

SUB 2 583

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"TRAINING DURING COMBAT

Cutting Script and Narration



Narration by

Lieutenant Wilbur T. Blume
Ninth Combat Camera Unit

Technical Sergeant Frank R. Hickey
340th Bombardment Group (M) AAF.

TRAINING DURING
COMBAT

CUTTING SCRIPT AND SUGGESTED NARRATION

(Suggested opening is title "Training During Combat" superimposed on several shots of B-25 formations, building up to shot of one large formation passing directly overhead, breaking up to echelon peel-offs and landing. Material for this may be found in rolls (Mags.) A-5, A-7, and A-8, Mag 12, Scene 97, and possibly also library shots. This to be followed by Mag. 15, Scene 111, to set the scene at a forward operational base.)

SCENES

NARRATION

"Core and center of Army Air Forces tactical doctrine is the principle that training is a continuous process, even while our airmen are flying and fighting in the forward combat zones. Here in the skies above Alessan airfield, Corsica, crews of the veteran 340th Bombardment Group are returning from another successful mission. And the men who fly these B-25 Mitchell bombers are veterans too, battle-hardened veterans wise in ways of aerial combat. Well prepared at training bases in the United States, they have won a brilliant reputation for precision bombing, and have added more luster to it through a thorough and well-organized training and indoctrination program.

Mag 15 Sc 111

Fade in
Mag 13 Sc 100
101
102
104 & 105

Let's see what happens to a replacement crew when they arrive fresh from the States. Brought up to the scene of action by the Air Transport Command, they size up their new surroundings with interest. They're eager to go, this is what they've been training for, at last they're in combat.

Mag 3 Sc 118

Group Headquarters is their first stop. Outside the Operations building the interrogation is just breaking up, and the hungry crewmen waste no time getting back to their squadron messhalls. (Mess-tents).

Mag 15 Sc 112

Mag 15 Sc 113

Well, well! They're traveling in fast company now if that sign means anything.

Mag 15 Sc 113
114

Oh, oh, that's an eagle on that man's shoulder, and he's probably the ~~first~~ Group C. O. Well, go ahead Bob, you're the first pilot



TRAINING DURING COMBAT

SCENES

Mag 15 Sc 115

Mag 15 Sc 116

Mag 3 Sc 117

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FIELD PRESS CENSOR

Fade out

Fade in
Mag 5 Sc 25

Dissolve from closeup
of diagram to formation
shot, from mags or
library.

Mag a-3
(first three scenes)
(close scene with
formation flying away)

Mag 8 Sc 61

Mag 6 Sc 64

NARRATION

"Right the first time! It's Col. Willis F. Chapman (of Jackson, Michigan), and this is Major Randall Cassada, commander of the squadron to which our crew will be assigned. He's their new boss now, and the questions come thick and fast. They want to know all the answers at once. How soon can we get started? That's the big question - how soon? Take it easy boys, there's another man over here who can tell you more about that. This is Captain Wells, fellows, Director of Training. Pardon me, did you say training? That's right and he's got lots of plans for you. For the gunners workouts on various training devices, aircraft identification, and actual firing. For the bombardier and pilots practice missions, navigation orientation, formation flying. - and lots more. Yes, chums, he has great plans for you.

Formation flying is the keystone of precision pattern bombing. That's one of the first laws laid down to air crews. Keep those planes stacked in there close, and you'll blanket that target. Watch your element leader and your wingman. Don't get lost on the turns, and remember, when you get on that bombing run, hold her in close.

Putting theory into practice these veteran pilots and the new replacements work on formation technique constantly. Bob's flying co-pilot today, picking up some pointers. Not too much different from what they did in the States, but practice is what makes a good bomb group better. These men will be in training until after they've flown their last combat mission.

Meanwhile our new bombardier, Pete, is getting acquainted with his squadron navigation officer. A good idea because Pete is going to have to do most of his own navigation. Right now they're studying maps and photo strips that reveal terrain features. of areas their group will bomb in.

