

12th Air Force, 57th Bombardment Wing
321st Bombardment Group
History: June 1945



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

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

12th Air Force, 57th Bombardment Wing

321st Bombardment Group

History: June 1945

The following is a compilation of the 321st 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 321st 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 to correctly identify every man and plane assigned to the 321st 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 321st BG Hero, please contact me at: Lil-Butch@nc.rr.com

Special Thanks to Very Special Folks

Agostino Alberti: Professor - historian (Soncino, Italy)

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

Jack Brellenthin, great nephew of: Harold Ray Brellenthin, 2Lt, pilot, 446th BS

Cecile Burandt, daughter of: Charles Lawson "Chuck" Burandt, Capt, pilot, 446th BS

Sally Brown, daughter of: Barnard H. Seegmiller, Sgt, armament, 445th BS

Dave Charville, grandson of: Leighton Daniel "Danny" Charville, 1Lt, pilot, 445th BS

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

1Lt Robert S. Crouse: pilot, 379BS

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

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

Ed Haney, cousin of: Gale Monroe Dickson, Capt, pilot, 446th BS

Special Thanks to Very Special Folks (continued)

Jim Hawkins, son of: Frank B. "Pancho" Hawkins, 2Lt, pilot, 381st BS
John Hughes, son of: John Jerome "Jack" Hughes, 1Lt, bombardier, 446th BS
Patti Johnson: genealogist, proofer, and family friend of: James Raymond Orechia, T/Sgt, radio-gunner, 446th BS
Don Kaiser, son of: Quentin C. Kaiser, T/Sgt, radio-gunner, 489th BS
John Lanza, nephew of: William A. Lanza, Sgt, gunner, 446th BS
Stephanie Lile, daughter of: Keith B. Lile, S/Sgt, gunner, 445th BS
1st Lt Joseph A. Malec: bombardier, 448th BS and friend of: Vernon Curtis Dossey, Capt, pilot, 448th BS
Vince Mango, son of: Vincent A. "Vince" Mango, S/Sgt, aerial gunner, 447th BS
John J. McCarthy: Sgt, engineer-gunner, bombardier, 447th BS
Lorraine McRae, daughter of: James Arrington McRae, 1Lt, bombardier, 446th BS
T/Sgt Rocco F. "Rocky" Milano & daughter Peggy Chatham: Crew Chief of Peg O' My Heart, Lil Butch, and Haulin' Ass, 446th BS
Bob Ritger, nephew of: Frederic Charles Ritger, 1Lt, pilot, 446th BS
Irving J. Schaffer: T/Sgt, radio-gunner, photographer, 448th BS
1st Lt Frederick H. Smith: pilot, 447th BS
Marsha Gurnee Suszan, daughter of: Clarence E. "Shine" Gurnee, S/Sgt, gunner, 448th BS
Dominique Taddei: author, U.S.S. Corsica (Corsica)
S/Sgt George B. Underwood: gunner, 381st BS
David Waldrip, nephew of: Robert Laseter Waldrip, T/Sgt, radio-gunner, 447th BS
Vinny J. White, son of: Joseph P. White, T/Sgt, radio-gunner, 381st BS
S/Sgt, Harry (NMI) Yoa: engineer-gunner, 445th BS

Crew lists

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

Acronyms & Abbreviations

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

CQ: Charge of Quarters
C/S: Call Sign
CWS: Chemical Warfare Service
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.F.F.: Identification, Friend or Foe
(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

R/J: Road Junction
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
S-1: Administration

S-2: Intelligence
S-3: Operations
S-4: Supply
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

L/V: Large Vehicle
LST: Landing Ship Tank

Ltr: Letter
LWA: Lightly Wounded in Action
MACR: Missing Air Crew Report
MATS: Military Air Transport Service

Very Pistol or Verey Pistol: Flare gun
VOCO: Verbal Order of the Commanding Officer
WC: Water closet
W.O.: Warrant Officer
WIA: Wounded In Action
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.)

Friday, 1 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: The rest-camp plane left today with a load of fellows for Capri. With Rome declared off-limits to this group because of VD, Capri is the only official place a soldier can go for rest and relaxation. One of the squadrons sprung a show-down inspection of clothing this morning and initiated a new batch of rumors.

445th BS War Diary: The men that were at Cairo Rest Camp returned today and others left for the Rest Camp at Ile Rousse, Corsica. Usual garrison duties and non-operational flights.

445th BS: *War Diary of: Lile, Keith B., S/Sgt, gunner:*

1 VENERDI-FRIDAY

No Entry

446th BS War Diary: Lieuts. Jackson, McGann, Ratliff plus Ems Freeman, McEuen are transferred to the 515th Air Service Group; they were all combat personnel.

Freeman, Harold W., T/Sgt, gunner

Jackson, Roland B., 1Lt, pilot

McEuen, Richard W., S/Sgt, gunner

McGann, Edom K., 1Lt, bombardier

Ratliff, James Ernest, Jr., 1Lt, pilot

447th BS War Diary: 12 planes flew in local transition. Three officers and two enlisted men, flying personnel, left for the US today.

448th BS War Diary: Maj. Burks, Lts. Russell and Freund and Sgts. Sadofsky and Mitchem left for the United States. They flew the first ship to leave the squadron for the U.S.

Mitchem, Dewey A., S/Sgt, gunner

Sadofsky, John (NMI), T/Sgt, gunner

A/C No. unknown Tail # unknown (to
USA)

P *Burks, Richard W., Maj*

CP *Russell, Harold H., 1Lt or John D., 1Lt*

N *Freund, John F., 1Lt*

B None

E *Mitchem, Dewey A., S/Sgt*

R *Sadofsky, John (NMI), T/Sgt*

G None

F None

Friday, 1 June 1945 (continued)

448th BS: *War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:*

“Awoke 8:25AM. Rather a restless evening. Turned watches back one hour. Spotted southern coast of Spain. Should pass the Rock of Gibraltar sometime this evening. On detail with group four. Lost two games of chess to Harold Phares. AM very clear and sunny. Rather a calm sea. Boys are discussing what they are planning when they return to the states. Some have lost fathers, mothers and sisters, brothers in battle. Others are getting a divorce. Some are going to be very, very happy and others very disappointed. As for yours truly I will wait and hope and pray. Retired 10:30PM”

Phares, Harold (NMI) “Harry”, Jr., T/Sgt, radio-gunner, 447th BS

Saturday, 2 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Saturday morning inspection and parade came off all right. Most sections shut down this afternoon and the 321st week-end has started. Most action takes place in areas away from the camp, so Saturday entries may be short.

445th BS War Diary: There was an inspection of the personnel's living quarters followed by a formation for the presentation of awards. Many of the men left on week-end passes some going to Pescara which seems to be the most popular spot for "rest and relaxation".

445th BS: War Diary of: Lile, Keith B., S/Sgt, gunner:

2 SABATO-SATURDAY

Supposed to have a parade today - I went to Sicily with Lt's Shutters, Reade (Cue Ball), Epstein, Pfc. Lou Bellwood, Jimmy Chambers &: a guy from 448th. I had a pretty good time."

Chambers, Jimmie (NMI), T/Sgt, engineer-gunner

Epstein, Philip (NMI), 1Lt, bombardier

Reade, Rex E., 1Lt, pilot

Shutters, Paul E., 1Lt, pilot

446th BS War Diary: Still wondering what will be our ultimate fate the EMs of the squadron had a get-together in the Ems bar which lasted until mid-night.

447th BS War Diary: Today we had our regular Saturday inspection, with Colonel Cassidy as inspecting officer, with a parade following immediately. Everything seemed satisfactory. The usual practice of having Saturday afternoon off was followed.

Cassidy, Charles F., Jr., Lt Col, pilot, 321st BG, Commander

448th BS War Diary: Usual organizational duties were all that took place.

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

"Awoke 8:15AM. Turned watches back another hour. Passed Rock of Gibraltar at 2:00AM. Been on board one week and sailing five days. The Atlantic is considerably rougher. Some are seasick. Yours truly is keeping his fingers crossed. Brought my blanket on deck. Slept all PM. The hold is too stuffy. Wind is beginning to whip up a spray. Everything on board is orderly. Gun crews really keep their "Babies" in shape. Played hearts most of evening. Retired 11:00PM."

Sunday, 3 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Sunday today and taking it easy seems to be the policy. The picture Abe Lincoln in Illinois, featuring Raymond Massey is playing in Ancona and a lot of the fellows took off to see it. The theatre was hot and stifling, but the picture was good. Not much doing around camp today.

445th BS War Diary: After first being discharged from the Army, Robert D. Knapp, Jr., son of Brigadier General R.D. Knapp, Sr., Wing Commander, received his gold bar and became an officer.

Knapp, Robert Duane, Jr., 2Lt, gunner

Knapp, Robert Duane, Sr., Brigadier General, pilot, 57th BW Commander

445th BS: War Diary of: Seegmiller, Barnard H., Sgt, armament:

06/03/45: Sunday, Mother's birthday

"I have spent most of the day reading. On account of so many fellows have gone home we have discontinued holding services. Nothing of great moment has happened today. We are just passing time until our orders come to move. Rumors seem to have centered around the last of July or early August as the time when we will leave. The sunsets are very beautiful here. Each evening I am reminded of the times I watched the sun set from the hangar on the field at Taranto. Italy is really a beautiful land. "Bella Italia, the sister land of paradise," as Byron says. A bit of meditation on the roof of the barracks evolved the notion that every field of endeavor would provide its own solution to the problems of mankind. Thus the economist would correct the world by thrift, the naturalist and poet by observing nature, the technologist by some new gadgets, etc. and each would succeed insofar as his particular field contained some of the basic truths of God, all of which are given to man in His revealed word. We, however, are prone to reject God's word as a whole and build around fragments of it, our own insufficient solution which lead us to disaster. Some day, when man has completed his folly, God will re-establish his kingdom of love and only then will we enjoy lasting peace."

446th BS War Diary: Sgts. Edson, Gribbin, Huerner, Boedecker, Maurin, Cpls. Brandoff, Chapin, Tracey, PFC. Pesante, Sarver, have their orders and are heading for the States.

Boedecker, James, Sgt, engineering

Brandoff, Daniel, Cpl, engineering, engineer-gunner

Chapin, Correll C., Cpl, gunner

Gribbin, James E., S/Sgt, ordnance

Maurin, Carl J., Sgt, armament

Sarver, Lawrence J., PFC, gunner

Edson, Ernest Robert "Bob", Sgt, photo

Huerner, Elmer L., T/Sgt, communications

Pesante, James V., PFC, transportation

Tracey, William J., Cpl, engineering

447th BS War Diary: 13 enlisted men were transferred to 7th Repl. Depot for transshipment to US Redeployment. A plane carrying five officers and three enlisted men left this morning for a short stay in Cairo, Egypt.

Sunday, 3 June 1945 (continued)

448th BS War Diary: Capt. Culp returned to the squadron after being in a German concentration camp for over a year. He was captured January 7, 1945 near Perugia, Italy, and was released on V-day in Italy. Sgts. Crider, Rocolo, Lawton, Quigley, Rappaport, Manchester and Scott, and Cpls. Dunbar, Lloyd, Surdi, Wolfe and Yearwood left for the United States. Squadron personnel were told today that if they didn't sign up for one of the I & E courses then they would be forced to attend Aircraft Recognition & Code classes. Result: All I & E courses were overflowing.

Crider, Eugene W., M/Sgt, engineering Culp, Merle H., Capt, pilot

Dunbar, Louis C. "Louey", Cpl, communication, radio-gunner

Lawton, Russell W., S/Sgt, engineering

Lloyd, Joseph B., Cpl, engineering Manchester, Ivan B., Sgt, cook

Quigley, Paul E., Sgt, armament

Rappaport, Louis (NMI), S/Sgt, photographer

Rocolo, Leslie (NMI) "Les", Sgt, engineering

Scott, Joseph M. "Scotty", Sgt, intelligence

Surdi, Benjamin J., Cpl, gunner

Wolfe, Marvin G., Cpl, transportation

Yearwood, Joe G., Cpl, engineer

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

"Awoke 7:25AM. Ship tossed around quite a bit last night. Breakfast hours have been changed from 8-9 to 7-8. Partly cloudy AM. Sunbathing per usual. Becoming quite a pinochle player. Fresh chicken for supper (cold storage). Feeling OK. Getting anxious about my homecoming. It does strike the sentimental side. Ride has been exceptionally smooth. Hope the folks aren't worrying."

Monday, 4 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Usual camp duties, weather continues hot and portends an uncomfortable summer.

445th BS War Diary: Another batch of officers left for the Rest Camp at Ile Rousse. There was a dance at the Headquarters Enlisted Men's club which was attended by some of the 445th personnel, who supplied some of the feminine companions.

446th BS War Diary: Pfc. Edward Patty, professional tennis player, is assigned to the squadron.

Patty, John Edward "Budge" (assg PFC 446th 4 Jun & Pvt 448th 5 Jun 45?), HQ 12th AF

447th BS War Diary: 12 planes flew in local formation today. Lt. Reid gave a lecture on "What about the Italians" this afternoon, and had 68% attendance. Usual organizational duties.

Reid, Walter H., 2Lt,

448th BS War Diary: All personnel were told in a meeting today that movements to the United States would be sooner than previously expected. Had "show-down" inspection.

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

"Awoke 8:00AM. Big chow line. Found out clocks have been turned back another hour. Rather cloudy PM. Keeping out of sun today. Feel like I might be getting sun blisters on my lips. Had a terrific pinochle session. Slight drizzle. Beautiful rainbow. Can see beginning and end. Should put into port next Wednesday. Retired regular hour."

Tuesday, 5 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Another permanent rotation list came out today and a lot of headquarters men are on it again. We've lost about a third of our original strength already and would like to lose all, if possible. They've been told they'll leave within a few days. Everybody's running around checking and returning equipment and signing forms.

445th BS War Diary: Some men left today for Capri. Still others are bound for Venice. Usual training flights and garrison duties. We heard that Sgts McNevin and Larkin are now civilians.

Larkin, Francis C. "Charley", T/Sgt, engineer-gunner
McNevin, John L., Jr., S/Sgt, intelligence/1st Sgt

446th BS War Diary: Lt. Roy C. Moose has been hospitalized for an operation. Lt. French has returned from 12th Air Force where he was on detached service.

French, Wendell L., 1Lt, pilot *Moose, Roy C., 2Lt, intelligence*

447th BS War Diary: 12 planes flew local transition today. Usual organizational duties.

448th BS War Diary: Pvt. Patty transferred from Hq. 12th AF to squadron. Signed payroll and vouchers.

Patty, John Edward "Budge"(assg PFC 446th 4 Jun & Pvt 448th 5 Jun 45?), HQ 12th AF

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

"On detail with group #4. Did nil. Rained most of day. General idea of chow on our liberty ship: Breakfast - powdered eggs (unfinished) with almost baked bread, GI coffee, sometimes dry cereal with powdered milk. Dinner: Vienna sausage, dehydrated potatoes, diced canned beets, GI soup, that unfinished bread again and, oh yes, butter sometimes or jelly or peanut butter. Coffee goes with every meal. Supper - as a rule about the same as dinner. Unfortunately if one is not desirous in trying to digest these victuals, one must take the desperate way out - starving. Wow - how wonderful it is going to be to once again have access to the comforts of the dear old USA. Finished "The Keys of the Kingdom" by AJ Cronin. Commenced "The autobiography of Benjamin Franklin" associated with Carl Van Dorn. Nights are becoming restless."

