

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS  
5230th COMPOSITE RESCUE GROUP  
APO 719

SUBJECT: Organizational History - 20 October 1944 to 31 December 1944.

TO : Commanding General, Thirteenth Air Force, APO 719.  
(Attn: Historical Section.)

1. Organization of units:

a. Outline of facts.

(1) Original designation of unit:

(a) Emergency Rescue Task Unit (P)

b. Mission:

(1) To administer and plan for the tactical and operational employment of the units attached, and to co-ordinate and provide air-sea rescue facilities for units under operational control of the Thirteenth Air Force.

c. Date and place of activation:

(1) SO #293, Par 5, Hq., 13th Air Force, 19 Oct 44, Mororai.

d. Sources from which personnel are drawn; original cadre and fillers:

(1) Original cadre placed on TD with this unit from Hq., 13th Air Force, 403d Troop Carrier Group, 2d Emergency Rescue Squadron. Fillers were drawn from Hq., 13th Air Force, 2d Emergency Rescue Squadron, and 6th Photo Tech Squadron.

e. Activation, assignment, attachment, transfer, reorganization, redesignation of units, changes caused by T/O etc:

(1) This unit was formed as Emergency Rescue Task Unit (P) on 19 October 1944 and attached to 13th Air Force. Unit was redesignated 5230th Composite Emergency Rescue Group (P), per GO #115, Hq., 13th Air Force, APO 719, dtd 31 October 1944.

f. Strength, Personnel:	Flying		Ground	
	Officers	EM	Officers	EM
At beginning of period - - -	0	0	0	0
Net increase or decrease - -	9	0	5	15
At end of period - - - - -	9	0	5	15
TOTAL (OFFICERS & EM) - - -	9	0	5	15

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g. Strength, airplanes and boats:

(1) None.

h. Names of key personnel, and changes during period:

- (1) Lt Col Wallace S Ford, 021312, AC, Commanding Officer, per SO 293, Par 5, Hq 13th Air Force, 19 Oct 44.
- (2) Maj Joseph H Batjer, 0363612, AC, Exec Officer, placed on TD w/this Hq per SO 341, Par 2, Hq 13th Air Force and aptd Gr Exec O per SO #6, Par 2, this Hq dtd 10 Dec 44.
- (3) Maj Donald D Corlett, 0238482, MC, Gp Flt Surgeon, placed on TD W/this Hq from 2d Emerg Rescue Sq and aptd Gp Flt Surgeon per SO #1, Par 5, this Hq, 1944.
- (4) Maj Dwight F Lewis, 0373823, AC, Gp Exec O, Placed on TD from 2d Emerg Rescue Sq., per SO 1, Par 2 this Hq, 13 Nov 44 and aptd Gp Exec O. Reld as Gp Exec O per SO #6, Par 2 this Hq, 10 Dec 44 and aptd Gp Oper O, per SO #6, Par 3, this Hq, 10 Dec 44.
- (5) Capt Manson M Dillaway, 0908202, AC, asgd to 2d Emerg Rescue Sq., and placed on TD this Hq per SO 316, Par 4, Hq 13th Air Force and aptd Gp Supply O, per SO #3, Par 4, this Hq, 21 Nov 44.
- (6) Capt Clarence L Solander, 0793024, AC, placed on TD from 2d Emerg Rescue Sq., and aptd Gp Oper O per SO #1, Par 3, this Hq, 13 Nov 44. Reld from dy as Gp Oper O per SO #6, Par 3, this Hq, and aptd Asst Gp Oper O per Par 4, same SO, dtd 10 Dec 44.
- (7) Capt Lloyd R. Humphreys, 0521470, AC, placed on TD from 2d Emerg Rescue Sq and aptd Asst Oper O, Boats, per SO #1, Par 4, this Hq.
- (8) Capt Willis L Helmantoler, 0665020, AC, asgd 2d Emerg Rescue Sq., and placed on TD this Hq per SO 325, Par 2, Hq 13th Air Force, 1944 and aptd Asst Oper O. per SO #2, Par 2, this Hq, 20 Nov 44.
- (9) Capt Joel A Harper, 0348840, AC, asgd 2d Emerg Rescue Sq., and placed on TD this Hq per SO 325, Par 3, Hq 13th Air Force and aptd Gp Intell O. per SO #3, Par 3, this Hq, 21 Nov 44.
- (10) 1st Lt Robert C Washburne, 01285152, AC, asgd 15th AAF Emerg Rescue Boat Sq., placed on TD this Hq per SO #317, Par 3, Hq 13th Air Force, 12 Nov 44, aptd Gp Adjutant per SO #1, Par 1, Hq., 5230th Emerg Rescue Group, 13 Nov 44.
- (11) 2d Lt Guy R Motto, 0864173, AC, asgd 2d Emerg Rescue Sq., -and TD w/this Hq, per SO #323, Par 2, Hq 13th Air Force, aptd Gp Comm O. per SO #3, Par 1, this Hq, 21 Nov 44.
- (12) 1st Lt John L Hotz, 0375441, AC, TD as Group Nav Officer fr 2d Emerg Rescue Sq., per SO #1, Par 6, this Hq, 13 Nov 44.

