

DESIGNATION SHEET

AIR FORCE	<u>Fifth</u>
COMMAND	<u>Inapplicable</u>
WING	<u>314th Composite</u>
GROUP	<u>3d Bombardment (L)</u>
PERIOD	<u>October 1946</u>

The security classification has been checked.

M O N T H L Y

U N I T

H I S T O R Y

3D BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF

O C T O B E R - 1946

H E A D Q U A R T E R S
3D BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF

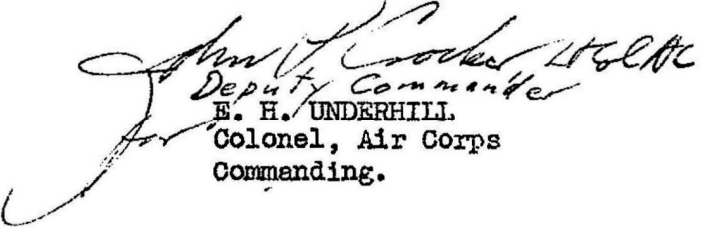
APO 328
1 November 1946

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Unit History.

TO : Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington, 25, D. C.

1. In accordance with AR 345-105 and AAF Regulation No. 20-8, submit herewith the history of this organization for the period of October 1946, which has been inspected and verified by the undersigned.

2. The material submitted was prepared by 2nd Lt. Norman I. Cheilek, 0935275. Facts and observations included in the narrative and not otherwise credited are based on the knowledge of 2nd Lt. Cheilek.


Deputy Commander
E. H. UNDERHILL
Colonel, Air Corps
Commanding.

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PART I

C H R O N O L O G I C A L

N A R R A T I V E

OPERATIONS

OPERATIONS

The Third Bomb Group continued in October to fulfill its mission as an air arm of our occupation force in Japan. The assignment of many pilots inexperienced in the A-26 caused the Group's primary function to be that of a training unit, rather than that of an attack group, but upon completion of the task of training these men, the Third Group will once more measure up to combat standards.

During the early part of the month, the movement of all remaining personnel and aircraft from Atsugi to Yokota Army Air Base was accomplished. Although the new strip at Yokota was a vast improvement over the badly worn steel mat at Atsugi, lack of adequate ramp space at Yokota proved a handicap to smooth operations, for aircraft of the 13th and 90th Squadrons were forced to park on the edge of the taxi-strip pending completion of pouring concrete for the ramp.

Amassing a total of 1386:50 hours during October, the Group continued its steady increase of flying time. This represented an increase of 249:25 hours over the total time for September. 1226:40 hours were logged in the A-26, an increase of 236:15 hours over the preceding month, and 160:10 hours were flown in B-25's.

Operational activities centered upon flying support for the ground force maneuvers and the checking-out of newly assigned pilots in the A-26. Between 13 October and 19 October, the Third Group flew 20 missions, consisting of 149 sorties, in conjunction with the maneuvers. Although

all of the bombing, rocket, and straffing missions were flown with simulated loads, Invaders of the Group did fly two actual smoke missions over the Invasion Beach west of Enoshima, Aircraft of the Group staged medium altitude bombings of Atsugi, Kassumigaura, and Shimizu, and low-level attacks on Nagoya, Toyama, Atsugi, Fujisawa, and Totsuka. Simulated rocket and straffing attacks were made daily upon the Invasion Beach. With Colonel E. H. Underhill flying the lead ship, the Third Group led Fifth Air Force units in an aerial parade over the Imperial Palace in Tokyo on 19 October, marking the end of maneuvers. 384:40 hours had been logged during the week.

Surveillance flights continued to be flown over Northern Honshu every third day that weather permitted. Six of these two-ship missions were successfully accomplished by the Group.

The continued redeployment of Airplane Mechanics and Crew Chiefs greatly increased the maintenance problems of the Group. By the end of the month, but one per cent of the Airplane Mechanics had been trained prior to being assigned to the Group.

The checking-out of new pilots in the A-26 continued as 21 Officers piloted the Invader for the first time this month. The remainder of the new men were completing transition in the B-25 and will soon be flying the A-26. For the experienced pilots, straffing, bombing, low-level navigation, and formation flights were frequently scheduled.

Two aircraft of the Group were involved in major accidents. On 8 October, an A-26 was landed with gear retracted; on 9 October the nose

gear of an A-26 failed in take-off. No injury to personnel was involved in either accident.

Thus the Third Group, as it continued to play an important role in our occupation air force, strove to develop itself once again into the potent attack force the Grim Reapers were during hostilities.

ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATION

ORGANIZATION

The 3rd Bombardment Group (L) continued at its station at Yokota Army Air Base, APO 328, Honshu, Japan, during the month of October 1946, under direct control of the 314th Composite Wing, and under the command of Colonel Edward H. Underhill. During the early part of the month, the move from Atsugi Army Air Base was completed with personnel of the 13th and 90th Bombardment Squadrons, and some Headquarters personnel moving to Yokota.