Wednesday, 6 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: We had mail from the fellows who left over ten days ago and they're still at Naples waiting for shipping-space. Some believe the group will pick them up when it passes thru on its way home.

445th BS War Diary: Usual garrison duties and training flights.

445th BS: War Diary of: Seegmiller, Barnard H., Sgt, armament:

06/06/45: "As the end of the war was something short of what was expected, so also, is the news, so long awaited, that I am going home. All day long the squadron has been alive with rumors that a large new list of men was coming out soon. I was only casually interested because I felt there was little reason to believe that I would make it and also, because I have been content with the prospect of remaining with the Group. Joe Beresh and I went out to fire my pistol and when we came back the list was up. I still am not at all excited. In fact I inquired of the 1st Sgt. if it was all final. I would have exchanged my place with several I know who are more anxious than I, Joe for instance. I hate to leave Rucker. There are forty of us going, many of whom came over together. We are supposed to leave June 8. That's as much as I know about it. Probably we will fly to Naples and take the boat from there."

Campbell, Matthew (NMI), S/Sgt, personnel, 1st Sgt

Beresh, Joseph (NMI) "Joe", S/Sgt, armorer

Rucker, Elbert A., Sgt, armament

446th BS War Diary: Pvt. Jarrett has been transferred to the 6677th Disciplinary Training Center.

Jarrett, Richard L., Pvt, transportation

447th BS War Diary: 9 planes in local formation, 6 planes flew on night transition. Usual duties.

448th BS War Diary: Pfc's Janus, Jungquist, McEver, Chappell, Dunn, Fisher, Grissom, Oddo, Oneth, Pankiewicz and Scombardi were promoted to Corporals. Cpls. Reber, McCall, Swenson, Taylor, Tiger, Weiss and Yaw were promoted to Sergeants. Sgts. Reno, Schriebel and Yaffee, Cpl. Pierce and Pfc. Griffin returned from D.S. to duty.

Chappell, William C., Cpl, armament

Fisher, Amos W., Cpl, transportation

Grissom, John E., Jr., Cpl, engineering

Jungquist, Walter L., Cpl, engineering

McEver, Thomas J., Cpl, duty soldier

Oneth, Albert L., Cpl, engineering

Pierce, Wilburt E., Cpl, communications

Reno, William F., S/Sgt, communications

Scombardi, John (NMI), Cpl, transportation

Dunn, Vernon L., Cpl, engineering

Griffin, Pink C., PFC, communications

Janus, Bill (NMI), Cpl, cook

McCall, Robert V., Sgt, personnel

Oddo, Anthony A., Cpl, engineering

Pankiewicz, Edward J., Cpl, engineering

Reber, Hugh W. L., Sgt, engineering

Schriebel, Paul J., Sgt, communications

Swenson, James R., Sgt, engineering

Wednesday, 6 June 1945 (continued)

Taylor, Allan J., Sgt, personnel

Tiger, George E., Sgt, cook

Weiss, Arthur A., Sgt, bomb system maintenance

Yaffee, Frank (NMI), Sgt, communications

Yaw, Philip C., Sgt, engineering

448th BS: *War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:*

“Clear, sunny day. Sunned on deck. Crew is dropping cables and painting top side. My daily exercise consists of about fifteen minutes of PT. I notice I'm about the only individual doing such. However, I feel not a bit self-conscience. For the first time the sea has commenced rolling - nothing rough. Been doing a lot of thinking lately. Marriage, army, folks, etc. Deep within I know I'm in possession of certain qualities that will show great promise. However I can't seem to surface my unknown. Been seriously considering a life of solitude away from all my previous surroundings. Returning to my previous environment is disadvantageous. I must also consider the folks. What about Jerome?”

Schaffer, Jerome, Irving Schaffer's brother

Thursday, 7 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): Major Gustav M. Minton Jr. takes command of HQ XXII Tactical Air Command, which ceases to function; Major Minton continues in the command until transfer to Army Air Forces Service Command, Mediterranean Theater of Operations (AAFSCMTO) on 12 Aug.

Minton, Augustus M. "Gustav", Jr., Maj, HQ XXII Tactical Air Command, Commander

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Considerable hustling and packing going on, as another group of men departs tomorrow morning for the States. A lot of transients in our mess these past few days and men griping about feeding a lot of strangers, out of our mess-fund. Rations today and still no cokes, but 7 beers again. A big meeting at Wing tonight is supposed to decide the final outcome of all men over 85 points.

445th BS War Diary: More men left for Ile Rousse while others returned, looking as though they could use a rest. More training and the usual duties. Sgt. Lestz is now a civilian.

Lestz, Sidney "Lefty", T/Sgt, engineering, crew chief

446th BS War Diary: Lieuts. Moore, Tourtellot, Strassner, plus Sgts. Stevenson, Lesnikowski have been transferred to M.A.T.S.

Lesnikowski, Sgt

Moore, Howard T., 2Lt, pilot

Stevenson, Sgt

Strassner, 2Lt

Tourtellot, 2Lt

447th BS War Diary: 13 planes in local formation, 2 planes night transition.

448th BS War Diary: Had meeting of all personnel and were told that men with highest number of points would be leaving for the United States in the very near future.

448th BS: War Diary of: *Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:*

"Awoke 8:00AM. Clocks were set back another hour last evening. Cloudy AM. Immediately up being furloughed - phone calls and roses are in order for mother and Shyrle. Engine was cut for two fifteen minute periods enroute today. Watched the flying fish off the port side. Many of the boys are sleeping on deck. As yet I haven't found the hold too stuffy. Made out quite well (Marty) in pinochle. A once over every other day consists of my bathing. Brush my teeth regularly. For the first time since reading it I have enjoyed Benjamin Franklin's autobiography. Retired 10:30PM."

Chauncey, Martin E. "Marty", T/Sgt, gunner, bombardier, 445th BS

Shyrle, Irving Schaffer's future wife

Friday, 8 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: There wasn't enough air-transportation for all the men on orders to go home, so only Headquarters men took off this morning. The remainder will leave Sunday. We had meat twice today and hit a new high in good-eating, judging by past standards. Through some quirk of good-luck, the EM's bar obtained the privilege of buying three quarts of American whiskey from the Officer's Rations and they went faster than you could "I'll take a shot". The base-movie tonight is, "Up in Mabel's Room", and it's a re-showing of the picture by the same name in Corsica several months back. Four headquarters men were alerted for tomorrow morning and will be redeployed to the 51st Troop Carrier Wing at Sienna. All men had less than 85 points. The poop on the Wing meeting last night, is that all men with less than 85 points will be re-deployed here and all others will go home.

445th BS War Diary: Some more men left for the states today. We who are left are still carrying on the usual regular duties and training.

445th BS: War Diary of: Seegmiller, Barnard H., Sgt, armament:

06/08/45: 06:00 at Barracks

"This morning I arose early in order to collect a few fond impressions of my last day here. I sat on the east steps of the barracks and watched the rise of dawn. A silvery sliver of moon was hanging low over the Adriatic, soon to disappear in the light of the onrushing sun which it heralded. The lone morning star stood, waving vigilance of night. From the field came the song of the birds as they were aroused by the peasants coming to take up their labor in the grain fields. The only sounds reminiscent of the cause that brought me here were the purr of the energizers of the various squadrons and the shrill whistle of a train, accompanied by the rumble of its wheels. It was peaceful and beautiful. I leave Italy gladly, but with many a memory that will cause me to want to return someday.

Yesterday, as a final concession to my roving nature, I went to Loreto with Jones and Kangas to see a church founded on the belief that angels carried the home of Mary and Joseph to the spot on which the church is built, sometime during the 12th century. I haven't time to go into details, but everything about the place was beautiful. My last drive through the countryside was most pleasant. Peasants were busy harvesting the grain with the ancient cradle or sickle, binding it by hand and shocking it in neat shocks, the heads of the bundles together. Some larger farms employed a mower drawn by a pair of oxen to do the cutting. As one always does on even a short drive, we passed several crosses marking graves, both German and Allied soldiers.

Jones, Casey (NMI), 2Lt, ordnance

Kangas, Angelo J., Cpl, operations

At 08:30 we are due to take off for Naples. Six of our B-25s are to take us there. Soon I will be winging back over the same territory that provided my first glimpse of Italy nearly two years ago. We will land at Capodichino airport from where on that first visit, enemy planes arose to attack us. Our job is done and it is with much satisfaction that I take leave for home."

Friday, 8 June 1945 (continued)

446th BS War Diary: Sgts. Amspacker, Mancuso, Dechert, Floethe, Freeman, DuCharme, Lampasona, Sommer, Spinner, Lattin, Lloyd Maguire, Rife, Cpls Erickson, Hause, Hoffman, Pruitt, and Pfc. Fuller are heading homeward.

Amspacker, Arthur A., T/Sgt, armament *Dechert, John A., Sgt, engineering*
DuCharme, Ralph J., Sgt, engineering *Erickson, Roland A., Cpl, operations*
Floethe, Jack A., S/Sgt, armament *Freeman, Robert E., S/Sgt, communications*
Fuller, Roy L., PFC, ordnance *Hause, LeRoy W., Cpl, ordnance*
Hoffman, Leroy H., Cpl, personnel *Lampasona, John N., S/Sgt, armament-gunner*
Lattin, Robert M., Sgt, armorer, gunner *Lloyd, Alfred J., Sgt, ordnance*
Maguire, Joseph F., Sgt, communications, radio-gunner
Mancuso, Anthony J. "Tony", T/Sgt, engineering
Pruitt, William N., Jr., Cpl, ordnance
Rife, Lorne E., Sgt, armament *Sommer, Willard V., S/Sgt, communications*
Spinner, Franklin B., Sgt, armament

447th BS War Diary: 38 enlisted men relieved from assignment and assigned to 7th Repl. Depot for transshipment to US, Redeployment Par 1, Ltr Orders Hq., 12th AF, 8 June 45. 9 planes on formation 2 planes night transition.

448th BS War Diary: All personnel were told they had to report to S-2 before leaving for the United States to pick up PRO packet which contained pictures and publicity for the 321st Group. This packet will be given to newspapers in home town of individual upon arrival in U.S.

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

"Awoke 6:55AM. Clear, sunny morning. This entry is being made at 8:07AM on deck. Passed another freighter going in opposite direction. Ship had inspection. Franklin's autobiography very dry. Marty and I took it on the chin again in pinochle. Feeling OK aside from the fact my breastbone is always sore especially when I exhale or contract my upper body. Retired 11:00PM."

Chauncey, Martin E. "Marty", T/Sgt, gunner, bombardier, 445th BS

Saturday, 9 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Inspection morning and all went off okay, although there were some surprised expressions on the inspecting officers' faces when they noticed how few men were left on hand. The parade was called-off, but a presentation ceremony scheduled for this afternoon, goes on. Half-day schedule today and most fellows have taken off already.

445th BS War Diary: Another living quarters inspection was held today. Some of the men left for the week-end at Pescara.

445th BS: War Diary of: Seegmiller, Barnard H., Sgt, armament:

06/11/45: 7th Repple Depple - Agnano, Italy

"We came here the same day we left Ancona, arriving late afternoon. After leaving Capodichino airdrome we were taken to a processing center somewhere north of Naples about 10 miles. It was a very elaborate place, evidently an exposition ground. Everything seemed to be overdone in color and style, but it was impressive. The predominant piece was a huge red marble statue of an angel standing victorious over a slain lion. I don't know what it represented, perhaps the conquest of the Roman Eagle over the Lion of Ethiopia. The buildings were all decorated with elaborate picture groups of various phases of life and countries of the Italian Empire. The landscaping was beautiful. Our records were taken up here and we were sent on to the Repple Depple. Fear of getting stuck at a Repple Depple Replacement Depot is oft times a great motivating force in the Army. So it is at this place. We want to get out as soon as possible and everyone stays on the ball. In all, things are run pretty smoothly. The permanent party seems to realize they are dealing with old soldiers and therefore do not try any funny stuff. All branches of the service are mixed and colored and white boys occupy the same tent. Even that doesn't seem to cause any trouble. Nevertheless, all this processing necessitates a good deal of herding around and one cannot help feeling like a rookie. The site of our camp is what was once an elaborate sports arena. There are three large stucco grandstands and numerous other buildings, all of which are quite attractive. Much care has been given to landscaping and planning to make what must have been a very pleasant sports ground. A range of irregular mountains surrounds the valley, which is several miles across. There is only one break in this circular range and here the road enters through a narrow gap. The mountains are covered with a dense green growth of trees. In the day it is quite warm. At night it is pleasant until about 05:00, when a cold wave strikes, making us very uncomfortable. The first night I had only two blankets, now I have four. We are finished processing and customs inspection and are awaiting orders to ship. Some of us will go by air but most by boat. I want to go by air, naturally."

Saturday, 9 June 1945 (continued)

446th BS War Diary: Sgt. Luszczenski, Cpls. Callaghan, Low, and Pfc. Zero are transferred to the 51st Troop Carrier Wing.

Callaghan, Eugene D., Cpl, operations *Low, Carl M., Cpl, engineering*
Luszczenski, Stanley B., Sgt, engineering *Zero, Anthony M., PFC, transportation*

447th BS War Diary: More enlisted men left the organization today. Those men with a critical score under 85 are being sent out to units that are staying overseas, either in this theater or the Pacific. Men with 85 points or over and who can be spared are being sent to the US for redeployment. At the same time this organization is receiving men with 85 points or over, who will be sent on to US from here. Therefore there is plenty of activity and excitement in the Squadron at present.

448th BS War Diary: General Meyers presented Capt. Culp four awards at a base ceremony today. He received the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, Purple Heart and the Air Medal. Sgt. Dittman and Pvt. Bilodeau returned to duty from T.D. Pfc's Bello and Gill were placed on T.D. with the 302nd Signal Co. Pfc. Dunn transferred to the 51st T.C.W. Sgts. Hildreth, Karabinos, Shaw, Wilson, Hyden, Biersdorff, Ingraham, Kubasiewicz, Lange, LaPlant, LeSassier, Manning, Marx, McTaggart, Rauch, Reno, Schaeffer, Wilcox, Fuoco, Goodrich, Huebel, Hagopian, Huha, Jackson, Langley, Myall, Opitz, Schriebel, Whaley, Yaffee and Zurek, and Cpls. Denby, Gardner, Hojnacki, Pierce, Plourde and Taylor and Pfc's Brown and Fisher left for the United States.

