CONSOLIDATED CASUALTIES from 0600 hours 1 Apr 45-0600 hours 6 May 45

Formation	Killed, Wounded, Missing	
3 Cdn Inf Div	Officers	Other Ranks
7 Cdn Inf Bde	28	434
8 Cdn Inf Bde	. 15	262
9 Cdn Inf Bde	15	221
C.H.of O. (M.G.)	1	13
7 Cdn Recce Regt	4	20
3 Cdn Inf Div Tps	6	100
TOTAL	69	1050
2 Cdn Inf Div		
4 Cdn Inf Bde	16	334
5 Cdn Inf Bde	21	353
6 Cdn Inf Bde	20	211
Tor Scot R. (M.G.)	1	13
8 Cdn Recce Regt	4	39
2 Cdn Inf Div Tps	10	50
TOTAL	72	1000
4 Cdn Armd Div		
4 Cdn Armd Bde	21	310
10 Cdn Inf Bde	35	813
29 Cdn Armd Recce Regt	3	20
4 Cdn Armd Div Tps	<u>15</u>	105
TOTAL	74	1248
2 Cdn Armd Bde	12	84
18 Cdn Armd C. Regt	5	17
2 Cdn Corps Tps	4	27
LATOT	21	128

Formation or Unit	Killed, Wounded, Missing	
	Officers	Other Ranks
1 Pol Armd Div		
10 Pol Armd Bde	25	178
3 Pol Inf Bde	6	274
Pol Armd Recce Regt	3	26
1 Pol Armd Div Tps	_3	65
TOTAL	37	543
Cdn Army Tps	2	29
1 Cdn Inf Div		
1 Cdn Inf Bde	10	145
2 Cdn Inf Bde	13	191
3 Cdn Inf Bde	9	176
Sask L.I. (M.G.)	1	9
4 Cdn Recce Regt	0	0
1 Cdn Inf Div Tps	_2	_27
TOTAL	35	548
5 Cdn Armd Div		
11 Cdn Inf Bde	14	232
5 Cdn Inf Bde	17	89
3 Cdn Armd Recce Regt	3	7
5 Cdn Armd Div Tps	3	68
11 Cdn Armd Regt	0	3
Westmr R. (Mot)	_2	49
LATOT	39	448
1 Cdn Armd Ede and 98 Fd Regt R.A.	2	22
1 Cdn Armd C. Regt	2	13
TOTAL	4	35
l Cdn Corps Tps (incl l Belg Inf Bde 2 Belg Fus Bn)	3	70

	Formation or Unit	Killed, Wounded, Missing	
		Officers	Other Ranks
49	(WR) Inf Div		
	146 Bde	12	128
	147 Bde	7	103
	56 Bde	3	74
	2 Kens (M.G.)	0	8
	49 Recce	3	5
	49 Inf Div Tps	8	46
	TOTAL	33	364
	dan bina and attacked		
	Cdn Divs and attached formations and units	Killed, Wounded, Missing	
		Officers	Other Ranks
	1 Cdn Inf Div	35	548
	2 Cdn Inf Div	72	1000
	3 Cdn Inf Div	69	1050
	4 Cdn Armd Div	74	1248
	5 Cdn Armd Div	39	448
	1 Cdn Armd Bde	1	14
	2 Cdn Armd Bde	12	84
	1 Cdn Armd C. Regt	2	13
	18 Cdn Armd C. Regt	5	17
	1 Cdn Corps Tps	3	70
	2 Cdn Corps Tps	4	27
	First Cdn Army Tps	2	29
	49 (WR) Inf Div	33	364
	l Pol Armd Div	_37	_543
	TOTAL	388	5455

(W.D., A. & Q., H.Q. First Cdn Army, April 1945, Appx 8, Consolidated C. and S. States as of 0600 hours 1 Apr 45 - 0600 hours 30 Apr 45, Sheets 252 - 281 inclusive; also April - May 1945, Appx 6, Consolidated C. and S. States as of 0600 hours 1 May 45 - 0600 hours 6 May 45, Sheets 282 - 287 inclusive).