TRAINING DURING COMBAT

SCENES

Fade in
Mag 6 Sc 43

Suggest cut-ins from
Trigger's face to model
plane revolving
(Mag 7 Sc 49)

Mag 3 Sc 119

Mag 7 Sc 51
(long shot trainer
in operation)

NARRATION

You are looking at one of the hottest aerial gunners, undoubtedly, in the Army Air Forces, even though he's never seen an enemy plane. Trigger Thompson savvies all kinds of machine guns, but his operations officer sent him sent for a little workout on the squadron water gun anyway. Here's how it works. You've got water in the tank. It goes through that that tubing and squirts out the jet below the guns. All you do is aim the guns at the little model plane. You press the triggers and give the plane a good soaking - - we hope! Okay, Trigger, let's see you try it. Say, this looks like mere work for the teacher than for the student. You've got to have
But,
pressure in the tank to make the water squirt. All right, Tally-ho! Drown the blighter. Let him have it!

What do you know! We missed it that time. Well, probably just cigar smoke in his eyes. A three cent cigar at that, too. Try it again! (cut from close-up of Trigger still shooting to other training shots) .

Let 's see what's going on next door, while Trigger's getting this thing under control. No, this device is not a new mouse trap. It's a gadget somebody dreamed up to make life more interesting for aerial gunners. Those steel rings represent the standard cones of fire used in position firing. If a guy can just memorize the relative positions of these cones, knocking down a Jerry ain't so tough. And just so they won't get too confused, some of the veteran gunners tell them what it 's all about. Say, I wonder how Trigger is getting along. From the looks of things he can use lots of practice. This thing isn't as easy as it looks. And oh yes, that's going to take more water pressure. Man the pumps! Jackson! - - These rookies!

TRAINING DURING COMBAT

SCENES

Mag 3 Sc 12
Mag 10 Sc 77

Wipe from end
of above scene
to A-1, A-2, &
Mag 4, Sc 22
(aerial shots
practice mission)

Wipe to
Mag 8 Sc 66

Mag 8 Sc 67

Fade in
Mag 2 Sc 8

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NARRATION

Practice bombing missions, better than anything else, demonstrates to the new crews how a group - their particular group - does the job. Co-operation is stressed, not only between pilot and bombardier, but also among every crew in the formation. Here too, the old crews get a chance to iron out past mistakes. Briefed as for a combat mission, the individual crews go over their assignments before they take off. Not demos, but sand-filled practice bombs are used. The small powder charge in this bomb marks the point of impact and gives the bombardiers a check on their accuracy.

Standard combat mission procedure is followed including the use of evasive action up to the initial point, where the bomb run begins. No flak or fighters are expected on this mission, but the tiny island offshore that serves as the target is attacked with all the determination given to an enemy key position. Bombs away, and every eye strains for the tiny explosions that will indicate success of the bombing. Now the formation wheels for the home base, where, in a few hours, bomb fall photographs taken by cameras in the planes will tell the complete story.

Evidently the first bombs Pete has dropped for his squadron were right in. With constant practice that boy is going to make a leader-bombardier in the not-too-distant future. (Fade out).

Knowledge of first aid treatment in the air often spells the difference between life and death. And the Flight Surgeon always has an interested audience at his regular lectures. Today he's explaining the use of the first aid kit carried in the B-25 bomber. Somebody always has to be the victim at these affairs - look whom they've got here. Trigger's learning about all sorts of things. HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES THAT MAY OCCUR ON THIS AFTERNOON'S MISSION IS THAT IS THE TRAINING PROBLEM FOR THIS MORNING.

TRAINING DURING COMBAT

SCENES

NARRATION

Mag 11 Sc 86

(phone rings, voice over phone, "This is ops calling. Briefing for plan "A" at 1330#### hours. Got it?" Man puts down phone, picks up mike.

