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

EMC-1

AFG #557
13 August 1944

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations, 178th
Mission, 12 August 1944, Charent A/D, France.

TO : Commanding Officer, 92nd Bombardment Group, AFG #557.

1. Comment on Planning and Execution.

a. The bomb loading for this operation was received from Headquarters 40th Combat Wing by Major McLaughlin at 1013 hours, 11 August 1944. The order called for thirty-six (36) B-17's and three (3) spares to be loaded with max. 100 lb. frag. clusters each with inst. nose fuse.

b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters 1st Bomb Division by Major McLaughlin at 0830 hours, 11 August 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0830 hours and take-off time 0825 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Thirty-six (36) B-17's plus three (3) spares from the 92nd Group took off, beginning at 0825 hours to assemble over the Honeybourne Buncher as Lead, Low and High Groups of the 40th "B" Combat Wing. Due to cloud formations at the briefed assembly altitude, the Groups assembled 3000 feet lower. (Lead 10,000 feet, Low, 8000 feet, High 11000 feet.) The 40th "B" Combat Wing departed the buncher four (4) minutes late but made up the time by cutting the briefed route over England short. The English coast was departed on time and on course.

b. The enemy coast was crossed at 0856 hours, and the planned route followed to the IP. The Low Group then established a longer interval than was necessary and the High Group over-shot. It is believed that this difficulty was caused by having too many short doglegs on the planned route before the IP.

c. The Lead Group dropped its bombs at 1031 hours from 20,700 feet on a magnetic heading of 258 degrees. The High Group dropped its bombs at 1040 hours from 21,400 feet while on a magnetic heading of 280 degrees. The Low Group bombed on a magnetic heading of 242 degrees from 12,700 feet at 1044 hours.

d. After the target, the 11th Group which bombed last, was cut off from the Lead and High Groups by a Wing of B-24's. The briefed route out of enemy territory was followed, but the 40th "B" Combat rally was not completed until Control Point No. 3. The Wing crossed the enemy coast out at 1230 hours. The English coast was entered at 1254 hours, and the lead aircraft reached base at 1336 hours.

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3. Aircraft Not Attacking.
 - a. A/C 43-7697, 42-31687 and 42-27402 returned early as unused spares. All other aircraft of the 49th "B" Combat Wing attacked the primary target except A/C 42-31907. This aircraft could not drop its bombs because of a rack malfunction.
4. Lost Aircraft.

None.
5. Statistical Summary.

See attached.

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS DIVISION FIELD ORDER NO. 469

GROUP 92nd

DATE 12/8/44

LINE NO.		LEAD FORMATION		LOW FORMATION		HIGH FORMATION		FORMATION	
		REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF
1	No. of Aircraft Failing to Take Off	0		0		0			
2	No. of Aircraft Airborne	13		13		13			
3	No. of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares	12		12		12			
4	No. of Aircraft Sorties	12		12		12			
5	No. of Aircraft Attacking	11		12		12			
	Name of Primary Target	Chamant A/D, France							
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking Primary Target	11		12		12			
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb	417 X 100 lb.		444 X 100 lb.		454 X 100 lb.			
		AN-M1A1 plus 1 skymarker		AN-M1A1 plus 1 skymarker		AN-M1A1 plus 1 skymarker			
7	Name of Secondary Target								
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking Secondary Target								
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb								
8	Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)								
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking T.O.								
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb								
9	Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)								
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking (T.O.)								
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb								
10	No. of Aircraft Not Attacking								
11	No. of Aircraft Lost								

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