

44TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON  
40TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP  
Office of the Historical Officer  
Attn: ISJ, c/o Postmaster  
San Francisco, California

157/201

6 September 1945

OPERATIONAL HISTORY

1 August thru 31 August 1945

The month of August started off as did every other month since the war with Japan had commenced on December 7, 1941. Men continued to work, planes continued to fly and the routine business of winning the war continued but no one -- not even the world's greatest optimist could have predicted the great events that were to take place before the month was even half over.

Four missions were flown by the squadron from August 1 through August 9. On the first of August the Hachioji Urban Area was burned out. The following named officers and enlisted men from the squadron participated.

B-29 752

1st Lt T. J. Doherty  
FO R. Stanworth  
2nd Lt W. Smietanek  
2nd Lt T. Sproule  
T Sgt B. A. Sowers  
Cpl D. A. Vallario  
Cpl G. W. Williams  
S Sgt R. J. Louandro  
S Sgt H. Glassman  
Cpl A. E. Mayo  
Cpl L. E. Kraus

B-29 139

Major C. M. Weber  
1st Lt L. L. Dover  
1st Lt J. M. Alford  
1st Lt J. L. Bean  
1st Lt P. A. Dumas  
S Sgt G. W. Lamb  
1st Lt M. E. Behrens  
S Sgt F. D. Kramer  
Sgt C. M. Haim  
S Sgt J. J. Anthony  
S Sgt H. J. Hanson

B-29 328

1st Lt V. L. Richards  
1st Lt G. D. Tenpas  
1st Lt W. E. Wolff  
1st Lt H. Madden  
1st Lt E. E. Deiser

Sgt R. Pinter  
S Sgt E. E. Jones  
T Sgt A. P. Heckel  
S Sgt V. J. Holley  
S Sgt R. G. Hurlbert  
T Sgt J. D. McGann  
Sgt C. E. Clasp

B-29 696

1st Lt R. W. Rogel  
 2nd Lt J. L. Weeden  
 2nd Lt J. H. Jontzen  
 F O D. L. Schappeil  
 Cpl J. K. Strachan  
 Cpl J. T. Houseman  
 S Sgt A. L. Melchart  
 Cpl A. W. Gilliam  
 Cpl W. M. Trinklo  
 Cpl F. E. Teague  
 Cpl H. P. White

B-29 698

1st Lt R. J. Oakes  
 2nd Lt D. T. Clute  
 2nd Lt F. C. Boone  
 2nd Lt A. M. Cordeiro  
 Sgt R. C. Heller  
 Sgt J. L. Kilian  
 2nd Lt N. Pomponio  
 SGT M. H. Parham  
 Cpl N. H. Pierce  
 Sgt B. Calamas  
 Cpl J. E. Collins  
 1st Lt Britt

B-29 527

1st Lt B. H. Morrow  
 2nd Lt K. L. Taylor  
 F O J. S. Pritchard  
 F O K. Rittieroot  
 Sgt O. G. Honeycutt  
 Sgt R. J. Wojcik  
 2nd Lt H. Huson  
 Sgt T. J. Lyjak  
 Sgt A. Mahas  
 Sgt G. C. Pangborn  
 Cpl G. W. Burkla  
 1st Lt Hanson

B-29 680

Major G. C. Engelman  
 1st Lt J. A. King  
 1st Lt R. P. Boston  
 Capt J. L. Orr  
 F O Bradley, C. H.  
 T Sgt E. L. Bresnok  
 S Sgt L. H. Moncrief  
 T Sgt V. A. Gregorio  
 S Sgt B. B. Kinzer  
 S Sgt J. P. Glennon  
 S Sgt G. A. Mangler  
 Capt W. W. Walters

B-29 615

1st Lt G. B. Markham  
 1st Lt T. McCosker  
 1st Lt E. G. Attaway  
 2nd Lt G. Habbit  
 1st Lt J. C. Giland  
 Pfc L. L. Chase  
 2nd Lt R. A. Mueller  
 T Sgt F. H. Haase  
 Cpl R. W. Unger  
 Sgt S. A. Guilford  
 T Sgt H. B. Swires