Cut to
Mag 1 Sc 2

(voice over loudspeaker) "Attention all crews. Attention all crews.

Mag 1 Sc 1

"Men scheduled for Plan 'A' mission report to operations immediately. Briefing at 1330." (Announcement repeated immediately as men leave scene)

Mag 2 Sc 6

Well, our new crew# isn't so new now. Look at those bombs on Trigger's jacket. They've flown a few missions now, and had a chance to see where training pays off.

Mag 10 Sc 82

(sound of engines starting)
Bob is still flying co-pilot, even though he was a first pilot and flight leader ## in the States. His turn at the left seat will come, however, after he gets a few more missions under his belt, and more training.

(Bob's plane taxis out, following by other scenes of B-25's taxiing and taking off. Material for these scenes may be found in Mag 9, Sc 76, Mag 11, Sc 91 and 92, Mag 12, Sc 93, Mag 14, Sc 106, Mag A-5 and A-6, or library.) (Suggest use here of B-25's over target, in flak, bombs away, target strikes, planes hit by flak, planes wheeling off target - library

It's a tense moment at the home base when the homeward-bound formation appears in the distance. Have they all come back? Are they badly shot up? As the echelons streak over the field the men who stayed behind count the returning bombers.

(Formations and echelons passing over; same references as scene opening picture, also Mag 12, Sc 96 - this last scene shows a five-plane box)

There's an echelon with only five planes in it - one missing

Mag 15 Sc 109-10

No it isn't. There it comes, and he's just thrown a red flare. That means wounded aboard.

Mag 14 Sc 107

Mag 12 Sc 95

Mag 12 Sc 94

Mag 1

Combat Casualty
Sequence UNBLATED

At the far end of the runway ambulances wait to pick up the casualty.

TRAINING DURING COMBAT

SCENES

Mag 1
Combat Casualty
Sequence (cont'd)

(Fade out as
ambulance drives
away)

(Fade in
Mag 6 Sc 38

Dark in there,
isn't it?

(Fade in
Mag 14 Sc 108 #
(closeup of Bob
under hood in air)

(out in shots of
single B-25 flying,
making shallow banks,
etc.

(shot of B-25
banking and going
off in distance)

Mag 7 Sc 53

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(Fade out as Bob
& Pete examine target)

NARRATION

The Flight Surgeons waiting there will give the wounded man emergency treatment before moving him to the nearest station hospital. This man has been severely wounded by flak in the shoulder and thigh, and has lost much blood. Good first aid treatment in the air, however, has increased his chances for survival. With the bleeding already checked, the surgeons are free to administer plasma at once. The airmen witnessing this scene know the value of their first aid training.

Here's a familiar scene, but what's that Link trainer doing at a combat base? Well, they have bad weather in combat too. Instrument flying is a technique that has to be practiced frequently to be effective. Wonder who's inside that thing? Well, our old friend Bob. A little rusty from the looks of that chart, eh, Corporal? But a little practice will remedy that. Back to the instruments, Bob. ~~#####~~ (Fade out) Yes, it is dark, but Bob knows where he's going with the aid of those instruments. And just so he won't run into any hot-dog stands, his co-pilot is taking everything in. (interior shot showing both co-pilot, and Bob under hood) You can come out from under that hood now. Not bad, Bob, still right side up, and still over the home field.

Say, it must be show time!

That looks like a bomb trainer. I thought they left all those in the States. There's Pete chasing around on a high chair trying to drop a plumb bob on a penny. He and Bob have about ten missions now, but they're still putting in time on the bomb trainer. This type of training is particularly valuable because it builds up the pilot-bombardier work habit and turns two individuals into a team. The trainer itself makes simulated bombing runs on the small target below and the accuracy of the bombing is represented on the chart that attendant is scoring. Did they hit it, or did they hit it? Can you guess?

