

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

E-A-2

APO #557
20 May 1944.

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations of Mission, 19 May 1944, Berlin, Germany.

TO : Commanding Officer, 92nd Bombardment Group(H) AAF, APO #557.

1. Comment on Planning and Execution.

a. The bomb loading for this operation was received from Headquarters, 40th Combat Wing by Capt. Prasse at 0050 hours, 19 May 1944. The order called for eighteen (18) plus three (3) spare B-17's to be loaded with maximum M-47 IB's.

b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters 1st Bomb Division by Capt. Prasse at 0040 hours, 19 May 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0600 hours and take-off time 0855 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Take-off was accomplished by eighteen (18) B-17's plus three (3) spares from the 92nd Bomb Group. The lead ship took off at 0916 hours climbing on an assigned magnetic heading of 270 degrees, and returned to the 40th Combat Wing Buncher for assembly at 6000 feet. After completion of the Group assembly, the formation departed the buncher at 1009 hours. Due to the bad weather the take-off was delayed and the 92nd Bomb Group did not rendezvous with the 40th Combat Wing over the field.

b. A direct route to the coast was taken to intercept the 40th Combat Wing. At the coast three (3) 360 degree turns were made to depart at the time set by 1st Bomb Division and finally at 54 degrees 27'N- 08 degrees, 00'E, 1248 hours, the 92nd Group rendezvoused with the 40th Combat Wing as High Group.

c. The enemy coast was entered 1302 hours at 23300 feet and the Primary I.P. was reached without incident at 1401 hours. The 92nd Bomb Group leader dropped on the 40th Combat Wing leader in Combat Wing formation 1405½ hours, from 25,800 feet on a magnetic heading of 120 degrees.

d. The enemy coast out was departed 1540 hours at 20000 feet. The English Coast was crossed in 1741 hours at 17000 feet. Base was reached by the lead aircraft 1819 hours.

3. Aircraft Not Attacking.

a. Of the eighteen (18) B-17's and three (3) spares which took off from the 92nd Bomb Group, seventeen (17) attacked the primary target, Berlin.

b. One (1) A/C #42-97227 attacked a target of opportunity eight (8) minutes after the 92nd Bomb Group attacked.

c. The three (3) spares returned to the base early.

4. Lost Aircraft.

None.

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5. Statistical Summary.

a.	Number of A/C taking off.....	21
b.	Unused spares.....	3
c.	A/C taking off less unused spares.....	18
d.	Number of A/C dispatched.....	18
e.	Number of sorties.....	18
f.	Number of A/C attacking.....	18
g.	Number of A/C not attacking.....	0

Number of A/C lost.
None