B-29 729

1st Lt A. L. McLaren  
 2nd Lt E. M. Saucer  
 2nd Lt M. E. Albright  
 2nd Lt C. W. Willis  
 S Sgt R. A. Mcowell  
 S Sgt J. H. Dybell  
 Cpl W. L. Winder  
 Cpl K. A. Blink  
 Cpl R. N. Washburn  
 Cpl J. P. Volk  
 Cpl G. H. Walter

B-29 740

Capt W. D. Shockie  
2nd Lt H. L. Dodge  
2nd Lt D. S. Curry  
2nd Lt W. F. Croft  
Sgt J. T. Simpson  
Sgt R. S. Phillips  
2nd Lt J. C. Templeton  
Sgt C. G. Smith  
Cpl I. Landsman  
Pvt A. J. Traficante  
Cpl J. McAuley

B-29 631

1st Lt W. S. Suenler  
2nd Lt J. D. Winninghoff  
1st Lt E. J. Holtke  
1st Lt E. G. Bernstrom  
1st Lt E. Strickstein  
S Sgt F. Klas  
S Sgt F. G. Stilson  
S Sgt C. R. Martin  
S Sgt L. J. Banas  
S Sgt C. V. Cromer  
S Sgt A. A. Hall

B-29 548

1st Lt E. E. Mappes  
2nd Lt J. Dela Rama  
2nd Lt C. Dowse  
2nd Lt V. W. Beck  
M Sgt D. M. Brady  
Cpl V. V. Miller  
2nd Lt P. I. Wilcox  
Cpl J. C. Hulce  
Cpl A. P. Peleckis  
Cpl E. M. Grant  
Cpl C. A. Lorme

B-29 620

1st Lt J. P. Land  
2nd Lt G. C. Henderson  
2nd Lt C. E. Richardson  
2nd Lt H. N. Brumfield  
Cpl W. F. Getz  
Cpl D. E. Dorsey  
2nd Lt R. F. Maloney  
Sgt D. P. Buis  
Sgt M. F. Wagner  
Sgt H. R. Eisea  
S Sgt M. W. Young

B-29 659

1st Lt C. E. Hall  
2nd Lt J. K. MacLeod  
2nd Lt K. L. Zinkan  
2nd Lt J. D. Markins  
S Sgt G. S. Williams  
Sgt G. H. Kerkerian  
2nd Lt G. M. Flian  
Sgt H. Q. Palmiter  
Sgt W. L. Murphy  
Sgt E. Chavez  
Cpl C. J. Labarge

B-29 587

Lt Col N. W. Wemple  
1st Lt D. W. Burchett  
FO J. E. Faser  
2nd Lt E. G. Archer  
1st Lt K. L. Barg  
Sgt L. Nagy  
Major L. Balfour  
Sgt Baetz  
Cpl H. Howard  
Cpl L. Talbot  
Cpl K. Knodel  
2nd Lt B. U. Hathorn

On the sixth of August the Imabari Urban Industrial Area received a taste of the fire treatment. The following crew members participated.

B-29 752

1st Lt D. W. Burchett  
2nd Lt Nathorne  
P O Faser  
2nd Lt Archer  
1st Lt R. L. Barg  
Sgt Nagy  
Sgt Baetz  
Cpl Howard  
Cpl Talbot  
Cpl Knodel  
Major Balfour  
2nd Lt Kallenberg

B-29 659

1st Lt C. J. Oakes  
2nd Lt T. E. Glute  
2nd Lt R. C. Boone  
2nd Lt A. M. Cordfiro  
Sgt R. C. Heller  
Sgt J. L. Killian  
2nd Lt N. Pomponin  
Sgt M. H. Parham  
Cpl J. B. Pierce  
Sgt B. Calams  
Cpl J. E. Collins  
Pfc N. A. Scadova