Canadian Casualties only 314

4461

THE ENEMY AND AIR PICTURE FROM DAY TO DAY

(EXCERPTS FROM H.Q. FIRST CDN ARMY PRESS CONFERENCES)

(AEF: 45/First Cdn Army/C/E: Docket III)

This summary explains the day to day changes in the enemy's situation and gives the logistics of air support provided by 84 Group R.A.F. from 0930 hours 3 Apr 45 to 0930 hours 4 May.

April 1945

030930B hours

ENEMY

No great change. Civ sources infm us enemy tps are thinning out along the line of the MAAS in NORTH HOLLAND. There is NO indication as to how great this mov has been. 361 Div which was identified in the NIJMEGEN island area yesterday has also been identified between WEHL and ZEVENAIR. Enemy counter attacked at areas of IBBENBURG and RHEINE, believed to be by tps noved SOUTH from area of GRONINGEN.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 272 sorties. Attacked the main tele exchange for all HOLLAND SOUTH of UTRECHT. Black make was observed coming from the Luilding after attack. Claims were MT 37 destroyed 69 damaged, locos 5 damaged, rail truck 6 damaged, HDT 1 destroyed 10 damaged, AFV 1 destroyed 1 damaged, tanks 2 damaged. Own cas 1 Spitfire, pilot safe.

040930B hours

ENEMY

Elements of Para Trg Units have been indentified on the RIGHT of First Cdn Army and on the LEFT of Second Brit Army.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 189 sorties. Moteors were in op for the first time. Claims were: MT 45 deatroyed 40 damaged, HDT 9 destroyed 2 damaged. Rd mov was slight but these was hy barge tfc in the GRONINGEN - MEPPEL area and on canals EAST of ZWOLLE. Own losses 2 Spitfires 1 Tempest.

050930B hours

ENEMY

On 2 Cdn Corps front 31 Para numerous Para Regt has been indentified, also numerous Para Trg Units. 346 and 361 Divs have been identified as well in the area between ZUTPHEN and ARNHEM. In the American sector, further enemy attempts have been made to break out of the RUHR pocket without success.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 291 sorties. Claims were: MT 48 destroyed 64 damaged, also several locos, AFVs, HDT and petrol tankers.

060930B hours

ENEMY

The enemy picture on First Cdn Army front is slowly being sorted out. It is believed that DUTCH SS tps occupy front area TIEL to escl ARNHEM. 346 Inf Div is believed to be in control of area from ARNHEM to probably DOESBURG and 361 Inf Div from there to ZUTPHEN. 6 Para Div plus elements of Para Trg units and assorted gps are defending line of TWENTHE canal from ZUTPHEN to the EAST. 7 and 8 Para Divs have been identified on the Second Brit Army front. It now appears that 2 Para Corps has been split in two by the rapid adv of 4 Cdn Armd and Gds Armd Divs.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 157 sorties. Ops were hampered by bad weather. Most of the missions were armd recce over eastern and northern HOLLIND. NO hy mov was seen. Claims: MT 31 destroyed 68 damaged, HDT 3 destroyed 12 damaged, Locos 14 damaged, Rail trucks 12 damaged, Tankers 20 damaged. Cas one Spitfire and pilot NOT yet returned.

070930B hours

ENEMY

There is further evidence that tps holding the line of the MAAS are being sent to the line of the IJSSEL. Yesterday two identifications were made in the ZUTPHEN area of tps who were previously known to be in the area WEST of TIEL. PW from 6 Para Div stated they were to withdraw NE to COEVORDEN. With the thrust of 4 Cdn Armd Div already in that area it is quite possible they may next be located in the area ZWOLLE and WEST of the IJSSEL.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew only 52 sorties owing to bad weather. A waggon and trailer attacked near RIJSSEN blew up with great force after being strafed and were assumed to be carrying amn. Own losses: 1 Tempest, 1 Spitfire and pilots failed to return.

080930B hours

ENEMY

NO particular change. Tac R and air recce has shown NO great mov into or out of HOLLAND. Indications now are that the enemy will continue the fight with what forces he presently has at his disposal. Enemy are now repairing and improving their two def lines at present time, one being the GREBBE and the second one being the "NEW WATERLINE" to the WEST.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 625 sorties. Claims were 42 MT destroyed 58 damaged, also a number of locos, HDT, barges, as well as 12 trucks completely destroyed by bomb hits. 22 rail cuts were made in the AMERSFOORT - ZWOLLE and APELDOORN - ZWOLLE - MEPPEL areas, plus close sp to ground forces. Own cas 4 aircraft and pilots NOT yet returned.

