

IRIS Public Record

Key Information

Main: GROUP/0416/BOMBARDMENT (LIGHT)

Document Type:

Call Number: GP-416-SU-OP-S

IRIS Number: 00092026

Accessions Notes:

Old Accession Nbr:

Title:

Beginning Date:

End Date:

Publication Date: 1945/02/21

Classification UNCLAS

Media Roll #: 0000001717 First Frame: 166 Last Frame: 227 Linear Feet: 0

Old MFlm Roll # B0537

Audio Rec:

NUMPAGE 61

Title Extensions:

Abstract

Descriptive Notes: TITLE SUPPLIED.

Title Added Entries PHOTOGRAPHS AND MISSION REPORTS: TARGET ROAD BRIDGES GELDEN, GERMANY

Author:

Subject:

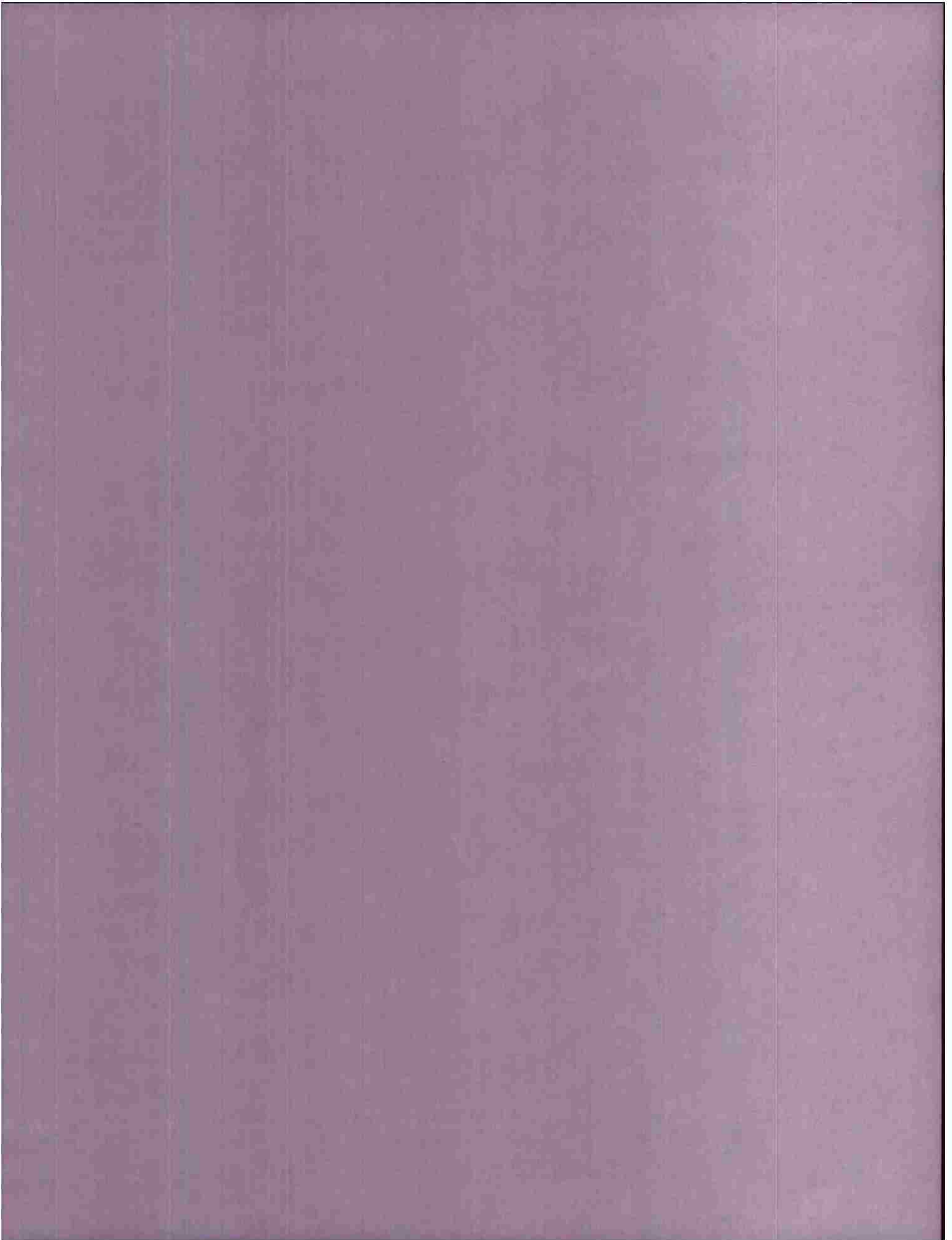
Major Command:

Administrative Markings

No Administrative Markings Listed

Security Review Information:

Rcvd:	Rel	1985/03/05
Indexer ID: 33	Entered Date:	
QC ID:	QC'd Date:	
Scanner ID:	Scanned Date:	
Acc ID	Acc Date:	



GP-416-50-OR-3
21 FEB 45

AF9
Ship 88E
Item 1

P.R.C.

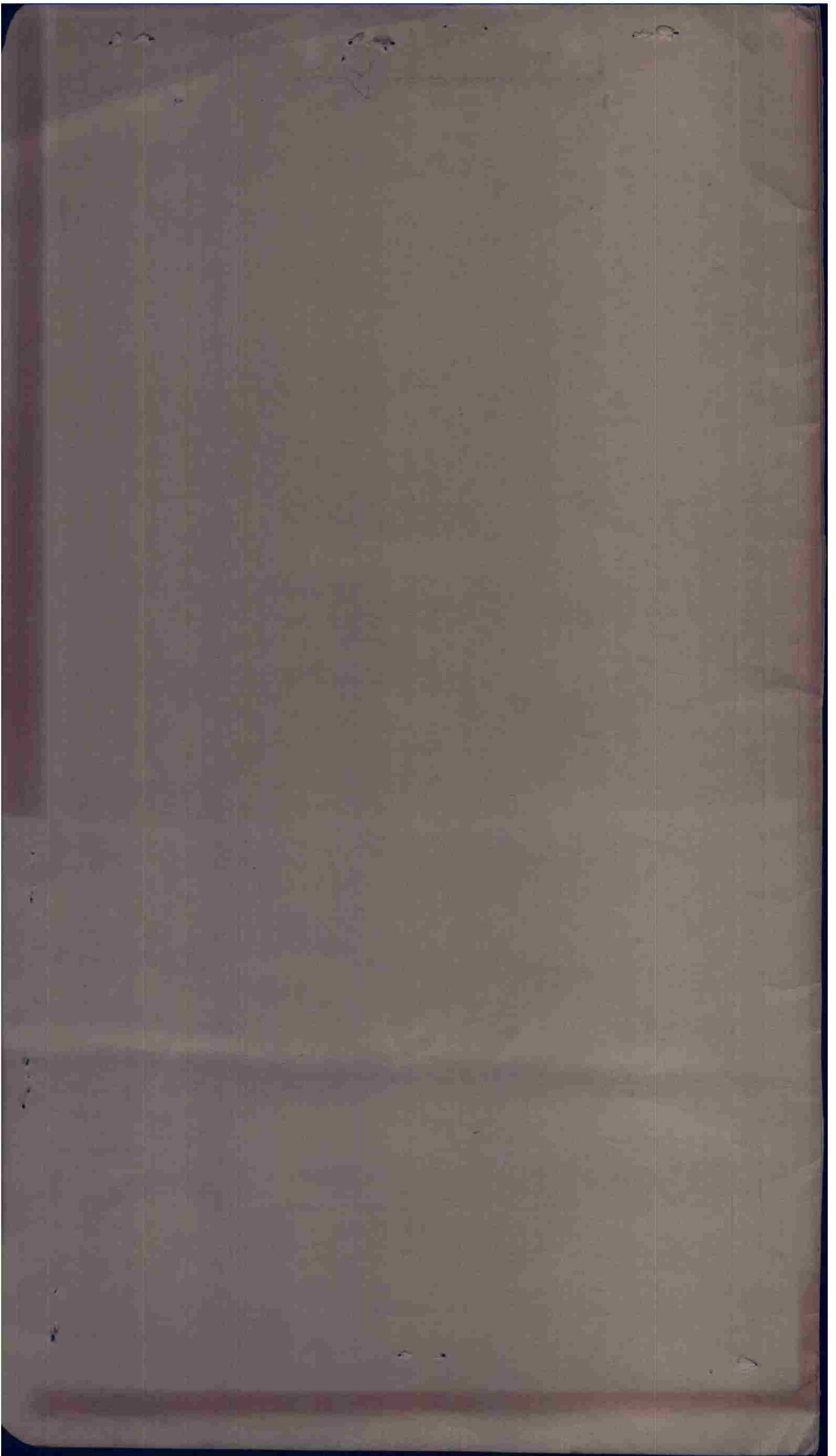
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9, 27 Sep 58

00092026

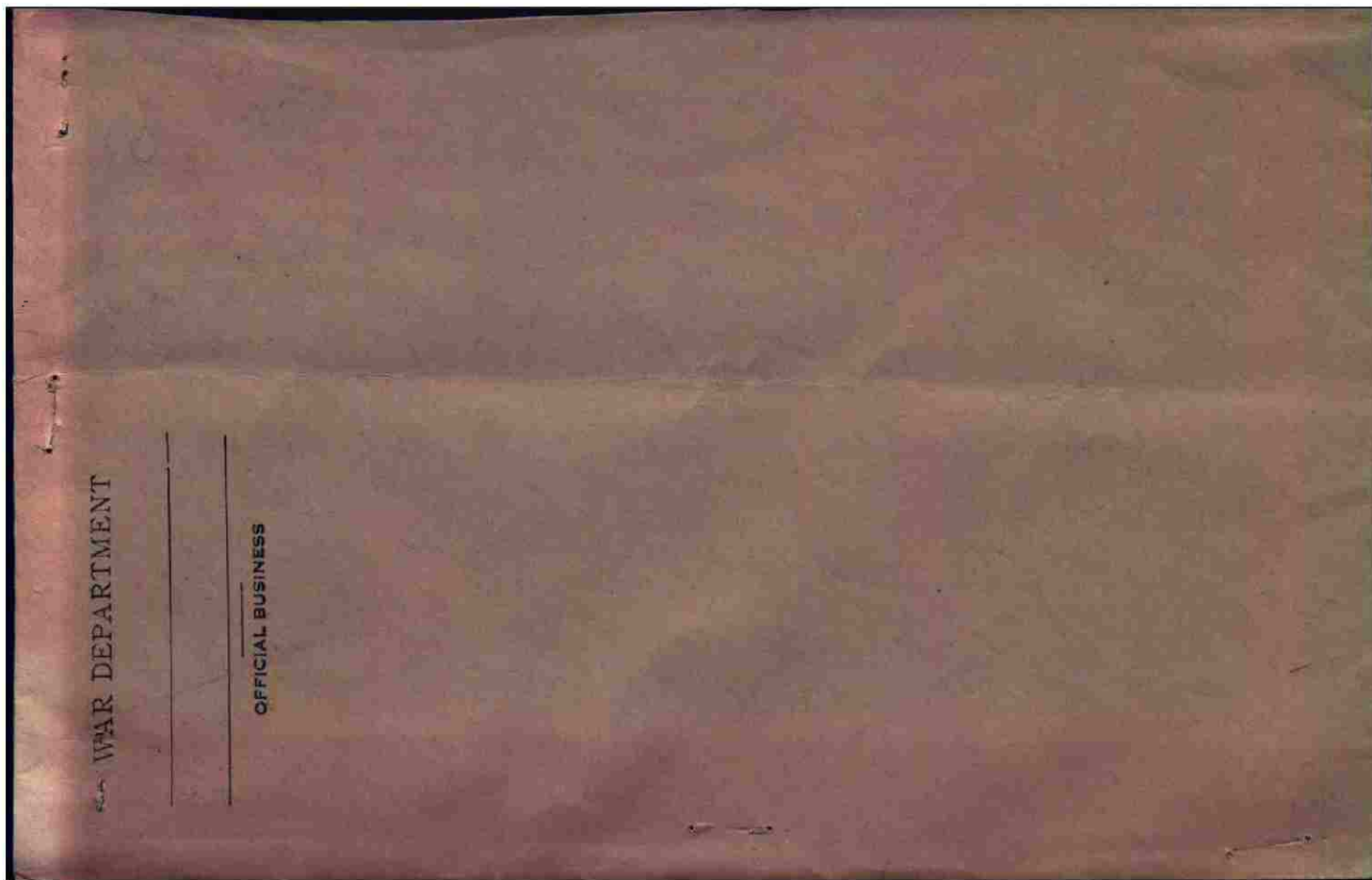
SCANNED BY ACD
2007

MICROFILMED





THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958



THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958



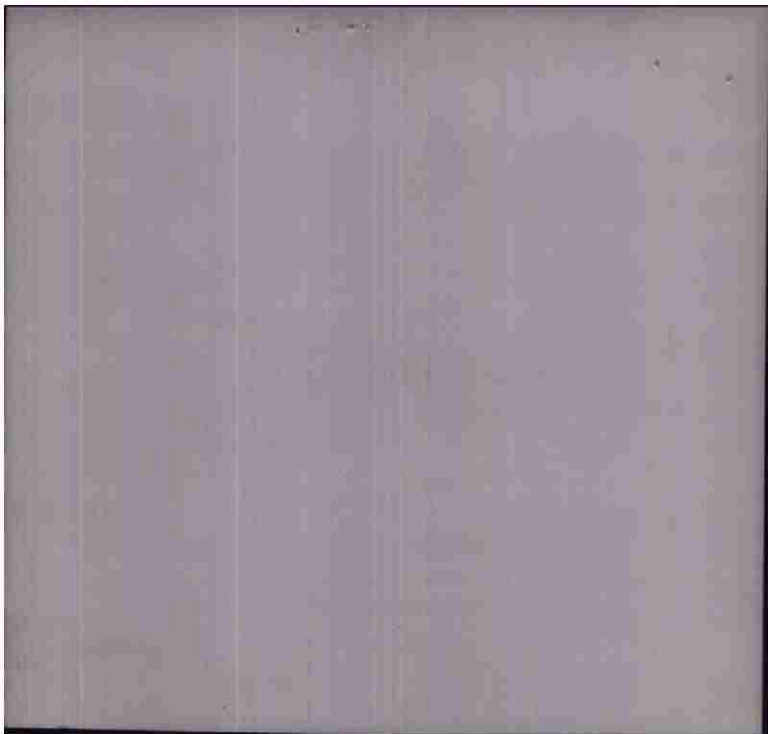
THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958



THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958



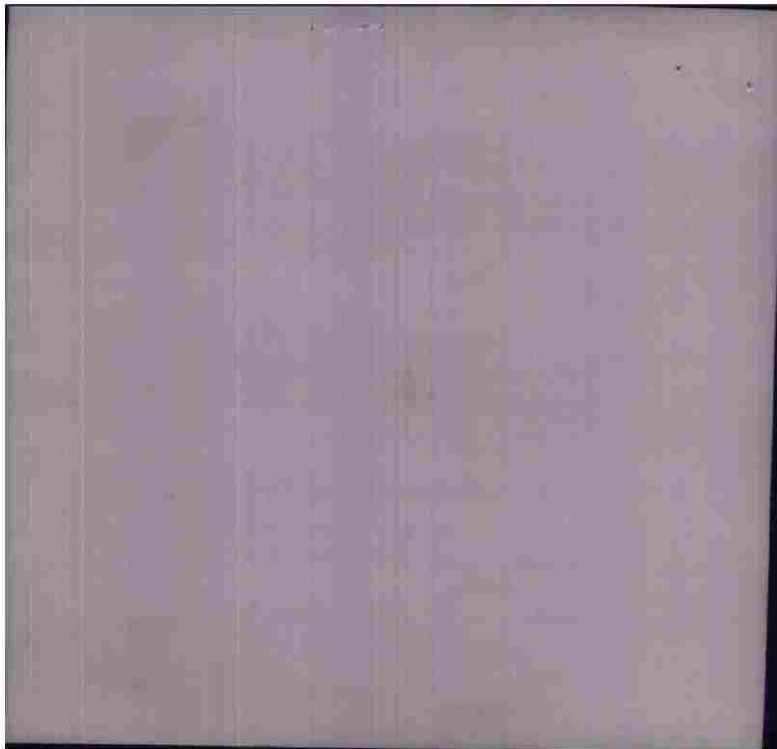
THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

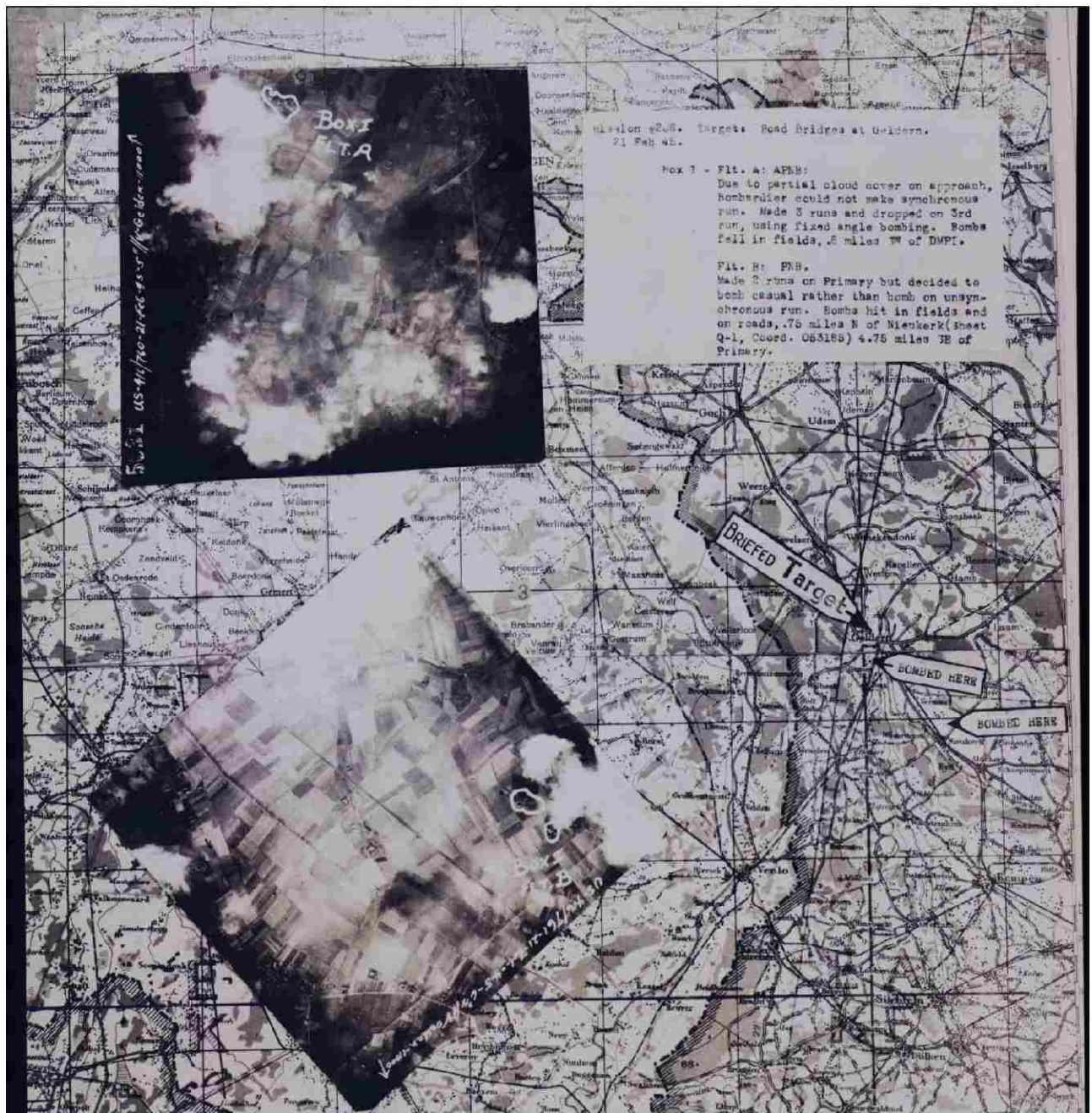


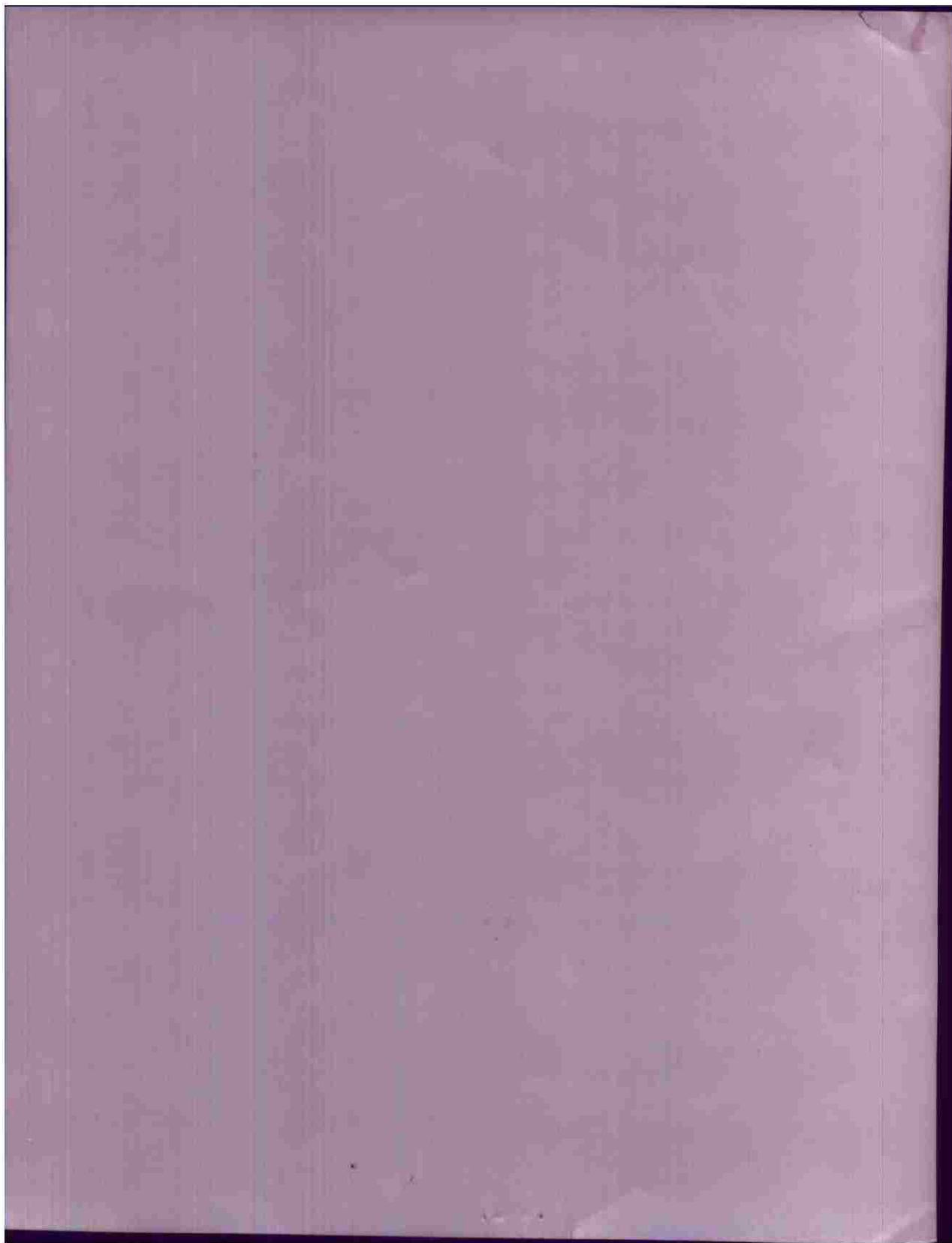
THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958



THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958





9th B.D. S-2 Report 104A

: 9TH B.D. (M) WING	97th	: B
: GROUP	DATE 21 Febu 1945	: GELDERN ROAD BRIDGES
: OTHER UNITS: TARGET		
: FIRST PHASE INTERPRETATION		: TARGET HIT

A. TARGET BRIEFED GELDERN ROAD BRIDGES PRIMARY
SECONDARY

M.P.I. Road Bridges

A.P. Same

C. NO. AND TYPE OF A/C DISPATCHED 13 A-26 NO. OF A/C ATTACKING 13

D. BOMBING BY 3's, 6's, 12's, 18's 6's IN FOLLOWING ORDER 1,2.
24x1000 on Primary

E. NO. AND SIZE OF BOMBS DROPPED 27x1000 on Casual USING 1/10 1/100

F. HEADING OF A/C WHEN BOMBS DROPPED 95 deg.
Flt. A 1415

G. TIME BOMBS DROPPED Flt. B 1416

H. ACTIVITY AT TARGET

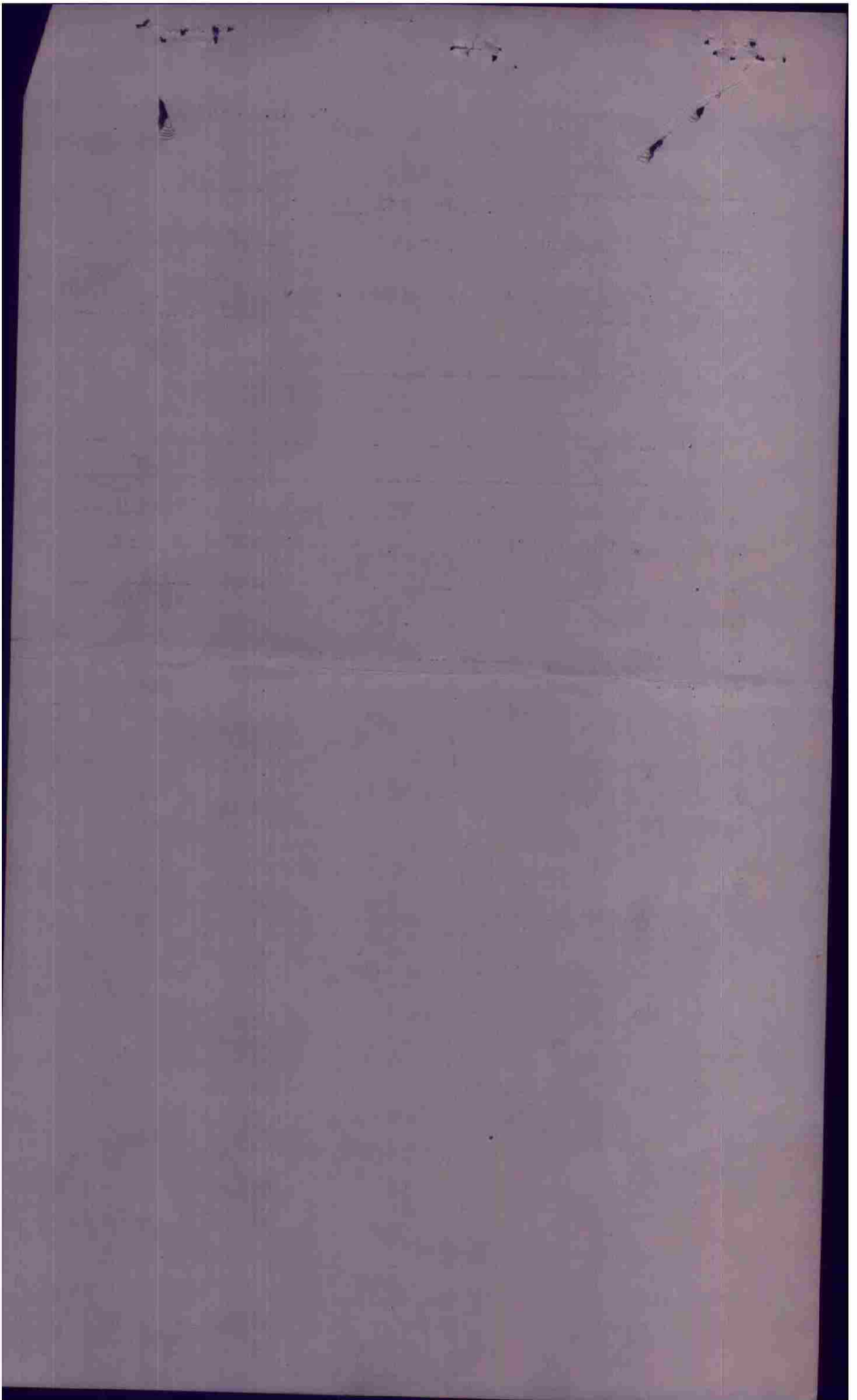
None

J. RESULTS OF BOMBING

BOX I FLT. A: APAB. De to partial cloud cover on target approach, bombardier was unable to make synchronous run. Made 3 runs and on 3rd run used fixed angle bombing. Bombs fell in fields .8 miles SW of DMPI.