B-29 635

1st Lt R. W. Reger  
2nd Lt G. O. Weeden  
2nd Lt J. W. Contzen  
P O D. L. Schappell  
Cpl J. R. Strachan  
Cpl J. W. Houseman  
Cpl A. M. Reinhart  
Cpl A. W. Gilliam  
Cpl W. M. Triakle  
Cpl F. E. Teague  
Cpl M. P. White  
Colonel W. E. Stiner

B-29 139

Major C. M. Weber  
1st Lt L. L. Dover  
1st Lt J. M. Alford  
1st Lt J. L. Bean  
1st Lt P. Dugas  
1st Lt E. F. Rehrens  
S Sgt C. W. Lamb  
S Sgt F. O. Kramer  
Sgt C. M. Nairn  
S Sgt D. E. Anthony  
S Sgt H. J. Hanson

B-29 100

1st Lt A. L. McLaren  
2nd Lt E. S. Saucer  
2nd Lt M. E. Aloright  
2nd Lt C. W. Willis  
S Sgt R. A. Newowell  
S Sgt J. J. Dyball  
Cpl W. L. Winder  
Cpl R. E. Blink  
Cpl R. E. Washburn  
Cpl J. P. Volk  
Cpl G. H. Walter  
2nd Lt H. E. Hadlock

B-29 328

1st Lt W. S. Markham  
1st Lt Cashman  
1st Lt E. E. Attaway  
2nd Lt E. Habif  
1st Lt J. C. Eiland  
Pfc L. L. Chase  
2nd Lt R. A. Mueller  
T Sgt E. H. Hoops  
Cpl R. W. Unger  
Sgt S. A. Guilford  
T Sgt Swirles  
2nd Lt A. R. Law

Squadron History, 1st Bomb Sq, 488 Bg, 8 Sep 45, cont'd

B-29 034

1st Lt J. M. Boucher  
1st Lt A. T. Murray  
1st Lt G. J. Holtke  
1st Lt Ranson  
1st Lt N. Strickstein  
S Sgt F. Klas  
S Sgt G. F. Stilson  
S Sgt C. R. Martin  
S Sgt L. J. Banas  
S Sgt M. W. Young  
2nd Lt L. T. Cockrell

B-29 000

Major J. C. Bergermann  
1st Lt J. G. King  
1st Lt A. P. Scott  
Capt J. L. Chr  
P O C. L. Bradley  
T Sgt A. Bresnok  
T Sgt V. Gregorio  
S Sgt E. E. Kinzer  
S Sgt J. P. Glennon  
S Sgt C. A. Wangler  
S Sgt R. J. Locando  
Sgt A. G. Steffens

B-29 015

1st Lt G. W. Hoppus  
1st Lt H. E. Smith  
2nd Lt G. C. Lewis  
2nd Lt J. C. Walshe  
T Sgt L. Thompson  
S Sgt J. J. Zima  
2nd Lt J. C. Harden  
T Sgt A. F. Houkel  
Cpl W. J. Chass  
Pfc W. H. McLean  
Cpl C. M. Banfield  
P O J. J. Fasone

B-29 038

Capt W. C. Meyers  
1st Lt J. L. Curry  
2nd Lt P. F. Jones  
2nd Lt E. H. Meislahn  
Sgt C. J. Canning  
Sgt H. Finter  
1st Lt R. P. Michels  
Sgt C. N. Shadel  
Cpl W. A. Zell  
Cpl A. L. Wood  
Cpl L. L. Gdooka  
1st Lt G. D. Britt

On the seventh of August the Squadron went back at their old specialty of hitting precision targets and hit the To, okawa Naval Arsenal. The formation was led by Lt Mappes and Lt Beck dropped the bombs directly into the target and superior results were achieved. The following named officers and enlisted men participated.