Bello, George J., PFC, duty soldier *Biersdorff, Charles J., S/Sgt, gunner*
Bilodeau, Arthur (NMI), Pvt, cook *Brown, Joseph C., PFC, armament*
Culp, Merle H., Capt, pilot *Denby, William A., Cpl, parachute*
Dittman, Paul F., Jr., S/Sgt, gunner *Dunn, Vernon L, Cpl, engineering*
Fisher, Amos W., Cpl, transportation *Fuoco, Frank (NMI), Sgt, gunner*
Gardner, Thomas G., Cpl, armament *Gill, Clarence (MNI), PFC, duty soldier*
Goodrich, Orville H., Sgt, ordnance *Hagopian, Aram (NMI), engineering*
Hildreth, Elmer L., Sgt, gunner *Hojnacki, Adam A., Cpl, cook*
Huebel, Leo E., Sgt, engineering *Huha, George (NMI), Sgt, communications*
Hyden, Aaro W., Sgt, communications *Ingraham, Herman R., S/Sgt, engineering*
Jackson, Houston S., Sgt, cook *Karabinos, Joseph M., T/Sgt, engineering*
Kubasiewicz, Stanley F., S/Sgt, engineering *Lange, Clayton V., Sgt, armament*
Langley, James C., Sgt, operations *LaPlant, Madoris J., S/Sgt, ordnance*
LeSassier, John W., Sgt, engineering *Manning, James F., S/Sgt, communication*
Marx, Leonard R., Sgt, armament *McTaggart, Leonard A., S/Sgt, gunner*
Meyers, Charles T. Brig Gen, 12th AF Commander *Myall, William D., Sgt, armament*
Opitz, Fred E., Sgt, communications *Pierce, Wilburt E., Cpl, communications*
Plourde, Lucien P., Cpl, ordnance *Rauch, Charles M., Sgt, engineering*
Reno, William F., S/Sgt, communications *Schaeffer, John H., Sgt, armament*
Schriebel, Paul J., Sgt, communications *Shaw, David S., Sgt, radio-gunner*
Taylor, Allan J., Sgt, personnel *Whaley, Peter W., Sgt, armament*
Wilcox, John F., III, S/Sgt, armament *Wilson, Elrod C., T/Sgt, ordnance*
Yaffee, Frank (NMI), Sgt, communications *Zurek, Aloysius F., Sgt, ordnance*

Saturday, 9 June 1945 (continued)

448th BS: *War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:*

"Awoke 7:25AM. Very windy, cloudy. Quite a choppy and rolling sea. On group #4 detail. Helped in latrine. Read "Red" by Somerset Maugham. Also "Gambler Road," by Oppenheim and "The Prince of Jews" by Michael Arlen. Not so hot. Ran into a slight squall. Had to close up hold. Very close even with vents working. Turned clocks back another hour. Retired 10:00PM."

Sunday, 10 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Sunday and not much doing. USO Show put on an entertaining hour this evening and a good turn-out was there. Refreshments by the Red Cross followed. But the follow-through was light, the main attraction was the live-talent. Some more enlisted men and officers alerted for departure tomorrow morning. Weather hot.

445th BS War Diary: A warm Sunday and many of the men spent it at the beach nearby.

446th BS War Diary: Pfc. Jerome Meany left for Army Education Staff School in Rome. 1st Lt. Jackson is assigned to the squadron. 1st Lt. Holt has been transferred to the 515th Air Service Group.

Holt, Noel P., Jr., 1Lt, pilot

Jackson, Roland B., 1Lt, pilot

Meany, Jerome P., PFC, communications

447th BS War Diary: The officers and men who went to Cairo returned today. Usual Organizational duties.

448th BS War Diary: Usual squadron duties were all that took place.

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

“Awoke 7:00AM. Very rocky night. Semi-clear morning. 5 more days to USA. Beaucoup rumors about. Conversed with a chap from New York most of the AM. Was studying journalism at NYU before the Army snagged him - Was a teletype and wireless operator with AFHQ in Africa and Caserta. Sea somewhat choppy. Ships radio beginning to pick up direct broadcasts from America. Played pinochle with Harry, Red, Marty. Lost. Retired 11:00PM.”

Chauncey, Martin E. "Marty", T/Sgt, gunner, bombardier, 445th BS

Phares, Harold (NMI) "Harry", Jr., T/Sgt, radio-gunner, 447th BS

Monday, 11 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Another group of men left today and the ranks are beginning to thin out. Calisthenics seems to have been thrown out the window and no tears have been shed. It rained slightly and outside of a poor chow menu all day, it's not unusually active. Clothing checks continue. Dance called off because of no band for tonight.

445th BS War Diary: More men left for the good old U.S.A. today. Usual training and garrison activities.

446th BS War Diary: Ems Kelly, Carl, Dalpos, Taylor, Alton, Byman, Kane, Freeman, Lancaster, Schubach, Yakelis, Krasity, Rowe, Shumaker, and Shuttz left this morning for the states. 1st Lt. Cecil E. Welsh, Jr. was killed by an accidental fall at Ile Rousse rest camp on the Island of Corsica.

Alton, Leo F., Sgt, engineering

Carl, Edgar W., S/Sgt, gunner

Freeman, William B., Sgt, engineering

Kelly, Thomas J., T/Sgt, gunner

Lancaster, Francis M., Sgt, armament

Schubach, Wallace C., Sgt, communications

Shumaker, Acie C., Sgt, transportation

Welsh, Cecil E. "Red", Jr., 1Lt, pilot

Taylor, James M., Sgt, radio-gunner

Byman, Arvid R., Sgt, engineering

Dalpos, Joseph N., S/Sgt, gunner

Kane, Ronald J., S/Sgt, engineer-gunner

Krasity, Emil (NMI), Sgt, ordnance

Rowe, Maynard (NMI), Sgt, transportation

Shuttz, Vernon E., Sgt, cook

Yakelis, Joseph M., Sgt, engineering

447th BS War Diary: 13 planes on local formation and 2 on night transition. 9 enlisted men and one officer sent home on redeployment.

448th BS War Diary: Cpls. Shulanski and Webb, Pfc's Frey, Griffin and Smith and Pvts. Adams, Bilodeau, Dearien, Dombrowski and StGermain left for the United States. Pfc. Alcala returned from T.D. to duty. The 1st Sgt. announced that we had a large amount of money in the E.M. Club fund and had to get rid of it before the group broke up or it would be given to the Italian Relief Fund. We are tearing out portion of mess hall for a bar and all liquor will be given away.

Adams, Edward T., Pvt, cook

Bilodeau, Arthur (NMI), Pvt, cook

Dombrowski, Michael (NMI), Pvt, ordnance

Frey, Fred L., Jr., PFC, transportation

Shulanski, Joseph (NMI), Cpl, personnel

StGermain, Walter A., Pvt, engineering

Alcala, Pedro A., PFC, duty soldier

Dearien, John W., Pvt, duty soldier

Griffin, Pink C., PFC, communications

Smith, Virgil D., Cpl, ordnance

Webb, Ernest F., Cpl, medical

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

"Bulletin says 4 more days to port. PX rations. Fair day. Passing lots of seaweed. Beat Harold two games of chess. One draw. Took a shellacking in pinochle. Calm sea."

Phares, Harold (NMI) "Harry", Jr., T/Sgt, radio-gunner, 447th BS

Tuesday, 12 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Usual camp duties with nothing happening outside of routine activities. Weather hot and sticky.

445th BS War Diary: Usual garrison duties and training flights.

446th BS War Diary: Sgt. Maurer and Pvt. Tagg are assigned to the squadron.

Maurer, Sgt

Tagg, Carrol H., Pvt, transportation

447th BS War Diary: 4 planes on local formation and 2 on night transition. 9 enlisted men and one officer sent home on redeployment.

448th BS War Diary: There was a parade and inspection today. Work was begun on our bar. Cpls. McCall, Reber, Swenson, Tiger, Weiss and Yaw were promoted to Sergeants. Pfc's Chappell, Grissom, Janus, Jungquist, McEver, Oddo, Oneth, Pankiewicz and Scombardi were promoted to Corporals.

Chappell, William C., Cpl, armament

Grissom, John E., Jr., Cpl, engineering

Janus, Bill (NMI), Cpl, cook

Jungquist, Walter L., Cpl, engineering

McCall, Robert V., Sgt, personnel

McEver, Thomas J., Cpl, duty soldier

Oddo, Anthony A., Cpl, engineering

Oneth, Albert L., Cpl, engineering

Pankiewicz, Edward J., Cpl, engineering

Reber, Hugh W. L., Sgt, engineering

Scombardi, John (NMI), Cpl, transportation

Swenson, James R., Sgt, engineering

Tiger, George E., Sgt, cook

Weiss, Arthur A., Sgt, bomb system maintenance

Yaw, Philip C., Sgt, engineering

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

"Today is Oliver King's 32nd birthday. What a good guy. Calm sea. Harry and I made out quite well in pinochle. Chest still bothering me. It's an odd situation. X-rays and examinations show nothing. Can't keep complaining. Will have to carry on."

King, Oliver A., Sgt, personnel

Phares, Harold (NMI) "Harry", Jr., T/Sgt, radio-gunner, 447th BS

Wednesday, 13 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Rumor has it that all men with 85 points and over, will depart for the US in the next two weeks. Weather clouded up and heavy wind blew in rain this evening. The local movie is San Diego I Love You, with Louise Albritton, and Edward E. Horton. We had meat twice today and the remarkable occurrence is still to be noised about.

445th BS War Diary: Usual garrison duties and training was cut short by strong winds.

446th BS War Diary: 1st Lt. Hutchins is transferred to 38th General Hospital in Cairo. Sgts. Ahl, Karp are promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant. Cpls. Bell, Giffin, Welch, Frazier have been promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Pfc. Cothran, Efird, Stiebel, Eads, Hedberg, and Vermouth are promoted to the grade of Corporal.

Ahl, Irwin M., S/Sgt, cryptographic

Bell, William E., Sgt, operations

Cothran, Thomas H., Jr., Cpl, engineering

Eads, Clifton D., Cpl, engineering

Efird, John W., Cpl, engineering

Frazier, James R., Sgt, communications

Giffin, Alva H., Sgt, armament

Hedberg, James L., Cpl, armament

Hutchins, Darwin P., 1Lt, gunnery instructor

Karp, William B., S/Sgt, engineering

Stiebel, Austin O., Cpl, gunner

Vermouth, George J., Cpl, armament

Welch, Edwin S., Sgt, communications

447th BS War Diary: 11 planes flew local formation.

448th BS War Diary: Lt. Gilbert was assigned to the squadron.

Gilbert, 2Lt

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

“Turned watches back another hour putting us on good old USA ET time. About 48 hours from land. Oliver passed out this morning. Reoccurrence of malignant malaria. I shall assist him all I can. Doctor placed him in sick bay. Short arm this AM. Partly cloudy. On detail with group #4.”

King, Oliver A., Sgt, personnel

Thursday, 14 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Rations today and beer and cigarettes remain unchanged. The Stars & Stripes said we'd be getting Swiss watches in PX over two weeks ago, but we're still waiting. The two days of bad weather tapered off this evening in time for a Special Services show held outdoors. It was the same unit that performed three weeks ago, but the routine was changed and appreciated as much. Loading-lists have been submitted by operations. It looks like some men will be flying back soon.

445th BS War Diary: Another batch of men left for the U.S.A. More training. The Red Cross stage show at the Coffee Shoppe was excellent.

446th BS War Diary: Lieuts. Hahn, Neel, and Cimino, Staff Sergeants Englehaupt and Beck are transferred to the 515th Air Service Group.

Beck, Junior D., S/Sgt, gunner

Cimino, William C., 1Lt, bombardier

Englehaupt, Russell L., S/Sgt, gunner

Hahn, Melvin G., 1Lt, pilot

Neel, John Dodd, 1Lt, pilot

447th BS War Diary: 6 officers and 4 enlisted men, all flying personnel, rotated to US. 9 planes local formation and 2 night transition.

448th BS War Diary: Lt. Wyman was transferred to the 47th Bomb Group. Lts. Carroll and Cannon, F/O Stewart and Sergeants Codd and Pituck were transferred to the United States. Pfc. Dunn was promoted to corporal.

Cannon, John L, 1Lt, bombardier

Carroll, Robert L., 1Lt, pilot

Codd, James P., Sgt, gunner

Dunn, Vernon L, Cpl, engineering

Pituck, James J., T/Sgt, gunner

Stewart, David A., F/O, pilot

Wyman, 1Lt, S-2, I & E Officer

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

"Regular run of the mill. Oliver is feeling much better. Spotted buoys off coast of Virginia. Sea lanes. Chicken for supper."

King, Oliver A., Sgt, personnel

Friday, 15 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): The 86th Bombardment Squadron (Light), 47th Bombardment Group (Light), moves from Grosseto to Pisa, Italy with A-20s.

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Intelligence has streamlined its equipment to the point where 20 minutes packing will close-shop. The I&E Program seems finito, with all the men who were under instruction, having left, in the process of leaving or counting the days before they leave. We sign the pay-roll today. Base-theatre is showing "Strike Up The Band" with Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney, to only a fair turn-out.

445th BS War Diary: Usual garrison duties and flight training.

446th BS War Diary: 1st Lt. Owens has been assigned to the squadron. Pfc. Johnson is transferred to the 302nd Signal Company of the Troop Carrier Wing.

Johnson, Alfred L., PFC, duty soldier

Owens, Joseph R., Jr., 1Lt

447th BS War Diary: 9 planes local formation and 2 night transition. 1st Lt. Robert T. Taylor assigned this organization.

Taylor, Robert T., 1Lt,

448th BS War Diary: Lt. Howard was transferred from the 57th Bomb Wing to the squadron. Sgt. Wimberly was transferred to Hq. Sq., AAF/MTO, in Naples. Pfc. Crowther was transferred to the 51st T.C.W. Trucks will now leave every Saturday for St. George and return Sunday.

Crowther, Leland H., PFC, armament

Howard, 2Lt, 57th BW

Wimberly, Charles G., Sgt, intelligence

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

"Dropping of anchor awoke me at 6:00AM in harbor. Hampton Roads. Pulled alongside dock at 9:30AM. Small army band. Left ship at 11:30. Red Cross served doughnuts and lemonade. Our group comprised a 14 army bus convoy escorted by motorcycle MP's. Boys really gave the female civilians an awful going over. Arrived Camp Patrick Henry about noon. Marched to auditorium. Talked to by Colonel adjutants about camp rules. German and Italian POW's do all the chores. Rather a small looking group of prisoners. Very orderly. Our first meal was terrific. Steaks, celery, olives, mashed potatoes, all the milk you could drink, etc. Everything was tops. Supposed to ship out tomorrow noon. Called dad. Pop was all choked up. Tried to call Shyrle - lines all busy. Will try again tomorrow."

Shyrle, Irving Schaffer's future wife

Saturday, 16 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Saturday morning inspection was highlighted with a showdown inspection of all authorized equipment, shaved down to the barest requirements. It went as low as four cotton socks and two woolen socks, but no one had discarded his extra socks and shorts as yet. Everyone is out week-ending and even the usual camp duties have disappeared this afternoon.

445th BS War Diary: There was an inspection of personnel living quarters today. Once again Pescara was favored by the presence of a goodly number of “our boys”.