On authority of 314th Composite Wing General Order Number 31, 5 October 1946 as amended by General Order No. 32, 8 October 1946, Detachment "1" 3rd Emergency Rescue Squadron, commanded by Captain W.S. Dwyer was attached to the 3rd Bombardment Group.

The 129th Mobile Training Unit (A-26), commanded by Captain Sherman E. Ellis, the 9th Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron, commanded by Lt. Col. William L. Gray, and the 6th Night Fighter Squadron, commanded by Captain John C. Bradley remained attached to the 3rd Bombardment Group.

Following is a list of Key personnel as of 31 October 1946:

RANK	NAME	DUTY
Colonel	Underhill, E. H.	Commanding Officer
Lt. Col.	Crocker, J. P.	Deputy Group Commander
Major	Mai, R. F.	Materiel
Major	Ruettgers, J. J.	Operations
Major	Burris, A. P.	C. O. 13th Squadron

List of Key Personnel (Cont'd)

Major	Weigold, L. B.	C. O. 90th Squadron
Captain	Spratt, R. M.	Adjutant
Captain	Sewell, V. R.	C. O., 8th Squadron
Captain	Brown, J. B.	Communications
Captain	Grey, R. E.	Group Navigator
Captain	McClelland, M. H.	Intelligence
Captain	Peratt, J. D.	Gunnery
Captain	Ponthier, R. L.	Armament
1st Lt.	Elias, G.	Personnel
1st Lt.	Lugo, F. M.	Statistical Control
1st Lt.	Pfeirfer, T. L.	Ordnance
1st Lt.	Yarrington, A.	Special Services
2nd Lt.	Upchurch, S. G.	Photo

STRENGTH

Officer strength climbed above that authorized in the Table of Organization and Equipment during the month, to 128, although this figure will shortly be cut sharply due to redeployment of men requesting discharge. 12 new Officers, all rated, arrived at the Group, while four officers were transferred out. 91 of the organization's officers are Category I. 20 officers requested immediate relief from active duty during October.

Enlisted strength showed a marked gain for the first time in many months with the arrival of 184 replacements bringing the total to 411. 35 men were returned to the United States, while eight were transferred to other organizations. 259 of the enlisted men are Regular Army.

A complete breakdown of Group strength can be found in the Statistical Control letter submitted in the Appendix.

PROMOTIONS AND REDUCTIONS

No officers were promoted during October.

45 enlisted men were promoted during the month with three to Staff Sergeant, eleven to Sergeant, twenty-four to Corporal, and seven to Private First Class. Special Orders, Headquarters Third Bombardment Group (L) for the month of October 1946 contain authorization for these promotions and are submitted in the Appendix.

There were no reductions in grade of officer or enlisted personnel during October.

FURLOUGHS AND LEAVES

Two emergency leaves to the United States were granted during the month. Besides these, TDY "rest and recuperation" leaves were granted to one officer and his wife, and four enlisted men.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

One award was received by a member of the Group during the month with Captain Roy M. Spratt, Group Adjutant, receiving a fourth Oak Leaf Cluster

to his Air Medal on authority of General Order Number 528, General Headquarters, United States Army Forces, Pacific, dated 31 August 1946. Captain Spratt, while serving as a bombardier with the 22nd Bombardment Group (H) in 1945, "exhibited outstanding technical proficiency and judgment during numerous strikes on enemy airdromes and installations in the Philippines, Formosa, and China."

TRAINING

T R A I N I N G

"Going to school" was the rule of the day in the Third Bomb Group during October, for classes kept both officer and enlisted personnel more than busy when they were not flying or working on aircraft. Besides the transition and refresher work in flying, ground schools were set up with regular class schedules to train rated and non-rated personnel. In addition to the Group's own instructors, enlisted instructors of the 129th Mobile Training Unit and civilian instructors of the "Burnside project" were employed in teaching the members of the Third Group.

The transition program proceeded satisfactorily with 21 pilots being checked out in the A-26 during the month. Initial training was given in the B-2b, following which the pilot received a 28 hour course in the Invader, including transition, instruments, navigation, and gunnery and bombing.

The more experienced pilots spent the first half of the month preparing for and participating in the ground force maneuvers. During this period actual smoke missions were flown, and simulated medium and low-level bombings, as well as strafing missions were scheduled. Training during the remainder of the month emphasized strafing, bombing, low-level navigation and formation flights.

A technical ground school was established by the 129th Mobile Training Unit and nine civilian instructors of the "Burnside project."

