

(Frontispiece Continued)

D. Organizations (e.g., changes effected by the transfer of units, or by by new T/O's.)
Negative

E. Strength, personnel

Officers, 1st of March 1945. 399
Enlisted men 1st of March 1945 1704

Officers 31 of March 1945 411
Enlisted men, 31 March 1945. 1676.

F. Strength, personnel (on the first and last day of the month being reported).

Number of aircraft on hand at the first of March totaled 41
Number of aircraft on hand at the end of March totaled 45.
The average number of airplanes on hand during the month totaled 44 planes.

G. Losses, airplanes by types (operational and combat)

(Copy Table showing the losses to date by classifications leaving out the Wing Totals)

(Table)

Losses in March

Weather Strike Mission No. 264 - 7 March 1945.

883rd Sqdn. 42-24721 Ditched - lack of gas, 8 crew members rescued, 2 of which died after rescue.

Mission No. 31 - Kobe - 16 March

881st Sqdn. 42-24849 Missing - reasons unknown

Frontispiece: (500th Bombardment Group, 73rd Bombardment Wing, XXI Bomber Command, XX Air Force, APO 237, Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.)
March 1945.

a. Date of arrival at and departure from each station occupied in this theater;

Negative.

b. Losses in Action:

LOST AND MISSING CREW MEMBERS

As of 31 March 1945.

	Hq.	881st	882nd	883rd	Total
Plane Commander	2	7	5	5	19
Co-Pilot		5	3	3	11
Navigator		5	4	3	12
Bombardier		6	4	4	14
Flight Engineer		5	4	3	12
Radio Operator Mechan.		5	4	3	12
Central Fire Control		6	4	3	13
Left Gunner		6	4	5	15
Right Gunner		6	4	3	13
Radar Operator		5	4	4	13
Tail Gunner		5	4	4	13
Totals	2	61	44	40	147

Lost and Missing Crew Members for the month of March 1945.

Weather Strike Mission No. 264 - 8 Mar 45.

883rd 42-24721	PC	1st Lt. T. B. Holmes	Ditched two hours from base due to gasoline shortage. Destroyer picked up eight of twelve crew-members, two of whom died aboardship.
<u>Ditched</u>	N	2nd Lt. A. L. Sparks	
	LG	Sgt. E. B. Granger	
	Rad.	Sgt. N. E. Anderson	
	T.G.	Sgt. R. Fisher	
	OBS	Maj. J.E. Gay (Command & Staff)	

Mission No. 32 Kobe -- 16 March 1945.

881st 42-24849	PC.	Maj. R. J. Fitzgerald.	(Failed to return on night attack on Kobe. No radio or visual contact. No information concerning fate of crew ever obtained)
	P	2nd Lt. R.E. Copeland	
	N	2nd Lt. R. W. Nelson	
	B.	1st Lt. E. A. Brousek	
	FE	2nd Lt. J. C. Bond	
	ROM	S. Sgt. A. S. Augunas	

CFC Sgt. D. W. Holley
 LG Sgt. J. L. Cutler
 RG Sgt. J. T. Barry
 RADAR S. Sgt. R. D. Cookson Sr.
 T. G. Sgt. R. A. Wray

c. Awards to and decorations of members of immediate unit involved:

G.O. No. 2
 Hq. 20 AF
 1 March 1945.

Legion of Merit: To Colonel Richard T. King, Jr., Commanding Officer from 5 May 1944 to time of loss in action on 3rd December 1944.

G.O. No. 33
 21 Bomb Cnd.
 2 March 1945.
 See 6.

Soldiers Medal - Master Sergeant George A. Lucas, 881st Bomb Sq.
 Cpl. Leo F. Kosier, 881st Bomb Sq.,

*See remaining awards
 from Sgt. Lovv.
 (1 = G.O. 12 500th)*