

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

E-A-2

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

SECRET

APC #557
9 January 1945

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operational Mission, 8 January 1945, Target: Wissenbourg, 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 Head - quarters 40th Combat by Capt. North at 2350 hours, 7 January 1945. The order called for thirty-one (31) B-17's, plus three (3) spares, three (3) PFF and two (2) Gee-H A/C from the 384th BG to be loaded with 12 x 500 GP Bombs, each with 1/10 second nose fuse and 1/40 second tail fuse.

b. The Field Order was received from Head quarters, 1st Air Division by Capt. North at 0315 hours, 8 January 1945. Flight plans and details of the missions were completed, briefing being set for 0430 hours and take-off time 0730 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Thirty-nine aircraft including three (3) PFF, three (3) spares of the 92nd Bomb Group and two (2) Gee-H A/C of the 384th Bomb Group began take-off at 0730 hours for assembly at the Moneybourne Buncher at 10,000, 11,000 and 12,000 feet. These aircraft formed the Lead, Low and High Squadrons of the 40th "B" Group. This Group was the 4th of the 1st Air Division.

b. The Group accomplished assembly on the assigned buncher departing on time, on course. The briefed route was flown over England and Control Point #1 was crossed on course, on time in Division Formation. Crossing the Continental Coast at the briefed point the Group flew North of course, then South of course due to wind shifts.

c. Shortly before the IP the Gee-H A/C in the #3 position took over the lead because the Gee-H equipment in the Lead A/C was not operating satisfactorily. The IP was made good and a Gee-H Bomb Run was made on the Primary Target using visual assistance for the last fifteen seconds of the run. The Low and High Squadrons bombed on the sighting of the Lead Squadron with bombs away at 1144 hours from 22,600 feet true, and on a true heading of 24 degrees. The results were unobserved.

d. After the target the Group Leader resumed the Lead Position and the Group withdrew as briefed to 49°06'N - 04°00'E, at that point the Air Commander turned North to avoid unfavorable weather and crossed the continental Coast at Le Touquet and the English Coast at Hastings. The Group separated into Squadrons at 51°20'N - 00°31'E to effect a let down through breaks in the clouds. The Squadrons then returned to base.

3. A/C Failing to attack.

a. 43-37559 lost oil in #2 engine and prop could not be feathered. A/C returned to base with bomb load.

b. 43-38449, the number four engine would not pull but 31" of manifold pressure. The pilot could not hold formation. A check flight proved a definite malfunction, but the cause has not been determined.

SECRET

0647

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

4. A/C lost.
 - a. 43-37872 - the crew of this aircraft bailed out somewhere in France, and the A/C crashed.
 - b. 43-38574 - this A/C lost #1 engine, and was forced to land on A-70 landing strip in France. A/C remained on Continent, and crew returned to England.

SECRET

0648

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

GROUP		DIVISION FIELD ORDER NUMBER 601				MISSION DATE 8/1/45			
		FORMATION		FORMATION		FORMATION		FORMATION	
		Lead Sq.	BORROWED PFF A/C	High Sq.	BORROWED PFF A/C	Low Sq.	BORROWED PFF A/C		BORROWED PFF A/C
1	Number of Aircraft Failing to Take Off	0	0	0		0			
2	Number of Aircraft Airborne	10	2	12		15			
3	Number of Aircraft Airborne Less Unused Spares	10	2	12		14			
4	Number of Aircraft Sorties	10	2	11		12			
5	Number of Aircraft Attacking	10	2	1		12			
6	Number of Aircraft Not Attacking	0	0	1		2			
7	Name of Primary Target	Wissenbourg		Wissenbourg		Wissenbourg			
	(A) No. of Aircraft attacking Primary Target	10	2	11		12			
	(B) No. size and type of bombs	117x500GP 24x500GP 6 Skymarkers		132x500GP 2 skymarkers		140x500GP 1 skymark.			
8	Name of Secondary Target								
	(A) No. of Aircraft Attacking Secondary Target								
	(B) No. size and type of bombs								
9	Name of Last Resort Target (LRT)								
	(A) No. of Aircraft Attacking LRT								
	(B) No. size and type of bombs								
10	Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)								
	(A) No. of Aircraft Attacking T.O.								
	(B) No., size and type of bombs								
11	Name of Target of Opportunity (T.O.)								
	(A) No. of Aircraft Attacking T.O.								
	(B) No., size and type of bombs								

0649