

## Loss of Hptm. Lemke

★	VIII FC	352 <sup>nd</sup> FG	47 P-47 Thunderbolt	14.05-16.01	F.O. 195	3 - 0 - 0	E/A	nil	n/a	FS: Katwijk-The Hague
□	Claim	04.12.43	Maj. Meyer	352 <sup>nd</sup> FG	487 <sup>th</sup> Sqn.	1 - 0 - 0	Me 109G	-	Doorn-Alphen	
□	Claim	04.12.43	Lt. Meroney	352 <sup>nd</sup> FG	487 <sup>th</sup> Sqn.	1 - 0 - 0	Me 109G	-	Doorn-Alphen	
□	Claim	04.12.43	Lt. Meroney	352 <sup>nd</sup> FG	487 <sup>th</sup> Sqn.	½ - 0 - 0	FW 190	Shared	Doorn-Alphen	
□	Claim	04.12.43	F/O Sweeney	352 <sup>nd</sup> FG	487 <sup>th</sup> Sqn.	½ - 0 - 0	FW 190	Shared	Doorn-Alphen	

Lieutenant-Colonel Clark led 352<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Group with 47 P-47s (nil aborts). Group out English coast at Lowestoft at 14.19 hrs., 12,000 feet. In enemy coast Katwijk-aan-Zee at 14.45 hrs., 12,000 feet. Out enemy coast at The Hague, 15.10 hrs., at 12,000 feet. In English coast 5 miles north of Southwold at 15.40 hrs., at 10,000 feet. Group penetrated to Doorn area and swept south of Sliedrecht. The 328<sup>th</sup> Squadron, Blue Flight, was "bounced" in between Rotterdam and The Hague at 16,000 feet by six to eight Me 109s. Flight hit the "deck" and returned safely. Major Meyer of White Flight, Lt. Meroney and F/O Sweeney of Yellow Flight of the 487<sup>th</sup> Squadron destroyed two Me 109s and one FW 190 in the Doorn-Rotterdam-Alphen area, at 10,000 to 12,000 feet, at 15.00 hours. Enemy appeared to be fairly aggressive. One un-identified aircraft, thought to be a P-47, was seen to spin down in the vicinity of Schouwen Island at 14.50 hours. Another unidentified aircraft was seen to be disintegrate 5 miles east of Utrecht at 15.25 hours. Lieutenant Colby, 486<sup>th</sup> Squadron, heard conversation and counting in German on "C" Channel. It appeared that a "homing" was being requested and the words "Lieber Friedland" and "Bordeaux" were mentioned ostensibly as call-signs. Fighter intercom. with 56<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group was interfered with as the result but was eventually made.

Hptm Wilhelm Lemke RK EL Kdr. II./JG 3 □  
Crashed Dodewaard, 8 km. NW Nijmegen 15.00 hrs.

Reference: VIII<sup>th</sup> Fighter Command Narrative of Operations