FLT. B: PAB. Ma de 2 runs on primary but decided to bomb casual rather than bomb on unsynchronous run. Bombs hit in fields and on road .75 miles N of Nieukerk (Sheet Q 1 Coord. 053185) 4.75 miles SE of primary.

CLAYTON W. ZESIGER
Captain Air Corps
Photo Intelligence Officer



GENERAL INDEX

GELDERN R/R BRIDGE

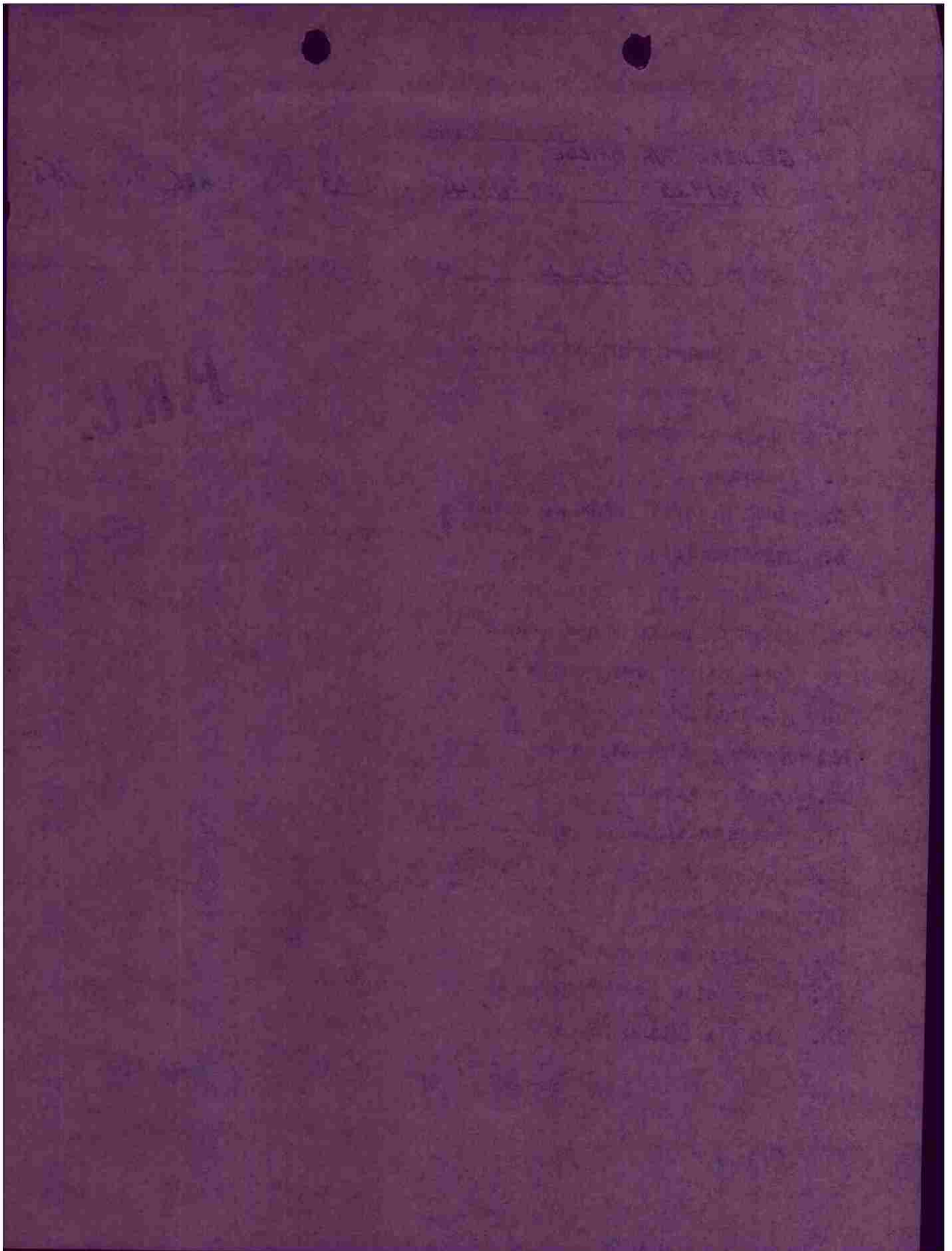
TARGET A-019253DATE 2/2/45 No. 13 MILES 208 P.O. 755STATUS ATTACHED.

BRIEFING OFFICER _____

1. IX BC Synopsis of Mission -
2. Opflash Report -
3. Telephone Report -
4. Photos -
5. Field Orders, Annexes, Addits -
6. Briefing Notes -
7. Loading List of Airplane Crews -
8. Chart of Route Flown - plak -
9. Operations Oprep Report -
10. E/A Encountered -
11. Bombing Information -
12. Weather Report -
13. Communications YB Report -
14. Navigator's Log and Flight Plan -
15. Battle Casualties -
16. Analysis of gunnery -
17. Ammunition Expenditures -
18. Recapitulation Forms -

P.R.C.

00092026



S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
9TH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION (H)AFO # 140
22 February 1945

21 February 1945

MISSION SUMMARY # 42Section I

Field Order 755

GROUPTARGETMISSION RESULTS410 BG Geldern (A-019253)
Communications CenterBox I, Undet.
Box II, Flight A-Undet.
Flight B-A.F.N.B.
Flight C-Undet.
Box III, Flight A-Superior416 BG " " "
409 BG " " "Box I, Flight A-A.F.N.B.
Flight B-F.N.B.
Box II Undet.409 BG Lage/Bielefeld (B-717782)
Rail BridgeBox I, Flight A-Excell.
Flight B-F.N.B.
Box II, Flight A-Excell.
Flight B-Undet.

416 BG " "

Box I, Flight A-Undet.
Flight B-F.N.B.
Box II, Flight A-Undet.
Flight B-F.N.B.394 BG Vlotho (B190971)
Rail BridgeBox I Undet.
Box II, Flight A-F.N.B.
Flight B-Superior
Flight C-F.N.B.

387 BG " "

Box I F.N.B.
Box II, Flight A-F.N.B.
Flight B-F.N.B.
Flight C-Excell.394 BG " "
387 BG " "Box I, Flight A-F.N.B.
Flight B-No Atk.
Box II F.N.B.322 BG Bad/Oyenhausen (V-762022)
Rail BridgeBox I, Flight A-Unsat.
Flight B-Superior
Box II, Flight A-Undet.
Flight B-Excell.

391 BG " "

Box I, Flight A-Excell.
Flight B-Superior
Flight C-Excell.
Flight D-Superior
Box II, Flight A-Excell.
Flight B-Superior
Flight C-Superior
Flight D-Superior323 Xanten (A-113413)
Communication CenterBox I Excell.
Box II, Flight A-Unsat.
Flight B-Superior
Flight C-Excell.
Box III, Flight A-Superior

386 " " "

Box I, Flight A-Excell.
B-Unsat.322 BG " "
344 BG " "Box I, Flight A-Superior
Flight B-Excell.
Flight C-Excell.
Box II, Flight A-Unsat.

S E C R E T

- 32 -

One Group was unable to attack because fighter escort failed to rendezvous.

Hereford (E-751901) Ball Bridge

S E O R T

S E C R E T

GROUP NARRATIVE

Ten groups, plus three composite groups, attacked four rail bridges and two communication centers, recording SUPERIOR to UNDETERMINED results. One group bombed Other targets. Division field order specified that there would be no reporting to ground stations.

Geldern (Communication Center)

410 BG: 49 a/c dispatched, 45 dropping 269 x 500 GP on and in vicinity of Primary. 3 window a/c.

1 a/c failed to bomb: other (reason undetermined).

No losses, damage, casualties.

Visual bombing by flights from 10,800 - 12,000 feet.

Box I - Flight A. UNDETERMINED. No photo coverage due to cloud cover and rapid turn off target.

Flights B & C. UNDETERMINED. Flight B bombed simultaneously with Flight C. Flight C had no operational cameras, but cameras from Flight B disclosed bursts under the clouds. All of the bursts are outside 1000' radius of DMPI, centered 1500' WSW of DMPI in built up area and near highway bridge at SW edge of town. These bursts cannot be definitely assigned to either Flight B or C.

Box II - Flight A. UNDETERMINED. No photo coverage due to evasive action. Cameras did not pick up bursts. Bombardier reported bombs fell approximately 400' NW of A.P.

Flight B. A.P.N.B. Bombardier was unable to pick up DMPI due to cloud cover over target. Bombed bridge 1500' SE of assigned A.P. Bombs fell approximately 1000' SE of briefed DMPI and 500' NW of selected A.P., scoring strikes on roads and buildings.

Flight C. UNDETERMINED. No photo coverage. Cameras in this flight did not operate.

Box III- Flight A. SUPERIOR. 100% of bombs within 1000' of DMPI. Excellent pattern centered 250' south of DMPI. Pattern straddled roadway walking up to bridge, with possible strikes on approach.

416 BG)

409 BG): 23 A-26 plus 3 A-20 a/c dispatched, 11 A-26 and 2 A-20 a/c dropping 44 x 1000, 8 x 500 GP on and in vicinity of Primary. 12 A-26 and 1 A-20 a/c bombed Other targets.

1 A-26 a/c flak battle-damaged; no losses, casualties.

Visual bombing by flights from 11,000 - 11,300 feet.

Box I (416 BG)-Flight A. A.P.N.B. Due to partial cloud cover on target approach bombardier was unable to synchronize on two runs. On third run he dropped on pre-set data, using visible points to estimate release. Bombs fell in fields 8 miles SW of DMPI.

Flight B. P.N.B. After two unsuccessful runs on Primary, due to cloud cover, bombardier selected Other target for attack. Bombs did not release when sight indices met, due to malfunction of bomb bay door safety switch, so pilot salvaged. Bombs hit in fields and on road 3/4 mile N of Nieukerk, 4-3/4 miles SE of Primary.

- C -

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

- D -

Flight D. P.N.B. Due to haze, smoke, and clouds in target area bombardier was not able to pick up R.R. in time for proper bomb run; estimated target area and bombed with preset data. Bombs fell in fields 3500' NE of Lago (Map 1:100,000 F-3 Coord. 736785)

Visual reports state bombs hit in N edge of town of Lago. Box I - Flight A. UNDETERMINED. No photo coverage due to evasive action.

Visual bombing by flights from 8600 - 9700 feet.

2 additional a/c flak battle-damaged; no further casualties.

1 a/c, flak damaged, was lost when it crashed at base in attempting single engine landing; 2 crewmen injured.

1 a/c, believed flight had overshoot primary, held bombs, later releasing 4 x 1000 GP at 7-700630 - approximately 65 miles WSW of primary. Another a/c salvaged 4 x 1000 GP at W-200010 (35 miles WNW of primary) after bombs had failed to release at target.

416 BG:

Flight B. UNDETERMINED. Existing photo coverage of this flight does not show bomb pattern, due to cloud cover over portion of town bombed. Bombardier reports that clouds obscured primary. After three runs he sighted on road junction in center of town and bombed.

Flight A. EXCELLENT. Approximately 90% of bombs fell within 1000' radius of DMPI. Pattern is centered 830' ESE of DMPI, partially obscured by smoke from previous bombing. Pattern cover approximately 380' of R.R. with probable direct hits.

Flight B. P.N.B. Bombardier could not see target because of cloud cover. Bombed south portion of Vlotho at map coordinate B-771967, 12 miles NNE of target. Pattern covers a town street and 8 to 10 houses in south portion of town. Remainder of town in fields adjacent to town.

Box I - Flight A. EXCELLENT. Approximately 75% of bombs fell within 1000' radius of DMPI. Pattern is centered approximately 730' ENE of DMPI. Probable hits and near misses to 830' of single R.R. track ENE of DMPI. Pattern also covers highway.

Visual bombing by flights from 9000 - 11,000 feet.

7 A-26, 2 A-20 a/c flak battle-damaged; 3 crewmen missing.

1 A-26 a/c hit by flak, was seen to crash and burn at B-390890, 3 miles N of Halle - enemy territory; no chutes observed.

2 a/c (1 A-26, 1 A-20) failed to bomb: mechanical failures.

20 A-26 plus 9 A-20 a/c dispatched, 19 A-26 and 6 A-20 a/c dropped 76 x 1000, 23 x 500 GP on and in vicinity of primary. 2 A-20 a/c carried window.

409 BG:

Lago/Blofeld (Rail Bridge)

Box II (409 BG). UNDETERMINED. No photo coverage or visual observation of results due to cloud cover at primary. 6 a/c of this group attacked other target because of weather conditions at primary. Vertical cameras were not turned on and oblique camera shows target completely covered by clouds. By "GEE" fix bombs fell at Meze (B-940370), 8 miles NW of primary target.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Box II - Flight A. UNDETERMINED. No photo coverage due to evasive action. Visual reports state that bombs fell in target area.

Flight B. P.N.B. Due to haze, smoke and clouds in target area Bombardier was not able to pick up A.P. in time for proper run. Estimated target area and bombed with pre-set data. Bombs hit in fields 1300' NW of Lieme. (1:100,000 Map P-3 Coord. 747818)

Vlotho (Rail Bridge)

394 BG: 26 a/c dispatched, 6 dropping 12 x 2000 GP in vicinity of Primary. 4 a/c dropped 8 x 2000 GP on briefed secondary target. 3 a/c dropped 6 x 2000 GP on Other target. Bomb disposition unknown of 10 a/c (1 lost, 3 missing, 6 landed at St. Trend). 2 window a/c.

1 a/c failed to bomb: mechanical failure.

Above mentioned a/c was lost to flak in vicinity of Westdorp-Buur (A-250 750) - enemy territory; 5 chutes observed.

3 a/c missing; believed lost to enemy aircraft.

8 additional a/c flak battle-damaged; 26 crewmen missing.

Bombing by flights (visually and on E.T.A.) from 8500 - 11,000 feet.

Box I - Flight A. UNDETERMINED. Camera a/c landed away from base.

Flight B. UNDETERMINED. Camera a/c landed away from base.

Flight C. UNDETERMINED. This flight salvoed enroute to briefed secondary when jumped by fighters. No sighting operation carried out. Believed to be in vicinity of Velen (A-4867). Lack of accurate pinpoint handicapped finding of location; two bursts appear in open fields, with no apparent damage. Rest of pattern not visible due to violent evasive action.

Box II - Flight A. P.N.B. Bombed Primary on E.T.A.; clouds obscured target on 2nd run and GEE was jammed. Good concentration outside 1000' radius D.M.P.I. Pattern approximately 1175' NW of DMPI. Possible hits on a highway with probable damage.

Flight B. SUPERIOR. Bombardier made two runs on Primary but clouds obscured target; so bombed rail junction at briefed secondary target (Dulmen A-6860). Tight concentration entirely within 1000' radius of selected DMPI and centered approximately 160' SE of chosen MPI; heavy damage to intersection.

Flight C. P.N.B. Clouds prevented sufficiently long bomb run. Good concentration outside 1000' radius of DMPI. Pattern approximately 1170' SE of DMPI; possible hits on highway with probable damage.

387 BG: 26 a/c dispatched, 19 dropping 38 x 2000 GP on and in vicinity of Primary. Bomb disposition unknown of 4 a/c (3 missing, 1 landed at Eindhoven). 3 window a/c.

1 of the 3 missing a/c was last seen near Ibbenburen (V-990080) - enemy territory, with one engine on fire but apparently under control; 2 chutes observed. The other 2 a/c are unreported.

12 additional a/c flak battle-damaged; 20 crewmen missing.

Visual bombing by flights from 9000 - 10,500 feet.

- E -

S E C R E T

SECRET

- F -

Note: (Breakdown of 387 BG bombing by flights not available in time for inclusion in this report.)

Box II (387 BG) - P.N.B. This box took over lead from 394 BG (Box I). Cloud cover obscured both primary and secondary targets. Selected N/V at Hattum for attack. All bursts from this group are within 1000' radius of chosen DMPI, probably saving red time at choke point. Direct hits also scored on goods wagons, causing explosive and probably disrupting through traffic.

Flight B, NO ATTACK. Made 2 runs at primary but clouds prevented sighting operation. Secondary target was not identified in time to drop so bombs were returned.

Box I (394 BG) - Flight A, P.N.B. This flight could not identify either if on primary target. Lead was turned over to Box II (387 BG) which bombed other target (Hattum A-620490). This flight drops on Box II, all bombs falling within 1000' radius of selected DMPI. Good concentration approximately 170' S of chosen N/V, in N/V. Damage should be heavy.

Visual bombing by flights from 9900 - 10,500 feet.

The 2 missing a/c (387 BG) are unreported; 4 a/c Flak battle-damaged; 13 crewmen missing.

2 a/c failed to bomb; other (1 - flight leader did not pick up target in time to bomb; 1 - leader did not drop).

387 BG : 20 a/c dispatched; none bombed primary. 12 a/c dropped 24 x 2000 GP on other target. Bomb disposition unknown of 3 a/c (2 missing; 1 landed at Eindhoven - 387 BG). 3 window a/c.

(Note - Unsatisfactory bombing report not available for inclusion in this report.)

Flight B, EXCELLENT. All bursts inside 1000' radius in excellent pattern. MPI of bursts approximately 450' S of DMPI scoring near misses to southern bridge approach and possibly severing E-W road on S bank. 1 a/c having rack malfunction dropped on opposite side of bridge, scoring direct hits to N and of bridge, also exploding apparent ammo storage position for nearby Flak battery.

Box II - Flight A, P.N.B. Other target selected, approximate center of Autobahn bridge near Steenberge (CSGS 4416 F-3 733962). All bursts inside 1000' radius, approximately 500' S of chosen A.F. Remains of bursts not shown by this tracking camera plate. Greater are seen on later coverage. Excellent pattern.

Flight C, P.N.B. Center of town Lage (CSGS 4416, sheet F-3 739775) selected as other target. All bursts inside 1000' radius and centered approximately 150' NW of chosen A.F. Good pattern.

Box I Flight B, and Box II Flight C dropped on flight leader.

Box I - Flight A & B; Box II - Flight C, P.N.B. Cloud cover made visual bombing of primary and secondary impossible. Flight A leader chose center of village Reizenbeck (CSGS 4416, sheet N-2 926072) as other target. 90% of bursts inside 1000' radius. MPI of bursts approximately 150' N of chosen A.F. Bursts blanketed almost entire village.

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

NINTH AF CONSOLIDATED REPORT IX BD/SA 912

- (A) TARGET: LAGE RR/BR 4416/p3 - RB/717782
GELDERN ROAD/BR 4416/Q1 - RA/022255
- (B) SORTIE: US 416/762-63
US 416/760-61
- (C) DATE: 21 FEB 45 TIME: 1527 A
1416 A
- (D) ATTACKING A/C: 24 A-26's BY 6's
13 A-26's BY 5's
- (E) BOMBS: 96/1000 GP 1/10 N., 1/100 T
51/1000 GP
- (F) COVER: BURSTS ARE COVERED ON FAIR QUALITY PRINTS.
- (G) RESULTS OF BOMBING: OF FOUR FLIGHTS BRIEFED ON LAGE RR/BR,
THERE IS NO PHOTO COVERAGE FOR TWO FLTS AND THE OTHER
TWO DROPPED BOMBS IN OPEN FIELDS AT RB/736785 AND AT
RB/747818.

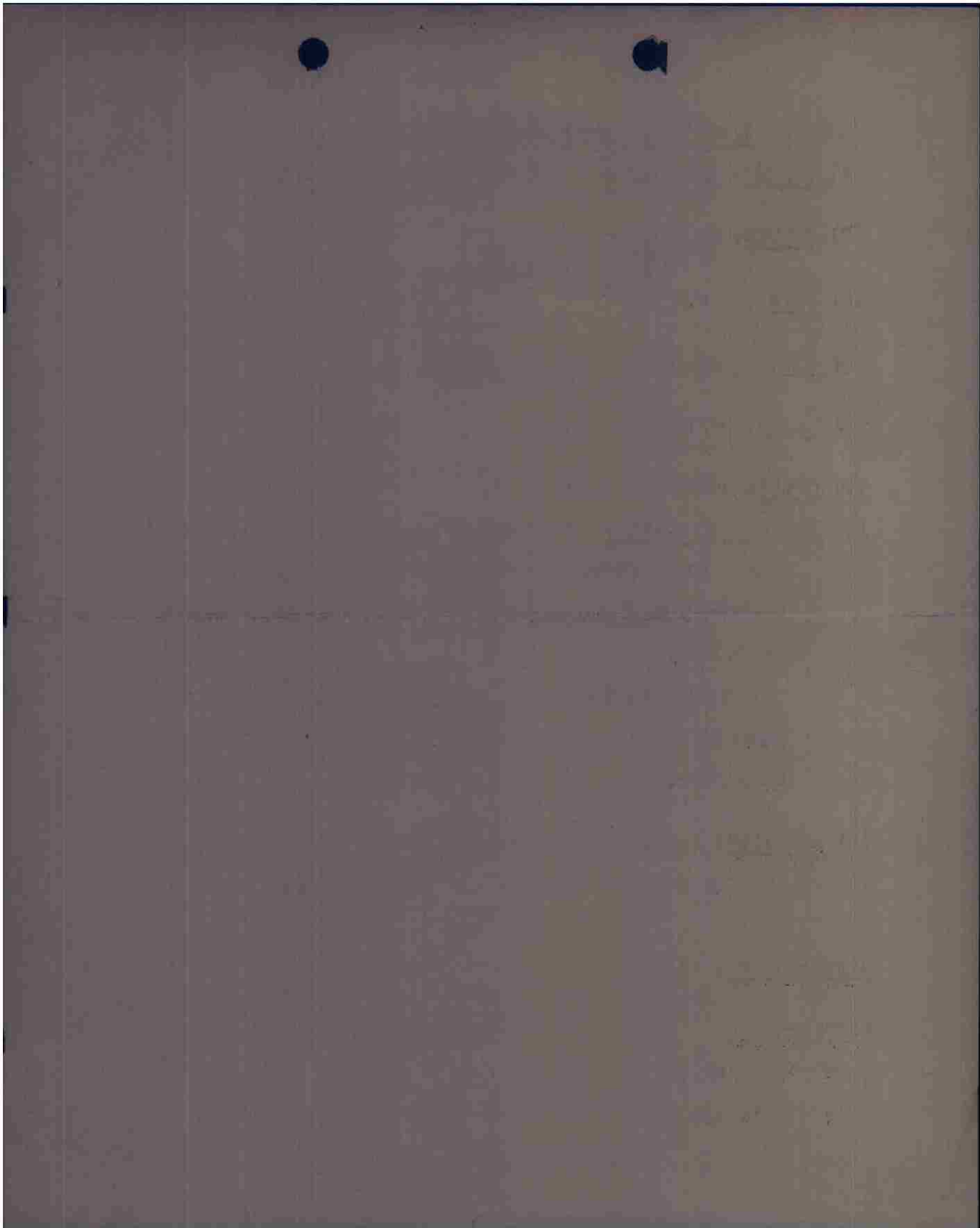
BOTH FLIGHTS, BRIEFED ON GELDERN ROAD BRIDGES,
DROPPED BOMBS ON OPEN FIELDS AT RA/007245 AND AT
RA/053196.
- (H) ACTIVITY: POSSIBLE MILITARY SUPPLIES ARE STORED IN A
SERIES OF PILES ALONG A HAY AT RB/754828.

DISTRIBUTION: S/A

CONFIDENTIAL

DET "C" 20th PID

AT HQ. IX B.D.



CAMERAS INSTALLED	_____	_____ %	GROUP	415TH
CAMERAS PHOTOGRAPHING	_____	_____ %	WING	97TH CBW
CAMERA FAILURES	_____	_____ %	DATE	_____
PERSONNEL FAILURES	_____	_____ %		
OTHERS	_____	_____ %		

TARGET

ALT. 507 ft

TRUE AIR SPEED mph

GROUND SPEED mph

TARGET

ALT. ft

TRUE AIR SPEED mph

GROUND SPEED mph

TARGET

ALT. ft

TRUE AIR SPEED mph

GROUND SPEED mph

[illegible]

REMARKS:

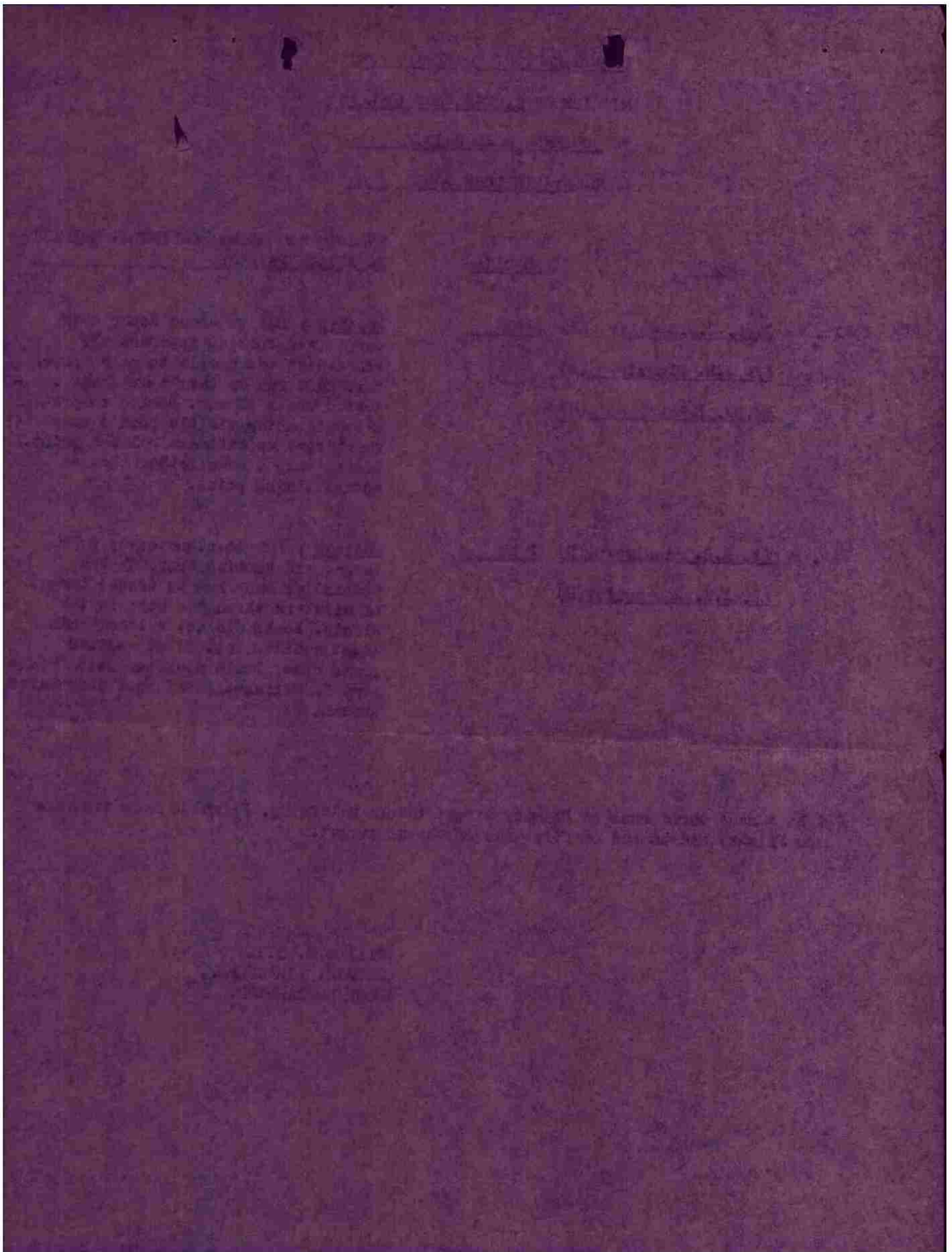
Photographic Officer

SATISFACTORY BOMBING REPORTMISSION OF 21 FEBRUARY 1945TO GELDEREN ROAD BRIDGESGROUP 416 TH BOMB GROUP

<u>NAMES</u>	<u>RESULTS</u>	<u>REASONS FOR GROSS BOMBING OR FAILURE TO ATTACK PRIMARY</u>
BOX I Flt. A <u>Capt. C.S. Stanley (P)</u>	<u>APNB</u>	<u>Weather</u> ; Due to cloud cover over target and bombing approach the Bombardier was unable to make proper run. Made run on target area and estimated where AP was. Bombed on pre-set data using visible points near the target to estimate release point. Bombed target area rather than an actual aiming point.
<u>F/O J.H. Blount (B)</u>		
<u>Lt. W. Babbage (N)</u>		
Flt. B <u>Lt. R.E. Singletary (P)</u>	<u>P NB</u>	<u>Weather</u> ; Due to cloud cover over target and bombing approach the Bombardier made run on casual target of Nieuwerk through a hole in the clouds. Bombs did not release when sight indices met. Pilot salvaged bombs after Bombardier had said "Bombs Away". Malfunction of bomb door safety switch.
<u>Lt. A.E. Rosengquist (B)</u>		

Flight A made three runs on Primary target before releasing. Flight B made two runs on Primary and bombed on first run on Casual target.