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- (13) 2d Lt Irving Katz, 01016828, AC, TD this Hq fr 6th Photo Tech Sq., per SO #307, Par 1, Hq., 4th Photo Rcn Gp. Aptd dy O. per SO #2, Par 1, Hq 5230th Comp Rescue Gp, 20 Nov 44.
- (14) 2d Lt Ronald E Ustick, 0875109, AC, TD this Hq fr 6th Photo Tech Sq., per SO #307, Par 1, Hq 4th Photo Rcn Gp. Aptd dy O, per SO #2, Par 2, this Hq, 20 Nov 44.
- (15) 2d Lt Robert J Honeyager, 0874739, AC, TD this Hq fr 6th Photo Tech Sq, per SO #307, Par 1, Hq 4th Photo Rcn Gp, aptd Gp dy O. per SO #2, Par 2, this Hq, 20 Nov 44.
- (16) Cpl Roland L Lord, 31100496, Pfc Thos R. Peterson 39407808, Pfc Ernest S. Chandler Jr 35657695, Cpl Ralph B Dorman 38386133, Cpl George W Funderburk Jr 34444107, Pfc Libero Cava 39206355, trfd fr 403d Tr Carr Gp, asgd to 2d Emerg Rescue Sq., placed on TD w/this Hq per SO #300, Hq 13th Air Force, 3 Nov 44; Cpl George C Gravlee 14151691, Pvt Clinton A Mullins 32748973, Cpl Gilbert W Kelley 37220435, trfd fr 25th Stat Cont Unit, 13th Air Force, asgd 2d Emerg Rescue Sq., placed on TD w/this Hq per SO #302, Hq 13th Air Force, 28 Oct 44; Cpl Henry D Epstein 33478487, Cpl Edward R. Morandi 11048056, trfd from Hq Sq 13th Air Force, asgd to 2d Emerg Rescue Sq and placed on TD w/this Hq per SO #330 Hq 13th Air Force, 28 Oct 44; Sgt Meyer B. Levine 13073347, trfd fr 13th Air Force, asgd to 2d Emerg Rescue Sq., placed on TD w/this Hq per SO #317, Hq 13th Air Force, 12 Nov 44; Sgt Edward Nault 16022265, Pvt Paul C Wimer 13002125, Pvt Frank Trivingo 32465648, trfd fr 92 Repl Bn asgd to 2d Emerg Rescue Sq., TD w/this Hq per SO #127, Par 38, Hq 268 Repl Co, 7 Nov 44; T Sgt Cecil L. Gordy 6262639, fr 2d Emerg Rescue Sq., to TD w/this Hq per SO #12, Hq 5230th Comp Rescue Gp, dtd 30 Dec 44.

Changes: Pvt Clinton A Mullins, 32748973, ret to dy, 2d Emerg Rescue Sq., per SO #11, this Hq, 26 Dec 44; 2d Lt Robert J Honeyager, 0874739, AC, ret to his org for dy per Par 2, SO 358, Hq 4th Photo Rcn Gp, 23 Dec 44.

2. Command Relationship, including changes:

a. Next higher headquarters.

(1) Under direct control of 13th Air Force.

b. Subordinate units.

(1) This headquarters maintains administrative and operational control of the 2d Emerg Rescue Squadron and 15th AAF Emerg Rescue Boat Squadron.

c. Other services, such as Navy or Marine Corps.

(1) None.

3. Resume of Movements:

a. None.

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4. Name of campaign (or battle) participated in, with dates:

(1) Campaigns not yet closed.

5. Chief military missions, sorties, engagements, with dates, places, and name of commander participating:

a. See attached resume of rescues effected by pilots of 5230th Emerg Rescue Group.

6. Losses in action (killed, wounded, missing, prisoner) giving names of personnel, with identification of place (or mission) circumstances and date:

a. None.

7. Awards to and decorations of Members of Reporting Unit:

a. None during this period.

NARRATIVE ACCOUNT:

The Group Operations and Intelligence Officers plan operations and brief air crews each evening on the next days missions. Missions included special searches for downed airmen in Southern and Central Philippines, Sulu Archipelago, Borneo, Celebes, Halmaheras, Ambon-Ceram-Boeroe, Northern New Guinea and surrounding water areas, and cover missions for bomber and fighter strikes throughout these areas. In addition to regular rescue and cover missions both boats and aircraft evacuated sick and wounded natives and guerillas, and transported key guerilla personnel and supplies to various points. On some of these missions, crews were able to obtain much intelligence information and many documents.

Pilot officers of this headquarters are Lt Col Wallace S Ford, Capt Lloyd R. Humphreys, Capt Willis L Helmantoler and Capt Clarence L Solander. These officers piloted aircraft on many missions during this period. Other officers on duty with this headquarters that are flying officers are Maj Donald D Corlett, (Flight Surgeon), Capt Joel A Harper (Observer), Intelligence, and Lt Irving Katz, (Observer) Ass't Oper O. and Aerial Photo O. These officers fly on occasional missions for reasons pertaining to their respective assignments.

During the period fr 25 Oct 44 to 31 Dec 44 incl this unit rescued a total of one hundred forty seven (147) persons. This figure does not include evacuees.

*Joel A Harper*  
JOEL A. HARPER,  
Capt., Air Corps,  
Historical Officer.

*Wallace S Ford*  
WALLACE S. FORD,  
Lt. Col., Air Corps,  
Commanding.

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