

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

E-C-4

APC #557
23 April 1944

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations of Mission
22 April 1944.

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

1. Comment on Planning and Execution.

The bomb loading for this operation was received from Headquarters, 40th Combat Wing by Capt. Prasse at 1030 hours, 22 April 1944. The order called for eighteen (18) B-17's plus three (3) spares to be loaded with 12 x 500 GP bombs each with 1/10 nose fuse and 1/100 tail fuse, and six (6) B-17's plus three (3) spares to be loaded with 12 x 500 lb. M-17 IB clusters.

The field order was received from Headquarters, 1st Bomb Division by Capt. Prasse at 1130 hours, 22 April 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0100 hours and take-off time 1600 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. 92nd Bomb Group (Low Group 40th CBW)

(1). Take-off was accomplished by eighteen B-17's plus three (3) spares, beginning at 1606 hours. These Aircraft assembled over the 40th Combat Wing Buncher at 10,000 feet, as shown in diagram "A". The formation departed the assembly point at 1715 hours as low group of the 40th Combat Wing, and rendezvous was made with the lead group as scheduled along the assembly leg to Buckingham.

(2). The 92nd Group followed the lead 306th group along the proposed route over England to the coast, which was departed over Lowestoft at 1802 hours. The enemy coast was crossed at 1834 hours flying at an altitude of 21,000 feet. The 92nd Group reached the I.P. at 1904 hours and proceeded on a visual bombing run over the target. Weather conditions were excellent, but because of the smoke from previous bombs, an M.P.I. 1,200 yards, southwest of the one briefed was selected by the lead bombardier of the 92nd Group. Bombs were released at 1909 hours from 21,000 feet on a heading of 128 degrees in formation as shown by diagram "B". The 92nd Group Formation rallied with the lead group at 20,000 feet at 1912 hours and proceeded to the enemy coast which was departed at 17,000 feet at 2048 hours. The English coast was entered at 2117 hours, and the formation reached the base at 1247 hours.

b. 92nd Group (High Squadron, High Comp. Group 40th CBW)

(1). Take-off was accomplished by six (6) B-17's plus three (3) spares from the 92nd Group, beginning at 1600 hours. These a/c assembled on the 40th Combat Wing Buncher at 12,000 feet, to form the high Squadron of the 40th Combat Wing Composite Group, with twelve (12) a/c from the 306th Group forming the lead and low squadrons. Squadron formation at assembly and over the target is shown in diagram "C" and "D".

For further information concerning this squadron, reference can be made to the general narrative of the 306th Bomb Group.

- c. Flak encountered at the target was meagre and inaccurate.
- d. Fighter opposition was nil.
- e. Fighter support was good.
- f. VHF Communications were satisfactory.

3. Aircraft Not Attacking.

- a. Twenty-four (24) a/c plus six (6) spares from the 92nd Group took off.
- b. Twenty-four (24) a/c attacked the target.
- c. Six (6) a/c Nos. 42-107168, 42-102424, 42-37733, 42-3513, and 42-31984 returned as unused spares.

4. Lost A/C.

None

5. Statistical Summary (Does not include any PFF A/C)

| | <u>Main Gr.</u> | <u>Comp Gr.</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| A. Number of A/C taking off | 21 | 9 | 30 |
| B. Unused spares | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| C. A/C taking off less unused spares | 18 | 6 | 24 |
| D. Number of A/C dispatched | 18 | 6 | 24 |
| E. Number of Sorties | 18 | 6 | 24 |
| F. Number of A/C attacking | 18 | 6 | 24 |
| G. Number of A/C not attacking | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Number of A/C Lost

None