", Sgt*  
*Bremicker, Carl T., Maj, HQ 47<sup>th</sup> Wing*  
*(observer)*

**A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified - may be "Sweet Alice"**

*Bingham, Henry G., Jr., 1Lt*  
*Knight, Gerald R., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Queen, Kenneth E., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Martin, Robert J., S/Sgt*  
*Wink, Jacob A., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**Friday, 14 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 7 probably 41-13070 “Shanghi Lil”** (flight leader)

**P** *Canham, Arthur E., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Wilson, Kieth Gordon, 1Lt*  
**N** *Hartman, William J., 1Lt*  
**B** *Vestal, Marion S., 2Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Rebello, John E., Jr., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Myers, Loy G., S/Sgt*  
**F** *McConnell, Jesse W., Maj, HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG*  
*(observer)*

**A/C No. 8 probably 41-13083 “Old 83”**

*Loutrel, John McCluney, 1Lt*  
*Smith, Merle E., 2Lt,*  
*None*  
*Naworski, Edward F., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Bennett, Robert L., T/Sgt*  
*Glover, Harold E., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 9 probably 41-13050 “Virginia Sturgeon”**

**P** *Peterson, Arthur C., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Purifoy, Lawrence Lloyd "Peter Plink",*  
*2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Ovalle, Charles V., Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Guilfoyle, Frederick J., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Michalek, Joseph F., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*



**Saturday, 15 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In the Mediterranean,** P-40's fly sea patrol.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Sicily,** Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) Wellingtons bomb Palermo during the night of 14/15 May.

**In the Mediterranean,** the Northwest Coastal Air Force (NACAF) maintains sea patrol and reconnaissance over large area from the W coast of Italy over Sicily, Corsica, Sardinia, and as far N as Marseilles, France. HQ 31<sup>st</sup> Fighter Group transfers from Le Sers, Tunisia to Korba, Tunisia. HQ 61<sup>st</sup> Troop Carrier Group and its 15<sup>th</sup>, 53<sup>rd</sup> and 59<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadrons, with C-47's, arrive at Lourmel, French Morocco from the US. The 58<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, 33<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Group, with P-40's, transfers from Ebba Ksour, Tunisia to Menzel Temime, Tunisia. The 307<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, 31<sup>st</sup> Fighter Group, with Spitfires, transfers from Le Sers, Tunisia to Korba, Tunisia. The 309<sup>th</sup>, 310<sup>th</sup> and 312<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadrons (Dive), 86<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (Dive), with A-36's, transfer from La Senia, Algeria to Mediouna, French Morocco.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Extracts from Report of Aircraft Accident # ?:** *(ROAA not available)*

**A/C No. 41-13065 (ROAA-?** crashed on return trip from Oran - cause not determined)

<b>P</b>	<i>Wert, Donald S., 1Lt - Buried in Military Cemetery at Tunis, Tunisia</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Rouch, Melvin R., 1Lt - Buried in Military Cemetery at Tunis, Tunisia</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Schimpf, Charles A., T/Sgt - Buried in Military Cemetery at Tunis, Tunisia</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Fredrickson, Raymond V., S/Sgt - Buried in Military Cemetery at Tunis, Tunisia</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Principe, Laurence F., Sgt - Buried in Military Cemetery at Tunis, Tunisia</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>

**Saturday, 15 May 1943** (continued)

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Three day holiday starting today; no operations, no overnight passes and all planes grounded.

## **Sunday, 16 May 1943**

### **USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):** P-40's escort shipping off the Mediterranean coast.

### **WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Sicily,** Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) Wellingtons bomb Trapani during the night of 15/16 May. Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) and Northwest African Coastal Air Force (NACAF) planes fly sea patrol, reconnaissance, and convoy escort. The 51<sup>st</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron (C-47's), 62<sup>nd</sup> Troop Carrier Group, transfers from Nouvion, Algeria to Matemore, Algeria. HQ 350<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group transfers from Oran, Algeria to Maison Blanche, Algeria. Its 345<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron (P-39's) transfers from La Senia, Algeria to Maison Blanche, Algeria.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No News.

**Monday, 17 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):** No Entry

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Italy,** Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) Wellingtons bomb the Lido di Roma seaplane base and drop leaflets over Rome. The 8<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron (C-47's), 62<sup>nd</sup> Troop Carrier Group, transfers from Nouvion, Algeria to Matemore, Algeria. The 309<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron (Spitfires), 31<sup>st</sup> Fighter Group, transfers with Spitfires from Le Sers, Tunisia to Korba, Tunisia.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Last day of the holidays.

**Tuesday, 18 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):** No Entry

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Sardinia**, during the night of 17/18 May, Wellingtons bomb the Alghero-Sassari area.

**In the Mediterranean**, during the day, the Northwest African Air Force (NAAF) begins a strong air offensive against Pantelleria Island in conjunction with a naval blockade. Over 80 B-25's and B-26's, escorted by P-38's, blast the island, hitting Porto di Pantelleria and Marghana Airfield.

**In Sicily**, B-17's, with fighter escort, bomb Trapani. The 4<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, 62<sup>nd</sup> Troop Carrier Group, transfers with C-47's from Nouvion, Algeria to Matemore, Algeria.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 91:**

**Mission Report # 104, 18 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Commander: Col. Hunter, Flight Leaders Capt. Helsabeck, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Thorndike, Capt. Gshwandtner, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. VanDivort.
2. At 0925 24 B-25-C's took off to Bomb Docks at Pantelleria H. None  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target No. A/C  
  
returned early. 24 dropped 138 X 500 lb .1 & .025 sec delay bombs on target  
No. A/C No & Type  
  
at 1128 from 8500-9700 ft. 24 returned at 1310.  
Time Altitude No. A/C Time
3. RESULTS: Assigned target area was well covered. Hits were seen on docks, jetties and adjacent installations. Bombs from one flight fell on both sides of the road just S of the docks. Gun positions in this section were well covered. 12-15 smaller craft were observed in the harbor, direct hits were not reported but a string of bombs fell among these craft. The target was obscured by large clouds of smoke and dust. Bombs from the 321<sup>st</sup> Gp covered the town area.

## Tuesday, 18 May 1943 (continued)

- OBS: No. E/A were engaged. 5-6 transports, one of these being a large type and approximately 9 fighters were observed on the A/D.

Flak--Moderate, heavy and inaccurate flak was experienced at the target, and also some light flak was observed. Gun positions were reported as follows: 8 guns in southern end of town, 1 position just SW of the town on S side of road, 1 position just S of W jetty, 1 position  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile S of docks on coast, several positions just NE of the town, others along W coast  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles S of docks, 1 position of heavy flashing approximately 2 miles SE of the A/D and one crew reported a position near St. Michele, exact location unknown. M/V's and boats in harbor reported under results.

Three unidentified naval vessels seen at 1123 hours, heading could not be determined. These ships were in the vicinity of 36 deg 57 min N, 11 deg 40 min E.

Photos were taken and are being forwarded.  
No messages sent or received.

- WEATHER: En Route: 4-7 tenths coverage at 5/7000 ft, visibility 4-7 miles. Rain showers along the coast near Tunis. At Target: 6/10 coverage at 10,000 feet, visibility 6-8 miles.
- PRESS DATA: None

Twenty-four (24) sorties flown 18/5/43.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** After four days of much needed rest 24 of our planes were up again and headed for the docks at Pantelleria. The target being the dock installations and Coastal Defense guns in this sector. The first flight of 12 planes scored hits on the docks, jetties and adjacent installations while the second flight covered the gun positions. No enemy A/C were encountered and the Heavy flak of moderate intensity was very inaccurate. 379<sup>th</sup> had no ships on this mission.

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 91:**  
*(379<sup>th</sup> BS did not participate)*

## Tuesday, 18 May 1943 (continued)

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 91:**

Mission Report # 66

Date- May 18, 1943

Target- Pantelleria (Docks and Harbor)

Squadron airplanes- none

Sergeant W.E. Hutchenrider was the lone Squadron member on this mission, going with Lieut. Wightman of the 381<sup>st</sup> Squadron, as Aerial Photographer.

The pictures did not show too much this afternoon due to the clouds of smoke and dust that arose from the assigned area, as the bombs fell among the docks and warehouses. Plenty of small ships in the harbor but no direct hits were seen, although one string fell through the middle of them.

All of the ships returned safely.

*Hutchenrider, Willis E., Sgt, photographer*

*Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt, pilot, 381<sup>st</sup> BS*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 91:**

### PANTELLERIA

Group Mission # 91

2 Flights 18 B-25's each

Sqdrn. Mission # 67

Escort 18 P-38's.

Take Off 09:25

Bomb Load: (6 x 500)

Target 11:28

Bombs Dropped: 12 (6 x 500), 36,000#

Down 13:10

Total Time: 3 Hrs. 45 Min.

Weather: CAVU over target, but instrument weather en route.

REMARKS: The target area was well covered, both by our bombers and by those of the 321<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group. Flak positions were well covered by dive bombing P-38's. No enemy aircraft were encountered.

**A/C No. 42-53444 "PUNJAB" (C)**

**A/C No. 41-13061 "Lil Joe" (A) (flight leader)**

**P** *Stecher, Robert Walter, 1Lt*

*Thorndike, Robert W., 1Lt*

**CP** *Cox, Harold E., 2Lt*

*Evans, George N., 1Lt*

**N** *None*

*Hickman, James G., 1Lt*

**B** *Gawron, Joseph (NMI), S/Sgt*

*Supple, Gilbert J., Capt*

**E** *None*

*None*

**R** *Marrall, Russell M., Sgt*

*Boone, Edward W. W., T/Sgt*

**G** *Palicki, Daniel E., S/Sgt*

*Molnar, William J., S/Sgt*

**F** *Mason, John Joseph, Jr., 1Lt (observer)*

*Alexander, William T. "Alex", Maj (observer)*

**Tuesday, 18 May 1943 (continued)**

<b>A/C No. 42-53445 "Lottie's Goose"</b>		<b>A/C No. 41-29957 (F)</b>	
<b>(B)</b>			
<b>P</b>	<i>Lewis, Kenneth E., 1Lt</i>		<i>Collins, George Dennis, F/O</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Wolfe, Warren M., 2Lt</i>		<i>Wirth, Thomas F., Jr., F/O</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Smith, Willie A., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Kelley, Donald C., T/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Starnes, Carl B., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Rogers, Mike D., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>George, Wade Clayton, S/Sgt</i>		<i>Dees, Paul (NMI), S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>A/C No. 41-13085 "Green Hornet"</b>		<b>A/C No. 41-29962 (E)</b>	
<b>(D)</b>			
<b>P</b>	<i>Coddington, Walter E., Capt</i>		<i>Denton, Richard D., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Ramsey, Thomas Upton, 2Lt</i>		<i>Donnovan, Gerald M., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Hornung, Willard R., 2Lt</i>		<i>Miller, Foster C., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Thomas, Quentin W., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Potolsky, George (NMI), T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Moxey, Orville E., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Miller, Foster Eugene, S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>A/C No. 42-32333 "Lorelei" (J)</b>		<b>A/C No. 41-13052 "TABOO" (G)</b>	
		<b>(flight leader)</b>	
<b>P</b>	<i>Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt</i>		<i>VanDivort, Richard (NMI), 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Cook, Walter E., F/O</i>		<i>Bitter, Irwin S., 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Forbes, Robert L., 2Lt</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Walsh, Richard J., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Myers, John H., 1Lt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Chaffins, Ray (NMI), T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Nelson, Forest S., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>Hutchenrider, Willis E., Sgt, 380<sup>th</sup> BS</i>		<i>White, Alpheus Wray, Jr., Maj, Commander (observer)</i>
<b>A/C No. 41-29969 (H)</b>		<b>A/C No. 41-29980 (M)</b>	
<b>P</b>	<i>Houghtaling, Harold A., F/O</i>		<i>Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Stagner, Howard C., F/O</i>		<i>Burt, Norman A., F/O</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Rogers, Lee C., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Douglas, Edward (NMI), S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Dittmar, Francis A., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Budde, Walter H., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Bowden, Scott T., S/Sgt</i>		<i>White, John Edward, S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>



## Tuesday, 18 May 1943 (continued)

A/C No. 41- 13074 “Balls of Fire” / “Royal Flush” (K)		A/C No. 42-53445 “Lottie’s Goose” (L)	
<b>P</b>	<i>Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt</i>		<i>Campbell, Martin H., Jr., F/O</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Dauley, Charles G., 2Lt</i>		<i>Hanna, Malcolm C., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Daly, Donald J., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Grossi, Frank L., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Nickelson, Royal C., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Swanson, William M., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Pontet, Emile A., Jr., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Docks and harbor on the island of Pantelleria were hit today. Docks and adjacent installations well covered. Bombs hit on both sides of road south of docks. String of bombs dropped on gun positions in the harbor area.

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 91:** On the 18<sup>th</sup> operations were resumed once again, against little Pantelleria, but forty miles off Cap Bon in Tunisia. The targets were the docks and adjacent installations in the city of the supposed Axis “Malta”.

Strings walked through the docks, jetties, and adjacent works. The gun positions there, special targets, were well covered by the smoke and debris of bomb hits. Some fifteen small craft were obliterated by a string that paralleled the docks.

The harbor and its area emitted heavy inaccurate flak of moderate intensity. All aircraft returned safely. Twelve ships of the 428<sup>th</sup> participated in the flight of thirty-six. Captain Helsabeck led the flight.

A/C No. 1 <i>probably</i> 41-13077 “The Reluctant Dragon” (later “Old Patch”) (flight leader)		A/C No. 2 <i>aircraft unidentified - may be</i> “Bad Seed”	
<b>P</b>	<i>Helsabeck, Chester J. "Joe", Jr., 1Lt</i>		<i>Brock, James C., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Cunningham, Robert L., 1Lt</i>		<i>Blaauw, Harold A., 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Colvin, Jay W., Jr., 1Lt</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Upchurch, Jerry E., 1Lt</i>		<i>Spencer, Ronald L., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Lockhart, James H., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Marrs, Horace S., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Davis, Elvin A., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Warlie, Roger Rickie, Pvt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>Hunter, Anthony G., Col, 310th BG Commander (observer)</i>		<i>Basich, George F., 1Lt</i>

**Tuesday, 18 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 3 probably 41-13094  
"Seasweep"**

**P** *Holley, James Taylor, 1Lt*  
**CP** *Butterfield, William M., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Connors, Charles L., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Glass, John D., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Black, James F., Pvt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified - may be  
"Mickey II"**

**P** *Brennan, Samuel J., Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Southward, Thomas H., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Herring, William S., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Smit, Richard F., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Davis, Robert M. "Slugger", S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 7 aircraft unidentified (flight  
leader)**

**P** *Gshwandtner, Frank J. "Gish", Capt*  
**CP** *Gena, Gerald M., 2Lt*  
**N** *Doolittle, Leonard N., 1Lt*  
**B** *Herold, Armin F., Jr., 1Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Stilp, John P., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Stage, Albert A., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Pell, Robert T., Maj, HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG  
(observer)*

**A/C No. 9 aircraft unidentified - may be  
"Sweet Alice"**

**P** *Bingham, Henry G., Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Knight, Gerald R., 1Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Queen, Kenneth E., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Martin, Robert J., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Wink, Jacob A., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified - may be  
"Skunk Hunter"**

*Marsh, Edward D., 1Lt*  
*Wescott, Robert M., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Keys, Paul R., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Bosworth, William H., T/Sgt*  
*McDonald, Donald E. "Mac", Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified**

*Smith, Merle E., 2Lt*  
*Koch, Richard J., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Versaw, Robert E., Sgt*  
*None*  
*Temple, Robert W., Pvt*  
*Ciampi, Francis (NMI), Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 8 probably 41-13053 "Stormy  
Weather"**

*Wheeler, William A. K., "Gus", 1Lt*  
*Moulder, Robert W., F/O*  
*None*  
*Swim, Lowell W., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Mathis, Paul E., T/Sgt*  
*Kirkland, Robert Olin "Kirk", S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 10 probably 41-13070  
"Shanghi Lil"**

*Canham, Arthur E., 1Lt*  
*Wilson, Kieth Gordon, 1Lt*  
*Hartman, William J., 1Lt*  
*Vestal, Marion S., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Rebello, John E., Jr., T/Sgt*  
*Myers, Loy G., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**Tuesday, 18 May 1943 (continued)**

	<b>A/C No. 11 <i>probably</i> 41-13083 “Old 83”</b>	<b>A/C No. 12 <i>probably</i> 41-13050 “Virginia Sturgeon”</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Loutrel, John McCluney, 1Lt</i>	<i>Peterson, Arthur C., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Buglass, Kenneth G., 2Lt</i>	<i>Purifoy, Lawrence Lloyd "Peter Plink", 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Naworski, Edward F., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Foley, Patrick L., Sr., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Bennett, Robert L., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Guilfoyle, Frederick J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Glover, Harold E., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Michalek, Joseph F., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>Reed, Robert H., Cpl</i>

## Wednesday, 19 May 1943

### USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):

#### EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):

**In Tunisia**, after 2 days of sand storms, aircraft are again airborne. P-40's fly escort for ships in area E of Kelibia off Cap Bon peninsula.

#### WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):

**In Sardinia**, B-25's hit Milis and Villacidro Airfields while B-26's bomb Monserrato and Elmas Airfields, the outskirts of Quarto Sant'Elena, and Cagliari harbor.

**In Sicily**, B-17's bomb Milo Airfield at Trapani. The 7<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, 62<sup>nd</sup> Troop Carrier Group which has been operating from bases in Egypt and Palestine with C-47's, returns to Nouvion, Algeria. The 154<sup>th</sup> Observation Squadron, 68<sup>th</sup> Observation Group, transfers with A-20's and P-38's from Le Sers, Tunisia to Korba, Tunisia. The 317<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, 325<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group, transfers with P-40's from Tafaraoui, Algeria to Montesquieu, Algeria and flies its first combat mission.

### HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 92:

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#### Mission Report # 105, 19 May 1943

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Leaders: Capts. Cometh, Allan, Batten and 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Hamilton, Observer, Col. Walsh.
  
2. At 1115 24 B-25-C's took off to Bomb Millis L/G. None returned  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target No. A/C  
  
early. 24 dropped 288 X 100 lb inst and 45 sec del bombs on target at 1305  
No. A/C No & Type Time  
  
from 9000-10700 ft. 24 returned at 1450.  
Altitude No. A/C Time
  
3. RESULTS: 40/50 multi-motored A/C well dispersed were seen at the target. Buildings and A/C on N dispersal area were well covered with bombs, 6-8 fires were started in this area. Buildings, at NW corner of L/G were also hit. At least 6 A/C were hit when bombs fell on E dispersal area and several A/C were also hit when bombs landed on S dispersal area. Fires were also started in this section of the L/G.

## Wednesday, 19 May 1943 (continued)

4. OBS: E/A--No E/A were engaged by the formation, but did observe the escorts engaging approximately 10 enemy fighters. One E/A was seen to crash into the sea at 39 deg 20 min N, 8 deg E.

Flak--Flak at the target was slight, heavy and inaccurate. Some inaccurate light flak was also experience. Gun positions were observed 2 miles SW of L/G, 1 gun 2 miles NE, 2 guns 4 miles ESE, 4-6 guns, 1 position just NW of target, exact location unknown and one battery was seen at N edge of woods at northern side of L/G, centrally located.

Naval--(1) One medium size M/V observed at 39 deg 58 min N, 8 deg 18 min E at 1315, heading NW.

(2) One crew reported seeing a large white unidentified vessel in the southern bay of the gulf of Oristano at 1305 hours.

(3) Another crew reported sighting a submarine at 38 deg 51 min N, 7 deg 56 min E, heading 295 deg at 1330 hours.

Photos were taken and are being forwarded.

No messages sent or received.

5. WEATHER: At Target--CAVU. Over Water--CAVU with slight haze. Base to Coast--3/10 coverage at 6-7000 feet, visibility unlimited.

6. PRESS DATA: None

Twenty-four sorties flown 19/5/43.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary:** (Ops Order ---/mission ---) **Group Mission # 92:** Capt. Allan led eleven of our planes in a 24 ship formation over L/G at Milis, Sardinia on May 19<sup>th</sup>. The north, east and south dispersal areas, in which 40 to 45 multi-motored E/A were parked, was well covered by frags. Hangars and installations in the NW corner of the L/G were also hit causing numerous fires in the sector. 10 E/A engaged our escort in a dog-fight over the target resulting in the destruction of one of the attackers.

Wednesday, 19 May 1943 (continued)

P C P N B E R G F	A/C No. 1 aircraft & crew unidentified (flight leader)	A/C No. 2 aircraft & crew unidentified
	Allan, John T., Capt	Holstead, James R., Capt
	Marple, Louis F., T/Sgt	
	Pagano, Salvatore A., S/Sgt	
	A/C No. 3 aircraft & crew unidentified	A/C No. 4 aircraft & crew unidentified ship (flight leader) probably “June Bug”
	Johnson, Kenneth M. “Ken”, Capt	Hamilton, Robert M. “Ham”, Capt
	A/C No. 5 aircraft & crew unidentified	A/C No. 6 aircraft & crew unidentified
	Beachum, Graham C., 2Lt	Grant, Isaac E., 2Lt
	A/C No. 7 aircraft & crew unidentified	A/C No. 8 aircraft & crew unidentified
	Lindh, Jack D., 2Lt	Rogers, Harold E., 2Lt

**Wednesday, 19 May 1943 (continued)**

<b>P</b> <b>CP</b> <b>N</b> <b>B</b> <b>E</b> <b>R</b> <b>G</b> <b>F</b>	<b>A/C No. 9 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Smith, Charles W., 2Lt</i>	<b>A/C No. 10 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Logan, Harry R., Jr., 2Lt</i>
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<b>P</b> <b>CP</b> <b>N</b> <b>B</b> <b>E</b> <b>R</b> <b>G</b> <b>F</b>	<b>A/C No. 11 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Bloesel, Raymond C., F/O</i>
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**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 92:**

Mission Report # 67

Date- May 19, 1943

Target- Milis Airdrome, Sardinia

Squadron airplanes- twelve

The Axis transports took another beating this afternoon, when we caught about forty of them cornered on the airdrome. Eight fires were counted while bombs were seen falling and well covering the entire dispersal area.

The fighters failed to contact us, although we could see about ten of them mixing it up with our escort to their sorrow, as one of them was seen to go down.

Some shipping was seen, two merchant vessels and one submarine. All of the planes returned safely despite the feeble flak barrage.

