

13TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L)

JANUARY 1946

13TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L)
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF

APO 328
7 February 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events, Headquarters Section.

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

1. In compliance with Section VII, Paragraph 1, Memorandum No. 8, Headquarters, V Bomber Command, APO 710, dated 22 February 1945, the following summary of events and activities of the Headquarters Section for the month of January 1946 is submitted.

2. After struggling desperately for the past few months to keep our collective heads above the surging tide of demobilization, we have finally come to the conclusion that the powers that be can take away personnel faster than we can replace them. So, we find, at the end of January, that left to survey the shambles of a once competently staffed headquarters section are the three headquarters officers and our hard working, but hapless, First Sergeant. And, he, of course, is a recent appointee, being First Sergeant Malcolm L. Madison, who took over the task from First Sergeant James E. Hartman in the middle of the month. Sgt. Hartman, who did a magnificent job of attempting to salvage some order out of approaching chaos, decided his cries couldn't be heard above the noise of the many farewells, and he, too, departed for the United States. As for the remainder of the staff, the changes were too many and too frequent to even become temporary, so, at the end of the month, the 13th Headquarters Section consisted of the following personnel:

First Lieutenant John R. Bryden	0-668046	Commanding
First Lieutenant Chester H. Brandon	0-826069	Executive Officer
Second Lieutenant Warren A. De Long	0-2992538	Adjutant
1st/Sgt. Malcolm L. Madison	38568612	First Sergeant

3. The always available "shot in the arm" in the form of promotions came to the rescue of the sagging morale of twelve enlisted men. While this number is far from impressive, it represents approximately the only men who slowed down long enough in their march through the 13th

Squadron to sew on their newly earned chevrons.

4. The overworked Finance Department also added a note of cheer by coming through with a pay roll for the officers and enlisted men during the month.

5. The construction being done by the enlisted men on their barracks came to a conclusion during the month as all the men came through with a great show of energy and cooperation. They finished the task of walling off the large bays into smaller sections which aided greatly in heating and cleanliness. The only problem now is locating personnel to enjoy these comforts, during which time the present complement is satisfying its desires for comparative privacy.

6. The picture we find at the end of the month is not a particularly pleasant one, for it seems inevitable that, in the next few days, we shall have to consolidate within the Group until such time that replacements are received with which to build the squadron back up to operating strength. It is hoped, however, that before too many weeks pass, we shall again be operating with the previous efficiency and "esprit de corps".

Chester H. Brandon

Chester H. Brandon
1st. Lt., Air Corps
Executive Officer

13TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L)
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF

A.F.O. 323
1 February 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events, Operations Section

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

1. In compliance with Staff Memorandum No. 45-1, V Bomber Command, AFO 710, dated 17 December, 1945, the following summary of events and activities of the Operations Section for the month of January is hereby submitted.

2. The Officer personnel of Operations remained unchanged during January, but S/Sgt Leonard Mallas, the last of the gunners-turned-clerk processed for return to the U.S. Due to the complete absence of any men, qualified or unqualified, to fill the post, the Operations Officers took over the paperwork. The Operations Section now consists of the following Officers:

1st Lt. Thomas C. Spriggs O-828318	Operations Officer
1st Lt. Alfred E. Hodgkinson O-758171	Ass't Operations Officer

3. Five pilots returned to the U.S. during the month.

1st Lts. Archer E. Vrem
Thomas C. Carlisle
John C. Fischer
Ralph E. Heare
Ernest J. Bergmann

1st Lt. Richard E. Hughes has been processed and is awaiting the arrival of the first boat.

4. Nine of the Squadron's ten gunners headed home in January. They were as follows:

S/Sgt V.L. Brinker
J. Gutterrez
L.L. Scedellare
A.J. Furia
F.M. Alvey
J.H. Fernandez
J. Bowen
Sgt A.V. Hedick
Cpl A.W. Devavan

5. There were no promotions, either of commissioned or enlisted personnel during January.
6. Three A-20 pilots were assigned the Squadron in this period, coming from the de-activated 312th Bomb Group.