WILLIAM M. LYTLE
CAPTAIN, AIR CORPS.,
GROUP BOMBARDIER.



S E C R E T

Bad/Ovenhausen (Rail Bridge)

322 BG: 25 a/c dispatched, 18 dropping 36 x 2000 GP on Primary. 5 a/c dropped 10 x 2000 GP on briefed secondary target. Bomb disposition unknown of 1 a/c which landed at St. Trond.

1 a/c failed to bomb: mechanical failure.

10 a/c flak battle-damaged; 1 crewman wounded. No losses.

Visual bombing by flights from 8750 - 9500 feet.

Box I - Flight A. UNSATISFACTORY. No bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Pattern 2100' W of DMPI. On the heading taken by this flight clouds obscured IP, and target was seen only a short time before bombing, permitting insufficient time to correct sight.

Flight D. EXCELLENT. Pattern centered approximately 160' from DMPI. At least one direct hit, and several near misses to W end of bridge, plus at least one hit on W approach tracks.

Box II - Flight A. UNDETERMINED. No photo coverage. Due to clouds on bomb run Primary was not attacked. This flight bombed briefed secondary target, Dulmen R.R. Overpass (Sheet P-1, 697591). Crews report good results on basis of visual observation.

Flight B. EXCELLENT. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Excellent pattern centered 600' to E of N bank of river. Bursts are partially obscured by clouds and bomb smoke, with possible hits to the eastern approaches, on a secondary road, and probable balloon anchorage.

391 BG: 46 a/c dispatched, 43 dropping 86 x 2000 GP on Primary. 1 a/c jettisoned 2 x 2000 GP at A-550650 - enemy territory - due to rack malfunction at Primary. Bomb disposition unknown of 2 a/c which landed at Eindhoven.

8 a/c flak battle-damaged; 1 crewman wounded. No losses.

Visual bombing by flights from 9000 feet.

Box I - Flight A. EXCELLENT. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Dispersed pattern of bombs fell about 400' S of DMPI, across roadway along side of river, and in river.

Flight B. SUPERIOR. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Tight pattern of bombs fell about 200' SW of DMPI with 3 probable hits on bridge and its W approach.

Flight C. EXCELLENT. 80% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Dispersed pattern of bombs fell about 550' NW of DMPI with several near misses to W approach of bridge, and hitting a small building alongside bridge.

Flight D. SUPERIOR. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Tight pattern of bombs fell about 150' SE of DMPI with 2 probable hits on bridge.

Box II - Flight A. EXCELLENT. 80% of bombs fell within 1000' radius of DMPI. Tight pattern of bombs fell about 275' S of DMPI in river. 2 late bombs fell in open fields about 2000' NE of DMPI.

Flight B. SUPERIOR. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Tight pattern fell about 250' S of DMPI with one probable hit on bridge.

- G -

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

- H -

Flight B. UNSUCCESSFUL. No bursts within 1000' radius of DMPI. Center of concentrated pattern 1400' W of DMPI. Majority of bombs fell on fields and on garden allotments. Few near misses to several houses in area. No other apparent damage.

Flight A. EXCELLENT. More than 90% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Center of concentrated pattern 590' NE of DMPI. Pattern blankets a main highway-second highway intersection on the north side of town. Debris and possible hits probably block the main highway between Xanten and Martenbann at this point.

Visual bombing by flights from 11,500 feet.

8 a/c flank battle-damaged; no losses, casualties.

386 BG: 12 A-26 a/c dispatched, all dropping 48 x 1000 GP on Primary.

Box III-Flight A. SUPERIOR. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI in good concentration. MPI of bursts is 180' NW of AP. Bombs hit across roads and on buildings in this section of town.

Flight C. EXCELLENT. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI with exception of three salvaged bombs. Good concentration, MPI of bursts is 660' SSE of AP. Bombs hit on roads and in south part of town.

Flight D. SUPERIOR. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI in good concentration. MPI of bursts is 200' W of AP. Bombs hit in town and on roads in town.

Box II - Flight A. UNSUCCESSFUL. All bombs outside 1000' radius of DMPI in good concentration. MPI of bursts is 1900' NW of AP. Bombs hit on road near junction leading into town.

Flight C. EXCELLENT. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI in excellent concentration. MPI of bursts is 390' W of AP over road in city. Hits were scored on city area and on roads.

Flight D. EXCELLENT. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI in excellent concentration. MPI of bursts 795' NW of AP in city area. Hits were scored in built up area of town on roads.

Box I - Flight A. EXCELLENT. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Excellent concentration with MPI of bursts 480' W of AP in city area. Hits were scored on roads and houses in this area.

Visual bombing by flights from 10,700 - 12,700 feet.

1 a/c, flank damaged, crash-landed at base; 19 other a/c flank battle-damaged 2 crewmen wounded.

4 a/c failed to bomb: mechanical failures.

323 BG: 44 a/c dispatched, 38 dropping 150 x 1000 GP on Primary. 2 window a/c.

Xanten (Communication Center)

Flight D. SUPERIOR. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Patterned pattern centered 150' E of DMPI, with one probable hit on bridge and several hits on and along R.R. tracks E of bridge.

Flight C. SUPERIOR. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Flight pattern fell about 50' SE of DMPI across roadway, with probable hit on E end of the bridge.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

322 BG):
344 BG): 24 a/c dispatched, 23 dropping 92 x 1000 GP on Primary.

1 a/c (344 BG) failed to bomb: personnel failure.

7 a/c (3 - 322 BG, 4 - 344 BG) flak battle-damaged; 1 (344 BG) crewman wounded. No losses.

Visual bombing by flights from 10,500 - 11,700 feet.

Box I - Flight A. SUPERIOR. Good concentration centered on DMPI. Pattern covers a road running N out of town, several street intersections, and houses in the NW end of town. Two late releases.

Flight B. EXCELLENT. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Excellent concentration centered about 400' SW of DMPI. Bombs cover an E-W street, houses, and cultivated fields S of town.

Flight C. EXCELLENT. Almost all bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Good concentration centered about 550' S of DMPI covering houses and a street intersection in the SW end of town. At least one hit is seen on the main N-S road S of the town.

Box II - Flight A. UNSATISFACTORY. All bombs outside 1000' radius of DMPI (344BG) Tight pattern 1710' SE of DMPI. Strikes on edge of town, covering road and several residential buildings. Bomb run too short.

Hereford (Rail Bridge)

397 BG: 27 a/c dispatched, 20 dropping 80 x 1000 GP in vicinity of Primary. Bomb disposition unknown of 4 a/c (2 missing, 1 landed at Eindhoven, 1 at Ophoven). 3 window a/c.

2 missing a/c are unreported; 10 additional a/c flak battle-damaged; 12 crewmen missing. No losses.

Visual bombing by flights from 8500 - 11,000 feet.

Box I - Flight A. SUPERIOR. Primary not bombed. Flight turned onto bomb run prior to IP. Attacked briefed secondary target (Dulmen Rail Bridge - A-700591). All bombs within 1000' radius of chosen DMPI. Pattern centered 60' S of bridge, with probable direct hits on bridge and rail lines.

Flight B. EXCELLENT. 100% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Good pattern 470' W of DMPI, hitting in open area and in water.

Flight C. SUPERIOR. 100% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Good pattern 235' W of DMPI, hitting in open areas and adjacent to R.R. lines. No apparent damage.

Box II - Flight A. SUPERIOR. 100% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Good pattern 35' S of DMPI. Believed direct hits on bridge.

Flight B. EXCELLENT. 90% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Broken pattern 875' E of DMPI, generally in open area. Hits on roads to recreation area.

Flight C. EXCELLENT. 100% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Good pattern 690' SE of DMPI. No apparent damage.

- I -

S E C R E T

SECRET

- 1 -

344 DG: 25 a/c dispatched; non bombed.
 All a/c failed to bomb: other (fighter escort did not take rendezvous;
 leader obtained fix which showed formation to be at rendezvous point).
 Formation returned from vicinity of Coesfeld (4-608721) - enemy territory.
 No losses, damage, casualties.

386 DG: 24 a-26 a/c dispatched; 23 dropping 92 x 1000 GP on and in vicinity of
 primary.
 1 a/c failed to bomb: mechanical failure.
 5 a/c flak battle-damaged; no losses, casualties.
 Visual bombing by flights from 8800 - 8900 feet.
 Box I - Flight A & D. UNSUCCESSFUL. Lead a/c of Flight A abandoned
 after take off and flight bombed on lead a/c of Flight D. Bursts
 occur 1-1/4 miles SE of DMPI (it is believed that bombardier mis-
 identified primary target). Majority of bombs fell in open fields
 8501 SE of Autobahn highway bridge. However, several near misses
 were scored on a small secondary road bridge, and one very near
 miss on the E approach to this small bridge.
 Box II - Flight A. UNSUCCESSFUL. No bursts within 1000' radius of DMPI.
 Lead bombardier reports that bombs would not release thru bomb-
 sight and salvoed after indices had crossed. Center of pattern
 about 1200' NW of DMPI. Bursts blanketed a road junction NW of
 bridge. Also possible hits or very near misses to a 3 gun flak
 position.
 Flight D. P.N.D. This flight followed Box leader thru first run
 on primary. On second run bombardier misidentified his position
 and thought flight had over-run target. Bombs fell 9 miles SE of
 primary landing on NW corner of town of Lago (D-726775). Bomb
 pattern covers one main street and about 12 residential type
 buildings.

386 DG: 24 a-26 a/c dispatched; 23 dropping 92 x 1000 GP on and in vicinity of
 primary.

SECRET

S E C R E T

Section II

A/C Off		427
A/C Bombing	347	
A/C Failing to Bomb	38	
Other		
Window 18		
Bombs of 24 a/c Unaccounted for	42	
Total		427

Bombs on Enemy Territory	660.000
Total Bombs to Date	110,275.725

A/C Lost (409, 416, 394 BG)	3	
A/C Missing (394 3; 387 5; 397 2;)	10	
A/C Crash-Landed (323 BG)	1	
A/C Battle Damaged	110	(26.25%)
Killed	0	
Wounded	5	
Missing	74	
Injured	2	
Claims	0-0-2	

- 1 -

S E C R E T

SECRET

- 2 -

WEATHER: Geldern

410 BG: 6-7/10 cumulus and strato-cumulus, base 2000, tops 3000. Visibility unlimited air to air, 15 plus miles air to ground.

416 BG: 6-8/10 strato-cumulus and cumulus, tops 4-4500' visibility 10 plus miles.

409 BG: 6-7/10 cumulus, tops 4500'. Visibility 10 miles in sun, unlimited out.

Large/Bleisfeld

409 BG: 4/10 cumulus, tops 4500'. Visibility 10 miles in light haze.

416 BG: 2-3/10 strato-cumulus, tops 4-5000'. Visibility 10 miles.

394 BG: 4-5/10 small cumulus, base 1000, tops 20-2500'. Thick haze to 2000'. Visibility 6-10 miles down sun on bomb run.

367 BG: 6-8/10 strato-cumulus, tops 5000'. Visibility 6-8 miles on run. 5/10 cirrus above 20,000'.

Bad/Ovenhausen

322 BG: 3-5/10 cumulus, tops 7000'. Visibility 10-15 miles air to ground.

391 BG: 4-5/10 strato-cumulus and cumulus, tops 5000', patchy cirrus 20,000'. Visibility 4-6 miles air to ground.

OBSERVATIONS

GROUP	NO. A/C	CLASSIFICATION	REASON
322	1	Mechanical	Engine cutting out.
323	4	Mechanical	2 - Left engines cutting out. 1 - Left generator out.
344	1	Personnel	Bombardier did not see leader drop.
386	1	Mechanical	Nose wheel would not retract.
344	25	Other	Fighter escort did not rendezvous.
410	1	Other	Reason unknown.
409	2	Mechanical	1 (A-26) - Broken fuel pressure gauge. 1 (A-20) - Inoperative circuit broken.
394	1	Mechanical	Losing gas from left wing tank.
394	2	Other	1 - Flight leader could not pick up target until too late to bomb. 1 - Flight leader did not drop.

FAILURES TO BOMB

SECRET

S E C R E T

Xanten 323 BG: 3/10 cumulus, top 2000' in area, but target clear. Visibility on run 10-12 miles.

386 BG: 2-3/10, tops 3500' base 2000'. Visibility 10 miles. 4/10 cirrus.

322 BG: Clear, 10-12 miles visibility.

344 BG: 3/10 cumulus, 3000' tops, 1500' base. Visibility 2-4 miles up sun, 10-15 miles down sun.

Hereford 397 BG: Nil cloud. Visibility on bomb run 5-7 miles, light haze to 7000'.

386 BG: 3/10 cumulus, tops 3500'. 4-5/10 cirrus 20,000'. Visibility 3-4 miles up sun, 6-8 miles down sun.

S/A PHOTO REPORTS

GROUP	CAMERAS PHOTOGRAPHING	MECHANICAL FAILURES		PERSONNEL FAILURES	
		NO.	PERCENT	NO.	PERCENT
410	86%	0	0	2	14
416	100%	0	0	0	0
416	83%	1	17	0	0
409	100%	0	0	0	0
394	100%	0	0	0	0
387	100%	0	0	0	0
394	100%	0	0	0	0
387	100%	0	0	0	0
322	88%	1	12	0	0
391	100%	0	0	0	0
323	100%	0	0	0	0
386	Not available.				
322	80%	1	20	0	0
344	100%	0	0	0	0
397	88%	1	12	0	0
386	Not available.				

S E C R E T

- 4 -

Both groups reported no flak at the target. Enroute the 387 gp. encountered moderate accurate heavy flak at Bielefeld (B-530820) and Herford (B-640920). 8 heavy guns are located at Bielefeld while no defenses are plotted at Herford. Moderate accurate flak was also encountered north of Munster. The 394 gp. reported weak inaccurate flak at Winterbach (A-300176), Paderborn (B-700480) and weak accurate at Emmerich (B-980600). The lost a/c received a hit on the co-pilot's side, and 5 chutes were seen to come from the a/c, although it seemed under control. This was in the vicinity of Geyse (A-250750).

A/c Lost to Flak	1
A/c Missing	8
A/c Battle Damaged	27
% A/c Battle Damaged	38.88%

387, 394 gp. Vlotho R.R. Bridge

No guns are plotted at any of the points where flak was encountered. However, in all cases the localities are communication centers and it is the enemy's policy to defend such points. The 416 gp. reported moderate inaccurate flak at Hollerbach (A-690780) and Winterbach (A-301760). The lost a/c of this group crashed at base.

The 409 gp. reported no flak at the target, but the 416 gp. reported moderate accurate heavy flak on the turn off target. Flak enroute was moderate accurate at A-550650, southwest of Goersfeld, B-390890, Borgholzhausen, for the 409 gp. The a/c they lost received a direct hit at Borgholzhausen. The a/c was seen to crash and burn. No chutes were seen.

A/c Lost to Flak	2
A/c Battle Damaged	11
% A/c Battle Damaged	25.00%

409, 416 gp. Lage/Bielefeld R.R. Bridge

The 410th gp. reported nil flak. However, the 409 gp. reported weak accurate heavy flak at Weeze (B-940370) and weak inaccurate at Twistadon (B-942298). The 416 gp. reported weak inaccurate flak north of the turn off target. Counter battery fire was requested. However, the report on what the artillery fired, has not been received. It was probably effective as there is a total of 36 heavy guns plotted within range of the target and the route flown.

A/c Lost to Flak	0
A/c Battle Damaged	1
% A/c Battle Damaged	1.33%

Golden Communication Center 410, 416, 409 gp.

A/c Over Enemy Territory	419
A/c Lost to Flak	3
A/c Missing	10
A/c Battle Damaged	107
% A/c Battle Damaged	26.25%

FLAK ANALYSIS ANNEX

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Bed/Oyenhausen R.R. Bridge 322, 391 Gp.

A/C Lost to Flak	0
A/C Battle Damaged	18
% A/C Battle Damaged	25.71%

Both groups reported moderate accurate flak at the target. The 322 Gp. reported flak at only one point enroute, moderate accurate, at Goesfeld (A-585705). The 391 Gp. reported moderate accurate flak at Dulmen (A-679600) and Borken (A-390615). In all cases the a/c were in clear weather when they encountered flak. The only known defense in action was the 4 gun position 2 miles west of Borken.

Xanten Communication Center 323, 386, 322, 344 Gp.

A/C Lost to Flak	0
A/C Battle Damaged	35
% A/C Battle Damaged	46.05%

All groups reported moderate accurate heavy flak from the bomblines to the target and return. One group (322nd) reported that the flak grew more intense as the target was approached. Weather was from CAVU to no more than 2/10, and the gunners were able to engage the formations visually to full advantage. 14 heavy guns are plotted enroute to the target, and only 8 of them would be in range of friendly artillery. The target is within the defenses of Wesel which lies about 4 miles east of the target.

Hereford R.R. Bridge 386, 344, 397 Gp.

A/C Lost to Flak	0
A/C Missing	2
A/C Battle Damaged	15
% A/C Battle Damaged	20.00%

The 397 Gp. was the only one of the attacking formations reporting flak at the target and that was mostly weak inaccurate. Enroute the 386 Gp. encountered weak inaccurate flak at Dulmen (A-685595). The 344 Gp. weak inaccurate at Goesfeld and the 397 Gp. weak inaccurate at Drensteinfurt (B-010565), weak inaccurate to moderate accurate at Dulmen (A-570650) and moderate accurate northwest of Cleve (E-900550). There are no known defenses at any of these points, with the exception of the Cleve area.

SUMMARY: The deep penetrations made on this operation is interesting from a flak viewpoint. In most cases heavy flak was encountered at points where there are no known defenses. However, in all cases the flak was encountered at communication centers or near one. The enemy usually follows the tactics of defending such points. It is interesting to note that for the most part the flak was weak and inaccurate. This would indicate that the communication centers that the enemy is defending are not defended in great strength.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT REACTION

T.O.T.'s: 1327 to 1640

The 394th Group to Vlotho was engaged by 20 Me 109's and FW 190's from Dulmen (A-680605) to Weseke (A-390690) on the return route. Original attacks were from the front, followed by pursuit curve attacks, and attacks from 6 o'clock in line abreast and line astern formations. Attacks were aggressive. A flight of three Marauders was broken up by the attacks, and although considered missing, two were very probably lost to these e/a, and quite probably also the third. Preliminary claims are 0-0-2.

The smaller formation of this Group, dispatched with the 387th Group against the

SECRET

- 6 -

same target, was trailed by two unidentified jetcraft for 15 minutes after leaving the primary target area about 1515. The jets kept a good distance from the formation, and made no attempt to attack.

The 397th Group to Hareford (B-751901) observed (at approximately 1500 hours) a formation of some 20 jetcraft near the target area at 20,000 feet. No attempt at combat.

The 387th Group observed several unidentified S/L enemy fighters in the Münster area including one flight of 4 which passed under a bomber flight but made no attempt to attack it. Seven other crews report sightings of single S/L in the same area.

Only e/a encountered in the attacks on the Army Co-op targets in the Canadian Army area were two Me 109's seen by the 322nd Group at 17-15,000 feet in the Xanton area at about 1400 hours. No combat attempted.

SECRET

PUBLIC RELATIONS
PRESS RELEASE

HEADQUARTERS NINTH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION, France—Making their deepest penetration into Germany, A-26 Invaders and B-26 Marauders bombed four railway bridges between Hannover and Osnabruck today. Other Ninth Air Force bombers attacked two communications centers ahead of the British-Canadian salient and other targets in Northwestern Germany.

More than 400 Medium and light bombers were dispatched by Major General Samuel E. Anderson's Ninth Bombardment Division and registered generally good results despite enemy opposition by fighters and ground defenses.

Approximately 200 Invaders and Marauders carried out attacks on the four important bridges carrying rail lines eastward from the Ruhr Valley. The bridges are grouped within a 10-mile area 40 miles southwest of Hannover. They include two Weser River spans at Bad Oeyenhausen and Vlotho and two more over the Werre River at Herford and Lage.

Nearly 150 A-20 Havocs, Invaders and Marauders bombed the two communications centers of Xanten and Geldern, 13 miles east and southeast of the town of Goch, in which British troops are reported fighting. At the request of the ground forces, the bombers carried out the attacks on bridge targets in Geldern and roads in Xanten in an effort to block through traffic to the German front. Good results were reported in the Xanten bombing, while clouds prevented accurate observations at Geldern.

Other targets included the town of Dulman, 22 miles northwest of Dortmund, where a rail yard and other communications targets are located, and the town of Merfeld, four miles northwest of Dulman. Another small formation hit a small town eight miles west of Osnabruck.

Tonight's Me 109s attacked a formation of Marauders, returning from bombing the Vlotho bridge, and in the ensuing fight three Marauders were believed lost. Fighters aided the bombers and it was claimed that two of the three enemy fighters was shot down.

One other Marauder was reported lost to flak. Thirteen other bombers were unaccounted for at a late hour tonight.

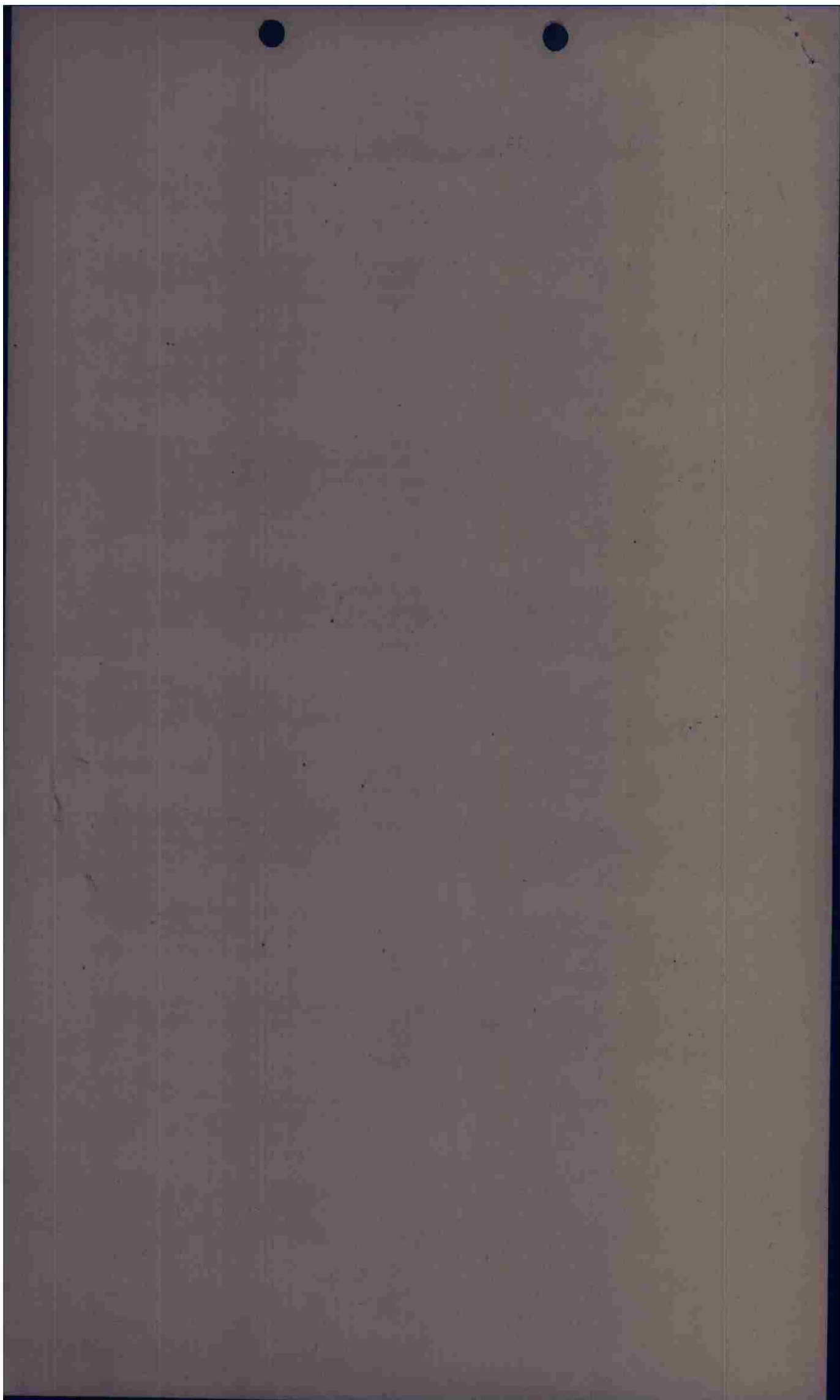
Staff Sgt. James W. Gresham, Norcross, Georgia, an Invader gunner who watched the bombing of the bridge at Lage, reported: "Smoke completely covered the bridge. Our bombs dropped into it just about where the middle of the bridge should be."

"We dropped our bombs in a compact pattern, starting slightly off center of the bridge, which was well hit by the balance of the bombers", said 1st Lt. Clarence R. Pell, Narrunson Road, Manasquan, N. J., a Marauder bombardier who participated in the Herford bridge attack.

1st Lt. Arthur A. Jaquez, Blanco, New Mexico, another Marauder bombardier, reported that he saw bombs hit at the edge of the town of Dulman on a railway junction.