<b>P</b> <b>CP</b> <b>N</b> <b>B</b> <b>E</b> <b>R</b> <b>G</b> <b>F</b>	<b>A/C No. 1 aircraft unidentified</b> (flight leader) <i>Cometh, Lawrence (NMI), Capt</i> <i>Miller, James I., 2Lt</i> <i>Huffman, Arnie J., 2Lt</i> <i>Liverman, Ernest W. "Big Red", 2Lt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Mount, Robert J., S/Sgt</i> <i>Melhus, Palmer C., S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i>	<b>A/C No. 2 may be 41-13096 "The Question Mark"</b> <i>McCormick, Robert J., II, 1Lt</i> <i>Toenjes, Norman L., 1Lt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Richardson, David L., T/Sgt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Oliver, Frank R., Jr., S/Sgt</i> <i>Leanza, Anthony (NMI), S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i>
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**Wednesday, 19 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Cromartie, Harry L., Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Wright, John E., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Kechter, Harry H., T/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Smith, Eldon M., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Kobasa, Joseph (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Santos, Carroll A., Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Picklesimer, Marion L., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Lively, Jake S., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Smith, Teddy L., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Redding, William D., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 7 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Stutts, Earl Leeman, 1Lt*  
**CP** *Steger, Edward H., Jr., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Kessler, Paul E., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Barbieri, Edward D., Sgt*  
**G** *Janicki, Andrew J., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Hutchenrider, Willis E., Sgt*

**A/C No. 9 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Amick, Cecil D., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Porter, Lloyd L., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Longrie, Kenneth R., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Meyer, Albert J., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Huffman, Herbert (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified**

*Draemel, Dean H., Capt*  
*Sours, Robert J., 2Lt*  
*Kanode, Robert C., 1Lt*  
*Mizerski, Richard C. "Bronco", 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Shambaugh, Robert M., T/Sgt*  
*Williams, John A., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified**

*Sacknoff, David A., 1Lt*  
*Folwell, Frank C., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Links, Albert G., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Wesline, Richard L., T/Sgt*  
*Grace, John J., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 8 aircraft unidentified (flight leader)**

*Batten, Earl E., Capt*  
*Shorsher, Fred A., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Sessler, Howard A., Capt*  
*None*  
*Dackiewicz, John A., S/Sgt*  
*Szczesniak, Alfred A., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 10 aircraft unidentified**

*Grow, Clyde L., Capt*  
*Hubbard, Jack W., 2Lt*  
*Coffey, John D., 2Lt*  
*Hall, Paul R., Jr., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Hill, Raiford B., T/Sgt*  
*Pintar, John L., S/Sgt*  
*None*



## Wednesday, 19 May 1943 (continued)

A/C No. 11 <i>aircraft unidentified</i>		A/C No. 12 <i>aircraft unidentified</i>	
<b>P</b>	<i>Walcott, Albert R., 2Lt</i>		<i>Rich, Robert S., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Benton, James H., 2Lt</i>		<i>Goss, Ralph R., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Grossman, Stanley R., Sgt</i>		<i>Jastrzemski, Walter F., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Talley, Edwin C., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Poknis, Paul A., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Fahey, Joseph E., Cpl</i>		<i>Rodgers, Lamar F., Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary:** (Ops Order ---/mission ---) **Group Mission # 92:**  
*(381<sup>st</sup> BS did not participate)*

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No mission today for the squadron.

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary:** (Ops Order ---/mission ---) **Group Mission # 92:** For variety's sake they gave us an airdrome for a target on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Of the 24 aircraft that attacked Milis airdrome only one was 428<sup>th</sup>. Forty to forty-five multi-motored aircraft were dispersed on the target. The installations and aircraft dispersed on the North side of the field were particularly well hit. Here alone some six to eight fires were set off. At least six aircraft were hit when 100 pounders beat a tattoo on the East dispersal area. Fires were started in the South dispersal area also.

Some ten enemy aircraft engaged the escort, and one of them was seen to crash into the sea. Flak at the target was slight, heavy, and inaccurate, hence, innocuous.

**A/C No. 1 *aircraft unidentified - may be***

**“Mickey II”**

<b>P</b>	<i>Brennan, Samuel J., Jr., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Southward, Thomas H., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Herring, William S., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Smit, Richard F., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Davis, Robert M. “Slugger”, S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>

**Thursday, 20 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In the Mediterranean,** P-40's escort ships and fly sea patrol off Cap Bon and in the Kelibia area.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Sardinia,** during the night of 19/20 May, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) Wellingtons bomb Villacidro and Decimomannu Airfields. During the day, P-38's bomb Milis Airfield and targets of opportunity at Bonorva while B-25's bomb Villacidro, Alghero, and Decimomannu Airfields

**In Italy,** P-38's bomb the docks on the Gulf of Aranci, a railroad bridge NE of Perfugas, the Macomer rail junction, and targets of opportunity at Sassari, Bonnanaro, and Chilivani while B-17's strike Grosseto Airfield.

**In the Mediterranean,** P-38's and P-40's strafe and bomb Pantelleria Island. HQ 33<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Group and its 59<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron transfer with P-40's from Ebba Ksour, Tunisia to Menzel Temime, Tunisia. The 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadrons, 52<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Group transfer with Spitfires from Le Sers, Tunisia to La Sebala, Tunisia. The 12<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, 60<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group transfers with C-47's from Tafaraoui, Algeria to Relizane, Algeria. The 308<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, 31<sup>st</sup> Fighter Group transfers with Spitfires from Le Sers, Tunisia to Korba, Tunisia.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 93:**

**Mission Report # 106, 20 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Leaders: Capt. Helsabeck, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Thorndike, Capt. Gshwandtner and 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. VanDivort.

2. At 0925 24 B-25-C's took off to Bomb Alghero-Fertilia A/D. None  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target No. A/C

returned early. 24 dropped 1728 X 20 lb frag bombs on target at 1133 from  
No. A/C No & Type Time

8500-10000 ft. 24 returned at 1330.  
Altitude No. A/C Time

## Thursday, 20 May 1943 (continued)

3. RESULTS: 20-30 S/E and multi-motored E/A were seen dispersed in the NE, SW, and SE dispersal area. Bombs from the first flight fell across the NE corner of the field and across the SE corner, scoring hits on planes dispersed there. Some fires were reported. Bombs of one flight fell among blast shelters just NW of the field. The bombs of another flight hit among parked A/C, hangars and installations in the W and SW area and several strings fell across the runway in center of the field.
4. OBS: E/A--No E/A were engaged by the formation, but one crew observed 2 S/E aircraft in the vicinity of the target. 7-9 S/P's were seen at the S/P base at Cant Pto Conte in Sardinia.

Flak--Very slight heavy and light flak at the target. Between 4-6 bursts were experienced. This flak was very inaccurate. Gun positions were seen 1 mile N of A/D and at SE corner of field. One gun position was observed at the point of C. Caccia, this was slight, heavy and inaccurate. Slight, light flak came from Miniera D'Argentiera at 40 deg 44 min N, 8 deg 9 min E.

Naval--One seaplane tender and two small vessels, possibly barges were seen at Cant Pto Conte. One crew reported 2 M/V's and a number of small boats at Porto Torres Harbor. Another crew observed 4-5 very small M/V's in estuary at C. Oristano.

No messages were sent or received.

Photos were taken and are being forwarded.

5. WEATHER: CAVU at target. 1/10 scud at 2000 feet from base to coast. CAVU with slight haze over water.
6. PRESS DATA: None

Twenty-four sorties flown 20/5/43.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** May 20<sup>th</sup> and the 379<sup>th</sup> had a vacation. None of our planes were in the line up. The target being the Alghero-Fertilia A/D at Sardinia. 24 planes of the group did a very good job of covering the target, damaging or destroying 20 to 30 E/A. The biggest concentration of bombs covered the NE, SW and SE dispersal areas where a majority of the E/A were parked. Hangars and installations in the SW sector of the field were also covered. Two E/A were sighted over the target but did not attack. Flak at the target was very slight and inaccurate.

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 93:**  
*(379<sup>th</sup> BS did not participate)*

**Thursday, 20 May 1943 (continued)**

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 93:**  
*(380<sup>th</sup> BS did not participate)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 93:**  
ALGHERO L/G, SARDINIA

Group Mission # 93	Flight 24 B-25's
Sqdrn. Mission # 68	Escort P-38's.
Take Off 09:25	Bomb Load: (72 x 20) Frags
Target 11:33	Bombs Dropped: 12 (72 x 20), 17,280#
Down 13:30	

Total Time: 3 Hrs. 5 Min.

REMARKS: Airdrome and revetment area were covered with frags. Partial photographic interpretation revealed 13 enemy aircraft and several industrial buildings hit.

**A/C No. 42-53444 "PUNJAB" (B)**

**P** *Stecher, Robert Walter, 1Lt*  
**CP** *Cox, Harold E., 2Lt*

**N** *None*  
**B** *Guyer, Stanley P., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Marrall, Russell M., Sgt*  
**G** *Palicki, Daniel E., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 42-53445 "Lottie's Goose"  
(C)**

**P** *Lewis, Kenneth E., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Wolfe, Warren M., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Smith, Willie A., T/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Starnes, Carl B., S/Sgt*  
**G** *George, Wade Clayton, S/Sgt*  
**F** *Mason, John Joseph, Jr., 1Lt (observer)*

**A/C No. 41-13061 "Lil Joe" (A) (flight leader)**

*Thorndike, Robert W., 1Lt*  
*White, Alpheus Wray, Jr., Maj, Commander*  
*Hickman, James G., 1Lt*  
*Supple, Gilbert J., Capt*  
*None*  
*Boone, Edward W. W., T/Sgt*  
*Molnar, William J., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 41-29957 (F)**

*Collins, George Dennis, F/O*  
*Wirth, Thomas F., Jr., F/O*  
*None*  
*Kelley, Donald C., T/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Rogers, Mike D., T/Sgt*  
*Dees, Paul (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*None*

**Thursday, 20 May 1943 (continued)**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41-13085 “Green Hornet” (D)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Coddington, Walter E., Capt</i> <b>CP</b> <i>Ramsey, Thomas Upton, 2Lt</i> <b>N</b> <i>None</i> <b>B</b> <i>Hornung, Willard R., 2Lt</i> <b>E</b> <i>None</i> <b>R</b> <i>Thomas, Quentin W., T/Sgt</i> <b>G</b> <i>Moxey, Orville E., S/Sgt</i> <b>F</b> <i>None</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41-29962 (E)</b></p> <p><i>Denton, Richard D., 2Lt</i> <i>Donnovan, Gerald M., 2Lt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Miller, Foster C., S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Potolsky, George (NMI), T/Sgt</i> <i>Miller, Foster Eugene, S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 42-32333 “Lorelei” (J)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Wightman, Henry B. “Hank”, 1Lt</i> <b>CP</b> <i>Cook, Walter E., F/O</i> <b>N</b> <i>None</i> <b>B</b> <i>Walsh, Richard J., S/Sgt</i> <b>E</b> <i>None</i> <b>R</b> <i>Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., T/Sgt</i> <b>G</b> <i>Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt</i> <b>F</b> <i>Lundsten, Gustave A., PFC</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41-13052 “TABOO” (G) (flight leader)</b></p> <p><i>VanDivort, Richard (NMI), 1Lt</i> <i>Bitter, Irwin S., 1Lt</i> <i>Forbes, Robert L., 2Lt</i> <i>Myers, John H., 1Lt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Chaffins, Ray (NMI), T/Sgt</i> <i>Nelson, Forest S., S/Sgt</i> <i>Alexander, William T. “Alex”, Capt (observer)</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41-29969 (H)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Therrien, Robert W., 2Lt</i> <b>CP</b> <i>Durgin, James L., 2Lt</i> <b>N</b> <i>None</i> <b>B</b> <i>Gawron, Joseph (NMI)</i> <b>E</b> <i>None</i> <b>R</b> <i>Szymik, Emil (NMI), S/Sgt</i> <b>G</b> <i>Kim, Daniel (NMI), S/Sgt</i> <b>F</b> <i>None</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41-29980 (M)</b></p> <p><i>Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt</i> <i>Burt, Norman A., F/O</i> <i>None</i> <i>Douglas, Edward (NMI), S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Budde, Walter H., T/Sgt</i> <i>White, John Edward, S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41- 13074 “Balls of Fire” / “Royal Flush” (K)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt</i> <b>CP</b> <i>Dauley, Charles G., 2Lt</i> <b>N</b> <i>None</i> <b>B</b> <i>Daly, Donald J., T/Sgt</i> <b>E</b> <i>None</i> <b>R</b> <i>Nickelson, Royal C., T/Sgt</i> <b>G</b> <i>Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt</i> <b>F</b> <i>None</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 42-32438 (L)</b></p> <p><i>Campbell, Martin H., Jr., F/O</i> <i>Hanna, Malcolm C., 2Lt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Grossi, Frank L., S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Swanson, William M., T/Sgt</i> <i>Pontet, Emile A., Jr., S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i></p>

## Thursday, 20 May 1943 (continued)

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Alghero/Fertilia Airdrome was the target today. 20-30 planes were in the dispersal area. A string of bombs were dropped by the first flight scoring hits on the planes. Some fires were reported. Another flight hit the hangars and installations.

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 93:** The target was Alghero on the 20<sup>th</sup>, Alghero-Fertilia, unhit since the Porto Torres raid. Twenty-four aircraft led by Captain Helsabeck dropped fragmentation bombs across the Southwest, Northeast corners and the center of the field. Fires were reported. The runway was hit as were at least three separate dispersal areas. Some thirty multi-engined bombers were dispersed on the field.

Again it was very slight heavy and light flak through which they flew, although more was expected. Two sing-engined aircraft made no attempt to attack. All aircraft returned safely.

**A/C No. 1 probably 41-13077 "The Reluctant Dragon"** (later "Old Patch")  
(flight leader)

**P** *Helsabeck, Chester J. "Joe", Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Cunningham, Robert L., 1Lt*  
**N** *Colvin, Jay W., Jr., 1Lt*  
**B** *Upchurch, Jerry E., 1Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Lockhart, James H., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Davis, Elvin A., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Walker, James P., "Chief", Maj,*  
*Commander (observer)*

**A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified - may be "Skunk Hunter"**

**P** *Marsh, Edward D., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Wescott, Robert M., 1Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Keys, Paul R., 2Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Bosworth, William H., T/Sgt*  
**G** *McDonald, Donald E. "Mac", Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 2 probably 41-13094 "Seasweep"**

*Holley, James Taylor, 1Lt*  
*Butterfield, William M., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Connors, Charles L., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Glass, John D., S/Sgt*  
*Black, James F., Pvt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified - may be "Bad Seed"**

*Brock, James C., 1Lt*  
*Blaauw, Harold A., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Spencer, Ronald L., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Marrs, Horace S., S/Sgt*  
*Warlie, Roger Rickie, Pvt*  
*None*

**Thursday, 20 May 1943 (continued)**

	<b>A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified - may be "Mickey II"</b>		<b>A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Brennan, Samuel J., Jr., 1Lt</i>		<i>Smith, Merle E., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Southward, Thomas H., 2Lt</i>		<i>Koch, Richard J., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Herring, William S., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Versaw, Robert E., Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Smit, Richard F., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Temple, Robert W., Pvt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Davis, Robert M. "Slugger", S/Sgt</i>		<i>Ciampi, Francis (NMI), Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 7 aircraft unidentified (flight leader)</b>		<b>A/C No. 8 probably 41-13053 "Stormy Weather"</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Gshwandtner, Frank J. "Gish", Capt</i>		<i>Wheeler, William A. K., "Gus", 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Gena, Gerald M., 2Lt</i>		<i>Moulder, Robert W., F/O</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Doolittle, Leonard N., 1Lt</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Herold, Armin F., Jr., 1Lt</i>		<i>Swim, Lowell W., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Stilp, John P., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Mathis, Paul E., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Stage, Albert A., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Kirkland, Robert Olin "Kirk", S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>Karosen, Leon (NMI), 1Lt, HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG (observer)</i>		<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 9 aircraft unidentified - may be "Sweet Alice"</b>		<b>A/C No. 10 probably 41-13070 "Shanghi Lil"</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Bingham, Henry G., Jr., 1Lt</i>		<i>Canham, Arthur E., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Knight, Gerald R., 1Lt</i>		<i>Wilson, Kieth Gordon, 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Hartman, William J., 1Lt</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Queen, Kenneth E., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Vestal, Marion S., 2Lt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Martin, Robert J., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Rebello, John E., Jr., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Wink, Jacob A., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Myers, Loy G., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 11 probably 41-13083 "Old 83"</b>		<b>A/C No. 12 probably 41-13050 "Virginia Sturgeon"</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Beatty, John H., 1Lt</i>		<i>Peterson, Arthur C., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Buglass, Kenneth G., 2Lt</i>		<i>Purifoy, Lawrence Lloyd "Peter Plink", 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Basich, George F., 1Lt (observer)</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Naworski, Edward F., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Foley, Patrick L., Sr., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Bennett, Robert L., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Guilfoyle, Frederick J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Glover, Harold E., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Michalek, Joseph F., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Amirault, Osborne J., Sgt</i>

## Friday, 21 May 1943

### USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):

#### EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):

**In Italy**, during the night of 20/21 May, RAF Liberators, under operational control of IX Bomber Command, bomb Messina and Reggio di Calabria. During the day, B-24's hit Vila San Giovanni and Reggio di Calabria; gunners claim 4 fighters destroyed.

**In the Mediterranean**, P-40's fly sea patrol off the NE Tunisian coast.

#### WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):

**In Sardinia**, during the night of 20/21 May, Wellingtons hit Villacidro and Decimomannu Airfields and targets of opportunity. During the day, B-25's and B-26's bomb the same airfields.

**In the Mediterranean**, P-40's attack gun positions and targets of opportunity on Pantelleria Island.

**In Sicily**, B-17's hit hangars, repair shops, dispersal points, and a gun battery at Castelvetrano. HQ 52<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Group transfers from Le Sers, Tunisia to La Sebala, Tunisia. HQ 314<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group and its 32<sup>nd</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 61<sup>st</sup> Troop Carrier Squadrons with C-47's arrive at Berguent, French Morocco from the US. The 7<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, 62<sup>nd</sup> Troop Carrier Group transfers with C-47's from Nouvion, Algeria to Matemore, Algeria.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

#### **HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 94:**

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**Mission Report # 107, 21 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Commander: Lt. Col. Hinman. Flight Leaders: Capts. Allan, Cometh, Draemel and 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Hamilton.
  
2. At 1505 24 B-25-C's took off to Bomb Villacidro A/D. None returned  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target No. A/C  
  
early. 24 dropped 1656 X 20 frag bombs on target at 1700 from 8500-9900 ft.  
No. A/C No & Type Time Altitude



## Friday, 21 May 1943 (continued)

22 returned at 1830.  
No. A/C                      Time

3. RESULTS: 10-15 A/C were seen parked in NE corner of the field. These were large A/C. The dispersal area across the road to the SE of the field had many large A/C dispersed on it, mostly transport-bombers. Strings of bombs covered the assigned area, particularly in the N and E sections of the field. Believe gun position was knocked out bordering E edge of the field. Second flight with held its bombs dropping them in the SE dispersal area referred to above. Fires and black smoke were seen in the target area. Intense heavy flak and interception by enemy fighters made detailed observation impossible.
4. OBS: E/A--A large number of enemy fighters were seen over the target and many dog fights with the escorts were observed. Three fighters attacked the formation; two were driven off by the escorts and one was shot down by the bombers. At least one ME-109 was shot down by the escorts, but one crew reported four ME-109's as being shot down also by the escorts. Enemy fighters were reported to have followed the formation for approximately ten minutes after they left the target.  
Flak--Intense heavy flak, accurate as to both range and deflection was encountered at the target. Flak was reported as coming from the entire perimeter of the A/D. Positions were seen at foot of hills just NW of the target, at NE corner and another 3/4 mile NE of the field, 1/2 mile S of the field, another position N between A/D and river, and at the SW corner of the field. Some flak was reported as coming from the road just E of the A/D. Flak elsewhere was reported as being moderate heavy and accurate flak as to range and inaccurate as to deflection coming from 39 deg 22 min N, 8 deg 43 min E, 39 deg 17 min N, 8 deg 33 min E and from Portoscuso. One position at 39 deg 34 min N, 8 deg 41 min E on approaching the target.  
Ground--2 crews report possible permanent barrack area in vicinity of Gonna (39 deg 15 min N, 8 deg 29 min E) this was described as being 2 rows of buildings, fifteen in each row and 2 to 3 stories high. There were 3 such groups of buildings in this area. 2 crews report much RR activity at Portoscuso (39 deg 12 min N, 8 deg 23 min E.).  
Losses: Two B-25's were shot down by flak at the target. Four parachutes were seen to open.  
No messages were sent or received.  
Photos were taken and are being forwarded.
5. WEATHER: CAVU over target and on route.
6. PRESS DATA: S/Sgt. Palmer C. Melhus, 39386330, 2611 NE Rodney Ave., Portland, Oregon claims one ME-109 destroyed.

## Friday, 21 May 1943 (continued)

Twenty-four sorties flown 21/5/43.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** The morning of May 21<sup>st</sup> found all available personnel decked out in their class A uniforms to witness the issuing of Air Medals and Clusters to all authorized combat crew members. The ceremony was very brief due to the sudden assignment of a target.

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 94:** So with a very quick briefing and preparation 24 planes of the group were up and winging their way toward Villacidro A/D in Sardinia. The results were very good with 10 to 15 E/A parked in the NE corner well covered. Intense heavy flak was encountered over the target and the formation returned minus two crews. Lt. McCormick of the 380<sup>th</sup> was hit by flak over the target and exploded in mid-air. The 379<sup>th</sup> was also very unfortunate, for Lt. G. C. Beachum's ship met a similar fate. Our new Sq. Commanding Officer, Capt. Heston C. Daniel, after having recently attained his ambition, was among those lost. Those observing the unfortunate incident say that the right wing was shot off and the ship spun to earth. Although three parachutes were seen to open, it is undetermined as to who was able to leave the doomed plane. Some think that two of the chutes might have been S/Sgts. Dalmaso and Gower, gunner and radio-man respectively, of Lt. J. D. Lindh's crew. These two men bailed out over the target evidently thinking their ship had been hit because of the violent evasive action their pilot had to employ. The entire personnel of the squadron grieve the loss of Lt. G.C. Beachum and his crew, also Capt. Heston C. Daniel's mis-fortune, for he was very well liked and respected.

