

SO-BOMB-488-HI  
JUL-SEP 1945

RETURN TO:

Director  
Research Studies Institute  
4000 ... Branch  
Maxwell AFB, Alabama

P R.C.

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4-2048-12

S E C R E T

HQ, 488TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
 340TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
 Columbia Army Air Base  
 Columbia, South Carolina

488th Bomb Sq (M)

OUTLINE HISTORY, July 1945  
 S E C R E T By Auth CO  
 488th Bomb Sq (M)  
 1 to 31 July 1945  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Initials

18 October 1945

SUBJECT: Historical Records.

TO : Commanding General, First Air Force.  
 Attention: Historian.

P.R.C.

1. Outline History of the 488th Bomb Sq (M) for the period 1 July 1945 to 31 July 1945.

- a. Original unit.
  - (1) 488th Bomb Squadron (M), 340th Bombardment Group (M), 57th Bombardment Wing (M), XII AF.
- b. Changes in organization.
  - (1) No change.
- c. Strength: commissioned and enlisted.
  - (1) At beginning of period:
 

(a) 87 Officers & 105 E/M	Total 192
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  - (4) At end of period:
 

(a) 11 Officers & 224 E/M	Total 235
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- d. Stations of units or echelons.
  - (1) Rimini Airdrome, Italy
    - (a) Arrived: 7 April 1945.
    - (b) Departed: 16 July 1945. (Ground echelon)
- e. Movements of unit or echelon.
  - (1) Air echelon, 49 Officers and 32 E/M, departed for Naples, Italy, by air on first leg of trip to U.S.
  - (2) Ground echelon, 9 Officers and 217 E/M, departed Rimini Airdrome at 0600, 16 July 1945, and arrived at Rome Army Staging Area at 1730 hours, same date, by motor convoy of 29 vehicles.
  - (3) Ground echelon, 9 Officers and 217 E/M, departed Rome Army Staging area 0700, 17 July 1945, by motor convoy of 29 vehicles arriving at Army Staging Area #1, Bagnoli, Italy, at 1630 hours, same date.
  - (4) Ground echelon, 10 Officers and 224 E/M, departed Naples Port of Embarkation for U.S. at 1900 hours, 27 July 1945, aboard SS Cristobal.
- f. Campaigns.
  - (1) None.
- g. Operations.
  - (1) None.

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S E C R E T

S E C R E T

488th Bomb Sq (M)

OUTLINE HISTORY, July 1945

S E C R E T By Auth CO

488th Bomb Sq (M)

1 to 31 July 1945

\_\_\_\_\_ Initials

18 October 1945

- h. Commanding Officers in important engagements.  
(1) No operations.
- i. Losses in action: officers and men.  
(1) None.
- j. Losses not in Line of Duty.  
(1) None.
- k. Decorations.  
(1) None.

*Robert C. Bachtell*

ROBERT C. BACHTELL,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Commanding.

S E C R E T

S E C R E TWAR DIARY

488th Bombardment Squadron (M)

Rimini Airdrome, Italy

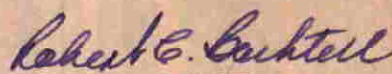
Month of July 1945

DAYEVENTSGround Echelon:

- 1-15 Sweating out leaving for the States.  
 16- The great day, leaving for Rome by convoy. Arrived in Rome and stayed at the Army Air Force Rest Camp Hotel, presenting a good opportunity for cleaning up, eating, and general rest and relaxation after the trip.  
 17- Left Rome for Naples. Now it seemed like the real stuff especially after arriving in the Naples area and seeing the ships in the harbor.  
 18-27 All a big "sweat out" for the ship. Opportunities for seeing the sights of the Naples area.  
 27- The actual day arrived and squadron boarded the ship in the afternoon. Promptly at 1900 the ship left the pier and before dark we had passed Capri and lost sight of the Italian mainland.  
 28-31 No land, no nuthin, but we are on the way.

