

**SECRET**

## SQUADRON HISTORY

## MISSION REPORT

8 April 1944

A: 396th Ftr. Sq.  
 B: 16 and 2 spares  
 C: 2 spares  
 D and E: Nil  
 F: B-26s fair to poor; P-47s very good. Hits observed on yards and warehouses and repair shops left in flames.  
 G Thru J: Nil  
 K: Heavy concentration of heavy flak at Court St. Eteenne, Harenthals, and Nieuwe Sluis. Accurate for altitude.  
 L: Full report under separate cover.  
 M: Nil - escorted  
 N: Barges on canal 1-2 miles S of Antwerp beside two stacked factory. Two small freighters heading down large canal NW of Antwerp.  
 O: 1215  
 P: 1515  
 Q: Nieuport at 1312 at 16,000 ft.  
 R: NE of Knocke at 1405 at 16,000 ft.  
 S: 1315 E of Dixmude

FRANKLIN A. DICK, 1st Lt. AC  
 S-2, 396th Ftr. SQ.

## ADDENDA TO MISSION REPORT, 8 April 1944

F: Evaluation of bombing raised to excellent. Numerous hits observed directly at central choke point, large oil fire in SE Marshalling yards.  
 N: Heavy concentration of heavy inaccurate flak from Le Culot. No flak from Tulemont, Gossoncourt and St. Trond Brusthem.

FRANKLIN A. DICK, 1ST LT. AC  
 S-2, 396TH FTR. SQ.

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MISSION REPORT 12 APRIL 1944

A- 396th Fighter Squadron

B- 16 & 2 up 1147 down 1450

C- 2 spares

D- Ramrod

E-H Nil

I- Mission semi-abortive. Bad weather.

1. Nil
2. Lt. concentration of inaccurate heavy flak at Dunkirk.
3. Nil
4. 7/10 cirrus at 27,000. Haze from 18,000 to 26,000 ft. visibility good below-1/2 mile horizontally and above. occluded front extending eastward from Namur.
5. B-17 and B-24 observed heading west S of Ghent at 10,000 in no difficulty at 1245.
6. Loud and clear.

DICK, S-2, 396th Fighter Squadron

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MISSION REPORT 13 APRIL 1944

- A- 396th Fighter Squadron
- B- 16 P-47 + 2 spares
- C- Nil
- D- 16 P-47 on Noball Target near Hasmend.
- E- 3 tons-36 X 250 loaded      28 X 250 dropped on target  
4 X 250 Jettisoned      4 X 250 returned to base by spares  
in France
- F- 80 percent superior. Practically all hits on right perimeter of target area, others in line toward chute at top left.
- G-J- Nil
- K- Moderate, fairly accurate light flak at coast L/F in
- L- Clouds down to 8,000 ft. Visibility unlimited.
- M- 8,000 to 3,000 ft.
- N- 2 freighters docked at Boulogne, 8 car freight train at Camier, N of Le Touquet. Camouflaged installations observed in woods near Marles-Sur-Canche.
- O- 0904
- P- 1050 (Home Base at 1550)
- Q- 1000 at 8,000 ft. N of Berck
- R- 1010 at 8,000 ft. N of Le Touquet
- S- Nil

DICK, S-2 396th Fighter Squadron

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## MISSION REPORT 14 April 1944

- A- 396th Fighter Squadron
- B- 16 P-47, 1 spare
- C- Nil
- D- 17 P-47 attacked locomotives in Northern France
- E-G- Nil
- H- One P-47 has Cat. A Flak damage.
- I-J- Nil
- K- Dense concentration of heavy flak E of Neufchatel. Light innacc. flak on six of eight trains attacked.
- L- Thin strato-cumulus, 6/10, at 13,000 ft. Visibility unlimited.
- M- Attacked locomotives from 10,000 ft.
- N- Large locomotive moving south of Albert equipped with smoke arresting device and effective camouflage. 5 locomotives destroyed, 2 electric locomotives damaged vicinity of Albert, 1 small locomotive destroyed 4 miles SW Formerie, 1 large locomotive destroyed 6 miles E of Arras. 4 plus small boats off coast N of Cayeux. No E/A observed on any enemy A/D. 1 dummy Ju-52 in field near Albert Meault A/D. Luftwaffe personnel in streets of Albert.
- O- 1042
- P- 1315
- Q- Le Treport at 1128 at 11,000 ft.
- R- N of Le Touquet at 1230 at 10,000 ft.