090930B hours

ENEMY

NO change. Further indications are that the enemy withdrawal behind the IJSSEL line is practically completed. The polder area NW of ZWOLLE has been flooded. On the American front 16 SS Pz Div has been identified. It was last reported on the RUSSIAN front and represents the first identificaction of a fmn which moved from the RUSSIAN to the western front.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 489 sorties after a late start due to bad weather. Claims were: MT 47 destroyed 59 damaged, also numerous rail trucks, HDT, locos and barges destroyed or damaged.

100930B hours

ENEMY

NO startling changes. A battle gp has been identified on the LEFT of 6 Para Div and appear to be pulling back across the IJSSEL SOUTH of ZWOLLE. SAS tps report gps of GERMANS have been withdrawing NORTH and NE. There are NO indications of large scale def preparations in GRONINGEN area and it is believed they will make a determined stand at OLDENBURG as it is the main comm centre with the coastal areas.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 431 sorties after another late start owing to weather. Sorties covered a wide area to beyond BREMEN. Claims were; MT 59 destroyed 74 damaged, locos 1 destroyed 17 damaged, rail trucks 7 destroyed 43 damaged. Own cas 5 aircraft and 4 pilots missing.

110930B hours

ENEMY

NO changes

AIR

84 Gp RAF flew 596 sorties over a wide area from AMERSFOORT to EAST and BREMEN, mainly on armd recce. Rd mov was scattered. Claims: MT 57 destroyed 99 damaged; locos 4 destroyed 24 damaged; rail trucks 25 destroyed 43 damaged. In area BREMEN attacked 70 trucks loaded with pet and amn, smoke rose 3000 ft after the explosions. Off the northern tip of HOLLAND, a 400 ton seagoing barge was destroyed. Own losses, 5 aircraft and 4 pilots.

120930B hours

ENEMY

219 Marine GR identified area CANNONSHOT brhead. PW count on 1 Cdn Inf Div front yesterday 120, 2 Cdn Corps 729, 3 Cdn Inf Div 583, total since 1 Apr 6022.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 563 sorties, Six GERMAN airfds were strafed, 16 EA destroyed and 9 damaged on the ground. There was increased MT mov. Claims were: MT 96 destroyed 91 damaged, locos 1 destroyed 21 damaged, rail trucks 12 destroyed 30 damaged. Typhoons attacked a train near VERDEN and smoke rose to a height of 6000 ft after the attack. OWN cas 3 aircraft and pilots NOT yet returned.

130930B hours

ENEMY

361 Div were identified area of CANNONSHOT

brhead.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 620 sorties. Claims incl:74

MT destroyed 110 damaged, locos 6 destroyed 21 damaged, rail
trucks 43 destroyed 120 damaged, EA on ground 1 destroyed 1
damaged 4 probables, EA in the air 3 destroyed 2 damaged.

140930B hours

ENEMY

Two identifications made in 1 Cdn Corps sector: 46 MG Bn, 856 GR Regt.

Owing to bad weather got off to a late start: 309 sortios flown. Claims: 7 rail cuts; 11 MT destroyed, 28 damaged; numerous locos, HDT, eto.

150930B hours

ENEMY

Organized resistance continues on 1 Cdn Corps front. Enemy reported withdrawing to SW from ZWOLLE, that coupled with 1t opposn in ARNHEM area and determined resistance at APELDOORN is indicative of an intention to est another def line to the WEST. The pivot for the withdrawls appears to be APELDOORN. Whether the intention is to withdraw slowly to the GREBBE line or to est a line to the EAST of it, remains to be seen.

AIR

Bad weather delayed flying until late afternoon. 141 sorties flown in close sp of ground tps and against pre-arranged targets. Claims: MT 5 destroyed, 17 damaged; locos 9 damaged; AFVs 2 damaged. 160930B hours

ENEMY

In GRONINGEN, tps were identified as 226
Marine Bn. It is now quite clear that enemy intends to hold
APELDOORN as the pivot for his withdrawal from the NORTH and
SOUTH. The thrust by 5 Cdn Armd Div to OTTERLOO threatens
APELDOORN and will soon make the enemy's plan untenable.