B-29 548

1st Lt E. E. Mappes  
2nd Lt J. De La Rama  
2nd Lt C. Bouse  
2nd Lt V. W. Beck  
M Sgt D. M. Brady  
Cpl V. K. Miller  
2nd Lt P. I. Wilson  
Cpl J. C. Hulce  
Cpl A. P. Paloutis  
Cpl B. H. Grant  
Cpl S. A. P. Lorne

B-29 000

1st Lt B. H. Morrow  
2nd Lt E. L. Taylor  
P O J. C. Pritchard  
P O A. E. Pittsford  
Sgt O. C. Honeysett  
Sgt R. J. Wehr  
2nd Lt H. E. Brown  
Sgt T. J. Lyjak  
Sgt A. Hahn  
Sgt G. C. Ferguson  
Sgt G. H. Smith

Squadron History, Lt. Robert G., APO 133, 6 Sep 45, Cont'd

B-29 620

1st Lt C. E. Hall  
 2nd Lt J. K. MacLeod  
 2nd Lt R. L. Zinkan  
 2nd Lt J. D. Harkins  
 S Sgt G. E. Williams  
 Sgt G. H. Kerkorian  
 2nd Lt G. M. Flinn  
 Sgt H. Q. Palmiter  
 Sgt D. L. Murphy  
 Sgt R. Chavez Jr  
 Cpl C. J. Labarge

B-29 992

1st Lt R. G. Burchett  
 2nd Lt G. H. Fiddle  
 2nd Lt R. E. Milligan  
 2nd Lt J. W. Draper Jr  
 F O R. Hay  
 Cpl J. C. Griffith  
 Sgt M. C. Otto  
 Cpl H. D. Cohen  
 S Sgt O'Connell  
 Cpl F. B. Ruddy  
 Cpl Burchett  
 Cpl G. Farandakis

On 9 August the Fukuyama Industrial area was hit by fire bombs. The following named officers and enlisted men from the Squadron participated:

B-29 527

1st Lt R. T. McCrady  
 1st Lt T. S. Doherty  
 F O J. J. Pasone  
 2nd Lt H. H. Hicks  
 Sgt A. G. Steffens  
 Sgt J. L. Inman  
 2nd Lt W. G. Kallenberg  
 Sgt W. J. Bray  
 Sgt C. Cohen  
 Sgt E. P. Eastman  
 Cpl N. W. Cooley

B-29 139

Major C. M. Weser  
 1st Lt L. L. Dover  
 1st Lt J. M. Alford  
 1st Lt J. L. Bean  
 1st Lt P. A. DuMais  
 S Sgt C. W. Lamb  
 1st Lt M. F. Behrens  
 S Sgt F. S. Kramer  
 Sgt G. M. Naim  
 S Sgt J. T. Anthony  
 S Sgt H. T. Hanson

B-29 634

Major J. C. Egenmann  
 1st Lt J. G. King  
 Capt J. L. Orr  
 F O C. H. Bradley  
 1st Lt R. P. Bolton  
 S Sgt F. Elias  
 S Sgt F. G. Stilson  
 S Sgt C. E. Martin  
 S Sgt J. T. Glendon  
 S Sgt M. W. Young  
 S Sgt C. J. Cruser

B-29 587

1st Lt O. W. Burchett  
 2nd Lt B. C. Hathorne  
 F O J. F. Faser  
 2nd Lt E. C. Archer  
 1st Lt W. Strickstein  
 Sgt L. Nagy  
 Major L. Balfour  
 Sgt W. G. Beets  
 Cpl H. Howard  
 Cpl L. J. Falbot  
 Cpl H. E. Kachel

Squadron History, 44th Bomb Sq, APO 143, 6 Sep 45, Cont'd

B-29 100

1st Lt G. V. Weger  
2nd Lt C. L. Weeden  
2nd Lt J. W. Conteen  
F O D. L. Schuppell  
Cpl J. R. Strachand  
Cpl J. W. Housman  
S Sgt A. H. Reichart  
Cpl A. W. Gilliam  
Cpl W. L. Trinkle  
Cpl E. E. Teague  
Cpl N. A. Scadova  
S Sgt A. A. Hall