445th BS: War Diary of: Seegmiller, Barnard H., Sgt, armament:

06/16/45: “Another day has forced itself upon us and we are all in our sacks, all seven of us. After breakfast we were called out to police the racetrack. This is a daily chore which consists of 1500 men marching to the far end of the sports ground and from there spreading out to police up as we walk back just something to get the men out of their sacks in the morning. Day before yesterday, Bell, Kangas, Whaley and I represented the tent on KP. We had pots and pans and garbage detail. Probably we will catch it again about Monday. There are no boats in, and we are told to expect to be here from 8 to 10 days longer. Time in a place like this is really hell, but three years of waiting has put us in good shape to sweat it out. On Thursday, Kangas and I went to Naples. We saw two operas at the San Carlo, “Rigoletto” and “La Boheme.” I enjoyed them, particularly “Rigoletto.” The San Carlo is a gorgeous place. It was marvelous how they handled the scenes and stage settings.”

Bell, Louis E. "Lew", Sgt, armament

Kangas, Angelo J., Cpl, operations

Whaley, Peter W., Sgt, armament

446th BS War Diary: Lucky Corporal Koszczuk left this morning on a twelve day furlough.

Koszczuk, Jan P., Cpl, cook

447th BS War Diary: Today was show down inspection for all personnel.

448th BS War Diary: Inspection held as usual but no parade. Our bar opened tonight. Almost as wild as V-nite. All liquor was given away.

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

“Called Shyrle and I fairly shook with excitement. So near to me yet so far away. Time will tell. Orders canceled until tomorrow for departure. Chewed out by a colonel of the 9th airborne for not saluting. Rather pleasant reprimanding. Everything is nice about Camp Patrick Henry.”

Shyrle, Irving Schaffer's future wife

Sunday, 17 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): HQ 47th Bombardment Group (Light) and 84th and 85th Bombardment Squadrons (Light) move from Grosseto to Pisa, Italy.

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Sunday and church services once again. Most personnel took off for San Marino, the beach at Senigallia and sundry places along the coast. Very little activity here at the base. CQs still being maintained in all offices, but some have yet to receive a phone-call while on duty.

445th BS War Diary: Some men left for rest camp and others returned in the same familiar peaked condition.

446th BS War Diary: Smiling Corporal Sharp left this morning on his homeward journey.

Sharp, Floyd E., Sgt, engineering or Sharp, Walter S., Sgt, armament

447th BS War Diary: Usual organizational duties.

448th BS War Diary: Usual squadron duties were all that took place.

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

“Departed Patrick Henry via 18 car troop train at 10:15. Band in accompaniment. Trip took us 12 hours. Very hot and train was filthy. C'est la guerre. Billeted in barracks #10 at Dix. Showered and hit the sack at 2:30AM. Wow am I tired.”

Monday, 18 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Training-films were booked all morning and early afternoon, followed by a matinee-showing of "Enter Arsene Lupin" featuring Ella Raines. Several planes and crews preparing to fly back to the States, have been alerted to take off in a day or so. An I&E lecture this morning briefed us on the Pacific War and its latest developments. A small turnout was experienced, as there aren't many headquarters' personnel left.

445th BS War Diary: Usual garrison duties and training flights. Part of the ceiling fell in one of the bays in the enlisted men's building just missing our duty sergeant who probably thinks it's a clear case of sabotage.

446th BS War Diary: Corporal Henry L. Cowan was one of the fortunate men who left this afternoon for rest camp in Alexander, Egypt. 1st Lt. Weinstein has been assigned to the squadron as Personal Equipment Officer.

Cowan, Henry L., Cpl, intelligence

Weinstein, 1Lt, Personal Equipment Officer

447th BS War Diary: 1st Lt. D.P. Twieg returned from TDY Hq., 12th A.F. 12 planes local formation and 2 on night transition.

Twieg, Donald P., 1Lt, pilot

448th BS War Diary: Sgts. Bever, Forst, Forster, Genung, Higgins, Leonard, Leyden, Meno and Wernicki transferred from 57th B.W. and assigned to squadron.

Bever, Sgt, 57th BW

Forst, Sgt, 57th BW

Forster, Sgt, 57th BW

Genung, Sgt, 57th BW

Higgins, Sgt, 57th BW

Leonard, Sgt, 57th BW

Leyden, Sgt, 57th BW

Meno, Sgt, 57th BW

Wernicki, Sgt, 57th BW

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

"Just hanging around. Called Geraldine. Golly it sounded and felt wonderful. Missing my screening. Screened and up for discharge. MOS 757. 106 points. Too good to be true. Now that such is the case, I must see Shyrle - find out our relation - see how the folks are doing and really buckle down. In the event matrimony is out of the question, I MAY push off for South American lands. There are so many angles. Attended "Thrills of Romance" - OK. Theater #5. Imagine no interruption of film - real seat. Stopped in at service club dance. Just moseyed around."

Schaffer, Geraldine, Irving Schaffer's sister

Shyrle, Irving Schaffer's future wife

Tuesday, 19 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Weather nice and chow on the mediocre side, with Spam featured as the piece d' resistance for both dinner and supper. A magician show is scheduled for tonight at 1930 hours and doughnuts and coffee are on the bill. Rumor has it that a rest camp has been opened at Venice, but to date no enlisted men have gone. Officers report it quite an interesting sight.

445th BS War Diary: More men have left for the U.S. Another Red Cross stage show with an excellent mind reading act was put on at the Coffee Shoppe.

446th BS War Diary: Technical Sergeants Brodsko, Harrison, Pare, Dion, Stewart, and Meyring have been assigned to the squadron as radio-gunners.

Brodsko, T/Sgt, radio-gunner

Dion, T/Sgt, radio-gunner

Harrison, Hoyt V., T/Sgt, radio-gunner

Meyring, T/Sgt, radio-gunner

Pare, T/Sgt, radio-gunner

Stewart, T/Sgt, radio gunner

447th BS War Diary: 11 planes on local formation and 2 flew night transition. Usual camp duties.

448th BS War Diary: Revealed that no man with less than 85 points will be given Rest Camp leave.

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

"Dull cloudy AM. Waiting to be transferred to "Separation Area." Sent home B-4 bag and equipment."

Wednesday, 20 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Fresh eggs heralded breakfast this morning and temperature is rising. Muggy all afternoon and it looks like rain. A Dr. Gillespie pic “Between Two Women”, is having a two day run at the base-theatre. Training films continue to be shown and several men have gone up to Florence to be interviewed as to their qualifications as instructors at University of Rome.

445th BS War Diary: Still more men are leaving for home and still we who remain carry on with the necessary duties.

446th BS War Diary: 1st Lieuts. Jackson, Alward, Clark, Sherline, Bogan, and Fein, Technical Sergeants Nigrelli and Alexander, and Staff Sergeants Martin and Nichols have been transferred to the 515th Air Service Group.

Alexander, Preston S., T/Sgt, gunner

Alward, Charles W., 1Lt, pilot

Bogan, Floyd W., 1Lt, pilot

Clark, Samuel E., Jr., 1Lt, bombardier

Fein, William F., 1Lt, bombardier

Jackson, Roland B., 1Lt, pilot

Martin, Thomas J., Jr., S/Sgt, gunner

Nichols, Henry J., III, S/Sgt, gunner

Nigrelli, Ernest J., T/Sgt, gunner

Sherline, David M., 1Lt, pilot

447th BS War Diary: 12 officers and 8 enlisted men, all flying personnel, returned to US. 11 planes on local formation and 2 flew night transition.

448th BS War Diary: Lts. Sculley, Gardner, Zakopcsan and Blank, F/O Hedman and Sgts. O’Brien, Mientkiewicz, Magers and Weeks left for the United States.

Blank, 2Lt,

Gardner, Philip K., 1Lt, bombardier

Hedman, F/O

Magers, Marshall P., S/Sgt, gunner

Mientkiewicz, Casmier (NMI), T/Sgt, gunner

O'Brien, Brendan M., T/Sgt, gunner

Sculley, Thomas S., 1Lt, pilot

Weeks, Donald E., S/Sgt, gunner

Zakopcsan, John S., 1Lt, pilot

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:
“Moved over to separation center.”

Thursday, 21 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Today is the longest day of the year, according to almanacs and there seems to be some controversy as to when it begins and ends. Fresh eggs again and fresh french fried potatoes were on the menus. Colonel Cameron, group operations, left last night for the United States, via Florence and an assignment in Washington, D. C., Major Wiginton takes over as Group Operations Officer.

Cameron, William D. "Bill", Jr., Lt Col, pilot, operations

Wiginton, J. Maurice "Wig", Capt, pilot, Group Air Inspector, operations

445th BS War Diary: Another bunch of men left for home today. Usual garrison duties and non-operational flights.

446th BS War Diary: 2nd Lt. Vernon D. Stone was killed in an automobile accident ten miles south of Loreto, Italy. 2nd Lt. David Fox has been promoted to the rank of 1st Lieutenant.

Fox, David (NMI), 1Lt, bombardier

Stone, Vernon D., 2Lt

447th BS War Diary: No change. 7 planes on local formation and 2 on night transition.

448th BS War Diary: Capt. Sargent, I & E Officer, gave lecture on Pacific War from invasion of Philippines to present date.

Sargent, Alwin H., Capt, intelligence

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:

"Attended USO show and boxing matches. Fair. First day of summer. Still waiting to be put on orders. Everything seems to be snafu-ed at this camp. Harry Snauely (friend I met on way across) and I moved into a room upstairs barracks 36 - 22nd Co."

Friday, 22 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): Unit moves from Italy to the US: 84th Bombardment Squadron (Light), 47th Bombardment Group (Light), begins a movement from Pisa; 99th Fighter Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group from Cattolica.

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Usual camp-duties enlivened by a matinee showing the “The Princess and the Pirate” with Bob Hope. It made excellent entertainment and seemed to please all. In late afternoon, an order came out transferring 19 enlisted men out of Group Headquarters and about 72 men from the squadrons, to the 57th Fighter Group. In return, the group will receive about twice as many men from the 57th Fighter Group with 85 points or over. Among those leaving, will be the writer of this daily diary.

445th BS War Diary: More flights for fuel consumption etc. Men left for Rest Camp. The Mitchell-Aires, 321st Dance Band is breaking up and they are getting rid of their instruments.

446th BS War Diary: 1st Lieuts. Haynes, Sheeting, Fox, Sloan, Fodor, Heaberlin, Treadwell, Corra, and Flight Officer Jennings, as well as Staff Sergeants Boylan, Benedict, Wimert, Technical Sergeant Demmitt have been transferred to the 515th Air Service Group. 1st Lt. John T. Mohan, the squadron supply officer, has been transferred to the 340th Bombardment Group (M).

Benedict, William P., S/Sgt, gunner
Corra, Andrew J., 1Lt, bombardier
Fodor, Joseph M., 1Lt, bombardier
Heaberlin, Paul L., 1Lt, pilot
Jennings, F/O
Sheeting, Dan A., 1Lt, pilot
Treadwell, Joseph (NMI), 1Lt, pilot

Boylan, James P., S/Sgt, gunner
Demmitt, Henry H., T/Sgt, gunner
Fox, David (NMI), 1Lt, bombardier
Haynes, Allan C., 1Lt, pilot
Mohan, John T., 1Lt, Supply Officer
Sloan, Thomas M., 1Lt, pilot
Wimert, Donald A., S/Sgt, gunner

447th BS War Diary: 6 officers and 4 enlisted men, flying personnel, left for U.S. The majority of these flying officers and men are taking airplanes back to the States with them. 4 planes local formation and 2 on night transition.

448th BS War Diary: Lts. Stokes, Bartlett, Bruhn, Nolkemper, Sutton, Valenti, Smith, Armstrong, Russell, Beckman, Arnold and Akers, and Sgts. Wolfe, Soltys, Parham, Zimmerman, Morian, Forst, Head and Chase left for the United States.

Akers, Harold B., Jr., 1Lt, pilot
Arnold, Harold L., 1Lt, bombardier
Beckman, Harold Christoph, 1Lt, pilot
Chase, Harry M., Jr., T/Sgt, gunner
Head, Guthrie H., Sgt, gunner
Nolkemper, Harold J., 2Lt, pilot
Russell, Harold H., 1Lt, pilot or Russell, John D., 1Lt, pilot
Smith, Milford A., 1Lt, pilot
Stokes, George M., 1Lt, pilot

Armstrong, Sherman T., Jr. 1Lt, bombardier
Bartlett, Thomas M., 1Lt, pilot
Bruhn, Charles A., 1Lt, pilot
Forst, Sgt, 57th BW
Morian, Charles R., T/Sgt, gunner
Parham, Ralph E., T/Sgt, gunner
Soltys, John J., T/Sgt, gunner
Sutton, Norman J., 1Lt, bombardier

Friday, 22 June 1945 (continued)

Valenti, Jack J., 1Lt, pilot

Wolfe, Bernard M., S/Sgt, gunner

Zimmerman, Carl F., T/Sgt, gunner

448th BS: *War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:*

"Still not on orders. Rained hard during the night. Cool, cloudy AM. Went through breakfast line twice. Getting beaucoup rest. Feeling OK. Attended "Out of this World." A bunch of laughs. Found Elliott waiting for me when I returned. Surprised. He looks very good. Waited almost three hours for me. Sent me two telegrams and no dice on phone connections. Spoke at length about the family and our future plans. He is pushing off for Charleston, SC where his ship the "Action" will do air-sea rescue. Took him to main gate or should I say he took me. He knows more about this place than I do. Departed at 1:30AM. Sure felt wonderful to see him. Cloudy day."

Schaffer, Elliott, Irving Schaffer's brother

Saturday, 23 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): The 85th and 86th Bombardment Squadrons (Light), 47th Bombardment Group (Light), begin a movement from Pisa, Italy to the US.

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Saturday morning inspection calls for more “spit ‘n polish” each progressive week in effort to revive that dapper look for the folks back home. The afternoon as sleepy and carefree as peacetime at home with no lawns to mow. Headquarters enlisted men staged their weekly dance with the added spice of a contingent of British A.T.S. girls.

445th BS War Diary: Another personnel living quarters inspection was held today. More aircraft are being tested in preparation for the trip home. Once again some of the men left for Pescara for the week-end.

446th BS War Diary: Pfc. Meany returns from his tour of schooling in Rome.
Meany, Jerome P., PFC, communications

447th BS War Diary: No change. Usual organizational duties.

448th BS War Diary: Cpl. Levin and Pfc. Thompson returned from D.S. to duty.
Levin, Jerome K., Cpl, photographer
Thompson, Lewis A., PFC, communications

448th BS: War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:
“Still not on orders. Elliott might possibly call or come again. Read Ernest Hemingway's "The Sun Also Rises." Stunk. The barracks and camp set-up is similar to Scott Field. However at this point of the game, we are not subjected to what one might call discipline. Snafu-ing up will only mean a delay in discharge. Commencing to activate my stalemated knowledge of current events. Elliott did not come. Retired 10:00PM after a session of PT.”
Schaffer, Elliott, Irving Schaffer's brother

Sunday, 24 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): HQ 47th Bombardment Group (Light) begins a movement from Pisa, Italy to the US.

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Regular Sunday church services and, for the majority, an afternoon at the beach.

445th BS War Diary: As of today, the 321st Mitchell-Aires is no more. So passes one of the high spots of the group. The band was enjoyed by everyone in this group and other groups in the wing.

446th BS War Diary: 1st Lieuts. Bachman, Buchanan, Pouse, Wallace, Barbee, and 2nd Lieut. Atkins as well as Ems Bass, Kirwan, Pelusi, and Grantham have been transferred to the 515th Air Service Group. Staff Sergeants Ahl, Fye, and Jones, Sergeants Bell, Johnson, Maurer, Corporals Cotton, Duty, Everitt, Parr, Vann, Pfc. Webber, and Pvt. Flagg are transferred to the 57th Fighter Group.