*McCormick, Robert J., II, 1Lt, pilot, 380<sup>th</sup> BS*

**A/C No. 1** *aircraft & crew unidentified*  
(flight leader)

**P** *Allan, John T., Capt*

**CP**

**N**

**B**

**E**

**R** *Marple, Louis F., T/Sgt*

**G** *Pagano, Salvatore A., S/Sgt*

**F**

**A/C No. 2** *aircraft & crew unidentified*

*Johnson, Kenneth M. "Ken", Capt*

**Friday, 21 May 1943 (continued)**

**P**  
**CP**  
**N**  
**B**  
**E**  
**R**  
**G**  
**F**

<i>A/C No. 3 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified (flight leader) probably “June Bug” Hamilton, Robert M. “Ham”, Capt</i>	<i>A/C No. 4 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified Holstead, James R., Capt</i>
<i>A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified (MACR- ? - shot down over target by AAA) Beachum, Graham C., 2Lt Smith, Donald M., 1Lt None DeBernardis, Alfred J., S/Sgt None Mencer, William O., S/Sgt Kitzero, Lester A., S/Sgt Daniel, Heston C., Capt, Commander (observer) A/C No. 7 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified Smith, Charles W., 2Lt</i>	<i>A/C No. 6 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified Leask, Bertram J., 2Lt A/C No. 8 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified Logan, Harry R., Jr., 2Lt</i>
<i>A/C No. 9 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified Grant, Isaac E., 2Lt</i>	<i>A/C No. 10 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified (two crewman bailed out over target) Lindh, Jack D., 2Lt  Gower, Robert F., S/Sgt Dalmaso, Louis (NMI), S/Sgt</i>

**Friday, 21 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 11 aircraft & crew unidentified**  
**P** *Bloesel, Raymond C., F/O*  
**CP**  
**N**  
**B**  
**E**  
**R**  
**G**  
**F**

**379<sup>th</sup> BS: Extracts from Missing Air Crew Report # ?:** (*MACR not available*)

**A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified (MACR-? - shot down over target by AAA)**  
**P** *Beachum, Graham C., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Smith, Donald M., 1Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *DeBernardis, Alfred J., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Mencer, William O., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Kitzero, Lester A., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Daniel, Heston C., Capt, Commander (observer)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** (*No non-mission information*)

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 94:**

Mission Report # 68

Date- May 21, 1943

Target- Villacidro Airdrome, Sardinia.

Squadron airplanes- twelve

Everything that makes for an exciting mission was there this afternoon with all the trimmings. The target was well outlined and the airplanes were seen parked on all corners of the field. The flak was heavy and intense and fighters swarmed up to greet us. The Group lost two airplanes to the intense flak, one of them being Lt. McCormick and his crew, the planes bursting into flames before it reached the ground. Four parachutes were seen to open, but whom they belonged to is not known. The humor of the chaos was when two men of the 379<sup>th</sup> Squadron became excited and: bailed out”, and the airplane went back home without a scratch.

The bombs well covered the dispersal areas and “dog-fights” were common in all directions, as we counted four fighters knocked down by our escort. One flak battery will not fire anymore and that is certain as his guns disappeared in smoke. Sgt. Melhus, with Capt. Cometh, claimed a ME-109 to the aim of his upper turret. Despite the flak and fighters, 22 of our ships came home to base.

## Friday, 21 May 1943 (continued)

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 1 aircraft unidentified</b> (flight leader)</p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Cometh, Lawrence (NMI), Capt</i></p> <p><b>CP</b> <i>Miller, James I., 2Lt</i></p> <p><b>N</b> <i>Huffman, Arnie J., 2Lt</i></p> <p><b>B</b> <i>Liverman, Ernest W. "Big Red", 2Lt</i></p> <p><b>E</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>R</b> <i>Mount, Robert J., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>G</b> <i>Melhus, Palmer C., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>F</b> <i>Wilder, Rodney R. "Hoss", Maj, Commander (observer)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 2 aircraft unidentified</b></p> <p><i>Cromartie, Harry L., Jr., 1Lt</i></p> <p><i>Wright, John E., 2Lt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Kechter, Harry H., T/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Smith, Eldon M., T/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>Kobasa, Joseph (NMI), S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 3 41-13096 "The Question Mark"</b> (MACR-14580 - shot down over target by AAA)</p> <p><b>P</b> <i>McCormick, Robert J., II, 1Lt</i></p> <p><b>CP</b> <i>Toenjes, Norman L., 1Lt</i></p> <p><b>N</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>B</b> <i>Richardson, David L., T/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>E</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>R</b> <i>Oliver, Frank R., Jr., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>G</b> <i>Leanza, Anthony (NMI), S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>F</b> <i>None</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified</b></p> <p><i>Batten, Earl E., Capt</i></p> <p><i>Shorsher, Fred A., 2Lt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Sessler, Howard A., Capt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Dackiewicz, John A., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>Szczesniak, Alfred A., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Stutts, Earl Leeman, 1Lt</i></p> <p><b>CP</b> <i>Steger, Edward H., Jr., 2Lt</i></p> <p><b>N</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>B</b> <i>Kessler, Paul E., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>E</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>R</b> <i>Barbieri, Edward D., Sgt</i></p> <p><b>G</b> <i>Janicki, Andrew J., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>F</b> <i>Hutchenrider, Willis E., Sgt</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified</b></p> <p><i>Amick, Cecil D., 1Lt</i></p> <p><i>Porter, Lloyd L., 2Lt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Longrie, Kenneth R., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Meyer, Albert J., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>Huffman, Herbert (NMI), S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 7 aircraft unidentified</b> (flight leader)</p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Draemel, Dean H., Capt</i></p> <p><b>CP</b> <i>Sours, Robert J., 2Lt</i></p> <p><b>N</b> <i>Kanode, Robert C., 1Lt</i></p> <p><b>B</b> <i>Mizerski, Richard C. "Bronco", 2Lt</i></p> <p><b>E</b> <i>None</i></p> <p><b>R</b> <i>Shambaugh, Robert M., T/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>G</b> <i>Williams, John A., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><b>F</b> <i>Dent, James J., Jr., Capt (observer)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 8 aircraft unidentified</b></p> <p><i>Santos, Carroll A., Jr., 1Lt</i></p> <p><i>Picklesimer, Marion L., 2Lt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Lively, Jake S., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p> <p><i>Smith, Teddy L., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>Redding, William D., S/Sgt</i></p> <p><i>None</i></p>

**Friday, 21 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 9 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Sacknoff, David A., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Folwell, Frank C., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Links, Albert G., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Wesline, Richard L., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Grace, John J., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 11 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Walcott, Albert R., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Benton, James H., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Grossman, Stanley R., Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Talley, Edwin C., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Fahey, Joseph E., Cpl*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 10 aircraft unidentified**

*Grow, Clyde L., Capt*  
*Hubbard, Jack W., 2Lt*  
*Coffey, John D., 2Lt*  
*Hall, Paul R., Jr., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Hill, Raiford B., T/Sgt*  
*Pintar, John L., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 12 aircraft unidentified**

*Rich, Robert S., 2Lt*  
*Goss, Ralph R., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Jastrzemski, Walter F., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Poknis, Paul A., S/Sgt*  
*Rodgers, Lamar F., Sgt*  
*None*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS: Extracts from Missing Air Crew Report # 14580:**

**A/C No. 41-13096 "The Question Mark" (MACR-14580 - shot down over target by AAA)**

**P** *McCormick, Robert J., II, 1Lt - POW, RMC*  
**CP** *Toenjes, Norman L., 1Lt - MIA, DED*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Richardson, David L., T/Sgt - MIA, DED*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Oliver, Frank R., Jr., S/Sgt - MIA, DED*  
**G** *Leanza, Anthony (NMI), S/Sgt - MIA, DED*  
**F** *None*

HEADQUARTERS, 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M), AAF, APO, 28 April 1944.

TO: COMMANDING GENERAL, 57<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing, APO 650, U.S. Army.

1. The combat crew of which First Lieutenant NORMAN L. TOENJES, 0-727807, was a member was as follows:

Robert J. McCormick, II	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt	0-790376	Pilot
Norman L. Toenjes	1 <sup>st</sup> Lt	0-727807	Co-Pilot
David L. Richardson	T/Sgt	6888349	Bombardier
Anthony (NMI) Leanza	S/Sgt	32340220	Turret Gunner
Frank R. Oliver	S/Sgt	69888818	Radio Gunner

**Friday, 21 May 1943 (continued)**

2. The pilot, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. ROBERT J. McCORMICK, II, 0790376, has been reported to this organization to be a Prisoner of War by letter, Headquarters, North African Theater of Operations, U.S. Army, subject: "Prisoners of War", file AG 383.6 (AM P/W) - C, dated 17 December 1943. No additional information has been received concerning the other members of the crew, and they are being carried as Missing In Action on the records of this Group.

3. The target of the mission on which Lieutenant TOENJES became a casualty was Villacidro Airdrome, Sardinia. The bombing run was made through intense, heavy flak, and two of the aircraft of this Group were hit. In addition, two crew members of a third aircraft bailed out over the target area. Conflicting reports indicate that either the right engine or the right gasoline tank of the plane on which Lieutenant TOENJES was co-pilot was burning, and that it made a seemingly uncontrolled crash landing. It hit the ground Southeast of the target area. Four parachutes were seen to open over the target area, but it was impossible to determine from which of the three aircraft heretofore mentioned they were.

4. The Missing Air Crew Report having not yet been instituted as of the date of this casualty, the foregoing information has been taken from this Group's Intelligence Report of 21 May 1943.

5. Lieutenant TOENJES' WD AGO Form No. 65-1 was subsequently found by a civilian in Sardinia, near the wreckage of a crashed airplane, and returned to the Squadron of which he was a member for distribution as part of his personal effects.

For the Commanding Officer:

JOHN F. HONE,  
Capt, AC,  
Adjutant.

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380<sup>th</sup> BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON  
310<sup>th</sup> BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
OFFICE OF THE OPERATIONS OFFICER  
APO 650

4 June 1945

MISSING AIR CREW REPORT  
AIRCRAFT NUMBER - 41-13096  
PILOT - Ast Lt Robert J. McCormick, II  
A.S.N. 0-790376

Par. 15 - Description of Circumstances Pertaining to Missing Aircraft.

## Friday, 21 May 1943 (continued)

The entire formation was on the bomb run, our element a hundred feet higher and several hundred yards right of the lead element of which Lt McCormick was No. 2 ship. As our bombs were leaving our ship I looked toward the lead element to watch for their turn. Just as their bombs were dropping, a shell burst in the right wing of Lt McCormick's ship. There was a burst of orange flame, the ship dropped slowly below the element and the outer wing section flew off. The whole side of the ship became a sheet of flame and the plane went into a spinning dive to the right. I last saw it going straight downward enveloped in a mass of flame. A few seconds later a column of black smoke rose above the Villacidro A/D where I presumed the plane to have crashed. I saw no chutes, nor anyone leave the stricken ship.

ROBERT C. KANODE,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
A.S.N. 0-790964





## Friday, 21 May 1943 (continued)

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 94:**  
*(381<sup>st</sup> BS did not participate)*

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Combat crews were awarded their Air Medals and Oak Leaf Clusters in a formal ceremony. Presentations were made by Major Walker. The troops later passed in review. Villacidro Airdrome was the target at noon with 1 428<sup>th</sup> ship in the formation. Frags were dropped on about 10 or 15 planes.

*Walker, James P. "Chief" Maj, pilot, Commander*

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 94:** Villacidro airdrome received a load of frags on the 21<sup>st</sup>, but it was costly to the group. Intense, accurate, heavy flak in the target cost us two airplanes and crews, Lt. McCormick of the 380<sup>th</sup> and Lt. Beachum of the 379<sup>th</sup>.

*Beachum, Graham C., 2Lt, pilot, 379<sup>th</sup> BS*

*McCormick, Robert J., II, 1Lt, pilot, 380<sup>th</sup> BS*

The Eastern half of the airdrome, our target in a coordinated effort with the 321<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group was particularly well hit on the Northern side. One gun position was silenced. The Southeast dispersal area was hit by one flight. At least twenty-five aircraft were seen on the target. Fires and black smoke obscured observation.

One of a large number of intercepting Axis fighters was destroyed by the formation. At least four more were put away by the escort. The enemy Aircraft followed the formation hoping for a straggler. The radio operator and aerial gunner of Lindh's ship (379<sup>th</sup>) bailed out of his craft when evasive action became so violent that it seemed the ship was out of control.

*Dalmaso, Louis (NMI), S/Sgt, gunner, 379<sup>th</sup> BS*

*Gower, Robert F., S/Sgt, radio-gunner, 379<sup>th</sup> BS*

*Lindh, Jack D., 2Lt, pilot, 379<sup>th</sup> BS*

**A/C No. 1 probably 41-13094**

**"Seasweep"**

**P** *Holley, James Taylor, 1Lt*  
**CP** *Butterfield, William M., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Connors, Charles L., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Glass, John D., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Black, James F., Pvt*  
**F** *None*

**Saturday, 22 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In the Mediterranean,** P-40's fly sea patrol off NE Tunisia.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Sicily,** as a diversion for a convoy passing off Sicily during the night of 21/22 May, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) Wellingtons fly intrusion missions dropping bombs on Castelvetrano, Sciacca, Milo, and Bo Rizzo Airfields.

**In the Mediterranean,** Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) fighters fly convoy escort. The 60<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, 33<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Group transfers with P-40's from Ebba Ksour, Tunisia to Menzel Termime, Tunisia. The 93<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Squadron, 81<sup>st</sup> Fighter Group transfers with P-39's from Bone, Algeria to Monastir, Tunisia. The 346<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, 350<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group transfers with P-39's from Orleansville, Algeria to Maison Blanche, Algeria.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** May 22<sup>nd</sup> Capt. Earl E. Batten, 380<sup>th</sup>, was reassigned to 379<sup>th</sup> as Commanding Officer.

*Batten, Earl E., Capt, pilot, Commander*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Changed the Orderly Tent around for a different appearance. Had a small shower which was most welcome.

**Sunday, 23 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In the Mediterranean,** P-40's fly convoy escort off Tunisia.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In the Mediterranean,** Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) B-25's and B-26's bomb the docks and airfield on Pantelleria Island and P-40's attack gun positions on the island.

**In Italy,** P-38's attack the zinc works at Iglesias and Carloforte harbor on San Pietro Island. The 91<sup>st</sup> Fighter Squadron, 81<sup>st</sup> Fighter Group transfers with P-39's from Bone, Algeria to Sfax, Tunisia.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No news.

## Monday, 24 May 1943

### USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):

#### EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):

**In Italy**, B-24's hit the Villa San Giovanni ferry slip and railroad yards, and ferry terminal and a nearby tanker at Reggio di Calabria. The 45<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, 316<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group transfers with C-47's from Libya to Nouvion, Algeria.

#### WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):

**In the Mediterranean**, during the night of 23/24 May, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) Wellingtons bomb the harbor and airfield at Pantelleria Island. During the day, NASAF and Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) fighters follow with more attacks on the airfield.

**In Sardinia**, P-40's, P-38's, B-25's, B-26's and B-17's, bomb targets including Carloforte harbor, factories, hangars, and oil dump at Alghero and the seaplane base at Porto Conte, the railroad bridge at Arbatax, the area near Macomer, the town of Iglesias, the harbor at La Maddalena Island, harbor, warehouses, and dump at Terranova, and the airfield at Olbia.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 95:**

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**Mission Report # 108, 24 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Leaders: Capt. Cometh, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Thorndike, Capts. Helsabeck, Gshwandtner.

2. At 1145 36 B-25-C's took off to Bomb Olbia-Venafiorita L/G. None  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target No. A/C

returned early. 36 dropped 2484 X 20 frag bombs on target at 1413 from  
No. A/C No & Type Time

8500-11200 ft. 36 returned at 1630.  
Altitude No. A/C Time

## Monday, 24 May 1943 (continued)

3. RESULTS: 15-20 A/C were seen dispersed on the L/G. Approximately six A/C were reported on the SW corner, four in the SE corner, seven to nine in the NE corner and three to four on the W side of the field. All corners of the field as well as the center were well covered by bombs, and A/C parked in these areas were believed to be either severely damaged or destroyed. One direct hit was reported on an ME-323. Bombs fell among buildings in the SE corner and two large fires were reported as a result of this bombing.
4. OBS: E/A--6-8 engaged the last flight of the formation over the target, diving head on into the formation and circling to make the attack from 5-6 o'clock. These were reported as being ME-109's, Macchi 200's and one RE-2001. One Macchi 200 was destroyed by the bombers. Another enemy fighter was probably destroyed and two others either destroyed or severely damaged. Camouflage--ME-109's had white spinners with black fuselage half way between cockpit and tail. The RE-2001 was reported as being mottle-green with black and white Italian emblem and silver spinner.

Flak--Moderate to intense and accurate flak was reported at the target. Most of this flak came from the harbor area. A four-gun position was observed just N of the harbor on the shore at 40 deg 56 min N, 9 deg 35 min E; 8 guns were reported just N of the N jetty in the harbor and one 4-gun position just W of the town. Some flak came from M/V's anchored in the harbor. One battery was reported one mile NW of the L/G. Specific gun positions on the field were not determined. Both heavy and light, slight flak, inaccurate as to range and deflection was experienced from a dam at Lake Coghinas at 40 deg 47 min N, 9 deg 4 min E. Another heavy position was seen in the vicinity of a bridge at 40 deg 46 min N, 9 deg 9 min E. Just before leaving land at 40 deg 23 min N, 8 deg 25 min E, heavy moderate and inaccurate flak was reported. Machine gun fire was experienced at 40 deg 42 min N, 8 deg 48 min E. Naval--7-8 M/V's and seven smaller craft reported as fishing vessels or barges were observed in Olbia harbor. Three of the M/V's were reported as being very large. One of these vessels was anchored to the dock in the inner harbor and the others were anchored at 40 deg 54 min N, 9 deg 37 min E. One crew reported one large M/V steaming out of Fertilia harbor. 10-12 S/P's were also anchored in Olbia harbor. No messages sent or received.

Photos were taken and are being forwarded.

5. WEATHER: En Route; 3/10 strato-cumulus at 10,000 feet, haze over water, visibility unlimited. At the target; 3/10 stratus at 15-20000 feet, visibility 8-10 miles.
6. PRESS DATA: John Edward White, S/Sgt. 376 ½ East Main Street, Columbus, Ohio claims destroyed one Macchi 200.

## Monday, 24 May 1943 (continued)

Thirty-six sorties flown 24/5/43.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** May 24<sup>th</sup> New crews were assigned to the 379<sup>th</sup> Squadron

<b>P</b>	<i>Hastings, Herbert L., 2Lt</i>	<i>Carpenter, Jesse L., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Lathrop, Gerald T., F/O</i>	<i>Schnack, John H., 2Lt</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Beers, George H., 2Lt</i>	<i>Park, Jackson W., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>Iverson, Lewis B., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Nigh, Walter L., S/Sgt</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Rund, Jack (NMI), S/Sgt</i>	<i>Kuhn, Henry N., Jr., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Franklin, Willie P., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Miller, Laddie T., S/Sgt</i>

New changes in the T/O were made on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

Capt. *George R.* Houk was appointed Squadron Executive Officer

Lt Wiley D. Hartley was appointed Squadron Adjutant and Mess Officer.

Lt Thomas W., Barrineau was relieved of his duties with the Squadron.

Lt Paul (*NMI*) Devlin was appointed Squadron Armament, Bombsight and Turret Officer.

Capt. *Donovan W.* Rulien appointed Squadron Bombardier and Camouflage Officer.

Lt *Laverne B.* Johnson was appointed Squadron Navigator.

Capt. *William R.* Pound *Jr.* transferred to Group as Group Navigator.

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 95:** On May 24<sup>th</sup>, a Macchi 200 was added to the list of enemy aircraft victories of the 310<sup>th</sup> Group when S/Sgt. John E. White caught him in his sights and knocked him into the water. This happened when 36 planes of the group were over Olbia-Venafiorita L/G in Sardinia. 15 to 20 E/A were either destroyed or damaged when bombs covered the NE and SW dispersal areas where they were parked. One large 6 engine ME-323, parked along the W. Taxi strip, was destroyed by a direct hit. 6 to 8 E/A attacked the last flight of the formation over the target with the result of one Macchi 200 being destroyed by the bombers. All planes returned safely to base in spite of E/A and moderate heavy flak encountered over the target.

	<i>A/C No. 1 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>	<i>A/C No. 2 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>
<b>P</b>	<i>Leask, Bertram J., 2Lt</i>	<i>Grant, Isaac E., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>		
<b>N</b>		
<b>B</b>		
<b>E</b>		
<b>R</b>		
<b>G</b>		
<b>F</b>		

## Monday, 24 May 1943 (continued)

	<i>A/C No. 3 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>	<i>A/C No. 4 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</i>
<b>P</b>	<i>Logan, Harry R., Jr., 2Lt</i>	<i>Rogers, Harold E., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>		
<b>N</b>		
<b>B</b>		
<b>E</b>		
<b>R</b>		
<b>G</b>		
<b>F</b>		

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 95:**

Mission Report # 69

Date- May 24, 1943

Target- Olbia-Venafiorita Airdrome, Sardinia.

Squadron airplanes- ten

Flak of all sorts and descriptions was thrown at us today. Machine gun fire, medium flak and heavy flak from boats and barges and harbor installations as well as the batteries at the field, but excellent flying and evasive action brought the ships back without a scratch. The boys also claimed one MA-200, knocked down by the upper turret, while the cross fire kept the other fighters at a safe distance.

Our fragmentation bombs well covered the landing ground and a direct hit was seen on a ME-323, which burst into flames. Some bombs also fell in the barracks area and two large columns of smoke could be seen rising into the ozone.

Why the Axis paint their airplanes in such gaudy colors is beyond us, but for a while we thought we had tangled with a rainbow. The color seems to have very little protective qualities against .50 caliber bullets.