DICK, S-2, 396th Fighter Squadron

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MISSION REPORT

- A: 386 Fighter Sq. 19 April 1944
- B: 16 plus 2 spares. 2 spares returned
- C: Nil
- D: 16 A/C over marshalling yards at Charleroi at 1858.
- E: 36 x 350 GP bombs were loaded  
 32 x 350 GP bombs were dropped on target  
 No bombs were jettisoned  
 4 x 350 GP bombs were returned to base by spares  
 Started dive at 14,000 ft, angle 60 degrees, pull-out at 8,500 ft.
- F: Results indefinite, but believed fairly good. Few hits were observed on target proper. Smoke obscured general area.
- G thru K: Nil
- L: Weather 2AVJ over Channel and Continent except for cloud bank to east of target at 18,000 ft.
- M: Up 1730 Down 2010
- N: I/T in over Nieup rt at 1813 hours at 15,000 ft.  
 I/T out over Nieupport at 1915 hours at 14,000 ft.
- O: R/V over mid-channel at 1810 hours at 15,000 ft.
- P: Loud and clear
- Q: Nil
- R: Light moderate inaccurate flak at target proper.
- S: Nil
- T: Bombers lighted early, badly strung out and scattered widely. Squadron escorted last box and proceeded uneventfully to target. Bomb run was made last because of E-36s approaching from various bearings and cluttering up target area. Bombers too far ahead to catch after bomb run. Proceeded home without incident.

FRANKIE A. PICK,  
 1st Lt., AC,  
 386, 386th Ptr. Sq.

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MISSION REPORT

19 April 1944

- A: 396th Ftr. Sq., 19 April 1944, Withdrawal support to VIII AF Bombers.
- B: 16 Peter 47s, plus 2 spares, plus 1 relay.
- C: 1 Peter 47 aborted because of faulty belly tank.
- D: THRU K: Nil
- L: Channel: 4/10 scattered at appx. 6,000 ft.  
Continent: 3/10 Cumulus at appx. 5,000 ft.  
Visibility good
- M: Up at 1005 hours, Down at 1255 hours
- N: LF in at Nieupoort at 1056 hours at 24,000 ft.  
LF out at Nieupoort at 1158 hours at 21,000 ft.
- O: R/V as briefed, South of Liege at 1125 hours at 25,000 ft.
- P: Radiob was loud and clear.
- Q: About 15 - 20 military hutments seen appx 2 miles NE of Nieupoort.
- R: Heavy, moderate and inaccurate flak aimed at bombers in vicinity of Brussels.  
Heavy and intense flak at airfield about 10 miles north of R/V also aimed at bombers.
- S: Nil
- T: Mission accomplished according to plan. R/V with B-17s at briefed point, appx 15 miles south of Liege and gave withdrawal support to the bombers, making L/F out just west of Nieupoort.

THALER, ASS'T S-2

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MISSION REPORT 21 APRIL 1944

- A- 396th Fighter Squadron, April 21, 1944.
- B- 16 P-47's plus two spares, two spares returned
- C- Nil
- D- 16 P-47's as top cover for group.
- E- Nil
- F- Very good in general area of M/Y briefed on. Concentrated hits seen but no direct one's on locomotive shed or goods wagon building.
- G- Thru K nil
- L- Channel 2/10 thin scattered clouds at appx. 4000 ft. visibility good. Continent 3/10 thin at appx 6000 ft visibility good.
- M- Up at 0858, down at 1155. Hrs.
- N- IF in between Le Touquet and Berck-Sur-Mer at 0936 at 14,000 ft. LF out at Hardelot at 1103 hours at 12,000 ft.
- O- Nil
- P- Loud and Clear
- Q- Four small boats in channel close to shore between Boulogne and Le Touquet.
- R- Heavy intense, and accurate for altitude about 8 miles south of Louvain.
- S- Nil
- T- Landfall in made a little south of briefed point between Le Touquet and Berck-Sur-Mer. Continued on course and escorted the rest of the Group, flying top cover to and over target which was the M/Y at Hasselt. Bombings in general area of target observed to be good. Returned to base with the group, making landfall out as briefed.

