

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

E-A-2

APC #557
21 April 1944

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations of Mission 20 April 1944, Lingham, Zudausques, France.

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 Lt. Col. Keck at 0950 hours 20 April 1944. The order called for thirty-six (36) B-17's to be loaded with 12 x 500 RDX Bombs each with 1/10 second nose fuse and 1/40 second tail fuse.

b. The field order was received from Headquarters 1st Bomb Division by Lt. Col. Keck at 1240 hours 20 April 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 1300 hours and take-off time 1620 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Take off was accomplished by thirty-six (36) B-17's from the 92nd Bomb Group beginning at 1620 hours. The thirty-six a/c formed three (3) groups designated "A", "B", and "C". Each group consisted of two (2) squadrons of six (6) a/c per squadron.

b. The Lead Group "A" assembled over the 40th Combat Wing Buncher at 10,000 feet. Group "B" assembled over 40th Combat Wing Buncher at 9,000 feet and Group "C" assembled on the 40th Combat Wing Buncher at 8,000 feet.

(1). Group "A" departed the assembly point at 1720 hours. The route over England was followed according to flight plan to the coast where the formation made an "S" along course to depart on time. The English coast was departed at 1759 hours and the I.P. was reached at 1816 hours. The bombs were released over the target by Group "A" from 20,000 feet on a heading of 90 degrees at 1827 hours. The enemy coast was departed at 1839 hours and the English coast entered over Clacton at 1907. Group "A" reached the base at 1943 hours.

(2). Group "B" departed the assembly buncher ten (10) minutes behind "A" group at 1730 hours. The briefed route over England was followed and the coast was departed on time at 1809 hours. Group "B" reached the I.P. at 1825½ hours and the bombs were released over the same target as Group "A" at 1836½ from 20,000 feet on a heading of 87 degrees. Group "B" departed the enemy coast at 1848 hours and entered the English coast at 1906 hours. The return route was as briefed and base was reached at 1948 hours.

(3). Group "C" departed the 40th Combat Wing Buncher at 1731 and flew to the coast as briefed where a 360 degree turn was made to depart on time. The coast was departed at 1810 hours and the I.P. on the enemy coast was reached at 1831 hours. Group "C" attacked the target at 1840 hours from 20,000 feet on a heading of 20 degrees. The enemy coast was departed at 1845 hours and the English Coast entered at 1918. The route back over England was followed according to the flight plan and Group "C" reached the base at 1959 hours.

c. No flak was encountered by the three (3) groups.

d. No enemy fighter opposition encountered.

e. Area support by fighter escort was good.

f. V.H.F. Communication was satisfactory.

g. Attached diagrams "A", "B", & "C" show the formations at assembly and over the target.

3. Aircraft not attacking.

a. Of the thirty-six (36) a/c from the 92nd Bomb Group which took off one (1) a/c #42-102424 failed to bomb because Bombardier mishandled the electrical bombing equipment. All thirty-six (36) a/c were dispatched and received sortie credit.

4. A/C Lost
None

5. Statistical Summary:

	<u>A-GP</u>	<u>B-GP</u>	<u>C-GP</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
a. Number of A/C taking off	12	12	12	36
b. Unused spares	0	0	0	0
c. A/C taking off less unused spares	12	12	12	36
d. Number of A/C dispatched	12	12	12	36
e. Number of A/C attacking	11	12	12	35
f. Number of A/C not attacking	1	0	0	1

Number of A/C Lost
None