B-29 615

1st Lt G. W. Hoppus  
1st Lt H. E. Smith  
2nd Lt G. C. Lewis  
2nd Lt J. C. Walshe  
T Sgt Thompson  
Cpl C. H. Sutphin  
2nd Lt J. C. Hadden  
Sgt L. R. Lanke  
Cpl W. J. Chase  
Pfc W. H. McLean  
Cpl C. E. Banfield

B-29 548

Lt Col E. W. Temple  
1st Lt T. McCosker  
1st Lt E. E. Ataway  
2nd Lt E. Hahil  
1st Lt J. S. Hiland  
Sgt M. C. Bowman  
2nd Lt R. A. Mueller  
T Sgt F. H. Hoops  
Cpl R. W. Unger  
Sgt S. A. Guilford  
Pfc M. E. Skaer

B-29 740

Capt W. D. Sheckley  
2nd Lt R. L. Dodge  
2nd Lt D. S. Curry  
2nd Lt W. F. Croft  
Sgt G. T. Simpson  
Sgt R. H. Phillips  
2nd Lt J. C. Templeton  
Sgt C. G. Smith  
Cpl I. Landsman  
Cpl J. C. Traficante  
Cpl J. McAuley  
Cpl D. A. Vallario  
1st Lt C. E. Hanson  
Major Palmer

B-29 328

1st Lt J. L. Curry  
1st Lt M. D. Cashman  
2nd Lt L. T. Cockrell  
2nd Lt A. R. Law  
1st Lt M. J. Strus  
Sgt R. E. Eberle  
2nd Lt H. E. Hadlock  
Sgt S. M. Lipnik  
Sgt D. I. Pritz  
Sgt H. L. Simpson  
Cpl A. R. Schultz  
1st Lt E. J. Holtke

B-29 752

1st Lt E. J. Gakes  
2nd Lt B. T. Clute  
2nd Lt F. C. Boone  
2nd Lt A. M. Cordeird  
T Sgt R. C. Heller  
Sgt J. I. Killian  
2nd Lt N. Panponio  
Sgt M. H. Partas  
Cpl J. B. Pierce  
Sgt B. Calamas  
Cpl R. E. Collins

1st Lt. J. J. [unclear]	2nd Lt. J. J. [unclear]
2nd Lt. J. J. [unclear]	Pfc. J. J. [unclear]
2nd Lt. J. J. [unclear]	Pfc. J. J. [unclear]
2nd Lt. J. J. [unclear]	Pfc. J. J. [unclear]
P.O. J. J. [unclear]	Pfc. J. J. [unclear]
	Pfc. J. J. [unclear]

On 11 August another mission was scheduled but not flown. It had happened too fast. Briefing was scheduled for 12 o'clock that evening. At about 2000 a town crier went through the lines yelling, "The war is over." Everyone woke up and eagerly accepted the news though there was no confirmation. Men kissed each other, hit each other on the back and an air of general jubilation pervaded throughout the officers and enlisted men's areas. A few moments later the announcement came over the loud speaker system that the rumor of the war ending had not yet been confirmed and the mission would go out. Briefing was called for 12 o'clock and a tense atmosphere could be noted as Colonel Gaer got up to give the introductory remarks. He simply stated that though the war was still on, the mission for some reason had been cancelled. Thunderous applause greeted the announcement and men cheered and cried at the same time. It was an awe inspiring sight. What had happened was this: Japan had transmitted an offer of surrender to the Swiss in compliance with the Potsdam declaration but with a provision that the Emperor retain his royal prerogatives. That offer started the celebrations. About 36 hours after the original offer the allies, through Secretary of State Byrnes answered the Japs saying that the Emperor would take his orders from the Supreme Commander of the Allies who would be designated later. Rumor prevailed that General of the Armies McArthur would take over supreme command.

