

CONFIDENTIAL

Sheet No. 1

306th Bomb Group (H)

THURLEIGH

Month of AUGUST, 1943 prepared by Capt. Wiley W. Glass

DAY	EVENTS
July 31	Major John B. Wright, O-902737, transferred to Hq. 1st Bomb Wing per SO #204, Hq. 1BW.
August 9	Capt. Herbert J. Avise, O-900352, transferred to 8th Bomber Command, per SO #188, Hq. 8th BC.
12	Twenty A/C, led by Capt. Briscoe of the 369th Squadron, took off to bomb the synthetic oil plant at Gelsenkirchen. Four aborted. Heavy, intense barrage of flak and about 150 E/A were encountered at the I.P. Because of an almost solid layer of clouds over the target the formation bombed the target of opportunity, Recklinghausen, with fair results. Lt. Cunningham, of the 367th failed to return. Our score for the day was 1-2-1.
14	Lt. Col. Henry W. Terry, O-375352, transferred to Hq. 41st Bomb Wing, per SO #218, Hq. 1BW.
15	Major Thurman Stuller, O-381101, transferred to Hq. 1st Bomb Wing, per SO #219, Hq. 1BW. Twenty A/C, led by Major Salada, took off to bomb the Aircraft Factory at Brussels. Heavy clouds and vapor trails prevented bombing the primary. Attack on the secondary, Flushing airdrome, was made with poor results. No E/A and only meager Flak were encountered. All of our A/C returned to base.
16	George L. Robinson, O-22362, promoted from Lt. Col. to Colonel. <u>Le Bourget</u> , Col. Robinson with 20 A/C from this Group, led the 102nd Combat Wing on this very successful mission. Storage hangars, machine and repair shops, administration buildings and barracks suffered heavy damage. Some persistent E/A attacks and rather inaccurate AA fire were encountered. Good P47 cover was provided in and out from target. All of our A/C returned to base. Our score for the day was 1-0-0.
17	<u>SCHWEINFURT</u> , This is a "maximum effort" raid the crews will long remember. More than six hours, four of them on oxygen; 500 miles into Germany, battered by fighters, coming in, sometimes 20 at one time. 17 Forts were seen to go down by our Group alone, yet every one of our A/C returned to base. Major Raper led the Group with 30 of our A/C and bombing results were good, showing many hits on the ball-bearing plant. Our score for the day was 16-1-3.
18	Major Raper appointed Deputy Group Commander and Major Buckley appointed Commander of the 367th Squadron.
19	Twenty A/C took off, led by Capt. Witt, to bomb Brussels airport

Sheet No. 2 War Diary 306th Bomb Group (M). THURLEIGHMonth of AUGUST, 1943. Prepared by Capt. Wiley W. Glass

DAY	EVENTS
	(cont'd)
	but because of 10/10 cloud a fair job was done on the secondary, Flushing airdrome. Very meager flak was encountered and because of excellent fighter support the skies were clear of enemy fighters.
24	Eighteen A/C, led by Major Riordan, took off to bomb Villacoublay, and had fairly good results. P47's gave excellent cover. AA fire was very accurate, damaging 17 of our 18 A/C, all of which returned safely to base. Lt. Klette, of the 369th, made a spectacular and dramatic landing. Flak had knocked out two of his engines before the I.P. After limping home, one of the remaining two engines caught on fire over home base. Feathering the prop and going into a controlled dive, Klette managed to make an excellent "three-point" landing on one engine and one wheel, the flak having deflated the other tire. It was an exhibition of real skill and those on the ground who were "sweating" him in, drew a sigh of relief.
26	Rudolph Skalak, Jr., O-430902, promoted from 1st Lt. to Captain.
27	Eighteen A/C, led by Capt. Paris, took off to bomb Watten (mysterious hole in the ground). With good Spitfire cover no E/A were encountered, however, the Primary was well defended by accurate flak and all of our A/C received some battle damage. Due to the fact that bomb run was by Squadrons into the late afternoon sun, only fair results were obtained. Crews felt 15,000 feet was making it too easy for the A.A. gunners. All our A/C returned to base.
31	Of 18 A/C taking off to bomb Romilly airdrome, led by Lt. Reese, 3 aborted. Due to 9/10 cloud over the continent the Combat Wing Commander turned short of the Primary and made a bombing run over Glisy airdrome. With bomb bay doors open and target in the sights, none of the Group could drop bombs for fear of hitting another Group directly below. With morale at a low pitch, because of this "goose chase", all our A/C returned to base and reported excellent cover support by the P47's.

