

CURATOR: Jim Graham

71st Fighter Squadron,  
1st Fighter Group,  
APO 520,  
11 June, 1944.

### STATEMENT

On the mission of June 10, 1944 to Floesti as cover for a dive-bombing group, we were attacked at zero altitude by estimatly 20-25 FW 190's immediately after turning North from check point #2.

After several minutes of combat I found two other P-38's alone and tacked on behind. Lt Morrison joined me at almost the same time. I discovered later that the 38's were piloted by Lt Hoenshell, who had been white loader and a 94th man. Lt Hoenshell led us south, away from the fight, climbing to 1500 ft.

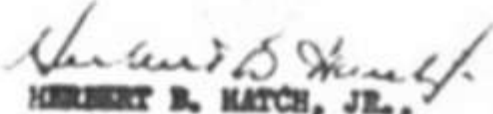
After an unsuccessful attempt to aid Lt Hisey, Lt Hoenshell led us West toward home.

Lt Morrison had a bad right engine and could not gain much speed or altitude. Lt Hoenshell, Lt Allan (94th Pilot) and myself escorted Lt Morrison successfully out of it, and we were about twenty (20) minutes west of the Danube, in the vicinity of Vis. We had climbed to about 12,000 ft.

At this time I observed six (6) ME 109's approaching at nine (9) o'clock, high going towards six (6) o'clock. I called them in and watched them turn toward us from six (6) o'clock high. I called a break to the left, but Lt Hoenshell broke right, so I followed. We turned into them, but could not fire as we were all completely out of ammunition, excepting Lt Morrison. After turning 100° Lt Hoenshell called out and said "Cragsore, hit the deck". All of us split-essed and dove through a light overcast. As I cleared the cloud layer, I looked back and saw a P-38 come out of the clouds in a turn, with three (3) 109's on his tail.

I saw no further action and did not hear from Lt Hoenshell again, nor see him, although I turned back after some minutes hoping to find him.

At that time, I believed the P-38 in trouble to be Lt Morrison, but now know it to have been Lt Hoenshell, as both Lt Morrison and the 94th pilot returned.

  
HERBERT B. HATCH, JR.,  
O-760190,  
2nd Lt., Air Corps.

5634

021

USAC, TO ...

... 10/20

22° 44' >

30'

23° 44'

1st Fighter ...  
1st ...  
A. ...  
12 June 1964

OMUBE RIVER  
DESSA

1st FIGHTER HISTORY

CURATOR: Jim Graham

30'

RRESTI

ALINAC

LT HOENSHELL LAST SIGHTED

PREVALA

James F. Adams  
1st Corp,  
1st ...

5634

# 1st FIGHTER HISTORY

CURATOR: Jim Graham

1st Fighter

Salsola A/D, Italy  
1st Fighter  
Foggia B Airbase, Italy  
Floesti, Roumania

15th AF  
306th Wing, (US)  
66<sup>th</sup>  
Cover Dive-Bombers

Ceiling and visibility unlimited  
6/10/44 1030

43°10'N, 21°30'E

X

X

P-38J-15-10  
V-1710-91 & 89

43-28706  
28704

A-045551

A-045081

UL 1294212  
Cannon 20MM 117132

LL 1294540  
Hispano M-2

UR 1293582

.50 Cal Browning M-2  
LR 1294653

X

1

One (1)

None

Hoenshell, Carl C

1st Lt O-750592

### NEXT OF KIN:

Ruth M. Hoenshell, (Wife)  
206 N. Lyon St.,  
Omao, Michigan.