

# TARGET VICTORY

WEEK ENDING  
NOV. 18,  
1944

A REPORT OF, BY AND FOR  
COMBAT FLYING PERSONNEL  
CONFIDENTIAL

## GH LEADS TO COLOGNE

### ESCHWEILER CO-OP "EMINENTLY SUCCESSFUL"



**HOT JETS CHILLED:**

Maj. Arthur F. Jeffrey, 479th Group, shot down the first German jet plane on July 29. Two 2BD Fighter Groups destroyed thirty Me 262s Saturday.

Reconnaissance and reports from the ground forces affirm that Thursday's (Nov. 16) GH-aimed Lib attacks in the Eschweiler area were successful in all instances, with no group patterns outside the target sectors. "Doughboys thank you for a fine job," states a commendation by Maj. Gen. Terry Allen, commanding the 104th Infantry Division. "Certainly appreciated it. Please inform all participants."

Forwarding this message to 2BD, Gen. Doolittle adds: "Such a message typifies the teamwork which is doing so much to knock out our common enemy."

Three principal targets were attacked, with PRU results revealing: (Target No.1), "Two concentrations and three groups

of frag bursts visible in the center of the target, with bursts blanketing areas where military installations are located."

(Target No.2), "Frag bursts are seen blanketing the artillery emplacements."

(Third target, No.7), "Bursts are seen extending across the center of this target area."

Eschweiler is the second of  
(Continued on page 2)



**"DOUGHBOYS THANK YOU," GEN. ALLEN**

Operating thru clouds and smoke, with few spots even as clear as these photos, ground support bombardment by GH instruments was excellently aimed.

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### JETS -- A MYTH AND A HIT

It's just over 100 days ago that the first German jet fighter fell to guns of the U.S. Air Force.

Major Arthur Jeffrey, of 479th Fighter Group, punctured the growing myth of the invulnerability of these Back Rogers flashes. He caught an Me 163 attacking a crippled bomber, outmaneuvered and destroyed it.

Soon other fighters collected victories. In October 1st Lt. Urban L. Drew, of 361st, shot down two in one day. A Lib successfully fought off an Me262 on November 2. This week, the 4th and 355th destroyed thirty of them at their lair, Leipheim, and knocked another out of the air.

Confronting us with a phenomenal new aircraft, which we readily admit tops our operational fighters in speed and climb -- the Jerries still are on the heavy loss side. The quick 'jettie' can be bested, and is 'having it'. Our fighter tactics can clip it. The bombers find that the wild and breathless pass of the jet operates to their advantage as well as to the jet.

Rumor ran high that the jet would save the day for Germany. Now do not let the opposite rumor creep in, that the jet is a failure. It is no flop -- it is the design of fighters for the near tomorrow. Watch for it, as any other first-line fighter, and remember you can handle him as well as the others.

Soon the best jets will appear, but they'll bear your own U.S.A.F. insignia.

### ESCHWEILER CO-OP SUCCESS

(Continued from page 1)

Three stepping stones to Cologne: --Aachen, Eschweiler, and Duren. With Eschweiler falling to the ground push at present, Duren will herald direct battle for Cologne itself. GE, sharpest FFF for close ground support in non-visual weather, will pave the way for this operation.



LEIPHEIM:

Experimental  
air field.



RECON. PHOTO:

After Saturday's  
strafing mission.

## 2 BD FIGHTERS STAR IN STRAFING

Magnifying their versatility by penetrating deeper into Germany than the bombers this week, 2BD's fighter groups captured the major share of credits in strafing missions November 18.

At Leipheim (an old Lib client), the 4th and 355th Fighter Groups raked the experimental airfield in a rehearsed maneuver which first reduced gun emplacements then concentrated on dispersed and camouflaged Me262s. They destroyed at least 30 jets.

The 56th Group, strafing oil storage targets, were set upon by over 90 FW 190s and Me 109s near Frankfurt. Dogfighting at altitudes of 1000 feet to 8000 feet, they cost the Jerries a loss of 13, plus 3 strafed on the ground.

361st and 479th Groups attacked fuel storage, trains, and a marshalling yard.

The 4th and 355th received commendation from Maj. Gen. Kepner, commanding 2BD, "for the splendid results on the strafing mission against Leipheim airfield.

"This long-range job was in the best fighter tradition of seeking out the enemy and destroying him wherever he can be found. The heavy flak defenses at this airfield are indicative of the importance the enemy places on his new jet fighter force.

"My congratulations on this crippling blow to the enemy's last line of defense in the air."



LEIPHEIM A/F:

During ballcoys bombing  
by 2BD Libs on July 19.





#### KOLN AM RHEIN (COLOGNE):

Key industrial center packs potentially decisive morale significance on both the German home and battle fronts.

Major bridge at upper right now has been completely destroyed by 28D Libs PFF attack.

## COLOGNE: MILLION-POPULATION RHINELAND HUB FIRST HUN METROPOLIS ON SCHEDULE

Prize of the present gigantic frontal drive for the Rhineland is Cologne -- center of trade, traffic and political activity in the Rhine province.