--30--

21 February 1945: Phoned to Paris in two takes, 2000 and 2100.
Press Camp 2130.



ITA JEA V JKL JKI 22/22 OP OP

FROM 416TH BOMB GROUP (L) 22/1948A
TO CC, 9TH BOMB DIVISION
CC, 9TH COMBAT BOMB WING
ATTN: A-2

BT
OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

OPSFLASH FOR 21 FEB. 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL SIGNAL SERVICE FAX-167-D PERIOD

CHANGE PARAGRAPH "E". TO READ:

E. NONE

AYLESWORTH COBOMGR 416

BT 22/1948A

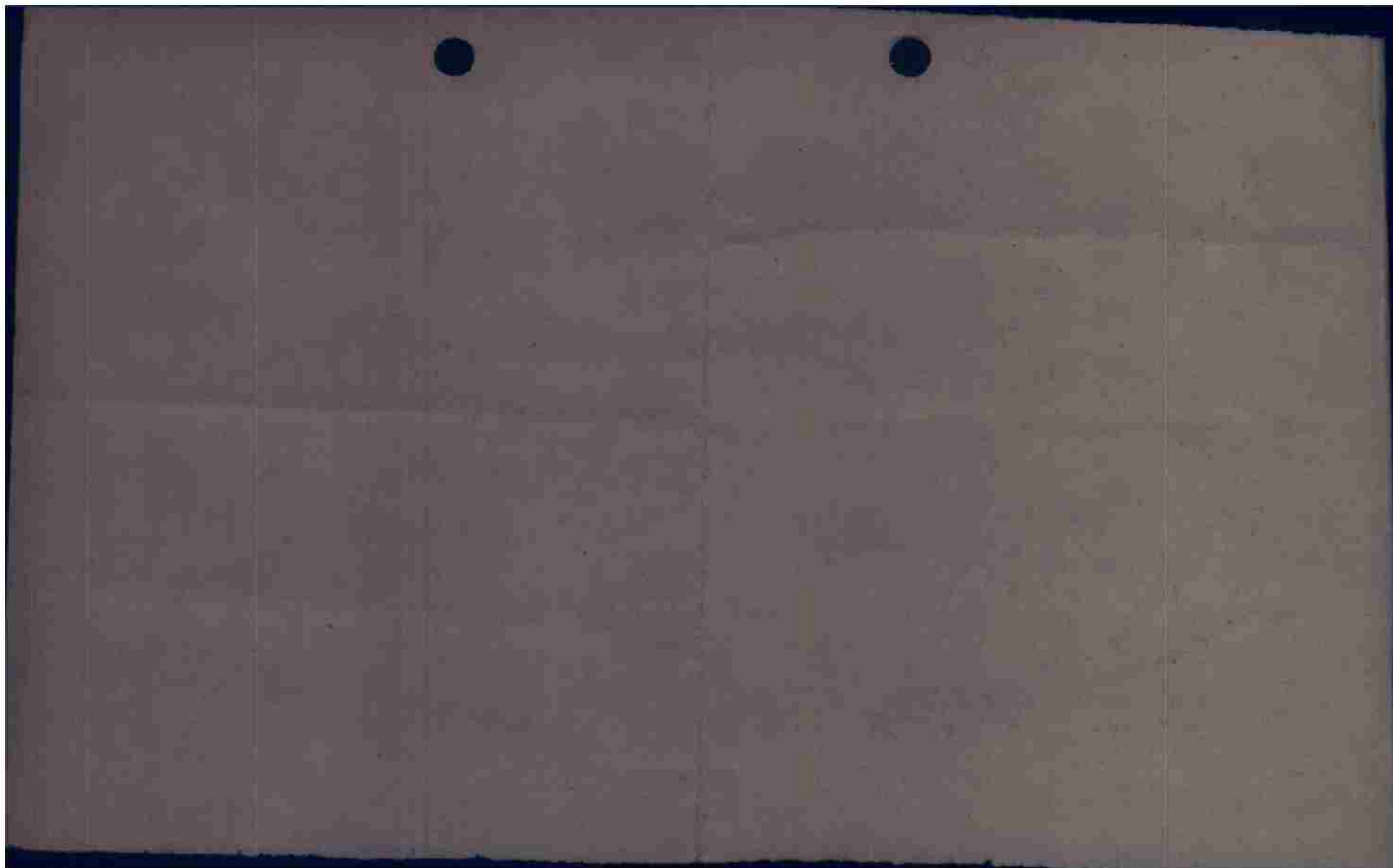
TOD.....22/2135A

EW AR AR

ITA R.....22/2ATA DF AR

JE A R.....22/2135A RL AR

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958



THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

ITA JEA V JKI JKI 10/21 OP OP

FROM 416TH BOMB GROUP (L) 21/1810A
TO COMMANDING GENERAL, 9TH BOMB DIVISION
COMMANDING GENERAL, 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING
ATTENTION: A-2

BT

CONFIDENTIAL 416TH BG FAX-136-D OPSFLASH FOR 21 FEB. 1945

- A. 416TH BOMB GROUP
- B. GELDEN ROAD BRIDGES
- C. 13 A-26'S
- D. 6 A-26'S PRIMARY 3 RUNS MADE
7 A-26'S NIEUKERK (A-052185) CASUAL, 2 RUNS MADE ON PRIMARY,
CLOUD COVERED TARGET, ONE RUN MADE ON CASUAL,
PILOT SALVOED DUE TO RELEASE SYSTEM MALFUNCTION.
- E. NONE
- F. 24 X 1000 GP ON PRIMARY
27 X 1000 GP ON CASUAL
1 X 1000 GP RETURNED DUE TO STATION NOT COCKED
- G. PRIMARY - UNOBSERVED DUE TO CLOUD COVER
CASUAL - UNOBSERVED DUE TO CLOUD COVER
- H. ONE A/C DAMAGED CAT. "A" (FLAK)
- I. NONE
- J. TARGET NONE -
MEAGER INACCURATE HFF NORTH OF TURN OFF PRIMARY TARGET. (A030380)
- K. NONE
- L. 11,000 PRIMARY
11,300 CASUAL
- M. 1415 PRIMARY FLIGHT ONE
1416 CASUAL FLIGHT TWO

NOTE: NO CALL MADE TO GROUND CONTROL STATIONS. FORMATION BEING LED
BY 409TH BOMB GROUP.

AYLESWORTH COBOMGR 416

BT 21/1810A

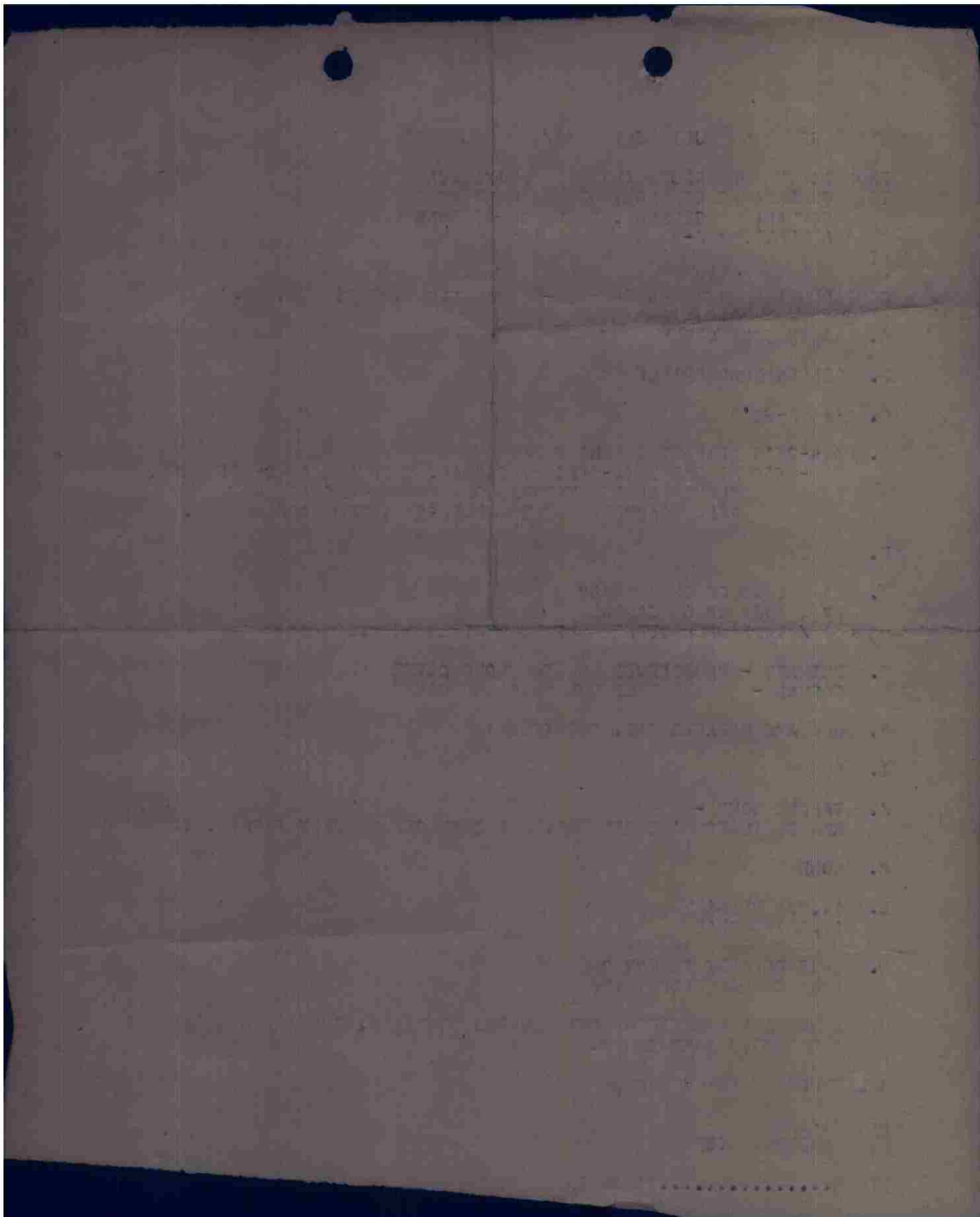
EW BBBBBBBB

JEA R

ITA R.....21/1819A

HW

KKK



FA 352

OIITA OIJES OIJKI V OIJE A OIJE A 03/21 OP - OP

FROM: 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 21/0245A
TO : COMBOMDIV NINE
COBOMGRPS 409, 416

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY BT
SECRET SENT IN THE CLEAR AUTH: LT. COL. MC AFEE

97TH COMBAT BOMB WING
A P O 140
21 FEBRUARY 1945

F-170-E

INTELLIGENCE SUPPLEMENT 2 FIELD ORDER NO. 173-755

PLAN "A"

REFERENCE INTELLIGENCE SUPPLEMENT 2 FIELD ORDER 171-753

COMCBTWIG 97

BT 21/0245A

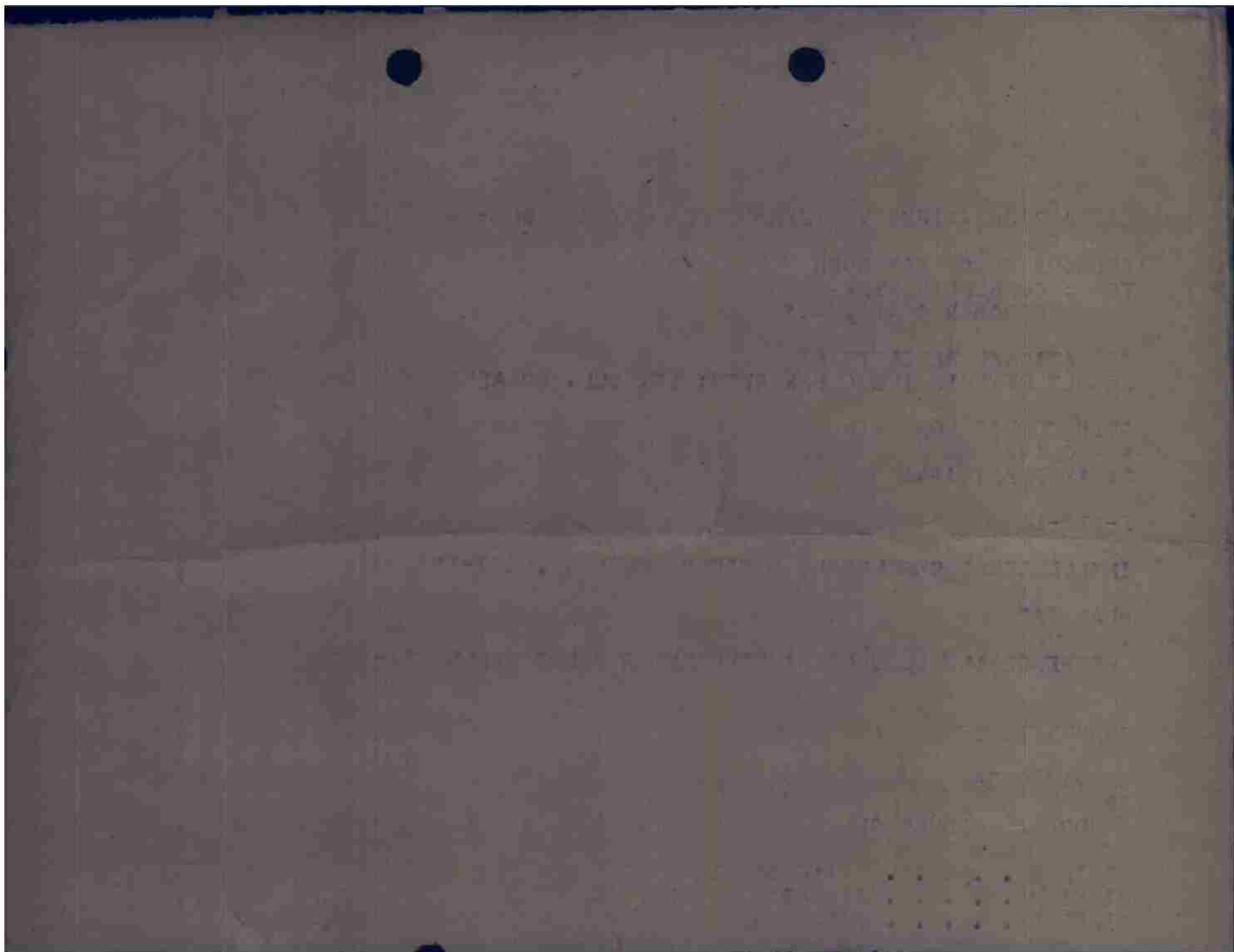
AR

BBBBBB TO GROUPS ONLY

SS

OIITA R "21;405A IC AR
OIJKI R 21/0405A WFG AR
OIJES R 21/0405A FR AKKKKK

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958



THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

ITA JEA V JKI JKI 21/21 OP OP

FROM HQS 416TH BOMB GROUP (L) 21/2200A
 TO HQS 9TH BOMB DIVISION ATTN: A-2 P.I.
 HQS 97TH COMBAT WING ATTN: STAFF DUTY OFFICER.

BT
 OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

SECRET 416TH BOMB GP FAX-146-D PERIOD

B. GELDERN ROAD BRIDGE.

G. 1415

J. BOX I FLT. A: A PNB. DUE TO PARTIAL CLOUD W/ COVER ON TARGET APPROACH, BOMBARDIER WAS UNABLE TO MAKE SYNCHRONOUS RUN. MADE 3 RUNS AND ON THIRD RUN ~~HE~~ USED FIXED ANGLE BOMBING. BOMBS FELL IN FIELDS .8 MILES SW OF DMPI.

FLT. B: PNB. MADE 2 RUNS ON PRIMARY BUT DECIDED TO BOMB CASUAL RATHER THAN BOMB ON 2 UNSYNCHRONOUS RUN. BOMBS HIT IN FIELDS AND ON ROAD .75 MILES N OF NIEUKERK (SHEET Q 1 COORD. 653185) 4.75 MILES SE OF PRIMARY.

K. BOX I FLT. A: A PNB. WEATHER: DUE TO CLOUD COVER OVER TARGET AND BOMBING APPROACH THE BOMBARDIER WAS ~~UNE~~// UNABLE TO MAKE PROPER RUN. MADE RUN ON TARGET AREA AND ESTIMATED WHERE AP WAS. BOMBED ON PRE-SET DATA USING VISIBLE POINTS NEAR THE TARGET TO ESTIMATE RELEASE POINT. BOMBED TARGET AREA RATHER THAN AN ACTUAL ~~RIR~~ AIMING POINT.

FLT. B. PNB: - WEATHER: DUE TO CLOUD COVER OVER TARGET AND BOMBING APPROACH THE BOMBARDIER MADE RUN ON CASUAL TARGET OF NIEUKERK THROUGH HOLE IN CLOUDS. BOMBS DID NOT RELEASE WHEN SIGHT INDICES MET. PILOT SALVOED BOMBS AFTER BOMBARDIER HAD SAID "BOMBS AWAY." MALFUNCTION OF BOMB DOOR SAFETY SWITCH.

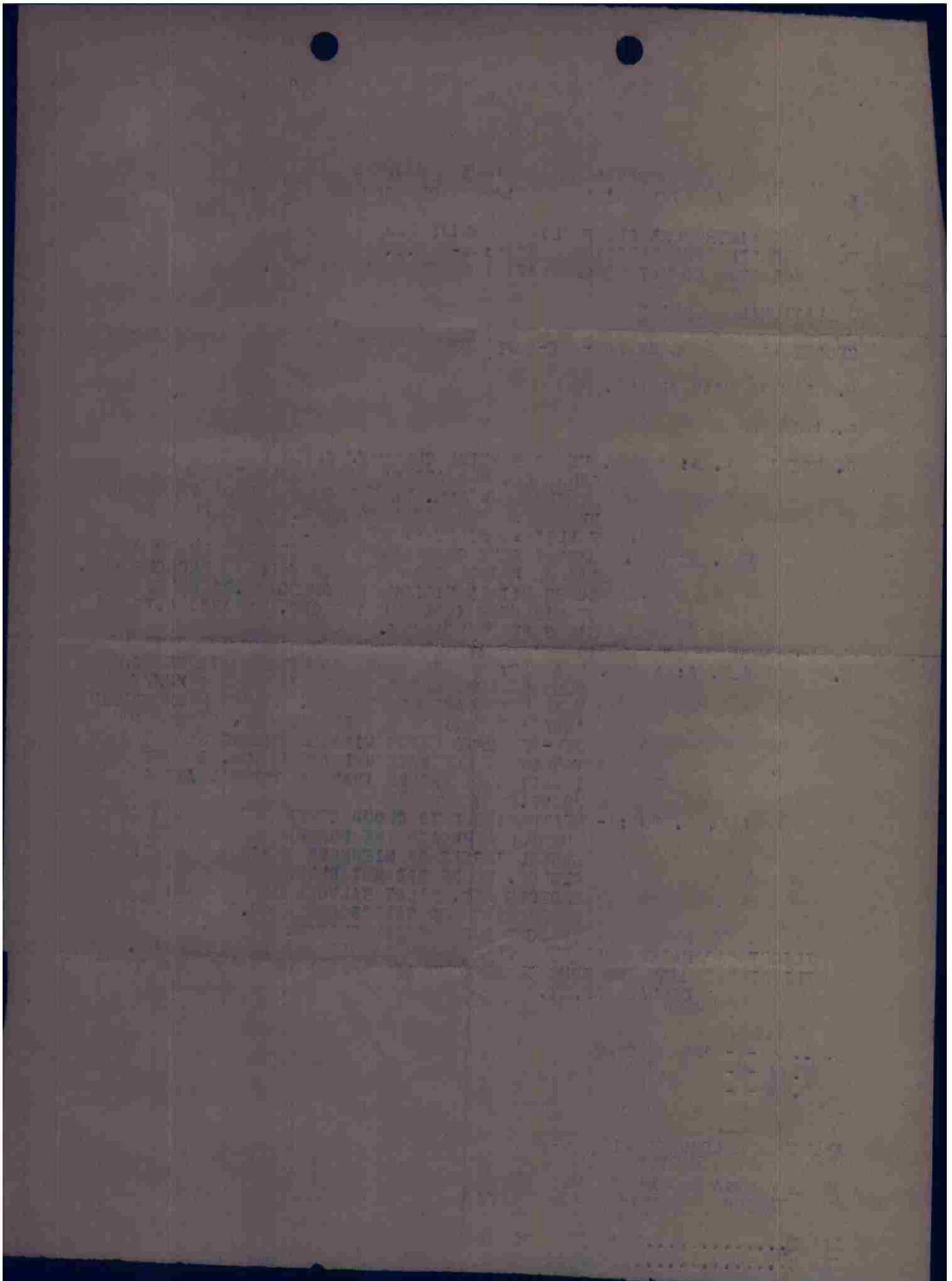
FLIGHT "A" MADE THREE RUNS ON PRIMARY TARGET BEFORE RELEASING.
 FLIGHT "B" MADE TWO RUNS ON PRIMARY AND BOMBED ON FIRST RUN ON CASUAL TARGET.

M. A. 4 - - 100 PERCENT
 B. 0 - - 0 0 "
 C. 0 - - 0 0 "

AYLESWORTH COBOMGR 416

BT 21/2200A
 EW BBBB

ITA R.....21/2030A DC K
 JEA R.....21/1035A RL K



FX 350

OIITA OIJES OIJKI OIJPO OIJJF V OIJE A OIJE A 05/21 OP - OP
T (OIITA T OIJJF)

FROM: 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 21/0245A
TO : COMBOMDIV NINE
COBOMGPS 409, 410, 416
1ST PROV. PATHFINDER SQDN.

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY BT
SECRET SENT IN THE CLEAR AUTH. LT. COL. MC AFEE

97TH COMBAT BOMB WING
A P O 140
21 FEBRUARY 1945

F-172-E

INTELLIGENCE SUPPLEMENT 3 FIELD ORDER 173-755

1. TARGET GELDERN ROAD BRIDGES

2. ONE OF THESE BRIDGES IS OVER THE RIVER NIERS AND THE REMAINDER ARE OVER A MOAT WHICH SURROUNDS THE TOWN. THESE BRIDGES CONTROL THE TRAFFIC THROUGH THIS VITAL COMMUNICATION CENTER. THE BUILT UP AREA WAS BOMBED BY THE 409 AND 391 GROUPS ON THE 14 FEB. WITH CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE BUT RECENT REPORTS STATE THAT TRAFFIC THROUGH THE TOWN IS HEAVY.

3. PHOTO COVERAGE:

IX TAC D/316
US 10/D709
TAF S/351
XXIX TAC/D-4
US 15/4150 PRINT NO. 5025, 5027
IX BD/SA 884, 876
5106E/4403

MAP COVERAGE:

CGCS 4414 SHEET 4403

4. FLAK: SEE PLOTTED POSITIONS

5. FOR SPECIFIC BRIDGES SEE FIELD ORDER

COMCBTWIG 97

BT 21/0245A

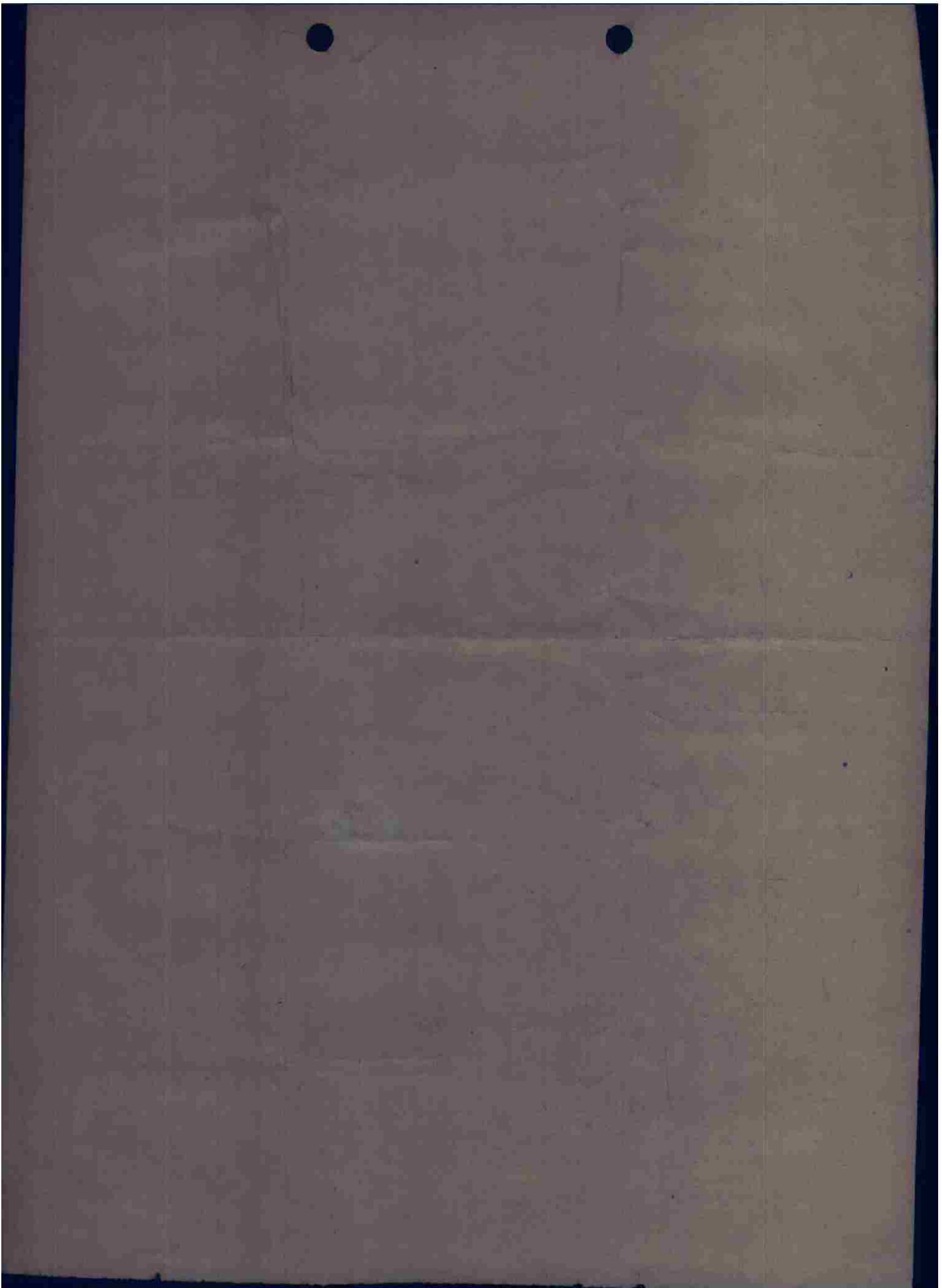
AR

BBBB

HEBBB TO ALL

SS

OIITA R.....211345A IC K
OIJES R.....21/0345 A FR KK
OIJKI R.....21/0345A WFG KKKK
OIJPO R.....21/0345A SK KK



OIITA OIJJF OIJES OIJPO OIJKI V OIJE 6/21 OPOP
T (OIITA PASS TO OIJJF)

FROM 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 21/0820A
TO COMBOMDIV NINE
COBOMGP 409
COBOMGP 410
COBOMGP 416
1ST PROV PATHFINDER SQDN.

FX 356

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY
SECRET SENT IN THE CLEAR AUTH : LT. COL. MC AFEE

97 CBW F-173-E BT

97TH COMBAT BOMB WING
APO 140
21 FEBRUARY 1945

ANNEX NO.1 TO FIELD ORDER NO.173-755

CANCEL PLAN "B"

PLAN "A" AND A-1 IN EFFECT

CHANGE ZERO HOUR TO READ :
PLAN "A" ZERO HOUR 21/1100A
PLAN "A-1" ZERO HOUR 21/1100A

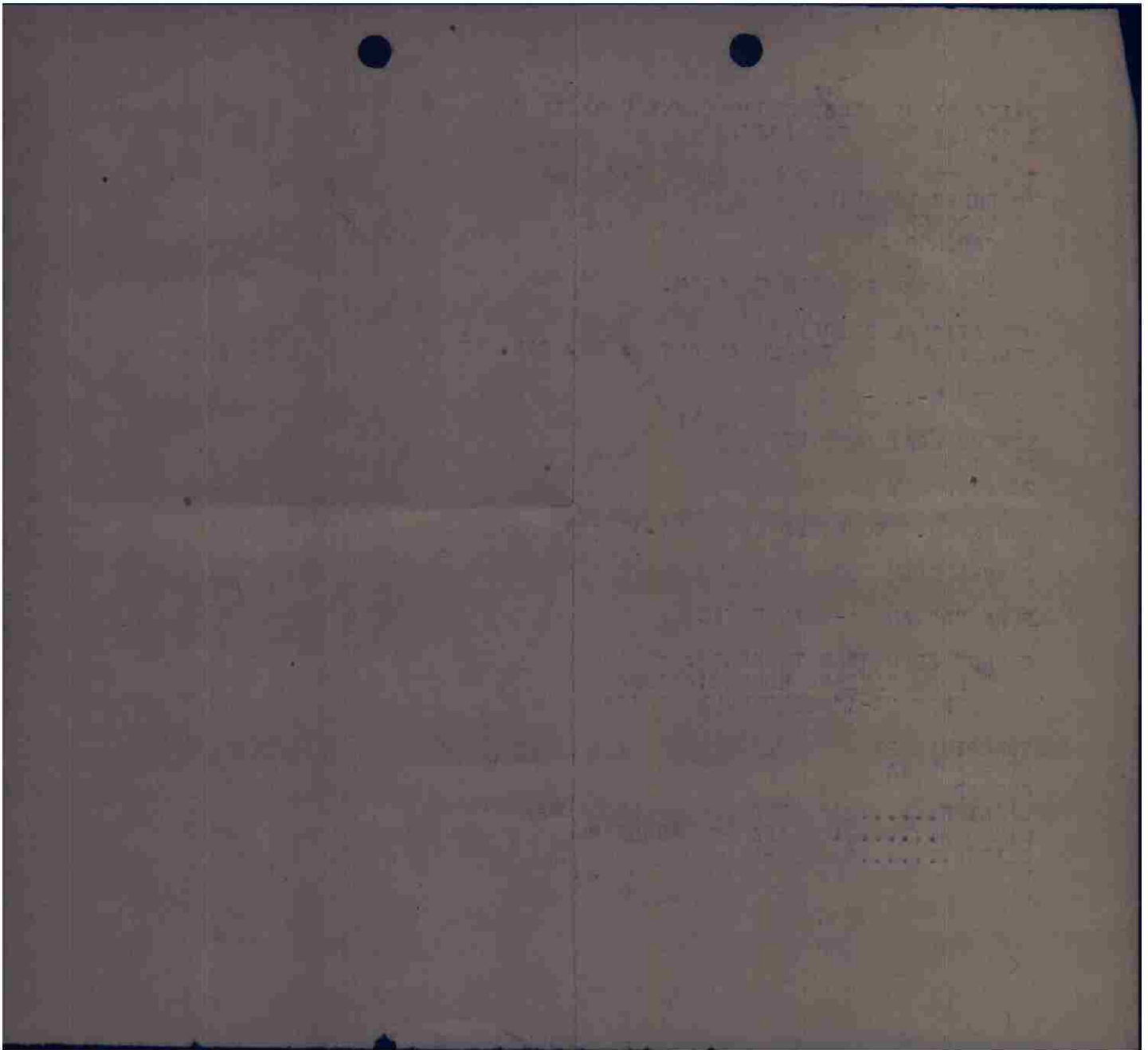
COMCBTWIG 97
BT 21/0820A
CES AR

OIJKI R.....21/0835A
OIJPO R.....21/0835Z
OIITAR.....21/0835A
V

FDS AR
SBBBBARP
JDH AR

0

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958



THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

OIITA OIJES OIJKI OIJJF V OIJE A OIJE A 04/21 OP - OP

FROM 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 21/0245A
TO COMBOMDIV NINE
COBOMGPS 409, 416
1ST PROV. PATHFINDER SQDN.