	<i>A/C No. 1 aircraft unidentified (flight leader)</i>	<i>A/C No. 2 aircraft unidentified</i>
<b>P</b>	<i>Cometh, Lawrence (NMI), Capt</i>	<i>Stutts, Earl Leeman, 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Miller, James I., 2Lt</i>	<i>Wright, John E., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Huffman, Arnie J., 2Lt</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Liverman, Ernest W. "Big Red", 2Lt</i>	<i>Kessler, Paul E., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Mount, Robert J., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Barbieri, Edward D., Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Melhus, Palmer C., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Janicki, Andrew J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>Wilder, Rodney R. "Hoss", Maj, Commander (observer)</i>	<i>Hutchenrider, Willis E., Sgt</i>

**Monday, 24 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified**

**P** Sacknoff, David A., 1Lt  
**CP** Shorsher, Fred A., 2Lt  
**N** None  
**B** Sessler, Howard A., Capt  
**E** None  
**R** Wesline, Richard L., T/Sgt  
**G** Grace, John J., S/Sgt  
**F** None

**A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified**

**P** Rice, Rice, Carl E., 2Lt  
**CP** Drew, Edward A., 2Lt  
**N** None  
**B** Donahue, Francis E., S/Sgt  
**E** None  
**R** Alexander, Phillip D., Pvt  
**G** Thomas, Cyril L., S/Sgt  
**F** None

**A/C No. 7 aircraft unidentified**

**P** Santos, Carroll A., Jr., 1Lt  
**CP** Faulds, Vincent R., 2Lt  
**N** None  
**B** Lively, Jake S., S/Sgt  
**E** None  
**R** Smith, Teddy L., S/Sgt  
**G** Redding, William D., S/Sgt  
**F** None

**A/C No. 9 aircraft unidentified**

**P** Grow, Clyde L., Capt  
**CP** Hubbard, Jack W., 2Lt  
**N** Coffey, John D., 2Lt  
**B** Hall, Paul R., Jr., 2Lt  
**E** None  
**R** Hill, Raiford B., T/Sgt  
**G** Pintar, John L., S/Sgt  
**F** None

**A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified**

Walcott, Albert R., 2Lt  
Benton, James H., 2Lt  
None  
Links, Albert G., S/Sgt  
None  
Talley, Edwin C., T/Sgt  
Fahey, Joseph E., Cpl  
None

**A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified**

Draemel, Dean H., Capt  
Sours, Robert J., 2Lt  
Kanode, Robert C., 1Lt  
Mizerski, Richard C. "Bronco", 2Lt  
None  
Shambaugh, Robert M., T/Sgt  
Williams, John A., S/Sgt  
None

**A/C No. 8 aircraft unidentified**

Amick, Cecil D., 1Lt  
Porter, Lloyd L., 2Lt  
None  
Longrie, Kenneth R., S/Sgt  
None  
Meyer, Albert J., S/Sgt  
Huffman, Herbert (NMI), S/Sgt  
None

**A/C No. 10 aircraft unidentified**

Picklesimer, Marion L., 2Lt  
Folwell, Frank C., 2Lt  
None  
Grossman, Stanley R., Sgt  
None  
Dackiewicz, John A., S/Sgt  
Szczesniak, Alfred A., S/Sgt  
None



## Monday, 24 May 1943 (continued)

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 95:  
OLBIA-VENAFIORITA A/D, SARDINIA**

Group Mission # 95	4 Flights 6 B-25's each
Sqdrn. Mission # 69	Escort 18 P-38's.
Take Off 22:45	Bomb Load: (72 x 20) Frags
Target 14:13	Bombs Dropped: 11 (72 x 20), 7,920#
Down 16:30	Average Altitude: 9,800 feet.
Total Time: 4 Hrs. 45 Min.	

Weather: CAVU, haze over water, high thin cirrus.

REMARKS: The target area was well covered. Three aircraft were visible on the field, two of which burst into flames. Flak was moderate and in general inaccurate, although there were several near bursts.

Six to eight enemy aircraft, RE-2001's and ME109's attacked the formation, filling Lt. Denton's aircraft with twenty holes. Capt. Coddington's aircraft received one hole. S/Sgt. J.E. White destroyed one ME-109. S/Sgt. F.E. Miller probably destroyed one RE-2001 and one ME-109. S/Sgt. M.L. Bozovich was credited with one ME-109.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Flight:**

	<b>A/C No. 41-29985 (C)</b>	<b>A/C No. 41-13061 "Lil Joe" (A) (flight leader)</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Houghtaling, Harold A., F/O</i>	<i>Thorndike, Robert W., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Anderson, George (NMI), 1Lt</i>	<i>Evans, George N., 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>Hickman, James G., 1Lt</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Gawron, Joseph (NMI), S/Sgt</i>	<i>Supple, Gilbert J., Capt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>VanKosky, Wilbur J., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Boone, Edward W. W., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Turville, Robert Lamar, Sgt</i>	<i>Molnar, William J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 42-53444 "PUNJAB" (B)</b>	<b>A/C No. 42-32333 "Lorelei" (F)</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Stecher, Robert Walter, 1Lt</i>	<i>Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Cox, Harold E., 2Lt</i>	<i>Dauley, Charles G., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Guyer, Stanley P., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Walsh, Richard J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Marrall, Russell M., Sgt</i>	<i>Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Palicki, Daniel E., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

**Monday, 24 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 41-13052 "TABOO" (G)**

**P** *VanDivort, Richard (NMI), 1Lt*  
**CP** *Bitter, Irwin S., 1Lt*  
**N** *Forbes, Robert L., 2Lt*  
**B** *Myers, John H., 1Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Chaffins, Ray (NMI), T/Sgt*  
**G** *Nelson, Forest S., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-29955 (E)**

*Therrien, Robert W., 2Lt*  
*Durgin, James L., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Rogers, Lee C., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Szymik, Emil (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*Kim, Daniel (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*None*

**4<sup>th</sup> Flight:**

**A/C No. 41-13085 "Green Hornet"  
(D)**

**P** *Coddington, Walter E., Capt*  
**CP** *Ramsey, Thomas Upton, 2Lt*  
**N** *Renton, Walter C., Jr., 2Lt*  
**B** *Hornung, Willard R., 2Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Thomas, Quentin W., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Moxey, Orville E., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-29962 (E)**

*Denton, Richard D., 2Lt*  
*Hanna, Malcolm C., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Miller, Foster C., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Potolsky, George (NMI), T/Sgt*  
*Miller, Foster Eugene, S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 42-53445 "Lottie's Goose" (J)**

**P** *Campbell, Martin H., Jr., F/O*  
**CP** *Baisch, Joseph M., III, 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Grossi, Frank L., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Standish, Beverly R., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Sigafoos, James F., Jr., Sgt*  
**F** *Rea, Willis L., Cpl*

**A/C No. 41- 13074 "Balls of Fire" /  
"Royal Flush" (G)**

*Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt*  
*Cook, Walter E., F/O*  
*None*  
*Daly, Donald J., T/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Swanson, William M., T/Sgt*  
*Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 41-29980 (H)**

**P** *Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Burt, Norman A., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Douglas, Edward (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Budde, Walter H., T/Sgt*  
**G** *White, John Edward, S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Olbia/Venafiorita Landing Ground, Sardinia was bombed with frags. 15-20 aircraft were in the dispersal area. The field was well covered with bomb bursts. 8 enemy aircraft engaged the formation but were driven off by the escort.

## Monday, 24 May 1943 (continued)

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 95:** The next airdrome on the black list was Olbia-Venafiorita in Sardinia on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May. Fifteen to twenty aircraft were dispersed on the landing ground. Thirty-six dropped 2,484 frag bombs in the four corner areas and the center. A few aircraft were dispersed in each of these general areas. One direct hit was reported on an ME-323. Two large fires burst forth from buildings in the Southeast corner of the drome as a result of hits.

Six to eight enemy aircraft engaged the last flight of the formation. One of their number was shot down just after the target with no loss to the bombers.

Moderate to intense and accurate flak resulted in the slight damage of a few aircraft of our bunch, but all bombers returned safely.

**A/C No. 1 probably 41-13077 "The Reluctant Dragon"** (later "Old Patch")  
(flight leader)

**P** *Helsabeck, Chester J. "Joe", Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Cunningham, Robert L., 1Lt*  
**N** *Colvin, Jay W., Jr., 1Lt*  
**B** *Upchurch, Jerry E., 1Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Lockhart, James H., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Davis, Elvin A., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Walker, James P., "Chief", Maj, Commander (observer)*

**A/C No. 3 probably 41-13094 "Seasweep"**

**P** *Holley, James Taylor, 1Lt*  
**CP** *Butterfield, William M., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Connors, Charles L., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Glass, John D., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Ciampi, Francis (NMI), Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 5 probably 41-13070 "Shanghi Lil"**

**P** *Canham, Arthur E., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Wilson, Kieth Gordon, 1Lt*  
**N** *Hartman, William J., 1Lt*  
**B** *Vestal, Marion S., 2Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Rebello, John E., Jr., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Myers, Loy G., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 2 aircraft unidentified - may be "Bad Seed"**

*Brock, James C., 1Lt*  
*Blaauw, Harold A., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Spencer, Ronald L., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Marrs, Horace S., S/Sgt*  
*Warlie, Roger Rickie, Pvt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified - may be "Skunk Hunter"**

*Marsh, Edward D., 1Lt*  
*Wescott, Robert M., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Keys, Paul R., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Bosworth, William H., T/Sgt*  
*McDonald, Donald E. "Mac", Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 6 probably 41-13083 "Old 83"**

*Loutrel, John McCluney, 1Lt*  
*Buglass, Kenneth G., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Naworski, Edward F., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Bennett, Robert L., T/Sgt*  
*Glover, Harold E., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**Monday, 24 May 1943 (continued)**

	<b>A/C No. 7 probably 41-13050 "Virginia Sturgeon"</b>	<b>A/C No. 8 aircraft unidentified (flight leader)</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Peterson, Arthur C., 1Lt</i>	<i>Gshwandtner, Frank J. "Gish", Capt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Purifoy, Lawrence Lloyd "Peter Plink", 2Lt</i>	<i>Gena, Gerald M., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>Doolittle, Leonard N., 1Lt</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Foley, Patrick L., Sr., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Herold, Armin F., Jr., 1Lt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Guilfoyle, Frederick J., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Stilp, John P., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Michalek, Joseph F., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Stage, Albert A., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>Reed, Robert H., Cpl</i>	<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 9 probably 41-13053 "Stormy Weather"</b>	<b>A/C No. 10 aircraft unidentified - may be "Sweet Alice"</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Wheeler, William A. K., "Gus", 1Lt</i>	<i>Bingham, Henry G., Jr., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Moulder, Robert W., F/O</i>	<i>Knight, Gerald R., 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Swim, Lowell W., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Queen, Kenneth E., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Mathis, Paul E., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Martin, Robert J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Kirkland, Robert Olin "Kirk", S/Sgt</i>	<i>Wink, Jacob A., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

**Tuesday, 25 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):** B-24's attack the Messina, Italy ferry docks and railroad yards.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Sardinia**, during the night of 24/25 May, Wellingtons bomb the docks and marshalling yard at Olbia. Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) fighters, medium and heavy bombers bomb Portoscuso, Porto Empedocle, Boccadifalco Airfield, Licata harbor, and Milo Airfield.

**In the Mediterranean**, Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) and NASAF P-40's and B-25's hit the airfield, shipping, and military concentrations on Pantelleria Island.

**In Italy**, NASAF fighter, medium and heavy bombers bomb Terranova, a tunnel near Macomer, and Messina.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** May 25<sup>th</sup> was a day of rest for the 379<sup>th</sup>, nevertheless it was a sad day. Capt. John T. Allan was transferred to the 47<sup>th</sup> Wing. The above pages are filled with references that assert his valor, merit, and combat worth. He led our squadron in its first combat experience and his name ranks at the tops of the roll that has made the 310<sup>th</sup> Group the remarkable fighting unit it has been. A large portion of the medium bomber tactics used in this theatre are a direct result of the experience gained in the missions he led, many of which were tactical experiments. The record itself can never sufficiently reveal his traits as a man, friend, and chum. In spite of his unusual military achievements, we miss the man, more than we miss the soldier.

*Allan, John T., Capt, pilot*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Started to break squadron into Echelons again. All crates and equipment to be stenciled.

## Wednesday, 26 May 1943

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):** No Entry

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Sardinia,** Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) medium and heavy bombers hit the airfields at Ponte Olivo, Biscari, and Comiso. P-38's hit Porto Ponte Romano shipping, and Villacidro Airfield.

**In the Mediterranean,** NASAF P-40's attack gun emplacements, trucks, and troops on the SE coast of Pantelleria Island. Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) P-40's also bomb Pantelleria.

**In Italy,** NASAF P-38's hit the Tirso power dam and the Golfo Aranci harbor. HQ 81<sup>st</sup> Fighter Group transfers from Algeria to Monastir, Tunisia.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 96:**

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**Mission Report # 109, 26 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Leaders: Capt. Gshwandtner, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Marsh, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. VanDivort, Capt. Coddington.

2. At 0930 24 B-25-C's took off to Bomb Gela-Ponte Olivo A/D. None  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target No. A/C

returned early. 24 dropped 1728 X 20 lb frag bombs on target at 1155 from  
No. A/C No & Type Time

8500 - 9900 ft. 36 returned at 1440.  
Altitude No. A/C Time

3. RESULTS: The entire portion of the field S of the runway, including the revetments and dispersal area along the S edge of the field were well covered by bombs. Some bombs fell across the runway from S to N hitting at least 7 A/C parked on both sides of the runway and starting several fires in the center of the field. 30-35 A/C were seen dispersed about the field and in the revetments. One very large A/C, possibly and ME-323 was observed in the W corner of the field. The greater portion of these planes were medium size.

## Wednesday, 26 May 1943 (continued)

4. OBS: E/A--One crew reported 2-3 E/A dogfighting with the escort in the target area. Flak--Slight heavy flak inaccurate as to range and deflection was experienced at the target . One position of heavy was reported on the NW side of the field. Three to four bursts of heavy came from a small wooded section 2 miles SW of the field. Moderate, light and inaccurate flak was also encountered at the target. One crew reported a light position of 5 guns just off the NW side of the runway. Elsewhere, heavy and light flak came from road at 37 deg 7 min N, 14 deg 14 min E.  
Shipping--One crew reported seeing 22, what appeared to be barges, beached along the coast at Gela, 37 deg 5 min N, 14 deg 15 min E, at 1210 hours.  
Ground--A large M/T convoy seen heading S on road to the sea at 36 deg 56 min N, 14 deg 30 min E at 1155 hours was reported by one crew.  
Losses--One B-25, thought to have been hit by flak at target, landed in the sea. One navigator pinpointed its position at 36 deg 50 min N, 13 deg 35 min E. Air Sea Rescue procedure was followed.  
Photos were taken and are being forwarded.
5. WEATHER: Base to coast 3/10 coverage at 7000 ft., visibility 8 miles. Over water 3/10 at 5000 ft., very hazy, visibility 5 miles. Scattered cumulus at the target.
6. PRESS DATA: none.

Twenty-four sorties flown 26/5/43.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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### **379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 96:** The target for May 26<sup>th</sup> was the Gela-Ponte Olivo A/D in southern Sicily. 24 planes of the group delivered a load of frags for the first calling-card of the AAF on this A/D. Though the bomb patterns were good, the southern edge of the field was being well covered, several fires were observed in the center of the field, and the runway was well covered, yet it seemed one of those days when things were bracketed and direct hits few. Some 30 to 35 E/A were well dispersed about the field including a ME-323. Damage estimates were rather nebulous and indeterminate. Although the flak was reported as slight heavy and inaccurate, one B-25, piloted by Lt. Stecher of the luckless 381<sup>st</sup> was forced to land at sea perhaps 50 miles from Sicily. The Air-Sea Rescue Service deemed it too close to enemy territory to attempt a search.

**Wednesday, 26 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 1 aircraft & crew unidentified**

**P** *Rogers, Harold E., 2Lt*  
**CP**  
**N**  
**B**  
**E**  
**R**  
**G**  
**F**

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 96:**

Mission Report # 70

Date- May 26, 1943

Target- Ponte-Olivo Airdrome, Sicily

Squadron airplanes- three

Although we thought Adolph had learned his lesson by now, we still continued to catch his aircraft parked along the lanes and again today, seven direct hits were scored on these medium sized ships. Fires broke out in the center of the field and dust clouds, from explosions could be seen covering the revetments where other planes were parked.

Some dogfights occurred between the escort and some fighters despite the heavy cloud of flak over the target. We lost one airplane someplace off the Sicilian coast on the return route, and as far as we know he is still missing. The ship belonged to the 381<sup>st</sup> Squadron.

The remainder of the planes came home safely.

**A/C No. 1 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Rice, Rice, Carl E., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Drew, Edward A., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Donahue, Francis E., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Alexander, Phillip D., Pvt*  
**G** *Thomas, Cyril L., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 2 aircraft unidentified**

*Amick, Cecil D., 1Lt*  
*Porter, Lloyd L., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Longrie, Kenneth R., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Meyer, Albert J., S/Sgt*  
*Huffman, Herbert (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Santos, Carroll A., Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Faulds, Vincent R., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Lively, Jake S., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Smith, Teddy L., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Redding, William D., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*



## Wednesday, 26 May 1943 (continued)

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 96:**

GELA / PONTE OLIVO A/D, SICILY

Group Mission # 96	2 Flights 12 B-25's each
Sqdrn. Mission # 70	Escort 24 P-38's.
Take Off 09:30	Bomb Load: (12 x 72) Frags
Target 11:55	Bombs Dropped: 11 (12 x 72), 9,504#
Down 14:40	Average Altitude: 9,200 Ft.
Total Time: 5 Hrs. 10 Min.	

Weather: CAVU. Three cloud layers observed on route and on return.

REMARKS: Eight to ten fires were started among the aircraft parked on the airrome. No enemy aircraft were observed in the air. Flak was heavy and light, with only slight accuracy.

After leaving the target, Lt. Stecher called for assistance from the Air-Sea Rescue Service, saying that his aircraft, with one engine out, was losing altitude. Hearing his call, Lt. VanDivort circled, but a low cloud layer prevented him from sighting Lt. Stecher's ship. The P-38's gave their usual good protection, which they offer to anyone falling behind, but their pilots afterwards gave conflicting reports as to the number of men seen in the water.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Flight:**

**A/C No. 41-13061 "Lil Joe" (C)**

**P** *Donnovan, Gerald M., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Flake, Ray M., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Rogers, Lee C., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Dittmar, Francis A., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Bowden, Scott T., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-29969 (B)**

**P** *Therrien, Robert W., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Durgin, James L., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Dombkowski, Stanley F., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Szymik, Emil (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**G** *Kim, Daniel (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13052 "TABOO" (A)**  
(flight leader)

*VanDivort, Richard (NMI), 1Lt*  
*Bitter, Irwin S., 1Lt*  
*Forbes, Robert L., 2Lt*  
*Myers, John H., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Chaffins, Ray (NMI), T/Sgt*  
*Nelson, Forest S., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 41-29980 (F)**

*Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt*  
*Burt, Norman A., F/O*  
*None*  
*Douglas, Edward (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Budde, Walter H., T/Sgt*  
*White, John Edward, S/Sgt*  
*None*

**Wednesday, 26 May 1943 (continued)**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41- 13074 “Balls of Fire” / “Royal Flush” (D)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt</i> <b>CP</b> <i>Cook, Walter E., F/O</i> <b>N</b> <i>None</i> <b>B</b> <i>Daly, Donald J., T/Sgt</i> <b>E</b> <i>None</i> <b>R</b> <i>Swanson, William M., T/Sgt</i> <b>G</b> <i>Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt</i> <b>F</b> <i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 42-53451 “Worth Fighting For” (J) (borrowed from 380<sup>th</sup> BS)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Houghtaling, Harold A., F/O</i> <b>CP</b> <i>Anderson, George (NMI), 1Lt</i> <b>N</b> <i>None</i> <b>B</b> <i>Gawron, Joseph (NMI), S/Sgt</i> <b>E</b> <i>None</i> <b>R</b> <i>VanKosky, Wilbur J., S/Sgt</i> <b>G</b> <i>Turville, Robert Lamar, Sgt</i> <b>F</b> <i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 42-53446 “Patricia Ann” (H)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Denton, Richard D., 2Lt</i> <b>CP</b> <i>Hanna, Malcolm C., 2Lt</i> <b>N</b> <i>None</i> <b>B</b> <i>Miller, Foster C., S/Sgt</i> <b>E</b> <i>None</i> <b>R</b> <i>Potolsky, George (NMI), T/Sgt</i> <b>G</b> <i>Miller, Foster Eugene, S/Sgt</i> <b>F</b> <i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 42-53444 “PUNJAB” (B) (MACR-32 - shot down by AAA)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Stecher, Robert Walter, 1Lt</i> <b>CP</b> <i>Cox, Harold E., 2Lt</i> <b>N</b> <i>None</i> <b>B</b> <i>Guyer, Stanley P., S/Sgt</i> <b>E</b> <i>None</i> <b>R</b> <i>Marrall, Russell M., Sgt</i> <b>G</b> <i>Palicki, Daniel E., S/Sgt</i> <b>F</b> <i>None</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41-29962 (E)</b></p> <p><i>Campbell, Martin H., Jr., F/O</i> <i>Baisch, Joseph M., III, 2Lt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Grossi, Frank L., S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Standish, Beverly R., S/Sgt</i> <i>Sigafoos, James F., Jr., Sgt</i> <i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41-13070 “Shanghi Lil” (D) (flight leader)</b></p> <p><i>Coddington, Walter E., Capt</i> <i>Ramsey, Thomas Upton, 2Lt</i> <i>Renton, Walter C., Jr., 2Lt</i> <i>Hornung, Willard R., 2Lt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Thomas, Quentin W., T/Sgt</i> <i>Moxey, Orville E., S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 42-32333 “Lorelei” (K)</b></p> <p><i>Wightman, Henry B. “Hank”, 1Lt</i> <i>Dauley, Charles G., 2Lt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Walsh, Richard J., S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i> <i>Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., T/Sgt</i> <i>Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt</i> <i>None</i></p>
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## Wednesday, 26 May 1943 (continued)

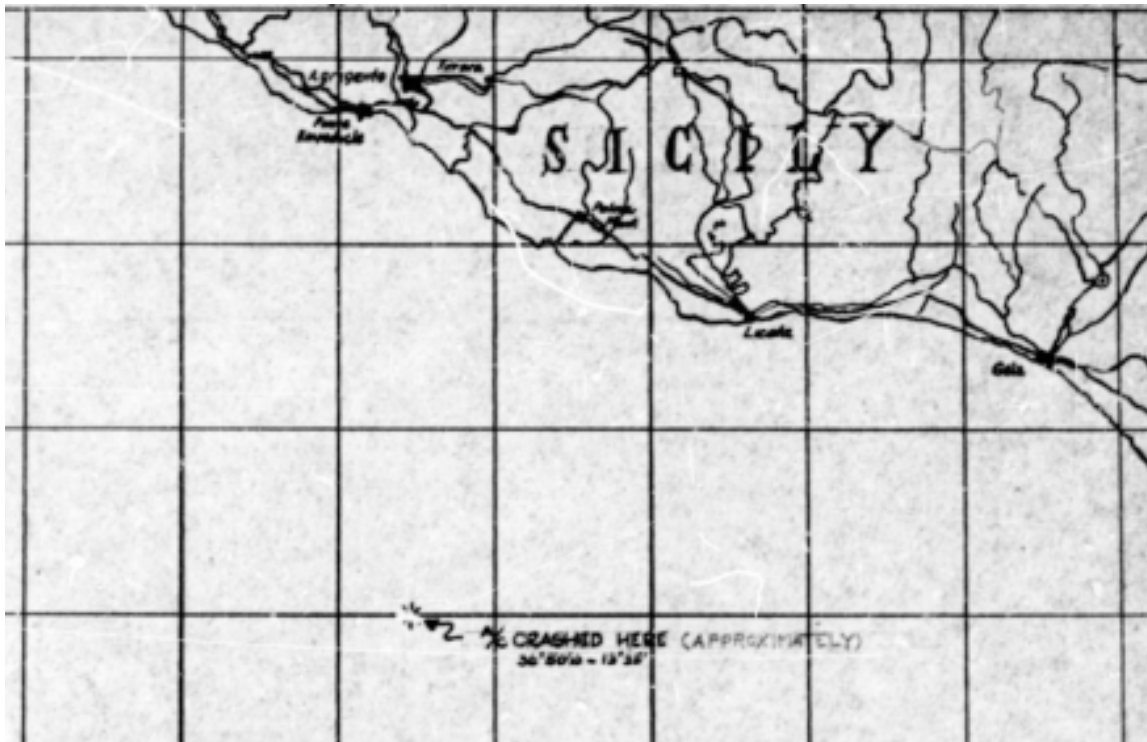
**381<sup>st</sup> BS: Extracts from Missing Air Crew Report # 32:** After leaving the target, Lt. Stecher called for assistance from the Air Sea Rescue Service, saying that his aircraft, with one engine out, was losing altitude. As a low cloud layer obscured others from actually seeing the aircraft crash, the co-ordinates as to where the aircraft crashed are only approximate.