Ahl, Irwin M., S/Sgt, cryptographic
Bachman, William C., Jr., 1Lt, pilot
Bass, Charles L., Sgt, gunner
Buchanan, Talmadge A., Jr., 2Lt, bombardier
Duty, Donald W., Cpl, communications
Flagg, Raymond H., Pvt, cook
Grantham, Kenneth C., Sgt, engineer-gunner
Johnson, Moses W., Sgt, communications
Kirwan, Harold J., Sgt, gunner
Parr, Edwin B., Cpl, ordnance
Pouse, Alford H., Jr., 1Lt, bombardier
Wallace, Merwin William "Bill", 1Lt, pilot

Atkins, Richard A., Jr., 2Lt, pilot
Barbee, Harvey C. Jr., 1Lt, pilot
Bell, William E., Sgt, operations
Cotton, George (NMI), Cpl, cook
Everitt, Ermie G., Cpl, cook
Fye, S/Sgt,

Jones, Julian A., S/Sgt, engineering
Maurer, Sgt
Pelusi, Richard D., Sgt, gunner
Vann, Earl T., Cpl, cook
Webber, Frank B., PFC, personnel

447th BS War Diary: 22 enlisted men, all under 85 points, assigned to 57th Ftr. Gp. 13 enlisted men assigned and joined this organization from 57th Ftr. Gp.

448th BS War Diary: Lts. Mann, Rutz, Chakmakian, Host and Lang, and Sgts. Gutierrez, Genung, Oliver and Meno left for the United States. Sgts. Roy, Asche, Cowan, James, Warren, Darendinger, Lewter and Ahles were transferred to the squadron from the 57th F.G. Sgts. McGlinchey, Reber, Walter, and Weiss, and Cpls. Denny, Escobar, Levin, Marks and Young, and Pfc's Nash, Thompson were transferred to the 57th F.G.

Ahles, Sgt, 57th FG
Chakmakian, George E., 1Lt, pilot
Darendinger, John M., Sgt, 64th FS, 57th FG
Escobar, Catarino H., Cpl, cook
Gutierrez, Ralph (NMI), T/Sgt, gunner
James, Norman L., Sgt, 64th FS, 57th FG
Levin, Jerome K., Cpl, photographer

Asche, Joseph H., Sgt, 66th FS, 57th FG
Cowan, Ray C., Jr., Sgt, 64th FS, 57th FG
Denny, Joseph C., Cpl., communications
Genung, Sgt, 57th BW
Host, H. G., 1Lt, pilot
Lang, Robert H., 1Lt, bombardier-navigator
Lewter, Bernie D., Sgt, 64th FS, 57th FG

Sunday, 24 June 1945 (continued)

Mann, James R., 2Lt, pilot

Marks, Thomas H., Cpl, cook or Marks, William, Cpl, transportation

McGlinchey, John J., Sgt, personnel

Meno, Sgt, 57th BW

Nash William A., PFC, duty soldier

Oliver, Walter A., T/Sgt, engineer-gunner

Reber, Hugh W. L., Sgt, engineering

Roy, Wilfred (NMI), S/Sgt, 65th FS, 57th FG

Rutz, Victor H., 1Lt, bombardier

Thompson, Lewis A., PFC, communications

Walter, Robert I., Sgt, supply

Warren, Joseph W., Sgt, 65th FS, 57th FG

Weiss, Arthur A., Sgt, bomb system maintenance

Young, William H., Cpl, engineer

448th BS: *War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:*

"Still not on orders. Read "Commodore Hornblower" by CF Forester. OK. Very hot and clear day. Had a nightmare while taking a nap this afternoon. Dreamed plane was going to crash. Couldn't get out. Attended Ernie Pyle's "GI Joe". Much better than the book."

Monday, 25 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): The 97th Bombardment Squadron (Light), 47th Bombardment Group (Light), begins a movement from Pisa, Italy to the US.

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Principal activities continue to be” night-flying to complete pilot’s instrument cards’ on the line, planes being readied for the “home-hop”; continued exchange of all types of personnel with 12th Air Force units to be redeployed to Pacific Theatre.

445th BS War Diary: The men were shown a short movie on Rotation today and now know as much as they knew before. Usual garrison duties and training flights.

446th BS War Diary: 1st Lieuts. Gahm, McCloud, Berge, Chandley, Weihe, French, Golden, Dunn, Williams, and 2nd Lieuts. Huntsley, Rooker, McNeal, Crandall, Sykes, and Flight Officer Johnson, as well as Ems Taylor, Jeczewski, Reda, Reinartsen, Peterson, Chase, Sanders, Krider, Harrison, and Stewart have been transferred to the 515th Air Service Group.

Berge, Gail B., 1Lt, pilot

Chase, William H., Sgt, gunner

Dunn, Albert W., 1Lt, pilot

Gahm, Edward L., 1Lt, bombardier

Harrison, Hoyt V., T/Sgt, radio-gunner

Jeczewski, Joseph M., Sgt, gunner

Krider, Emanuel (NMI), Sgt, gunner

McNeal, Raymond L., 2Lt, bombardier

Reda, John J., Sgt., gunner

Rooker, John C., 2Lt, pilot

Stewart, T/Sgt, radio gunner

Taylor, Tullis (NMI), Sgt, engineer-gunner

Williams, Thomas A., 1Lt, navigator

Chandley, Sherley S., 1Lt, bombardier

Crandall, Lawrence A., 2Lt, pilot

French, Wendell L., 1Lt, pilot

Golden, Benny (NMI), 1Lt, bombardier

Huntsley, Glenn W., 2Lt, pilot

Johnson, J.C., F/O, pilot

McCloud, Ray L., 1Lt, pilot

Peterson, James R., Jr., Sgt, gunner

Reinartsen, Charles R., Jr., Sgt, gunner

Sanders, Jesse A., Jr., Sgt, gunner

Sykes, Ralph L., 2Lt, pilot

Weihe, Frederick A., Jr., 1Lt, pilot

447th BS War Diary: 9 officers and 6 enlisted men, flying personnel, sent to US. 7 planes on local formation and 2 planes flew night transition.

448th BS War Diary: Lts. Campbell, Carr, Bottom, Barile, Howard, Allendorph, Butler, Friske, Dean, Stow, Pushee and Sheppard, and Sgts. Harageones, Higgins, Murray, Leyden, Payne, Wernicki, Nelson and Leonard were transferred to the United States. We were given a “dressing-down” by Maj. Farwell concerning inspections, as we were the worst of all squadrons at the last one.

Allendorph, John B., 1Lt, bombardier

Bottom, James W., 1Lt, bombardier

Campbell, John E., 2Lt, pilot

Carr, Robert E., 2Lt, pilot

Farwell, Harold S., Maj, pilot, Commander

Barile, Sam (NMI), 1Lt, pilot

Butler, Glenn D., 1Lt, pilot

Dean, James A., 1Lt, bombardier

Friske, G. W., 2Lt, pilot

Monday, 25 June 1945 (continued)

Harageones, George J., S/Sgt, gunner

Howard, 2Lt, 57th BW

Leyden, Sgt, 57th BW

Nelson, William M., S/Sgt, gunner

Pushee, 2Lt

Stow, Charles E., 1Lt, pilot

Higgins, Sgt, 57th BW

Leonard, Sgt, 57th BW

Murray, Francis J., S/Sgt, gunner

Payne, Robert B., S/Sgt, engineer-gunner

Sheppard, John W., 1Lt, bombardier

Wernicki, Sgt, 57th BW

448th BS: *War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:*

“Put on 26-43 orders today. God how very wonderful. To be discharged tomorrow.

Very warm. Processing.”

Tuesday, 26 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Another B-25 took off for the States with Lt. Colonel Cooper, 446th Squadron Commanding Officer as pilot; Captain Keith Matzinger, co-pilot; popular Group Bombardier, Major M. Anders Anderson, as navigator. The group won't be the same without them. Movie, "Cant Help Singing", a Technicolor Deanna Durbin, innocuous hot weather entertainment.

445th BS War Diary: Usual garrison duties.

446th BS War Diary: 1st Lieut. Richard W. O'Connor, the squadron navigator, has been transferred to the 340th Bombardment Group (M). Staff Sergeants Lind and Swann also have been transferred to the 515th Air Service Group.

Lind, Kenneth H., Sgt, gunner

O'Connor, Richard W., 1Lt, navigator

Swann, Homer W., Sgt, gunner

A/C No. unknown Tail # unknown (to
USA)

P *Cooper, Paul T., Lt Col, Commander*
CP *Matzinger, Keith R., Capt, HQ 321st BG*
N *Anderson, Melvin Anders "Andy", Maj,
HQ 321st BG*
B *None*
E *unknown*
R *unknown*
G *None*
F *None*

447th BS War Diary: No change. Usual organizational duties.

448th BS War Diary: Sgts. D'Addario, Roy, Asche, Cowan, James, and Warren, and Cpls. Kuehn, Darendinger and Lewter and Pfc's Bedell and Ahles were transferred from the 57th F.G. and assigned to the squadron.

Ahles, Cpl, 57th FG

Asche, Joseph H., Sgt, 66th FS, 57th FG

Bedell, Charles F., PFC, 65th FS, 57th FG

Cowan, Ray C., Jr., Sgt, 64th FS, 57th FG

D'Addario, Oswald P., S/Sgt, 65th FS, 57th FG

Darendinger, John M., Cpl, 65th FS, 57th FG

Kuehn, Raymond E., Cpl, 64th FS, 57th FG

James, Norman L., Sgt, 64th FS, 57th FG

Lewter, Bernie D., Cpl, 64th FS, 57th FG

Roy, Wilfred (NMI), Sgt, 65th FS, 57th FG

Warren, Joseph W., Sgt, 65th FS, 57th FG

Wednesday, 27 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Hot weather and uncertainty as to movement date add up to a fine case of doldrums. An infuriatingly stupid movie - "Pan-Americana" - didn't help any. Night-flying continues. Night socializing becoming complicated by the frowning altitude and hair-clipping threats repatriated Italian men. All remaining air-crews expected to leave within the week.

445th BS War Diary: Usual garrison duties.

446th BS War Diary: Corporals Lorenz, and Rowlett have been assigned to the squadron. Corporal Guest and Sergeant Giffin are transferred to the 350th Fighter Group. The squadron commanding officer, Lt. Col. Paul T. Cooper, started on his homeward journey today. Major Robert R. Smedley is now the commanding officer of the squadron. Lt. Roy C. Moose has been transferred to the 350th Fighter Group as an intelligence officer.

Cooper, Paul T., Lt Col, pilot, Commander

Giffin, Alva H., Sgt, armament

Guest, Morris F., Jr., Cpl, engineering

Lorenz, Cpl

Moose, Roy C., 2Lt, intelligence

Rowlett, Cpl

Smedley, Robert Redmond, Maj, pilot, Commander

447th BS War Diary: 3 officers and 2 enlisted men, flying personnel, rotated to US. 27 enlisted men attached and joined from 350th Ftr. Gp. 21 enlisted men assigned to the 350th Ftr. Gp.

448th BS War Diary: Sgts. Eikler, Freeman, Kubel, Lashock, Sapara, and Swenson, and Pvt. Troccoli were placed on T.D. with the 515th Air Serv. Group. Lts. Spaur, Korntved, and Higby, and Sgts. White and Feter were transferred to the 515th A.S.G. Sgt. Russell and Pvt. Gesmer transferred from 350th F.G. and assigned to squadron. Sgts. Beckman, Burns, Doell, Pitts and Griffin, and Cpls. Anderson, Oddo, Cordo, Miller, and Szvetics, and Pfc's Grindstaff and Griffiths were transferred to the 355th F.S. Sgts. Conoway, Dawson, Grove, Johnson, McAdams, Spekter, Wroblewski and Blackard, and Cpls. Kelsey, Sheckells, Sullivan, Blake, Dehn, Dissen, Hansen and Oneth, Pfc. Finall and Pvt. Post were transferred to the 346th F.G. Sgts. Jacobs, Letellier, Smetzer, Bates, Dugan, Atherton, Bower, and Braga, and Cpls. McEver, Pankiewicz, Galligham, Farris, Kyser and McQuay, and Pfc. Alcalá were transferred to the 347th F.G. Cpl. Sommers transferred to the 414th Night Fighter Squadron. Sgt. St-Laurent left for D.S. at Cannes, France. Pfc. DelGuergio returned from T.D. to duty.

Alcala, Pedro A., PFC, duty soldier

Anderson, Kenneth A., Cpl, armament or Anderson, Reuben E., Cpl, armament

Atherton, Robert C., S/Sgt, gunner

Bates, Warren F., Sgt, engineering

Beckman, Sgt

Blackard, Hershel L., S/Sgt, gunner

Blake, Thomas L., Cpl, armament

Bower, Sgt

Braga, Sgt, gunner

Burns, Sgt

Wednesday, 27 June 1945 (continued)

Conoway, Sgt

Dawson, Sgt

DelGuergio, Jerry S., PFC, duty soldier

Doell, Sgt

Eikler, Maynard L., Sgt, communications

Feter, Sgt

Freeman, Abraham (NMI), Sgt, engineering

Gesmer, Pvt

Griffin, E. I., Sgt, gunner, bombardier

Grindstaff, Clate J., PFC, transportation

Hansen, Robert E., Cpl, armament

Jacobs, Sgt

Kelsey, Cpl

Kubel, Francis W., Sgt, engineering

Lashock, Ray A., Sgt, engineering

McAdams, Sgt

McQuay, Cpl

Miller, Herbert (NMI), Cpl, communications, radio-gunner

Oddo, Anthony A., Cpl, engineering

Pankiewicz, Edward J., Cpl, engineering

Post, Pvt,

Sapara, Andrew M., Sgt, engineering

Smetzer, Sgt

Spaur, Melvin J., 1Lt, pilot

StLaurent, Raymond M., Sgt, gunner

Swenson, James R., Sgt, engineering

Troccoli, James V., Pvt, engineering

Wroblewski, Sgt

Cordo, Dominic J., Cpl, engineering

Dehn, Monroe O., Cpl, armament-gunner

Dissen, Richard A., Cpl, armament

Dugan, T/Sgt, "ground man"

Farris, Cpl

Finall, Boyd M., PFC, ordnance

Galligham, Cpl

Griffin, Charles W., Sgt, communications

Griffis, Roy J., Pvt, engineering

Grove, Sgt

Higby, Paul K., 2Lt, bombardier

Johnson, Sgt

Korntved, Edward N., 2Lt, pilot

Kyser, Cpl

Letellier, Sgt

McEver, Thomas J., Cpl, duty soldier

Oneth, Albert L., Cpl, engineering

Pitts, Donald W., Sgt, communication

Russell, Sgt

Sheckells, Cpl

Sommers, Robert F., Cpl, gunner

Spekter, Sgt

Sullivan, Cpl

Szvetics, John (NMI), Cpl, engineering

White, Frank H., T/Sgt, gunner

448th BS: *War Diary of: Schaffer, Irving J., T/Sgt, radio-gunner:*

"Claim disability veteran's pension - left arch, knee, back. Passed physical OK. Final discharge at 5:45PM. Went to NYC. Called the folks. Stopped at Hotel Latham for the night. 4th and 28 East (\$2.50 - both). Took 12:01 to Schenectady. Met Gerry. Quite a welcome. Home by bus at 6:00PM. Folks look OK. Very surprised to learn of Geraldine's operation and Dad's illness. Mother looks good. House looks excellent. Dona, Ken, Herminie, Marjorie, etc. were over. Glad to be back. Merriam and Dicky were waiting also. The grounds look excellent. The interior of the house has been somewhat remodeled. Mrs. Marikew passed away last Saturday. I was so anxious to see her. Mr. Plunkett has been bed ridden for almost 6 months."