In this school maintenance course was given for both pilots and potential airplanes mechanics. The enlisted men received a 92 hour course designed to qualify them as semi-skilled mechanics. This course consisted of instruction in Technical Orders, Regulations and forms, Structures, Hydraulic, Electrical, Fuel and Oil Systems, Engines, Propellers, Instruments, and Inspection and Operation. Most of these men had arrived in the Group without any special training which would qualify them for work on the A-26, and the Group faced the task of training sufficient qualified maintenance personnel to permit smooth continued operations. A number of pilots were receiving maintenance training in slightly modified form.

The Armament section too conducted classes for both officers and enlisted men. Thirteen officers completed a one-week course on bombs, covering shackles and releases, bombing panels and circuits, bombs and fuzes, and bomb loading. The armorer-gunners of the Group attended a one-week course on Electrical Systems, in addition to their on-the-job training.

Ranges for aerial gunnery training were being constructed by the Gunnery section. In addition to a combination skeet and basic deflection range, a high-tower gunnery range is being built to facilitate instructing the armorer-gunners. At this range, the clay pigeons will be thrown from a height towards the gunner in a manner simulating attacking fighter aircraft, and the gunner will fire with a remote control turret, the .50 caliber machine gun being replaced by a shotgun.

The administrative sections continued their struggle to perform efficiently with untrained personnel. Assignment of a large number of enlisted clerks to the various sections during the month did not remedy the situation, for many of the officers who were just beginning to become proficient at their duties found themselves now faced with the problem of training clerks and typists in the ways of the Army so that they could aid in carrying out the functions of the sections. A visit to the Group by the Fifth Air Force Air Inspector in the latter part of the month resulted in a general drive by the administrative sections to correct many deficiencies.

Thus the Third Group found itself in October functioning more in the manner of a unit of a training command than like a tactical organization in an occupation zone. This was due to the assignment to the Group of pilots inexperienced in the A-26 and of enlisted men with insufficient training for efficient work in either the administrative or maintenance sections. The Group's training program was designed to qualify its personnel so that they would eventually be able to work towards bringing the efficiency of the organization up to combat standards.

PART II

LOCAL

INTEREST

LOCAL INTEREST

The reconsolidation of the Third Bomb Group at Yokota Army Air Base after a two-month period of operating both forward and rear echelons proved a welcome event. Movement was completed by truck and air with the last personnel bidding farewell to Atsugi on 16 October. Life at the new base did have its unfavorable points. With much concrete remaining to be poured in the Third Group ramp, most of the Group's Invaders were still parked along the taxiways. All personnel gazed daily at the steam plant under construction, wondering if it would be finished in time to prevent simulated Arctic maneuvers being held in the quarters during the winter. The Base Theater, which had held shows four nights weekly, was closed during the latter part of the month for installation of new equipment, leaving a definite gap in early evening entertainment. With all its faults, it is expected that when the snow once more disappears from Mount Fuji, Yokota should be a base with facilities as good if not better than those available at many Stateside fields.

Recent changes in War Department discharge policies gave rise once again to a "We want out!" group among the officers in the organization. This cry had not been heard since the last Category V officer (with the exception of the Group's Medical Officers) were redeployed in August. Following the redeployment of the men desiring discharge in the near future, the Group should settle down to a fairly stable organization for some time to come.

Morale in the Group was greatly lowered by 314th Composite Wing Regulation Number 25-1, which set forth certain control measures for Venereal Disease. Rather than decrease the rate in the Group, the VD rate was the highest since the organization arrived in Japan, probably due to the lack of sufficient entertainment and recreation facilities on the base. The additional training required at 0515 hours did not contribute towards the efficiency of the men in the afternoons. The rescission of the regulation met with the favor of all, especially the 13th Squadron which was becoming adept at marching in the dawn's early light.

Dependent housing remained a major problem. Officer replacements who had arrived overseas within the past three months found it extremely difficult to estimate when quarters would be available so that their wives could join them. This uncertainty accounted for many of the men who requested immediate relief from active duty.

While the Group did not officially have a team participating in base or air force sports programs, members of the organization spent much of their off-duty time playing football, basketball, and softball. Physical training periods were held every afternoon. Half of the men of the Yokota Base football team, as yet undefeated in Fifth Air Force League competition, were members of the Third Group.

Thus October found the Third Group settling down at its permanent base in Japan, with its men, though doing their share of complaining, rapidly acclimating themselves to occupation life.

PART III

A P P E N D I X

S U M M A R I E S O F E V E N T S

GROUP

H E A D Q U A R T E R S
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF
APO 328

30 November 1946.

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events (S-1 Section)

TO : Historical Officer, 3rd Bombardment Group

1. In compliance with VBC Regulation 45-1 dated 17 December 1945 the following report for the month of October is submitted:

2. This month the S-1 section lost Captain Harry A. Johnson, Asst Adjutant, Sgt Alfred D. Zeutenhorst, Sgt Major, Sgt Leonard L. Vincelette, Enlisted Pay section and Sgt William R. White, Officers section.

