

S. W.

HEADQUARTERS 52ND FIGHTER GROUP
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer
APO 525 U. S. ARMY

FWS/ap

11 June 1943.

SUBJECT: Combat Claim.

TO : Commanding Officer, 52nd Fighter Group, APO 525, U.S. Army.

1. Herewith is submitted the claim of 1st Lt. Sylvan Feld, 4th Fighter Squadron, for one ME 109 damaged, and one ME 109 destroyed, at about 1940 hours, 6 June 1943, about ten to fifteen miles east of Pantelleria.

2. It is recommended that these claims be approved.

F. W. SCHAUB,
Major, A.C.,
Group S-2.

3 Inclosures:

- Incl #1-Combat report 1st Lt. Sylvan Feld (in dup.)
- Incl #2-Combat report 2nd Lt. H. L. Cook Jr. (in dup.)
- Incl #3- Form Orange 5 June 1943. (in dup.)

1st Ind.

GFW/ap

HEADQUARTERS, 52ND FIGHTER GROUP, APO 525, U.S. ARMY, 11 June 1943.

TO: Commanding General, N.A.C.A.F., APO 512, U.S. Army. Attention: D.A.C.C.

1. The claim of 1st Lt. Sylvan Feld, 4th Fighter Squadron, for one (1) ME 109 damaged and one (1) ME 109 destroyed, on 6 June 1943, is hereby approved and confirmed.

E. W. WENET,
Lt. Colonel, A.C.,
Commanding.

Incls: n/c

4TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
52ND FIGHTER GROUP
APO 525 U.S. ARMY

6 June, 1943

COMBAT REPORT - Lt. Cook and I were scrambled at 19:20 hours. We were vectored toward Pantellaria Island. While patrolling over the island at 25,000 feet, I saw six a/c take off and head for Cape Bon, climbing. We followed them West at 25,000 feet, a short distance behind and to the right. When they reached 20,000 feet on the Eastern tip of Cape Bon, we identified them as Me 109's, camouflaged grey and black with white spinners and carrying one large bomb each. They were flying in echelon to the right. We made a diving attack at the rear plane from a slight angle without firing, breaking up and to the right as the e/a turned ninety degrees left towards the convoy. We then dove onto the rear e/a and the two rear e/a broke right one hundred eighty degrees toward us and jettisoned their bombs. I exchanged a short burst with them in a head on attack. I pulled up above the two e/a as they broke right toward Pantellaria and saw the other 4 e/a break left toward Pantellaria. All six e/a reformed in a six ship, line abreast, going into a shallow dive for Pantellaria. I dove on the right side and as the elements on the left started to pull up to turn toward me, I pulled up without firing. I then dove on the left elements, closed on one and fired several short bursts from 30 degrees astern from 300 yards allowing 1/2 ring deflection. I saw cannon and m/g hits on the right wing and fuselage. The right hand elements broke up and left toward me. I turned inside of the closest e/a and was about 100 yards astern. I fired at least a 2 second burst of cannon and m/g with sights directly on the prop and about 1/4 ring deflection, closing in to less than 50 yds directly astern. I saw cannon and m/g strikes on his engine and fuselage. Flames flashed out of his engine and heavy black smoke streamed back from the engine and fuselage. We were both on our backs and the nose of the e/a pointed down in a steep dive. I pulled back on the stick diving away toward home about ten to fifteen miles ^{west} of Pantellaria at about 8,000 feet. The action began at the tail end of the convoy and the four e/a that I did not see drop their bombs must have jettisoned them as I saw no evidence of burning or smoking vessels in the convoy on my way home.

I claim one Me 109 damaged and 1 Me 109 Destroyed.


SYLVAN FELD,
1st Lt., A. C.

4TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
52ND FIGHTER GROUP
APO 525 U.S. ARMY

6 June, 1943

COMBAT REPORT - Lt. Feld and I were scrambled as Yellow section at 19:20 hours. We were vectored over Pantellaria. While patrolling in that vicinity at 25,000 feet, we saw 6 ME 109's, heading toward Cape Bon. We stayed at 25,000 feet and followed them toward Cape Bon. When they reached approximately 20,000 feet near Kelibia, about 10 miles off shore, we dove on them and identified them as ME 109's, each carrying a bomb. I followed Lt. Feld through three attacks and in one of them I saw the e/a attacked by Lt. Feld go over on it's back and go into what looked like an uncontrollable dive trailing black smoke. By this time all the e/a were diving toward Pantellaria. I made an attack on one at long range, but was forced to break away by another e/a that was behind me. We then broke off combat west of Pantellaria and returned to our base at 20:35 hours.

I make no claim.

H. L. Cook, Jr.

H. L. COOK, JR.,
2nd Lt., A. C.

Archives of M. W. Williams

52ND FIGHTER GROUP
Office of the Intelligence Officer
APO 525

FWS/lrw/ap

7 June 1943.

TO: Officer Commanding, 323 Wing. Attention A-2.

FROM: 52nd Fighter Group, APO 525, U.S. Army.

Form Orange for 6 June 1943.

1.	4th Sq.	5th Sq.	
	14	--	Sorties patrol convoy Spirit
	--	32	" " " Untrue
	6	--	" " Walrus
	30	14	" scramble.

2. 54 hours 40 min. 60 hrs. 15 min.

3.	Spirit	Untrue	Walrus
a.	0545 hrs	1230 hrs	0640 hrs
b.	1240	2045	1055
c.	Yes	Yes	Yes
d.	NA	NA	NA

4. a. Convoy Spirit - Uneventful. Red Section 4th Sq. up 0930 hrs. Dn. 1110 hrs., while off gulf of Tunis was kept busy investigating 3 P40'S which apparently were making practice approaches on convoy. Markings on P-40's not seen. After convoy passed to W of convoy Untrue, it turned around and joined convoy Untrue. Convoy Spirit then called fighters and asked, "Do you understand I have changed my mind?" This was also heard by controller who called leader after he pancaked for the meaning. The pilot told controller what Spirit had done.

b. Convoy Untrue uneventful.

c. Walrus patrol uneventful.

e. All scrambles uneventful except yellow section, 4th Fighter Sq., 2 Spit IX's, off 1920 hours when over Cap Bon were vectored toward Pantelleria after a reported 6 e/a at 25,000 feet. The Spits passed N of Pantelleria and saw dust streaks like planes taking off. Spits were vectored west and from 25,000 sighted 6 ME 109'S with bombs at 20,000 feet apparently headed for the convoy which was off Cap Mostefa. The ME 109'S jettisoned their bombs one at a time diving down as they did so. Yellow section attacked rear

plane from the side getting cannon strikes along fuselage. The ME 109 spun down to the west ~~shaking~~. By then all 109's were scattered near the deck. The Spits dove on one seeing cannon strikes on the fuselage.

One probable and one damaged claimed by Lt. Feld. By then the other planes were out of reach.

F. W. SCHAUB,
Major, A.C.,
Group 32

Archives of M. Williams