# SUMMARIES OF EVENTS 13TH SQUADRON



31 October 194

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events, Headquarters Section.

- TO: Historical Officer, 3rd Bombardment Group (L), APO 328.
- 1. In compliance with Regulation Number, 45-1, Headquarters V Bomber Command, dated 17 November 1945, the following summary of events of the Headquarters section for the month of October 1946 is submitted.
- 2. At the close of the month the personnel in the Headquarters section were:

Major Armold P. Burris......Commanding Officer Captain Clifford T. Williamson.....Adjutant 1st Sgt. Robert R. Carpenter......First Sergeant Sgt. Robert E. Kleinow.......Clerk

- 3. On October 1, 1946 the unit strength was 32 Officers and 89 Enlisted Men. During the month the enlisted strength came to 124. We now have 34 Officers in the squadron.
- 4. Due to the fact that the enlisted men now arriving are inexperienced and not qualified as 747's, the officers are attending a mechanics course at the 129th Mobile Training Unit. They will supervise the work on the planes that are out for inspection. The course is being attended by pilots newly arrived to the squadron and also by officers not assigned to key positions.
- 5. We have lost a number of trained personnel to the Zone of Interior. Their loss is keenly felt by all the department heads. Various sections are called upon to train and continue to train what personnel are assigned them. We cannot guarantee trained M.O.S. personnel to our departments and under the trying conditions the department heads are doing a most excellant job.
- 6. In the Orderly Room we now have a mail room for the disbursing of letters and packages to squadron personnel. We have a unit mail clerk who handles this and also is being taught how to file.
- 7. The Squadron has a long way to go to be the smooth running organization we were at Atsugi. Our Welfare Committee is doing an excellant job in straightening out the affairs of our enlisted men. They have met with Lt. Col. Gates, the Base Commanding Officer and have brought to his attention various criticisms that the enlisted men are having difficulties with.

8. The morale of the Squadron sunk to an all time low under the restrictions imposed by 314th Composite Wing, Regulation 25-1. However since the rescission of the above mentioned regulation, morale is rising rapidly up to its old level. We feel sure that it will attain that level in the very near future.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

Captain, Air Corps

Adjutant

APO 328 1 November 1946.

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events, 13th Squadron Operations Section.

TO : Historical Officer. 3rd Bombardment Group (L).

- 1. In compliance with Regulation Number 45-1, Headquarters V Bomber Command, dated 17 December, 1945, the following summary of events of the Operations Section is submitted for the month of October, 1946.
- 2. The Operations Section now consists of one Operations Officer, one Assistant Operations Officer and three clerks. On the 27th of this month, Lt. Sylvester J. Huse was replaced by Capt. Maurice A. January as Operations Officer, and Lt. William French was replaced by Capt. Richard G. Mendrop as Assistant Operations Officer. Pvts. Keller and Thompson were assigned during the month making the personnel as follows:

Capt. Maurice A. January 0-759459 Operations Officer
Capt. Richard G. Mendrop 0-660781 Assistant Operations
Officer.

Pfc. Harvey H. Leach 42083415 Clerk
Pvt. Raymond P. Keller 31512308 Clerk
Pvt. Robert L. Thompson 46074380 Clerk

Other changes in personnel were the transfer of our Squadron Navigator, Lt. George Elias, to Group and our picking up Lt. Thomas C. Weeks into the Squadron.

3. The Squadron participated in the Army-Navy Maneuvers conducted from October 12 through October 18. Before and after this period, four two-ship surveillance missions were flown.

Some planes of the Squadron flew on radar calibration missions with Bandleader Crystal at Johnson Field and Hotpoint Crystal at Shiroi.

4. Maneuvers were the highlight of the month. The Squadron participated in the many varied missions during all the maneuvers. The missions included simulated strafing and bombing missions at low level, smoke missions and medium altitude bombing. The Squadron had one six ship medium altitude mission. All other missions were flown in coordination with the 8th and 90th Bombardment Squadrons.