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1943, it was reported from Malta that a body, identified as that of S/Sgt. Daniel E. Palicki had been washed ashore.

1. Lt. Renton, Navigator in Captain Coddington's aircraft, gave the position as 36° 50' N, 13° 35' E°.
2. Captain Coddington radioed "Petrie" (Malta) and gave position.
3. Captain VanDivort circled but could not locate missing aircraft after distress call from Lt. Stecher.

A/C No. 42-53444 "PUNJAB" (B) (MACR-32 - shot down by AAA)

**P** *Stecher, Robert Walter, 1Lt - MIA, DED*  
**CP** *Cox, Harold E., 2Lt - MIA, DED*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Guyer, Stanley P., S/Sgt - MIA, DED*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Marrall, Russell M., Sgt - MIA, DED*  
**G** *Palicki, Daniel E., S/Sgt - KIA*  
**F** *None*



## Wednesday, 26 May 1943 (continued)

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Ponte Olivo was the target this time. The field was covered with frags amongst some 30 aircraft. Runways were bombed.

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 96:** The next episode in the history of the 428<sup>th</sup> took place on the 26<sup>th</sup> when Gela-Ponte Olivo airdrome on the South Coast of Sicily was pounded. It was a job well done. The bulk of the bombs strung down the edges but a few strings down the center enveloped at least seven aircraft. Several fires sprang up in the center of the field.

Slight heavy flak at the target proved harmless though later Lt. Campbell veered off for Malta when one engine went out for unknown reasons.

	<b>A/C No. 1 aircraft unidentified</b> (flight leader)	<b>A/C No. 2 aircraft unidentified - may be "Sweet Alice"</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Gshwandtner, Frank J. "Gish", Capt</i>	<i>Bingham, Henry G., Jr., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Gena, Gerald M., 2Lt</i>	<i>Knight, Gerald R., 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Doolittle, Leonard N., 1Lt</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Herold, Armin F., Jr., 1Lt</i>	<i>Queen, Kenneth E., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Stilp, John P., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Martin, Robert J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Stage, Albert A., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Wink, Jacob A., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>Walker, James P., "Chief", Maj, Commander (observer)</i>	<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 3 probably 41-13094 "Seasweep"</b>	<b>A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Holley, James Taylor, 1Lt</i>	<i>Williams, Edwin W., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Butterfield, William M., 2Lt</i>	<i>Edwards, William P., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Connors, Charles L., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Lim, Wing Y., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Glass, John D., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Jack, Robert C., Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Storms, Donald W., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Black, James F., Pvt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified - may be "Skunk Hunter" (flight leader)</b>	<b>A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified - may be "Mickey II"</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Marsh, Edward D., 1Lt</i>	<i>Brennan, Samuel J., Jr., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Wescott, Robert M., 1Lt</i>	<i>Southward, Thomas H., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Hartman, William J., 1Lt</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Keys, Paul R., 2Lt</i>	<i>Herring, William S., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Bosworth, William H., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Smit, Richard F., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>McDonald, Donald E. "Mac", Sgt</i>	<i>Davis, Robert M. "Slugger", S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

**Wednesday, 26 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 7 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Smith, Merle E., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Koch, Richard J., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Versaw, Robert E., Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Temple, Robert W., Pvt*  
**G** *Ciampi, Francis (NMI), Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 9 probably 41-13050 "Virginia  
Sturgeon"**

**P** *Peterson, Arthur C., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Purifoy, Lawrence Lloyd "Peter Plink",  
2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Foley, Patrick L., Sr., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Guilfoyle, Frederick J., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Michalek, Joseph F., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Amirault, Osborne J., Sgt*

**A/C No. 8 aircraft unidentified - may be  
"Bad Seed"**

*Brock, James C., 1Lt*  
*Blaauw, Harold A., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Spencer, Ronald L., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Marrs, Horace S., S/Sgt*  
*Warlie, Roger Rickie, Pvt*  
*None*

**Thursday, 27 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):** No Entry

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In the Mediterranean,** Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) P-40's bomb the harbor defenses on Pantelleria Island and Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) P-40's attack targets on the S coast of Pantelleria.

**In Sardinia,** NASAF B-25's and B-26's hit Villacidro and Decimomannu Airfields. The 111<sup>th</sup> Observation Squadron, 68<sup>th</sup> Observation Group transfers with A-20's from Guercif, French Morocco to Nouvion, Algeria.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** The 27<sup>th</sup> of May was a day of much reorganization. Captain Canham, Captain Helsabeck, Captain Gshwandtner, Lt. Doolittle, Lt. Herold, Lt. Upchurch, S/Sgt Stage, and T/Sgt Rebello and Lockhart were removed from combat. Captain Helsabeck became Squadron Operations Officer, Captain Canham 379<sup>th</sup> Operations Officer, Lt. Upchurch became Squadron Bombardier, Lt. Doolittle became squadron Navigator. Lt. Lindeberg became squadron adjutant, Lt. Haines became Executive Officer, Lt. Harris became an Intelligence Officer, Lt. Marsh, Beatty, Holley, and Brock became respectively A, B, C, and D flight leaders. Lt. Davis became Squadron Armament Officer. It looked like a new squadron. 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Colvin was transferred to Wing.

*Beatty, John H., 1Lt, pilot*

*Canham, Arthur E., Capt, pilot*

*Davis, Henry P., Jr., 1Lt, Armament Officer*

*Gshwandtner, Frank J. "Gish", Capt, pilot*

*Harris, Wayne A., 1Lt, intelligence*

*Herold, Armin F., Jr., 1Lt, bombardier*

*Lindeberg, Richard T. "Lindy", 1Lt, bombardier*

*Lockhart, James H., T/Sgt, radio-gunner*

*Rebello, John E., Jr., T/Sgt, radio-gunner*

*Upchurch, Jerry E., 1Lt, bombardier*

*Brock, James C., 1Lt, pilot*

*Colvin, Jay W., Jr., 1Lt, navigator*

*Doolittle, Leonard N., 1Lt, navigator*

*Haines, Wilson R., 1Lt, Executive Officer*

*Helsabeck, Chester J. "Joe", Jr., Capt, pilot*

*Holley, James Taylor, 1Lt, pilot*

*Marsh, Edward D., 1Lt, pilot*

*Stage, Albert A., S/Sgt, gunner*

## Friday, 28 May 1943

### USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):

#### EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):

**In Italy**, during the night of 27/28 May, RAF Liberators, under operational control of the IX Bomber Command, bomb Augusta. During the day, B-24's of 2 groups hit Foggia Airfield and the surrounding area.

#### WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):

**In Sardinia**, during the night of 27/28 May, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) Wellingtons bomb Villacidro, Decimomannu, and Elmas Airfields.

**In the Mediterranean**, Pantelleria Island is hit by NASAF P-40's and Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) A-20's.

**In Italy**, NASAF B-17's bomb the oil refinery, marshalling yard, harbor, and shipbuilding yards at Leghorn.

**In Sicily**, NASAF medium bombers attack the airfields of Sciacca, Castelvetro, Milo, and Bo Rizzo. The 36<sup>th</sup>, 44<sup>th</sup> and 45<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadrons, 316<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group transfers with C-47's from Nouvion, Algeria to Guercif, French Morocco to train for the upcoming airborne invasion of Sicily.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 97:**

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**Mission Report # 110, 28 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Leaders: Capt. Draemel, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. VanDivort, Capt. Hamilton.
  
2. At 1525 36 B-25-C's took off to Bomb Sciacca A/D. None returned  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target No. A/C  
  
early. 35 dropped 2430 X 20 frag bombs on target at 1801 from 9000-10600  
No. A/C No & Type Time Altitude  
  
ft. 35 returned at 2015.  
No. A/C Time

## Friday, 28 May 1943 (continued)

3. RESULTS: Due to navigational error it appears that the formation crossed the Sicilian coast approximately 15 miles E of the prescribed route, with result that bombs were dropped short of the primary target. Target not positively identified due to poor visibility. Photograph negatives verify above results and no prints were made.
4. OBS: E/A-- No E/A observed or encountered.  
Flak--At target- very slight heavy flak, range good but deflection off. Other slight heavy flak came from a point 5 miles SE of Ribera, from vicinity of Agrigento and from Montallergo (37 deg 23 min N, 13 deg 21 min E).  
Shipping-10/15 small boats in harbor at Porto Empedocle at 1758 hours, altitude 10,000 ft. One large M/V anchored just off C.S. Marco at 1802 hours, altitude 6500 ft.  
No messages sent or received.  
One B-25 left formation on climb and apparently headed for Malta, reason unknown.
5. WEATHER: En Route: 1/10 to 1/10 at 6500 ft to Tunisian coast; over water CAVU. Target: CAVU with haze.
6. PRESS DATA: None.

Thirty-six sorties flown 28/5/43.

Course: 1<sup>st</sup> leg--92 deg for 334 miles altitude 6500 ft. 2<sup>nd</sup> Leg--42 deg to W of Porto Empedocle rising from 500 ft. to 10,000 ft. 3<sup>rd</sup> Leg--To 37 deg 23 min N, 13 deg 33 min E, bombing altitude. 4<sup>th</sup> Leg--300 deg to target.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** On May 28<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Frank E. Goeckel was reassigned to Group Headquarters and appointed Assistant Group S-2.

*Goeckel, Frank Edward, 2Lt, intelligence*

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 97:** Our next mission was particularly notable as the first time in almost six months of continuous operations that the target area was missed entirely. 36 A/C of the group took off for Sciacca A/D on the South Sicilian coast the afternoon of the 28<sup>th</sup>. Due to a navigational error (?) the formation crossed the Sicilian shore app. 15 miles east of the prescribed point. The target was never positively identified due to poor visibility. No flak, no fighters, no results. As the crowning touch to a poor attempt, F/O Campbell, again of the 381<sup>st</sup>, was forced to leave the formation for causes unknown. The next morning word was received that he had made a successful landing at Malta.

*Campbell, Martin H., Jr., F/O*



Friday, 28 May 1943 (continued)

P  
CP  
N  
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F  
  
P  
CP  
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B  
E  
R  
G  
F

A/C No. 1 aircraft & crew unidentified  
(flight leader) probably “June Bug”  
Hamilton, Robert M. “Ham”, Capt

A/C No. 2 aircraft & crew unidentified  
Johnson, Kenneth M. “Ken”, Capt

A/C No. 3 aircraft & crew unidentified  
Holstead, James R., Capt

A/C No. 4 aircraft & crew unidentified  
Grant, Isaac E., 2Lt

A/C No. 5 aircraft & crew unidentified  
Rogers, Harold E., 2Lt

A/C No. 6 aircraft & crew unidentified  
Lindh, Jack D., 2Lt

A/C No. 7 aircraft & crew unidentified  
Schlitzkus, Samuel C., 2Lt

A/C No. 8 aircraft & crew unidentified  
Logan, Harry R., Jr., 2Lt

## Friday, 28 May 1943 (continued)

**A/C No. 9 aircraft & crew unidentified**  
**P** *Blosel, Raymond C., F/O*  
**CP**  
**N**  
**B**  
**E**  
**R**  
**G**  
**F**

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 97:**

Mission Report # 71

Date- May 28 1943

Target- Sciacca Airdrome, Sicily

Squadron airplanes- nine

A little navigational error this afternoon left us dropping bombs along the entire coast of southern Sicily. We hit the coast at the wrong spot and when the visibility was too bad to pick out any landmarks, our bombing on the estimated time of arrival, was about 10 miles short of the target.

One plane did manage to drop their bombs on the field, but what damage was done was unknown. A little flak was thrown up in spots but no fighters were seen and all the planes came home, a little peeved and ready to go back and finish the job.

	<b>A/C No. 1 aircraft unidentified</b> (flight leader)	<b>A/C No. 2 aircraft unidentified</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Draemel, Dean H., Capt</i>	<i>Santos, Carroll A., Jr., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Wilder, Rodney R. "Hoss", Maj Commander</i>	<i>Faulds, Vincent R., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Kanode, Robert C., 1Lt</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Holmes, William G., Capt</i>	<i>Lively, Jake S., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Shambaugh, Robert M., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Smith, Teddy L., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Williams, John A., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Redding, William D., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
	<b>A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified</b>	<b>A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified</b>
<b>P</b>	<i>Amick, Cecil D., 1Lt</i>	<i>Sacknoff, David A., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Ross, Fred C., Jr., 2Lt</i>	<i>Derrick, William S., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Longrie, Kenneth R., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Sessler, Howard A., Capt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Meyer, Albert J., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Wesline, Richard L., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Huffman, Herbert (NMI), S/Sgt</i>	<i>Grace, John J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

## Friday, 28 May 1943 (continued)

### A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified

**P** *Walcott, Albert R., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Benton, James H., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Links, Albert G., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Talley, Edwin C., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Fahey, Joseph E., Sgt*  
**F** *None*

### A/C No. 7 aircraft unidentified

**P** *Grow, Clyde L., Capt*  
**CP** *Hubbard, Jack W., 2Lt*  
**N** *Coffey, John D., 2Lt*  
**B** *Hall, Paul R., Jr., 2Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Hill, Raiford B., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Pintar, John L., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

### A/C No. 9 aircraft unidentified

**P** *Stutts, Earl Leeman, 1Lt*  
**CP** *Steger, Edward H., Jr., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Kessler, Paul E., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Barbieri, Edward D., Sgt*  
**G** *Janicki, Andrew J., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

### A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified

*Rich, Robert S., 2Lt*  
*Drew, Edward A., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Donahue, Francis E., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Alexander, Phillip D., Pvt*  
*Thomas, Cyril L., S/Sgt*  
*None*

### A/C No. 8 aircraft unidentified

*Picklesimer, Marion L., 2Lt*  
*Folwell, Frank C., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Grossman, Stanley R., Sgt*  
*None*  
*Dackiewicz, John A., S/Sgt*  
*Szczesniak, Alfred A., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 97:**

### SCIACCA AIRDROME, SARDINIA

Group Mission # 97	3 Flights 12 B-25's each
Sqdrn. Mission # 71	Escort 36 P-38's.
Take Off 15:25	Bomb Load: (72 x 20)
Target 18:01	Bombs Dropped: 10 (72 x 20), 14,400#
Down 20:15	Average Altitude: 9,800 Ft.
Total Time: 4 Hrs. 50 Min.	
<u>Weather:</u> CAVU.	

## Friday, 28 May 1943 (continued)

**REMARKS:** The bombs were dropped ten miles East of the target. Results unknown. F/O Campbell's aircraft left the formation during the climb going into the target --- one engine was back-firing. The following morning word was received that he had landed safely at Malta.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Flight:

<b>A/C No. 42-32333 "Lorelei" (C)</b>		<b>A/C No. 41-13052 "TABOO" (A)</b> (flight leader)	
<b>P</b>	<i>Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt</i>	<i>VanDivort, Richard (NMI), 1Lt</i>	
<b>CP</b>	<i>Sampson, George D, 2Lt</i>	<i>White, Alpheus Wray, Jr., Maj, Commander</i>	
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>Forbes, Robert L., 2Lt</i>	
<b>B</b>	<i>Walsh, Richard J., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Myers, John H., 1Lt</i>	
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>	
<b>R</b>	<i>Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Chaffins, Ray (NMI), T/Sgt</i>	
<b>G</b>	<i>Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Nelson, Forest S., S/Sgt</i>	
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>	
<b>A/C No. 41-29969 (B)</b>		<b>A/C No. 41-29957 (F)</b>	
<b>P</b>	<i>Therrien, Robert W., 2Lt</i>	<i>Collins, George Dennis, F/O</i>	
<b>CP</b>	<i>Durgin, James L., 2Lt</i>	<i>Stagner, Howard C., F/O</i>	
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>	
<b>B</b>	<i>Dombkowski, Stanley F., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Kelley, Donald C., T/Sgt</i>	
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>	
<b>R</b>	<i>Szymik, Emil (NMI), S/Sgt</i>	<i>Rogers, Mike D., T/Sgt</i>	
<b>G</b>	<i>Kim, Daniel (NMI), S/Sgt</i>	<i>Dees, Paul (NMI), S/Sgt</i>	
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>	
<b>A/C No. 41-13085 "Green Hornet" (D)</b>		<b>A/C No. 41-29980 (J)</b>	
<b>P</b>	<i>Coddington, Walter E., Capt</i>	<i>Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt</i>	
<b>CP</b>	<i>Flake, Ray M., 2Lt</i>	<i>Burt, Norman A., F/O</i>	
<b>N</b>	<i>Renton, Walter C., Jr., 2Lt</i>	<i>None</i>	
<b>B</b>	<i>Hornung, Willard R., 2Lt</i>	<i>Douglas, Edward (NMI), S/Sgt</i>	
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>	
<b>R</b>	<i>Thomas, Quentin W., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Budde, Walter H., T/Sgt</i>	
<b>G</b>	<i>Moxey, Orville E., S/Sgt</i>	<i>White, John Edward, S/Sgt</i>	
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>	

**Friday, 28 May 1943 (continued)**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41- 13074 “Balls of Fire” / “Royal Flush” (G)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt</i>  <b>CP</b> <i>Evans, George N., 1Lt</i>  <b>N</b> <i>Opeka, John (NMI), Jr., 2Lt</i>  <b>B</b> <i>Daly, Donald J., T/Sgt</i>  <b>E</b> <i>None</i>  <b>R</b> <i>Nickelson, Royal C., T/Sgt</i>  <b>G</b> <i>Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt</i>  <b>F</b> <i>None</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 42-32428 “Little Isadore” (H) (landed at Malta)</b></p> <p><i>Campbell, Martin H., Jr., F/O</i>  <i>Baisch, Joseph M., III, 2Lt</i>  <i>None</i>  <i>Grossi, Frank L., S/Sgt</i>  <i>None</i>  <i>Standish, Beverly R., S/Sgt</i>  <i>Sigafoos, James F., Jr., Sgt</i>  <i>None</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 42-53445 “Lottie’s Goose” (C)</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Lewis, Kenneth E., 1Lt</i>  <b>CP</b> <i>Wolfe, Warren M., 2Lt</i>  <b>N</b> <i>Hickman, James G., 1Lt</i>  <b>B</b> <i>Withrow, John B., Jr., 2Lt</i>  <b>E</b> <i>None</i>  <b>R</b> <i>Starnes, Carl B., S/Sgt</i>  <b>G</b> <i>George, Wade Clayton, S/Sgt</i>  <b>F</b> <i>None</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 41-13061 “Lil Joe” (L)</b></p> <p><i>Wirth, Thomas F., Jr., F/O</i>  <i>Jones, William E., F/O</i>  <i>None</i>  <i>Smith, Willie A., T/Sgt</i>  <i>None</i>  <i>Swanson, William M., T/Sgt</i>  <i>Pontet, Emile A., Jr., S/Sgt</i>  <i>None</i></p>

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Rumors spreading fast as to our destination.