TRAINING DURING COMBAT

SCENES

NARRATION

Mag 16 Sc 122

Here is a variation of the water gun device designed especially for the upper turret gunner. Featuring two model planes, this device enables gunners to practice meeting attacks from various directions.

Mag 9 Sc 73

Mag 9 Sc 74

Elsewhere on the base gunners are at work on other trainers. One of these is the waist gun window mockup. It's valuable to the men who man the flexible guns on the B-25's.

Mag 9 Sc 75

These veterans sure have it rough - always pumping water for the rookies. My aching back! Now they've got Trigger instructing. Well, why not? After all the time he spent on it, he ought to know something about it.

Mag 4 Sc 35

Certain targets are so situated that they are difficult to identify on the approach. When circumstances warrant a detailed model of the target is prepared on the sand table, which the lead bombardiers and navigators study carefully before a briefing. Here the Group navigator is pointing out the most recognizable features of the terrain.

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Mag 5 Sc 32

At the regular briefing the rest of the crewmen receive their instructions. The plan of attack is discussed as well as the enemy defenses likely to be encountered. When crews leave this room, briefing and training have so prepared them ~~##~~ that it is no accident when they score a hundred per cent hits in the target area. First Lieutenant Robert C. Pagh (pronounced pag to rhyme with hag) Airplane Commander. That promotion, your own airplane, and a first pilot's job speak for themselves, Bob. Nice going.

FIELD PRESS CENSOR

Mag 11 Sc 97-8-20

And it looks as if that gunnery practice paid off too.

Mag 11 Sc 90

Mag 11 Sc 91

(BY pulling out
on to taxi strip)

Mag 1 Sc 3

~~Methods of escaping the enemy if shot down are the subject of frequent lectures. ##~~
Here the intelligence officer is passing out packets containing escape aids. Replacement crews are indoctrinated in escape and evasion procedures before they fly their first mission.

HEADQUARTERS
NINTH COMBAT CAMERA UNIT
APO N. Y.

TRAINING DURING COMBAT

SCENES

NARRATION

Mag 16 Sc 120

The ditching of aircraft at sea and use of the life raft are periodically reviewed by all air crews. Each man is told exactly what he must do in this emergency. The importance of releasing the life raft immediately is stressed. The instructor also points out the various items of equipment and provisions carried in the raft - and how to use them - - even the oars. Bend that back, Jackson, you're a long way from shore.

Mag 16 Sc 121

Mag 4 Sc 17

But the situation isn't so funny when a crew find themselves in the water. This one seems to be having difficulty turning it right-side up. Of course, in this case the boys are getting a little help from shore. And what a patient, understanding sort of fellow that instructor is. That's right, use that rope on the side! You guys in the back there, get under it and Heave! Hey, take it easy on those pants, that's his last clean pair! Okay, now you've got it; that's more like it.

Mag 3 Sc 10
Mag 3 Sc 11

Hydraulic failure can bring fatal results if the crew is not up on this emergency procedure. The ship being used here as a training mock-up came in on its belly several months ago when its hydraulic system was shot out by flak. By hooking up an external hydraulic system, crews are able to study and operate the emergency wheel lowering systems. Since this plane has been used as a school ship, no plane in this group has belly landed because of hydraulic failure.

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reservoir & power unit
FIELD PRESS CENSOR

Mag 4-4

In combat the ability to fly on one engine is vitally important. Single engine operation is another skill periodically practiced by these bomber pilots.

SUGGESTED ENDING: A montage starting with bomb-fall plots falling into the boxes labelled "Combat Missions" and "Practice Missions" to denote training and combat going on at the same time, (Mag 8, Sc 68) followed by graphs on training and mission efficiency (data supplied in supplement hereto), ~~#####~~ cut-ins of various phases of training, accuracy of bombing as shown in Mag 8, Sc 69-70, with numerous 'bombs away' shots and bomb explosions superimposed on turning pages of bomb-fall plot book. END.