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HEADQUARTERS  
NINETY SECOND BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) ...  
Office of the Commanding Officer

**SECRET**

APO #557,  
27 November 1944.

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operational Mission,  
25 November 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 Stroud at 2400 hours, 24 November 1944. The order called for thirty-four (34) B-17's plus two (2) PFF a/c to be loaded with 10 X 500 lb. GP bombs, each with 1/10 second nose fuse and 1/40 second tail fuse.

b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters 1st Bomb Division by Capt Stroud at 0435 hours, 25 November 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0500 hours and take-off time 0520 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Thirty-six (36) a/c including two (2) PFF a/c of the 92nd Group began takeoff at 0520 hours for assembly on the Honeybourne Butcher at 12,000, 11,000 and 10,000 feet. These aircraft formed the Lead, Low and High Squadrons of the 40th "B" Group. This Group was the 5th of the 1st Air Division.

b. The Group formed on the Honeybourne Butcher, leaving the Butcher on time on course. The briefed route was flown over England and the coast departed on time on course. The briefed route was flown to the IF except that the Group climbed 2000 feet to bomb on the "A" force's smoke bombs as both of the PFF ships in the Group were inoperative. Bombs were released at 1212 hours on a magnetic heading of 235 degrees at a true altitude of 25,940 feet. The Group proceeded home on the briefed withdrawal route, crossing the English coast in on time. A 360 degree turn was made in the Chelmsford area while awaiting orders to land at a diversion field. The group was diverted to Lambury. However, upon reaching the diversion base, weather conditions of 1 mile visibility and a 200 ft. ceiling were encountered, making it almost impossible for our aircraft to land. Nine (9) of our aircraft landed at Lambury and the others at air-dromes in that general vicinity.

3. Aircraft Not Attacking.

a. None.

4. Aircraft Lost

a. None.

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STATISTICAL REPORT OF OPERATIONS  
DIVISION FIELD ORDER NUMBER 562

Page # 1  
MISSION DATE 25/11/44

GROUP	FORMATION		FORMATION		FORMATION		FORMATION	
	Lead	BORROWED PFF A/C	Low	BORROWED PFF A/C	High	BORROWED PFF A/C		BORROWED PFF A/C
Number of Aircraft Failing to Take Off	0		0		0			
Number of Aircraft Airborne	12		12		12			
Number of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares	12		12		12			
Number of Aircraft Sorties	12		12		12			
Number of Aircraft Attacking	12		12		12			
Number of Aircraft Not Attacking	0		0		0			
Name of Primary Target	Merseburg		Merseburg		Merseburg			
(A) No. of Aircraft attacking Primary Target	11		11		11			
(B) No. size and type of bombs	110 X 500 GP 4 skymarkers		110 X 500 GP 1 skymarker		110 X 500 GP 1 skymarker			
Name of Secondary Target								
(A) No. of Aircraft attacking Secondary Target								
(B) No. size and type of bombs								
Name of Last Resort Target (LRT)								
(A) No. of Aircraft attacking LRT								
(B) No. size and type of bombs								
Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)	50 44N- 11 51E		Giessen, Germany		Linburg, Germany			
(A) No. of Aircraft attacking T.O.	1		1		1			
(B) No., size and type of bombs	10 X 500 GP		10 X 500 GP		10 X 500 GP			
Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)								
(A) No. of Aircraft attacking T.O.								
(B) No., size and type of bombs.								

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