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY BT
SECRET SENT IN THE CLEAR AUTH: LT. COL. MC AFEE

97TH COMBAT BOMB WING
A P O 140
21 FEBRUARY 1945

F-171-E

INTELLIGENCE SUPPLEMENT 2 FIELD ORDER 173-755

PLAN "B"

1. TARGET: GEIESSEN ORDNANCE AND SUPPLY DEPOT G-686214
2. IT IS DESIRED TO DESTROY THISE ACTIVE O N AND ORDNANCE DEPOTS TO CURTAIL THE SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT TO THE WESTERN FRONT.
3. PHOTO COVERAGE:
----- US 10/T 404
3 (K) 40/3 & 4
US 30/5043 PRINTS 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1028

NINTH A F 2ND PHASE REPORT IX TAC T/277

MAP COVERAGE:
----- GSGS 4414 SHEET 5418
GSGS 4416 SHEET S-3

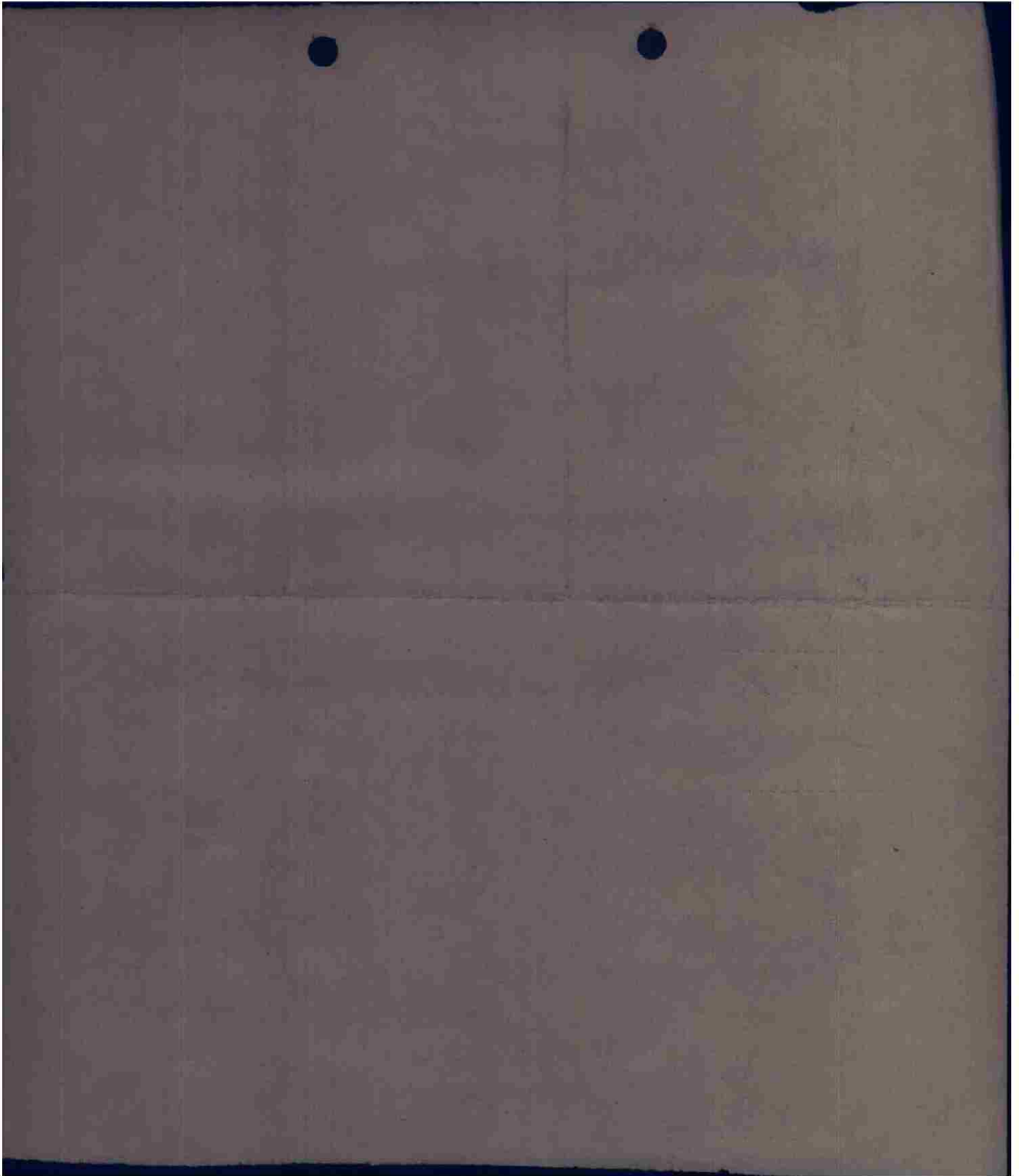
4. FLAK: SEE PLOTTED POSITIONS.
5. FOR MPI'S SEE FIELD ORDER.

COMCBTWIC 97

BT 21/0245A
AR TO JJF ONLY BBB TO ITA JKI AND JES
SS
OIJJF R 21/0400A MT AR TKS
OIITA R 21/0402A EG K
OINKI R 21/0402A WFG KKKK
OIJES R 21/0402A FR AR
KHO

FX 351
S-2
S-3
S16

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958



THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

OIITA OIJES OIJPO OIJKI V OIJEA OIJEA 18/23 (INFO)

FROM 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 28/2335A

TO COMBOMDIV IX

COBOMGP 409

COBOMGP 410

COBOMGP 416

ATTN: SIGNALS OFFICER

ADVANCE INFO COPY OF PARA. 5 OF FIELD ORDER TO FOLLOW:

5. COMMUNICATIONS.

PLAN "A"

- A. 409TH BOMB GROUP. (717782)
 (2) FISHLOCK
 (3) POKER (CLOSE ESCORT)
 MEASURE (AREA TOP COVER)
 (4) NO F.C.C. C/S - 2ND TAF AREA

- B. 410TH BOMB GROUP. (819253)
 (2) MANGO
 (3) NO FTR C/S
 (4) NO F.C.C. C/S - 2ND TAF AREA

- C. 416TH BOMB GROUP. (717782)
 (2) CIRCLE
 (3) JUDITH (CLOSE ESCORT)
 MEASURE (AREA TOP COVER)
 (4) NO F.C.C. C/S - 2ND TAF AREA

PLAN "A-1"

- A. 409TH AND 416TH BOMB GROUPS (819253)
 (2) BESTMAN
 (3) NO FTR C/S
 (4) NO F.C.C. C/S - 2ND TAF AREA
 (11) 409TH WILL USE C/S AND FIRST BOX COLOR, 416TH WILL
 USE C/S AND SECOND BOX COLOR.

PLAN "B"

- A. 409TH BOMB GROUP (686214)
 (2) CONSUME
 (3) CRACKLING
 (4) RIPSAN
- B. 410TH BOMB GROUP (819253)
 (2) BANKBOOK
 (3) NO FTR C/S
 (4) NO F.C.C. C/S - 2ND TAF AREA

- C. 416TH BOMB GROUP (686214)
 (2) MURKY
 (3) WALLSTREET
 (4) RIPSAN

COMBOWIG 97

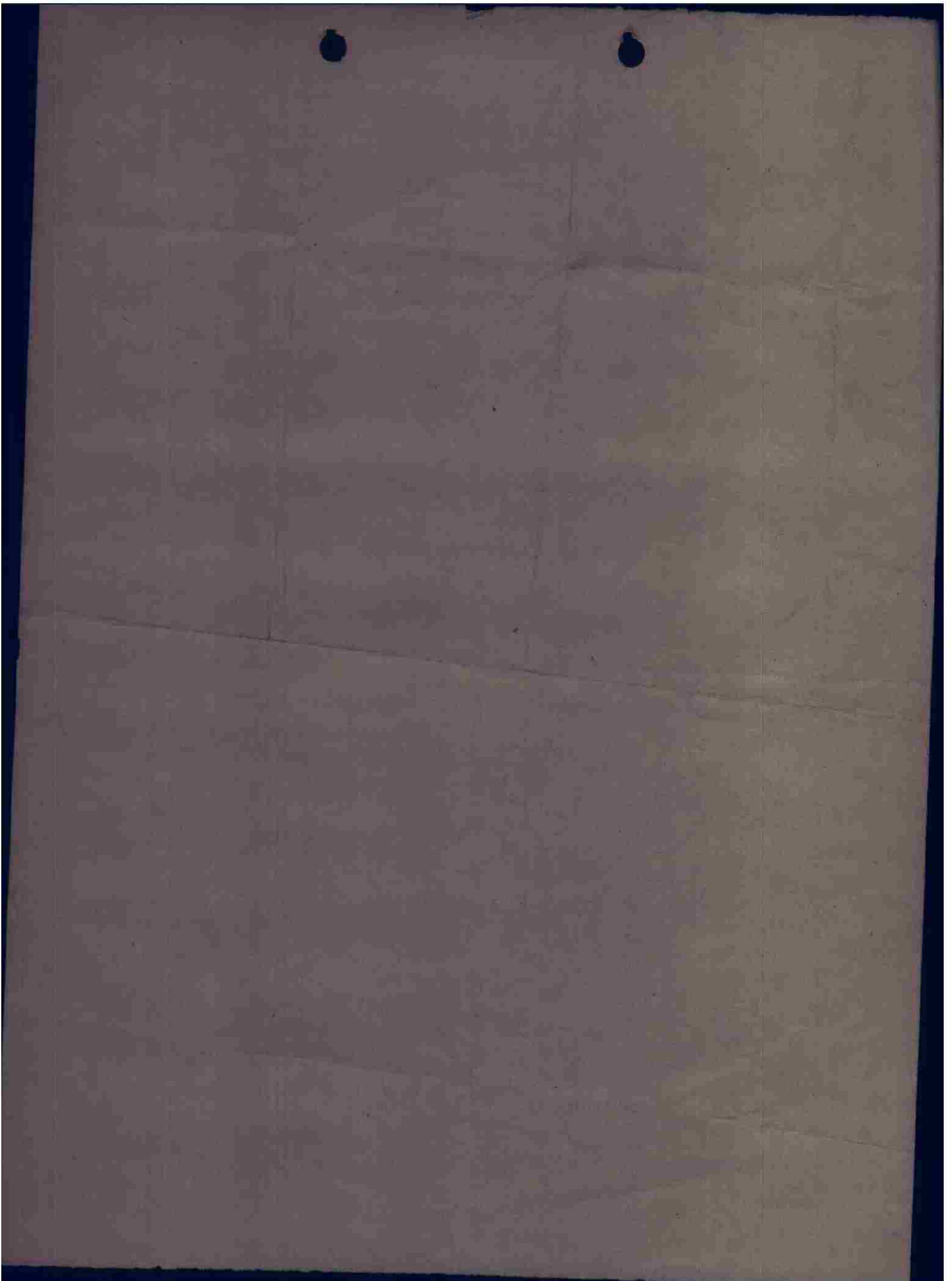
BT 2835A
 RL AR K

JKI R28/2335A

JF

ACR

TNKS



FX 362
OIITA OIJES OIJPO OIJKI V OIJE A OIJE A 7/21 OP OP
T (OIITA PASS TO OIJJF)

FROM 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 21/1320A
TO COMBOMDIV NINE
COBOMGR 409
COBOMGR 410
COBOMGR 416
1ST PROV. PATHFINDER SQDN.

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY BT
SECRET SENT IN THE CLEAR AUTH: LT COL MCAFEE

97TH COMBAT BOMB WING
A P O 140
21 FEBRUARY 1945

ANNEX NO. 2 TO FIELD ORDER NO. 173-755.

97CBW F-174-E

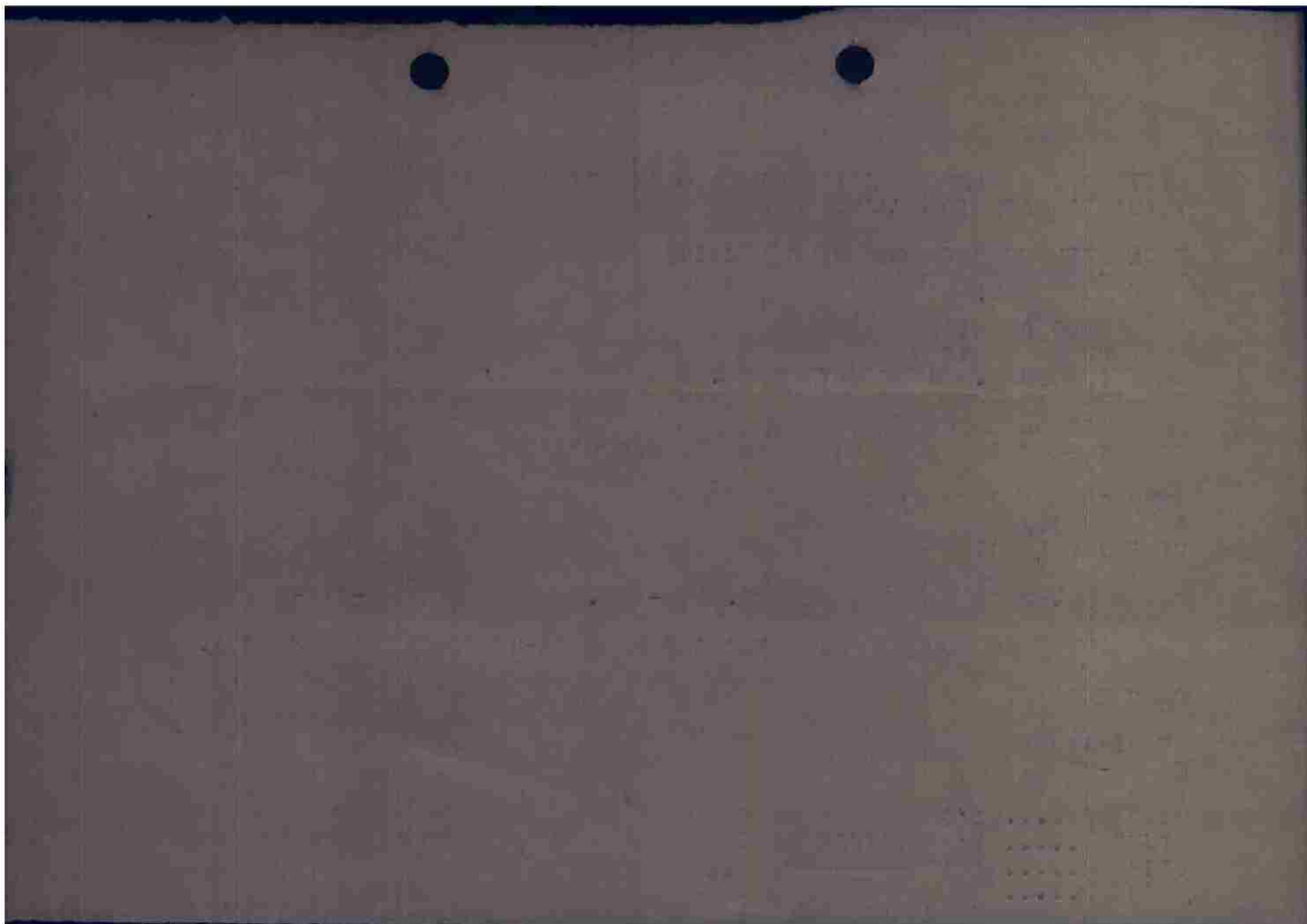
NEW ZERO HOUR ON PLAN "A" AND PLAN "A-1" TO READ: 21/1330A.

COMCBTWIG 97

BT 21/1320A
CW B-OP

OIITA R.....21/1335A NEH AR K
OIJES R.....21/1335A JGN AR K
OIJPO R.....21/1335A WJF KKKK
OIJKI R.....21/1335A WJF KK

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958



THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

OIITA OIJES OIJKI OIJPO OIJJF V OIJEA OIJEA 22/21 OP - OP
T (OIITA T OIJJF)

FROM: 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 21/0140A
TO : COBOMGPS 409, 410, 416
IX BOMB DIV.
1ST PROV. PATHFINDER SQDN.

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY BT
SECRET SENT IN THE CLEAR AUTH: LT. COL. MC AFEE

97TH COMBAT BOMB WING
A P O 140
21 FEBRUARY 1945

F-169-E

FIELD ORDER NO. 173-755

MAPS: NORMAL

1. B. (1) REF. CURRENT BOMB LINE.
(2) 9 TAC WILL PROVIDE CLOSE ESCORT AND AREA COVER ON TARGET
B-717782. 19 TAC WILL PROVIDE CLOSE ESCORT ON TARGET
G-686214.

2. THIS WING WILL ATTACK TARGETS IN GERMANY.

ZERO HOUR PLAN "A"	21/1000A
" " " "A-1"	21/1000A
" " " "B"	21/1100A

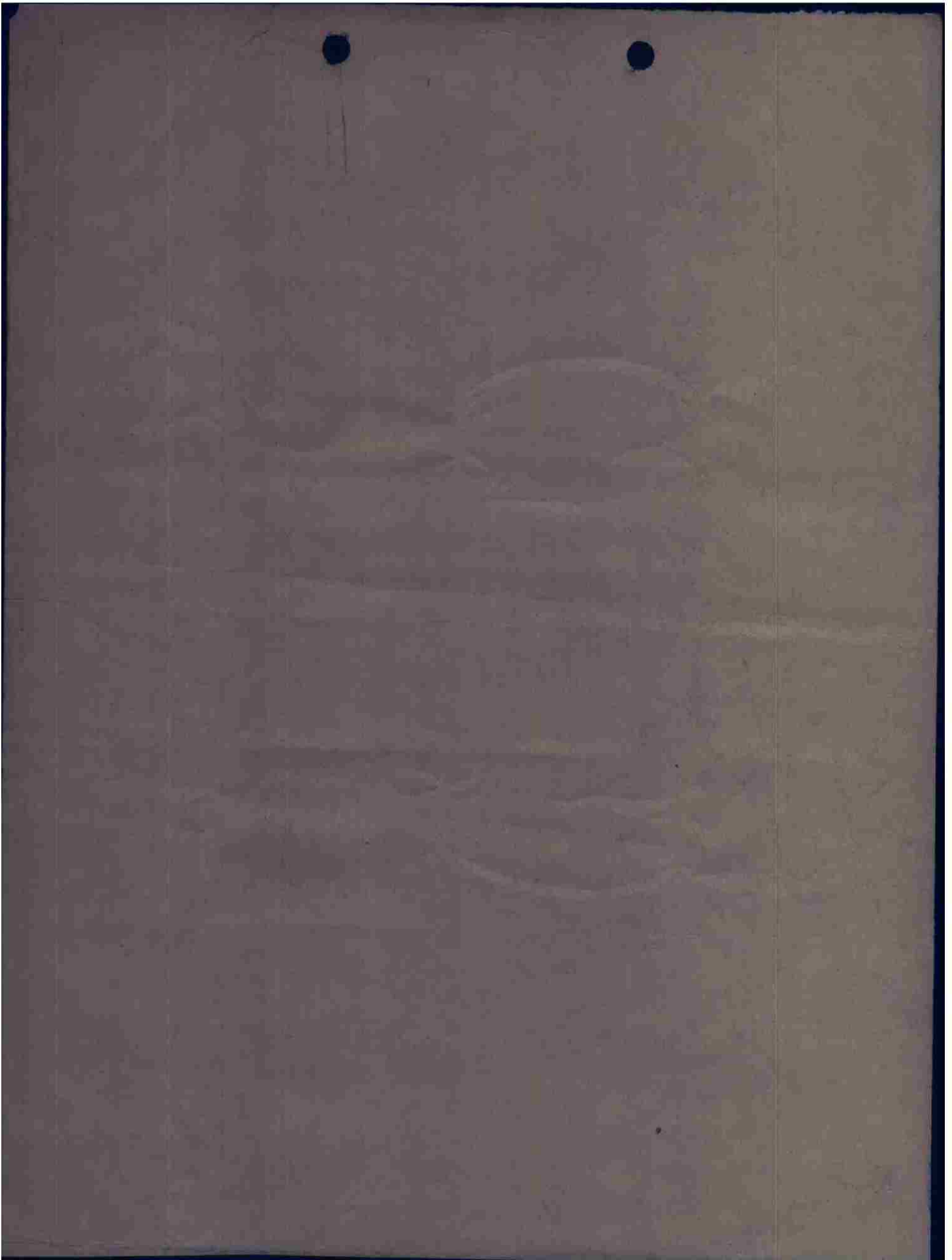
PLAN "A"

3. A. 409TH BOMB GROUP:
(3) WITH FIGHTERS AT E-4318 AT 12,000 FEET AT ZERO PLUS 90 MIN.

3. B. 410TH BOMB GROUP:
(1) GELPERN ROAD BRIDGES (A-019253)
(2) MAX. EFFORT BOMBING BY FLIGHTS OF 6 A/C.
(4) BASE TO E-5522 TO IP TO TARGET.
(5) TARGET TURN LEFT TO RP TO E-5522 TO BASE.
(6) BOMB AT 11,500 OR BELOW THE CLOUD BASE DOWN TO BUT NOT
BELOW 5,000 FEET. DROP 1,000 FEET AFTER BOMBING.
(6) E-7827.
(8) GEN. W TO E.
(9) MPI: MAP SERIES GSGS 4414 SHEET 4403.
3 FLIGHTS ON GRID. COORD.: 02252550 (CENTER OF BRIDGE)
2 " " " " 02282505 " " "
2 " " " " 01752515 " " "
(10) 6 X 500 LB. GP FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE, 1/100 SEC. TAIL.
(11) E-7827.
(12) TOT: ZERO HOUR.
(13) IF VISUAL CONDITIONS DO NOT EXIST AT PRIMARY TARGET AN AL-
TERNATE TARGET IN ACCORDANCE WITH IX BOMB. DIV. CIPHER
F-576-E (9-2-45) WILL BE ATTACKED.
(14) FRIENDLY ARTILLERY WILL NEUTRALIZE ENEMY FLAK POSITIONS
WITHIN RANGE.

3. C. 416TH BOMB GROUP:
(3) WITH FIGHTERS AT E-4318 AT 12,000 FEET AT ZERO PLUS 70 MIN.

X. (1 - 4) NO CHANGE.



FOR THE 409TH AND 416TH GROUPS: 2

- (5) TARGET: LAGE R/R BRIDGE (B-717722).
- (6) A/C REQUIRED: 2 BOXES OF 12 A/C BOMBING BY FLIGHTS OF 6 A/C
- (7) ROUTE OUT: BASE TO E-4318 TO E-7153 TO E-9035 TO A-1372 TO A-4073 TO A-6260 TO B-2057 TO IP TO TARGET.
- (8) ROUTE BACK: TARGET TURN LEFT TO RP TO B-2982 TO B-2257 AND RETRACE ROUTE TO BASE.
- (9) ALTITUDE: BOMB AT 9,000 FEET OR BELOW CLOUD BASE DOWN TO BUT NOT BELOW 5,000 FEET. CLIMB 1,000 FEET AFTER BOMBING.
- (10) IP: B-5752.
- (11) AXIS OF ATTACK: GEN. S W TO N E.
- (12) MPI: GSGS 4414 SHEET NO. 4018 GRID. COORD.: 71727025 (CENTER OF BRIDGE) INTERVALOMETER SETTING MINIMUM.
- (13) BOMB LOAD AND FUSING: 4 X 1,000 LB. GP FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE, NON DELAY TAIL.
- (14) RP: B-5299.
- (15) IN THE EVENT THE PRIMARY TARGET CANNOT BE ATTACKED BY VISUAL MEANS, THE GROUPS WILL ATTACK THE PRIMARY TARGET IN THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY.
A. GEE.
B. TARGET ETA
- (16) GROUP WILL SELECT AN ALTERNATE TARGET IN ACCORDANCE WITH IX BOMB DIV. CIPHER F-576-E (9-2-45)
- (17) FRIENDLY ARTILLERY WILL NEUTRALIZE ENEMY FLAK POSITIONS WITHIN RANGE.

PLAN "A-1"

3. A. 409TH BOMB GROUP:

- (3) WITH 1 BOX OF THE 416TH GROUP AT 0-0919 (TIMING AND ALTITUDE TO BE COORDINATED BY 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING) 409TH GROUP WILL LEAD FORMATION.
- (9) MPI: MAP SERIES GSGS 4414 SHEET 4403.
2 FLIGHTS ON GRID. COORD.: 01502565 (CENTER OF BRIDGE)
INTERVALOMETER SETTING MINIMUM.

