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

E-A-2

SECRET

APC #557
7 January 1945

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operational Mission,
6 January 1945, Cologne, Germany.

TO : Commanding Officer, 9nd 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. Stroud at 2315 hours, 5 January 1945. The order called for thirty-two (32) B*17's, plus three (3) Spares, plus three (3) PFF Aircraft, plus one (1) GH*PFF Aircraft from the 303rd Bomb Group to be loaded with 2 x 2000 and 2x 1000 GP Bombs, each with 1/10 second nose fuse and inst. tail fuse.

b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters, 1st Air Division by Capt. Stroud at 0100 hours, 6 January 1945. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0430 hours and take-off time 0730 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Thirty-nine (39) aircraft including three (3) PFF aircraft, and three (3) spares of the 92nd Bomb Group began take-off at 0730 hours for assembly on the Honeybourne Buncher at 12,000, 11,000 and 13,000 feet. These A/C formed the Lead, High and Low Squadrons of the 40th "C" Group. This Group was the third of the 1st Air Division.

b. The Group took off as scheduled and accomplished assembly on the assigned buncher, departing on course, on time. The briefed route was flown over England and the Group crossed the English Coast on time, on course, in correct Division Formation.

c. The assigned course was flown to the I.P. for the Primary Target. At the I.P. the Group executed a seventeen (17) minute bomb run using Gee-H due to 10/10 cloud coverage. Bombs were away at 1136 hours, from 25,600 feet true, on a true heading of 270 degrees. The Low and High Squadrons bombed on the Lead Squadron.

d. After the target the Group turned left and followed the briefed course on the withdrawal, crossing the Belgium and English Coasts at the correct points, and returning to Base per SOP #19.

3. Aircraft not attacking.

a. A/C # 44- 6458 - The #1 engine vibrated excessively and the #3 engine would not pull but thirty (30) inches of manifold pressure. A/C could not stay up with the formation.

4. Aircraft lost.

a. None.

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GROUP		STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF MISSION DIVISION FIELD ORDER NUMBER 599				MISSION DATE 6/1/45			
		FORMATION		FORMATION		FORMATION		FORMATION	
		Lead Sq.	BORROWED PFF A/C	High Sq.	BORROWED PFF A/C	Low Sq.	BORROWED PFF A/C	FORMATION	
1	Number of Aircraft Failing to Take Off	0							
2	Number of Aircraft Airborne	11							
3	Number of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares	11							
4	Number of Aircraft Sorties	11							
5	Number of Aircraft Attacking	11							
6	Number of Aircraft Not Attacking	0							
7	Name of Primary Target	Bridge, Cologne		Bridge, Cologne		Bridge, Cologne			
8	(A) No. of Aircraft attacking Primary Target	10	1	11		13			
9	(B) No. size and type of bombs	22x2000GP	22x2000GP	21x2000GP		26x2000GP	26x2000GP		
10		4 skymarkers		1 Skym.		2 skym.			
11	Name of Secondary Target								
12	(A) No. of Aircraft attacking Secondary Target								
13	(B) No. size and type of bombs								
14	Name of Last Resort Target (LRT)								
15	(A) No. of Aircraft attacking LRT								
16	(B) No. size and type of bombs								
17	Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)	49°56'N -07°24'E		50°55'N -06°56'E					
18	(A) No. of Aircraft attacking T.O.	1		1					
19	(B) No., size and type of bombs	2x2000GP, 2x1000GP		1x2000GP, 1x2000GP					
20	Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)								
21	(A) No. of Aircraft attacking T.O.								
22	(B) No., size and type of bombs								

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