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 97:** On the 28<sup>th</sup> work against the Axis was resumed. The airdrome today was Sciacca on the Southwest coast of Sardinia. Thirty-six aircraft dropped their bombs all over the countryside. A navigational error caused a late landfall East of the target. Poor visibility only added to the confusion. The flak was slight and inaccurate from a point five miles from Ribera and Argento.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 1 probably 41-13094 “Seasweep”</b></p> <p><b>P</b> <i>Holley, James Taylor, 1Lt</i>  <b>CP</b> <i>Lambert, 2Lt</i>  <b>N</b> <i>None</i>  <b>B</b> <i>Boatler, Sidney K., 2Lt</i>  <b>E</b> <i>None</i>  <b>R</b> <i>Glass, John D., S/Sgt</i>  <b>G</b> <i>Langford, Alvin L., S/Sgt</i>  <b>F</b> <i>None</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A/C No. 2 aircraft unidentified</b></p> <p><i>Williams, Edwin W., 1Lt</i>  <i>Edwards, William P., 2Lt</i>  <i>None</i>  <i>Spencer, Ronald L., S/Sgt</i>  <i>None</i>  <i>Jack, Robert C., Sgt</i>  <i>Black, James F., Pvt</i>  <i>None</i></p>
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**Friday, 28 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Smith, Merle E., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Koch, Richard J., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Versaw, Robert E., Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Temple, Robert W., Pvt*  
**G** *Ciampi, Francis (NMI), Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 5 probably 41-13053 "Stormy Weather"**

**P** *Wheeler, William A. K., "Gus", 1Lt*  
**CP** *Moulder, Robert W., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Swim, Lowell W., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Mathis, Paul E., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Kirkland, Robert Olin "Kirk", S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 7 probably 41-13083 "Old 83"**

**P** *Loutrel, John McCluney, 1Lt*  
**CP** *Buglass, Kenneth G., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Naworski, Edward F., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Bennett, Robert L., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Glover, Harold E., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified - may be "Mickey II"**

*Brennan, Samuel J., Jr., 1Lt*  
*Southward, Thomas H., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Herring, William S., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Smit, Richard F., T/Sgt*  
*Davis, Robert M. "Slugger", S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified**

*Beatty, John H., 1Lt*  
*Gena, Gerald M., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Hartman, William J., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Stilp, John P., T/Sgt*  
*Myers, Loy G., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 8 probably 41-13050 "Virginia Sturgeon"**

*Peterson, Arthur C., 1Lt*  
*Tooles, William B, 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Ovalle, Charles V., Sgt*  
*None*  
*Guilfoyle, Frederick J., S/Sgt*  
*Michalek, Joseph F., S/Sgt*  
*Reed, Robert H., Cpl*

**Saturday, 29 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In Sicily**, during the night of 28/29 May, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) Wellingtons bomb the town areas, docks, and airfield at Castelvetro, Bo Rizzo, Trapani, and Marsala.

**In Sardinia**, NASAF P-38's bomb Porto Ponte Romano.

**In the Mediterranean**, P-40's, P-38's, and B-26's of NASAF and Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) attack gun positions, a radar station, and town area on Pantelleria Island. HQ 316<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group transfers from Nouvion, Algeria to Guercif, French Morocco. The 34<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, 315<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group, based at Aldermaston, England, begins operating with C-47's from Blida, Algeria. The 62<sup>nd</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, 314<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group arrives at Berguent, French Morocco from the US with C-47's.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 98:**

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**Mission Report # 111, 29 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Commander: Col. Hunter. Flight Leaders: Capts. Hamilton and Grow; Capt. Coddington and 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Marsh.

2. At 1015 24 B-25-C's took off to Bomb W end of town and RDF Sta. at  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target

Pantelleria. None returned early. 24 dropped 66 X 1000 lb .1 & .01 sec del  
No. A/C No. A/C No & Type

bombs on target at 1200 from 8700-9500 ft. 24 returned at 1340.  
Time Altitude No. A/C Time

3. RESULTS: The assigned target areas were well covered with many direct hits. Two large columns of black smoke were observed coming from the dock area just W of the town. One crew reported bombing small craft in harbor, due to inability to pick up target because of dust and smoke. Several near misses were reported and at least 2 to 3 craft appeared to be listing. Area where RDF station located well covered with hits. Due to dust, results on RDF station could not be observed.

## Saturday, 29 May 1943 (continued)

4. OBS: E/A-- No aircraft were engaged. 3-4 transports were seen on the Pantelleria A/D.

Flak--Moderate heavy and some light flak was experienced at the target. It was accurate as to range, but the deflection was off. A.A. positions were observed 1/2 mile to 1 mile NE of the town, some 2 miles E of town, SE corner of the harbor, and on coast approximately one and one half miles SW of town.

Shipping--1 small vessel, type unknown, anchored in harbor or cove at 36 deg 49 min N, 11 deg 59 min E. 5-7 small craft were also observed here. 1205 hours, altitude 9200 ft. One AA position approximately one-half mile S of the W jetty was observed destroyed by the dive-bombers. Several small craft, type unknown, seen in Pantelleria harbor.

No messages sent or received.

Photos were taken and are being forwarded.

5. WEATHER: Enroute: 2/10 scattered clouds at 7000 feet, visibility unlimited. Target: CAVU with slight haze.

6. PRESS DATA: None.

Twenty-four sorties flown 28/5/43.

Course-- 1. 83 deg for 300 miles. Altitude to mountains 6000 ft to coast. Climbed from coast to 10,400 ft.

2. 137 deg for 15 miles. Glided to bombing altitude at target.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 98:** On May 29<sup>th</sup> the AAF began its blitz bombing of the isle of Pantelleria with renewed and increased vigor. 24 planes had the dock area and the RDF station just south of it for assigned targets. One small craft received a direct hit and several near misses were reported on others. At least two other naval craft appeared to be listing. Dust prevented more accurate observations but the locale of the RDF station appeared well covered with hits. Heavy flak of moderate intensity and a little light flak was experienced at the target.



**Saturday, 29 May 1943 (continued)**

**P  
CP  
N  
B  
E  
R  
G  
F**

<b>A/C No. 1 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> (flight leader) <i>probably “June Bug”</i> <i>Hamilton, Robert M. “Ham”, Capt</i>	<b>A/C No. 2 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b>  <i>Smith, Charles W., 2Lt</i>
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**P  
CP  
N  
B  
E  
R  
G  
F**

<b>A/C No. 3 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Grant, Isaac E., 2Lt</i>	<b>A/C No. 4 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Rogers, Harold E., 2Lt</i>
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**P  
CP  
N  
B  
E  
R  
G  
F**

<b>A/C No. 5 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Leask, Bertram J., 2Lt</i>	<b>A/C No. 6 aircraft &amp; crew unidentified</b> <i>Wall, Donovan S., F/O</i>
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**P  
CP  
N  
B  
E  
R  
G  
F**

*Mason, John Joseph, Jr., 1Lt 381<sup>st</sup> BS*  
(observer)

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 98:**

Mission Report # 72

Date- May 29 1943

Target- Harbor Installations at Pantelleria.

Squadron airplanes- six

We more than made up for yesterday’s mistake this afternoon, as the boys worked like a machine. The P-38’s dive bombing ahead of us did a magnificent job and flak batteries could be seen rising in the air. The Radio Direction Finder station was surrounded by hits and dust and smoke clouds prevented further observation.

## Saturday, 29 May 1943 (continued)

Several medium size boats were in the harbor and three of them appeared to be listing. Two large columns of black smoke could be seen rising from the dock area on the west side of town. Some little flak was thrown up but it looked as though the escort had taken good care of most of it. All our planes returned safely.

<b>A/C No. 1</b> <i>aircraft unidentified</i> (flight leader)	<b>A/C No. 2</b> <i>aircraft unidentified</i>
<b>P</b> <i>Grow, Clyde L., Capt</i>	<i>Picklesimer, Marion L., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Hubbard, Jack W., 2Lt</i>	<i>Folwell, Frank C., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b> <i>Coffey, John D., 2Lt</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Hall, Paul R., Jr., 2Lt</i>	<i>Grossman, Stanley R., Sgt</i>
<b>E</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Hill, Raiford B., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Dackiewicz, John A., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b> <i>Pintar, John L., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Szczesniak, Alfred A., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>A/C No. 3</b> <i>aircraft unidentified</i>	<b>A/C No. 4</b> <i>aircraft unidentified</i>
<b>P</b> <i>Shorsher, Fred A., 2Lt</i>	<i>Dent, James J., Jr., Capt</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Brown, Charles R., 2Lt</i>	<i>Hament, Carrol (NMI), 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Ash, George W., PFC</i>	<i>Anderson, J. B., 2Lt</i>
<b>E</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Dinges, J.W., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Acey, Marvin E., Sgt</i>
<b>G</b> <i>Brust, Charles T., Cpl</i>	<i>McGimpsey, Paul D., Sgt</i>
<b>F</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>A/C No. 5</b> <i>aircraft unidentified</i>	<b>A/C No. 6</b> <i>aircraft unidentified</i>
<b>P</b> <i>Porter, Lloyd L., 2Lt</i>	<i>Stutts, Earl Leeman, 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b> <i>Dodge, Charles M., 2Lt</i>	<i>Steger, Edward H., Jr., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b> <i>Head, Charles M., 2Lt</i>	<i>Kessler, Paul E., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b> <i>Wells, Donald W., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Barbieri, Edward D., Sgt</i>
<b>G</b> <i>Marquis, Wesley W., Sgt</i>	<i>Janicki, Andrew J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b> <i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

## Saturday, 29 May 1943 (continued)

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 98:**

### PANTELLERIA

Group Mission # 98	4 Flight 6 B-25's each
Sqdrn. Mission # 72	Escort 8 P-38's.
Take Off 10:15	Bomb Load: (3 x 1,000)
Target 12:000	Bombs Dropped: 6 (3 x 1,000), 18,000#
Down 13:40	Average Altitude: 10,200 Ft.
Total Time: 3 Hrs. 25 Min.	

Weather: CAVU

REMARKS: The 3<sup>rd</sup> Flight's target was the R.D.F. Station and shore gun emplacements at Pantelleria Harbor. Besides the 8 P-38's which accompanied the formation, other P-38's were met at the target, where they dropped bombs from their wing racks, as well as strafing.

Lt. J.J. Mason, Jr., flew as an observer in Lt. Leask's ship (379<sup>th</sup>).

Results were damn good. Smoke restricted observation, but photographs proved this to be one of our most successful raids.

Flak was heavy and light, quite intense, but with poor deflection. No enemy aircraft were observed.

*Leask, Bertram J., 2Lt, pilot, 379<sup>th</sup> BS*

*Mason, John Joseph, Jr., 1Lt, intelligence*

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Flight:

**A/C No. 41-29957 (G)**

**A/C No. 41-13085 "Green Hornet"**  
(A) (flight leader)

**P** *Collins, George Dennis, F/O*  
**CP** *Stagner, Howard C., F/O*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Kelley, Donald C., T/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Rogers, Mike D., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Dees, Paul (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

*Coddington, Walter E., Capt*  
*Flake, Ray M., 2Lt*  
*Renton, Walter C., Jr., 2Lt*  
*Hornung, Willard R., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Thomas, Quentin W., T/Sgt*  
*Moxey, Orville E., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 42-32333 "Lorelei" (B)**

**A/C No. 41-29980 (F)**

**P** *Denton, Richard D., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Hanna, Malcolm C., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Miller, Foster C., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Potolsky, George (NMI), T/Sgt*  
**G** *Miller, Foster Eugene, S/Sgt*  
**F** *Lundsten, Gustave A., PFC*

*Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt*  
*Burt, Norman A., F/O*  
*None*  
*Douglas, Edward (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Budde, Walter H., T/Sgt*  
*White, John Edward, S/Sgt*  
*None*

## Saturday, 29 May 1943 (continued)

	A/C No. 42-64524 (D)	A/C No. 42-32422 (E)
<b>P</b>	<i>Alexander, William T. "Alex", Capt</i>	<i>Houghtaling, Harold A., F/O</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Evans, George N., 1Lt</i>	<i>Anderson, George (NMI), 1Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Hickman, James G., 1Lt</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Supple, Gilbert J., Capt</i>	<i>Gawron, Joseph (NMI), S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., T/Sgt</i>	<i>VanKosky, Wilbur J., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Mayronne, Clyde A., Sgt</i>	<i>Turville, Robert Lamar, Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Pantelleria took a pounding with 1000 pounders. 428<sup>th</sup> had a radio building to take care of. Bombs were dropped in the assigned area leaving the building a wreck. The rest of the formation hit the docks sending them up in flames and smoke.

The evening of the 29<sup>th</sup> was the occasion for a grand farewell party. Captains Gshwandtner, Canham, and Helsabeck were to leave for Bomber training Command and they were given a final send-off. With them went much that was the heart of the unit. Everyone became improperly high and sumptuously satiated with hamburgers and French beer. A friend of the Major's, Lt. Jane Salisbury, offered a pleasing diversion to our female-starved eyes.

*Canham, Arthur E., Capt, pilot*  
*Gshwandtner, Frank J. "Gish", Capt, pilot*  
*Helsabeck, Chester J. "Joe", Jr., Capt, pilot*  
*Salisbury, Jane, 2Lt,*  
*Walker, James P. "Chief", Maj, pilot, Commander*

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 98:** On May 29<sup>th</sup> it was Pantelleria again, and it looked like the little island was in for it this time. The West end of town and the R.D.F. were the specific targets and they were demolished. Dust obscured results. Moderate heavy and light flak was off in deflection again. All aircraft returned safely.

	A/C No. 1 <i>aircraft unidentified - may be</i> "Skunk Hunter" (flight leader)	A/C No. 2 <i>probably</i> 41-13053 "Stormy Weather"
<b>P</b>	<i>Marsh, Edward D., 1Lt</i>	<i>Wheeler, William A. K., "Gus", 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Wescott, Robert M., 1Lt</i>	<i>Moulder, Robert W., F/O</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Hartman, William J., 1Lt</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Vestal, Marion S., 2Lt</i>	<i>Swim, Lowell W., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Bosworth, William H., T/Sgt</i>	<i>Mathis, Paul E., T/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Storms, Donald W., S/Sgt</i>	<i>Kirkland, Robert Olin "Kirk", S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>Walker, James P., "Chief", Maj, Commander (observer)</i>	<i>Amirault, Osborne J., Sgt</i>

**Saturday, 29 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified - may be  
"Sweet Alice"**

**P** *Bingham, Henry G., Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Knight, Gerald R., 1Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Queen, Kenneth E., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Martin, Robert J., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Wink, Jacob A., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified - may be  
"Mickey II"**

**P** *Brennan, Samuel J., Jr., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Southward, Thomas H., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Herring, William S., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Smit, Richard F., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Davis, Robert M. "Slugger", S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified - may be  
"Bad Seed"**

*Brock, James C., 1Lt*  
*Blaauw, Harold A., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Spencer, Ronald L., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Marrs, Horace S., S/Sgt*  
*Warlie, Roger Rickie, Pvt*  
*Weld, David (NMI), 1Lt, HQ 82<sup>nd</sup> FG*  
*(observer)*

**A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified**

*Smith, Merle E., 2Lt*  
*Koch, Richard J., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Versaw, Robert E., Sgt*  
*None*  
*Temple, Robert W., Pvt*  
*Ciampi, Francis (NMI), Sgt*  
*None*

**Sunday, 30 May 1943**

**USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):**

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):**

**In Italy**, B-24's hit Foggia Airfield, damaging buildings and hangars, and destroying several aircraft.

**In the Mediterranean**, B-25's attack concentrations on the NE slope of Pantelleria Island.

**WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):**

**In the Mediterranean**, during the night of 29/30 May, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) Wellingtons bomb Pantelleria Island. The following morning medium bombers and fighters also hit the island. Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) fighters hit Pantelleria Island.

**In Italy**, P-38's bomb the Chilivani railway station and marshalling yard, hit port and railroad at Aranci. B-17's bomb the Pomigliano aircraft factory and landing ground and Capodichino Airfield and marshalling yard.

**In Sardinia**, P-38's strafe targets of opportunity. The 43<sup>rd</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, 315<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group, based at Aldermaston, England, begins operating with C-47's from Blida, Algeria.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** No Entry

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Advance Echelon prepared to leave for new base but were dry-run. Souk-El-Arba is supposed to be the new base.

## Monday, 31 May 1943

### USAAF Chronology: MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS (MTO):

#### EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Ninth Air Force):

**In Italy**, Royal Air Force (RAF) heavy bombers, including Liberators of No. 178 Squadron under operational control of the IX Bomber Command, bomb oil stores, harbor, and seaplane base at Augusta.

#### WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN (Northwest African Air Force):

**In Italy**, Northwest African Strategic Air Force (NASAF) B-17's bomb the airfield and marshalling yard at Foggia.

**In the Mediterranean**, NASAF medium bombers and fighters hit defended positions on Pantelleria Island. Northwest African Tactical Air Force (NATAF) P-40's also hit positions on the island.

**In Sardinia**, P-38's bomb Cagliari, a factory at Guspini, and a power station at Santa Caterina.

**HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary:** No Entry

#### **HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 99:**

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#### **Mission Report # 112, 31 May 1943**

1. UNIT: 310<sup>th</sup> Bomb Gp (M) AAF. Flight Commander: Col. A. G. Hunter. Observer: Col. Young. Flight Leaders: 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. VanDivort, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Holley, Capt. Draemel.
  
2. At 1245 18 B-25-C's took off to Bomb 3 Gun positions on Pantelleria Is.  
Time No. A/C Type A/C Mission Target  
  
None returned early. 18 dropped 53 X 1000 lb .1 & .025 sec del bombs on  
No. A/C No. A/C No & Type  
  
target at 1427 from 8400-9600 ft. 18 returned at 1600.  
Time Altitude No. A/C Time
  
3. RESULTS: Three assigned gun positions completely covered by bombing patterns and believed destroyed. Close observation of results restricted by smoke and dust.

**Monday, 31 May 1943 (continued)**

4. OBS: E/A--One crew reports one ME-109 on deck at the target. No encounter. On the ground--three transports seen on A/D. Flak--At target--Moderate heavy, range good, deflection poor. Two batteries on W coast, S of assigned targets appear to have been silenced by previous attacks. One crew reports fire from positions SW of A/D. Naval--10/12 barges and 2/3 small vessels in Pantelleria harbor. Time 1422, alt. 8500 ft. Ground--None.
5. WEATHER: Out over land - CAVU. Out over water - scattered cumulus at 10000 ft, slight haze, visibility unlimited. Target - CAVU with slight haze. Back same as out.
6. PRESS DATA: None.

Eighteen (18) sorties flown 31/5/43.

87 deg leg - 6000 feet to coast Cap Bon, then climbing to 11,000 feet to I.P.

55 deg leg - to target, bombing altitude.

No. 1 flight axis of attack 50 deg.

No. 2 & 2 flights axis of attack 30 deg.

GORDON C. LOCKE,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group S-2.

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**379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** May of 1943 saw the end of the Tunisian Campaign and the beginning of serious operations on Axis soil proper.

**379<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 99:** On May 31<sup>st</sup>, 18 A/C were sent to Pantelleria as part of the policy to knock out point by point each gun position on the island. Three assigned gun positions were blanketed by bomb patterns. Close observations were restricted by smoke and dust but the crews thought it very likely that they were destroyed. Moderate heavy flak was experienced at target, characterized by typical Italian fair range and poor deflection. One ME-109 was sighted on the deck over the target.

*A/C No. 1 aircraft & crew unidentified*

**P** *Holstead, James R., Capt*  
**CP**  
**N**  
**B**  
**E**  
**R**  
**G**  
**F**



## Monday, 31 May 1943 (continued)

**380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**380<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 99:**

Mission Report # 73

Date- May 31 1943

Target- Three gun positions on Pantelleria Island

Squadron airplanes- six

Three gun positions were our target today as six of our boys went over for another crack at Pantelleria. Although the whole target was covered with dust, the three flak batteries are believed destroyed.

One of the boys saw an ME-109 on deck at the target but Jerry did not try to make a pass at us after seeing the strength of our formation.

All our ships returned safely.

<b>A/C No. 1 aircraft unidentified</b> (flight leader)		<b>A/C No. 2 aircraft unidentified</b>	
<b>P</b>	<i>Draemel, Dean H., Capt</i>		<i>Santos, Carroll A., Jr., 1Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Sours, Robert J., 2Lt</i>		<i>Faulds, Vincent R., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>Kanode, Robert C., 1Lt</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Mizerski, Richard C. "Bronco", 2Lt</i>		<i>Lively, Jake S., S/Sgt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Shambaugh, Robert M., T/Sgt</i>		<i>Smith, Teddy L., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Williams, John A., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Redding, William D., S/Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Hutchenrider, Willis E., Sgt</i>
<b>A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified</b>		<b>A/C No. 4 aircraft unidentified</b>	
<b>P</b>	<i>Amick, Cecil D., 1Lt</i>		<i>Dent, James J., Jr., Capt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Ross, Fred C., Jr., 2Lt</i>		<i>Hament, Carrol (NMI), 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Longrie, Kenneth R., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Anderson, J. B., 2Lt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Meyer, Albert J., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Acey, Marvin E., Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Huffman, Herbert (NMI), S/Sgt</i>		<i>McGimpsey, Paul D., Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>Wilder, Rodney R. "Hoss", Maj, Commander (observer)</i>
<b>A/C No. 5 aircraft unidentified</b>		<b>A/C No. 6 aircraft unidentified</b>	
<b>P</b>	<i>Stutts, Earl Leeman, 1Lt</i>		<i>Porter, Lloyd L., 2Lt</i>
<b>CP</b>	<i>Steger, Edward H., Jr., 2Lt</i>		<i>Dodge, Charles M., 2Lt</i>
<b>N</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>Kessler, Paul E., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Head, Charles M., 2Lt</i>
<b>E</b>	<i>None</i>		<i>None</i>
<b>R</b>	<i>Barbieri, Edward D., Sgt</i>		<i>Wells, Donald W., S/Sgt</i>
<b>G</b>	<i>Janicki, Andrew J., S/Sgt</i>		<i>Marquis, Wesley W., Sgt</i>
<b>F</b>	<i>Landron, George J., 1Lt, 82<sup>nd</sup> FG</i>		<i>None</i>

## Monday, 31 May 1943 (continued)

**381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary:** *(No non-mission information)*

**381<sup>st</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 99:  
PANTELLERIA HARBOR**

Group Mission # 99	3 Flights 6 B-25's each
Sqdrn. Mission # 73	Escort 12 P-38's.
Take Off 12:45	Bomb Load: (3 x 1,000)
Target 14:27	Bombs Dropped: 6 (3 x 1,000), 18,000#
Down 16:00	Average Altitude: 9,000 Ft.
Total Time: 3 Hrs. 15 Min.	

Weather: CAVU, with slight low haze. 2/10's cumulus building up.