3. About 20 Applications for Regular Army Commissions were processed this month and forwarded to Commanding General AFPAC.

4. Detachment 1 of the 3rd Emergency Rescue-Squadron (attached to this Group) moved to Yokota this month.

5. October was the busiest month this year in many ways. With the attachment of the 9th Reconnaissance Sq VLR Photo, 6th Night Fighter Sq. and Det. 1 3rd Emergency Rescue Sq. the amount of correspondence passing through this headquarters almost doubled. Since distribution to these units is now our responsibility, the clerks kept typewriters hot all month making copies of necessary correspondence.

6. A Personal Affairs section was inaugurated this month under the direction of 2nd Lt. Paul D. Skelton. Personal Affairs Files were made up for each man.

7. S-1 received the authority to cut orders for redeployment this month rather than have all orders cut by Base Headquarters as previously.

8. Personnel assigned this section include:-

Capt Roy M. Spratt	Group Adjutant
1st Lt George Elias	Assistant Adjutant
1st Lt Frank M. Lugo	Statistical Control Officer
2nd Lt Paul D. Skelton	Personal Affairs Officer
M/Sgt Irwin E. Hubler	Sergeant Major
Cpl Harold D. Colliers	Officers Section
Cpl Lucian E. Cross	Morning Report
Cpl Harry E. Ero	Enlisted Section
Cpl Eugene H. Cooper	Enlisted Section
Pfc Francis A. Champagne	Reproduction
Pfc John L. Hofmann	Enlisted Section
Pfc Arthur W. Clark	Statistical Clerk

8. Personnel assigned this section include:- Cont'a:

Pfc Arturo R. Maldonado
Pfc Michael Harabulinc
Pfc V. C. Massey
Pfc Paul A. Nigro
Pfc Samuel G. Chapman

Enlisted Pay
Officers Pay
Clerk-Typist
File Clerk
Clerk-Typist

Roy M Spratt
ROY M. SPRATT
Capt., Air Corps
Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF
APO 328

FML/awc

7 November 1946

SUBJECT: Group Personnel Status

TO : Group History Officer, 3rd Bomb Group, APO 328

1. Personnel changes for the month of October were as follows:

OFFICERS

	Assigned 30 Sept 46	Assigned 31 Oct 46	Assignments	Re-assignments
Rated	113	122	12	3
Non-Rated	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	0	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	120	128	12	<u>4</u>

ENLISTED MEN

	Assigned 30 Sept 46	Assigned 31 Oct 46	Assignments	Re-assignments
Non-Rated	234	369	170	35
Rated	<u>36</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>8</u>
TOTAL	270	411	184	<u>43</u>


2. Promotions for the month of October:

OFFICERS

0

ENLISTED MEN

S/Sgt	3
Sgt	11
Cpl	24
Pfc	7


 FRANK M LUGO
 1st Lt., AC
 Stat. Officer

H E A D Q U A R T E R S
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF

APO 328
1 November 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events, Intelligence Section.

TO : Historical Officer, 3rd Bombardment Group (L), APO 328.


1. In compliance with Regulation Number 45-1, Headquarters V Bomber Command, dated 17 December 1945, the following summary of events of the Intelligence section for the month of October 1946 is submitted.

2. During October, Captain Harry A. Johnson, Asst. S-2 was re-assigned. Remaining officer personnel were Captain Medwyn H. McClelland, Group S-2, and 2nd Lt. Norman I. Cheilek, Asst. S-2 and Group Historical Officer. The section has the services of two enlisted men, Pfc. George Pugh (Clerk), and Pvt. Robert Rose (Clerk-Typist).

3. The rear echelon Intelligence section was moved from Atsugi to Yokota Army Air Base the early part of the month without difficulty.

4. Intelligence aided in organizing the special missions flown during the maneuvers. The Group S-2 attended the daily briefings at the 314th Composite Wing. Detailed final mission reports on each mission were submitted to Wing immediately following completion of missions.

5. Briefing and interrogation of crews flying the surveillance missions, preparation of final mission reports on all special missions, preparation of the Group History, and submission and tracing of Award and Decorations recommendations constituted the other main functions of this office during the month.


MEDWYN H. MCCLELLAND
Captain, Air Corps
Intelligence Officer

HEADQUARTERS
3rd Bombardment Group (L)
APO 328

4 November, 1946,

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events, Operations Section.

TO: Historical Officer, 3rd Bombardment Group (L), APO 328.

1. In compliance with Regulation Number 45-1, Headquarters V Bomber Command, dated 17 December, 1945, the following summary of events of the Operations section for the month of October, 1946 is submitted.

