

Fuel oil was made available on a rationed plan to each tent or house so that everyone had enough heat to take the sting out of the penetrating cold winds of sunny Italy. Everybody was safety conscious and as a result there were not tents burned down this month. This was a good record when taking into consideration the increase of personnel in each squadron.

Squadron S-2 sections have been devoting special attention to news talks, and interest among the men is keen. Mess halls have maps showing the fronts, and there is daily comment on the Russian advances and the wiping out of the German bulge in our lines. The Pacific Campaign doesn't suffer from neglect either in the news discussions.

Each squadron received new crews during the month so that the group was built up to its maximum strength. In spite of this, the new men were absorbed smoothly in the group. Orientation talks given by the different sections to these new crews impressed upon them our record and traditions, as well as operational policies. The strength of the group is now at its highest level, more than had been expected, but this group is functioning well against these expected demands.

#### 824 Squadron Awards

##### Silver Star

T/Sgt. Joseph O'Connell

##### DFC

Capt. Frank E Oliver  
1st Lt. Charles F Ness  
1st Lt. Stanley V Olson  
1st Lt. Theodore M Ewing  
1st Lt. Joseph D Nelson  
1st Lt. Wayne E Dack  
1st Lt. Joseph Bachowicz \*  
1st Lt. Harry S Allen  
2nd Lt. Jack B Raetz  
2nd Lt. Robert W Kime

##### Bronze Star

M/Sgt. Chester L Coleman  
S/Sgt. Louis A Guy  
S/Sgt. James C Adcock

#### 825th Squadron Awards

##### DFC

Maj. James C Langdon  
Capt. Billie B Neel  
Capt. Paul J Williams  
Capt. John H Whitacre Jr  
1st Lt. James T Chafin Jr  
1st Lt. Sigurd V Moody (Oak leaf cluster)  
1st Lt. Charles M Cossey  
1st Lt. D L Billger  
1st Lt. Howard Steinburg  
1st Lt. Walter Samarevitz \*  
1st Lt. Daniel A Birnkrantz  
1st Lt. Barney J Milner  
1st Lt. Berton A Tenborg  
1st Lt. Wallace E Lamay  
1st Lt. Cloyd W Kerr

2nd Lt. Harold J Harve  
2nd Lt. Richard F Hugo  
2nd Lt. Ryan M O'Brien  
2nd Lt. Robert F Anderson  
2nd Lt. James C Ellis  
2nd Lt. John H Gross Jr  
2nd Lt. Paul R Willhide  
2nd Lt. Lowell P Hayes \*  
2nd Lt. Robert J Swanson

#### 826 Squadron Awards

##### DFC

1st Lt. Robert A Warne  
1st Lt. Edward A Burnsed  
1st Lt. George K Dickee Jr \*  
1st Lt. Edwin T Danowski  
1st Lt. Frederick A Dierksmeier  
1st Lt. Edward M Duke

#### 827 Squadron Awards

##### DFC

Capt. Marion H Hammett  
1st Lt. Carl K Williams  
1st Lt. William J Jones  
1st Lt. Kenneth C Rounds  
1st Lt. John P Roedel  
1st Lt. William H McWhirk  
1st Lt. Michael B Goodman  
2nd Lt. Russell K Bolton Jr  
2nd Lt. Leo Frobom \*  
T/Sgt. Perry W Lounsbury  
S/Sgt. Donald R Reiter  
S/Sgt. Oliver E Seward  
S/Sgt. James H Baysinger  
S/Sgt. Loran L Conner

### **Operational History February 1945**

During the month of February the 484th Bombardment Group flew a total of 17 missions, of these, eight were PFF, or instrument bombing missions, six were visual missions, and three were non-available missions. A total 443 sorties were flown with 808 tons of bombs dropped on enemy targets. 53 planes returned early during the month. Thirteen aircraft were lost, and 102 men were listed as missing, 12 killed, and 4 wounded.

### **Missions For February 1945**

Mission No. 147, 1 February 1945, Moosbierbaum Oil Refinery.

A maximum effort mission was planned to attack this number one priority target in the 15th Air Force operational area. The Air Force was attempting to cripple the gasoline production of Germany in order to keep the German fighters out of action, and the motorized equipment from moving. The target was cloud covered, but 36.5