

SECRET
OFFICE OF THE OPERATIONS
OFFICE OF THE OPERATIONS

SECRET

APC 557
10 Sept 1944

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operational Mission.
ALSO, 10 September, 1944, Stuttgart (Sindelfingen).

IC : Commanding Officer, 3rd Bombardment Group(H)AAF, APC 557.

1. Comment on Planning and Execution.

a. The bomb loading for this operation was received from Headquarters 40th Combat Wing by Capt. Hamilton at 0110 hours, 9 September 1944. The order called for thirty-four (34) B-17's and two (2) PFF aircraft to be loaded with 12 x 100 lb. or more each with 1/10 sec. nose and tail fuses.

b. The flight order was received from Headquarters 1st Bomb Division of Capt. Hamilton at 0700 hours, 9 September 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0400 hours and take-off time 0720 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Take-off was accomplished by thirty-four (34) B-17's and one (1) PFF aircraft from the 3rd Group and one (1) PFF aircraft borrowed from the 306th Group. Take-off for these aircraft began at 0715 hours and the assembly was made over the Mendips Range at 0800, 0830 and 1000 feet. These aircraft formed the Lead, Low and High Groups of the 40th "C" Combat Wing. This Combat Wing was the eighth in the 1st Division.

b. The wing departed the buncher on time and flew the ordered route over England, arriving at the coast four (4) minutes late due to changes in the wind. The air division assembly was good, however, as all wings were delayed for the same reason. The planned route was flown to the IP where a decision was made to attack the primary target visually. The target was obscured because of a cloud layer whose edge lay directly over it. The lead group made their run and dropped on a target of opportunity at 41 44'N-00 55'E, a nearby village and then made a 360 degree turn to wait for the low and high groups, which had turned off, circled and made their runs on the primary target on different headings as suggested by the weather scouting force at that time. The lead group's bombs were away at 1130 hours on a heading of 30 degrees, altitude 25000 feet. The low group bombed at 1135 hours on a heading of 15 degrees, 24000 feet, and the high group bombed at 1137, heading 10 degrees and altitude, 24,000 feet.

c. The wing returned along the briefed route searching the base at 1410 hours.

SECRET

3. Aircraft Not Returned.

- a. #42-265 returned early with engine malfunction at altitude.
- b. #42-265 returned early with an engine malfunction broken in the nose of the aircraft.
- c. #42-265 was last seen at the Irish with engine feathered and #3 engine smoking. Aircraft is missing, cause unknown.

4. Aircraft Lost.

a. #42-265 was last seen at the Irish with engine feathered and #3 engine smoking. Aircraft is missing, cause unknown.

SECRET

GROUP 92

STATISTICAL FORM 1 OF 1-44
DIVISION FIELD ORDER NUMBER 492

MISSION DATE 9/10/44

3.		FORMATION		FORMATION		FORMATION		FORMATION	
		LEAD "C"	BORROWED PFF A/C	LOW "C"	BORROWED PFF A/C	HIGH "C"	BORROWED PFF A/C		BORROWED PFF A/C
	Number of Aircraft Failing to Take Off	0	0	0		0			
	Number of Aircraft Airborne	11	1	12		12			
	Number of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares	11	1	12		12			
	Number of Aircraft Sorties	11	1	12		10			
	Number of Aircraft Attacking	11	1	11		10			
	Number of Aircraft Not Attacking	0	0	1		2			
	Name of Primary Target			Stuttgart					
	(A) No. of Aircraft attacking Primary Target	0	0	10		9			
	(B) No. size and type of bombs			119 X 500 1 skymarker		85 X 500 1 skymarker			
	Name of Secondary Target								
	(A) No. of Aircraft attacking Secondary Target								
	(B) No. size and type of bombs								
	Name of Last Resort Target (LRT) Target of Opport.			Magstadt		48 38N 08 15E		48 56 N 08 55 E	
	(A) No. of Aircraft attacking LRT	11	1	1		1			
	(B) No. size and type of bombs	132 X 500 2 skymarkers		12 X 500 GP		6 X 500 GP			
	Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)			Wellderstadt, Germany		48 48N 08 55E			
	(A) No. of Aircraft attacking T.O.	1	0			1			
	(B) No., size and type of bombs	6 X 500 GP				5 X 500 GP			
	Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)					Graebner, Germany			
	(A) No. of Aircraft attacking T.O.					1			
	(B) No., size and type of bombs					12 X 500 GP			