2. Major John J. Ruetters remained in control of Group Operations, assisted by Major Thomas J. Price in charge of Flying, and Captain Robert E. Maggart in charge of Ground Training. Captain Richard E. Grey continued as Group Navigator. Three clerks aided the staff. During the early part of the month, operations was transferred from Atsugi to Yokota Army Air Base.

3. Operational activities during the month centered upon flying support for the ground force maneuvers and the checking-out of newly assigned pilots in the A-26.

a. A total of 20 missions were flown in support of the maneuvers between 13 October and 19 October, consisting of 149 sorties. These varied from low level smoke missions to medium altitude bombings. Two missions laid actual smoke over the invasion beach area, with many other simulated smoke missions being flown. Aircraft of the Group staged medium altitude bombings (simulated) on Atsugi, Kasumigaura, and Shimizu, and low-level bombings of Nagoya, Toyama, Atsugi, Fujisawa and Totsuka. Simulated rocket and strafing attacks were made daily upon the invasion beach. On 19 October, the Third Group led an aerial review of Fifth Air Force units over Tokyo as the climax to the maneuvers. With a daily average of 21 aircraft being available, an average of 20.3 ships were employed daily. 384:40 hours were logged during the maneuvers.

b. 21 Pilots were checked out in the A-26 during the month of October. 12 men are still in the process of transition and will soon be qualified to fly the A-26. Strafing, bombing, low-level navigation, and formation were frequently scheduled for the more experienced pilots. Surveillance flights were flown for the 314th Composite Wing every third day. Ground school training was in progress for all rated personnel. Each navigator accomplished a minimum of 10 hours flying during the month, and a minimum of two hours per week ground school. Navigation training was limited due to lack of equipment.

Ltr. 3rd Bomb Group (L), Summary of Events, Operations, 4 Nov 46.

4. 38 qualified pilots are now flying with this Group. 4 of these men arrived in the organization during October. 9 pilots were transferred during the month. 14 navigators remain in the Group.

5. A total of 1386:50 hours were logged by the Group in October, with 1226:40 hours being in A-26's, and 160:10 in B-25's. This represents a total increase of 249:25 hours over the total time for September, and 236:15 over the A-26 time for the corresponding period.

6. Two major accidents occurred to the Group's aircraft, both in the 8th Bombardment Squadron. On 8 October, an A-26 was landed with gear up; on 9 October the nose gear of an A-26 failed in take-off. No injury to personnel was involved in either accident.

Richard E. Grey
RICHARD E. GREY,
Captain, Air Corps,
Asst. Opns. Officer.

H E A D Q U A R T E R S
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF
APO 328

1 November 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events.

TO : Historical Officer, 3rd Bombardment Group (L), APO 328.

1. In compliance with section 7, paragraph 1, Memorandum 8, Headquarters 314th Composite Wing, APO 994, dated 22 February, 1945, the following Summary of Events for the Office of Supply and Maintenance is submitted:

A. The personnel of the office of S-4 remains the same with Major Richard F. Mai, the officer in charge, Captain William J. Horton as his assistant and Corporal James L. Woodard as file clerk and typist.

B. Additional personnel have been placed on TDY for a period of 30 days with the group for the purpose of supervising maintenance work and familiarizing the Group Technical Inspector with the latest publications and Technical Order changes. These men, named below, are Civilian Technical Representatives of the following civilian concerns, respectively.

1. Mr. Charles (Pratt and Whitney.)
2. Mr. Meddy (Hamilton Standard.)
3. Mr. Murillo (Douglas Aircraft.)

C. Our Aircraft Grounded for Parts has been kept to a minimum, but in one case the aircraft was actually grounded for 21 days lacking a canopy.

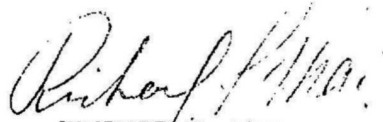
D. Distribution of technical publications and requisitioned supplies has improved slightly within the last 30 days but there still remains considerable room for improvement. Those publications received have improved our technical files and, subsequently, improved our maintenance and Technical Order Compliances insofar as compliance material was available.

E. The Engineering maintenance record has been exceptionally good this month with over 1000 flying hours completed and only 33 aircraft operational at the present time. This means an average of 35 hours per airplane with some averages as high as 50 hours or above. During our maneuver period, there were 20 aircraft fully operational at all times. Moral of all line personnel is high and maintenance production therefore, very good.

F. The 13th and 90th Attack Squadrons arrived from Atsugi on 5 October, and were fully operational on 6 October.

2. It is anticipated that the operation of S-4 will be considerably alleviated with the unit intact, the increase in receipt of current publications and the influence of the increased ground training classes already well under way.

3. Because of a Japanese labor problem, construction work on the hangars and annexes has slowed considerably, with little expectation for improvement within the next 10 - 15 days.



