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

E-C-4

APC #557,
6 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations, 154th Mission, 6 July 1944, Blanc Pignon Ferme and Courbronne, 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 Capt. Hamilton at 2200 hours, 5 July 1944. The order called for twenty-four (24) B-17's plus two (2) spares to be loaded as follows: (1) Twelve (12) B-17's to be loaded with 18 X 250 lb. bombs each with no nose fuse and 1/40 sec. tail fuse. (2) Twelve (12) B-17's to be loaded with 12 X 500 lb. GP bombs each with no nose fuse and 1/40 sec. tail fuse. (3) One (1) B-17 to be loaded with 18 X 250 lb. GP bombs each with delayed action fuses. (4) One (1) B-17 to be loaded with 12 X 500 lb. GP bombs each with delayed action fuses.

b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters, 1st Bomb Division by Capt. Hamilton at 2338 hours, 5 July 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0500 hours and take-off time 0620 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Take-off was accomplished by twenty-four (24) B-17's plus two (2) spares beginning at 0620 hours. These aircraft assembled over the base as two (2) individual groups- "A" Group at 17,500 feet and "D" Group at 19,000 feet.

b. The leader of "A" Group was forced to lower the assembly altitude 500 feet because of patchy clouds at assembly altitude. This Group followed the planned route over England and departed the Coast at 0830 1/2 hours, 24,300 feet. The enemy coast was entered at 0850 hours. The IP was reached seven (7) minutes later and a run was made on the target. However, the target was improperly identified and a second run was made. Bombs were dropped visually at 0917 hours on a magnetic heading of 246 degrees from 24,500 feet. The planned route home was followed. The enemy coast was departed at 0930 hours and the English coast was entered at 0951 hours, 13000 feet. The lead aircraft reached the base at 1018 hours and landed at 1021 hours.

c. The "D" Group followed the briefed route over England and departed the coast at 0837 hours, 25,000 feet. A second run on the target was necessary because of interference by a Group of B-24's on the initial bombing run. At 0940 hours bombs were released visually on the primary target from 25,300 feet on a magnetic heading of 17 degrees. The planned route home was followed. The

SECRET

Enemy coast was departed at 0956 hours and the English coast was entered at 1019 hours. The lead aircraft reached the base at 1042 hours and landed at 1115 hours.

3. Aircraft Not Attacking.

a. Of the twelve (12) B-17's and one (1) spare taking off to fly in the "A" Group, ten (10) attacked the target. Two (2) aircraft, #42-38110 and 42-97141 failed to find the formation. The spare filled in a position but aircraft #42-37976 failed to attack when the bombardier dropped early.

b. All of the twelve (12) aircraft flying in the "D" Group attacked the primary target. The spare returned early as unused.

4. Aircraft Lost.
None.

5. Statistical Summary.
See attached.

SECRET

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS
DIVISION FIELD ORDER NO. 423

DATE 6 July 1944

GROUP		92nd FORMATION "A"				92nd FORMATION "D"				FORMATION		FORMATION	
LINE NO.		REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF	REGULAR	PFF
1	No. of Aircraft Failing to Take Off	0	0	0	0								
2	No. of Aircraft Airborne	13	0	13	0								
3	No. of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares	13	0	12	0								
	No. of Aircraft Sorties	11	0	12	0								
5	No. of Aircraft Attacking	10	0	12	0								
6	Name of Primary Target	M-3237		Z-3206									
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking Primary Target	10	0	12	0								
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb	161 X 250		143 X 500									
		1 skymarker		1 skymarker									
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	3	0	0	0								
11	No. of Aircraft Lost	0	0	0	0								