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

APO #634
10 March 1944

SUBJECT: Report on Planning and Execution of Operations of Mission 9 March 1944, Berlin.

TO : Commanding Officer, 92nd Bombardment Group (H) AAF, APO 634.

1. Comment on Planning and Execution.

a. The bomb loading for this operation was received from Headquarters 40th Combat Wing by Capt. Prasse at 2100 hours 8 March 1944. The order called for twenty (20) B-17's and six (6) spare aircraft from the 92nd Bomb Group to be loaded with 10 X 500 GP Bombs with 1/10 nose, 1/100 tail fusing, plus one (1) aircraft from the 482nd Bomb Group.

b. The Field Order was received from Headquarters 1st Bomb Division by Capt. Prasse at 2232 hours 8 March 1944. Flight plans and details of the mission were completed, briefing being set for 0440 hours and take-off time 0750 hours.

2. General Narrative.

a. 92nd Bomb Group (Lead Group 40th Combat Wing).

(1) Take-off was accomplished by twenty (20) B-17's plus six (6) spare B-17's from the 92nd Bomb Group and one (1) aircraft from the 482nd Bomb beginning at 0750 hours. The assembly for the main group was made over Podington on the 40th Combat Wing Buncher as shown in Diagram "A". The six (6) spare B-17's formed a high, high squadron of the High Group 40th Combat Wing as shown in Diagram "B". The formation departed the 40th Combat Wing Buncher at 0847 hours flying as lead group of the 40th Combat Wing.

(2) The route out was followed according to flight plan and the English Coast was departed at 1001 hours. The enemy coast was entered at 1053 hours at an altitude of 22,700 feet. The I.P. was reached at 1348 hours which was forty-five (45) minutes late due to wind changes. At the I.P. a complete under cast covered the Primary Target and therefore the Secondary Target, the center of Berlin was attacked. Bombs were dropped on the lead aircraft from the 482nd Bomb Group on a magnetic heading of 235 degrees at 1355½ hours from 24,700 feet. The formation over the target is shown in Diagram "C". The 92nd Bomb Group rallied successfully with the low and high groups of the 40th Combat Wing after the target and then began a descent. The English Coast was crossed at 1600 hours and the lead aircraft reached the base at 1638 hours

3. Aircraft Not Attacking.

a. Twenty (20) B-17's plus six (6) spares from the 92nd Bomb Group, and one (1) aircraft from the 482nd Bomb Group took off.

b. Of the twenty-seven (27) aircraft taking off the following did not attack:

(1). One (1) aircraft Number 42-3536 crashed three minutes after take-off.

(2). Four (4) aircraft numbers 42-31713, 42-31250, and 42-3496 returned as unused spares.

(3). Two (2) aircraft aborted just before the enemy coast because of mechanical trouble.

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c. Of the twenty (20) aircraft attacking four (4) attacked a target of opportunity .

4. Aircraft lost.

a. 42-3536 - This aircraft crashed and burned three (3) minutes after take-off. Reasons for crash unknown.

b. 42-31564 - This aircraft was observed to have left the formation under control before the target. Reason unknown.

c. 42-31772 - This aircraft was observed to have left the formation under control before the target. Reason unknown.

5. Statistical Summary. (Includes one (1) A/C from 482nd Bomb Group).

	92nd Bomb Group
a. Number of A/C Taking off	27
b. Unused Spares	4
c. A/C taking off less unused spares	23
d. Number of A/C Dispatched	22
e. Number of Sorties	20
f. Number of A/C Attacking	20
g. Number of A/C Not Attacking	3

Number of A/C Lost.

a. To Flak	0
b. To Flak and E/A	0
c. To E/A	0
d. To accident	1
e. Unknown	2
TOTAL	3

Robert B. Keck

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

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LEAD GROUP AT ASSEMBLY

92nd GROUP FORMATION - DATE: 9/3/44 (DIAGRAM "A")

LEAD: SQ.

PFF

G 1783 G 1828

G 1921

G 1765 G 1687

G 1772

LOW: SQ.

G 1907

G 1362 G 1898

G 1455

G 1408 G 7489

G 7735

HIGH: SQ.