List of Awards, Decorations and Commendations attached:

AWARD OF MERITORIOUS DECORATIONS

1/8/43	-- GO 82-1BW	-- 2nd Lt ANDREW G. BYCOTT	PURPLE HEART	368th
1/8/43	-- GO 82-1BW	-- T/Sgt FRANCIS J. KILBRIDE	PURPLE HEART	368th
1/8/43	-- GO 82-1BW	-- S/Sgt FRKD H. NABERS	PURPLE HEART	368th
1/8/43	-- GO 82-1BW	-- S/Sgt JOHN T. ROSS	PURPLE HEART	369th
1/8/43	-- GO 82-1BW	-- Sgt LINDEN E. VOIGHT	PURPLE HEART	369th
1/8/43	-- GO 82-1BW	-- Sgt THEODORE A. HARKIN	PURPLE HEART	369th
1/8/43	-- GO 82-1BW	-- Sgt CLIFFORD W. McGRANE	PURPLE HEART	369th
3/8/43	-- GO 113-8BC	-- S/Sgt STEVEN E. HOLLEMAN	OLC TO AM	369th
3/8/43	-- GO 119-8AF	-- T/Sgt JAMES J. O'NEILL	DIST FLYING CROSS	369th
3/8/43	-- GO 119-8AF	-- S/Sgt ALLAN F. MEAUX	DIST FLYING CROSS	369th
1/8/43	-- GO 111-8BC	-- 1st Lt ROBERT W. PORTER	OLC TO AM	369th
6/8/43	-- GO 114-8BC	-- 2nd Lt L. B. (IO) JONES, JR.	OLC TO AM	369th
3/8/43	-- GO 113-8BC	-- S/Sgt EDWARD J. STCKOWSKI	OLC TO AM	423rd
17/8/43	-- GO 131-8AF	-- Maj WILLIAM S. RAPEL	SILVER STAR	Hq, 306th
7/8/43	-- GO 121-8AF	-- Capt HUGH J. TOLAND	DIST FLYING CROSS	Hq, 306th
17/8/43	-- GO 131-8AF	-- 1st Lt WOODROW W. THOMAS	DIST FLYING CROSS	367th
14/8/43	-- GO 128-8AF	-- S/Sgt LORAS J. CONNOLLY	DIST FLYING CROSS	368th
14/8/43	-- GO 128-8AF	-- S/Sgt PAUL (NMI) MARDIS	DIST FLYING CROSS	368th
17/8/43	-- GO 131-8AF	-- Pfc VALENTINE A. CLASEN	SOLDIER'S MEDAL	39th
17/8/43	-- GO 131-8AF	-- Pfc MERVIN E. RIGGS	SOLDIER'S MEDAL	39th
6/8/43	-- GO 114-8BC	-- T/Sgt FRANKLIN A. BLUM	OLC TO AM	423rd
16/8/43	-- GO 120-8BC	-- S/Sgt LORAS J. CONNOLLY	OLC TO AM	368th
16/8/43	-- GO 120-8BC	-- 2nd Lt STANLEY SILVERSTEIN	OLC TO AM	368th
1/8/43	-- GO 82-1BW	-- T/Sgt REAFORD G. WATKINS	PURPLE HEART	369th