AIR

84 Gp RAF flew 5 sorties, all abortive due to bad weather.

170945B hours

Field Marshal MODEL is reported to have committed suicide. Enemy mov reported towards HARDIJWICK, it is believed evac is being carried out by sea. Considerable shipping activity has been seen in the port.

It is estimated approx 2000 tps are in APEL-DOORN area consisting of 261 Div, 6 Para Div, and assorted battle gps. GAF Flak tps have been identified in the BARNEVELD area. It is quite apparent the enemy intends to hold along the line of the KUSTEN KANAL to protect OLDENBURG and the ports to the NORTH. Tps in this area have been identified as from 7 and 8 Para Divs. It is quite probable that one of the Para Regts has been given the task of defending OLDENBURG.

AIR

NO large scale mov seen, good results obtained due to diligent searching and attacking each target seen. One cone of 20 HDT carrying tps area AMERSFOORT successfully attacked. Total sorties 538. Results:14 rail cuts in the OLDENBURG area; MT 80 destroyed 150 damaged; rail trucks 23 destroyed, 53 damaged; plus numerous HDT, locos, AFVs etc.

180930 hours

ENEMY

Marine bns, str 400 - 500, are fighting well in Pol Armd Div area. It is expected that similar opposn will be met in the OIDENBURG area assisted by paratps.

2 Cdn Corps captured 1400 PW yesterday, and in the past few days 1 Cdn Corps have taken 2500 PW. The enemy forced out of APELDOORN by 1 Cdn Inf Div ran into the gun areas and Div HQ of 5 Cdn Armd Div. In the ensuing action, when the arty engaged the onemy over open sights, some 500 PW were taken and a goodly number killed. Considerable mov of shipping in and out of the port of HARDERWIJK was reported yesterday. It is believed the tps were being evac and others 1dg not being aware that the area was dominated by our tps.

181700B hours

ENEMY

It is estimated that there are 110,000 enemy still in HOLLAND. This is purely guess work and is NOT

an official report. 1 Cdn Corps have taken between 5000 - 6000 PW since start of their op.

AIR

Air recce shows that the port of HARDERWIJK is completely blocked. It is NOT known whether this has been the work of the HUN of of the DUTCH resistance mov.

190930B hours

ENEMY

Most of the oppose to 1 Pol Armd Div and 4
Cdn Armd Div is being put up by German Naval Units under
comd Def Comd EMDEN and comprises three regts; be str being
400 - 500. These being are orgon army lines and are using
army eqpt. They are being backed up by elements of paratps.
2 Cdn Corps has identified 18 separate bes. A pocket, approx str
1500, is holding out in area DELFZILL. Are in tele comm with
comd who refused to surrender; attack to be launched. 1 Cdn
Corps have taken 7000 PW since the start of their op.

Flooding has started; in the NORTH the sector of the GREDBE line; WEST of AMSTERDAM, and in the vicinity of the causeway across the ZUIDER ZEE where the sea wall has been blown and the water is pouring in at a fast rate.

Enemy shipping, between the coast and the FRIESLAND Islands, coming into the EMS Estuary was attacked yesterday; 3 ships were sunk and 11 damaged, were of 400 - 500 tons.

AIR

Flew 455 sorties. Claims: EA on the ground 6 destroyed, 12 damaged; ships 3 destroyed, 11 damaged; MT 32 destroyed, 66 damaged; locos 1 destroyed, 5 damaged; rly trucks 40 destroyed, 44 damaged; Numerous guns, posns, and strong pts were attacked, amongst which were buildings in PAPENBURG.

200930B hours

ENEMY

Lot of shipping seen between coast and FRIES-LAND Islands going both ways. This is thought to be additional sups, arm, fuel, etc being brought into Fortress Holland.

AIR

674 sorties flown. Very good air sp given to attacks by 4 Cdn and 1 Pol Armd Divs. Claims: MT 40 destroyed, 82 damaged; HDT 10 destroyed, 48 damaged; rly trucks 12 destroyed, 28 damaged; TIGERS 3 damaged, tugs 5 damaged, ships 4 destroyed one of which was believed to have been 1500 tons, 4 damaged; EA 5 destroyed one in the air, 4 damaged. It is also thought that HQ Comd Defs EMDEN was destroyed.

