

S E C R E T
HEADQUARTERS 320th BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer
APO 650 U.S. Army

Auth: CO, 320th B. Gp
Init: EBF
Date: 22 May, 1944

SUBJECT: Historical Records.

To : COMMANDING GENERAL, 12th AIR FORCE, APO 650, U.S.ARMY
ATTENTION: HISTORIAN * Cy to Com Gen, 42nd Wing

1. Pursuant to your request in your letter dated 26 April 1944, the following is submitted concerning the 443rd bomb Sq:-
 2. The 443rd Bomb Squadron was activated 20 July, 1942 at MacDill Field Army Air Base, Tampa, Florida (per GO#32, Hq, Army Air Base, MacDill Field, Tampa, Florida, 2 July, 1942).
 3. There are no additional assignments of the 443rd B. Sq. supplementing the list submitted by you.
 4. The Commanding Officers of the 443rd Bomb Squadron, the dates of their command and the orders appointing them to this command are as follow:-
 - a. Maj (then 1st Lt) J. SCOTT PEDDIE from date of activation to 25 May, 1943 (no SO 's available).
 - b. Maj (then Capt) WILLIAM L. MARBLE, 25 may, 1943 to 19 December 1943 (per par #3, SO #86, Hq, 320th B Gp, 25 May/43).
 - c. Maj (then Capt) PETER K. GRAVES, 19 December 1943 to date (per par #3, SO 245, Hq, 320th B Gp, 19 December, 1943).
 - d. Capt FESTUS D. HUNTER, appointed acting Squadron Commander in absence of Major Graves, 28 April, 1944 (per par #1, SO #61, 28 April, 1944).
 5. Movements of the 443rd Bomb Squadron are as follows:-
 - 8 August 1942 - Squadron moved from MacDill Army Air Base, Tampa, Florida, to Drane Field, Lakeland, Florida.
 - 28 August 1942 - Air Echelon left Lakeland, Fla., to staging area, Fort Dix, New Jersey.
 - 5 September 1942 to 11 September - Air Echelon enroute from New York City aboard HMS Queen Mary to Gourich, Scotland.
 - 12 September 1942 - Air Echelon arrived at Hethel, Eng.
 - 19 September 1942 - Flight Echelon left Lakeland, Florida by train and plane destined for Fort Wayne, Indiana

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Historical Records of the 443rd Bomb Squadron – Continued.

22 September 1942 – Ground Echelon left Lakeland, Fla., to staging area at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey.

27 September 1942 – Ground Echelon sailed from New York City aboard HMS Queen Mary.

1 October 1942 – Air Echelon moved to RAF station at Tibenham, England.

3 October 1942 – Ground Echelon arrived at Gourich, Scotland.

4 October 1942 – Ground Echelon arrived at Tibenham, England.

10 November 1942 – Ground Echelon left Tibenham, Eng. for North Africa. Air Echelon rejoined the other Air Echelons of the Group at Hethel, England, Ground Echelon boarded the USS Mariposa at Greenock, Scotland. Air Echelon entrained for Liverpool, England and boarded HMS Andes.

14 November 1942 – Air Echelon departed from England on HMS Andes which joined the convoy to which the USS Mariposa was attached.

15 November 1942 – Ground Echelon departed from Scotland on USS Mariposa.

19 November 1942 – Flight Echelon left Baer Field, Indiana for Morrison Field, West Palm Beach, Florida.

21 November 1942 – Air and Ground Echelons arrived separately at Mers-el-Kebir, Africa.

22 November 1942 – Air and Ground Echelons disembarked separately and that evening were reunited at Tafaraoui, Africa, a former French naval Air Base.

2 December 1942 – Flight Echelon left Morrison Field, West Palm Beach, Florida and arrived at Borinquen Field, Porto Rico.

5 December 1942 – Flight Echelon arrived at Walker Field, Trinidad.

6 December 1942 – Flight Echelon arrived at Atkinson Field, British Guiana.

11 December 1942 – Flight Echelon arrived at Belem, Brazil.

12 December 1942 – Flight Echelon arrived at Natal, Brazil.

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Historical Records of the 443rd Bomb Squadron – Continued.

17 December 1942 – Flight Echelon left Natal and arrived at Ascension Island.

18 December 1942 – Part of Flight Echelon left Ascension Island and arrived at Accra, British West Africa.

19 December 1942 – Ground Echelon entrained from Tafaraoui, Africa.

20 December 1942 – Air and Ground Echelons arrived at Relizam, Africa.

23 December 1942 – Flight Echelon left Accra and arrived at Roberts Field, Liberia.

24 December 1942 – Flight Echelon arrived at Bathurst, Gambia.

25 December 1942 – Balance of Flight Echelon which was left behind at Brazil arrived at Relizam, Africa. Flight Echelon arrived at Marrakesh, French Morocco.

29 December 1942 – Flight Echelon arrived at Tafaraoui.

5 January 1943 – Flight Echelon arrived at La Senia, Air Base, near Oran.

8 January 1943 – Air and Ground Echelons entrained at Relizam.

9 January 1943 – Air and Ground Echelons arrived at La Senia. The 443rd Bomb Squadron had its various Echelons reunited for the first time since 28 August, 1942.

28 January 1943 – Squadron moved from La Senia to Tafaraoui.

14 April 1943 – Squadron moved from Tafaraoui to Montesquieu, Algeria. The movement was outstanding in that all ground forces were transferred in C 47's.

29 June 1943 – Squadron moved from Montesquieu to Massicault, Tunisia.

29 July 1943 – Squadron moved from Massicault to El Bathan.

28 October 1943 – Ground Echelon left El Bathan for Decimo, Sardinia.

31 October 1943 – Advance Echelon and Flight Echelon moved from El Bathan to Djeida #1, Tunisia.

9-10 November 1943 – Advance Echelon and Flight Echelon arrived at Decimo, Sardinia.

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Historical Records of the 443rd Bomb Squadron - Continued.

6. The strength of the 443rd Bomb Squadron from 31 September 1942 to 31 March 1944 is as Follows:-

<u>DATE</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>EM'S</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
30 September 1942	56	290	346
31 Oct 1942	70	288	358
30 Nov 1942	58	286	344
31 Dec 1942	58	284	342
31 Jan 1943	54	282	336
28 Feb 1943	51	263	314
31 Mar 1943	55	288	343
30 Apr 1943	59	299	358
31 May 1943	69	285	354
30 June 1943	68	293	361
31 July 1943	78	302	380
31 Aug 1943	71	291	362
30 Sept 1943	72	274	346
31 Oct 1943	61	269	330
30 Nov 1943	64	272	336
31 Dec 1943	77	285	362
31 Jan 1944	72	258	330
29 Feb 1944	63	258	321
31 Mar 1944	64	265	329

For the Commanding Officer:

for *W. L. Farberow*
capt de

WILLIAM COOK,
Capt, Air Corps,
Gp Int Officer.