THALER, ASST S-2, 396TH FIGHTER SQDN

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## MISSION REPORT 22 APRIL 1944

- A- 396th Fighter Squadron, 22nd April 1944. Mission #1
- B- 16 P-47's plus 2 spares
- C- One P-47 aborted because of mechanical failure of selector valve for belly tank.
- D- 16 P-47's hit M/Y at St. Ghislain.
- E- 36 x 1000 GP bombs were loaded.  
32 x 1000 GP bombs were dropped on target.  
2 x 1000 GP Bombs were jettisoned over channel.  
2 x 1000 GP bombs were jettisoned over continent between Douai and Arras, hitting railroad.  
Started dive at 10,000 ft. angle of dive 60°, pulled out at 4,000 ft.
- F- Bombing results were undetermined, one hit being observed on the warehouse in the M/Y.
- G- Thru K Nil
- L- Channel: CAVU  
Continent: CAVU, some high Cirrus; visibility good.
- M- Up at 1105 hrs, down at 1545 hrs.
- N- IF in between Le Touquet and Berck at 1157 hrs, at 10,000 ft.  
IF out on course as briefed at 1256 hrs, at 12,000 ft.
- O- Nil
- P- Loud and clear.
- Q- Many barges with cargo appearing to be boxes seen in canal between Mons and town located at (50° 27' - 03° 35'E)
- R- Heavy, intense, fairly accurate for height flak at Lens.
- S- Train strafed by one flight, between Douai and Arras with hits being observed on locomotive and two cars.
- T- Landfall in made as briefed. Squadron dive-bombed the M/Y at St. Ghislain with undetermined results. In the route in a parachute was seen in the area between St. Pol and Aubigny. A green slick was seen in the channel midway on the route home from enemy coast. Aircraft were circling at a low altitude at the scene.

TRALER, ASST S-2, 396th Fighter Squadron

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## MISSION REPORT 25 April 1944

- A- 396th Fighter Squadron, 23 April 1944 Mission 11
- B- 16 P-47's plus 2 spares
- C- Nil
- D- 16 P-47's hit M/Y at Charleroi
- E- 36 x 1000 bombs were loaded.  
52 x 1000 bombs were dropped on target.  
4 x 1000 bombs were jettisoned over channel.  
- Bombing run from 12,000 ft. to 4,000 ft.  
Angle of dive approximately 60 degrees.
- F- Bombing results were poor. Hits were observed in town to east of target.
- G- thru K Nil
- L- Channel 7/10 Cumulus, 2-3000 ft, visibility 3 miles.  
Continent 8/10 cirrus 18,000 ft, visibility unlimited.
- M- Up at 1150 hours, down at 1430 hours.
- N- L/F in as briefed at 1235 hours at 12,000 ft.  
L/F out as briefed at 1339 hours at 12,000 ft.
- O- Nil
- P- Radio was loud and clear.
- Q- Nil
- R- Nil
- S- Nil
- T- Narrative: Mission accomplished as briefed. Uneventful trip in and out.

DICK, S-2, 396th Fighter Squadron.