210930B hours

AIR

Flew 437 sorties. Claims: MT 27 destroyed 41 damaged; rly trucks 9 destroyed, 16 damaged; locos 1 destroyed; 1 complete train destroyed; 1 2000 ton ship destroyed;

2 mine sweepers damaged; 1 motor launch damaged; destroyed 5 EA on the ground with a probable 18 more.

211700B hours

ENEMY

2 Para Corps has been identified as forming the main oppose between the R EMS and the R WESER.

220930B hours

ENEMY

Resistance on the northern front still remains org and under control. In the SOUTH, the Americans and French advs appear to have disorg the up to now well controlled resistance.

The resistance on 4 Cdn Armd Div brhead remains fanatical, whereas in the PAPENBURG area it appears to have lessened considerably.

AIR

Restricted due to bad weather. 87 sorties flown, mostly over area SOUTH of the ZUIDER ZEE. Claims: MT 5 destroyed, 17 damaged; HDT 2 damaged; locos 2 damaged; rly trucks 12 damaged.

230930B hours

ENEMY

The enemy appears to have recovered from our op which drove him off the line of R IJSSEL and is firmly est along GREBBE line. It is probable that 6 Para Div is holding the NORTH sector, 346 Div the CENTRE, 361 Div the SOUTH and 34 SS probably in res. A considerable increase in enemy patrolling is taking place and he seems very anxious to determine disposns and intentions.

AIR

Bad weather resulted in only 70 sorties being flown. Claims: MT 4 destroyed, 10 damaged; 6 locos damaged; 5 rail trucks damaged; 1 HDT damaged; 1 tug damaged; 1 barge damaged.

240930B hours

ENEMY

No new identifications, their intentions appear to be unchanged. On the 3 Cdn Inf Div front considerable shelling from EMDEN area believed from the enemy Coastal guns defending the port. Some enemy shipping was seen to the NORTH. Total PW taken on this side of the RHINE by First Cdn Army is 28000 and an average of 1 - 1500 PW are being taken daily.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 551 sorties, Claims were: EA on ground 17 destroyed 25 probables, rly trucks 46 destroyed 71 damaged, MT 11 destroyed 42 damaged, also a number of HDT,

locos, AFVs, destroyed or damaged. Also claim 2 - 3000 ton ships damaged plus 1 small ship destroyed and 10 damaged. Own cas 7 aircraft and 6 pilots NOT yet returned.

250930 hours

ENEMY

NO change.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 427 sorties. Claims were:
MT 19 destroyed 41 damaged, petrol tks 12 destroyed, rail
trucks 6 destroyed 43 damaged, also a number of locos, HDT,
tks and ships destroyed or damaged. EA destroyed on the
ground 9 and 39 probables. Close sp and pre-arranged targets
successfully attacked on Army front.

260930B hours

ENEMY

For 24 hr period up to noon yesterday, 2 Cdn Corps had taken 2000 PW. The RUSSIANS stated that BERLIN is completely surrounded. Gen DITTMAR was captured somewhere along the ELBE yesterday and he states that HITLER is still in BERLIN. BERTCHESGADEN was heavily attacked yesterday by the Airforce with excellent results. Enemy resistance consists mainly of remnants of 7 and 8 Para, Naval personnel and WEHKREIS X, all under comd 2 Para Corps.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 427 sorties. Claims were; EA 9 destroyed, 39 damaged; locos 3 destroyed, 9 damaged; petrol tks 12 destroyed; rail trucks 6 destroyed, 41 damaged; HDT 2 destroyed, 3 damaged; tks 2 destroyed, 3 damaged; ships 4 damaged and 3 rail cuts.

270930B hours

ENEMY

In BERLIN fighting continues on TEMPLEHOF Aerodrome, also captured one of the largest wrls broadcasting stas. Many suburbs have been captured but there is NO confirmation of link up between US and RUSSIAN forces. There are indications that the enemy will fall back on a new def line centred on LEER to OLDENBURG. Photo cover of WILHELM-SHAVEN showed 50 submarines, reason for their presence NOT known but believe may for an evac to DENMARK. GOERING has been relieved of all his various comds. In ITALY, VERONA has been captured. Negotiations continue concerning the dropping of food sups to DUTCH civs.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 476 sorties. Claims were: MT 40 destroyed 78 damaged, locos 5 destroyed 20 damaged, rail trucks 13 destroyed 88 damaged, rail cuts 1, EA on ground and in air 1 each, also attacked gun posns, HQs and mortar posns.

