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

APC 557
10 May 1944

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations of Mission
9 May 1944, Thionville Airfield, 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 by Lt. Hamilton from Headquarters 40th Combat Wing at 2150 hours 8 May 1944. The order called for twenty-four (24) B-17's plus four (4) spares to be loaded with 10 X 500 GP bombs each with 1/16 second nose fuse and 1/100 second tail fuse.

b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters 1st Bomb Division by Lt. Hamilton at 2251 hours 8 May 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0300 hours and take-off time 0605 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Low Group (40th CBW).

(1). Take-off was accomplished by eighteen (18) B-17's plus three (3) spares from the 92nd Bomb Group beginning at 0610 hours. These aircraft assembled over the 40th Combat Wing Buncher at 9000 feet to form the low group in the 40th Combat Wing.

(2). The formation departed the assembly point at 0715 hours and rendezvous was made with the lead group along the first leg. The English Coast was departed at 0806 hours, 15,600 feet and at 0826 hours the formation entered the enemy coast flying at 19000 feet. From the enemy coast to the I.P. the 92nd Bomb Group received considerable battle damage from flak guns as far as thirty five (35) miles north of the briefed course due to navigation by the lead group. The I.P. was reached at 0946 hours and a magnetic heading of 225 was taken to the primary target. At 0956½ hours bombs were dropped from 19000 feet by the formation on the group leader. The return to the enemy coast was without incident excepting the departure point. Here, the lead group headed for Ostende then turned sharply to the left to parallel the coast and in so doing caused the high and low groups to close within range of the Ostende flak guns. The enemy coast was departed at 1105 hours, 18,400 feet, and the English Coast entered at 1137 hours. The formation reached base at 1201 hours and the lead ship landed at 1209 hours.

b. High Squadron, High Composite Group (40th Combat Wing).

(1). Take-off was accomplished by six (6) B-17's plus one (1) spare from the 92nd Bomb Group beginning at 0605 hours. These aircraft assembled over the 40th Combat Wing Buncher at 11,000 feet as high squadron of the high composite Group led by the 306th Bomb Group.

3. Aircraft Not Attacking.

a. Twenty-four (24) B-17's plus six (6) spare aircraft from the 92nd Bomb Group took off.

b. One (1) aircraft, #42-102396 returned after being dispatched.

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c. Four (4) aircraft, #42-97489, 42-107222, 42-97227, and 42-97245 returned before becoming dispatched. These aircraft were unused spares.

4. A/C Lost
None.

5. Statistical Summary.

	<u>MAIN GP.</u>	<u>COMP. GP.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
a. Number of A/C taking off.....	21	7	28
b. Unused spares.....	3	1	4
c. A/C taking off less unused spares....	18	6	24
d. Number of A/C dispatched.....	18	6	24
e. Number of sorties.....	18	6	24
f. Number of A/C attacking.....	17	6	23
g. Number of A/C not attacking.....	1	0	1

Number of A/C lost.
None.