REMARKS: Each flight of 6 ships had its assigned target. The 381<sup>st</sup> target area --- gun emplacements near the harbor --- was well covered with bombs.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Flight:**

**A/C No. 42-32333 "Lorelei" (C)**

**P** *Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt*  
**CP** *Sampson, George D, 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Walsh, Richard J., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Lundsten, Gustave A., PFC*

**A/C No. 41-29969 (B)**

**P** *Therrien, Robert W., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Durgin, James L., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Dombkowski, Stanley F., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Szymik, Emil (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**G** *Kim, Daniel (NMI), S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 41-13052 "TABOO" (A)**  
(flight leader)

*VanDivort, Richard (NMI), 1Lt*  
*White, Alpheus Wray, Jr., Maj,*  
*Commander*  
*Forbes, Robert L., 2Lt*  
*Myers, John H., 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Chaffins, Ray (NMI), T/Sgt*  
*Nelson, Forest S., S/Sgt*  
*Hunter, Anthony G., Col, 310<sup>th</sup> BG*  
*Commander (observer)*

**A/C No. 41-29980 (F)**

*Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt*  
*Burt, Norman A., F/O*  
*None*  
*Douglas, Edward (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Budde, Walter H., T/Sgt*  
*White, John Edward, S/Sgt*  
*None*

## Monday, 31 May 1943 (continued)

### A/C No. 41- 13074 “Balls of Fire” / “Royal Flush” (D)

**P** *Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Cook, Walter E., F/O*  
**N** *Opeka, John (NMI), Jr., 2Lt*  
**B** *Withrow, John B., Jr., F/O*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Dittmar, Francis A., T/Sgt*  
**G** *Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt*  
**F** *None*

### A/C No. 42-32422 (E)

*Houghtaling, Harold A., F/O*  
*Anderson, George (NMI), 1Lt*  
*None*  
*Gawron, Joseph (NMI), S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*VanKosky, Wilbur J., S/Sgt*  
*Turville, Robert Lamar, Sgt*  
*None*

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary:** Pay day. Ground emplacements on Pantelleria was the objective; 1000 pounders were dropped effectively on the target. 10-12 barges were noted in the harbor. 3 transports were also seen on the airdrome. Capts. Canham, Helsabeck and Gshwandtner transferred to NATC, probably homeward bound.

*Canham, Arthur E., Capt, pilot*                      *Gshwandtner, Frank J. "Gish", Capt, pilot*  
*Helsabeck, Chester J. "Joe", Jr., Capt, pilot*

**428<sup>th</sup> BS Mission Summary: (Ops Order ---/mission ---) Group Mission # 99:** Pantelleria again for the last raid of the month, the 321<sup>st</sup> B-25's participated. It seemed as though the effort was going to accumulate for a purpose. 53,000 pounds of bombs is a lot to rain on only three gun positions. They were reported well covered--but it takes a direct hit to knock out a gun for good. Smoke as usual hindered observation on a pin point target like that.

The flak was moderate heavy, with poor deflection. The story was becoming monotonous.

### A/C No. 1 *probably* 41-13094 “Seasweep” (flight leader)

**P** *Holley, James Taylor, 1Lt*  
**CP** *Bower, William M., Maj, HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Boatler, Sidney K., 2Lt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Glass, John D., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Langford, Alvin L., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Young, Col, (observer)*

### A/C No. 2 *aircraft unidentified*

*Williams, Edwin W., 1Lt*  
*Edwards, William P., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Spencer, Ronald L., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Jack, Robert C., Sgt*  
*Black, James F., Pvt*  
*None*

**Monday, 31 May 1943 (continued)**

**A/C No. 3 aircraft unidentified**

**P** *Smith, Merle E., 2Lt*  
**CP** *Koch, Richard J., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Versaw, Robert E., Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Temple, Robert W., Pvt*  
**G** *Ciampi, Francis (NMI), Sgt*  
**F** *None*

**A/C No. 4 probably 41-13083 "Old 83"**

*Loutrel, John McCluney, 1Lt*  
*Buglass, Kenneth G., 2Lt*  
*None*  
*Naworski, Edward F., S/Sgt*  
*None*  
*Bennett, Robert L., T/Sgt*  
*Glover, Harold E., S/Sgt*  
*None*

**A/C No. 5 probably 41-13050 "Virginia  
Sturgeon"**

**P** *Peterson, Arthur C., 1Lt*  
**CP** *Tooles, William B., 2Lt*  
**N** *None*  
**B** *Lim, Wing Y., S/Sgt*  
**E** *None*  
**R** *Guilfoyle, Frederick J., S/Sgt*  
**G** *Michalek, Joseph F., S/Sgt*  
**F** *Reed, Robert H., Cpl*

## May 1943

### HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG War Diary: Additional Information for May 1943:

310<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (Berteaux)

Statistical:

Started operating on December 2 in North Africa, being based first at Algiers. Had arrived in England on September 10. No operations there.

Combat Hours: 4,470.35; Sorties: 1236; Missions: 90;

4. a - 57 planes orig assngd  
b - 27 replacements  
c - 4 lost enroute to theatre  
d - 9 lost by fighter E/A  
e - None lost by strafing  
f - 2 transferred  
g - 6 lost through accidents  
h - 48 planes on hand May 15  
i - 15 planes from flak (Ten over target; 2 crashed near base; 3 crashed at base)
5. Personnel losses -  
2 gunners killed in action and bodies recovered at base.  
17 pilots; 17 co-pilots; 16 bombardiers; 5 navigators; 16 radio-operator-gunners; 17 aerial gunners; 3 photographers; 1 observer, Major Ivan Ferguson, squadron commander.

List of names, rank, etc. attached herewith:

E/A action: Destroyed 46  
Probable 4  
Damaged 6

Bombs Dropped: 2,025 x 100 lbs.  
1,761 x 300 lbs.  
1,171 x 500 lbs.  
273 x 1000 lbs.  
10,782 x 20 lb. Fragmentations  
12 x 100 lb. Incendiaries

A total of twenty-five (25) ships were sunk to May 15, and included freighters, Siebel ferried, tankers, cruisers, destroyers, and corvettes.

Eight (8) were reported as probables.  
Eleven (11) were reported damaged. (Most above on sea sweeps).

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## May 1943 (continued)

### HEADQUARTERS 310<sup>th</sup> BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF A. P. O. 520

The following is a list of Awards and Decorations made to members of this command as of May 1943:

- Colonel Anthony G. Hunter, 0290671 (*HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG*), Air Medal (rec).
- Lt. Col. Harvey H. Hinman, 0393128 (*HQ 310<sup>th</sup> BG*), Air Medal (rec).
- Major William M. Bower, 0398577 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal. ---trfd.
- Major Ivan L. Ferguson, 0421753 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal. ----MIA
- Major Travis Hoover, 0393133 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Oak Leaf Clusters. ----trfd.
- Major James P. Walker, 023903 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Oak Leaf Clusters awarded; one Oak Leaf Cluster (rec).
- Major Alpheus W. White, Jr., 023829 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and four Oak Leaf Clusters awarded; Oak Leaf Clusters (rec).
- Major Rodney R. Wilder, 0241149 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; two Oak Leaf Clusters (rec).
- Captain John T. Allan, 0659038 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and five Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- Captain Earl E. Batten, 0379389 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- Captain Arthur E. Canham, 0791043 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; three Clusters (rec).
- Captain Walter N. Coddington, 0659953 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- Captain Lawrence Cometh, 0659954 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; three Clusters (rec).
- Captain Walter P. Crump, 0427308 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----MIA.
- Captain James J. Dent, Jr., 0659957 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal (rec).
- Captain Dean H. Draemel, 0659958 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- Captain Leonard A. Eddy, 0659961 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec). ---PW.
- Captain William B. Green, 0434645 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----MIA.
- Captain Clyde L. Grow, 0660643 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; three Clusters (rec).
- Captain Frank J. Gshwandtner, 0659973 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; three Clusters (rec).
- Captain Chester J. Helsabeck, Jr., 0659980 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- Captain William G. Holmes, 0659550 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters.

## May 1943 (continued)

- Captain James R. Holstead, 0725496 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; one Cluster (rec), Purple Heart.
- Captain Archibald W. Kearns, 0725498 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster. ----MIA.
- Captain Richard T. Norvell, 0431338 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec). ----MIA.
- Captain Perry D. Pickett, 0724217 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters. ----PW.
- Captain William R. Pound, Jr., 0419332 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- Captain Howard A. Sessler, 0431650 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and five Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- Captain Gilbert J. Supple, 0659603 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- Captain Denver V. Truelove, 0427637 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; two Clusters (rec). ----MIA.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Alfred N. Allred, 0790491 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal. ----PW.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Cecil D. Amick, 0790148 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; four Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Charles M. Barnwell, 0789773 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----PW.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Graham C. Beachum, 0791665 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec). ----MIA.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. John H. Beatty, 0789769 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Henry G. Bingham, Jr., 0727839 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Harold A. Blaauw, 0727841 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Samuel J. Brennan, Jr., 0791668 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. James C. Brock, 0437732 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. William M. Butterfield, 0377475 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. John D. Coffey, 0337568 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jay W. Colvin, 0725949 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert A. Cox, 0790523 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----MIA.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Henry L. Cromartie, Jr., 0789557 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert L. Cunningham, 0727857 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; three clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Leonard N. Doolittle, 0790945 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; 3 clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Randolph M. Duncan, 0443439 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Soldier's Medal.

## May 1943 (continued)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Peter R. Froelicher, 0791686 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster. ---MIA.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Roland Frost, 0663033 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Isaac E. Grant, 0728072 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Paul R. Hall, Jr., 0662268 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert M. Hamilton, 0790336 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Frank A. Harder, 0728075 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. William J. Hartman, 0790955 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; three Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Frank B. Hawkins, 0728077 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ---PW.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Armin F. Herold, 0440326 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; two clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. James G. Hickman, 0790957 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. James T. Holley, 0790342 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. William C. Jackson, 0728086 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ---MIA.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Laverne B. Johnson, 0790962 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert C. Kanode, 0790964 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Nicholas B. Katzenbach, 0790965 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ---PW.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Edmond Kennedy, 0790967 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ---PW.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert A. Lacy, 0790359 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ---PW.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Bertram J. Leask, 0728092 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Leo Lesonik, 0662956 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Kenneth E. Lewis, 0727743 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert V. Liljegren, 0727744 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Eric O. Linden, 0740361 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----trfd.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jack D. Lindh, 0728093 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Ernest W. Liverman, 0662282 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; three Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Harry R. Logan, Jr., 0791709 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).



## May 1943 (continued)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Frederick F. Loomis, 0790365 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters. ----PW.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. John M. Loutrel, 0790366 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; three Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Edward D. Marsh, 0790370 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; three Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Grover W. Martin, 0790371 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert W. Martin, 0790372 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster. ----MIA.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert J. McCormick II, 0790376 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert D. McDougall, 0790379 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal. ----MIA.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Laula M. Middleton, 0660174 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec). ----MIA.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. James I. Miller, 0791718 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Morris O. Milius, 0725508 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal. ----trfd.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. David Moir, 0791720 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. John H. Myers, 0726932 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Arthur C. Peterson, 0790397 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Carl A. Phillips, 0790398 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Marion L. Picklesimer, 0663220 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Lloyd L. Porter, 0791726 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Lawrence L. Purifoy, 0727917 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert S. Rich, 0728110 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Howard J. Ross, 0662299 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Melvin R. Rouch, 0728111 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec). ---KIA.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Donovan W. Rulien, 0724226 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. David A. Sacknoff, 0790407 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Carroll A. Santos, 0790596 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Raymond E. Schick, 0662302 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal. ----MIA.

## May 1943 (continued)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert P. Schisler, 0662303 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster. ----PW.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Kenneth M. Schlasinger, 0663000 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Elvin F. Schrupp, 0728115 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----PW.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Fred A. Shorsher, 0791732 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Emil E. Sindelar, 0728116 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster. ----MIA.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Charles W. Smith, 0790418 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Donald M. Smith, 0663102 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Merle E. Smith, 0728119 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert J. Sours, 0728120 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. James F. Stack, 0728121 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec); Purple Heart. ----trfd.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert W. Stecher, 0662505 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Edward H. Steger, Jr., 0662986 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Earl L. Stutts, 0789846 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Joseph F. Szczygiel, 0728124 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster. ----MIA.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Julius H. Taylor, 0663204 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and Purple Heart. ----trfd.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Alan S. Thomas, 0728127 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----PW.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Charles A. Thompson, 0790424 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster. ----trfd.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert W. Thorndike, 0790425 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and five Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Melvin E. Timmerman, 0790426 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Norman L. Toenjes, 0727807 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal (rec). ---MIA.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jerry E. Upchurch, 0659610 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Richard VanDivort, 0790429 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Marion S. Vestal, 0662318 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and four Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Albert R. Walcott, 0728135 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; three Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Donald S. Wert, 0790439 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; two Clusters (rec). ---KIA.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert N. Wescott, 0728140 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. William A. K. Wheeler, 0728141 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).

## May 1943 (continued)

- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Alcuin A. Wiench, 0728528 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster. ----PW.  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Henry B. Wightman, 0790441 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Edwin W. Williams, 0728143 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; three Clusters (rec).  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Francis E. Wilson, 0662326 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----MIA.  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Keith G. Wilson, 0728144 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; four Clusters (rec).  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Willard E. Wilvert, 0663023 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Donald C. Biggs, 0729409 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Lamont L. Cates, 0790940 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded, two Clusters (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Jacob F. Crouch, Jr., 0731153 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal. ----MIA.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Charles G. Dauley, 0727699 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded, one Cluster (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Richard D. Denton, 0732522 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Gerald M. Donovan, 0732523 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Harvey A. Doss, 0663023 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal. ----PW.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. James L. Durgin, 0791682 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Robert L. Forbes, 0665911 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Frederick C. Gollnitz, 0790952 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----MIA.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Ralph R. Goss, 0399504 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. William R. Hornung, 0729972 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Andrew B. Kelly, 0662456 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster. ----trfd.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Paul R. Keys, 0729979 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Gerald R. Knight, 0662951 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (res).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Jack F. Marlow, 0662469 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; three Clusters (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Raymond S. Marshall, 0731174 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal. ----MIA.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Robert G. Menning, 0728099 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal. ----MIA.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Richard C. Mizerski, 0666694 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec); Purple Heart.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Thomas U. Ramsey, 0728108 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Carl E. Rice, 0732527 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Harold L. Rogers, 0730966 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Kramer W. Rorig, 0732579 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec). ----MIA.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Ellis A. Ruppelt, 0732588 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Samuel C. Schlitzkus, 0728113 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Philip E. Sullivan, 0664686 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec). ----MIA.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Robert W. Therrien, 0728125 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. John E. Wright, 0728147 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).

## May 1943 (continued)

- F/O Raymond C. Bloesel, T186321 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- F/O Norman A. Burt, T187544 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).
- F/O Martin H. Campbell, Jr., T186578 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).
- F/O George D. Collins, T186345 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- F/O Walter E. Cook, T186558 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).
- F/O Leslie T. Crozier, T187543 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- F/O Frank H. Eaton, T186553 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- F/O Harold A. Houghtaling, T186387 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- F/O Robert W. Moulder, T120164 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- F/O Howard C. Stagner, T186549 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- F/O Morris M. Stone, T186551 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal. ----MIA.
- F/O Donovan S. Wall, T186485 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- F/O Thomas F. Wirth, Jr., T187546 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (res).
- T/Sgt. Edward W. W. Boone, 35326053 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- T/Sgt. Robert M. Brunner, 38110765 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters; Purple Heart
- T/Sgt. Wilbur H. Budde, 16051670 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).
- T/Sgt. John B. Caron, 11032447 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----MIA.
- T/Sgt. Ray Chaffins, 35266142 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- T/Sgt. Henry H. Chase, 14098282 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec); Purple Heart.
- T/Sgt. Donald J. Daly, 16042488 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; four Clusters (rec).
- T/Sgt. Francis A. Dittmar, 32345670 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- T/Sgt. James A. Ginn, 20846363 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----MIA.
- T/Sgt. Harris M. Haskell, 10608409 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec); Purple Heart.
- T/Sgt. Raiford B. Hill, 14045820 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- T/Sgt. Howard L. Jenkins, 20761267 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal. ----MIA.
- T/Sgt. Harry H. Kechter, 18000758 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- T/Sgt. Donald C. Kelley, 14053530 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- T/Sgt. Frank R. LaPorte, 20416457 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----MIA.
- T/Sgt. Buster A. Larck, 06988296 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal. ----MIA.

## May 1943 (continued)

- T/Sgt. James H. Lockhart, 13040463 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; three Clusters (rec).
- T/Sgt. Lewis F. Marple, 37145066 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and five Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- T/Sgt. Paul E. Mathis, 15099210 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- T/Sgt. James H. McHarge, 14053499 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal. ----MIA.
- T/Sgt. Royal C. Nickelson, 17040469 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- T/Sgt. Lloyd G. Porter, Jr., 14080264 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).
- T/Sgt. George Potolsky, 32260540 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).
- T/Sgt. Joseph Rabinowitz, 06979783 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- T/Sgt. John E. Rebello, Jr., 11018868 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; four Clusters (rec).
- T/Sgt. David L. Richardson, 06988349 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- T/Sgt. Warren F. Richardson, 06138549 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----MIA.
- T/Sgt. Mike D. Rogers, 18065911 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- T/Sgt. Robert M. Shambaugh, 36318108 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- T/Sgt. Eldon M. Smith, 17035338 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- T/Sgt. Willie A. Smith, 34059621 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- T/Sgt. William M. Swanson, 36330707 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- T/Sgt. Quentin W. Thomas, 37135208 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- T/Sgt. Richard L. Wesline, 36232783 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and five Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec); Purple Heart.
- S/Sgt. Edward D. Barbieri, 32228755 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Robert L. Bennett, 35265765 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. William H. Bosworth, 35302027 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; four Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Scott T. Bowden, 18005857 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Jack D. Boyd, 36162422 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Robert W. Brink, 35352439 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster. ----MIA.
- S/Sgt. Max F. Broadbent, 06936652 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).

## May 1943 (continued)

- S/Sgt. Matthew L. Bozovich, 32425466 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters (rec).  
S/Sgt. Charles L. Connors, 35301229 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. John A. Dackiewicz, 35301093 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Albert F. Dallaire, 32176527 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Elvin A. Davis, 39303647 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; three Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Robert M. Davis, 19078610 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal (rec).  
S/Sgt. Alfred J. DeBernardis, (*33117760 - 379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec). ----MIA.
- S/Sgt. Paul Dees, 14064654 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
S/Sgt. Matthew P. Deluca, 11037518 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal. ----MIA.  
S/Sgt. Norris D. Dickey, 19059657 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; three Clusters (rec). ----MIA.
- S/Sgt. Stanley F. Dombkowski, 16035701 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).  
S/Sgt. Francis E. Donahue, 15084658 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Edward Douglas, 06841757 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
S/Sgt. Billy N. Duncan, 14077693 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal. ----KIA.  
S/Sgt. Donald W. Elder, 33019250 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster. ----MIA.  
S/Sgt. William J. Everard, 36235461 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----MIA.
- S/Sgt. Bartholomeo T. Ficeto, 32306484 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Patrick L. Foley, 31094834 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; three Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Francis J. Fox, 31072648 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters (rec).  
S/Sgt. Wade C. George, 35301152 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
S/Sgt. John D. Glass, 18068120 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
S/Sgt. Harold E. Glover, 06138717 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Robert F. Gower, 36312691 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec). ----MIA.
- S/Sgt. John J. Grace, (*13046041 - 380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and five Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Frank L. Grossi, 31104636 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Gerald E. Gulette, 16043937 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).

## May 1943 (continued)

- S/Sgt. Fred F. Hecks, 19059555 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Gilbert F. Henderson, 16039650 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Herbert Huffman, 35266306 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; four Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Albert Hughes, 39386313 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters. ----MIA.
- S/Sgt. Willis E. Hutchenrider, 18065042 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Andrew J. Janicki, 13058045 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Walter F. Jastrzemski, 16036316 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Herman E. Keller, 39386185 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Paul E. Kessler, 15087160 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Stanley J. Kida, 12044904 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec). ----KIA.
- S/Sgt. William H. Kiel, 06991300 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters.
- S/Sgt. Daniel Kim, 39167622 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).
- S/Sgt. Olin R. Kirkland, 14064537 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and eight Clusters.
- S/Sgt. Lester A. Kitzerow, 36172579 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec). ----MIA.
- S/Sgt. Joseph Kobasa, 33262465 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Paul E. Krueger, 35047123 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Alvin I. Langford, 33311908 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; three Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Clayton D. Lea, 18068323 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters. ----MIA.
- S/Sgt. Anthony Leanza, 32340220 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec). ----MIA.
- S/Sgt. Fred Lindsay, 19065998 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters. ----PW.
- S/Sgt. Albert G. Links, 11040951 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and four Clusters; Purple Heart.
- S/Sgt. Jake S. Lively, 34154479 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Merrill W. Long, 06993921 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal. ----trfd.
- S/Sgt. Kenneth R. Longrie, 36235774 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; four Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Horace S. Marrs, 38084770 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Jack T. Massengale, 18053202 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster. ----MIA.

## May 1943 (continued)

- S/Sgt. Donald E. McDonald, 16024891 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Robert J. Martin, 37150828 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Palmer C. Melhus, 39386330 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; four Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Albert J. Meyer, 18102168 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; four Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Foster E. Miller, 06266025 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Richard E. Miller, 15098364 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal.
- S/Sgt. Edward Moberg, 11037526 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----MIA.
- S/Sgt. William J. Molnar, 16043398 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Robert J. Mount, 13045458 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Orville E. Moxey, 17034532 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Loy G. Myers, 15098341 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Soldier's Medal; Air Medal and four Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Edwin A Nelson, 32267731 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal (rec).
- S/Sgt. Forest S. Nelson, 13063992 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Edward H. Nichols, 37146156 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and three Clusters. ----MIA.
- S/Sgt. Edward F. Naworski, 15098261 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Frank R. Oliver, Jr., 06888818 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec). ----MIA.
- S/Sgt. Salvatore A. Pagano, 39386311 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and five Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Perrie C. Parker, 17036553 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Donald D. Peery, 14002194 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal. ----MIA.
- S/Sgt. Woodrow W. Pettibon, 37135334 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and four Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. John L. Pintar, 39387810 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Paul A. Poknis, 35313896 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. Emile A. Pontet, Jr., 35482444 (*381<sup>st</sup> BS*), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Kenneth E. Queen, 18047129 (*428<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Juan Ramos, 20903638 (*379<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).
- S/Sgt. William D. Redding, 38084837 (*380<sup>th</sup> BS*), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; four Clusters (rec).



