

Below is a scan of a document showing our beginning in December 1945.

~~-R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D-~~

HEADQUARTERS
79th Fighter Squadron
Shaw Field Sumter, S.C.

PERSONAL EQUIPMENT SECTION (2-4)

The Personal Equipment Section in its present form is six months old this month. From a section existing only on paper in December 1945, it became the squadron parachute department in Jan 1946 with Lt. Ray J. Garcia as Department Head and sole member. The department was transformed into the personal equipment section in May 1946 with the addition of Pvt. Quinton D. Marshall, shortly thereafter assuming the responsibilities and title of Personal Equipment and Oxygen Section. June and July of 1946 saw the section increase in strength with the addition of Cpl. Vincent Giacalone and Pvt. John S. Micca, and become completely independent of Tech. Supply. During this period, Lt. George Kernisky was appointed Assistant Personal Equipment Officer, bringing the section up to full strength, and personal equipment seemed destined to a bright future. With the first drastic cut in personnel, we bid a sad farewell to Lt. Kernisky, Cpl. Giacalone, and Pvt. Micca in Sept. 46. Our spirits were boosted somewhat when Lt. Charles C. Herrick joined us to replace Lt. Kernisky.

The 79th Fighter Squadron moved to Shaw Field, S. C. in October 1946, the Personal Equipment Section making the move with Lt. Garcia, Lt. Herrick, and twice promoted Cpl. Marshall. With the further cut in army personnel, Lt. Herrick left us to return to civilian life in early November. During the last week of November the section was again up to strength, having been supplemented with 2nd Lt. William J. Evans a recent military Academy graduate.

~~-R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D-~~