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MISSION REPORT 24 April 1944

- A- 396th Fighter Squadron, 24 April 1944. Mission #1.
- B- 16 P-47's plus 1 spare
- C- thru F Nil
- G- Four (4) P-47's down at Rednan with low gas.
- H- thru J Nil
- K- 1 B-24 exploded from direct flak hit, near Brussels, at 19,000 ft.  
at 1600 hours. No chutes were observed. A/C practically disintegrated.
- L- 10/10/ strato cumulous 1-4,000 ft. visibility unlimited (channel)  
1/10-7/10 cirrus 19-27,000 ft visibility laterally unlimited (cont.)
- M- Up 1335 hours Down 1715hours.
- N- At Nieuport at 1427 hours at 21,000 ft.  
At Ostend at 1620 hours at 19,000 ft.
- O- As briefed at 1510 hours at 22,000 ft.
- P- Loud and clear.
- Q- Nil
- R- Nil
- S- Nil
- T- Mission flown as briefed. R/V accomplished as planned. Bombers orderly with few exceptions, although flak was persistent and accurate on entire trip.

F. A. Dick, S-2, 306 Ftr. Sq.

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FISHERY MISSION 20 APRIL 1944

- A- 300th Fighter Squadron, 20th April 1944, Mission 1.
- B- 10 P-47's plus 2 spares
- C- 1 P-47 aborted b. cause of weather.
- D- Nil
- E- 30 x 1000 bombs were loaded.  
None were dropped on target.  
30 x 1000 bombs were jettisoned in channel.  
One were returned to base.
- F- Nil
- G- 10/10 to 5/10 over area of with cumulus from 4,500 to 6,000 ft.  
9/10 to 10/10 over continent with stratocumulus to 8,000 ft.  
Visibility unlimited above clouds.
- H- Up 0040 down 1130.
- I- 1/11 as briefed at 0950 at 11,000 ft.  
1000 s of extend at 1010 at 11,000 ft.
- J- 1/V not accomplished.
- K- Cloud and clear.
- L- Nil
- M- Heager accurate heavy flak off shore at extend.
- N- Nil
- O- Mission scrubbed officially but control failed to notify group leader. Complete cloud cover obscured entire section to be bombed, so bombs were salvaged in channel on return.

W. A. Nick, C-2, 220 str. sq.

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SQUADRON HISTORY

MISSION # 15 - 8 April 1944

GREEN

K - Maj. Douglas  
D - Lt. Larsen  
F - Lt. Loughary  
G - Lt. Loeb

RED

H - Lt. Parrish  
L - Lt. Kennedy  
N - Lt. Robbins  
J - Lt. Haughton

BLUE

Y - Capt. Myers  
Z - Lt. Gamblin  
X - Lt. Rice  
V - Lt. Hamilton

YELLOW

R - Lt. Romine  
T - Lt. Davis  
Q - Lt. Ostuw  
O - Lt. Jasper

SPARES

U - Lt. Kerchner  
B - Lt. Ryerson

MISSION # 16 - 12 April 1944

GREEN

K - Maj. Douglas  
E - Lt. Greene  
F - Lt. Loughary  
B - Lt. Ryerson

RED

M - Capt. Sparks  
J - Lt. Haughton  
H - Lt. Parrish  
N - Lt. Robbins

BLUE

Y - Capt. Myers  
Z - Lt. Gamblin  
X - Lt. Rice  
V - Lt. Hamilton

YELLOW

R - Lt. Romine  
U - Lt. Kerchner  
Q - Lt. Ostuw  
T - Lt. Davis

SPARES

L - Lt. Kennedy  
G - Lt. Loeb

MISSION # 17 - 13 April 1944

BLUE

A7A - Lt. Col. Meyers (Gp CO)  
Y - Capt. Myers  
A7B - Maj. Perego (Gp Dpty CO)  
X - Lt. Rice

