

HEADQUARTERS
NINETY SECOND BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF E-2
Office of the Operations Officer

APD #557
30 May 1944

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations on the 127th Mission
of the 92nd Bomb Group, 29 May 1944, OTTBUS, 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 2155 hours, 28 May 1944. The order called for eighteen (18) plus two (2) spare B-17's to be loaded with 10 X 500 GP Bombs each with 1/10 second nose fuse and 1/100 second tail fuse.

b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters 1st B.O.B. Division by Capt. Prasse at 0100 hours 29 May 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0530 hours and take-off time 0825 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Take-off was accomplished by eighteen (18) B-17's and two (2) spares of the 92nd Bomb Group beginning at 0825 hours. The Group assembled over the Podington Buncher at 7,900 feet, (see diagram "A") as Low Group and departed the buncher at 0922 hours for immediate rendezvous with the 40th Combat Wing. The route over England was as briefed and the formation departed England at 1009 hours.

b. The enemy coast was crossed at 20,600 feet, 1051 hours and the route to the I.P. was flown according to flight plan. At 1239 hours the low group turned at their I.P. and proceeded to the target at an altitude of 13,200 feet. The primary target was attacked at 1248½ hours from 13,280 feet on a magnetic heading of 74 degrees. After bombing, the low group rallied immediately with the Combat Wing and shortly afterward was subjected to persistent fighter attacks. During this attack two (2) B-17's were disabled and forced to leave formation; one (1) is believed to have reached neutral territory, the other aircraft was abandoned over enemy territory.

c. The return flight was flown as briefed, crossing the enemy coast at 1529 hours, 13,500 feet and entering the English Coast at 1733 hours. The 92nd Bomb Group returned to base and the first ship landed at 1807 hours.

3. Aircraft Not Attacking.

a. Of the eighteen (18) B-17's and two (2) spares that took-off from the 92nd Group, sixteen (16) attacked the primary target.

b. One (1) A/C 42-39851 attacked Lessee, a target of opportunity, and returned early because of mechanical failure.

c. Three (3) A/C numbers 42-31250, 42-31771, 42-31978 aborted due to mechanical failures.

4. Lost Aircraft.

a. After the target, at a position of 52 degrees 30 minutes north, 15 degrees 40 minutes east, A/C 42-37877 was seen to catch fire in the wing tip after attack by enemy aircraft. This aircraft pulled out of formation and five (5) chutes were seen. The A/C then lost its wing tip and was last seen spiraling down.

b. A/C 42-97314 was seen to have two (2) engines catch fire after attack by enemy aircraft at a position of 52 degrees 30 minutes north, fifteen degrees 40 minutes east. This A/C left formation and is believed to be in Sweden.

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5. Statistical Summary.

a.	Number of A/C taking Off	20
b.	Unused spares	0
c.	A/C taking off less unused spares	20
d.	Number of A/C dispatched	20
e.	Number of Sorties	17
f.	Number of A/C attacking	17
g.	Number of A/C not attacking	3

Lost Aircraft.

a.	To flak	0
b.	To flak and E/A	0
c.	To E/A	2
d.	Accident	0
e.	Unknown	0
	TOTAL	2