G 1564

G 7976 G 9851

G 1248

G 1984 F 0849

F 0638

SPARES: _____

_____

_____

STATIONS: _____

TAXI : _____

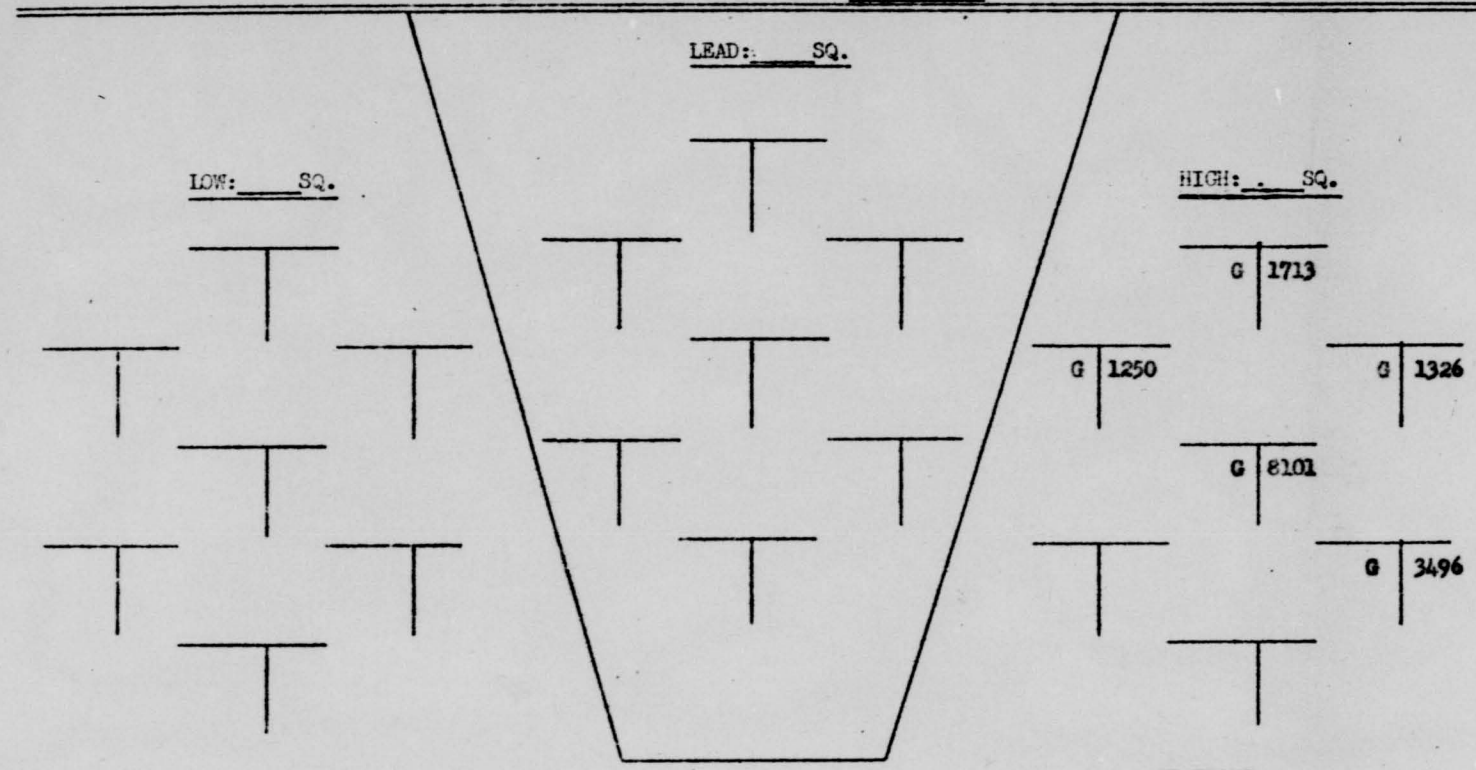
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SPARE AIRCRAFT AT ASSEMBLY (DIAGRAM "B")

92nd GROUP FORMATION - DATE: 9/3/44



SPARES: _____

STATIONS: _____

TAXI : _____

T.O. : _____

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LEAD GROUP OVER TARGET (DIAGRAM "C")

92nd GROUP FORMATION - DATE: 9/2/44

LEAD: SQ.

PFF

G 1783 G 1828 G 1765 G 1687

LOW: SQ.

G 1907 G 1408 G 7489 G 1455 G 7735

HIGH: SQ.

G 9851 F 0849 F 0638 G 1248 G 1984

G 3496

SPARES:

G-1772)
G-1564)
G-1921) - ATTACK TARGET OF OPPORTUNITY
G-7976)

STATIONS:

THIS A/C TOOK OFF TAXI AS A SPARE AND FILLED IN DIAMOND OF 306TH GP. LOW SQUADRON. T.O.

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