GREEN

A - Maj. Douglas  
D - Lt. Larsen  
F - Lt. Loughary  
B - Lt. Ryerson

RED

K - Capt. Sparks  
M - Lt. Quilty  
N - Lt. Robbins  
L - Lt. Kennedy

YELLOW

R - Lt. Romine  
U - Lt. Kerchner  
Q - Lt. Ostuw  
O - Lt. Jasper

SPARES

V - Lt. Gamblin  
J - Lt. Haughton

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SQUADRON HISTORY

MISSION # 18 - 14 April 1944

RED

A - Maj. Douglas  
J - Lt. Haughton  
I - Lt. Robbins  
K - Lt. Quilty

GREEN

V - Capt. Sparks  
G - Lt. Greene  
F - Lt. Loughary  
R - Lt. Ryerson

BLUE

Y - Capt. Myers  
W - Lt. Gamblin  
D - Capt. Leary (Gp Opns)  
X - Lt. Rice

YELLOW

R - Lt. Romine  
N - Lt. Kerchner  
O - Lt. Ostur  
T - Lt. Jasper

SPARES

L - Lt. Kennedy

MISSION # 19 - 13 April 1944

RED

A - Maj. Douglas  
J - Lt. Haughton  
M - Lt. Robbins  
N - Lt. Quilty

GREEN

F - Lt. Loughary  
C - Lt. Loeb  
D - Lt. Larsen  
E - Lt. Ryerson

BLUE

K - Capt. Sparks  
GMQ - Capt. Fletcher (Visitor)  
Y - Lt. Rice  
Z - Lt. Gamblin

YELLOW

R - Lt. Romine  
SMJ - Capt. Cabes (Visiting Pilot)  
T - Lt. Jasper  
U - Lt. Kerchner

SPARES

V - Lt. Hamilton  
L - Lt. Kennedy

MISSION # 20 - 19 April 1944

BLUE

X - Lt. Col. Meyers (Gp Comdr)  
K - Capt. Sparks  
A7 B - Maj. Perego (Gp Dpty CO)  
I - Lt. Hamilton

GREEN

D - Lt. Henry (Gp Ass't Opns O)  
G - Lt. Loeb  
F - Lt. Loughary  
B - Lt. Ryerson

RED

A - Maj. Douglas  
SMQ - Capt. Fletcher (Visitor)  
M - Lt. Robbins  
L - Lt. Kennedy

YELLOW

R - Lt. Romine  
SMJ - Capt. Cabes (Visiting Pilot)  
O - Lt. Ostur  
U - Lt. Kerchner

SPARES

V - Lt. Quilty  
Z - Lt. Gamblin

RELAY

S - Lt. Carter

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SQUADRON HISTORY

MISSION #21 21 APRIL 1944

BLUE

F- Capt. Sparks  
 Z- Capt. Bowers (Vstng pilot)  
 Y- Lt. Carter  
 G- Lt. Loeb

GREEN

A- Major Douglas  
 T- Major Kirkup (Vstng pilot)  
 D- Lt. Larsen  
 V- Lt. Hamilton

YELLOW

R- Lt. Romine  
 U- Lt. Kerchner  
 Q- Lt. Ostuw  
 O- Lt. Jasper

RED

K- Capt. McLachlan  
 M- Lt. Quilty  
 E- Lt. Robbins  
 L- Lt. Kennedy

SPARES

X- Lt. Rice  
 B- Lt. Ryerson

MISSION # 22 - 22 April 1944

RED

N - Lt. Col. Meyers (Gp CO)  
 K - Capt. McLachlan  
 A7B - Maj. Perego (Gp Dpty CO)  
 J - Lt. Haughton

YELLOW

R - Lt. Romine  
 U - Capt. Bowers (Visiting Pilot)  
 Q - Lt. Ostuw  
 T - Lt. Davis

GREEN

A - Maj. Douglas  
 O - Maj. Kirkup (Visiting pilot)  
 F - Lt. Loughary  
 D - Lt. Greene

BLUE

S - Lt. Carter  
 B - Lt. Hamilton  
 X - Lt. Rice  
 Z - Lt. Gamblin

SPARES

M - Lt. Quilty  
 L - Lt. Kennedy

MISSION # 23 - 22 April 1944

GREEN

A - Maj. Douglas  
 Z - Maj. Kirkup (Visiting pilot)  
 N - Lt. Robbins  
 D - Lt. Larsen

