

HEADQUARTERS
NINETY SECOND BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF E-A-4
Office of the Operations Officer

SECRET

APC #557
26 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations, 167th
Mission, St. Lo, France, 25 July 1944.

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

1. Comment on Planning and Execution.

a. The bomb loading was received from Headquarters 40th Combat Wing for this operation by Major McLaughlin at 2000 hours, 24 July 1944. The order called for fifty-one (51) B-17's to be loaded with Max. 100 lb. GP bombs each with 1/10 sec. nose fuse and no tail fuse.
b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters, 1st Bomb Division by Major McLaughlin at 0015 hours, 25 July 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0500 hours and take-off time 0810 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Take-off was accomplished by fifty-one (51) aircraft from the 92nd Group, beginning at 0810 hours. Forty-eight (48) of these aircraft formed the 40th "A" Force which consisted of four (4) groups of twelve (12) aircraft each. These groups were designated 1, 2, 3 and 4. The remaining three (3) aircraft of the 92nd Group formed the high squadron of a composite group led by the 306th Group in 40th "C" Force.

b. 40th "A" Force formed over Splasher #10 from 14000 feet to 17000 feet. The three (3) aircraft flying with the 40th "C" Force joined the 306th Group over the Podington Buncher for assembly at 10000 feet.

c. Group 1 departed Splasher #10 at 0952 hours, 17000 feet and followed the briefed route to the English coast, which was departed at 1008½ hours. The IP was reached at 1035 hours and a visual run made by the lead bombardier. Bombs were released on target No. 3 because check points on the assigned target (No. 1) were obscured by artillery markers. Group 1 bombs were dropped at 1044 hours from 13300 feet (true) on a magnetic heading of 199 degrees. After bombs away, group 1 returned to base as briefed.

d. Group 2 departed Splasher #10 at 0951 hours, 16000 feet and followed the briefed route, departing the English coast at 1008 hours. At 1037 hours, the IP was reached and bombs were released on the primary target at 1045 hours from 12, 125 feet (true) on a magnetic heading of 210 degrees. After bombs away, Group 2 returned to base as briefed.

e. Group 3 departed Splasher #10 at 0952 hours, 15000 feet, and followed the briefed route, departing the English coast at 1008 hours. At 1035 hours, Group 3 reached the IP and the bombs were released

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DIVISION FIELD ORDER NO. 447

DATE 25 July 1944

GROUP		DIVISION FIELD ORDER NO. 447				DATE 25 July 1944	
LINE NO.		A-1 FORMATION REGULAR	A-2 FORMATION XXX XXX	A-3 FORMATION REGULAR	A-4 FORMATION XXX XXX	40th FORMATION Comp. Gp REGULAR	PFF
1	No. of Aircraft Failing to Take off	0	0	0	0	0	
2	No. of Aircraft Airborne	12	12	12	12	3	
3	No. of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares	12	12	12	12	3	
	No. of Aircraft Sorties	12	12	12	11	3	
5	No. of Aircraft Attacking	12	12	12	0	3	
6	Name of Primary Target	St. Lo area					
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking Primary Target						
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb	455 X 100	455 X 100	455 X 100	0	114 X 100	
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	12	0	
11	No. of Aircraft Lost	0	0	0	0	0	