RICHARD F. MAI
Major, A.C.
Materiel Officer

HEADQUARTERS
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF

APO 328

1 November 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Report of Aircraft Strength and Flight Statistics.

TO : Historical Officer, 3rd Bombardment Group (L), APO 328.

1. Submitted herewith is the report of aircraft strength of the 3rd Bombardment Group (L), for the month of October 1946.

a. Strength, Aircraft, 1 October 1946. 59

42 A-26B #44-34279, 291, 335, 347, 351, 284, 268,
382, 393, 226, 238, 254, 288, 260,
387, 272, 405, 478, 230, 268, 271,
286, 298, 331, 339, 364, 377, 413,
218, 231, 245, 274, 297, 287, 481,
281, 288, 295, 305, 306, 379, 380,
12 A-26C #44-35276, 281, 296, 274, 293, 272, 294,
278, 579, 580, 282, 299.
5 B-25J #44-31575, 384, 349, 488, 061.

b. Strength, Aircraft, 31 October 1946. 38

27 A-26B #44-34372, 478, 364, 297, 287, 298, 288,
379, 245, 405, 305, 377, 388, 268,
306, 339, 331, 393, 382, 481, 415,
230, 218, 286, 281, 284, 238.
6 A-26C #44-35280, 294, 579, 278, 299, 295.
5 B-25J #44-31575, 384, 349, 488, 061.

c. Gains during October: None.

d. Losses during October 1946. 21

15 A-26B #44-34380, 291, 335, 387, 295, 260, 368,
226, 231, 254, 271, 274, 279, 351, 347.
5 A-26C #44-35282, 296, 281, 276, 274, 272.

2. Hours and missions flown during the month of October 1946.

a. Total Hours: 1386:50

James H. Adams
JAMES H. ADAMS
1st Lt., Air Corps
Ass't Gp Engr Officer.

H. A. B. PORTER
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (I) AF
APO 328

JLB/lec

2 November 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events, Communications Section.

TO : Historical Officer, 30 Bombardment Group (I) AF

1. In compliance with Regulation 45-1, Headquarters, 7 Bomber Command, APO 704, dated 17 December 1945, the following Summary of Events for the Communications Section for the month of October is submitted.

2. During the month of October Captain John B. Brown was appointed Group Communications Officer. Pfc Lewis has been added to the Group Staff as clerk typist. Pvt Kalopesis was promoted to Pfc. Lt. Rolby was assigned to the 8th Sq as Asst. Communications Officer.

3. The 13th and 90th Squadron Communications completed the move from Atsugi to Yokota the 10th of October without any difficulties.

4. During the move the Eighth Army Field Maneuvers began. Despite the fact that most of the 13th and 90th Squadron equipment was still crated we were able to perform radio maintenance on all aircraft.

5. The current strength is as follows.
1. (one) Captain
 2. (Two) 1st Lt.
 3. (Five) 2nd Lt.
 4. (Two) Sergeants
 5. (Five) Pfc's
 6. (One) Private

John B. Brown
JOHN B. BROWN
Capt., Air Corps
Communications Officer

H E A D Q U A R T E R S
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF

APO 328
1 November 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events, Gunnery Section.

TO : Historical Officer, 3d Bombardment Group (L), APO 328.

1. In compliance with Regulation Number 45-1, Headquarters V Bomber Command, dated 17 December 1945, the following summary of events of the Gunnery section for the month of October 1946 is submitted.

2. During the month the Gunnery section was kept busy constructing the Yokota Army Air Base gunnery training ranges, which it is hoped should be completed and fully operating by 1 December. These ranges will be utilized by the entire base in training flying personnel in gunnery, both fixed and flexible. Four ranges are being built: 1) an Officer's skeet range, 2) a combination skeet and basic deflection range, 3) a high-tower gunnery range, and 4) a trap range.

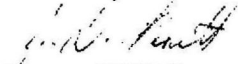
a. The Skeet Ranges boast cement walks, landscaped infields, regulation trap houses, and the best in modern training ideas and equipment.

b. The aerial gunners' combination skeet and basic deflection Range has built-in shooting posts for the hand held basic deflection shotgun, which is mounted in a regular caliber .50 flexible gun mount.

c. At the high tower Range, the clay pigeons will be thrown at the gunners from 40 foot towers at definite angles-off which will simulate an attacking fighter aircraft. The gunners will sit in an A-26 remote controlled turret mock-up, and with a shotgun mounted in the gun cradle instead of a .50 caliber machine gun will fire at the birds as they are thrown towards them.

