

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

E-A-2

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APC #557
22 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations of 165th
Mission, 21 July 1944, Ebelsbach, 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. Smyrl at 1030 hours, 20 July 1944. The order called for thirty-eight (38) B-17's plus one (1) PFF aircraft to be loaded with 10 X 500 GP bombs each with 1/10 sec. nose fuse and 1/100 sec. tail fuse.

b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters, 1st Bomb Division by Capt. Smyrl at 2320 hours, 20 July 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0330 hours and take-off time 0620 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Take-off was accomplished by thirty-eight (38) B-17's of the 92nd Group plus one (1) PFF aircraft of the 305th Bomb Group starting at 0620 for assembly on the Mt. Farm Buncher at 10,000 feet. These aircraft formed the High, Lead and Low Groups of the 40th "B" CBW. Each group consisted of twelve (12) aircraft plus one (1) spare. This Combat Wing was the seventh in the 1st Air Division.

b. The Combat Wing departed the Buncher at 0741½ hours and flew the ordered route to the English Coast, crossing it at Felixstowe at 0831½ hours. The Enemy coast was entered at 51 49'N-03 53'E at 0906 hours. The route was followed as briefed, except at a point near Ludwigshaven the formation encountered high clouds through which it was forced to climb straight ahead going slightly off course. The IP was reached at 1054 hours and the Primary target was bombed visually at 1102 hours on a magnetic heading of 4 degrees from 23000 feet by the Lead Group. The Low Group bombed visually at 1104 hours from 21,600 feet on a magnetic heading of 1 degree. The High Group, due to dense smoke on the briefed MFI, selected an adjacent group of buildings and bombed them visually at 1106½ hours from 24,200 feet on a magnetic heading of 9 degrees.

c. The route back was flown as briefed except the same weather conditions were encountered in the Ludwigshaven-Mannheim area and the formation was forced to fly slightly north of course. The enemy coast was departed at 51 48'N-01 27'E at 1250 hours and let-down was begun. The English coast was entered at 1328 hours. The formation arrived at base at 1358 hours and the first ship landed at 1415 hours.

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- d. Flak along the route was light and nil in target area.
 - e. Enemy fighter opposition nil.
 - f. Friendly fighter support was excellent.
- 3. Aircraft Not Attacking.
 - a. All a/c attacked.
- 4. Aircraft Lost.
 - None
- 5. Statistical Summary.
 - See attached diagram.

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

DIVISION FIELD ORDER NO. 443

DATE 21/7/44

GROUP _____		Lead FORMATION		LOW FORMATION HIGH		FORMATION		FORMATION	
LINE NO.		REGULAR 40 B	PFF	REGULAR 40 B	25X	REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF
1	No. of Aircraft Failing to Take Off	0	0	0	0				
2	No. of Aircraft Airborne	12	1	13	13				
3	No. of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares	12	1	12	12				
4	No. of Aircraft Sorties	12	1	12	12				
5	No. of Aircraft Attacking	12	1	12	12				
6	Name of Primary Target	Ebelsbach, Germany							
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking Primary Target	12	1	12	12				
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb	130 X 500		120 X 500	120 X 500				
		1 skymarker		1 skymarker	1 skymarker				
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.)								
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking T.O.								
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb								
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	0	0				
11	No. of Aircraft Lost	0	0	0	0				

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