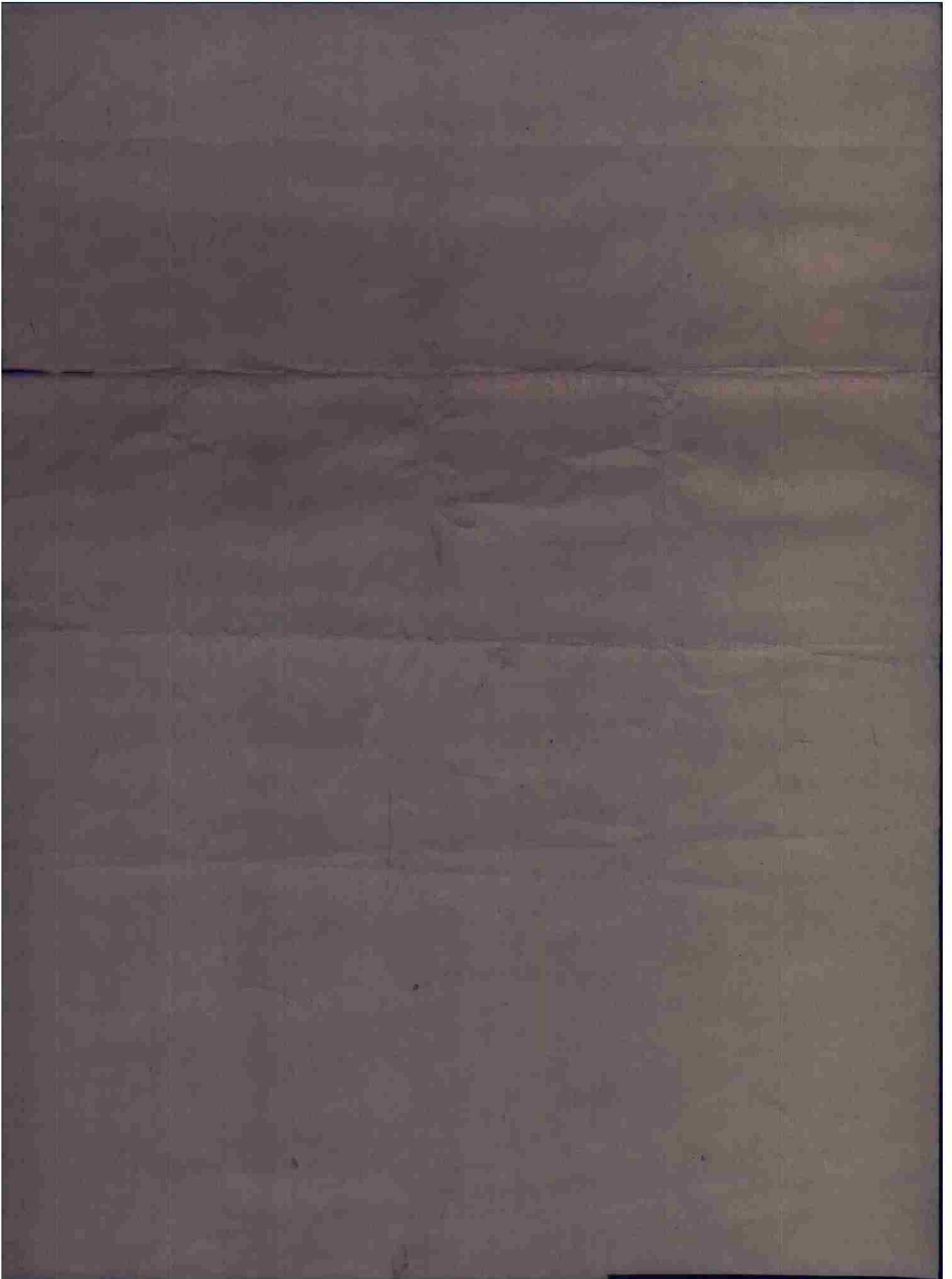
3. C. 416TH BOMB GROUP:

- (3) WITH 1 BOX OF THE 409TH GROUP AT 0-0919 (TIMING AND ALTITUDE TO BE COORDINATED BY 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING) 416TH GROUP WILL LEAD FORMATION.
- (9) MPI: MAP SERIES GSGS 4414 SHEET 4403.
1 FLIGHT ON GRID. COORD.: 01652562 (CENTER OF BRIDGE)
" " " " " 01842565 " " "
INTERVALOMETER SETTING MINIMUM.

X. (1 - 4) NO CHANGE.

- (5) TARGET: GELDERN ROAD BRIDGES (A-019253)
- (6) A/C REQUIRED: 1 BOX OF 12 A/C BOMBING BY FLIGHTS OF 6 A/C.
- (7) ROUTE OUT: BASE TO E-5522 TO IP TO TARGET.
- (8) ROUTE BACK: TARGET TURN LEFT TO RP TO E-5522 TO BASE.
- (9) ALTITUDE: BOMB AT 11,500 FEET OR BELOW CLOUD BASE DOWN TO BUT NOT BELOW 5,000 FEET. DROP 1,000 FEET AFTER BOMBING.
- (10) IP: E-7827.
- (11) AXIS OF ATTACK: GEN. W TO E.
- (12) BOMB LOAD AND FUSING: 4 X 1,000 LB. GP FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE, 1/100 SEC. TAIL.
- (13) RP: E-7827.
- (14) TOT: ZERO PLUS 20 MIN.
- (15) IN THE EVENT THE PRIMARY TARGET CANNOT BE ATTACKED BY VISUAL MEANS, GROUPS WILL SELECT AN ALTERNATE TARGET IN ACCORDANCE WITH IX BOMB DIV. CIPHER F-576-E (9-2-45)
- (16) FRIENDLY ARTILLERY TO NEUTRALIZE ENEMY FLAK POSITIONS WITHIN RANGE.

PLAN "B"



3. A. 409TH BOMB GROUP:

- (3) WITH FIGHTERS AT P-8413 AT 12,000 FEET AT ZERO PLUS 20 MIN.
- (9) MPI: ILL. 3 (K) 48/A 3 FLIGHTS ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING REF.: 02750202 AND 03370284 TO BE USED IF BOMBING IS VISUAL AND BY FLIGHTS. 2 BOXES ON REF.: 03080202 TO BE USED IF BOMBING IS VISUAL AND BY BOXES. PPF MPI: GRID. COORD.: 68772137. INTERVALOMETER SETTING 50 FEET.
- (12) TOT: ZERO PLUS 60 MIN.

3. B. 410TH BOMB GROUP:

- (1) GELDERN ROAD BRIDGES (A-019253)
- (2) 2 BOXES OF 18 A/C WITH 1 PPF A/C.
- (4) BASE TO E-3246 TO E-5744 TO TARGET.
- (5) TARGET TURN RIGHT TO E-5522 TO BASE.
- (6) BOMB AT 12,500 FEET. MINIMUM ALTITUDE IF BOMBING IS VISUAL WILL BE 8,000 FEET.
- (9) MPI: MAP SERIES CGS 4414 SHEET 4403. 2 FLIGHTS ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING GRID. COORD.: 02252550, 02262505 AND 01752515 TO BE USED IF BOMBING IS VISUAL AND BY FLIGHTS. ONE BOX ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING GRID. COORD.: 02252550 AND 02262505 TO BE USED IF BOMBING IS VISUAL AND BY BOXES. PPF MPI: GRID. COORD.: 01972537.
- (10) BOMB LOAD AND FUSING. 6 X 500 LB. GP FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE, 1/40 SEC. TAIL.
- (12) TOT: ZERO PLUS 10 MIN.
- (13) IF VISUAL CONDITIONS EXIST AT PRIMARY TARGET, BOMBING WILL BE BY VISUAL MEANS. THE DECISION

TOV
INT SWBD AT AR

- I ANNUNTO BOMB VISUALLY WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE A-20 BOX LEADERS AND THEY WILL DO SO WHETHER THEY CONTACT THE PPF A/C OR NOT. IF BOMBING IS VISUAL, GROUP WILL BOMB BY (A) FLIGHTS (B) BOXES AND WILL USE E-7827 AS A VISUAL I.P. IF CLOUD COVER OBSCURES THE PRIMARY TARGET AND PPF A/C EQUIPMENT FAILS, AN ALTERNATE TARGET IN ACCORDANCE WITH IX BOMB DIV. CIPHER F-576-E (9-2-45) WILL BE ATTACKED.
- (14) FRIENDLY ARTILLERY WILL NEUTRALIZE ENEMY FLAK POSITIONS WITH IN RANGE.

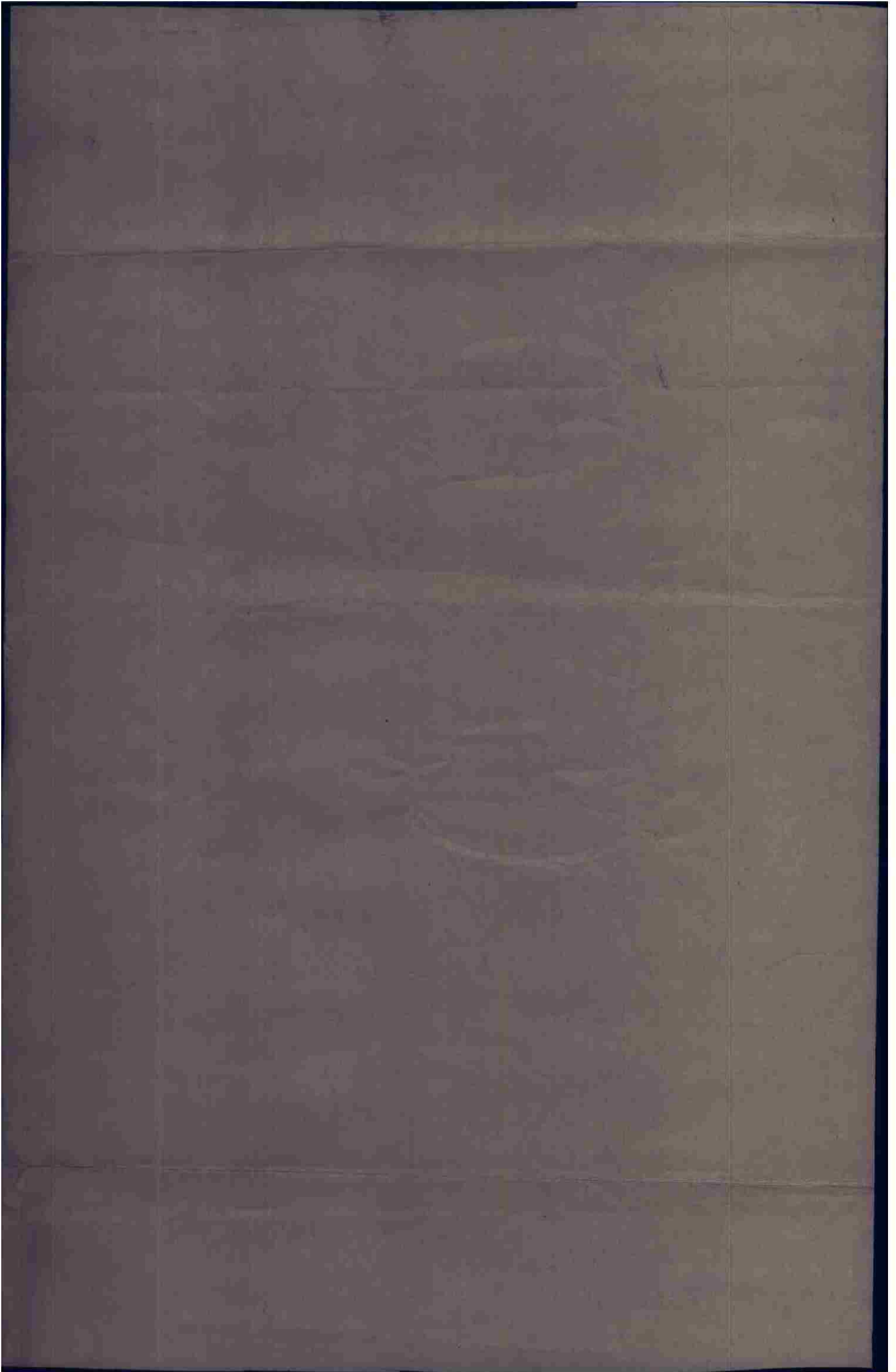
3. C. 416TH BOMB GROUP.

- (3) WITH FIGHTERS AT P-8413 AT 12,000 FEET. AT ZERO PLUS 30 MIN.
- (9) M.P.I. ILL. US 30/5043 PRINT NO. 1027 3 FLIGHTS ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING REF. 04020279 AND 05230107 TO BE USED IF BOMBING IS VISUAL AND BY FLIGHTS. 2 BOXES ON REF. 05060240 TO BE USED IF BOMBING IS VISUAL AND BY BOXES. PPF MPI GRID. COORD 68002105 INTERVALOMETER SETTING 50 FT.
- (12) T.O.T. ZERO PLUS 70 MIN.

X. (1)-(4) NO CHANGE

FOR THE 409TH AND 416TH BOMB GROUP.

- (5) TARGET GIESSEN AREA (G-686214)
- (6) A/C REQUIRED: 2 BOXES OF 18 A/C WITH 1 PPF A/C FOR EACH BOX.
- (7) ROUTE OUT: BASE TO P8413 TO L-3820 TO L-3250 TO L-6265 TO M-2471 TO M-4000 TO TARGET.
- (8) ROUTE BACK: TARGET TURN LEFT TO G-0622 TO M-2978 TO L-6265 AND RETRACE ROUTE TO BASE.
- (9) ALTITUDE: BOMB AT 1ST BOX 13,000 FT.
2ND BOX 12,500 FT.
MINIMUM ALTITUDE IF BOMBING IS VISUAL WILL BE 8,000 FT. DROP 1000 FT. AFTER BOMBING.
- (10) BOMB LOAD AND FUSING: 4 X 1000 LB. G.P. FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE 1/100 SEC. TAIL.
- (11) IF VISUAL CONDITIONS EXIST AT PRIMARY TARGET, BOMBING WILL BE BY VISUAL MEANS. THE DECISION TO BOMB VISUALLY WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE A-26 BOX LEADERS AND THEY WILL DO SO WHETHER THEY CAN CONTACT THE PPF A/C OR NOT. IF BOMBING IS VISUAL GROUPS WILL BOMB BY (A) FLIGHTS (B) BOXES AND WILL USE G-6704 AS VISUAL IP IF CLOUD COVER OBSCURES THE TARGET, GROUPS WILL BOMB PRIMARY TARGET IN THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY
A. P.F.F.
B. GROUP GEE
C. TARGET E.T.A.
- (12) GROUPS WILL SELECT AN ALTERNATE TARGET IN ACCORDANCE WITH IX BOMB DIV. CIPHER F-576-E(9-2-45).



A. NO CHANGE

5. COMMUNICATIONS:

PLAN "A"

- A. 409TH BOMB GROUP. (717782)
 - (2) FISHLOCK
 - (3) POKER (CLOSE ESCORT)
 - MEASURE (AREA TOP COVER)
 - (4) NO F.C.C. C/S - 2ND TAF AREA
- B. 410TH BOMB GROUP. (019253)
 - (2) MANGO
 - (3) NO FTR C/S
 - (4) NO F.C.C. C/S - 2ND TAF AREA
- C. 416TH BOMB GROUP. (717782)
 - (2) CIRCLE
 - (3) JUDITH (CLOSE ESCORT)
 - MEASURE (AREA TOP COVER)
 - (4) NO F.C.C. C/S - 2ND TAF AREA

PLAN "A-1"

- A. 409TH AND 416TH BOMB GROUPS (019253)
 - (2) BESTMAN
 - (3) NO FTR C/S
 - (4) NO F.C.C. C/S - 2ND TAF AREA
 - (11) 409TH WILL USE C/S AND FIRST BOX COLOR, 416TH WILL USE C/S AND SECOND BOX COLOR.

PLAN "B"

- A. 409TH BOMB GROUP (686214)
 - (2) CONSUME
 - (3) CRACKLING
 - (4) RIPSAP
- B. 410TH BOMB GROUP (019253)
 - (2) BANDBOOK
 - (3) NO FTR C/S
 - (4) NO F.C.C. C/S 1 2ND TAF AREA
- C. 416TH BOMB GROUP (686214)
 - (2) MURKY
 - (3) WALLSTREET
 - (4) RIPSAP

COMCBTWIG 97

BT 21/2140A
SS/WCB/AS/AR

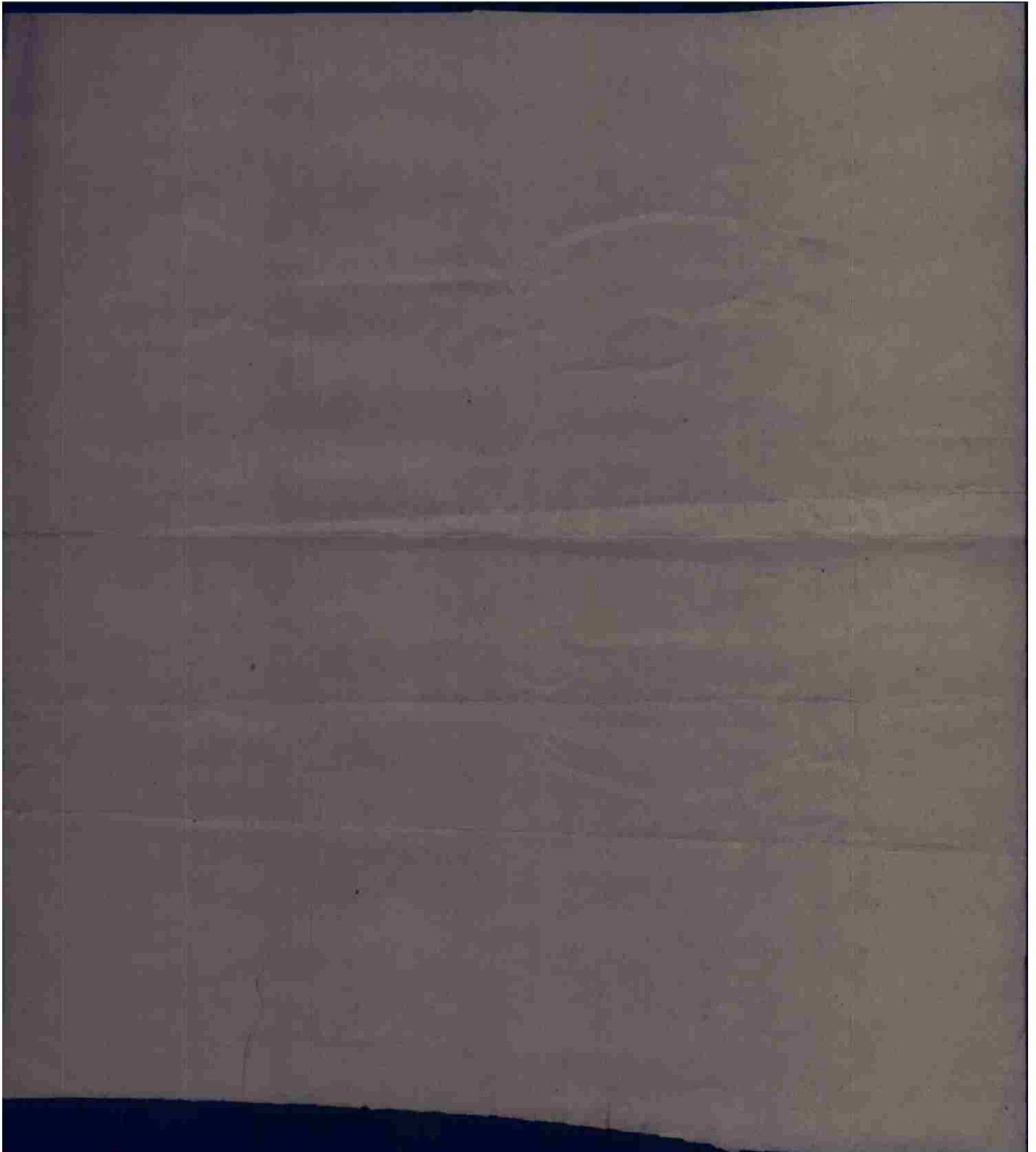
OIITA R.....

OIJKI R.....21/0337A

OIJPO R.....21/0337A

WFC

AR



MISSION NO. 208

LOADING LIST

21 FEBRUARY 1945

BOX I

FLIGHT I

1. 508 Z
 Captain G.E. Stanley
 F/O J.H. Mount
 S/Sgt. G.B. Collier
 Pvt. Cossin

4. 213 A
 Lt. T.D. McGready
 Sgt. A.R. Hood
 Captain Stewart

2. 505 Y
 Lt. C.F. Jacobson
 F/O L.V. Harvest
 S/Sgt. H.I. Good

5. 370 C
 Lt. J.H. Carver
 Sgt. H.M. Graham

3. 264 I
 Lt. J.K. Colquitt
 S/Sgt. B.W. Jordan
 Captain Diener

6. 274 S
 Lt. R.H. Long
 Sgt. C.J. McCarthy

FLIGHT II

1. 501 W
 Lt. R.B. Singletary
 Lt. A.H. Rosenquist
 S/Sgt. A.A. Gianicola

4. 286 D
 Lt. P.F. Barausky
 Lt. J.V. O'Brien
 Pvt. B.R. Wilson

2. 223 B
 Lt. R.S. Bower
 Sgt. H.A. Puskas

5. 205 M
 Lt. W.D. Chitty
 Sgt. F.R. Riggs

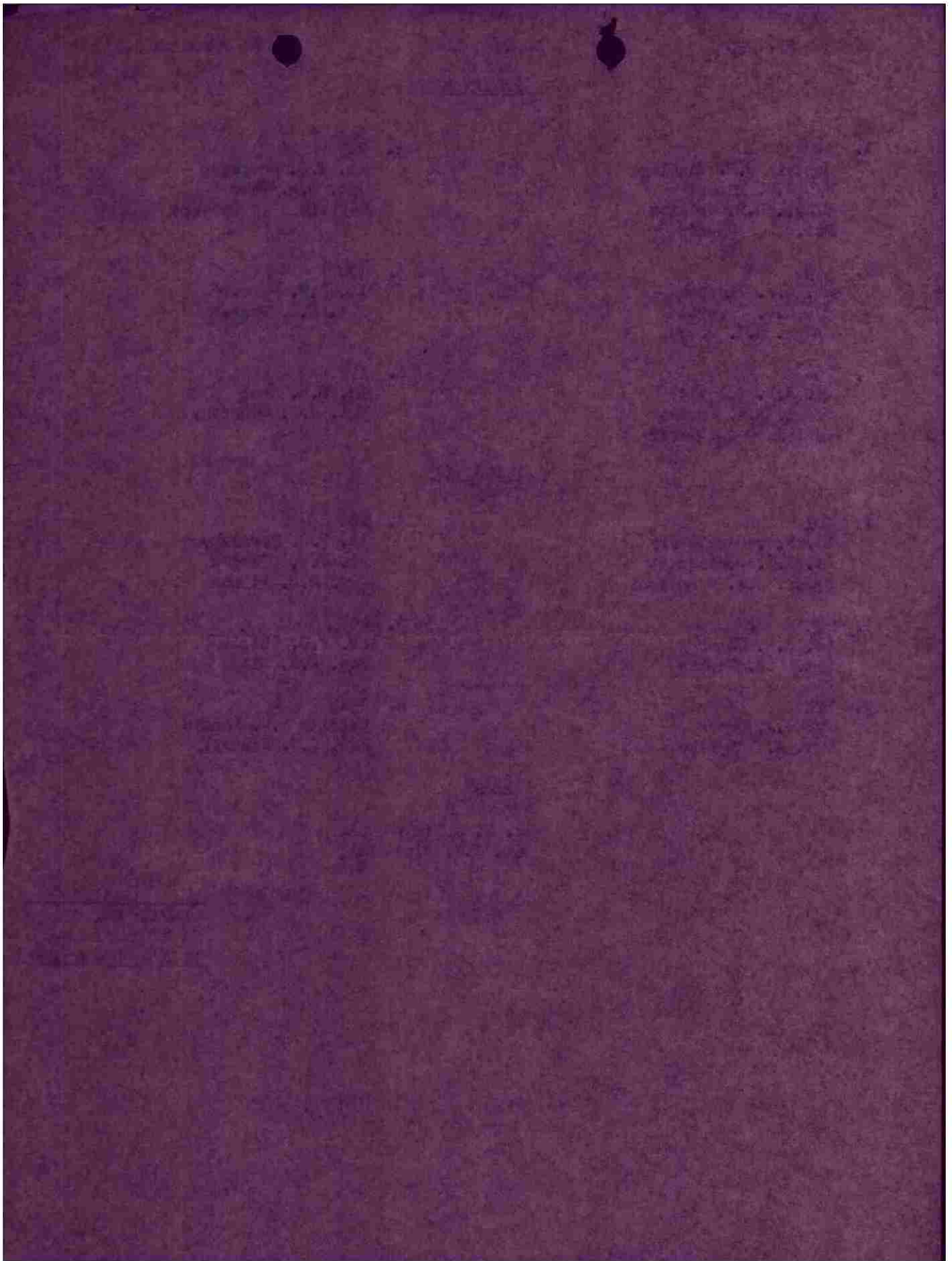
3. 224 E
 F/O J.A. Green
 Sgt. A. Kubjalko

6. 2915 L
 Captain R.W. Borden
 Pfc. E.O. Finnell

STAFF

305 U
 Lt. J.P. Henny
 Sgt. J.J. Sittarich

MISSION NO. 208
 21 FEBRUARY 1945
12 A/C PLUS 1 STAFF



MISSION NO. 208

LOADING LIST
BOX 1
FLIGHT 1

21 FEBRUARY 1945

Intell.

