

549 Sqd. 385th Bomb Group

7-27-15

Dear Charlie:

It was great to have the long discussion with you yesterday. I'm going to make a few facts that I remember.

On our 3rd mission the 385 showed its strength by not losing a single plane on a very hard fought day. Tight formation proved its importance. Sept. 6, 1943. "Dieppe - Stuttgart."

Then on Sept. 15 raid to Black City; Paris. I believe we flew our Highest Altitude mission that day & I never forget how cold it was; 56° Below Zero. Practically everyone's

guns froze up and I being an armor gunner took my 4. gun apart & freed the firing pin and I think my firing at enemy planes had a great deal to do with 385th success that day. never lost a plane. We bombed at 31,000 ft to get rid of practically all the anti aircraft.

Another great performance come Oct. 4 Ditzler (Frankfurt) again no losses thanks to tight formation. Then came Oct. 8 Bremen no losses once again. Next day was another long one to the 109 M.E. plant in Marienburg, P. Russia another over 12 Hr. deal & that was the day Bell just pulled out of formation & landed

bully loaded in German occupied Norway. No one could imagine it happening. Then of course I've told you about the very next day was the heroic raid on Myster. We only lost 2 planes that day & I'm sure we lost less planes than any other group that made that raid. Pettenger + Wilkow Crews, I knew them well.

Then our crew went to Duren on Oct. 18 & again to Duren on ^{Nov. 3} ~~Oct. 20~~ to Wilhelmshaven then Nov. 5, Dilsenkirchen. Then came that raid on German nuclear facility in Rjukan Norway ^{Nov. 16}

Went in rather low and did a great job on destroying it. I called the crew to tell them about all the Blue,

Green, Orange, Red etc. explosions after we left the target. What a sight. Fighters didn't hit us until on our way back Home. No losses again that day. 'One lost

mission; it to Dilsenkirchen. No losses. Wow!! ^{your friend,} Frank Moll

Transcription of Frank Moll letter to Charles Lundsberg 7/27/15

549th Sqd - 385th Bomb Group

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Then on Sept. 15 raid to Flack City, Paris. I believe we flew our Highest Altitude mission that day + I never forgot how cold it was; 56° below zero. Practically everyone's guns froze up and I being an armor gunner took my gun apart and freed the firing pin and I think my firing at enemy planes had a great deal to do with 385th success that day. Never lost a plane. We bombed at 31,000 ft to get rid of practically all the anti aircraft.

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Your friend,
Frank Moll