

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

E-D-4

APC #557
26 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations, 150th
Mission, 25 June 1944, Auxerre, 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. Hamilton at 1135 hours, 25 June 1944. The order called for twenty-four (24) B-17's plus two (2) spares to be loaded with 2 X 2000 lb. GP bombs each with 1/10 sec. nose fuse and 1/100 sec. tail fuse and twelve (12) B-17's plus one (1) spare to be loaded with 6 X 1000 lb 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 Lt. Hamilton at 1408 hours, 25 June 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 1330 hours and take-off time 1550 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Take-off was accomplished by thirty-six (36) B-17's and three (3) spares from the 92nd Group, beginning at 1550 hours. These aircraft assembled on the Mount Farm Buncher as Lead, Low and High Groups of the 40th "B" Combat Wing. The Lead Group assembled at 17,200 feet and departed the Buncher at 1722 hours.

b. The Lead Group departed the English coast as briefed, at 1812 hours, 20,000 feet and entered the enemy coast at 1843½ hours. En route to the IP, the formation encountered heavy clouds at flight altitude, and was forced down to 17,700 feet.

c. At 1939 hours, the Combat Wing Leader declared the IP and started his run on the primary target. The lead bombardier was unable to identify his MPI and a second bomb run was started. In the meantime, the Low Group dropped its bombs on the primary from 16,800 feet at 1946½ hours on a heading of 77 degrees magnetic. The High Group bombed the primary at 1954½ hours from 17,400 feet on a magnetic heading of 78 degrees. The Lead Group, on its second run, found the primary enveloped in smoke, and an accurate release on the assigned MPI was impossible. Under these conditions, the Lead Group chose the hangars at the SW end of the airdrome at Romilly-Sur-Seine as their target of opportunity. The Lead Group bombed on a magnetic heading of 235 degrees at 2030 hours from 17300 feet. At 2040 hours the 40th "B" Combat Wing rallied at 48 53'N, 03 41'E and returned to the enemy coast, crossing at 2120 hours at briefed departure point.

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d. At mid-channel, the Wing made a 360 degree turn and descended through breaks in the clouds, reaching the English Coast at 2148 hours. The formation appeared over base at 2232 hours.

e. Fighter escort was good. Although not in visual contact at all times, Ground Sector Control and escort aircraft were in R/T contact with the 40th "B" Combat Wing.

f. Moderate, accurate flak was encountered at the Target of Opportunity, Romilly-Sur-Seine.

3. Aircraft Not Attacking.

a. #42-39156 was unable to drop bombs either by bombardier or pilot, due to failure of electrical equipment. Bombs were brought back to base.

b. #42-102582 jettisoned bombs in wooded area south of Paris due to mechanical difficulties. This a/c landed away from base with #1 propellor gone.

4. Lost Aircraft.
None.

5. Statistical Summary.
See attached diagram.

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GROUP 92ndSTATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS
DIVISION FIELD ORDER NO. 409DATE 25 June 1944

LINE NO.		LEAD FORMATION 40th B		LOW FORMATION 40th B		HIGH FORMATION 40th B		FORMATION	
		REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF
1	No. of Aircraft Failing to Take Off	0	0	0	0	0	0		
2	No. of Aircraft Airborne	13	0	13	0	13	0		
3	No. of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares	12	0	12	0	12	0		
4	No. of Aircraft Sorties	12	0	12	0	12	0		
5	No. of Aircraft Attacking	12	0	11	0	11	0		
6	Name of Primary Target	Auxerre		Auxerre		Auxerre			
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking Primary Target	0	0	11	0	10	0		
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb	0	0	22 X 2000 GP		60 X 1000 GP			
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.)	Romilly Sur Seine a/c							
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking T.O.	12	0	0	0	1	0		
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb	24 X 2000 GP				6 X 1000 GP			
9	Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)					This a/c bombed with lead group			
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking (T.O.)								
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb								
10	No. of Aircraft Not Attacking	0	0	1	0	1	0		
11	No. of Aircraft Lost	0	0	0	0	0	0		