1. 508 B
Captain C.B. Stanley
F/O J.H. Blum
S/Sgt. G.B. Collier
Pvt. A.R. Gossin (INF)
S/Sgt. F.W. FELKRL

2. 505
Lt. C.F. Jacobson
F/O L.H. Harvey
S/Sgt. H.L. Booth

3. 264
Lt. J.H. Colquhitt
S/Sgt. H.P. Jordan
Captain G.F. Wiser (INF)

4. 213 A
Lt. F.D. McGready
Sgt. A.H. Hood
Captain R.F. Stewart (INF)

5. 378 C
Lt. J.H. Garver
Sgt. H.M. Graham

6. 274 B
Lt. H.H. Long
Sgt. C.J. McCarthy

FLIGHT 11

1. 501 B
Lt. R.L. Singletary
Lt. A.E. Monquist
S/Sgt. A.A. Giannini

2. 223 B
Lt. R.L. Bowser
Sgt. R.A. Puckett

3. 224 B
F/O J.A. Green
Sgt. A. Rabjohn

4. 286 D
Lt. F.P. Baronsky
Lt. J.V. O'Brien
Pvt. H.R. Wilson

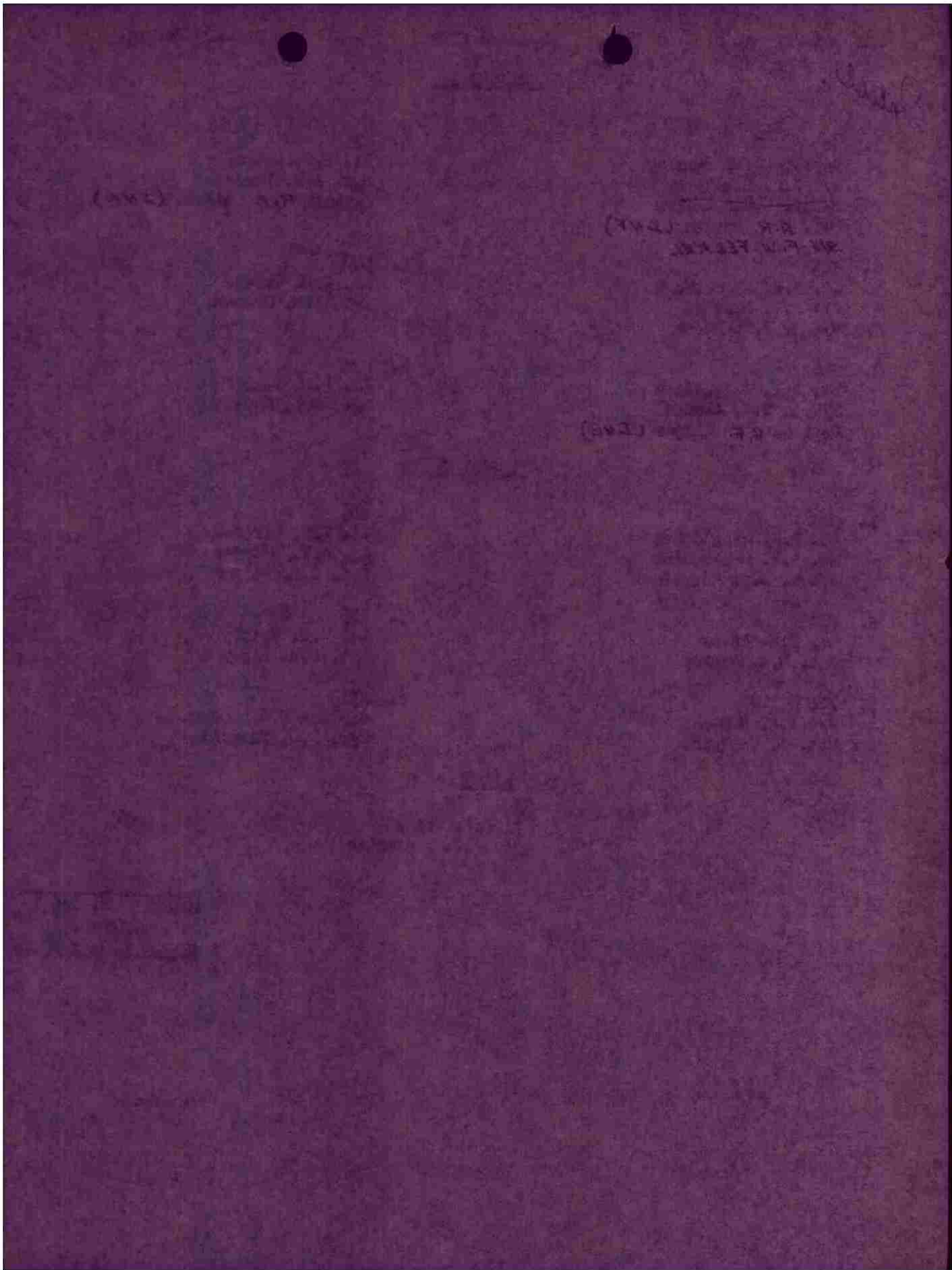
5. 205 M
Lt. W.D. Chitty
Sgt. P.R. Rigg

6. 2315 L
Captain H.E. Boman
Pvt. D.C. Finnell

SPARE

505 U
Lt. J.P. Henry
Sgt. J.J. Ditterich

MISSION NO. 208
21 FEBRUARY 1945
12 A/G FLD 1 SPARE



EUROPE 1/500000

SECRET

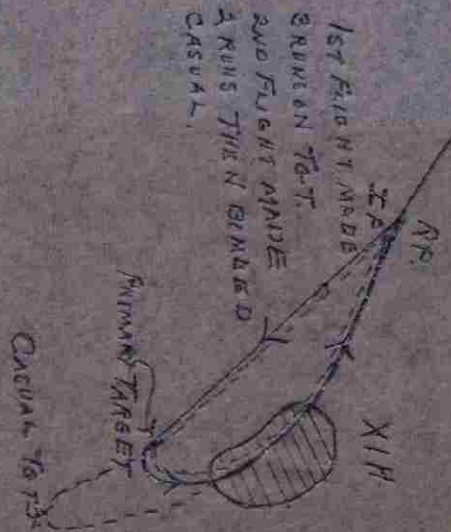


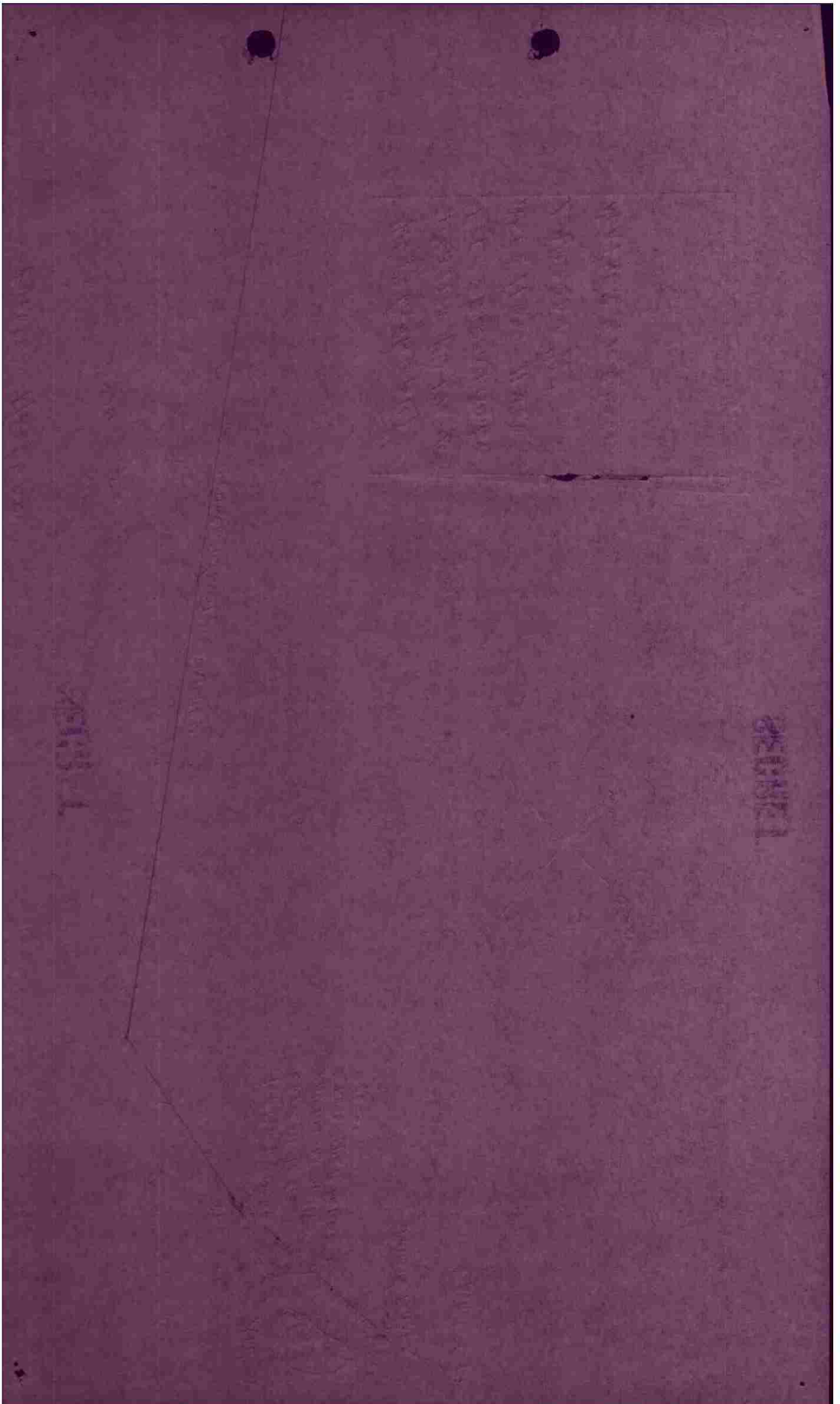
COURSE PLANNED AS SHIPPED

416 TH BOMB GRP (A)
21 FEB 1945 PD 173-723
TGT - GERSDORF Bldg
AAT 11000-11300
1 A/c CAT "A"
WEATHER 5/10 2000



SECRET





Mission = 208

4X1000 CARRIED

Box #	CpsFL	Date	F/O	Target	Alt	Box Leader	T/O	15 min.	13-A265 - ARRIVED 13-A265 BOMBED. 57- BOMBS ON PRIMARY 1- BOMB RETAINED
Plan 1-A		21 Jul 45		CALDEN			TOT		(STATION NOT CORRECTED) PERSONNEL ERROR
A/G	Fail to Bomb	ATT	Bomb Disp	A/G Dam	E/A	Pers.	L/D		
Box NO.	TUBSON	F S O T S J T R		D A C B E D P D K W M					
1 508-L		H							505-L Stanley
2 505-Y		H							505-Y Calquith
3 264-I		H							213-A McCready
4 213-A		H							214-S Gang
5 378-D		H							378-D Carter
6 274-S		H							205-Y Joachim
1 501-W		H							
2 223-B		H							
3 226-E		H							
4 286-D		H							501-W Simpfeling
5 205-M		H							221-E Breen
6 2315-L		3							223-B Breen
1 305-U		H							286-D Baranovsky
		51							2315-L Berman
									205-M Chitty
									305-U Kenny

2

SPACE

P.R.C.

REPORTS FOR MISSION

B. (2) No. a/c off by type: A-20G's (obtained from Ops) A-20G's (obtained from Ops) No. of a/c failing to bomb explain each failure. Recall due to weather Personnel Mechanical Other Reasons (4) No. a/c bombing Primary Secondary Other (obtained from reports.)

C. (1) Time up T.O.T. Time Down (obtained from Tower).

D. (1) No. a/c Missing Destroyed Damaged (cat. B/C) Damaged (cat. A)

(3) No. Crew Killed Wounded Missing (obtained from Reports).

E. Results of Bombing. (Obtained from Group Bombarrier).

I. Bombs on Primary Bombs on Secondary Bombs on other Bombs Returned Bombs Detonated (Obtained from Reports)

No. Type

Where

(The NCO in charge should fill this out immediately finishing taking the reports and hand to the Officer making up the Ops Report).

BUS

None

BATTLE DAMAGE

RETURNED

X

JETTISONED

97A-C 19

11

FLAK:

at Bone line and on into 19th and
turn off -

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

none

OBSERVATIONS:

Bombs landed in field

Bombs away in ~~as~~ flight
in Bank - loader $\frac{1}{2}$ open

Bank -
BB doors ^{of leader 1/2 open} open, then closed, then opened
and bombs away very shortly after opened
second time -

Burns away on leader #2 flight.

POSITION IN RELATION

X
X X
X X

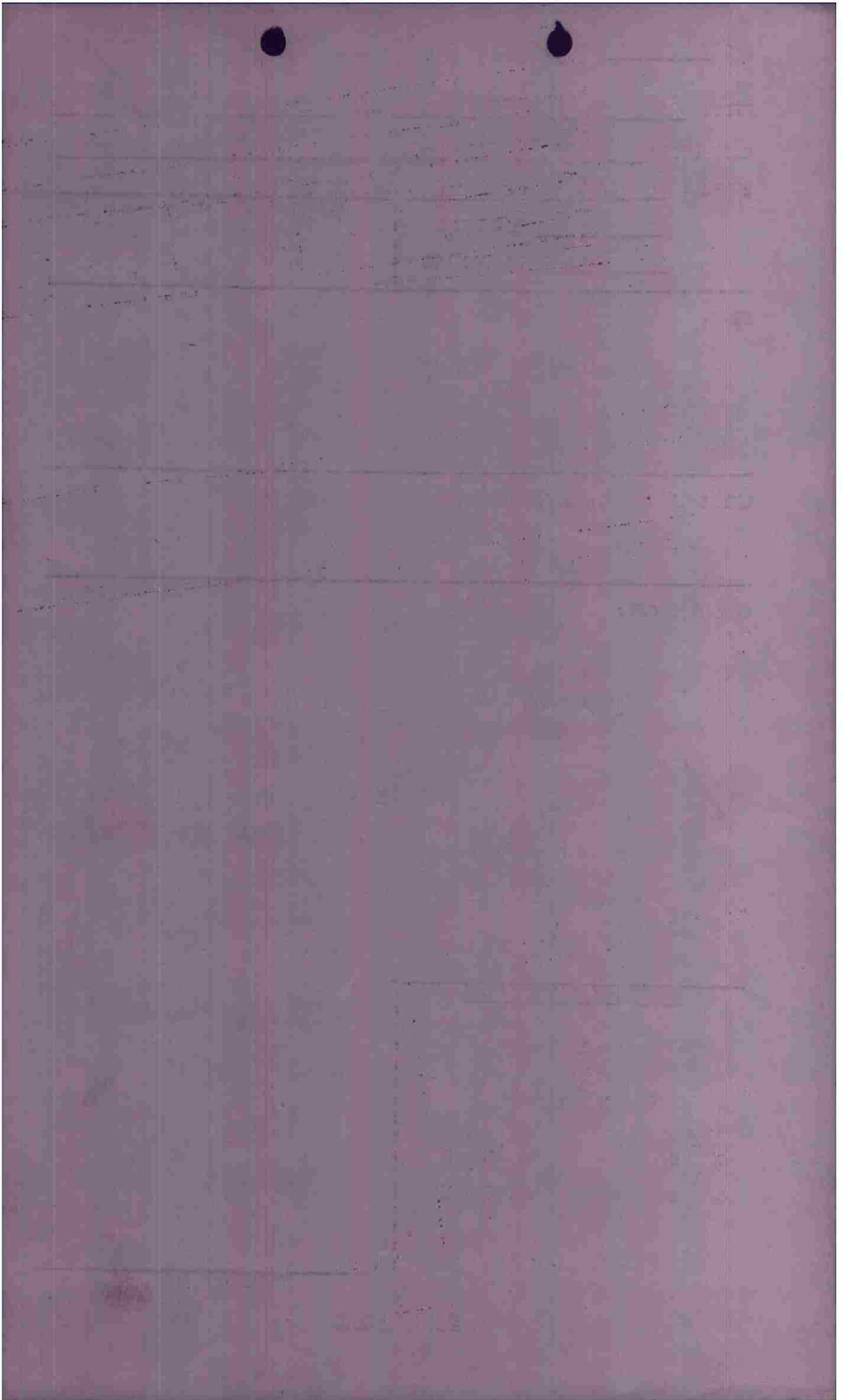
$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ X & & X \\ & X & \\ X & & X \end{array}$$

X X
X X
X X

⑦ SPARE

INTERROG. TOP

CONFIDENTIAL



F/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL _____ INTERROG. FORM

PILOT Baranovsky A/C# 286-D BOX Plan 4-1

CASUALTIES none

BOMBS : <u>4</u> <u>1000</u> ON <u>Pv</u>		BATTLE DAMAGE		
		"A"	"A-C"	"E"
<u>X</u>	RETURNED	<u>✓</u>		
<u>X</u>	JETTISONED			

FLICK: 2 minutes altogether into tgt and turn off -

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:
none

OBSERVATIONS:
Dropped on peel off of second run - Salvaged -
Dropped visually out bombs of lead ship
held up when D/N called "bombs away"
Bombs fell short of tgt
2/10 cover low cumulus
Bombs salvaged

POSITION IN FORMATION

X

X X

X

X X

X X

X X

X X

X X

X X

X X

X X

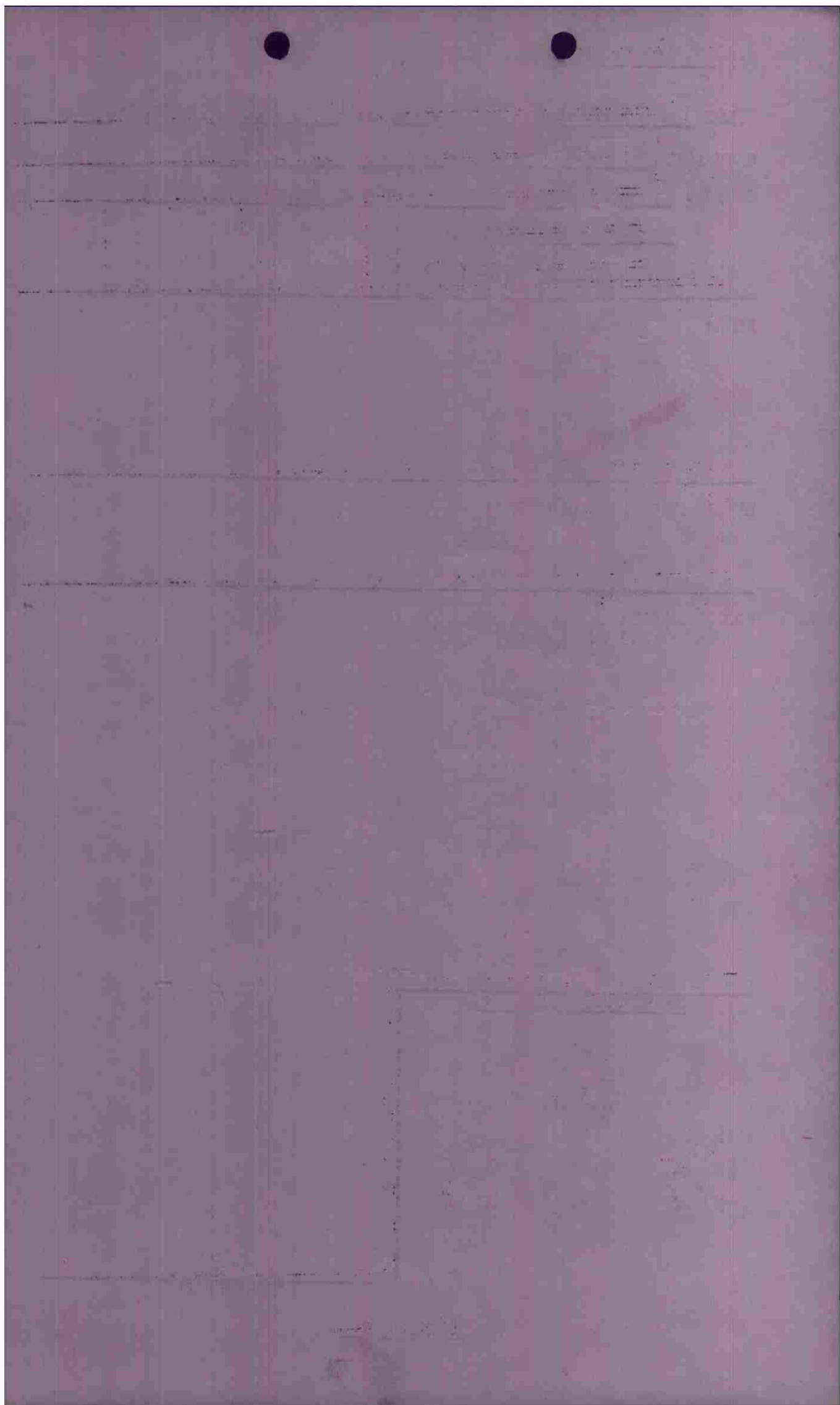
X X

X X

WIT

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL



F/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERCOM

PILOT

Jacobsen

A/C#

505-X

BOX

Plan A-1

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :

4 1/100 ON Quaker

BATTLE DAMAGE

X

RETURNED

X

JETTISONED

FLAK:

*no flak at flight**Heavy flak N of Target*

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

OBSERVATIONS:

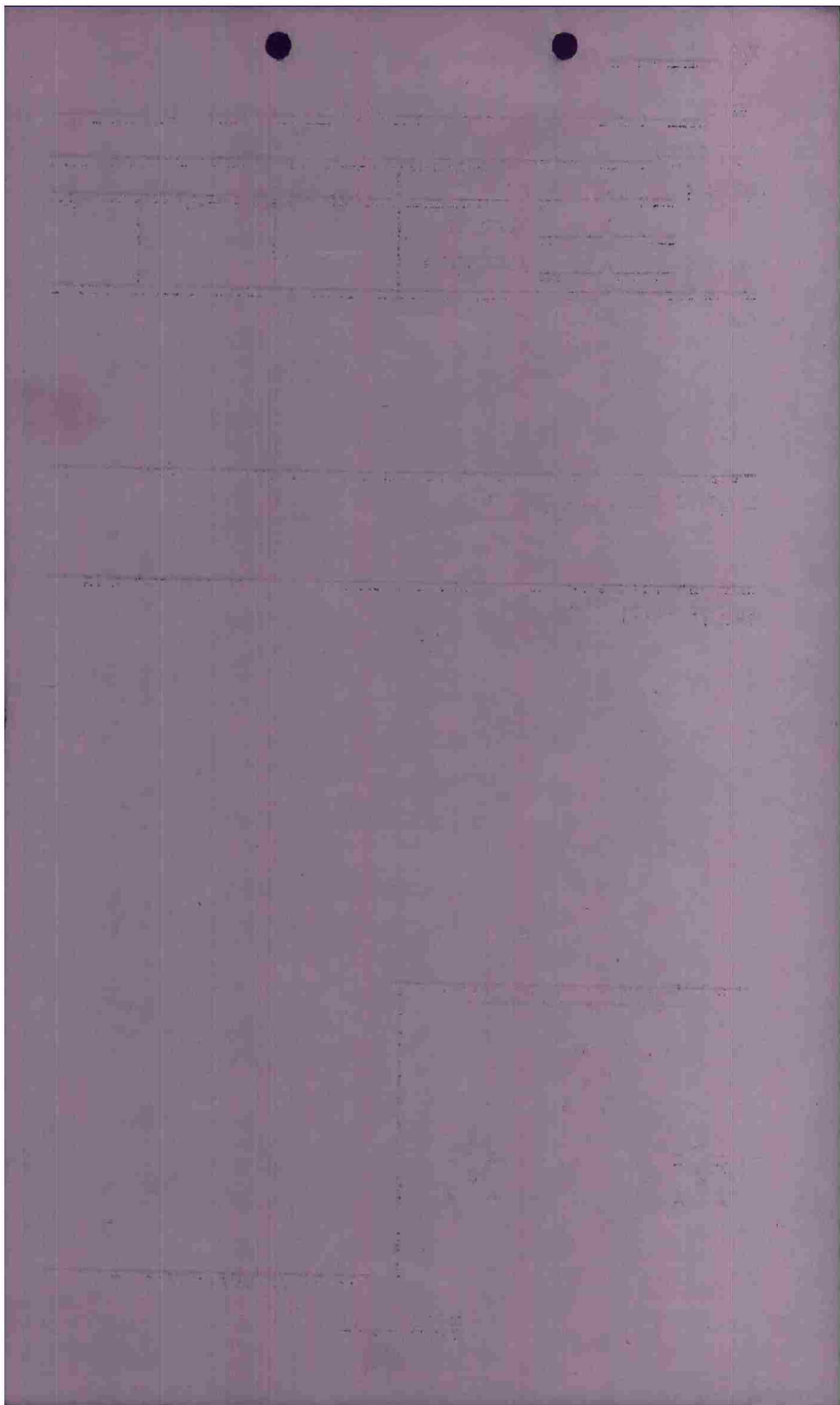
*7:01 - 1414½ on 3rd run. at 73°
could not see bombs.**alt. 11500.**Sight haze made synchronization
impossible. Bombs dropped on CTA.*

POSITION IN FORMATION

		X							
		X	(X)						
			X						
		X	X						
	X				X				
X		X			X	X			
	X				X				
X		X			X	X			

INTERCOM

CONFIDENTIAL



F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTER. FORM

PILOT Long A/C# 274-S BOX Plan 1-1

CASUALTIES _____

BOMBS : 4 1000 ON leader BATTLE DAMAGE

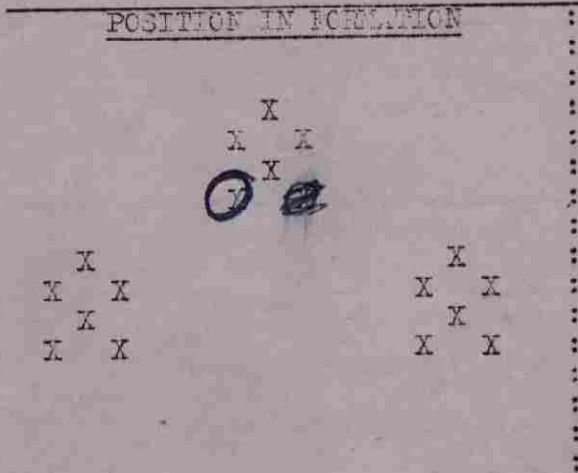
		"A-C"	"E"
<u>X</u>	RETURNED		
<u>X</u>	JETTISONED		

FLAK: X H / between bomb line & target

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

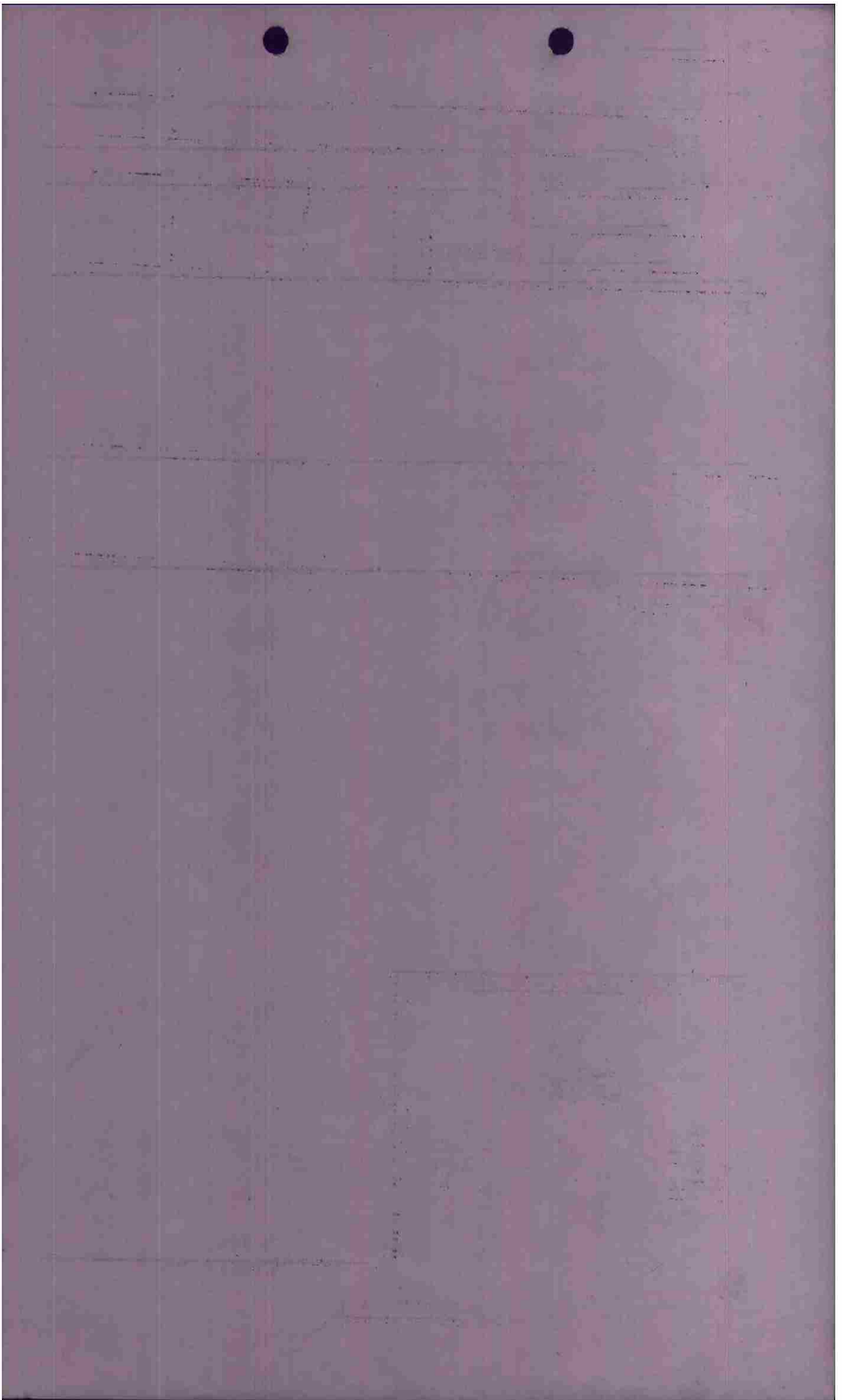
OBSERVATIONS:

no obs.



H. A. S.
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL



F/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL INTERVIEW FORM

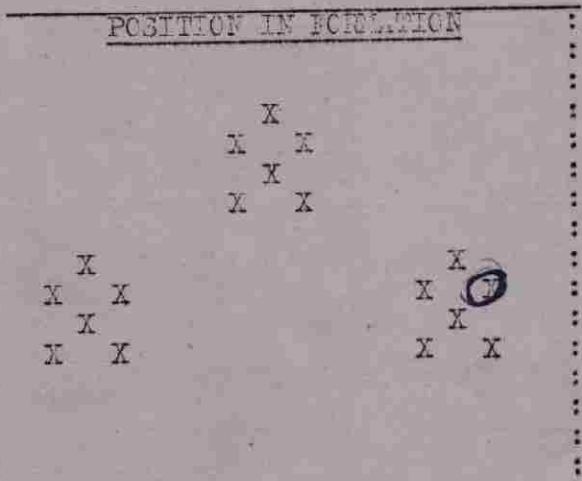
PILOT Bawer A/C# 223-B BOX Plan A1

CASUALTIES			
BOMBS :	<u>4</u>	<u>100%</u> ON <u>3</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE
	<u>X</u>	RETURNED	"A-C" "E"
	<u>X</u>	JETTISONED	

FLARE: X HI below target when going S. N.
F lab seen beyond (on N side) of target.

