

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

E-4-2

APC #557
28 March 1944

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations of Mission 27 March 1944, LaRocheville, 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 2215 hours 26 March 1944. The order called for 21 B-17's to be loaded with maximum 500 pound GP Bombs each with 1/10 second nose fuse and 1/100 second tail fuse.

b. The Filed Order was received from Headquarters 1st Bomb Division by Lt. Hamilton at 2352 hours 26 March 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0600 hours and take-off time 0900 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. 92nd Bomb Group (Low Group 40th Combat Wing)

(1). Take-off was accomplished by twenty-one (21) B-17's from the 92nd Bomb Group beginning at 1130 hours. The assembly for this group was over Poddington on the 40th Combat Wing Buncher at 10,000 feet. (See Diagram "A"). The 92nd Bomb Group departed Poddington on time for immediate rendezvous as high group with the 40th Combat Wing.

(2). The 92nd Bomb Group followed the route over England in Combat Wing formation according to the flight plan. The English coast was departed at 1316 1/2 hours, 18,000 feet and the enemy coast entered at 1340 hours, 21,000 feet.

(3). The Primary Target I.P. was reached at 1504 1/2 hours. The 92nd Bomb Group visually bombed the primary target 1512 hours from 21,750 feet on a Magnetic heading of 15 degrees. See Diagram for group formation. The 92nd Bomb Group then rallied with the 40th Combat Wing and began a descent on the planned return route.

(4). The enemy coast was crossed at 1619 1/2 hours at 19,000 feet and at 1650 hours the Group crossed the English coast. The lead aircraft reached the base at 1730 hours.

3. Aircraft not attacking.

a. Of the twenty-one (21) aircraft that took-off twenty (20) attacked the Primary target.

b. A/C 42-3513 flew the entire mission with the 92nd Bomb Group but failed to attack the target because of bomb rack failures. The bombs were jettisoned in the Channel on the route home.

4. Aircraft Lost.

None.

5. Statistical Summary.
- a. Number of A/C taking off21
 - b. Unused Spares..... 0
 - c. A/C taking off less unused spares.....21
 - d. Number of A/C dispatched.....21
 - e. Number of Sorties.....21
 - f. Number of A/C attacking.....20
 - g. Number of A/C not attacking..... 1

Number of A/C Lost
None.