Schaffer, Geraldine, Irving Schaffer's sister

Schaffer, Merriam, Irving Schaffer's sister

Thursday, 28 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Nothing to report.

445th BS War Diary: Usual garrison duties.

446th BS War Diary: Corporal Henry L. Cowan returns from the Army Air Force rest camp in Alexandria, Egypt.

Cowan, Henry L., Cpl, intelligence

447th BS War Diary: 6 officers and 4 enlisted men, flying personnel, sent to U.S. 2 planes on local transition and 2 on night transition.

448th BS War Diary: Usual organizational duties were all that took place.

Friday, 29 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): No Entry

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Usual weekly dance at Headquarters Officers' Mess a fine party. With the steady transfer of personnel, "signorinas" are at last outnumbering the men.

445th BS War Diary: Usual garrison duties.

446th BS War Diary: The enlisted men of the squadron gave a farewell party for the future transferees.

447th BS War Diary: 9 officers and 6 enlisted men, flying personnel, rotated to U.S. 2 men assigned from Hq., 321st Bomb Gp. 3 enlisted men assigned to 416th Night Ftr. Sq. 4 men assigned to 57th Ftr. Gp.

448th BS War Diary: Sgts. DiSalvo, Dittman, Ederer, Fields, McConnell, Masbruch, Ryan, Cpls. Garmong, Goodman, Jungquist, Langness, Lehti and Light, and Pfc. DelGuergio were transferred to the 414th Night Fighter Squadron. Sgts. Neidhardt, Daly, Lebica, Cook and Stontz and Cpl. Dickinson transferred from the 414th N.F.G. and assigned to squadron. Pfc. Unger returned from D.S. to duty. Sgt. Witherell assigned to 57th F.G.

Cook, Sgt

DelGuergio, Jerry S., PFC, duty soldier

DiSalvo, Alfred J., S/Sgt, gunner

Ederer, Robert J., Sgt, gunner

Garmong, Robert F., Cpl, engineering

Jungquist, Walter L., Cpl, engineering

Lebica, Sgt

Light, Edward B., Cpl, armament

McConnell, William L., S/Sgt, gunner

Ryan, Joseph C. "Joe", Sgt, personnel

Unger, Wilmer H. "Buzz", Pvt, communications

Witherell, T/Sgt,

Daly, Sgt

Dickinson, Cpl

Dittman, Paul F., Jr., S/Sgt, gunner

Fields, James A., S/Sgt, gunner

Goodman, John T., Cpl, gunner

Langness, Irving (NMI), Cpl, armament

Lehti, George E., Cpl, armament

Masbruch, Arthur G., Sgt, gunner

Neidhardt, Sgt

Stontz, Sgt

Saturday, 30 June 1945

USAAF Chronology: MTO Tactical Operations (12th AF): The organization charts show a further net loss during Jun 45; 16 units have been transferred to other HQ within the theater, 1 sent directly to the Pacific, another redeployed to the US, 3 disbanded, 9 provisional units discontinued, and 5 attached units relieved (plus a Brazilian unit attached for operations being released); only 2 units are added to the Twelfth.

HQ 321st BG War Diary: No inspection. Weekly dance at Headquarters Enlisted Men's Mess was better than average as befit the last day of romantic June.

445th BS War Diary: Pay Day. There was no inspection today and everyone was pleased.

446th BS War Diary: Staff Sergeant Richardson, Sergeant Koeger, and Corporals Bulger, Harris, Sharp, Allan, Breen, Bronowski, Butler, Cothran, Davidson, Eads, and Eckles, as well as Pfc. Riddle are transferred to the 340th Bombardment Group (M). The squadron ordnance officer, 1st Lieut. Glenn A. Roberts, has been assigned to the 340th Bombardment Group (M). Technical Sergeant Jefferies, Sergeant Morris, Corporals Krejny, Toth, Pfc. Gola, Meany, Puffinbarger, and Pvts. Tagg, Vail, Wofford, are transferred to the 79th Fighter Group. 1st Lieuts. Wilcox, Burklund, and 2nd Lieut. Stalsby, as well as Flight Officer Bjerva have been transferred to the 515th Air Service Group.

Allan, John, Cpl, engineering

Breen, Sgt

Bulger, David J., Cpl, engineering

Butler, Sgt

Davidson, Marvin J., Cpl, communications

Eckles, Wallace, Cpl, engineering

Harris, Price F., Cpl, armament

Koeger, Paul W., Sgt, armament

Meany, Jerome P., PFC, communications

Puffinbarger, Ralph L., PFC, armament

Riddle, Walter W., Cpl, transportation

Sharp, Floyd E., Cpl, engineering or Sharp, Walter S., Cpl, armament

Stalsby, Julius C., 2Lt, bombardier

Toth, John (NMI), Cpl, engineering

Wilcox, Ralph E., 1Lt, pilot

Bjerva, Leo B., F/O, pilot

Bronowski, Sgt

Burklund, Donald K., 1Lt, pilot

Cothran, Thomas H., Jr., Cpl, engineering

Eads, Clifton D., Cpl, engineering

Gola, Peter J., PFC, armament

Jefferies, James C., T/Sgt, supply

Krejny, Robert (NMI), Cpl, communications

Morris, Idris (NMI), Sgt, personnel

Richardson, Jack D., S/Sgt, engineering

Roberts, Glenn A., 1Lt, Ordnance Officer

Tagg, Carrol H., Pvt, transportation

Vail, Burling K., Pvt, duty soldier

Wofford, Willis B., Pvt, armament

447th BS War Diary: No change. Usual organizational duties.

448th BS War Diary: Lts. Thompson, Keene and Cameron, and Sgts. Hauke, Woodling, Rainey and Bever transferred to 515th A.S.G. Lts. Stanwood, Freeman and Williams also transferred and were assigned to 515th A.S.G. Cpls. Tesoriero, and Thompson, and Pfc's Gentry, Kovacs and Rogers transferred to 340th Bomb Group. Sgt. Tiger, Cpls. Chappell, Griffin and Grissom, and Pfc's Schwartz, Unger, Whichard, Yarbrough, and R.

Saturday, 30 June 1945 (continued)

Yarbrough transferred to the 79th F.G. Sgt. Glass transferred from 416th N.F.G. and assigned to squadron. Pfc. Grigas transferred to 974th Air Emergency Sq, 548th A.S.G. Pfc. Rogers returned from D.S. to duty. Capt. Sargent transferred to 340th Bomb Group.

Bever, Sgt, 57th BW

Chappell, William C., Cpl, armament

Gentry, Edgar W., PFC, transportation

Griffin, Charles W., Cpl, communications

Grissom, John E., Jr., Cpl, engineering

Keene, D. R., 2Lt, pilot

Rainey, L. L., S/Sgt, gunner

Sargent, Alwin H., Capt, intelligence

Stanwood, Ralph E., 2Lt, pilot

Thompson, Alexander Mackensie "Sandy", 2Lt, pilot

Thompson, K. (NMI), Cpl, gunner

Unger, Wilmer H. "Buzz", PFC, communications

Whichard, PFC

Woodling, Charles R., S/Sgt, radio-gunner

Yarbrough, Roy A., PFC, engineering

Cameron, Alexander G., 1Lt, bombardier

Freeman, J. C., 2Lt, pilot

Glass, David H., S/Sgt, gunner

Grigas, Alexander C., PFC, personnel

Hauke, R. C., S/Sgt, gunner, bombardier

Kovacs, George (NMI), PFC, transportation

Rogers, John J., PFC, communications

Schwartz, Harry (NMI), PFC, armament

Tesoriero, Cpl, gunner

Tiger, George E., Sgt, cook

Williams, Peter G., 1Lt, pilot

Yarbrough, Edward B., PFC, engineering

June 1945

HQ 321st BG War Diary: Additional Narrative for June 1945

HEADQUARTERS
321st BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
APO 650

10 July 1945

SUBJECT: Historical Records

TO : Commanding General, 57th Bombardment Wing, APO 650 US Army.
Attention: Historian

1. Outline History of the 321st Bombardment Group Headquarters for the period 1 June 1945 to 30 June 1945, inclusive.

a Original Unit.

- (1) Original Designation: 321st Bombardment Group (M).
- (2) Place of activation: Barksdale Field, Louisiana.
- (3) Date of activation: 26 June 1942.
- (4) Authority for Activation: War Department Letter.
- (5) Sources of Personnel: Transfer from other units, voluntary enlistments, selective service, National Guard.

b Changes in Organization.

- (1) Changes in designation: None
- (2) Echelon or Units:
 - (a) Transferred: None
 - (b) On DS or TD: None.
 - (c) Attached to other Headquarters for Operational Control: None.
- (3) Change of Commanding Officers: None.
- (4) Changes of Staff Officers: Major Melvin A. Anderson, 0-741322, reld fr asgmt Group Bombardier, and asgnd 515th Air Sv Gp par. 4 S.O. 136 HQ. 57th Bomb Wing, 29 June 1945. Lt. colonel William D. Cameron, Jr. 0-440089, Dy to D.S. Office WARCOS Washington, D.C. pending asgmt par. 1 Ltr. HQ. 12th Air Force (EDCMR 3 July 1945), 29 June 1945. Major Maurice J. Wiginton reld fr asgmt as Ass't. Operation Officer, and asgmt Operations Officer vis Lt. Colonel Cameron. S.O. 112 30 June 1945, HQ. 321st Bombardment Group (M).

c Strength: Commissioned and Enlisted.

- (1) Month of June 1945.
 - (a) Beginning: Enlisted Men: 61 Officers: 32 (Incl. 1 W.O.)
 - (b) Net Increase: Enlisted Men: 125 Officers: 0
 - (c) Net Decrease: Enlisted Men: 0 Officers: 6
 - (d) At End : Enlisted Men: 186 Officers: 26 (Incl. 1 W.O.)

June 1945 (continued)

d Stations of Units or Echelons.

- (1) Name of Station: Falconara Airfield, Italy.
- (a) Date of Arrival: 4 April 1945.

e Movements of Unit or Echelons.

- (1) None.

f Campaigns.

- (1) None.

g Operations.

- (1) None.

h Command Officers on Important missions: None.

i Losses in Action: None.

j Personnel who have distinguished themselves in action:

- (1) Colonel Charles F. Cassidy, Jr. 432047, Awarded Silver Star, General Order 125, 7 June 1945, HQ. 12th Air Force.
- (2) Lt. Colonel Earl B. Young, 0-21531, Awarded Silver Star, General Order 120, 1 June 1945, HQ. 12th Air Force.
- (3) Major John C. Goodell, 0-350659, Awarded D.F.C. General Order 133, 15 June 1945, HQ. 12th Air Force.
- (4) S/Sgt. Henry Herman, 32195588, Bronze Star, General Order 135, 17 June 1945, HQ. 12th Air Force.
- (5) S/Sgt. Robert Mehren, 36234655, Bronze Star, General Order 140, 23 June 1945, HQ. 12th Air Force.
- (6) T/Sgt. Maxwell L. Hall, 14038279, Bronze Star, General Order 141, 25 June 1945, 12th Air Force.

k Number of photographs being submitted: None

1. Inclosed are War Diary, 321st Bombardment Group Headquarters for the period 1 June 1945 through 30 June 1945.

For the Commanding Officer:

Incl:

1. War Diary.

ROBERT W. MANLY,
Major, Air Corps,
Group Historian.

June 1945 (continued)

MEDICAL HISTORY
321ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
APO 650, US Army

30 June 1945

(Supplemental Report No. 4 for period 1 April to 30 June 1945).

1. Present History.

a. The tactical situation.

(1). Smashing the German's path of retreat into heaps of debris, the group destroyed nine enemy bridges during April attacks.

(2). Accurately placed frags and demolition bombs from the 321st Mitchells ripped wide gaps in the stubborn German front lines. The 321st group was requested by the Fifth Army, to place their bombs with unquestionable accuracy so maximum area coverage would be realized on German troops and equipment on close support attacks. Front line advances by allied troops, commendations by the Army and bomb strike photos, confirmed excellent results on all targets with extremely high bombing accuracy and maximum area coverage.

(3). With German front-line troops and equipment slashed by 321st bombing and allied ground forces advancing, the group immediately directed its offensive efforts to crushing enemy avenues of escape in the Po! Ferry terminals, pontoon bridges and staging areas were crippled and destroyed by 321st bombing teams.

(4). Germany's unconditional surrender came after the 321st had divided its April efforts between attacks on important communications in Northern Italy and direct support of Fifth and Eighth Armies. Despite sustained, all-out effort during the latter part of the month, losses were comparatively low. Four aircraft were destroyed, two men were killed in action and twelve crewman are missing. The 321st lead the wing for the month in bombing accuracy, scoring 86.95%. The group bettered its own monthly record with 74 missions and 1556 sorties. The group stood by for possible missions until V-E day but the last mission flown was on April 26th.

2. Administration.

a. Personnel Matters.

(Roster of Medical Personnel, 1 April 1945, shown on page 1B.)

(1). Many changes took place due to redeployment of personnel, as shown below. (Roster of Medical Personnel, 30 June 1945, shown on page 1A).

June 1945 (continued)

(a). Beeler, Howard W., S/Sgt., 17056576, transferred to 7th Replacement Depot per ltr order Twelfth Air Force, dated 6 May 1945.