## May 1943 (continued)

- S/Sgt. Lamar F. Rodgers, 14080554 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
S/Sgt. Leo C. Rogers, 18074234 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; two Clusters (rec).  
S/Sgt. Isaac Rousso, 12057448 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters.  
S/Sgt. Howard G. Schletz, 18070482 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster. ----MIA.  
S/Sgt. Rudy Sekermestrovich, 35380865 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
S/Sgt. Henry L. Schave, 36235693 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters. ----PW.  
S/Sgt. Richard F. Smit, 36304826 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).  
S/Sgt. Teddy L. Smith, 15090253 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; three Clusters (rec).  
S/Sgt. Ronald L. Spencer, 17033236 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).  
S/Sgt. Albert A. Stage, 36235431 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; three Clusters (rec).  
S/Sgt. Benjamin F. Stankewicz, 13100153 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec). ----MIA.  
S/Sgt. Carl B. Starnes, 19053435 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).  
S/Sgt. John P. Stilp, 36235918 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
S/Sgt. Walter I. Sundstrom, 37167217 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; three Clusters (rec).  
S/Sgt. Stephen G. Surbaugh, 17020679 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec). ----MIA.  
S/Sgt. Lowell W. Swim, 13064477 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec); Purple Heart.  
S/Sgt. Alfred A. Szczesniak, 36172640 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
S/Sgt. Emil Szymik, 36221675 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).  
S/Sgt. George E. Tabor, 39020143 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
S/Sgt. Milo K. Taylor, 35135265 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters. ----PW.  
S/Sgt. Cyril L. Thomas, 36178705 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
S/Sgt. John P. Thomas, 39019574 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----MIA.  
S/Sgt. Thomas Valentic, Jr., 13039857 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; two Clusters (rec).  
S/Sgt. Mieras A. VanDam, 36195635 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).  
S/Sgt. Joseph P. Vrabel, 11070807 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters (rec).  
S/Sgt. Richard J. Walsh, 12062308 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).  
S/Sgt. John E. White, 35036374 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).  
S/Sgt. John A. Williams, 15090463 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; four Clusters (rec).  
S/Sgt. George T. Wilson, 35352599 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters (rec).

## May 1943 (continued)

- S/Sgt. Duke G. Windham, Jr., 14072407 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters. ----MIA.
- Sgt. William C. Burket, 13021138 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal. ----PW.
- Sgt. Charles M. Belmer, 32290534 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----PW.
- Sgt. Donald W. Bush, 16069857 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster. ----MIA.
- Sgt. Stanley R. Crossman, 31088305 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).
- Sgt. Frederick J. Guilfoyle, 12085250 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- Sgt. William S. Herring, 34304215 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).
- Sgt. Joseph R. Michalek, 36178871 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- Sgt. Richard L., Neff, 39386276 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal.
- Sgt. Charles C. Payne, 06664691 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- Sgt. Alexander Schwartsman, 32315232 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- Sgt. Nathan B. Snyder, 14119800 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- Sgt. Earl B. Willis, 13001642 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters. ----MIA.
- Sgt. Jacob A. Wink, 34088150 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).
- Cpl. Osborn J. Amirault, 31117861 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).
- Cpl. David A. Crocker, 11033875 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).
- Cpl. William F. Martin, 12011088 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and one Cluster (rec).
- Cpl. James A. Ough, 11045603 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal.
- Cpl. Robert H. Reed, 35358672 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).
- Cpl. Roger R. Warlie, 39020223 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).
- Pvt. James F. Black, 18062665 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- Pvt. John F. Gullic, 15084622 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).
- Pvt. James J. Hartzell, 33129897 (381<sup>st</sup> BS), Air Medal (rec).
- Pvt. William E. Phillips, 13044887 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; one Cluster (rec).
- Pvt. Robert W. Temple, 12031017 (428<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and two Clusters awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. William C. Hughes, 0791696 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Kenneth M. Johnson, 0659988 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- S/Sgt. Carl L. Yager, 16064088 (379<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Arnie J. Huffman, 0790960 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal and three Clusters awarded; three Clusters (rec).
- 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jack W. Hubbard, 0728082 (380<sup>th</sup> BS), Air Medal awarded; two Clusters (rec).

## May 1943 (continued)

### 379<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary: Additional Information for May 1943:

379<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron  
310<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group

1 June 1943

SUBJECT: Squadron History for May.

TO : Headquarters, 310<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (M) AAF.

Seventeen missions were successfully completed for the month of May. Planes of the 379<sup>th</sup> Sq. participated in all but three targets such as the Port of Favignana, Sicily, Palermo harbor and city of Sicily, R.R. yards at Marsala, Sicily, R.R. yards and Chemical Factory at Cagliari in Sardinia, dock area and shipping in Olbia harbor, Sardinia, docks at Pantelleria, and enemy shipping in the Mediterranean, felt the sting of our attacks.

*Note: Mission reports followed the above, and appear on the date of the mission.*

May of 1943 saw the end of the Tunisian Campaign and the beginning of serious operations on Axis soil proper. What more need be said?

EDWARD P. MEEHAN,  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt., Air Corps  
Ass't Sq., S-2.

## May 1943 (continued)

### 380<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary: Additional Information for May 1943:

#### OUTLINE ON THE TUNISIAN CAMPAIGN

380<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Sq.  
310<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Gp.

May 20, 1943

The 310<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group inaugurated its combat operations in the North African Campaign with eight sorties against Gabes Airdrome on the second of December, 1942. Four B-25's of each the 379<sup>th</sup> and 428<sup>th</sup> Sqdns only participating. A small grove just south of Gabes was the Target and the Group's first action took the form of "two hits on the NE section of the target, one fire with heavy smoke."

Though inconspicuous, this first mission marked the beginning of a carefully planned "Strategic" role for us. The B-25's of this group were destined to play a large part in the rout of Rommel and the liberation of North Africa.

Thirteen times, between the second of December of 1942 and the eighth of January of 1943, we hit objectives of incalculable value to the enemy; such targets as the airdromes of Gabes, Sidi Ahmed and El Aouina, the Railroad yards of Sousse, Sfax, La Hencha and Kairouan and the important harbors of La Goulette, Sousse and Tunis, will give mute evidence of events to come at a later date.

All of these missions were with definite objectives in view and were carefully designed to cripple the enemy at his vulnerable points, mainly that of supply transportation.

Next came the never-to-be-forgotten period of action against Axis shipping on the blue water of Mussolini's "Mare Nostrum". In all we were to sweep that body of water thirty nine times to clear it of the enemy's supply lines, costing him vitally needed stores of fuel, gasoline and other war materials. Thirty three vessels were sent to the bottom including Tankers, Destroyers, Corvettes, Freighters of all types, Siebel Ferries and a cruiser. Many others were damaged that are not mentioned above.

The days became a succession of target names and sea sweeps. Objective after objective became a matter of record on intelligence reports. There were railroad bridges, and junctions, airdromes, road bridges, names now known the world over were "Hush-Hush" then and strange to our ears; there were El Aouinet, Maknassy, Gabes, La Hencha and a score or more besides. Right through the entire campaign to clean the Axis out of Africa, our group maintained a constant alertness for any aid other than the part we played as a strategic force. We were called upon to bomb enemy troop concentration at Kasserine when things were going hard there.

## May 1943 (continued)

It can be said that we operated throughout this campaign under some of the most difficult and trying conditions experienced in this theatre. Both air and ground crew carried out their duties in all kinds of weather (of which we had two kinds -- not bad...and terrible.) Throughout the rainy season and the North African winter all lived in pup tents, cots were unheard of, and "C" rations the order of the day.

During the last few months of the campaign when the Axis forces had their backs to the wall, we were assigned such targets that would slowly and surely disintegrate the fast waning Air Force of the enemy, striking at Ste. Marie du Zit L/G and many others known only by grid coordinates on our maps.

Right up to the end of the campaign on the thirteenth of May, 1943, we carried out a steady routine of pounding of enemy-held positions, earning a citation from the Chief of the Air Force when a tanker, heavily laden with precious petrol, for the Panzer Divisions spearheading out at Kasserine, was sunk by our bombers.

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### CASUALTY SECTION

380<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Sq.  
310<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Gp.

21 May 1943

On the above date while participating in an operational mission over Villacidro Airdrome in Sardinia, the following men are reported missing in action:

\*\*\*\*\*

Pilot- Lieut. *Robert J. McCormick II*  
Co-Pilot- Lieut. *Norman L. Toenjes*  
Bombardier- T/Sgt. *David L. Richardson*  
R-S/Sgt. *Frank P. Oliver Jr.*  
Aerial Gunner- *Anthony (NMI) Leanza*

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Lieut. R.J. McCormick, pilot of the bomber, is the only member of the crew, thus far to have been reported as a PRISONER OF WAR, and is confined in a German Prison Camp.

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## May 1943 (continued)

### 381<sup>st</sup> BS War Diary: Additional Information for May 1943:

On the second day of May the Squadron Commander, Captain White, was promoted to the rank of Major.

*White, Alpheus Wray, Jr., Maj, pilot, Commander*

Also, on the second of May, word was received from the German Government that 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Elwin F. Schrupp, Pilot; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. William F. Wigger, Co-pilot; and Sgt. Edwin N. Nelson, Radio-Gunner were being held as prisoners of war. They had been shot down on 12 March 43 while on a Sea Search off the Tunisian Coast. The communication did not mention S/Sgt. William (NMI) Follansbee, Bombardier, or Cpl. Robert R. Koehler, Gunner, the other members of the crew.

*Follansbee, William (NMI), S/Sgt, bombardier*

*Koehler, Robert R., Cpl, gunner*

*Nelson, Edwin N., S/Sgt, radio-gunner*

*Schrupp, Elwin F., 1Lt, pilot*

*Wigger, William F., 2Lt, pilot*

May turned out to be a momentous month. Its important events ranged in scale from the fall of Tunis and Bizerte to the serving of chocolate ice cream in the chow line. One point stands out above all others --- namely, the part which the 310<sup>th</sup> played in bombing the enemy into submission. Although there were no more than the average number of missions for the Squadron --- 15 --- or of flying hours --- 61½ --- the 381<sup>st</sup> alone dropped a total of 280,680 pounds of bombs on enemy objectives. This weight of bombs amounted to 45,520 pounds more than the total dropped by the Squadron during all of the previous five months it had been in operation.

And all of this bombing --- all of this Flying and “Keeping ‘em Flying” which the combat crews and the ground crews of the 381<sup>st</sup>, the 310<sup>th</sup> and all of the Groups of the North West African Strategic Air Force, culminated in an announcement which was made on the night of Friday, 14 May 43. It was stated thus --- simply and clearly: “Boys --- Tunis has fallen!” The whole Group was gathered together in the court yard at the time, listening to the weekly program of the 209<sup>th</sup> Coast Artillery Jive Band. When the wild cheering died down, the Master of Ceremonies continued, “American Troops are fighting in the streets of Bizerte, and its surrender is imminent.” The rest of the Jam Session fell flat. The Victory of Tunisia --- the success of the immediate ends for which we had all been striving, was an event which deeply touched us all. It was the culmination of all of our efforts during the long months we had been in North Africa. It was a tribute to all of our men who had been sacrificed in action, and it was the beginning of the greater days to come, the days in which we, the men of the Air Corps will take part in the invasion and total destruction of Corporal Schickelgruber’s “Fortress Europe”.

The following press release is typical of the men of the Air Corps, and brings out the way the combat crews work together as a team. 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Henry (Hank) B. Wightman tells the story, but he gives all the credit for the ship’s safe return to his men --- he was only the Pilot in command.

*Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt, pilot*

## May 1943 (continued)

FROM: Lt. Donald T. Sheehan, PRO  
Hq., 47<sup>th</sup> Wing  
APO 520, N.Y.

WITH MAJOR GENERAL DOOLITTLE'S STRATEGIC AIR FORCE....(May 10)-----

The safe return of the "Lorelei" (42-32333), a B-25 Mitchell, to her advanced Air Base here from Palermo, provides a modern aeronautical version of the "Leak in the Dike". It differs, from the traditional yarn in a couple of important respects. Its locale is high in the sky and it has two heroes whose strong hands saved the situation.

Just the moment she pulled off the target, a flak burst rocked the ship. Pilot, Lt. Henry B. Wightman, Winchester, Mass., tried to pull back on the throttles and found that the cable from the propeller governor to the right engine had been severed. He also discovered the throttle cable to the left engine was in a similar condition.

*Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt, pilot*

It looked like either the ocean or lagging behind the rest of the formation and leaving themselves open for any enemy fighter that might come along.

He informed S/Sgt. Richard J. Walsh, 500 W. 135<sup>th</sup> St., New York City, of their plight. S/Sgt. Walsh, bombardier and former aviation engineer, knew what to do but he didn't have the required tools. First of all, he needed a Phillips screw-driver. Where he would find one, he had no idea. Unlike plumbers, the ground crew mechanics rarely leave their tools after a job. Rummaging around he found the desired implement, the only tool in the plane; providentially left there, was means for removing the panel covering the cables. He went to work. The planes speed was up enough so that there would be no trouble for about fifteen minutes.

*Walsh, Richard J., S/Sgt, bombardier-gunner*

The panel opened, S/Sgt. Walsh got a firm hold on the cables and called to the Co-Pilot, F/O Walter E. Cook, Graham, Texas, for instructions. Aided by the latter via their interphone communication system, S/Sgt. Walsh worked the cables.

*Cook, Walter E., F/O, pilot*

Turret-gunner S/Sgt. Francis J. Fox, Hamilton, Mass., stood by ready to fill in when his buddy tired. When that occurred he went to his aid, took over the manual operation of the cables, and gave S/Sgt. Walsh a much deserved rest.

*Fox, Francis J., S/Sgt, gunner*

S/Sgt. Lloyd G. Porter, Jr., New Iberia, La., the radio operator, was also standing by for an emergency of this kind. So he set his radio at the frequency necessary for an SOS to the Air Sea Rescue Service, should they land in the ocean, and climbed into the turret gunner's position to ward off enemy fighters.

*Porter, Lloyd G., Jr., T/Sgt, radio-gunner*

With F/O Cook doing the directing, and S/Sgts. Walsh and Fox alternating on the cables they made home along with the rest of the formation.

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## May 1943 (continued)

Presentation of the Air Medal to Combat Crew members was made at a military ceremony on 21 May. The entire Squadron participated. Because of the heat, it was held at 7:45 A.M. The Squadron, divided into platoons, stood at attention while the Squadron Commander presented a ribbon to each man who received an award. Afterwards, the platoons passed in review before Major White and the Officers and Enlisted Men who received the awards.

*White, Alpheus Wray, Jr., Maj, pilot, Commander*

A three day holiday was declared for May 15, 16 and 17. Most of the Pilots, including Lts. Marlow, Phillips, Thorndike, VanDivort and Wightman filled up their ships with ground Officers and Enlisted Men and took off for the battle grounds around Tunis and Bizerte. Thirty or more damaged enemy aircraft of all types, and three uncrated ME-109's were inspected. Numerous souvenirs were collected including an Italian motorcycle which one Lieutenant brought back in his plane's bomb bay. At the same time, flights were made over the two harbors, whose very blue waters were glutted with the remains of a great quantity of enemy shipping.

*Marlow, Jack F., 2Lt, pilot*

*Phillips, Carl A., 1Lt, pilot*

*Thorndike, Robert W., 1Lt, pilot*

*VanDivort, Richard (NMI), 1Lt, pilot*

*Wightman, Henry B. "Hank", 1Lt, pilot*

Many interesting accounts of the battle, and particularly of prisoners of war were related by those who went on these trips. German prisoners are said to have boasted, after capture, that although we may have got Tunisia, we would never take Casablanca or Oran. Italians were numerous and comically anxious to be captured, wandering around in groups trying to surrender to anyone who would take them.

During this three day holiday, trucks were made available for the purpose of transporting personnel to the Roman Ruins at Timgad, near Batna, about 60 miles South of Berteaux. The Ruins consisted of the remains of a rather large town, complete with the ruins of an amphitheatre, a forum, two triumphal arches and an appropriate number of temples. A museum displayed fragments of exquisite statuary as well as mosaics and a good number of miscellaneous odds and ends of interest, such as household articles, carpenter's tools, and ornaments for personal adornment.

Several plane loads of personnel went to Algiers and Oran for the holidays. Among them were 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Donald S. Wert and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Melvin R. Rouch, two Officers who were extremely popular and outstandingly capable. Flying with them were T/Sgt. Charles A. Schimpf, S/Sgt. Raymond V. Fredrickson and Sgt. Lawrence F. Principe. On their return flight from Oran they met with an accident, the cause of which has never been determined. Pieces of the plane (41-13065) were spread over a wide area near Setif, the scene of the crash. On 18 May, a simple but impressive military funeral was held in the cemetery at Constantine. It was attended by 60 or more of their many friends in the Squadron.

*Fredrickson, Raymond V., S/Sgt, gunner*

*Principe, Laurence F., Sgt, gunner*

*Rouch, Melvin R., 1Lt, pilot*

*Schimpf, Charles A., T/Sgt, gunner*

*Wert, Donald S., 1Lt, pilot*



## May 1943 (continued)

There were several Officer promotions during the month of May. 1<sup>st</sup> Lts. Who were promoted to Captain were Lts. Coddington, Pemberton and Supple. Three 2<sup>nd</sup> Lts. threw away their gold bars and became 1<sup>st</sup> Lts. Stecher, Wells and Shearouse. Enlisted Men's promotions created three new T/Sgts., 7 S/Sgts., 8 Sgts., 7 Cpls. and 3 P.F.C.'s.

*Coddington, Walter E., Capt, pilot*

*Pemberton, Robert (NMI) "Bob", Capt, intelligence,*

*Shearouse, Lee A., 1Lt*

*Stecher, Robert Walter, 1Lt, pilot*

*Supple, Gilbert J., Capt, bombardier*

*Wells, Frank P., 1Lt, Supply Officer*

Captain Adam Kindar transferred out of the organization on 7 May. Doctor Kindar had been with the 381<sup>st</sup> since July 42, --- almost a year. He had comforted aches and cured pains, given valuable advice and rendered all sorts of personal services to both Officers and Enlisted Men. It was difficult to see him go, even though he was on his way back home --- back to the good old North American Continent and Randolph Field, to become a Flight Surgeon. When he left, he was laden with messages which he promised to telephone to parents, girl friends, and relatives of his many friends in the Group.

*Kindar, Adam A., Capt, surgeon*

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Norman E. Cawse-Morgon was transferred to the 47<sup>th</sup> Wing about the 20<sup>th</sup> of May. He was an integral part of the Squadron, having been with it since its infancy. Always a member of the Intelligence Department, he had been appointed a number of duties in addition to his regular ones, and was frequently called upon to interpret both French and Arabic. Because of his hyphenated name, he had been referred to privately by the Enlisted Men as Lieutenant "C-Dash". Lt. Donald D. Horrocks was transferred from the Operations Department to S-2, to fill Lt. Cawse-Morgon's place.

*Cawse-Morgon, Norman E "C-Dash", 1Lt, intelligence*

*Horrocks, Donald D., 1Lt, intelligence*

Lt. Robert W. Thorndike left on 29 May for the U.S.A. He had completed 42 Combat Missions against the enemy, 17 as Flight Leader. Pilots young in combat knew that Lt. Thorndike's advice was sound, and they sought it with the same confidence with which they followed him through the flak. He is a leader --- and his absence will be a loss to the Squadron. Having already done more than his share toward winning the war, his capabilities will undoubtedly be employed to better advantage in a non-combat area.

*Thorndike, Robert W., 1Lt, pilot*

It is because of such leaders as Lt. Thorndike and those like him in the 381<sup>st</sup> and other Squadrons of the Group, that Mr. T.R. Henry, Washington Star Correspondent, was able to write the following press release. For reasons of security, Berteaux Agricultural College became an old French Schoolhouse, with purely imaginary algebra problems. Otherwise, the story is completely accurate.

*Thorndike, Robert W., 1Lt, pilot*

## May 1943 (continued)

STRATEGIC AIR BASE STATION, NORTH AFRICA, (May 25, 1943) ---  
Quartered in an old French schoolhouse with the algebra problems of the children still chalked on the blackboards is the B-25 Mitchell bomber group which in the past year has made one of the most thrilling records of any American unit in North Africa.

It has accounted for 128 enemy fighter planes. It has strewn the Mediterranean with wreckage of German and Italian ships. It has blasted Sicily and Sardinia and the Axis-held North African ports day after day for months. Its men have been awarded 370 decorations --- purple hearts, soldiers medals, distinguished flying crosses, silver stars. The names of the 120 of them are posted on one of the blackboards, surrounded by the half erased algebra problems, as killed or missing in action. It has been on 94 missions, 1564 sorties, has spent 4830 hours in the air and has lost 22 planes and their crews.

Upon units such as this has fallen the great burden of the air war in North Africa, the maintaining of the air superiority which made possible the ultimate victory of the ground forces, the sweeping of Axis replacements and supplies. It is hard, constant, back-breaking, dangerous work, the results of which seldom get into the news in competition with the more spectacular exploits of the heavy bombers.

Yet this one Group of B-25's has dropped more than 2,000,000 pounds of bombs on Axis shipping and towns -- at least a tenth of the total destruction handed out by the American Air Force in North Africa.

This particular unit has played a big part in developing the American medium bomber tactics used in this area which played a big part in the final victory, but the nature of which cannot be described until the war is over. They represent however, something new in aerial warfare.

It has played particular havoc with Axis shipping, including the bag of a tanker, two destroyers and a cruiser one afternoon when it was sent out over a must target: a tanker loaded with gasoline at the time of the Kasserine break-through when this was vitally essential to the Germans for maintaining air control.

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On the 26<sup>th</sup>, while on a mission to Pont Olivo, Sicily, Lt. Stecher's ship failed to return. One engine having been knocked out over the target, he quickly began to lose altitude. Hearing his call for help, Lt. VanDivort circled, but was unable to see the plane make it's landing in the water, owing to a low cloud layer.

*Stecher, Robert Walter, 1Lt, pilot*

*Thorndike, Robert W., 1Lt, pilot*

## May 1943 (continued)

As the result of a new Table of Organization, the following changes were made among the Officers of the Squadron. Captain Ivan R. Campbell became Squadron Executive Officer, a new office, and 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Robert D. Abbott took his place as Adjutant. 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Frank Wells became Squadron Supply Officer, and Lt. Thomas U. Ramsey became Assistant Operations Officer. Captain Alexander returned to combat status, as a Squadron Flight Leader, but retained his office of Squadron S-3.

*Abbott, Robert D., 1Lt, Adjutant*

*Alexander, William T. "Alex", Capt, pilot*

*Campbell, Ivan R., Capt, Executive Officer*

*Ramsey, Thomas Upton, 1Lt, pilot*

*Wells, Frank P., 1Lt, Supply Officer*

On the Squadron's 69<sup>th</sup> Mission --- to Olbia Terranova, Sardinia, S/Sgt. M.L. Bozovich and S/Sgt. J.E. White were each credited with the destruction of a ME-109.

*Bozovich, Matthew L., S/Sgt, gunner*

*White, John Edward, S/Sgt, gunner*

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**May 1943 (continued)**

**428<sup>th</sup> BS War Diary: Additional Information for May 1943: None**