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The majority of missions were flown at medium altitude which seemed a wee bit ironical to the men in the Group which is reputed to have its pilots suffer from severe anoxia at the extremely high altitude at which the traffic pattern is now flown.

Ten of the newer pilots of the Squadron were checked out in the A-26 this month upon the completion of their B-25 refresher course. A 170 hour course in the A-26 has been set forth by Group; upon the completion of which all pilots are to receive an MOS of 1083, which is the MOS of a qualified A-26 Pilot.

One other activity that the Squadron accomplished this month, was the flying of several tow target missions flown in our B-25 for the ground forces.

5. Everything accomplished this month, and in the months past, have been in spite and not because of conditions. Engineering is our biggest problem, as they are handicapped by the lack of assistance from the Service Group. The T.O.&E. as it now stands, makes the Squadron dependent on the Service Group. Our men have been knocking themselves out trying to carrying the bubblen of both the Squadron and Service Group, but have neither the experience nor the equipment to do it with. This fact has been quite evident in the daily status with an average of approximately 5 planes in condition out of 18 planes assigned. This condition, coupled with the fact that we have to helf out the 90th Squadron when possible as they still haven't their strength of aircraft, makes it extremely difficult to get the required hours on both aircraft and pilots.

One of the other undesirable factors is the inadaquacy of night flying facilities both on the field and in the aircraft, such as lighting and flight instruments.

> MAURICE A. JANUARY Uaptain, Air Corps Operations Officer.

APO 328 1 November, 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events, Supply Section.

TO: Historical Officer, 3rd Bombardment Group, (L) APO 328

- 1. In compliance with Regulation Fumber 45-1, V Bomber Command, dated 17 December 1945, the following summary of events of the Supply Section, 13th Bombardment Squadron, (L) is submitted.
  - 2. Personnel of this section during October were as follows:

lst. Lt. Warren H. Olson
2nd. Lt. John J. Szpila
Cpl. William J. Knoebber
Pfc. Gerald L. Jones
Supply Officer
Supply Sgt.
Supply Clerk

- 3. During the month of October 13th Supply moved from Atsugi to Yokota AAB. We are now just getting things straightened out and issuing winter clothing. We have started an inventory for all departments on all T. O. & E. property and on all there excess property. New requistions will be submitted immediatly and from then on will be submitted every sixty (60) day's until all property has been recieved.
- 4. Pfc. William J. Knoebber was promoted to the rank of Cpl., 1st of October, 1946.

WARREN H. OLSON
1ST. LT., AIR CORPS
Supply Officer

APO 328 1 November 1946

SUBJECT: Lonthly Summary of Events, Engineering section.

TO : Historical Officer, 3rd Bombardment Group (L), APO 528.

- 1. In compliance with Regulation 40-1, Headquarters V Bomber Command, dated 17 December 1945, the following summary of events and activities of the Engineering section, 13th Bombardment Squadron (L) for the month of October 1946 is submitted.
- 2. During the month of October 1946, all Aircraft of the 13th Bombardment Squadron (L) operated from both Atsugi Army Air Base and Yokota Army Air Base as part of the Occupational Air Force in Japan. Security missions were flown each day that weather permitted.
- 3. During the past month many changes have occurred in key personnel due to redeployment and utilization of men of higher rank:

Engineering Officer Capt GODBEY, D. E.
Asst. Engr. Officer lst Lt CYBORSKI, R. J.
Line Supervisor lst Lt WKLOH, F. L.
Line Supervisor 2nd Lt AXT, R. C.
Armament Officer 2nd Lt SMITH, A. D.
Communications Officer lst Lt FRENCH, W. S.

It should be noted that Lts. Smith and French are being replaced by 1st Lt. H. S. Hall and 2nd Lt. T. W. Smith, respectively, on 1 November due to redeployment.

