

27 May, 1944.

1. BLACKOUT TIME - Tuesday - 23 May, 1944 - 2208 hours to 0621 Hours.  
 Wednesday - 24 May, 1944 - 2209 hours to 0619 hours.

2. OFFICER OF THE DAY

23 May, 1944	- Capt ROBERT E. MICHELIS	O-855327
24 May, 1944	- 1st Lt JOHN H. KIMMELUGH	O-578133
25 May, 1944	- Capt DONALD H. BOKSTEIN	O-370101
26 May, 1944	- 2nd Lt FLOYD WILLIAMS, JR.	O-204006
27 May, 1944	- 1st Lt EARL W. RUDOLPH	O-1548301
28 May, 1944	- Capt ARNOLD SHERMAN	O-467154
29 May, 1944	- 1st Lt CHARLES B. MURPHY	O-549251

3. OFFICER IN CHARGE OF LIBERTY RUN

23 May, 1944	- 1st Lt DONALD F. SHERIDAN	O-508963
24 May, 1944	- 1st Lt JEROME P. SWARTZ, JR.	O-1551113
25 May, 1944	- 1st Lt DAVID H. SPENCER	O-857806
25 May, 1944	- 2nd Lt MORRIS BUTLER (Red Cross)	O-1544078
26 May, 1944	- 2nd Lt WILLIAM A. LEATHERMAN	O-575316
27 May, 1944	- 2nd Lt WILLIAM E. FOSSE	O-2045151
28 May, 1944	- 2nd Lt WILLIAM COLLENS, JR.	O-1552648
29 May, 1944	- 2nd Lt HENRY L. P. MOORE	O-874893

4. NOTICE - The following Letter, Hq. 1st Bomb Division, dc 20 May, 1944, is quoted for the information of all.

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : All Combat Wing and Group Commanders, 1st Bombardment Division.

1. An official report from Headquarters, Eighth Air Force, indicates that during April, 1944, the 1st Bombardment Division led all the divisions of the Air Force in inflicting damage on the enemy. Combined averages for February, March and April, 1944, show that the bombing results achieved by this Command were also the best in the Eighth Air Force for the entire three-month period. Both in April and for the three-month period the bombing average of each of the four Combat Wings of the Division was higher than the average of the Eighth Air Force as a whole.

2. In addition to dealing these most effective blows to the German war machine, the 1st Bombardment Division excelled in all separate categories covered by the report. The Combat Wing with the best bombing record in the Eighth Air Force during April and during the combined months of February, March and April, 1944, was the 41st Combat Wing, of this Division. During April, the 1st Bombardment Division's record for gross errors was less than 75 percent of the general Air Force average. Superior maintenance work by the Division's ground crews resulted in our having a higher ratio of fully operational aircraft to aircraft on hand than any other Division. The statistics further show that the 1st Division has the greatest number of aircraft bombing targets, and achieved the highest percentage of aircraft bombing in relation to aircraft dispatched. The abortive rate for the 1st Division during this time was only 53 percent of the general abortive rate for the Air Force. Our loss rate was down to 2.8 percent of accredited sorties, which was by a considerable margin the lowest in the Eighth Air Force.

3. It is a matter for keen pride that this Command, whose original combat units blazed the trail for the Eighth Air Force, in Europe, and for many months fought the American air war against Germany alone, should continue to hold first place in the campaign. Due to the quality of your leadership, the skill and courage of our combat crews in battle and the tireless efforts of our supporting personnel on the ground, the 1st Division's curve of efficiency and accomplishment has been rising steadily for months. In the period immediately before us, which will be the most critical time of all, we must make it rise even faster.

Daily Bulletin 141, Sta. 111, Ed 23 May/44, Mar 8 cont'd.

4. It is desired that this commendation be published to all members of your command.

s/ Robert D. Williams  
ROBERT D. WILLIAMS,  
Brigadier General, U.S. Army,  
Commanding.

*Karl H. Dillie*  
KARL H. DILLIE,  
Capt., 1st Corps,  
Adjutant.