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HEADQUARTERS
92ND BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF
Office of the Operations Officer

1-A-2

APC 3787
17 AUG 1944

SUBJECT: Report of Bombing of German U-Boat Bases
at Lorient, 13 August 1944, by 92nd Bombardment Group.

TO : Commanding Officer, 92nd Bombardment Group (H), AAF, APC 3787.

1. Comment on Planning and Execution.

a. The bomb loading for this operation was received from Headquarters 40th Combat Wing by Major McLaughlin at 2320 hours, 15 August 1944. The order called for thirty-six (36) B-17's plus three (3) spares to be loaded with 35 X 100 lb. GP bombs each with no nose fuse and 1/40 sec. tail fuse.

b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters, 1st Bomb Division by Major McLaughlin at 0112 hours, 16 August 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0400 hours and take-off time 0605 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Thirty-seven (37) aircraft including two (2) PFF a/c and one (1) spare of the 92nd Group began takeoff at 0605 hours for assembly on the Honeybourne Buncher at 15000 feet. These aircraft made up the High, Lead and Low Groups of the 40th "C" Combat Wing. The Wing departed the buncher on time and flew the route as ordered to the primary IP. As the Lead Group approached the primary target, the Lead Bombardier was unable to see the assigned MFI due to heavy smoke and turned to the secondary target which was bombed visually from 25,400 feet at 1114 hours from a heading of 290 degrees. Meantime the Low Group had followed the Lead Group into the primary target and bombed visually from 25,400 at 1103 hours on a heading of 270 degrees. However, due to rack malfunction, only one bomb was released from the lead ship and six (6) other ships of the formation dropped on the primary target. The Low Group then proceeded on behind the Lead Group and bombed the secondary target visually with the remaining ships at 1123 hours from 23,800 feet on a heading of 270 degrees. The High Group bombed the primary target visually at 1111 hours from 28,300 feet on a heading of 301 degrees true.

b. After the target, the Lead Group did a 360 degree turn to rally the other two groups but instead one group of the 41st CBW and one group of the 94th CBW formed on the 92nd Lead Group. The 92nd High and Low Groups then rallied with and just behind the 94th, 41st, 40th "C" Composite Combat Wing. The route back was flown as briefed and base was reached at 1415 hours.

3. Aircraft Not Attacking.

A/C 42-102921 lost #1 engine and returned early. A/C 42-37697 lost #1 engine and returned early. Neither received sortie credit.

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4. Aircraft Lost.
None.
5. Statistical Summary.
See attached.

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS
DIVISION FIELD ORDER NO. 473

DATE 16/8/44

GROUP 92nd

LINE NO.		LEAD FORMATION "C"		LOW FORMATION "C"		HIGH FORMATION "C"		FORMATION	
		REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF
1	No. of Aircraft Piling to Take Off	0	0	0		0			
2	No. of Aircraft Airborne	10	2	13		12			
3	No. of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares	10	2	13		12			
4	No. of Aircraft Sorties	9	2	12		12			
	No. of Aircraft Attacking	9	2	12		12			
6	Name of Primary Target			Bohlen, Germany		Bohlen, Germany			
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking Primary Target			6		12			
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb			229 X 100 GP plus 1 skymarker		445 X 100 GP plus 1 skymarker			
7	Name of Secondary Target	Naumberg, Germany		Naumberg, Germany					
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking Secondary Target	9	2	4					
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb	416 X 100 GP plus 2 skymarkers		161 X 100 GP					
8	Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)			5233N-0742E					
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking T.O.			1					
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb			38 X 100 GP					
9	Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)			5208N-0945E					
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking (T.O.)			1					
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb			38 X 100 GP					
10	No. of Aircraft Not Attacking								
11	No. of Aircraft Lost								