

S-E-C-R-E-T

up by an ambulance sent by his flight leader, Lt. Dobbins, who stuck with him until the plane crash-landed and then landed at a nearby airfield and sent transportation and medical aid in case it be needed.

AIRCRAFT 707:- This aircraft flew on Lt. Dobbins' left wing and was piloted by 2d Lt Robert C. Vallandingham, O-540141, with 2d Lt. Clifford C. Scarborough, O-699775, co-pilot, 2d Lt Gene D. Wilson, O-2056541, navigator, Sgt Harold P. Kuruzar, 16068359, radio operator, and Sgt Albert H. Olin, 12143868, crew chief. This airplane also made an excellent drop despite the severe damage received, in particular a flak burst which tore a big hole in the tail assembly. The damage to this aircraft was so severe that it will be several days before it can be put back on flying status again.

AIRCRAFT 850:- This airplane went in with the 53d Troop Carrier Wing, and was piloted by 1st Lt. Eugene B. Wilger, O-672537, with 2d Lt Ernest W. Rothfelder, O-803277, co-pilot, 1st Lt Robert C. Perez, O-700658, navigator, S/Sgt Clyde W. Millikan, 31218592, radio operator, and Sgt Morgan B. Walker, 3822883, crew chief. This aircraft went in on the second day, that is, 24 December 1944, and although the enemy ground fire was as intense as on the previous day, it went through and effected an excellent drop without receiving a single hit.

AIRCRAFT 266:- This aircraft also went in on 24 December 1944, with another aircraft from the 3d Troop Carrier Pathfinder Squadron, and was piloted by 1st Lt William G. Elliott, O-737750, with

S-E-C-R-E-T