Air Echelon:

- 4- Our squadron leaves with aircraft from Rimini to Naples on the first leg of the journey home.  
 6- Naples to Tunis-El Aouina Airdrome  
 8- El Aouina to Marrakech, French Morocco.  
 9- Marrakech to Dakar, French West Africa  
 12- Dakar to Roberts Field, Liberia.  
 13- Roberts Field to Ascension Island.  
 14- Ascension Island to Natal, Brazil.  
 15- Natal to Belem, Brazil, to Atkinson Field, British Guiana.  
 16- Atkinson Field to Borrenquin, Puerto Rico.  
 17- Borrenquin to Morrison Field, West Palm Beach, Florida.  
 19- Morrison Field to Hunter Field, Savannah, Georgia.  
 20-31 All of Flight Echelon ordered to 30 day TDY at home and return to Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina.



ROBERT C. BACHTELL,  
 Major, Air Corps,  
 Commanding.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

H., 488TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
 340TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
 Columbia Army Air Base  
 Columbia, South Carolina

488th Bomb Sq (M)

OUTLINE HISTORY, July 1945  
 S E C R E T by Auth CO  
 488th Bomb Sq (M)  
 1 to 31 July 1945  
 \_\_\_\_\_ initials

18 October 1945

SUBJECT: Historical Records.

TO : Commanding General, First Air Force.  
 Attention: Historian.

1. Outline History of the 488th Bomb Sq (M) for the period 1 July 1945 to 31 July 1945.

## a. Original unit.

- (1) 488th Bomb Squadron (M), 340th Bombardment Group (M),  
 57th Bombardment Wing (M), AAF.

## b. Changes in organization.

- (1) No change.

## c. Strength: commissioned and enlisted.

- (1) At beginning of period:  
 (a) 87 Officers & 105 S/A Total 192  
 (2) At end of period:  
 (a) 11 Officers & 224 S/A Total 235

## d. Stations of units or echelons.

- (1) Rimini Airdrome, Italy  
 (a) Arrived: 7 April 1945.  
 (b) Departed: 16 July 1945. (Ground echelon)

## e. Movements of unit or echelon.

- (1) Air echelon, 49 Officers and 32 S/A, departed for Naples, Italy, by air on first leg of trip to U.S.  
 (2) Ground echelon, 9 Officers and 217 S/A, departed Rimini Airdrome at 0600, 16 July 1945, and arrived at Rome Army Staging Area at 1730 hours, same date, by motor convoy of 29 vehicles.  
 (3) Ground echelon, 9 Officers and 217 S/A, departed Rome Army Staging Area 0700, 17 July 1945, by motor convoy of 29 vehicles arriving at Army Staging Area #1, Bagnoli, Italy, at 1630 hours, same date.  
 (4) Ground echelon, 10 Officers and 224 S/A, departed Naples Port of Embarkation for U.S. at 1900 hours, 27 July 1945, aboard SS Cristobal.

## f. Campaigns.

- (1) None.

## g. Operations.

- (1) None.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

488th Bomb Sq (M)

OUTLINE HISTORY, July 1945

S E C R E T By auth CO

488th Bomb Sq (M)

1 to 31 July 1945

\_\_\_\_\_ Initials

18 October 1945

- h. Commanding Officers in important engagements.  
(1) No operations.
- i. Losses in action: officers and men.  
(1) None.
- j. Losses not in Line of Duty.  
(1) None.
- k. Decorations.  
(1) None.

ROBERT C. BACHTALL,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Commanding.

