

HEADQUARTERS
NINETY SECOND BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF
Office of the Operations Officer

E-A-4

SECRET

APC #557
10 September 1944

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations of Mission #191 of the 92nd Bombardment Group, 9 September 1944, Mannheim, Germany.

TO : Commanding Officer, 92nd 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. Smyrl at 2227 hours, 8 September 1944. The order called for thirty-nine (39) B-17's to be loaded with M-17 x 500 lb. I, B. Bombs.

b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters, 1st Bomb Division by Capt. Smyrl at 2227 hours, 8 September 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0415 hours and take-off time 0710 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Thirty-nine (39) a/c including two (2) PFF a/c and three (3) spares of the 92nd Bomb Group began take-off at 0805 hours for assembly on the Honeybourne Buncher at 10,000, 11,000, and 12,000 feet. These a/c formed the Lead, Low, and High groups of the 40th "A" Combat Wing. This Combat Wing was the seventh of the 1st Air Division.

b. The Wing departed the Buncher on time and flew the ordered route over England, arriving at the Coast in time for an excellent Air Division assembly. The planned route was flown to the I.P. where a decision was made to attack the target by use of PFF technique as was suggested by the weather scouting force. The target was attacked through 10/10th cloud cover at 1054½ hours from 25,000 feet, the entire wing dropping on the lead PFF aircraft.

c. After the target, the wing returned along the briefed route reaching base at 1420 hours.

3. Aircraft Not Attacking.

a. A/C 44-6120. This a/c returned early because of sick pilot.

4. Aircraft Lost.

a. A/C 42-31783. This a/c was seen to leave the formation at the continental coast on the return flight. It turned back into France with an engine feathered. It was not seen to be hit or on fire. No chutes were seen.

5. See attached forms for statistical summary and formation.

JAMES K. MCLAUGHLIN,
Major, Air Corps,
Operations Officer.

GROUP 92		STATION NO. 1		DIVISION FIELD ORDER NUMBER 1		MISSION DATE 10/11/44	
		FORMATION		FORMATION		FORMATION	
		Lead "A"	FORWARDED PFF A/C	Lead "A"	FORWARDED PFF A/C	Lead "A"	FORWARDED PFF A/C
Number of Aircraft Failing to Take Off		0	0	0	0	0	
Number of Aircraft Airborne		12	1	12		12	
Number of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares		11	1	12		12	
Number of Aircraft Spent		11	1	12		12	
Number of Aircraft Attacking		11	1	12		12	
Number of Aircraft Not Attacking		0	0	1		0	
Name of Primary Target		Ludwigshafen					
(a) No. of Aircraft attacking Primary Target		0	0	0		0	
(b) No. size and type of bombs							
Name of Secondary Target		Bonnheim					
(a) No. of Aircraft attacking Secondary Target		11	1	12		12	
(b) No. size and type of bombs		137 X 500 17 1 skymarker		137 X 500 17 1 skymarker		142 X 500 17 1 skymarker	
Name of Last Resort Target (LRT)		1 a/c of this group dropped bombs 2 min. late		1 a/c of this group dropped bombs 2 min. late			
(a) No. of Aircraft attacking LRT							
(b) No. size and type of bombs							
Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)							
(a) No. of Aircraft attacking T.O.							
(b) No., size and type of bombs							
Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)							
(a) No. of Aircraft attacking T.O.							
(b) No., size and type of bombs							