

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

SECRET

APC #557
28 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations, 168th
Mission, 28 July 1944, Merseburg, Germany.

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

1. Comment on Planning and Execution.

a. The bomb loading for this operation was received from Headquarters 40th Combat Wing by Capt. Prasse at 1930 hours, 27 July 1944. The order called for thirty-five (35) B-17's plus three (3) spares and one (1) PFF aircraft to be loaded with 10 X 500 lb. GP bombs each with 1/10 sec. nose fuse and 1/40 sec. tail fuse.

b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters 1st Bomb Division by Capt. Prasse at 2155 hours, 27 July, 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0245 hours and take-off time 0540 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Take-off was accomplished by thirty-five (35) B-17's plus three (3) spares and one (1) PFF aircraft from the 92nd Group, beginning at 0540 hours. These aircraft assembled on the Mt. Fern Buncher as the 40th "C CHARLIE" Combat Wing at 12000 feet. Each of the three (3) groups consisted of twelve (12) aircraft.

b. The Combat Wing departed the Buncher at 0657 hours and flew the briefed route to the English coast which was departed at 0739 hours, and the enemy coast was entered at 51 49'N, 03 53'E, 0807 hours. The ordered route was flown to 51 22'N-10 52'E where the IP was established and a run started on the PFF primary target. The "C CHARLIE" Combat Wing bombed in formation at 0957 hours on a magnetic heading of 136 degrees from 25,200 feet true altitude.

c. After bombing, the formation returned to the enemy coast, which was crossed at 17800 feet, 1221 hours. At 1308 hours the 40th "C CHARLIE" Combat Wing entered the English coast, and the first ship landed at base at 1339 hours.

3. Aircraft Not Attacking.

a. A/C #42-31250 was unable to overtake the formation. The pilot returned at 51 10'N-05 15'E.

b. Two aircraft returned as unused spares.

4. Aircraft Lost.

None.

5. Statistical Summary.

See attached diagram

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS
DIVISION FIELD ORDER NO. 452

28/7/44

DATE

GROUP		LEAD FORMATION "C"		LOW FORMATION "C"		HIGH FORMATION "C"		FORMATION	
LINE NO.		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	12	1	13	0	13	0		
3	No. of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares	12	1	12	0	12	0		
	No. of Aircraft Sorties	11	1	12	0	12	0		
5	No. of Aircraft Attacking	11	1	12	0	12	0		
6	Name of Primary Target	Merseburg		Merseburg		Merseburg			
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking Primary Target	11	1	12	0	11	0		
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb	110 X 500	10 X 500	120 X 500		110 X 500			
7	Name of Secondary Target	Note: 1 a/c in the lead group failed to find the formation. A spare filled in.							
	(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	1	0	0	0	0	0		
11	No. of Aircraft Lost	0	0	0	0	0	0		

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51 00'N, 09 00'E

1 0
10 X 500