

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

E-C-4

SECRET

APC #557,
8 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations, 155th
Mission, 7 July 1944, Leipzig, Germany.

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. Prasse at 2100 hours, 6 July 1944. The order called for thirty-four (34) B-17's, two (2) PFF aircraft and two (2) spares to be loaded with 10 X 500 GP bombs each with 1/10 sec. nose fuse and 1/100 sec. tail fuse. Two (2) aircraft carried five (5) delay fused bombs.

b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters, 1st Bomb Division by Capt. Prasse at 0002 hours, 7 July 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0215 hours and take-off time 0505 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Take-off was accomplished by thirty-four (34) B-17's plus two (2) spares from the 92nd Group and two (2) PFF aircraft, beginning at 0505 hours. These aircraft assembled on the Podington Buncher at 7000 and 6000 feet to form the Lead and Low Groups of the 40th "A" Combat Wing.

b. The Podington Buncher was departed at 0613 hours and the route over England was flown as briefed. At 0708 hours the 40th "A" Combat Wing departed the English coast and entered the enemy coast at 0757 hours, 19,300 feet. The route to the IP was flown as briefed, and reached at 0951 hours. On the first run made by the Lead Group, they found the primary completely covered by smoke and made a 360 degree turn for a second run. On the second run, the primary was still covered by a very effective smoke-screen, and the factories at Taucha were chosen as a target of opportunity. Bombs were released at 1016 hours from 24000 feet on a magnetic heading of 195 degrees. The Low Group, on its initial bomb run, found the primary covered by a smoke screen and attacked the main railroad station in Leipzig. The Low Group's bombs were released at 0959½ hours from 22,650 feet on a magnetic heading of 243 degrees. The Low Group circled the target area and rendezvoused with the Lead Group over the town of Altenburg at 1025 hours. The Combat Wing returned to the enemy coast and crossed it at 1212 hours, 18,400 feet. The English coast was entered at 1302 hours, and the first ship landed at base at 1335 hours.

c. Fighter rendezvous and support was excellent.

d. The attached diagrams show formation rendezvous.

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3. Aircraft Not Attacking.
 - a. A/C #42-107222 returned to base as unused spare.
 - b. A/C #42-97958 took off late and failed to overtake the formation. A spare filled in the vacancy.
4. Aircraft Lost.
 - a. None.
5. Statistical Summary.
 - a. See attached diagram.

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS
DIVISION FIELD ORDER NO. 426

DATE 7/7/44

LINE NO.	GROUP	Lead FORMATION A		Low FORMATION A		FORMATION		FORMATION	
		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	17	2	19	0				
3	No. of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares	16	2	19	0				
	No. of Aircraft Sorties	16	2	18	0				
5	No. of Aircraft Attacking	16	2	18	0				
6	Name of Primary Target								
	(a) No. Aircraft Attacking Primary Target								
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb								
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.	Taucha		Main Railroad Station, Leipzig					
	(b) No. Size and Type of Bomb	16	2	18	0				
		180 X 500		176 X 500					
		1 skymarker		1 skymarker					
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	1	0				
11	No. of Aircraft Lost	0	0	0	0				