3. Thirteen armorer-gunners received their gunner's wings this month after completion of their basic gunnery training.

4. Captain J. D. Ferratt, as Gunnery Officer, is at present serving as range officer and is supervising construction. Assisting him are Pvt. Charlie Williams, 3d Bomb Group, S/Sgt. Harvey, 9th Photo Reconnaissance Squadron, and Pvt. Ross, 6th Night Fighter Squadron, who will be instructors on the ranges.


J. D. FERRATT
Captain, Air Corps
Gunnery Officer.

HEADQUARTERS 3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)
OFFICE OF THE GROUP ARMAMENT OFFICER
APO 328

31 October 1946

SUBJECT: monthly Summary of Events Group Armament Section

TO : Historical Officer 3rd Bombardment Group (L)

1. In accordance with Staff Memorandum No. 45-1 dated 17 December 1946 V Bomber Command, a Monthly Summary of Events of Armament Section is hereby submitted.

2. Eleven men were redeployed to the U.S. for discharge and eleven were transferred to the Armament Sections for duty. Of these, eight are three year enlistments which now brings to a total of 14 three year men in the group. Training of these men is being carried on smoothly. Difficulty is still encountered on maintenance due to the lack of Armament personnel in the Service Group. Progress on construction of the Armament shops is practically at a standstill for two sections and progressing fairly well on the third as Japanese laborers are doing the construction. An inspection of the Armaments Sections was conducted by Higher Headquarters this month. Two chemical missions using FS were conducted this month in connections with ground maneuvers of the Eighth Army. Results were favorable. Training of gunners was carried out in the mixing, loading and using of Napalm. War Department Radiogram pertaining to War Department Circular 110 on Officer enlisting in the 1st grade will effect the undersigned officer, clearing the Group of Armament Officers.

3. Key personnel are as follows; Capt. Roy L. Ponthier, Group Armament Officer, Lt. J.A. Lovat, 90th, Lt. O.J. Lambert, 8th, and Lt. A.D. Smith, 13th Armament Officer.

Roy L. Ponthier
Roy L. Ponthier
Capt., Air Corps
Group Armament Officer

HEADQUARTERS
3rd Bomb Group (L)
Office of the Ordnance Officer

AFO 328
Nov. 4, 1946

SUBJECT: Historical Report for the month of Oct., 1946

TO : Historical Officer, 3rd Bomb Group (L)

1. In compliance with staff memorandum No. 45-1 dated 17 December 1945, Headquarters V Bomber Command, the following monthly summary of events of the Group Ordnance Section for the month of October 1946 is submitted.

2. The Group Ordnance Section consists of two Officer's and 34 enlisted men. The key personnel is as follows:

1st Lt. Theodore L. Pfeifer-----	Group Ordnance Officer
2nd Lt. Alvin G. Folger-----	Group Transportation
Sgt. Joseph G. Ducote-----	Foreman Base Maint.
Sgt. Norbert A. Rehagen-----	Chief Clerk

3. 15 drivers (basic soldiers) have been assigned and have completed the course required of drivers.

4. Maintenance of all vehicles has been consolidated with the 7th Service Group and maintenance of same is now the responsibility of the Service Group. Personnel with a mechanic MOS are working in the maintenance shop, one being the foreman of same.

5. All paper work for the excess vehicles has been prepared and will be conveyed to the depot in the near future.

6. It is believed by the undersigned that this group is carrying a much larger share of the responsibility of setting up the Base Ordnance function than it should.

7. The new system of dispatching vehicles is working better than the old system. Difficulties in personnel not turning vehicles in on time has been encountered and this will be corrected by reporting names to the Squadron Commanders.


THEODORE L. PFEIFER,
1st Lt. A. J.
Gp. Ord. Officer

HEADQUARTERS
3D BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF

APO 328
4 November 1946.

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events, Photo Section.

TO : Historical Officer, 3d Bombardment Group (L), APO 328.

1. In compliance with Regulation Number 45-1, Headquarters V Bomber Command, dated 17 December 1945, the following summary of events of the Photo Section for the month of October 1946 is submitted.

2. During October, Private John G. Turrill was assigned to the Group Photo Section and was assigned to duty with the 9th Reconnaissance Squadron VLR Photo for on the job training. Personnel of the section at the end of the month were as follows:

2d Lt. Silas G. Upchurch	Photo Officer
Cpl. Gene W. Fickes	Lab Chief
Pvt. John G. Turrill	Lab Technician (OJT)

3. The section moved from Atsugi Army Air Base during the month and being unable to continue operation of the laboratory, confined its activities to training of its personnel, inventory of equipment and supplies and otherwise preparing to continue regular photographic operations.



SILAS G. UPCHURCH
2nd Lt., Air Corps
Group Photo Officer.

HEADQUARTERS
3d BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF
APO 328

3 November 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events. Medical Section.

TO : Historical Officer, 3d Bombardment Group (1) AAF, APO 328.

