

Figure 2

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TO :	Jointing officer, Joint Government Group(H) A.F., 190 607.
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3. The 6000 Franklin for this operation was received from Headquarters 4414 JMW at 1415 by Capt. Bagel at 1500 hours, 10 September 1944. The order called for thirty-four (34) a-17's plus two (2) RF a/c and three (3) combs to be loaded with 10 X 500 GF bombs each with 1/10 sec. nose fuse and 1/40 sec. tail fuse.

2. General Directive.

g. Take-off was accomplished at eight-four (84) 8-14's, five two (52) 8-22's and three (3) 8-23's, beginning at 07.00 hours. The assembly for these air lift was made on the Hologramme Buncher at 0000 feet to form the lead, low and high groups of 4th "C" Combat Wing. The lead group departed the assembly buncher at 0801 hours and the low and high groups rendezvoused in position along the first assembly leg. The prescribed route over England was followed to the coast which was departed at Southwold at 0834 hours. After leaving the English Coast the briefed route was flown to the 12.

5. The lead group reached the IR at 11:51 hours and started a visual run on the primary. Bombs were not released on the first run over the target possibly due to cloud cover and it is believed that the leader was starting a second run when the group was attacked by about fifteen (15) enemy fighters. The lead aircraft was hit and jettisoned its bombs about four (4) miles west of the target at 1205 hours, 20000 feet (true) on a magnetic heading of 374 degrees. The remainder of the aircraft in the group dropped on the leader. The lead aircraft went down as a result of the attacking enemy aircraft. Seven (7) other aircraft in the group are missing.

c. The low group reached the air at 11:45 hours and some were released visually on the primary at 11:50 hours from a true altitude of 2700 feet on a magnetic heading of 09 degrees. After contact was made, the low group was attacked by ten (10) enemy aircraft, but all aircraft in this group returned to England.

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to the primary but were unable to bomb because of dense cover. After leaving the primary they proceeded to a target of opportunity at Nozala which was attacked at 1800 hours from 17,500 feet on a magnetic heading of 345 degrees. The Lead and Low Groups followed the briefed route on the return flight. The High Group was forced south of briefed route on the return flight, by other Combat Wings. The Lead reached base at 1808, the Low at 1809 and the High at 1812 hours.

3. Aircraft Not Attacking.

a. #42-37233 had internal failure of #1 engine and returned to base 40 minutes after take-off.

b. #42-102424 lost #4 supercharger and returned to base one hour after take-off.

c. #42-37097 feathered #4 engine at 80 52'-00 23'E and turned back. Bombs were jettisoned in the Channel and a/c landed at base five hours after take-off.

d. #42-97290 feathered #1 engine in the Coblenz area and received battle damage and returned to base, jettisoning bombs in the Channel, landing seven and one half (7½) hours after takeoff.

4. Lost Aircraft.

a. A/C #7767, a PFF a/c borrowed from the 306th Bomb Group, was leading 40th "C" Combat Wing and went down as a result of enemy fighter attack over the primary. Several explosions were seen in the waist, as were fires. Aircraft last seen nosing down evidently in attempt to put out the fire. No chutes seen.

b. #43-33290 was last seen one half mile away from formation with about six feet of left wing and aileron missing, dropping down on a heading of 75 degrees partially under control. No chutes seen.

c. #44-3084 was believed to have been knocked out of formation by fighters. It was last seen flying level on a magnetic heading of 81 degrees. Four or five chutes were seen.

d. #42-31206, 42-37330, 42-102424, 42-37846, 42-31607 and 42-32335 are missing from causes unknown. No further information available.

GROUP 92

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF MISSIONS
DIVISION FIELD ORDER NUMBER 493Page 1
MISSION DATE 11/9/44

E O.		FORMATION		FORMATION		FORMATION		FORMATION	
		LEAD	BORROWED PFF A/C	LOW	BORROWED PFF A/C	HIGH	BORROWED PFF A/C	FORM	PFF A/C
1	Number of Aircraft Failing to Take Off	0	0	0		0			
2	Number of Aircraft Airborne	11	2	13		13			
3	Number of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares	11	2	12		13			
4	Number of Aircraft Sorties	11	2	10		12			
5	Number of Aircraft Attacking	11	2	10		11			
6	Number of Aircraft Not Attacking	0	0	2		2			
7	Name of Primary Target	Merseburg							
8	(A) No. of Aircraft Attacking Primary Target	1		10		2			
9	(B) No. size and type of bombs	10 X 500 GP		100 X 300 GP 1 skymarker		20 X 500 GP			
10	Name of Secondary Target								
11	(A) No. of Aircraft Attacking Secondary Target								
12	(B) No. size and type of bombs								
13	Name of Last Resort Target (LRT)								
14	(A) No. of Aircraft Attacking LRT								
15	(B) No. size and type of bombs								
16	Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)	Labsjum				Roszla			
17	(A) No. of Aircraft Attacking T.O.	10	2			6			
18	(B) No., size and type of bombs	120 X 500 GP 1 skymarker				60 X 500 GP 1 skymarker			
19	Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)					Eisenach			
20	(A) No. of Aircraft Attacking T.O.					3			
21	(B) No., size and type of bombs					30 X 500 GP			