1st Lt. Ernest J. Bergmann
2nd Lt. Charles W. Stricker
2nd Lt. Elliott W. Weoldridge

7. A near-miracle performed by an under-staffed engineering department enabled the Squadron to do more flying in January than in the three previous months. The usual patrols of Honshu were continued, and some transition was flown while checking out the A-20 pilots in the A-26. All the instrument cards in the Squadron were renewed, checks being given in the group B-25. The manpower shortage had, by the end of the month, made the continuation of activities as a separate unit impossible, and it was decided to combine all four Squadrons and operate under this setup until sufficient replacements arrive.

Thomas C. Spriggs
Thomas C. Spriggs
1st Lt., Air Corps
Operations Officer

13TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L)
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF

1 February 1946
Atsugi Army Air Base

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events, Engineering Section.

TO : Historical Officer, 13th Bombardment Squadron (L),
APO 328.

1. In compliance with Section VII, Paragraph 1, Memorandum No. 8, Headquarters, V Bomber Command, APO 704, dated 22 February 1945, the following summary of events and activities of the Engineering Section for the month of January 1946, is submitted.
2. During the month of January, three (3) A-26B's, #44-34242, 44-34278, 44-34256 and one (1) A-26C, #44-35286 were transferred to the 38th Bomb Group at Ashiya, Kyushu. The Squadron now has a total of thirteen (13) Airplanes; ten (10) A-26B's, one (1) A-26C, one (1) B-24N, one (1) B-25J.
3. Due to the continued lowering of service requirements for discharge, the Squadron lost a total of twenty one men; one (1) Line Chief, nine (9) Crew Chiefs, and eight (8) man Inspection and Maintenance Crew, one (1) Electrician, one (1) Sheet Metal man, one (1) Fuel and Oil Servicing Operator and one (1) Engineering Clerk.
4. Four (4) Privates, M.O.S. 747, were assigned to the Squadron. Having had no previous line experience on any type of Aircraft, a training schedule on familiarization of the A-26, has been arranged.
5. At the request of the Engineering Officer, the Squadron Commander designated certain Air Crew members to help with the maintenance of the Squadron Airplanes. The cooperation of these men was excellent.
6. 2nd Lt. Laurent M. Lassus was appointed Engineering Officer, vice 1st Lt. Thomas C. Carlisle, who was returned to the United States under the point system.

7. Total strength of the Section is five enlisted men and one officer.

FOR THE SQUADRON COMMANDER

Laurent M. Lassus
LAURENT M. LASSUS
2nd Lt., Air Corps
Engineering Officer

13TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L)
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF

APO 328
5 February 1946.

SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT of AIRCRAFT STRENGTH and FLIGHT STATISTICS FOR
January 1946.

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

1. Below is the report of Aircraft Strength of the 13th Squadron for
the month of January 1946.

- a. Strength, Aircraft, 1 January 1946 17
1 B-24M-31, #44-51530.
1 B-25J-32, #44-31052.
2 A-26C-30, #44-35286, and 296.
13 A-26B-50, #44-34226, 238, 242, 254, 256, 260, 278, 287, 343,
372, 399, 405, and 478.
- b. Strength, Aircraft, 31 January 1946 13
1 B-24M-31, #44-51530.
1 B-25J-32, #44-31052.
1 A-26C-30, #44-35296.
10 A-26B-50, #44-34226, 238, 287, 343, 372, 399, 405, and 478.
- c. Gains during the month of January were none.
- d. Losses during January: 1 A-26C, #44-35286 and 3 A-26B's,
#44-34242, 256, 278.

2. Hours and Missions Flown During January:

- a. Total Hours 204

Laurent M. Lassus
LAURENT M. LASSUS
2nd Lt., Air Corps
ENGINEERING OFFICER