- 4. In acquiring a new line chief and squadron inspector, we have strengthened the line considerably. These men are members of the Regular Army and have a thorough knowledge of maintenance and line procedures, which they are passing on to the less experienced personnel under their supervision.
- 5. The Engineering Section of the 13th Squadron has a strength of 61 men, having gained sixteen (16) enlisted personnel during the past month.
- 6. The 13th Bombardment Squadron (L) has in its possession the following numbers and types of aircraft:

Three (3)
Eleven (11)
Type A-26C Aircraft
Type A-26B Aircraft
Two (2)
Type B25J Aircraft

During the past month this squadron has transferred one (1) A-26C and one (1) A-26B to the 600 Air Engineer Squadron for maintenance.

- 7. In order to facilitate the transitional training of the large numbers of pilot officers in the squadron, unfamiliar with tactical, tricycle gear aircraft, this squadron has maintained two (2) B-25J-32 type aircraft.
- 8. During the month of October, 1946, ten 25 hour inspections, five fifty hour inspections, and four 100 hour inspections were completed.
- 9. Fifth Air Force 314th Composite Wing, and the Group Inspectors made their periodic inspections during the past month.
- 10. The Engineering Section of the 13th Squadron moved from Atsugi Army Air Base (Japan) to Yokota Army Air Base (Japan) from 10 October to 12 October 1946. Maneuvers were started almost immediately after the arrival of the 13th Bombardment Squadron (1) at the Yokota Army Air Base. Despite the handicap of being in the process of unpacking, this section maintained at least 60% of its aircraft operational during the period of the maneuvers.

FOR THE ENGINEERING OFFICER:

MYMOND J MBORSK

Ass't Eng Officer

APO 328 31 October 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Surmary of Events, Armament Section.

TO: Historical Officer, 3rd Bombardment Group (L) AAF

- 1. In compliance with Regulation 45-1, Headquarters V Bomber Command, APO 704, dated 17 December 1945, the following Summary of Events for the Armament Section, 13th Bombardment Squadron (L) for the month of October 1946 is submitted.
  - 2. Key personnel are; 2nd Lt. A. D. Smith
- 3. There was a decided change in personnel in this department in the month of October. One man was transferred to another organization and three other men were redeployed to the ZI for discharge. This group consisted of both shilled and semi-shilled personnel and their loss to the section was strongly felt. To replace these men four new men were assigned to the section, bringing the total enlisted strength to fifteen-two short of authorized strength. The new men are all in need of training to qualify them for their jobs and the section will suffer in consequence for some time.
- 4. In the week of 9 October the department moved from Atsugi to Yokota. The move was accomplished with no difficulty. While the move was in progress the section was called on for armament work in connection with the field maneuvers of the Eighth Army. Not being properly set up, the section could not produce in it's normal manner. The department is at present constructing an armament shop with Japanese labor. This shop will be completed in a short time and, upon it's completion, the section will function more efficiently.

ALDEN D. SMITH 2nd Lt., Air Corps Armament Officer

AFC 325 26 Catabar 1546

SUBJECT: Menthly Summary fo Events. Communications Section.

TO : Historical Officer. 3rd Bembardment Group (L) AAF.

- 1 In compliance with Regulation 45-1, Headquarters, V Bember Command, APO 704, dated 17 December 1945, the fellowing Summary of Events for the Communications Section for the month of October is submitted.
- 2 The month of October saw little change in personnel of this department. Pvt. Kalpesis was promoted to Pfc.
- 3 The 13th Squadron Communications started the move from Atsugi to Yeketa on the 10th of the month. The move was completed without meeting any great difficulties.

During our move the Eighth Army Field Maneuvers began. Despite the fact that most of our equipment was still crated we were still able to perform radio maintenance on the aircraft there-by the aircraft were never grounded due to Communications Maintenance.

At present we are setting up our own workshop so the section can begin working as an individual unit. During the process of setting up this workshop an inventory was taken.

During the past month the section has been assigned a Jeep. Under the prevailing conditions this will be a great asset to our work.

- 4 lst Lt. French is the 13th Squadron Communications Officer. 2nd Lt's. Smith and Varnum are assistant Communication Officers.
  - 5 The current strength is as follows.
    - 1. (one) 1st Lieutenant
    - (two) 2nd Lieutenants
       (three) Pfc's.

William & Thench WILLIAM S. FRENCH 1st Lt., Air Corps

Communications Officer