

(Retyped from microfilm by Mona Keehn)

FORTY FOURTH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
Office of the Historical Officer

CJB/jzh

AAF, Pratt, Kansas
31 October 1943

SUBJECT: Unit History

TO : Commanding Officer, 40th Bombardment Group, (H), AAF,
Pratt, Kansas.

1. In compliance with maintenance of a daily historical journal and in accordance with AR 345-105 and AAF Regulation 20-8, the following information is believed worthy of submission for the period 1 October to 31 October 1943.

2. Operations has undergone a very noted change, mostly in regard to status of Officer personnel. Approximately 15 October, Pilot personnel was increased by addition of 17 more Pilots, making a total of 30 Pilots now in the Squadron. Other Officer personnel was also increased, making a total of 13 Bombardier-Navigators and 19 Flight Engineers.

3. Ground school training has been more pronounced than Flight training due mainly to the fact that this particular month was scheduled by 58th Comd Wing [??] for a month of intensive Ground training. Another contributing factor for lack of Air training was lack of sufficient airplanes. By the 31st of the month this organization had transferred temporarily or permanently, 4 planes including 1 YB-29 and 3 B-26's, leaving 2 B-17F's in the Squadron.

4. Although this Squadron is a B-29 outfit it possesses not one, solitary B-29.

5. Relative to Intelligence, training was given to all combat crews consisting of the following:

- (a.) Training Films:
 - 1. "How to Fly a B-26"
 - 2. "Counter Combat Intelligence"
 - 3. "The Jap Zero"
 - 4. "Maps and Map Reading"
- (b.) Four hours of Briefing and Interrigation.
- (c.) Four hours instruction in Maps and Map Reading.
- (d.) Eight hours instruction in Aircraft Recognition.

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Ltr., Unit History, dtd 31 October 1943, Cont'd.

6. On Wednesday, 28 October, the weekly orientation lecture was held in the Group ?r Building. The subject covered was "War in the South, Southwest Pacific." The speakers were Captain Delafield who had vast experience in the South Pacific and Lt. Ponther [?] who was with the 19th Bombardment Group in the Southwest Pacific.

7. During the month of October daily barrack and periodic personnel inspections were held. Personnel received necessary inoculations, heard the Articles of War, and the Second Physical Fitness test was administered during the last week. An Enlisted Men's dance was held the evening of 6 October at the Base Service Club, a Squadron Basketball team was activated, furniture, a piano, and various other items were provided for the relaxation and comfort of the Enlisted Men's Day Room.

8. The strength of this Organization is 69 Officers, 300 Enlisted Men.

(signed)
CLEMENT J. BROOKS,
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Historical Officer

(Stamped)
Received
Nov 1 1943
Hq. 40th Bomb.
Gp. (H)

RESTRICTED