280930B hours

ENEMY

Army Gp BLUMENTRITT comd by Gen GLUMENTRITT, have under comd 86 Corps who are responsible for area excl OLDENBURG to astride R WESER, 2 Para Corps excl 8 Para Div has disappeared, believed to be positioned around OLDENBURG, has been replaced by 22 GR. On their RIGHT is 7 Para Div and on the right of them again are the NAVAL tps, who are comd by Col GERICKE, a paratp offr from ITALY. The entire force is under comd 2 Para Corps.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew only 60 sorties owing to inclement weather. Claims were: MT 12 destroyed 7 damaged, HDT 7 destroyed 6 damaged, locos 2 damaged, rail trucks 13 damaged, rail cuts 2 damaged.

290930B hours

ENEMY

Armour was encountered yesterday for the first time area NORTH of OLDENBURG in the form of JAGD PANTERS, a further twenty Mk IVs converted into SP guns are reported to be lying back.

291700B hours

ENEMY

Seventh US Army took 36,000 PW yesterday.

3 Cdn Inf Div had taken 1200 PW up to 0800B hrs this morning.

300930B hours

ENEMY

2 SS Pz Div which was recently identified fighting on the RUSSIAN front, suddenly appeared against the Americans.

AIR

No flying owing to weather.

May 1945

OlloooB hours

ENEMY

Rumours have been circulated that OLDENBURG, instead of being a strong pt as was expected, is a hosp town and for this reason is NOT likely to be def vigorously. This rumour is however offset by PW statements that 22 GR is deployed SOUTH of OLDENBURG for its def, and that 7 Para Div is further WEST and that they will contest the capture of OLDENBURG. However now that LEER has been definitely captured and the report of tps moving NW as described by 3 Brit Inf Div would indicate the enemy realize that their original def line is NO longer tenable and they are withdrawing closer to WILHELMSHAVEN.

AIR

NO flying owing to weather.

020930B hours

ENEMY

7 and 8 Para Divs have NOT been identified during the past 24 hrs. The ferries are known to be busy and "Y" intercepts heard orders being issued to certain flank units to be issued with more pet. It is believed the enemy's best fighting tps will be withdrawn, replaced by poor ones who will def EMDEN and WILHEIMSHAVEN. There has been an increase of locally arranged surrender of tps and towns, possibly due to the news of HITLER's death, to whom a personal oath of allegiance had been sworn.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 12 sorties. Claims were: M'1 1 destroyed, 1 damaged.

030930B hours

ENEMY

On own sector, it is NOT known what the enemy intentions are. The alternatives open to them are: (a) withdraw to WILHELMSHAVEM and EMDEN to make a stand or (b) capitulation. C-in-C SW has surrendered unconditionally to Fd Marshal ALEXANDER. On Second Brit Army front C of S, Army Gp BLUMENTRITT, came over to discuss terms of surrender with 15 (S) Inf Div who redirected him to HQ 8 Brit Corps. Army Gp BLUMENTRITT has comd of sector extending from the BALTIC to excl WESER, 1 Para Army comd area from there to EMDEN, occupied HOLLAND is believed to be a separate comd.

040930B hours

ENEMY

Area still in GERMAN hands is under active consideration. Occupied HOLIAND is the main problem and what will happen there NOT yet known. GERMAN tps in this sector are dreading they will be sent to RUSSIA as slaves which is the reason they have elected to fight to a bitter end.

AIR

84 Gp RAF, flew 198 sorties. Claims were: EA 4 destroyed and MT 32 destroyed 90 damaged.

In all 84 Gp RAF flew 9152 sorties.

Note by Narrator. A warning - it must be remembered that claims by pilots cannot be accepted as fact, but must await confirmation. In some cases claims were not confirmed until several weeks later. The enemy picture, number of sorties and statements with regard to weather may be considered authentic.