1. In compliance with letter, Headquarters, 3d Bombardment Group (L) AAF, APO 328, dated 25 February 1946 Subject: "Monthly Summary of Events", the following information is submitted.

2. This has been a month of flux and change. The Medical Department of the 3d Bombardment Group (L) AAF, APO 328 during the month of October 1946 was staffed with the 90th Bombardment Sq (L) Surgeon and the 13th Bombardment (L) Surgeon.

3. 19 October 1946 completed our move to Yokota Army Air Base, APO 328. There the medical officers of the 13th Bombardment Squadron (L) and 90th Bombardment Squadron (L) as well as the Surgeon of the 8th Bombardment Squadron (L), who had been at Yokota for several months, consolidated with the Base Dispensary forming one large dispensary which is to serve all the personnel at Yokota Army Air Base.

4. The 8th Bombardment Squadron Surgeon (L) was given a permanent change of station and assigned to the 35th Fighter Group 28 October 1946.

5. The 90th Bombardment Squadron (L) Surgeon was transferred to Headquarters Squadron (L) 18 October 1946 and became Group Surgeon.

6. The number of patients treated of the 3d Bombardment Group (L) during the month of October totalled 400 with approximately 291 treatments given. There was a total of 14 3d Bombardment Group (L) personnel admitted to the hospital. One was admitted to the 42nd General Hospital; all others were admitted to the 5th Station Hospital. All but one was due to disease. None were communicable.

7. The examinations of Japanese food-handlers and the sanitary inspections of the Base went forward as usual while the 3d Bombardment Group (L) was located at Atsugi; upon our removal to Yokota Army Air Base those functions were taken over by the consolidated Medical Department of Yokota Army Air Base.

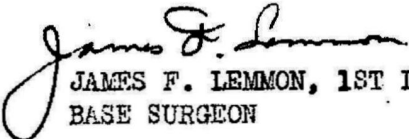
8. Inspections of the areas occupied by the personnel of 3d Bombardment Group (L) at Yokota Army Air Base reveals not merely inadequate, but total absence of heating in the quarters and in most of the offices. The living quarters for both officers and enlisted men, especially the former, are extremely crowded. It is believed that these are important contributing factors in the large number of respiratory diseases which are being called upon to treat at the present time. It is the belief of the Medical Department that Yokota Army Air Base was not ready, did not have adequate facilities, for the number of men it knew it was going to have to house when the 3d

Basic: Ltr. this Hq. Subj: Monthly Summary of Events. Medical Section,
dtd. 3 November 1946.

Bombardment Group (L) moved in.

9. There were three cases of venereal disease: one case each of gonorrhoea and chancroid in the 13th Squadron, and one case of gonorrhoea in the 90th Squadron.

10. Aside from the high incidence of upper respiratory disease, the health in the command is good. There were no deaths due to aircraft accidents.


JAMES F. LEMMON, 1ST LT MC
BASE SURGEON

HEADQUARTERS
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) AAF
APO 328

1 November 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Summary of Events, Special Services and I & E Section.

TO : Historical Officer, 3d Bombardment Group (L), APO 328

1. In compliance with Regulation Number 45-1, Headquarters V Bomber Command, dated 17 December 1945, the following summary of events of the Special Services and I & E Section for month of October 1946 is submitted.

2. The following events and changes have taken place in the Special Services and Information and Education Section during the month of October 1946.

a. The Special Services Section established a Group library, the library consists of approximately 500 books. It has been a welcomed addition to the recreational facilities of the group. Many of the men have found it helpful in passing "Their long dreary evenings" more pleasantly.

b. With the movement of the rear echelon of the Group to Yokota it presented the problem of two more dayrooms to furnish and equip. Work is progressing rapidly to make these dayrooms ready for use, books and magazines have been supplied, some furniture has been obtained. Hand wound phonographs have been supplied to all the dayrooms, At present we are trying to supply table tennis equipment, which now is not available.

c. Information and Education is helping with the ground school and on the job training of rated Pilots as Airplane Mechanics.

d. Several of the men assigned to the Group enrolled in educational courses when the USAFI Mobile Unit visited the base.

e. A number of the men who plan to return to school after being discharged have ask the aid of the Information and Education Section in applying for high school and college credits for their Military Service.

f. Athletic equipment for Physical Training and off duty recreational use has been furnished by Special Services.

g. Pvt. John R. Humble has been assigned to the department to replace Pfc. Aparo who went home last month.

3. Personnel now assigned to the department:

1st. Lt. Alvah C. Yarrington - Special Service and I & E Officer
P.F.C. Joseph F. Snotola - Special Service and Athletic Asst.
Pvt. John R. Humble - Special Service and Athletic Asst.

Alvah C. Yarrington
ALVAH C. YARRINGTON
1st. Lt. Air Corps
Special Services Officer