YELLOW

R - Lt. Romine  
 U - Lt. Kerchner  
 Q - Lt. Jasper  
 T - Lt. Davis

RED

K - Capt. McLachlan  
 M - Capt. Bowers (Visiting pilot)  
 J - Lt. Haughton  
 L - Lt. Kennedy

BLUE

Y - Capt. Myers  
 X - Lt. Rice  
 S - Lt. Carter  
 F - Lt. Greene

SPARE

G - Lt. Loeb

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SQUADRON HISTORY

MISSION # 24 - 23 April 1944

GREEN

M - Lt. Col. Meyers (Gp CO)  
 J - Lt. Greene  
 S - Lt. Carter  
 V - Lt. Ryerson

BLUE

A - Maj. Douglas  
 Z - Capt. Baer  
 B - Lt. Benton  
 F - Lt. Loughary

YELLOW

R - Lt. Romine  
 U - Lt. Kerchner  
 T - Lt. Ostuw  
 O - Lt. Jasper

RED

H - Lt. Parrish  
 W - Lt. Olson, C.H.  
 N - Lt. Robbins  
 D - Lt. Larsen

SPARES

X - Lt. Rice  
 L - Lt. Kennedy

MISSION # 25 - 23 April 1944

BLUE

D - Maj. Douglas  
 W - Lt. Olson, C.H.  
 Z - Capt. Leary (Gp Opns O)  
 N - Lt. Robbins

GREEN

H - Lt. Parrish  
 X - Capt. Baer  
 B - Lt. Benton  
 T - Lt. Davis

WHITE

S - Lt. Carter  
 G - Lt. Loeb  
 F - Lt. Greene  
 V - Lt. Ryerson

RED

K - Capt. McLachlan  
 U - Lt. Kerchner  
 J - Lt. Haughton  
 L - Lt. Kennedy

RELAY

M - Lt. Quilty

SPARES

Q - Lt. Jasper  
 R - Lt. Ostuw

MISSION # 26 - 24 April 1944

BLUE

A - Maj. Douglas  
 V - Capt. Langford (Visitor)  
 W - Lt. Olson, C.H.  
 X - Lt. Rice

RED

K - Capt. McLachlan  
 U - Capt. Lutman (Visiting pilot)  
 J - Lt. Parrish  
 N - Lt. Robbins

YELLOW

R - Lt. Carter  
 G - Lt. Loeb  
 M - Lt. Greene  
 L - Lt. Jasper

GREEN

B - Lt. Benton  
 A - Lt. Loughary  
 Z - Lt. Gamblin

SPARES

D - Lt. Larsen  
 Q - Lt. Ostuw

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SQUADRON HISTORY

MISSION #27- 25 APRIL 1944

RED

G- Major Douglas  
M- Capt. Langford (Visiting Pilot)  
H- Lt. Parrish  
D- Lt. Larsen

BLUE

A- Capt. Sparks  
N- Capt. Lutman (visiting Pilot)  
W- Lt. Olson, C. H.  
Z- Lt. Gamblin

YELLOW

Q- Lt. Romine  
U- Lt. Kerchner  
B- Lt. Benton  
T- Lt. Davis

Green

S- Lt. Carter  
O- Capt. Baer  
V- Lt. Ryerson  
F- Lt. Greene

SPARES

A- Lt. Loeb  
K- Lt. Haughton

MISSION # 28 - 26 April 1944

SORBO

Q- Lt. Col. Meyers (Gp CO)  
W- Lt. Col. Greenfield (Visitor)  
A- Capt. Sparks  
U- Capt. Baer

RED

K- Capt. McLachlan  
S- Capt. Lutman (Visiting Pilot)  
J- Lt. Haughton  
M- Lt. Quilty

GREEN

H- Lt. Parrish  
O- Capt. Langford (Visiting Pilot)  
D- Lt. Larsen  
N- Lt. Robbins

PURPLE

G- Lt. Benton  
A- Maj. Douglas  
F- Lt. Loughary  
T- Lt. Davis

SPARES

X- Lt. Kennedy  
Z- Lt. Gamblin

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