Men waited impatiently and when on the 13th of August no word had come in from the Japs the order went out to prepare for a mission. That night no word had come in and so on the early morning of the 14th the squadron planes along with others from the Group and Wing were dispatched to attack a precision target the Hikari Naval Arsenal located ten miles southeast of the city of Tokuyama on the Inland Sea.

Heavy antiaircraft fire was meager to moderate and generally inaccurate over the target. The third formation of planes consisting of 12 B-29's was led over the target by Lt Mappes and his lead crew. Once more with Lt Beck bombing superior results were achieved. Ninety-nine percent of the bombs dropped by this formation fell within 1000 feet of the assigned aiming point. Damage and destruction to the Arsenal was severe. As the planes draped on the return flight to home base the Japanese Radio announced unofficially that the Japs had at last accepted the terms of surrender and the terms were unconditional surrender.

**SECRET**



Squadron History, 4th Bomb Sq, APO 183, 6 Sep 45, Cont'd

The following named officers and enlisted men participated in this mission.

B-29 242

Capt W. D. Snockley  
2nd Lt H. I. Hodge  
2nd Lt D. S. Curry  
2nd Lt W. F. Croit  
S Sgt G. T. Simpson  
S Sgt R. A. Phillips  
2nd Lt J. C. Templeton  
S Sgt C. G. Smith  
Cpl I. Landsman  
Pfc A. J. Traficante  
Cpl J. McAuley

B-29 139

Major C. M. Weber  
1st Lt L. L. Gover  
1st Lt J. M. Allford  
1st Lt J. L. Bean  
1st Lt F. A. DuMais  
S Sgt C. T. Lamb  
1st Lt W. F. Benrens  
S Sgt F. S. Kramer  
Sgt C. M. Naim  
S Sgt S. J. Anthony  
S Sgt H. J. Hanson  
Lt Col C. D. White

B-29 620

1st Lt J. P. Land  
2nd Lt G. C. Henderson  
2nd Lt C. E. Richardson  
FO H. W. Brumfield  
Cpl W. F. Getz  
Cpl D. E. Dorsey  
1st Lt R. F. Maloney  
Sgt O. P. Buis  
S Sgt M. F. Wagner  
Sgt H. R. Elsea  
Cpl R. T. Neilson

B-29 698

Capt W. C. Meyers  
1st Lt W. S. Markham  
2nd Lt P. F. Jones  
2nd Lt E. H. Weislahn  
Sgt C. J. Canning  
T Sgt C. T. Price  
1st Lt H. F. Michels  
Sgt C. H. Shadel  
Cpl W. A. Zell  
Cpl R. L. Wood  
Cpl L. L. Gdovka  
1st Lt C. O. Britt

B-29 015

1st Lt G. W. Hoppus  
1st Lt H. E. Smith  
2nd Lt G. C. Lewis  
2nd Lt J. C. Walsh  
T Sgt L. Thompson  
Cpl C. H. Sutphin  
2nd Lt J. C. Harden  
Cpl G. C. Williams  
Cpl W. J. Chase  
Pfc W. H. McLean  
Cpl C. M. Banfield

B-29 548

1st Lt E. F. Mappes  
2nd Lt J. Bellafama  
2nd Lt C. Dowse  
2nd Lt V. W. Beck  
Sgt D. M. Brady  
Cpl V. K. Miller  
2nd Lt P. I. Wilcox  
Cpl J. C. Hulse  
Cpl A. P. Peleckie  
Cpl E. M. Grant  
Cpl C. A. P. Lorne

SECRET

Squadron History, 1st Bomb Sq, APO 185, 8 Sep 45, Cont'd

B-29 035

1st Lt R. T. McCrady  
2nd Lt E. C. Haynes  
2nd Lt H. H. Hicks  
F O J. V. Fasone  
Sgt A. G. Staffens  
Sgt J. L. Inman  
2nd Lt W. G. Kallenberg  
Sgt W. J. Bray  
Sgt C. Cohen  
Sgt E. F. Eastman  
Cpl N. W. Cooley  
1st Lt A. D. Cashman

