

Montgomery, Robert P.

Local Pilot Bags Three Nazi Planes

NOV 3 1944
**Lt. Col. Montgomery
Starred in Great
Aerial Dogfight**

Lt. Colonel Robert P. Montgomery of 1953 Eaton Avenue, Bethlehem, starred in one of the greatest aerial dogfights in history yesterday by shooting down three Nazi planes over Germany, according to a AP dispatch from London.

Last March Col. Montgomery was shot down in occupied France and got back to American Lines after D-Day. The Eighth Army Air Force gave Montgomery an "R and



LT. COL. ROBT. MONTGOMERY

R" (Rest and Recreation at Home) which he spent with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John L. Montgomery, Eaton Avenue.

In a few weeks time he was back in action. The first time out he was shot down under friendly territory and came back for more.

He had to quit flying Lightnings because they cramped his muscles. "A Mustang's cockpit is just the right size for his 250 pounds," according to the AP report.

Lt. Colonel Montgomery has had a colorful career since his entry into the army, November 1939 as an air cadet. He received his first flying experience at the Allentown-Bethlehem airport. He became a captain in May 1942 and received his present commission in February, 1944. He is a graduate of Bethlehem High School and Lafayette College. Soon after being made Lieutenant Colonel he was reported missing. Five months later he was reported safe and then came the visit to the home folks in July.

Topping all his achievements to date was his participation in yesterday's dramatic encounter over Germany.

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