**ROSTER OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL 321st BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M),
APO 650, US Army, 30 June 1945.**

Headquarters					
NAME	RANK	ASN	DATE OF RANK	FLIGHT SURGEON	DUTY
Silver, George A.	Major	0-360264	3/6/44	Yes	Group Surgeon
McMechen, Charles R.	Capt	0-477528	1/23/43	No	Dental Surgeon
Jinnette, Allen J.	2 nd Lt.	0-2002138	28/2/45	No	Administration

NAME	ASN	RATING	CLASSIFICATION
Hagen, Walter F.	37041943	T/Sgt	673
Compson, Richard F.	35030664	T/Sgt	673
Meyer, Dale J.	37120183	Sgt	861
Porter, Harland G.	37145476	Sgt	861
Markel, Lawrence E.	36166754	Cpl	657
Robinson, Bernard V.	34262615	Cpl	409
Segal, Sol (NMI)	32177367	Cpl	067
Stagnitta, Salvatore (NMI)	32234666	Cpl	409
Weatherford, Leon H.	34098052	Cpl	657
Johnson, Eldon F.	36166113	Pfc	409
Lowrey, Newland (NMI)	35265797	Pfc	409
Maniotis, James (NMI)	32322971	Pfc	657

445th SQUADRON

Smith, William C.	Capt	0-381441	9/30/42	Yes	Sq. Surgeon
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NAME	ASN	RATING	CLASSIFICATION
Nickell, John B.	39386261	S/Sgt	673

446th SQUADRON

NAME	RANK	ASN	DATE OF RANK	FLIGHT SURGEON	DUTY
Warren, Joseph E.	Capt	0-487220	9/27/43	Yes	Sq. Surgeon

NAME	ASN	RATING	CLASSIFICATION
Ballway, John L.	15090268	S/Sgt	673
Doyle, Charles F.	36231995	Cpl	657
Kolesar, Michael F.	33135654	Cpl	409
Barritt, Wayne W.	36232177	Pfc	657

June 1945 (continued)

447th SQUADRON

NAME	ASN	RATING	CLASSIFICATION
Reh fuss, Carlton L.	32185445	S/Sgt	673
Morton, James M.	17052589	S/Sgt	673
Korenich, Joseph B.	36232284	Cpl	657
O'Donnell, Lester D.	36232211	Pfc	657

448th SQUADRON

NAME	RANK	ASN	DATE OF RANK	FLIGHT SURGEON	DUTY
Marshall, Ulysses S.	Capt	0-492553	12/20/43	No	Sq. Surgeon

NAME	ASN	RATING	CLASSIFICATION
Lind, Clarence F.	36318717	S/Sgt	673
Wade, Avery (NMI)	35254490	Pfc	657

GEORGE A. SILVER
Major, Medical Corps,
Group Surgeon.

**ROSTER OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL 321st BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M),
APO 650, US Army, 31 March 1945.**

Headquarters

NAME	RANK	ASN	DATE OF RANK	FLIGHT SURGEON	DUTY
Silver, George A.	Major	0-360264	3/6/44	Yes	Group Surgeon
McMechen, Charles R.	Capt	0-477528	1/23/43	No	Dental Surgeon
Jinnette, Allen J.	2 nd Lt.	0-2002138	28/2/45	No	Administration

NAME	ASN	RATING	CLASSIFICATION
Meskimen, Hershel C.	37110272	T/Sgt	673
Hagen, Walter F.	37041943	Sgt	501
Sink, Dennis L.	33061583	Sgt	861
Smyth, Edward A.	32212926	Sgt	409
Taylor, Grover A.	37015255	Sgt	861
Fidell, John W.,	33161377	Cpl	055
Markel, Lawrence E.	36166754	Cpl	345
Porter, Harland G.	37145476	Cpl	861
Stagnitta, Salvatore (NMI)	32234666	Cpl	409
Wiles, Marvin R.	36165776	Cpl	409
Altherr, Lloyd B.	39014604	Pfc	409
Dupre, Walter J.	14025146	Pfc	345

March 1945 (continued)

Headquarters (continued)

Holloman, Wilbert L.	06965013	Pvt	067
Johnson, Eldon F.	36166113	Pfc	861
Lowrey, Newland (NMI)	35265797	Pfc	409
Maniotis, James (NMI)	32322971	Pfc	409
Schaffer, Joseph (NMI)	32177574	Pvt	861

445th SQUADRON

Smith, William C.	Capt	0-381441	9/30/42	Yes	Sq. Surgeon
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NAME	ASN	RATING	CLASSIFICATION
Beeler, Howard N.	17056578	S/Sgt	673
Nickell, John B.	39386261	Sgt	4051
Matthews, Clifford K.	36232323	Pfc	861
Prince, John T.	37134379	Pfc	345

446th SQUADRON

NAME	RANK	ASN	DATE OF RANK	FLIGHT SURGEON	DUTY
Warren, Joseph E.	Capt	0-487220	9/27/43	Yes	Sq. Surgeon

NAME	ASN	RATING	CLASSIFICATION
Ballway, John L.	15090268	S/Sgt	673
Doyle, Charles F.	36231995	Cpl	405
Barritt, Wayne W.	36232177	Pfc	345
Spooner, Lawrence M.	36162728	Pfc	409

447th SQUADRON

NAME	RANK	ASN	DATE OF RANK	FLIGHT SURGEON	DUTY
Hamilton, John M.	Capt	0-481410	7/13/42	Yes	Sq. Surgeon

NAME	ASN	RATING	CLASSIFICATION
Morton, James M.	17052589	S/Sgt	673
Whipple, James H.	36108988	Sgt	861
Korenich, Joseph B.	36232284	Cpl	405
O'Donnell, Lester D.	36232211	Pfc	345
Sarberg, George F.	36232321	Pfc	409

March 1945 (continued)

448th SQUADRON					
NAME	RANK	ASN	DATE OF RANK	FLIGHT SURGEON	DUTY
Marshall, Ulysses S.	Capt	0-492553	12/20/43	No	Sq. Surgeon

NAME	ASN	RATING	CLASSIFICATION
Lind, Clarence F.	36318717	S/Sgt	673
Konczak, Louis A.	36166384	Sgt	861
Webb, Ernest F.	36168730	Cpl	405
Wade, Avery (NMI)	35254490	Pfc	345

(b). Hamilton, John M., Captain, 0-487220 (*447th BS*), transferred to 7th Replacement Depot per ltr order Twelfth Air Force, dated 6 May 1945.

(c). Konczak, Louis A., Sgt., 36166384 (*448th BS*), transferred to 7th Replacement Depot per ltr order Twelfth Air Force, dated 6 May 1945.

(d). Meskimen, Hershel C., T/Sgt., 37110272 (*HQ 321st BG*), transferred to 7th Replacement Depot per ltr order Twelfth Air Force, dated 6 May 1945.

(e). Sarberg, George F., Pfc., 36232321 (*447th BS*), transferred to 7th Replacement Depot per ltr order Twelfth Air Force, dated 6 May 1945.

(f). Altherr, Lloyd B., Pfc., 39014614 (*HQ 321st BG*), transferred to 7th Replacement Depot per ltr order Twelfth Air Force, dated 6 May 1945.

(g). Matthews, Clifford K., Cpl., 36232323 (*445th BS*), transferred to 7th Replacement Depot per S. O. #99, 57th Bomb Wing, dated 6 May 1945.

(h). Schaffer, Joseph (NMI), Pvt., 32177574 (*446th BS*), transferred to 7th Replacement Depot per S. O. #99, 57th Bomb Wing, dated 6 May 1945.

(i). Smyth, Edward A., Sgt., 32212926 (*446th BS*), transferred to 7th Replacement Depot per S. O. #99, 57th Bomb Wing, dated 6 May 1945.

(j). Spooner, Lawrence M., Pfc., 36162727 (*446th BS*), transferred to 7th Replacement Depot per S. O. #99, 57th Bomb Wing, dated 6 May 1945.

(k). Whipple, James H., Sgt., 36108988 (*447th BS*), transferred to 7th Replacement Depot per S. O. #99, 57th Bomb Wing, dated 6 May 1945.

(l). Wiles, Marvin R., Cpl., 36155776 (*448th BS*), transferred to 7th Replacement Depot per S. O. #99, 57th Bomb Wing, dated 6 May 1945.

March 1945 (continued)

- (m). Dupre, Walter J., Pfc., 14025146 (*445th BS*), transferred to 1st Emergency Rescue Squadron per S. O. #105, 57th Bomb Wing, dated 14 May 1945.
- (n). Taylor, Grover A., Sgt., 37015255 (*448th BS*), transferred to 60th Troop Carrier Group per par 1, S. O. #109, 57th Bomb Wing, dated 21 May 1945.
- (o). Prince, John T., Pfc., 37134379 (*445th BS*), transferred to 7th Replacement Depot per ltr order Twelfth Air Force, dated 7 June 1945.
- (p). Webb, Ernest F., Cpl., 36168730 (*448th BS*), transferred to 7th Replacement Depot per ltr order Twelfth Air Force, dated 9 June 1945.
- (q). Holloman, Wilbert L., Cpl., 06965013 (*HQ 321st BG*), transferred to 57th Fighter Group per S. O. #154, Twelfth Air Force, dated 21 June 1945.
- (r). Fidell, John W., Cpl., 33161377 (*HQ 321st BG*), transferred to Hq. and BS SVS SQ., 548 Air Service Gp per S. O. #159, Twelfth Air Force, dated 26 June 1945.
- (s). Sink, Dennis L., Sgt., 33061583 (*448th BS*), transferred to 347th Ftr Sq., per par 8, S. O.#156, Hq XII Air Force, dated 28 June 1945.
- (t). Segal, Sol (NMI), Cpl., 32177367 (*HQ 321st BG*), assigned to Medical Section, this Group, per S.O. #154, XII Air Force, dated 21 June 1945.
- (u). Rehfuss, Carlton L. S/Sgt., 32185445 (*446th BS*), assigned to Medical Section, 447th Sq., this Group, per S.O. #158, Twelfth Air Force, dated 25 June 1945.
- (v). Compson, Richard F., T/Sgt., 35030664 (*HQ 321st BG*), assigned to Medical Section, this Group, per S.O. #160, XII Air Force, dated 27 June 1945.
- (w). Kolesar, Michael F., Cpl., 33135654 (*446th BS*), assigned to 446th Sq Med Section, this Group, per S.O. #160, XII Air Force, dated 27 June 1945.
- (x). Robinson, Bernard V., Cpl, 34262615 (*HQ 321st BG*), assigned to Medical Section, this Group, per S.O. #160, XII Air Force, dated 27 June 1945.
- (y). Weatherford, Leon H., Cpl., 34098052 (*HQ 321st BG*), assigned to Medical Section, this Group, per S.O. #160, XII Air Force, dated 27 June 1945.
- (z). Meyer, Dale J., Sgt., 37120183 (*HQ 321st BG*), assigned to Med Section, this Group, per par 7, S.O. #156, XII Air Force, dated 28 June 1945.

March 1945 (continued)

3. Environmental History.

a. There was a change of station from Solenzara, Corsica to Falconara, 6 miles North of Ancona, Italy, 4 April 1945. During this change of station, the group was efficiently tactical and functional in all its departments.

b. The new location was in an Italian Compound, previously used for troops. This housed the entire group, had running water, with sewage, so that an extremely high level of sanitation was maintained. Housing was adequate, climate, for the most part, dry, and the living conditions, in relation to recreational activities, was convenient and the most ideal during the overseas period of two and a half years.

4. Functional Activities of the Medical Department.

a. Headquarters and each squadron, at first maintained and operated a separate dispensary. This was later consolidated into the one group dispensary with one medical officer acting as O. D. for the day.

b. 90% of the medical equipment authorized, as of medical equipment list, 25 March 1944, later modified, was received during the period, so that the dispensary was able to perform physiotherapy treatments and laboratory technics, which saved, in some cases, considerable time in the treatment of various types of cases.

c. All regular and routine functions of the Medical Department, as previously detailed in former histories were scrupulously carried out, thruout the period.

d. The antimalarial program, started on 15th March was continued thruout the period. All living quarters, messes, latrines and recreation halls were screened and sprayed with D.D.T. Atabrine was discontinued after 2½ months since this location is not classed as malarial. No malaria cases, new or recurrent occurred during the period. All possible breeding areas thruout and about the compound for about two miles was, and is being adequately sprayed and drained.

e. Twenty-eight cases of gonorrhea were treated with penicillin. The reoccurrence rate was high (about 33%) so during latter part of the period 200,000 units instead of the standard 100,000 units was used in the initial treatment. The reoccurrence rate was nil for the controlled (no new contact) cases. There was one reoccurrence, but also a likelihood of another contact. The new prophylactic treatment, adequately supervised, carried out over the past two months, apparently is efficient and safe. No cases of V.D. occurred in those individuals receiving pros at the group station although the contacts, in some cases, were the same as those who did contract V.D., An effort was made to get, voluntarily, a list of girls, locally, who were contacts, and then check against this list the girl cited in a specific V.D. contact slip and in several instances were able to dispose of her before further damage could be done.

March 1945 (continued)

f. Rest camps were adequate for officers and enlisted personnel and sightseeing tours following V-E day were of great interest to participating personnel. Restrictions, due to redeployment, kept this number fairly low.

g. A beach club for enlisted personnel was founded in May at Senigallia, serving cookies, and iced drinks or coffee, and with a library and game rooms in addition to shower and bathing facilities. A club at Marzocca was founded in May for group officers with a similar set-up.

h. Redeployment, with the consequent paper work, and medical duties incident to an increased operational training program have kept the medical section of the group functioning at a high pace thruout the past two months of this period. In addition a medical training program was instituted and continued in spite of a loss of about half the enlisted personnel.

i. No epidemic of communicable disease occurred in this group during the period.

5. Statistical Data. (Historical Statistical Data on Care of Flier Report is shown on page 4A. Other statistical data shows little variation from other periods, it is omitted.)

6. Special Items of Historical Value.

None.

GEORGE A. SILVER,
Major, Medical Corps,
Group Surgeon.

Summary of Care of Flier Reports for Quarter.

	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
A. Strength of Flying personnel	852	708	273	---
Officers	365	321	107	---
Flight Officers	64	45	25	---
Enlisted Men	423	342	141	---
B. Aircraft Accidents				
Due to Combat	2	0	0	2
Not Due to Combat	0	0	0	0
K.I.A.	2	0	0	2
M.I.A.	12	0	0	12

March 1945 (continued)

	Pati- ents	Days Lost	P	DL	P	DL	P	DL
W.I.A.	15	71	0	59	0	0	15	130
C. Disorders Due to Flying								
Functional Nervous	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aerotitis	5	17	1	2	0	0	6	19
Aero Sinusitis								
D. Disorders not due to flying.								
Functional Nervous.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Others.	12	98	4	62	10	134	26	294
Injury.	2	37	4	27	4	36	10	100
E. Flying personnel on Rest Leave.	175	670	157	727	63	326	395	1723
F. Operational Information		APRIL		MAY		JUNE		TOTAL
Total Individual Sorties.		10,031		0		0		10,031
Total Individual Op- erational hrs.		27,799:40		0		0		27,277:40
Total Non- Operational hrs.		7,357:00		8,149:35		7,473:45		22,980:20
Total Flying Person- nel Transferred out		64		153		460		677
Regular Combat Rotation.		43		140		20		203
Medical Disposition Board.		0		1		0		1
Transfer to other units.		7		12		7		26
K. I. A.		2		0		0		2
M. I. A.		12		0		0		12
Redeployment.		0		0		433		433
Total Flying Personnel Assigned		241		9		25		275

GEORGE A. SILVER,
Major, Medical Corps,
Group Surgeon.