16/8/43	-- GO 120-8BC	-- T/Sgt WILLIAM J. SEAMAN	OLC TO AM	368th
6/8/43	-- GO 114-8BC	-- S/Sgt FRED H. NABERS	OLC TO AM	368th
17/8/43	-- GO 122-8BC	-- S/Sgt FRED H. NABERS	OLC TO AM	368th
9/8/43	-- GO 117-8BC	-- S/Sgt EDWIN J. BOPLIK	AIR MEDAL	423rd
9/8/43	-- GO 117-8BC	-- S/Sgt JAY L. BRAMAN	AIR MEDAL	423rd
16/8/43	-- GO 120-8BC	-- S/Sgt FLOYD A. BRANDON	OLC TO AM	368th
3/8/43	-- GO 113-8BC	-- Sgt JERRY O. HOOKS	OLC TO AM	423rd
6/8/43	-- GO 114-8BC	-- Sgt KENNETH D. ROOD	AIR MEDAL	423rd
3/8/43	-- GO 113-8BC	-- Sgt ROBERT L. TAYLOR	OLC TO AM	423rd
3/8/43	-- GO 113-8BC	-- Sgt WILLIAM R. WILKINSON, JR.	OLC TO AM	423rd
17/8/43	-- GO 122-8BC	-- Sgt WALTER A. KOZLOWSKI	AIR MEDAL	423rd
2/8/43	-- GO 112-8BC	-- Sgt CHARLES R. NICHOLSON	AIR MEDAL	368th
16/8/43	-- GO 120-8BC	-- Sgt HARRIS R. WHITTEN	OLC TO AM	368th
9/8/43	-- GO 117-8BC	-- Sgt CHARLES A. NICHOLS	AIR MEDAL	368th
2/8/43	-- GO 112-8BC	-- T/Sgt OSCAR W. KRIGBAUM	AIR MEDAL	368th
9/8/43	-- GO 117-8BC	-- T/Sgt ROBERT W. HAWKES	AIR MEDAL	423rd
16/8/43	-- GO 120-8BC	-- T/Sgt MANUEL J. ENOS	OLC TO AM	368th
17/8/43	-- GO 122-8BC	-- T/Sgt MANUEL J. ENOS	OLC TO AM	368th
16/8/43	-- GO 120-8BC	-- T/Sgt DOUGLAS A. W. GRIGGS	OLC TO AM	368th
3/8/43	-- GO 113-8BC	-- S/Sgt MILTON A. McGIVNEY	OLC TO AM	423rd
6/8/43	-- GO 114-8BC	-- S/Sgt VERTON H. SCOTT	AIR MEDAL	423rd
3/8/43	-- GO 113-8BC	-- S/Sgt MARK H. ARRIETA	OLC TO AM	368th
2/8/43	-- GO 112-8BC	-- S/Sgt JOHN T. BRINKMAN	AIR MEDAL	423rd
16/8/43	-- GO 120-8BC	-- S/Sgt JOHN T. BRINKMAN	OLC TO AM	423rd
16/8/43	-- GO 120-8BC	-- S/Sgt GEORGE P. FISHER	OLC TO AM	368th
17/8/43	-- GO 122-8BC	-- S/Sgt JOHN C. LOTTI	OLC TO AM	368th
2/8/43	-- GO 112-8BC	-- S/Sgt WILLIAM P. BLASKET, JR.	AIR MEDAL	368th

Award of Meritorious Decorations, Cont'd:

6/8/43	-- GO 114-8BC - 2nd Lt ROY C. RANCK, JR.	AIR MEDAL	368th
1/8/43	-- GO 111-8BC - 2nd Lt RAYMOND L. SLATER	OLC TO AM	368th
1/8/43	-- GO 111-8BC - 2nd Lt WYLLIE W. SWAPP	OLC TO AM	368th
9/8/43	-- GO 117-8BC - 2nd Lt WILLIAM (NMI) KATZ	AIR MEDAL	368th
16/8/43	-- GO 120-8BC - 2nd Lt JAMES T. HARRISON	OLC TO AM	368th
16/8/43	-- GO 120-8BC - 2nd Lt WILLIAM D. JONES	OLC TO AM	368th
16/8/43	-- GO 120-8BC - 2nd Lt BEVERLEY R. KAMB	OLC TO AM	368th
2/8/43	-- GO 112-8BC - 2nd Lt ROGER D. BARTON	AIR MEDAL	423rd
2/8/43	-- GO 112-8BC - 2nd Lt LEON (NMI) FELDMAN	AIR MEDAL	423rd
1/8/43	-- GO 111-8BC - 2nd Lt LUTHER S. PIERCE	OLC TO AM	423rd
6/8/43	-- GO 114-8BC - 2nd Lt DEAN C. ROIDMAN	AIR MEDAL	423rd
6/8/43	-- GO 114-8BC - 2nd Lt RALPH J. ZIMMERMAN	AIR MEDAL	423rd
3/8/43	-- GO 113-8BC - F/O VIRGIL H. JEFFRIES	OLC TO AM	423rd
16/8/43	-- GO 88-1BW -- 1st Lt FRANK M. KACKSTETTER	PURPLE HEART	423rd
16/8/43	-- GO 88-1BW -- 2nd Lt HARRY (NMI) URMAN	PURPLE HEART	368th
1/8/43	-- GO 82-1BW -- S/Sgt ALFRED N. JERNIGES	PURPLE HEART	368th
2/8/43	-- GO 112-8BC - 1st Lt JOHN H. MOON	AIR MEDAL	423rd
9/8/43	-- GO 117-8BC - 1st Lt CHARLES E. MUNGER	AIR MEDAL	423rd
3/8/43	-- GO 113-8BC - 1st Lt TOY B. HUSBAND	OLC TO AM	Hq, 306
16/8/43	-- GO 120-8BC - 1st Lt AUGUST (NMI) WINTERS	OLC TO AM	368th
3/8/43	-- GO 113-8BC - 2nd Lt WILLIAM J. DOOLEY	OLC TO AM	368th
6/8/43	-- GO 114-8BC - 2nd Lt CARL W. HOLMES	OLC TO AM	368th
1/8/43	-- GO 111-8BC - 2nd Lt JOSEPH M. LEVY	OLC TO AM	368th
9/8/43	-- GO 83-1BW -- T/Sgt ROBERT G. SCHULTZ	PURPLE HEART	367th



August 1943-306th BG Headquarters Squadron Diary

Note: this page is inserted by 306th BGHA in 2020 to help the researcher distinguish between the 306th BG War Diary and the diary kept by the 306th BG Headquarters Squadron.

DAY	EVENTS
2	Major John B. Wright, Group S-2 released from Organization to 1st Bombardment Division as A-2.
6	Capt Fred C. Baldwin assigned to Intelligence Section. 1st Lt William H. Pool relieved from Organization.
7	Captain Walter H. Coons assigned to organization as Training Officer. Captain Hugh J. Toland awarded Distinguished Flying Cross.
9	Captain Hugh J. Toland appointed Group Bombardier. Captain John H. Dexter appointed Group Navigator. Captain Bairnsfather appointed Group S-2. Captain Baldwin appointed Assistant Group S-2.
12	Captain Sterling relieved from Organization.
14	Captain Herbert J. Avise relieved from organization.
16	Lt Colonel Terry and Major Shuller relieved from organization.
17	Captain John J. Manning assigned to organization as Group Flight Surgeon. Major William S. Raper awarded the Silver Star.
18	Major Raper appointed Group Air Executive Officer.
23	1st Lt Wendell L. Hull assigned to organization as Group Mess Officer.
30	Lt Colonel Robinson promoted to Colonel. 1st Lt Skalak promoted to Captain.

SECRET