B-29 527

1st Lt C. E. Hall  
2nd Lt J. K. MacLeod  
2nd Lt R. L. Zinkan  
2nd Lt J. D. Harkins  
Sgt G. E. Williams  
Sgt G. A. Kerkorian  
Sgt G. M. Flinn  
Sgt H. G. Palmiter  
Sgt D. L. Murphy  
Sgt R. Chaurez Jr  
Cpl C. J. Labarge

B-29 634

1st Lt Burchett  
2nd Lt E. F. Saucer  
2nd Lt M. E. Albright  
2nd Lt C. W. Willis  
S Sgt E. A. McDowell  
Sgt Stephenson  
Cpl W. L. Winder  
Cpl R. E. Blink  
Cpl R. E. Washburn  
Cpl J. P. Volk  
Cpl Walter  
Major J. C. Ivory

B-29 587

Major Miller  
2nd Lt Hathorne  
F O Faser  
2nd Lt Archer  
1st Lt F. W. Thorp  
Sgt Nagy  
Major Balfour  
Sgt Baetz  
Cpl Howard  
Cpl Talbot  
Cpl Knodel

B-29 100

1st Lt V. L. Richards  
1st Lt G. D. Tempas  
1st Lt W. K. Wolff  
1st Lt Madsen  
1st Lt K. Strickstein  
Cpl D. A. Vallario  
S Sgt F. K. Jones  
Sgt Herr  
T Sgt H. B. Squires  
S Sgt E. G. Harlbart  
T Sgt H. D. McCann

B-29 328

1st Lt B. H. Covey  
1st Lt J. D. McCosker  
1st Lt E. K. Attaway  
2nd Lt E. Habif  
1st Lt J. C. Giland  
Pfc L. L. Chase  
1st Lt H. H. Mueller  
T Sgt E. H. Hoops  
Cpl R. W. Unger  
Sgt S. S. Guilford  
Pfc M. E. Shaver

Key List

Major	J. C. Higman	1st Lt	R. King
1st Lt	J. G. King	1st Lt	P. S. Stillson
1st Lt	A. F. Holton	1st Lt	C. W. Martin
Capt	J. L. Ghr	1st Lt	J. I. Gleason
P.O.	J. M. Bradley	1st Lt	C. J. Greaser
Colonel	Clark	1st Lt	L. W. Young

On the morning of the 15th the long-awaited official announcement came over the wires. Japan had surrendered unconditionally. The war was over. Happiness and joy ran rampant. And the men felt proud, proud that they had played a tremendous part in bringing the enemy to her knees. A surrender now meant that millions of American and Allied lives which would have been expended to take the island of Japan by invasion would now be spared and men could return home, happy in the thought that they had done a good job.

Not long after the surrender had been announced men were on orders to go home. High point men first and then down the list by points. The Squadron had been together a long time. Now it was beginning to disintegrate. No one could visualize what the future held. But one thing appeared to be certain. Men, who had left their jobs, their families and their country to fight the war on foreign soil would now go back to their jobs, their country and their family to start life anew and with a feeling of well being that comes from a job well done. They would try to forget the war, but one thing they could not forget were the losses incurred in this war to end wars. They would never forget the men who had died fighting so they could live in a better world.

A fitting climax to the events of the month was the last mission flown. It was a supply dropping mission to prisoners of war interned in Japan, Korea and Formosa. Returning crew members from the Squadron reported their experiences on return to the base. They had seen the prisoner of war camps, they had made a number of runs on the camp and they had dropped their supplies to thousands of deliriously happy men who could be seen jumping up and down and waving their arms in frantic joy. These men, some of whom had been interned since the fall of Corregidor in 1942 knew when they saw this display of American might -- the B-29, that they too would soon be as free as the men who flew the B-29.

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