S E C R E T

SECRETWAR DIARY

488th Bombardment Squadron (M)

Rimini Airbase, Italy

Month of July 1945

DAYEVENTSGround Echelon:

- 1-15 Sweating out leaving for the States.  
 16- The great day, leaving for Rome by convoy. Arrived in Rome and stayed at the Army Air Force Rest Camp Hotel, presenting a good opportunity for cleaning up, eating, and general rest and relaxation after the trip.  
 17- Left Rome for Naples. Now it seemed like the real stuff especially after arriving in the Naples area and seeing the ships in the harbor.  
 18-27 All a big "sweat out" for the ship. Opportunities for seeing the sights of the Naples area.  
 27- The actual day arrived and squadron boarded the ship in the afternoon. Promptly at 1900 the ship left the pier and before dark we had passed Capri and lost sight of the Italian mainland.  
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Air Echelon:

- 4- Our squadron leaves with aircraft from Rimini to Naples on the first leg of the journey home.  
 6- Naples to Tunis-El Aouina Airbase  
 8- El Aouina to Marrakech, French Morocco.  
 9- Marrakech to Dakar, French West Africa  
 12- Dakar to Roberts Field, Liberia.  
 13- Roberts Field to Ascension Island.  
 14- Ascension Island to Natal, Brazil.  
 15- Natal to Belem, Brazil, to Atkinson Field, British Guiana.  
 16- Atkinson Field to Borrenquin, Puerto Rico.  
 17- Borrenquin to Morrison Field, West Palm Beach, Florida.  
 19- Morrison Field to Hunter Field, Savannah, Georgia.  
 20-31 All of Flight Echelon ordered to 30 day TDY at home and return to Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina.

ROBERT C. BACHTEL,  
 Major, Air Corps,  
 Commanding.

SECRET

S E C R E T

HQ, 488TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
 340TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
 Columbia Army Air Base  
 Columbia, South Carolina

488th Bomb Sq (M)

OUTLINE HISTORY, Aug 45  
 S E C R E T By Auth CO  
 488th Bomb Sq (M)  
 1 to 31 August 1945  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Initials

18 October 1945

SUBJECT: Historical Records.

TO : Commanding General, First Air Force.  
 Attention: Historian.

1. Outline History of the 488th Bomb Sq (M) for the period 1 August 1945 to 31 August 1945.

- a. Original unit.
  - (1) 488th Bomb Squadron (M), 340th Bombardment Group (M).
- b. Changes in organization.
  - (1) None.
- c. Strength: commissioned and enlisted.
  - (1) At beginning of period:
 

(a) 11 Officers & 224 E/M	Total 235
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  - (2) At end of period:
 

(a) 42 Officers & 258 E/M	Total 300
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- d. Stations of units or echelons.
  - (1) Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina.
    - (a) Arrived: 9 August 1945.
    - (b) Departed: \_\_\_\_\_.
- e. Movements of unit or echelon.
  - (1) Ground echelon aboard the Army Transport Cristobal arrived at Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia, 7 August 1945. Returnees placed on DS to be given 30 days for rest and recuperation, 8 August 1945.
- f. Campaigns.
  - (1) None.
- g. Operations.
  - (1) None.
- h. Losses in Action.
  - (1) None.
- i. Losses not in Line of Duty.
  - (1) None.
- j. Decorations.
  - (1) None.

*Robert C. Bachtell*  
 ROBERT C. BACHTELL,  
 Major, Air Corps,  
 Commanding.

S E C R E T

S E C R E TWAR DIARY

488th Bombardment Squadron (M)

Seymour Johnson Fld, N.C.

Month of August 1945

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DAYEVENT

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7- Early in the morning the first sight of land--namely the United States--was seen. Debarkation took place around noon and early in the afternoon. Proceeded by train to Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia.

8- All officers and enlisted men of the ground echelon are ordered to TDY at home to report back to Seymour Johnson Field, N.C.

1-21 Air echelon men still on TDY at home.

22- First of flight echelon arrived for duty at Seymour Johnson Field, assigned from Hunter Field, Georgia.

*Robert C. Bachtell*  
 ROBERT C. BACHTELL,  
 Major, Air Corps,  
 Commanding.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

HQ, 488TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
 340TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
 Columbia Army Air Base  
 Columbia, South Carolina

488th Bomb Sq (M)

OUTLINE HISTORY, Aug 45  
 S E C R E T By Auth CO  
 488th Bomb Sq (M)  
 1 to 31 August 1945  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Initials

18 October 1945

SUBJECT: Historical Records.