June 1945 (continued)

445th BS War Diary: Additional Narrative for June 1945

HEADQUARTERS 321st Bomb Group (M)
APO 650

1 July 1945

SUBJECT: Historical Records

TO : Commanding General, 57th Bombardment Wing
Attentions: Historian

1. Outline History of the 445th Squadron for the period 1 June 1945 to 30 June 1945.

a Original unit

- (1) 445th Bombardment Squadron, 321st Bombardment Group (M), 57th Bombardment Wing, 12th Air Force.
- (2) Barksdale Army Air Base, La., was place of activation
- (3) June 23, 1942 was date of activation
- (4) G.O. #145, Hq. 3rd Air Force, 23 June 1942 was authority for activation
- (5) National guard, selective service and regular army were sources of personnel

b Changes in organization

- (1) No changes in designation, no transfer, unit was not placed on DS or TS nor was it attached to other headquarters for operational control
- (2) There was no change of commanding officers.
- (3) There was no change of staff officers.
- (4) There was no new T/O

c Strength, commissioned and enlisted

- (1) Month of June 1945
 - (a) At beginning - 395
 - (b) Net increase -
 - (c) Net decrease - 137
 - (d) At end - 258

d Stations of units or echelons – Falconara Airfield, Italy – still present this base.

e Movements – there was no movement of the squadron during the month of June, 1945.

f Campaigns – hostilities ceased in Italy.

g No combat missions flown by squadron.

h Losses in action – none

June 1945 (continued)

i Personnel who have distinguished themselves in action:

G.O. #120, Headquarters 12th Air Force, 1 June 1945:

Distinguished Flying Cross (Extraordinary achievement in aerial flight)

1st Lt. Milton H. Brown, *bombardier*

1st Lt. John H. O'Keefe, *pilot*

G.O. #125, Headquarters 12th Air Force, 7 June 1945:

9th Oak Leaf Cluster to Air Medal

T/Sgt. Jimmie Chambers, *engineer-gunner*

G.O. #133, Headquarters 12th Air Force, 15 June 1945:

Distinguished Flying Cross

1st Lt. John P. Murphy, *bombardier*

G.O. #135, Headquarters 12th Air Force, 17 June 1945:

Bronze Star (Meritorious Achievement)

Sgt. Edgar C., Jackson, *ordnance*

G.O. #136, Headquarters 12th Air Force, 18 June 1945:

Bronze Star

T/Sgt. Donald A. Fitch, *armament*

2. Enclosed is War Diary, 445th Bombardment Squadron for the period from 1 June 1945 to 30 June 1945.

For the Commanding Officer:

Incl:
War Diary.

EDGAR F. ULMER,
Capt., A.C.,
Squadron Historian.

June 1945 (continued)

446th BS War Diary: Additional Narrative for June 1945

HEADQUARTERS 321st Bomb Group (M)
APO 650

1 July 1945

SUBJECT: Historical Records

TO : Commanding General, 57th Bomb Wing, APO 650 U.S. Army
Attention Historian.

1. Outline History of the 446th Squadron for the period 1 June 1945 to 30 June 1945:

a Original unit

- (1) 446th Bomb Sqdn (M), 321st Bomb Group (M), AAF
- (2) Organized 1 August 1942
- (3) Columbia Army Air Base, Columbia, S.C.
- (4) Activated at Barksdale Field, La., 23 June 1942
- (5) Personnel obtained by transfer from other units, training schools and replacement centers

b Changes in organization

- (1) No change

c Strength, commissioned and enlisted

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| (1) 1 June 1945 | 102 Officers, 297 Enlisted Men |
| (2) Net Increase | None None |
| (3) Net Decrease | 60 Officers, 61 Enlisted Men |
| (4) 30 May 1945 | 42 Officers, 236 Enlisted Men |

d Stations of units or echelons

- (1) None

e Movements of units or echelons.

- (1) None

f Campaigns

- (1) None

g Operations

- (1) With the rotation and redeployment systems gaining momentum, the rapid loss of personnel led to the discontinuing of I & E classes.
- (2) Ground school and ground training for combat crewmen was still carried out and the schedule set up for May was adhered to.

June 1945 (continued)

(3) Aerial Training was as follows:

<u>Type</u>	<u>Sorties</u>	<u>Hours</u>
Transition	60	117:40
Formation	20	37:10
Instrument	37	97:30
Bombing	4	7:25
Navigation	39	106:50
Night Flying	36	77:50

h Personnel who have distinguished themselves in action:

(1) Distinguished Service Cross Awarded to:

1st Lt. Roland B. Jackson, *pilot*, GO #60, MTC

(2) Distinguished Flying Cross Awarded to:

Capt. Lamar E. Ramsay, *pilot*, GO #117, XII AF

1st Lt. Charles W. Alward, *pilot*, GO #117, XII AF

1st Lt. Harvey C. Barbee Jr., *pilot*, GO #117, XII AF

1st Lt. Floyd W. Bogan, *pilot*, GO #117, XII AF

1st Lt. Allan C. Haynes, *pilot*, GO #117, XII AF

1st Lt. Paul L. Heaberlin, *pilot*, GO #117, XII AF

1st Lt. Noel P. Holt, Jr., *pilot*, GO #117, XII AF

1st Lt. Dan A. Sheeting, *pilot*, GO #117, XII AF

1st Lt. Thomas M. Sloan, *pilot*, GO #117, XII AF

1st Lt. Joseph Treadwell, *pilot*, GO #117, XII AF

2nd Lt. William H. Anderson, *pilot*, GO #117, XII AF

2nd Lt. Donald O. Hensler, *bombardier*, GO #117, XII AF

(3) Air Medal Awarded to:

2nd Lt. Julius C. Stalsby, *bombardier*, GO #106, XII AF

F/O George C. Ballas, *bombardier*, GO #106, XII AF

F/O William F. Reed, *bombardier*, GO #106, XII AF

F/O Joseph N. Spradlin, *pilot*, GO #106, XII AF

Sgt. Herbert M. Gersch, *gunner*, GO #106, XII AF

Sgt. Roderick B. MacLeod, *gunner*, GO #106, XII AF

Sgt. Wayne G. Merfeld, *gunner*, GO #106, XII AF

Sgt. Edward F. Sause Jr., *gunner*, GO #106, XII AF

Sgt. George J. Wiessel, *gunner*, GO #106, XII AF

2. War Diary Enclosed.

ROBERT R. SMEDLEY,
Major, Air Corps,
Commanding.

June 1945 (continued)

447th BS War Diary: Additional Narrative for June 1945

447TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M)
321ST BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
APO 65

1 July 1945

SUBJECT: Historical Records.

TO : Commanding General, 57th Bombardment Wing.
Attention: Historian.

1. Outline History of the 447th Bombardment Squadron for the period 1 June 1945 to 30 June 1945.

a. 447th Bombardment Squadron (M), 321st bombardment Group (M).

- (1) 447th Bombardment Squadron (M), 321st Bombardment Group (M), 57th Bombardment Wing (M), 12th Air Force.
- (2) Columbia Army Air Base, Columbia, South Carolina.
- (3) 23 June 1942
- (4) G.O. 145, Hq. 11 AF, 23 June 1942
- (5) Transferred from other units and Selective Service.

b. Change in Organization.

- (1) No Change
- (2) Echelons or units.
 - (a) Transferred.
 - 54 officers and 35 enlisted men trfd to 515 Air Sv. Gp.
 - 1 officer and 60 enlisted men trfd to 7th Repl. Depot.
 - 3 enlisted men trfd to 302nd Sig. Co. Troop Carrier Wing.
 - 1 enlisted man trfd to 51st Troop Carrier Wing.
 - 1 officer and 21 enlisted men trfd to 350th Ftr. Gp.
 - 24 enlisted men trfd to 57th Ftr. Gp.
 - 14 enlisted men trfd to 414 Night Ftr. Sq.
 - 3 enlisted men trfd to 416th Night Ftr. Sq.
 - 3 enlisted men trfd to 79th Ftr. Gp.
 - 6 enlisted men trfd to 340th Bomb Gp.
 - (b) On DS or TD.
 - 5 officers and 3 enlisted men on TD to Cairo, Egypt
 - 1 enlisted man to Alexandria, Egypt on TD.
 - 6 enlisted men to 515 Air Scv. Gp. On TD.
 - (c) No Change.
- (3) No change in commanding officers during the month
- (4) No change in staff officers during the month.
- (5) No Change.

June 1945 (continued)

c. Strength, Commission and enlisted.

(1) Month of June 1945.

- (a) At Beginning. 98 Officers; 301 Enlisted Men
- (b) Net increase.
- (c) Net decrease. 48 Officers; 70 Enlisted Men
- (d) At end: 50 Officers; 231 Enlisted Men.

d. Stations of units or echelons.

(1) Falconara Air Field, Italy

- (a) 7 April 1945
- (b) Still at the same station.

e. Movement of units or echelons.

- (1) Did not move during month.

f. Campaigns.

- (1) Did not participate in any campaigns this month

g. Operations.

- (1) No combat operations this month.

h. No command officers in important missions during the month.

i. Losses in action during the month of June 1945.

- (1) No losses

j. Personnel who have distinguished themselves in action during the month, and were presented the following awards:

On General Order No. 113, dated 26 May 1945, from 12th AF.

- 1st Lt. Robert A. Balboni, *bombardier*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- 1st Lt. Jesse J. Craddock, *pilot*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- 1st Lt. John V. Davies, *bombardier*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- 1st Lt. George S. Fairchild, *pilot*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- 1st Lt. John R. Highsmith, *pilot*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- 1st Lt. George R. Morrison, *Jr., pilot*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- 1st Lt. Vernon L. Schmoke, *bombardier*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- 1st Lt. Burton E. Stroupe, *bombardier*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- T/Sgt. Richard H. Perl, *engineer-gunner*, Distinguished Flying Cross

On General Order No. 134, dated 15 June 1945, from 12th AF.

- 1st Lt. Hugh H. Lankester, *bombardier*, Distinguished Flying Cross

June 1945 (continued)

On General Order No. 125, dated 7 June 1945, from 12th AF.

- 1st Lt. Richard L. Willis, *pilot*, Silver Star.
- 1st Lt. Herbert E. Barrett, *pilot*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- 1st Lt. Robert C. King, Jr., *pilot*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- 2nd Lt. Glen J. Cromley, *bombardier*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- 2nd Lt. Lewis W. Tougaw, *bombardier*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- T/Sgt. Robert A. Stroupe, *gunner*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- 1st Lt. Edwin C. Vantrease, *bombardier*, Soldier's Medal

On General Order No. 120, dated 29 May 1945, from 12th AF.

- Lt. Col. Marshall C. Strenger, *pilot, commander*, Silver Star

On General Order No. 117, dated 29 May 1945, from 12th AF.

- 1st Lt. Richard G. Briggs, *pilot*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- 1st Lt. Edmund R. Carlin, *pilot*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- 1st Lt. Paul R. Peck, *pilot*, Distinguished Flying Cross
- 1st Lt. Frank J. Blankemeyer, *bombardier*, Distinguished Flying Cross

On General Order No. 116, dated 28 May 1945, from 12th AF.

- S/Sgt. Zigmond Klimkowicz, *gunner*, 5th OLC to Air Medal
- 1st Lt. Donald W. Gies, *pilot*, 6th OLC to Air Medal
- T/Sgt. Harold Phares, Jr., *radio-gunner*, 6th OLC to Air Medal

k. No Photographs were submitted for this month.

2. Enclose War Diary, 447th Bomb Sq., for the period 1 June 1945 to 30 June 1945.

For the Commanding Officer:

1 Incls:
Incl 1 – War Diary

WILLIAM E. LEVINE,
Capt., Air Corps,
Historian

June 1945 (continued)

448th BS War Diary: Additional Narrative for June 1945

HEADQUARTERS 448th Bombardment Squadron (M)
APO 650, US ARMY

2 July 1945

SUBJECT: Historical Records
TO : Commanding General, 12th Air Force,
A-2 Section, Attention: Historian

1. Outline History of the 448th Bombardment Squadron for the period 1 June to 30 June 1945.

a Present Designation:

448th Bombardment Squadron, 321st Bombardment Group (M), 57th Bombardment Wing (M).

b Changes in organization

- (1) No change.
- (2) No change.
- (3) No change.
- (4) Major Burks (*Richard W., pilot*), Operations Officer, left for the U.S. Lt. Lee (*Howard M., Capt, pilot*) appointed Operations Officer and Lt. Sturges (*Cloral S., pilot*) appointed Ass't Operations Officer. **Lt. Wyman ()**, Information and Education Officer, left for the 47th Bomb Group.
- (5) No Change.

c Strength, commissioned and enlisted

- (1) Month of June 1945
 - (a) 101 Officers assigned, 296 E.M. assigned.
 - (b) None
 - (c) 54 Officers; 62 E.M.
 - (d) 47 Officers; 234 E.M.

d Stations of units or echelons

- (1) Falconara Air Field, Falconara, Italy.
 - (a) April 8, 1945
 - (b) None.

e Movements of unit or echelons.

- (1) None

f Campaigns

- (1) None

g Operations

- (1) None

June 1945 (continued)

- h Command Officers in important missions:
 - (1) None

- i Losses in action
 - (1) None

- j Personnel Who Have Distinguished Themselves in Combat:
 - (See enclosure #2)

- k Number of photographs being submitted.
 - (1) None.

2. Enclosed are Journal of Events, 448th Bombardment Squadron, for the period 1 June to 30 June 1945; Account of Personnel Who Have Distinguished Themselves in Combat and were cited during month of June 1945.

For the Commanding Officer:

ALWIN H. SARGENT,
Captain, Air Corps,
Squadron Historian.

Incl: 2

Incl 1 - Unit Journal of Events

Incl 3 - Account of Personnel Distinguishing Themselves

448th BS War Diary: Personnel Who Have Distinguished Themselves in Action:

G.O. # 120, 12th AF, 1 June '45
for Gallantry in action

Maj. Farwell, *Harold S., pilot, Commander* Rovereto, Italy 20 Feb '45 Silver Star

for Extraordinary Achievement

Lt. Rutz, <i>Victor H., bombardier</i>	Ora, Italy	19 Mar '45	DFC
Lt. West, <i>Alden A. "Bud", pilot</i>	Maribor, Yugo.	12 Apr '45	DFC

G.O. # 125, 12th AF, 7 June '45, for Extraordinary Achievement

Lt. Armstrong, <i>Sherman T., Jr., bombardier</i>	San Michele, Italy	3 Mar '45	DFC
Lt. Sculley, <i>Thomas S., pilot</i>	Staz di Ceraino, Italy	10 Mar '45	DFC
Lt. Steely, <i>Ralph K., bombardier</i>	Mori, Italy	6 Feb '45	DFC
Lt. Stout, <i>Charles S., bombardier</i>	San Michele, Italy	3 Mar '45	DFC

G.O. # 129, 12th AF, 9 June '45, for Gallantry in Action

Capt. Culp, *Merle H., pilot* Perugia, Italy 7 Jan '44 Silver Star

June 1945 (continued)

G.O. # 134, 12th AF, 16 June '45, for Extraordinary Achievement

Lt. Matkins, <i>Marvin F., bombardier</i>	Perugia, Italy	7 Jan '44	DFC
Lt. Anderson, <i>Douglas R., pilot</i>	Perugia, Italy	7 Jan '44	DFC
Lt. Perry, <i>Lawrence A., navigator</i>	Perugia, Italy	7 Jan '44	DFC
Sgt. Spencer, <i>John S., gunner</i>	Perugia, Italy	7 Jan '44	DFC
Sgt. Holguin, <i>Renato (NMI), gunner</i>	Perugia, Italy	7 Jan '44	DFC

G.O. # 135, 12th AF, 17 June '45, for Extraordinary Achievement

Sgt. Allen, <i>Clifford N., gunner</i>	Perugia, Italy	7 Jan '44	DFC
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