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

E-E-4

SECRET

APO #557,
21 March 1944.

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations of Mission March 19, 1944, Frankfurt, Germany.

TO : Commanding Officer, 92nd Bombardment Group (H) AAF, APO 557.

1. Comment on Planning and Execution.

The bomb loading for this operation was received from Headquarters, 40th Combat Wing by Capt. Brasse at 1800 hours, March 19, 1944. The order called for twenty-one (21) B-17s to be loaded with Max. 100 lb. GP bombs each with 1/10 sec. nose fuse and 1/40 sec. tail fuse.

The Field Order was received from Headquarters, 1st Bomb Division by Capt. Brasse at 2150 hours 19 March 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0515 hours and take-off time 0820 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. Take-off was accomplished by twenty-one (21) B-17s beginning at 0811 hours for assembly over base at 17,000 ft. The briefed altitude for assembly was 11,000 ft., but it was changed to 17,000 because of cloud layers. At 0926 hours, the 92nd Bomb Group departed base, flying as low group of the 40th Combat Wing, however complete rendezvous with the 40th Combat Wing was not completed until 0949 hours at splasher #10. The high group of the 40th Combat Wing was reported not to have rendezvoused.

Splasher #9 was departed at 0959 hours and Beachy Head at 1005 hours. The enemy coast was crossed at 1021 hours at 19,000 feet (49° 59'N 01° 05'E). At 49° 32'N 06° 32'E the mission was recalled before reaching the objective, Frankfurt, because of inclement weather. Heavy persistent contrails, anvil cirrus clouds rising above flight level, and visibility of under 100 yds. prevailed after 04°00'E.

b. The group turned around and began a descent. The base was reached by the lead aircraft at 1512 hours. Diagram "A" shows formation at assembly.

3. Aircraft Not Attacking.

a. Of the twenty-one (21) aircraft taking off, all but two were recalled. Of these two aircraft, one A/C 42-31765 returned early, and the other, A/C 42-30644 aborted before the enemy coast was crossed.

4. Lost Aircraft.

No aircraft were lost from the 92nd Group.

5. Statistical Summary.

| | |
|---|---|
| A. Number of A/C Taking Off..... | 21 |
| B. Unuses Spares..... | 0 |
| C. A/C Taking Off Less Unused Spares..... | 21 |
| D. Number of A/C Dispatched..... | 20 |

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E. Number of Sorties..... 19
F. Number of A/C Attacking..... 0
G. Number of A/C Not Attacking..... 21

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Robert B. Keck

ROBERT B. KECK,
Lt. Col., Air Corps,
Operations Officer.

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DUE TO POOR WEATHER CONDITIONS, ASSEMBLY
WAS NOT COMPLETED TILL THE COAST WAS REACHED.

GROUP FORMATION - DATE: 20/3/44 Diagram "A" & "B"

SECRET.

LEAD: SQ.

G 1536

LOW: SQ.

G 1771

G 1326 G 1713

G 8101

G 8025 F 0649

G 1898 G 1888

G 1455

G 7489 G 1532

G 1362

HIGH: SQ.

G 1687

G 1529 G 1765

G 1408

G 1587 G 1548

SPARES:

1783 flew with the 457th Bomb Group.

STATIONS:

TAXI :

T.O. :

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