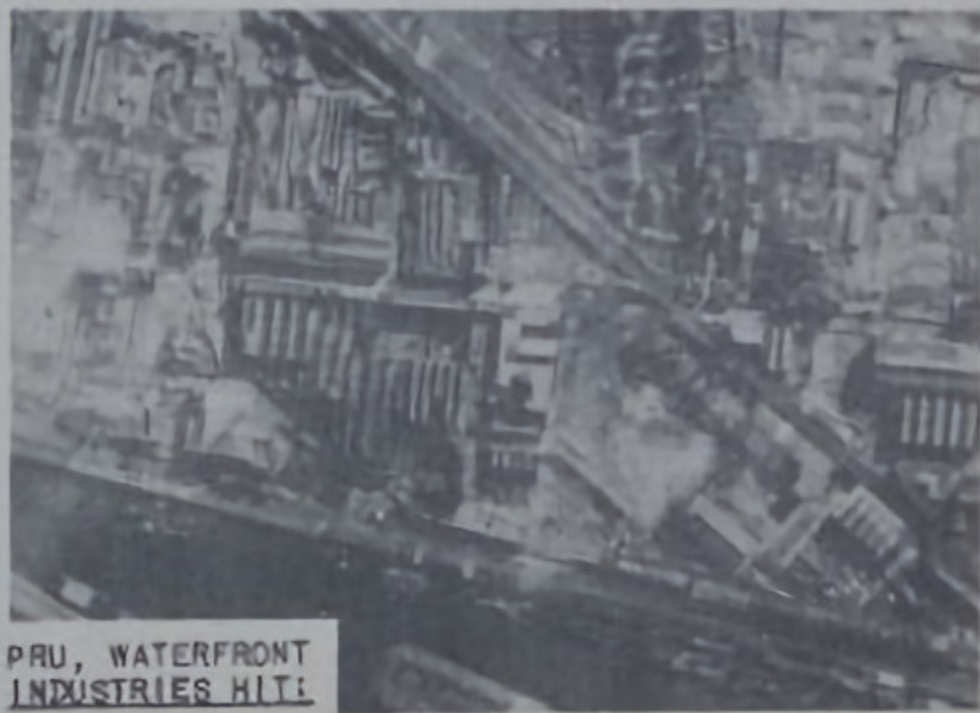
Fueled by the Ruhr coalfields, this German metropolis (population before the war boom 912,000) supports an important fraction of Hun industry. Cologne's 4 marshalling yards have a capacity of 16,000 rail wagons per day -- its plants include

power centers, oil refineries, steel works, aircraft, engines, rubber, river shipyards, railway cars, ammunition, explosives, and -- priceless to the occupation forces -- flour mills and grain storage.

Long a bombing target, the industrial potential of Cologne is dwindling -- but the prestige value of its fall, as a blow to German morale, adds to its strategic value beyond measure.



PFF ATTACK  
ON COLOGNE  
OCTOBER 17:



PRU, WATERFRONT  
INDUSTRIES HIT:



# 50 FIGHTER MISSIONS WITHOUT PILOT LOSS

# DUTCH ADMIRAL REWARDED BY PLOESTI P.O.W.s

Pitching a strict shut-out against the Jerries, the 436th squadron of 479th Fighter Group has rolled up 50 consecutive bomber-escort and strafing missions without the loss of a pilot.

During this period, the squadron, commanded by Major John A. Sullivan, of Kaukauna, Wisconsin, destroyed 39 enemy planes -- 12 in the air and 27 on the ground -- damaged 32 others, smashed up nine locomotives and numerous railroad cars and German army vehicles.



MAJ. JOHN A. SULLIVAN

Jerries struck out. His squadron's score 39 to 0.

Two pilots had been forced to bail out during this time, but they made their way to Allied territory and returned safely to base and duty.

Major Sullivan flew in the Mediterranean area and destroyed 3 enemy planes there before coming to the 479th Group. The squadron flew both P-38s and P-51s during this period of operations.

### ARMORERS' "NON-STOP" RECORD

Aircraft armorers of the 479th Fighter Group are boasting an average of 8,401 .50 caliber bullets fired from the guns of their fighter planes -- without a single stoppage. This is almost double the 8th Air Force average of 4,655 rounds without stoppage on this type aircraft.

This record was established during the period when the Group flew P-38 Lightnings.



### FOUR WALLS A FRIENDSHIP MADE

Their C.O. in a Rumanian prisoner of War camp, Rear Admiral L.A. C.M. Doorman of the Royal Netherlands Navy, was honored at a 2BD base by some 20 officers and men who were captured after crashing in the attack on Ploesti oil August 1, 1943.

Admiral Doorman was released with the American fliers when Rumania capitulated last August. His fine service and improvement of conditions at the camp were gratefully remembered by the fliers.

In behalf of these men, Brig. General Leon W. Johnson, Congressional Medalist for leading the attack on Ploesti, presented to the Admiral a luxurious silver humidor with 200 American cigars.

Attending the ceremony were officers and enlisted men of the 44th, 93rd, and 389th Bombardment Groups, which participated in the famed Ploesti mission.



50 TO ONE--  
AND HE TOOK IT



TARGET:  
VICTORY'S

NOMINATION FOR  
OUTSTANDING

"MAN OF THE DIVISION"

1ST LT. WILLIAM T. KEMP

Fifty German fighters vs. one U.S. fighter, with the lone pilot already wounded by flak and limping

home. Sounds like a fair fight? Well...

Lt. William T. Kemp, of 361st Fighter Group, starred in that spectacle -- at his own initiative when he saw the 50 enemy planes attacking a group of bombers his squadron had been escorting. He started climbing upon sighting the Jerries, and being alone he had to make it good. He did...his attack was so intense that the enemies broke away in alarm. He then escorted the bombers back to England.

For his extraordinary heroism beyond the line of duty, Lt. Kemp was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross by Lt. Gen. Carl Spaatz, commanding United States Strategic and Tactical Air Forces in Europe.