

from a combat mission passed over the parade field in formation.

The start of the offensive to destroy the German armies in North Italy marked a new use of the Group in a tactical role. Very close coordination was to be carried out by the 15th Air Force and the Fifth and Eighth Armies to insure the success of the drive. Every effort had been made to identify the targets from the air by use of ground directional markings and to prevent the possibility of premature dropping of bombs which would have fallen on our troops.

For two days the group dropped 100 pound bombs and frag clusters on German positions in front of the Eighth Army. The results were excellent and the British Forces swept across rivers which had held them up for months. The attack then switched to the approaches to the Bologna in front of the Fifth Army. For three days the entire 15th Air Force in its greatest effort bombed this area. Every available plane in the group was put into the air and the field had a stripped appearance on those days. Coverage of the assigned targets was exceptional. Subsequent events in North Italy gave the group great pride in the knowledge that it had played an important part in the destruction of the enemy in Italy.

During this month the 49th bombardment Wing and the 484th Bombardment Group established a bombing record that was worthy of commendations from General Twining and Brig. Gen. Lee. The average of the wing and our group was far above the Air Force average. Pictures of bombing results by the group appeared in several intelligence publications as outstanding examples of pattern and destructive bombing. We were satisfied with the knowledge that the military destruction was proving a factor in the war and not too much concerned with scores.

Last year we did not observe Easter as we were busy setting up our squadron areas but this year Easter was celebrated as we wanted to do it. Service was held in the new Chapel and sunrise services were on the ground in front of the chapel.

Almost a year to the day since its first combat mission, the group found the strategic air war was won. It had attacked targets all over Europe and had taken its part in the attacks on all three fronts, the Italian, the Russian, and the Western. We could look back on it and feel that we could justifiably take the words often repeated in commendations, "a job well done" as a description of our efforts.

Now we could turn our energies and experience to the Japanese War secure in the knowledge that our record there would be just as outstanding as it was in the European war.

484th BG History May-July 1945

The unit was ordered to move to Casablanca on 13, May, 1945. On 19 May, 1945, the first plane took off from Torretta Field, Italy for a new station, followed by shipment daily. Movement to the new station was completed on 27 May, 1945. Upon arrival at Casablanca the unit was assigned to the Air Transport Command, North African Ferrying Division. The unit was ordered to dispose of all equipment and prepare for disbandment. The personnel were relieved from assignment from this unit and were assigned to various units in the division. The 484th Bombardment Group was disbanded on 25 July 1945. Per authority Par.1, General Order 21 HQ NAFFD ATC.

