

C O P Y

LOG OF THE RAIDS OF CREW 617

816th Sq 483rd Group

P 2nd Lt. Major Paul Hildreth
CP 2nd Lt. Winthrop Worcester
N 2nd Lt. Frank Hink
B 2nd Lt. William Englehart
E T/Sgt. Lewis H. Miller
R Charles Koller
S/Sgt. Robert E. Ream
T.G. S/Sgt. Paul S. Kettle
L. W. Robert B. Bardon
R. W. Mel Wylie

THE BEST CREW IN THE WHOLE DAMN OUTFIT

-
- (1) Split, Yugoslavia, cement plant, plastered target. Had No. 1 engine shot out by flak. 1 plane blew up with bomb load. Heavy flak. No fighters. 3 holes in the ship. 12 flak guns.
 - (2) Nis, Yugoslavia. Marshalling yards. 4 flak holes. No fighters. 36 (H) flak guns.
 - (3) Costello, France, Italy. 4 flak guns. No flak holes. No fighters. Steel mill.
 - (4) Piombino, Italy. No flak. No fighters. No holes. Marshalling yards.
 - (5) Milan, Italy. 10 flak guns. 4 fighters seen. No flak holes. Wop aircraft factory.
 - (6) Jurru Severin, Rumania. Marshalling yards. 8 flak guns. 8 flak holes. No fighters.
 - (7) Jurru Severin, Rumania. Same target. 8 flak guns. No fighters. 2 flak holes.
 - (8) (9) Weiner ^{NEUSTADT AUSTRIA} ~~Austria Neustadt~~. 90 flak guns. 3 fighters. 1 flak hole. M.E.109 factory.
 - (10) Bronzala, Italy. 76 flak guns. 2 holes. Marshalling yards.
 - (11) Ferrara, Italy. 40 flak guns. 2 holes. Marshalling yards.
 - (12) Avezzano, N. Italy. No flak. No fighters. Support of ground troops to disorganize German retreat.
 - (13) Aviso, N. Italy. Flak. 5 fighters. Two shot down bridge.
 - ? - (14) Venisoleux, France. Longest mission ever pulled from here. 7-1/2 hrs. Marshalling yards and round houses. Smashed target. Flak, heavy type. 15 fighters, but we weren't able to see them. Up to now, I haven't fired a round of ammo.
 - (15) St. Etienne, France. Marshalling yards and round houses. Not target scheduled. Longer mission than yesterday. No flak. No fighters.

- (16) Avignon, S. France. Marshalling yards. Boy, we really smashed them. Heavy flak but no fighters. Germans are slowly getting wise to us. The sky was black with our bombers.
- (17) (18) Overpfaffenhofen, near Munich. (Austria) 197 flak guns got the hell shot out of us. A few fighters near air field. Munich.
- (19) (20) Budapest, Hungary. Oil refinery. Smashed target. Hell of a lot of flak. No fighters.
- (21) (22) Vienna, Austria. Oil refineries. Smashed target. Terrific flak. Large holes left in ship. Rear caught in ball.
- (23) Farnova di Faroe, Italy. Marshalling yards and oil dump. Terrifically accurate flak. More holes in ship than I can count.
- (24) (25) Ploesti, Rumania. Lots of heavy flak, but inaccurate. We hit a refinery. Had bomb trouble. Load 2-2000 lb. bombs and 2-1000 lb. bombs.
- done 25th* (26) Este, S. France. Harbor, installations and marshalling yards. Flew it on my birthday. Smashed target.
- (27) Bard, Yugoslavia. Marshalling yards. Smashed target. Alternate main target was in Germany proper.
- (28) Weather bad. We got over Hungary and had to feather an engine. Losing altitude fast, so we had to salvo bombs in a field. Got credit for one mission.
- (29) Rumania. Bridge (railroad). Smashed target. No flak, a few fighters. Pietro, Altul.
- (30) Montpellier, S. France. Marshalling yards. Hit target good. Had a good look at M. E. 109 today. Very accurate flak.
- (31) (32) Blechhammer, Germany. Oil refinery. Terrific flak. Smashed target.
- (33) (34) Vienna, Austria. Had a windmilling prop and it was darn near finis for us. We came all the way from Austria by ourselves. Had the hell shot out of us on the way back.
- (35) Ploesti, Rumania. Oil refinery. Smashed target. Lots of flak and fighters.