TO : Commanding General, First Air Force.  
 Attention: Historian.

1. Outline History of the 488th Bomb Sq (M) for the period 1 August 1945 to 31 August 1945.

- a. Original unit.
  - (1) 488th Bomb Squadron (M), 340th Bombardment Group (M).
- b. Changes in organization.
  - (1) None.
- c. Strength: commissioned and enlisted.
  - (1) At beginning of period:
 

(a) 11 Officers & 224 s/m	Total 235
---------------------------	-----------
  - (2) At end of period:
 

(a) 42 Officers & 258 s/m	Total 300
---------------------------	-----------
- d. Stations of units or echelons.
  - (1) Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina.
    - (a) Arrived: 9 August 1945.
    - (b) Departed: \_\_\_\_\_.
- e. Movements of unit or echelon.
  - (1) Ground echelon aboard the Army Transport Cristobal arrived at Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia, 7 August 1945. Returnees placed on DS to be given 30 days for rest and recuperation, 8 August 1945.
- f. Campaigns.
  - (1) None.
- g. Operations.
  - (1) None.
- h. Losses in Action.
  - (1) None.
- i. Losses not in line of Duty.
  - (1) None.
- j. Decorations.
  - (1) None.

ROBERT G. BACHTELL,  
 Major, Air Corps,  
 Commanding.

S E C R E T

SECRET

WAR DIARY

488th Bombardment Squadron (M)

Seymour Johnson Fld, N.C.

Month of August 1945

DAYEVENT

7- Early in the morning the first sight of land--namely the United States--was seen. Debarkation took place around noon and early in the afternoon. Proceeded by train to Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia.

8- All officers and enlisted men of the ground echelon are ordered to TDY at home to report back to Seymour Johnson Field, N.C.

1-21 Air echelon men still on TDY at home.

22- First of flight echelon arrived for duty at Seymour Johnson Field, assigned from Hunter Field, Georgia.

ROBERT C. BENTALL,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Commandin .

S E C R E T

HQ, 488TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (M) AAF  
 340TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M) AAF  
 Columbia Army Air Base  
 Columbia, South Carolina

488th Bomb Sq (M)

OUTLINE HISTORY, Sept 45  
 S E C R E T By Auth CO  
 488th Bomb Sq (M)  
 1 to 30 September 1945.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Initials

18 October 1945.

SUBJECT: Historical Records.

TO : Commanding General, First Air Force.  
 Attention: Historian.

1. Outline History of the 488th Bomb Sq (M) for the period 1 September 1945 to 30 September 1945.

- a. Original unit.
  - (1) 488th Bomb Squadron (M), 340th Bombardment Group (M).
- b. Changes in organization.
  - (1) None.
- c. Strength: commissioned and enlisted.
  - (1) At beginning of period:
    - (a) 42 Officers & 258 E/M Total 300
  - (2) At end of period:
    - (b) 23 Officers & 164 E/M Total 187
- d. Stations of units or echelons.
  - (1) Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina.
- e. Movements of unit or echelon.
  - (1) None.
- f. Campaigns.
  - (1) None
- g. Operations.
  - (1) None
- h. Losses in Action.
  - (1) None
- i. Losses not in Line of Duty.
  - (1) None
- j. Decorations.
  - (1) None.

*Robert C. Bachtell*  
 ROBERT C. BACHTELL,  
 Major, Air Corps,  
 Commanding.

S E C R E T

S E C R E TWAR DIARY

488th Bombardment Squadron (M)

Seymour Johnson Field, N.C.

Month of September 1945.

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DAYEVENT

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1-30 Personnel without enough points for discharge arriving at Seymour Johnson Field for the greater part of the month. Some were discharged at this field, and those not discharge were processed with their points recomputed and brought up to date. Nothing but routine work in the orderly room. Group to move to Columbia AAB, Columbia, South Carolina for deactivation.



ROBERT C. BACHTELL,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Commanding.

S E C R E T