

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

E-3-4

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APC #557  
17 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations, 160th  
Mission, 16 July 1944, Munich, 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. Hamilton at 1945 hours, 15 July 1944. The order called for thirty-four (34) B-17's plus two (2) spares and two PFF aircraft to be loaded with 10 X 500 lb. GP bombs each with 1/10 sec. nose fuse and 1/10 sec. tail fuse.

b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters, 1st Bomb Division by Capt. Hamilton at 2125 hours, 15 July 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0215 hours and takeoff time 0505 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Take-off was accomplished by thirty-four (34) B-17's, two (2) spares, and two (2) PFF aircraft from the 92nd Bombardment Group beginning at 0505 hours for assembly at 16000 feet on the Mt. Farm Buncher as the Lead and Low Groups of the 40th "B" Combat Wing. Assembly was completed at 0636 hours, and wing rendezvous was completed on the first leg of the assembly line. The High Group was furnished by the 304th Bomb Group. The route to the coast was flown as briefed and the wing departed England, north of Clacton, at 0710 hours as the 4th combat wing of the 1st Air Division. The enemy coast was entered at 0741 hours over Westhoeft at 19000 feet. The route to the IP was flown as briefed and the wing arrived at the IP at 0930 hours. During the flight in, the bombing equipment of the lead PFF ship failed and the deputy lead PFF ship took the lead at control point number four. Upon reaching the IP, adverse weather conditions, including high clouds, were encountered and the combat wing climbed to 28,600 feet on course toward the primary target. However, weather conditions grew worse, and the very poor visibility caused the combat wing to straggle. About half way between the IP and the primary target, the leader made a left turn and flew a heading of about 90 degrees for 10 minutes. At this time the wing released bombs on the verbal order of the Wing Commander, as visibility was too poor to enable the wing ships to drop visually on the leader. Bombs were dropped at 1001 hours at a point 48 44' N, 12 53'E from 28,600 feet. After bombs away, the Wing made a left turn and regained Wing formation with forty-two (42) of the

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original fifty-four (54) ships. The route back was the same as the briefed route in, and the enemy coast was crossed at a point 51 43'N, 02 50'E at 1300 hours. The English coast was crossed at a point 52 13'N, 01 37'E, and the first ship reached base at 1401 hours.

- b. Light but accurate flak was encountered along route.
- c. A small number of enemy fighters were encountered in the target area.
- d. Friendly fighter support was good throughout flight.

### 3. Aircraft Not Attacking.

- a. #42-97227 aborted because of a leak in the oxygen system. A spare filled in. #42-31637 returned early as an unused spare.

### 4. Aircraft Lost.

- a. #42-97225 and 42-31978 are missing, cause unknown. Both of these aircraft flew in the Lead Group.
- b. #42-38025 is missing, cause unknown. This aircraft flew in the Low Group.

### 5. Statistical Summary.

See attached diagram.

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS  
DIVISION FIELD ORDER NO. 438

DATE 16/7/44

GROUP		LEAD FORMATION 40th B		Low FORMATION 40th B		FORMATION		FORMATION	
LINE NO.		REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF
1	No. of Aircraft Failing to Take Off	0	0	0	0				
2	No. of Aircraft Airborne	17	2	19	0				
3	No. of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares	16	2	19	0				
4	No. of Aircraft Sorties	16	2	18	0				
5	No. of Aircraft Attacking	16	2	18	0				
6	Name of Primary Target	Munich							
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking Primary Target	0	0	0	0				
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb								
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.)	Munich							
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking T.O.	16	2	18	0				
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb	160 X 500	20 X 500	180 X 500					
			2 skymarkers						
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	0	0	1	0				
11	No. of Aircraft Lost	2	0	1	0				

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