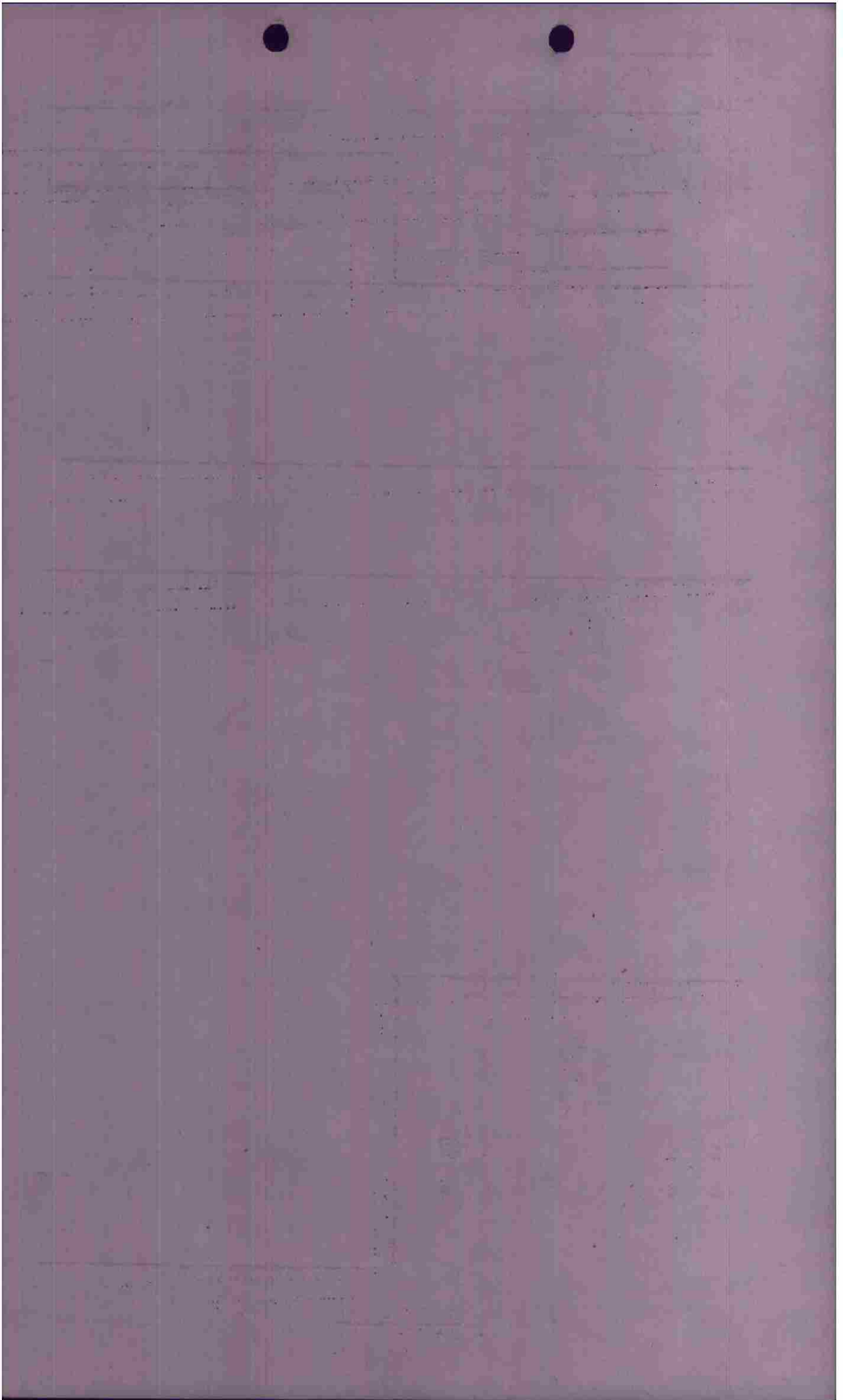
ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

OBSERVATIONS: Bombing of flt leader who released
bombs. ^{this} bombs would not release
I never saw over target.
Saw puff of smoke. could not identify
area.
no obs.



Sims
INTERVIEWER

CONFIDENTIAL



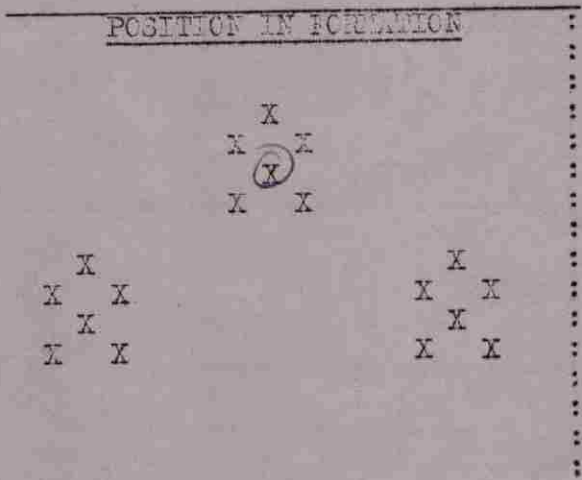
F/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL INTERVIEW FORM
PILOT McCreedy A/C# 213-A BOX Plan 2-1

CASUALTIES
BOMBS : 4 1000 ON PH : BATTLE DAMAGE X
 X RETURNED : : "A-C" : "E"
 X JETTISONED : : : :

FLARE: XHI - after 1st run -
less on 2nd run, none on 3rd

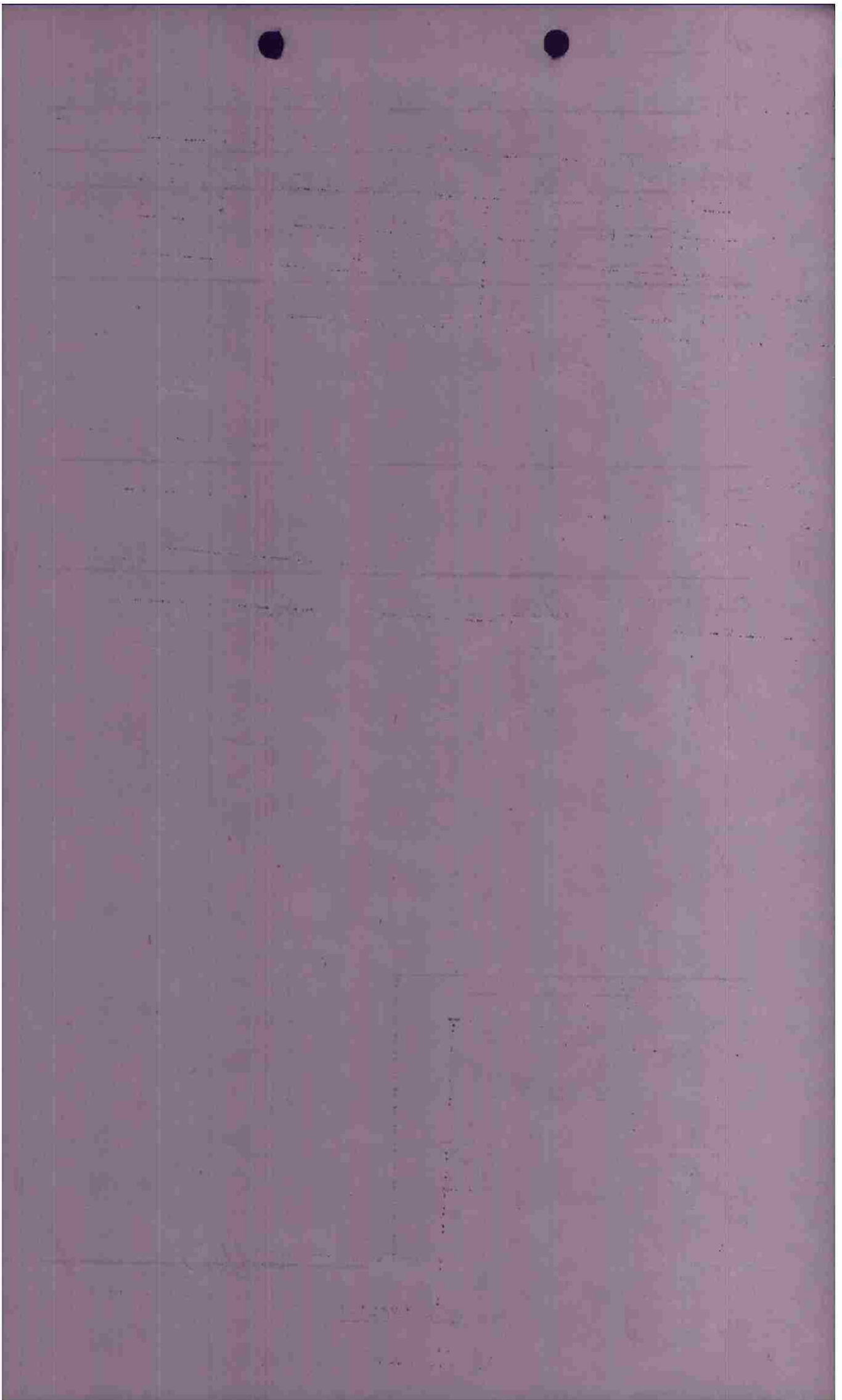
ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:
X

OBSERVATIONS: - None - went thru clouds
No activity on ground seen



T.W.S.
INTERVIEWER

CONFIDENTIAL



Barver

LA/C# 378-0

BOX

San A.

BCIES :

4 E 1000 CN P.T.

BATTLE DAMAGE

97 A-G 11

THE

Σ

RETURNED

Y

JETTISONED

FLAK:- XXHI - at extreme range to
right of course after turn off
target -

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

OBSERVATIONS: —

None Hzc

Saw one bridge still intact -
other bridge had been hit

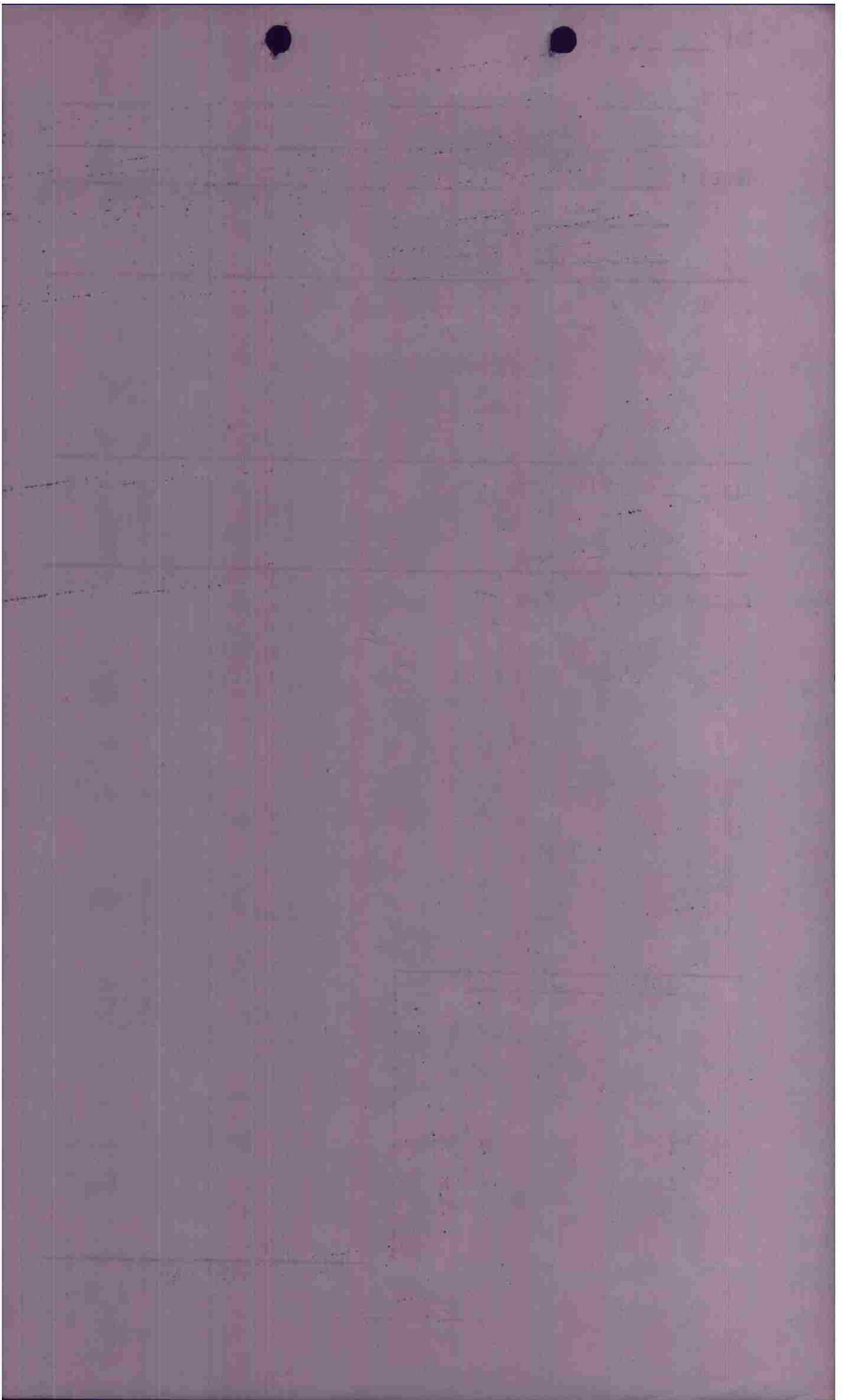
POSITION IN FORMATION

X
X X
X X
X X

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ X & & X \\ & X & \\ X & & X \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ X & & X \\ & X & \\ X & & X \end{array}$$

T. W. S.
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL



BOX *Plan A-1*

BATTLE DAMAGE

RETURNED

JETTISONED

XXHI. To left on bomb run -
to right of course after
turn off target.

X

OBSERVATIONS: - One ran on RT
then dropped on 2nd day
Results unobserved. bombs went
through clouds -
P-51 cover

POSITION IN BUREAU

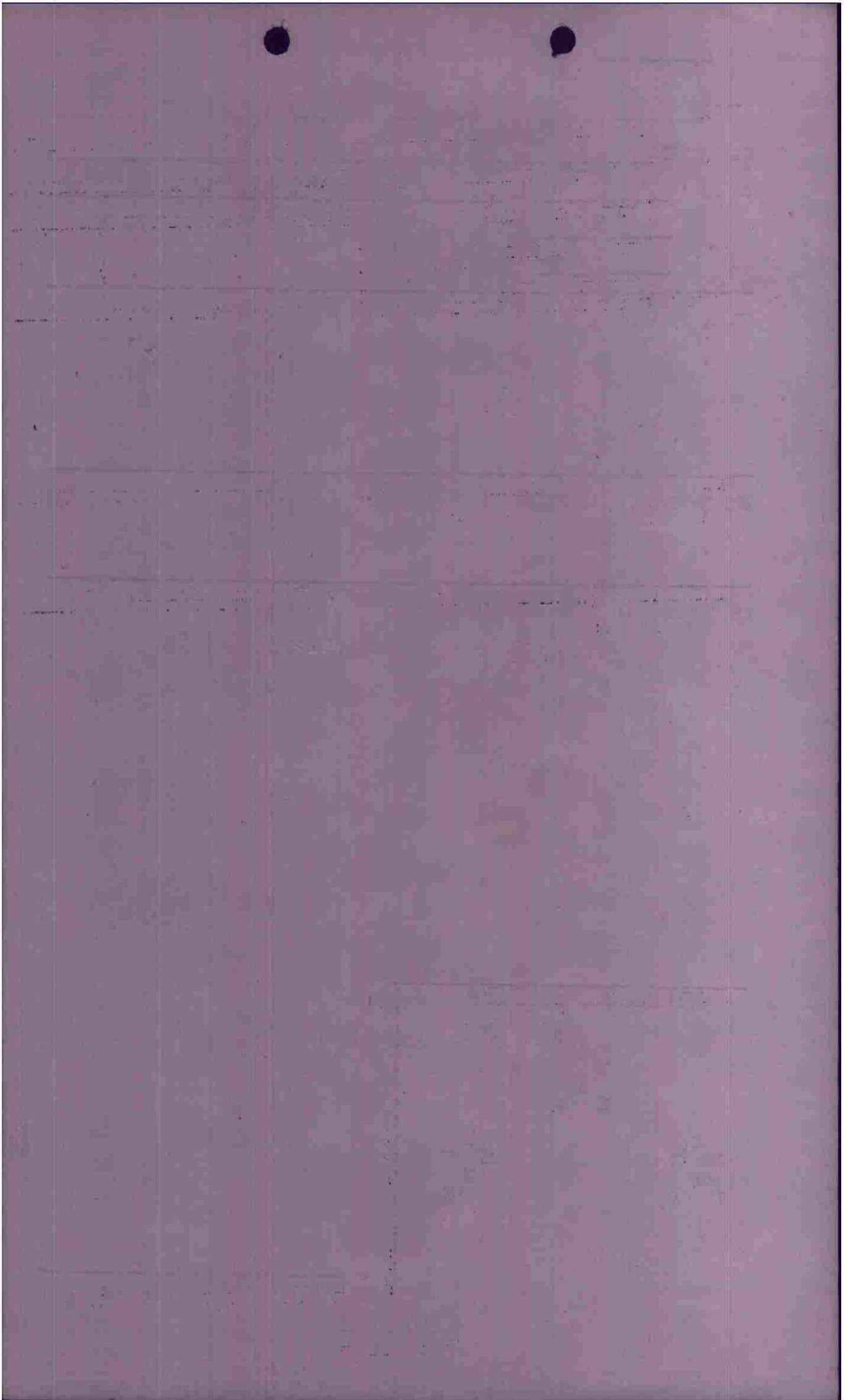
$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ X & & X \\ & X & \\ X & & X \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ X & & X \\ & X & \\ X & & X \end{array}$$

X X
X X
X X

T. W. S.

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL



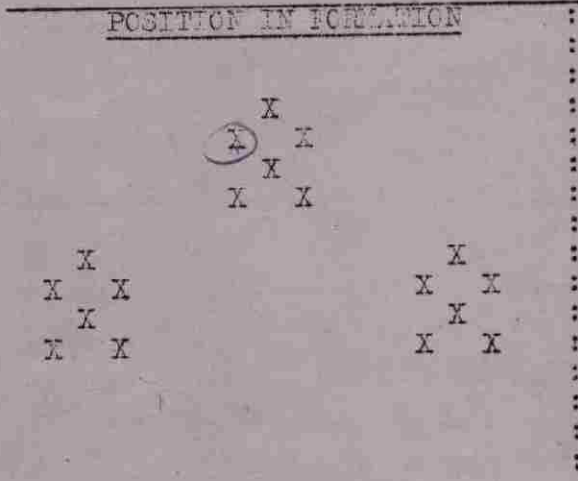
F/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL INTER. FORM
PILOT Balquith A/C# 164-L BOX A-1 *Shan*

CASUALTIES
BOMBS : 4 1500 ON PIT : BATTLE DAMAGE X
 X RETURNED : : : : : : :
 X JETTISONED : : : : : : :

FLARE: XHI- after leaving target
 end at end of Bomb run

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:
X

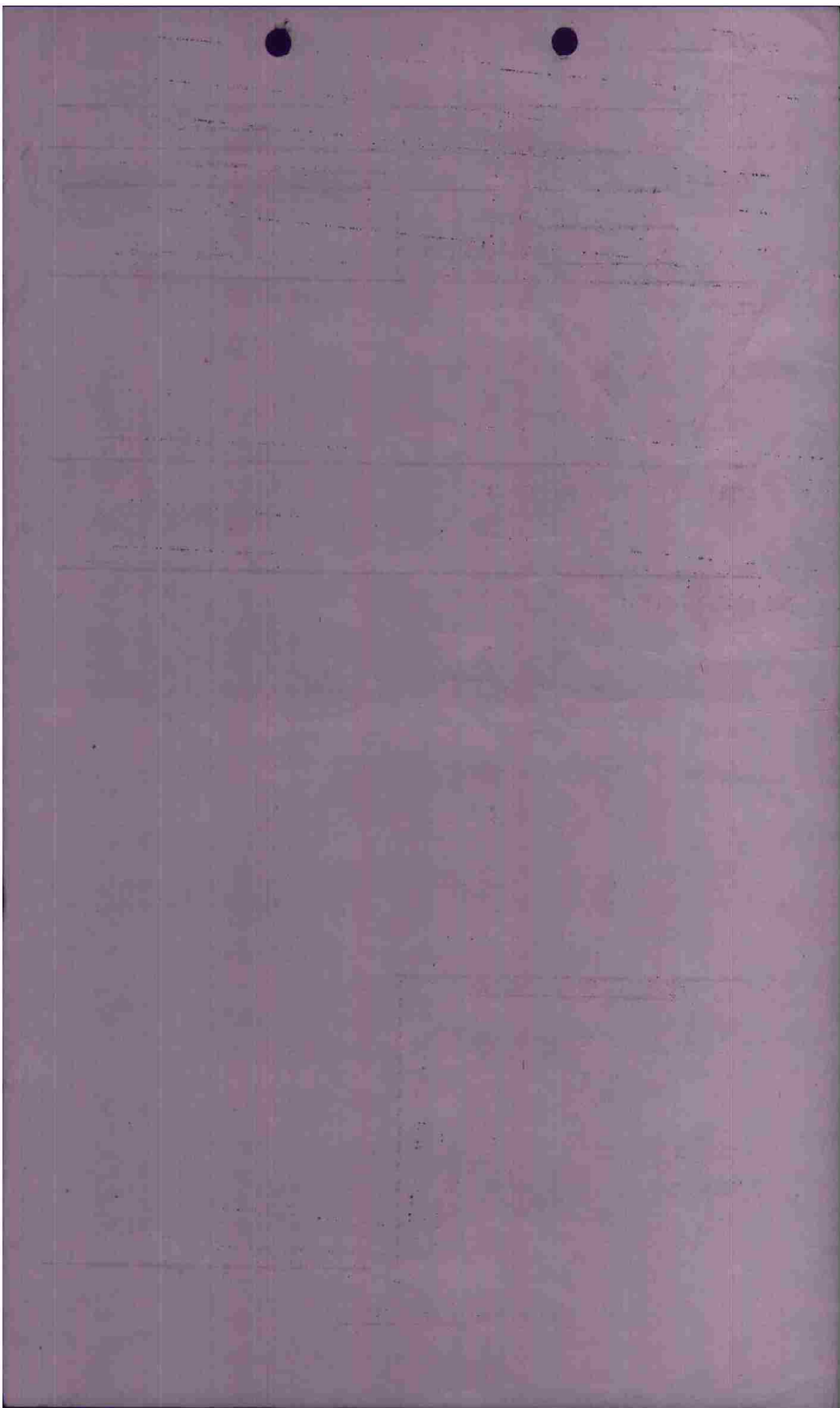
OBSERVATIONS: - None



T.W.S
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

No Sight or ground
control -



CONCLUSIONS

BOMBS :		BATTLE DAMAGE			
		"A"	"B"	"C"	"D"
4	ON <i>Return</i>				
X	RETURNED				
X	JETTISONED				

FLAK: XH2 on turn off target. NE & N of target
XH2 to left on another formation

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

OBSERVATIONS: Dropped bombs on 100° heading
Heavy fighter cover. During bombing near target
Heavy air traffic

+ G.F. - 1412 - dropped bombs on ~~line~~ 3rd man
 alt. - 1100 at 214 IAS.

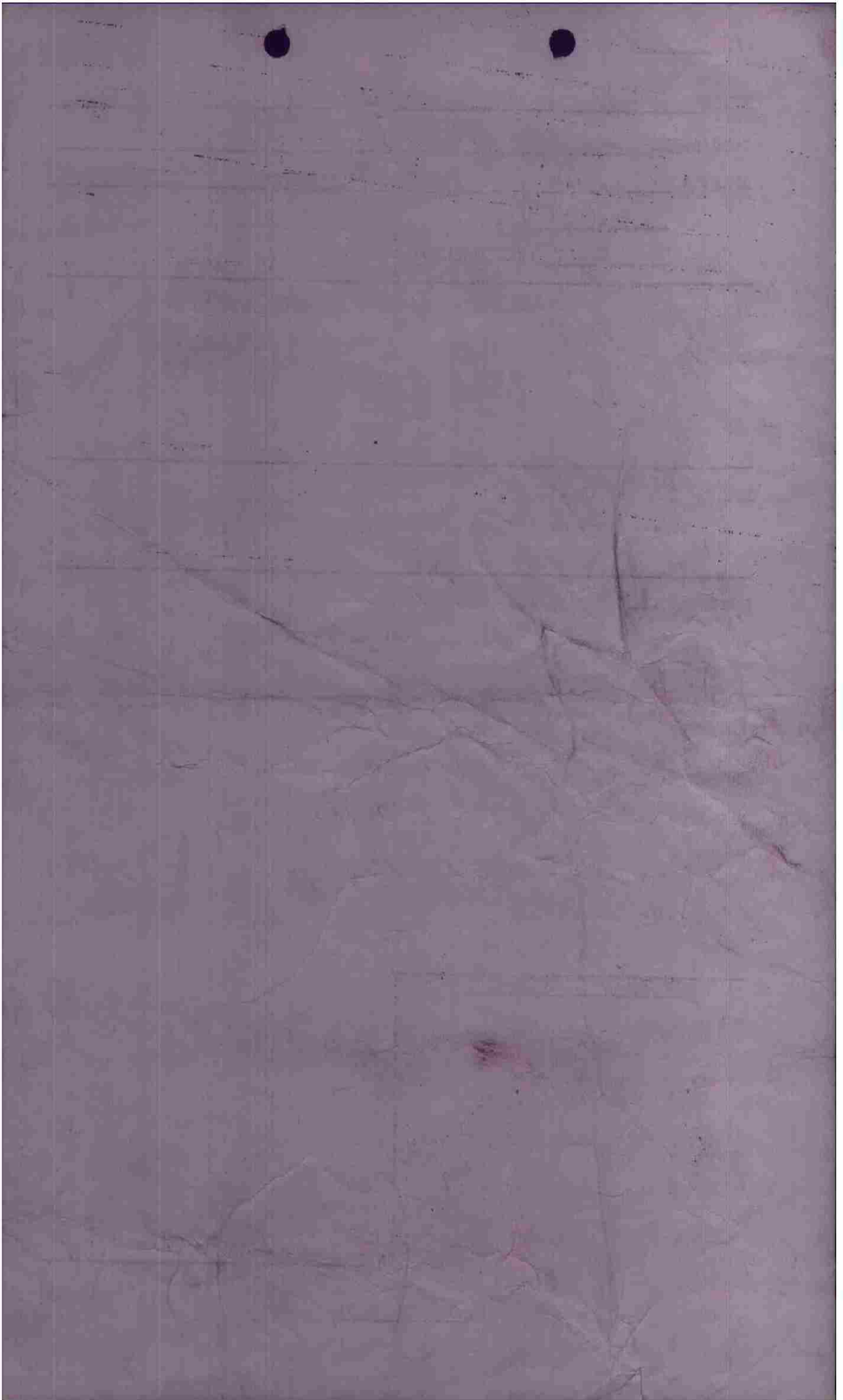
Dropped on at 4. Haze made sighting the impossible.
No clouds at target.

POSITION IN FORMATION

$\begin{array}{ccc} & \textcircled{X} & \\ X & & X \\ & X & \\ X & & X \end{array}$

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL



F/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL INTERCOM FORM

PILOT Chitty A/C# 205-M BOX New G-1

CASUALTIES

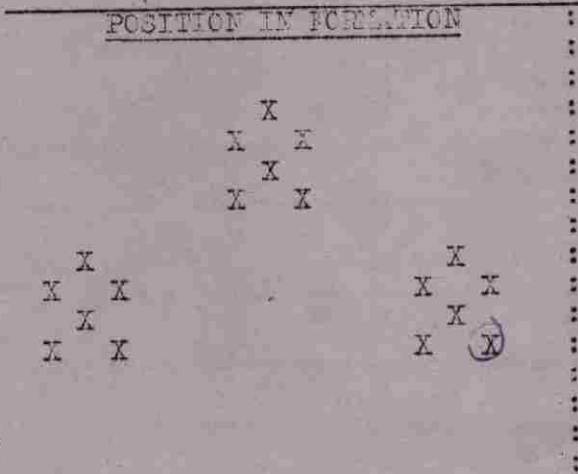
BOMBS :	<u>4</u>	<u>1000</u>	ON	<u>PT</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE		
	<u>X</u>		RETURNED			"A-C"	"E"
	<u>X</u>		JETTISONED				

FLAK: X HA on bomb run X HI in turn
off target

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

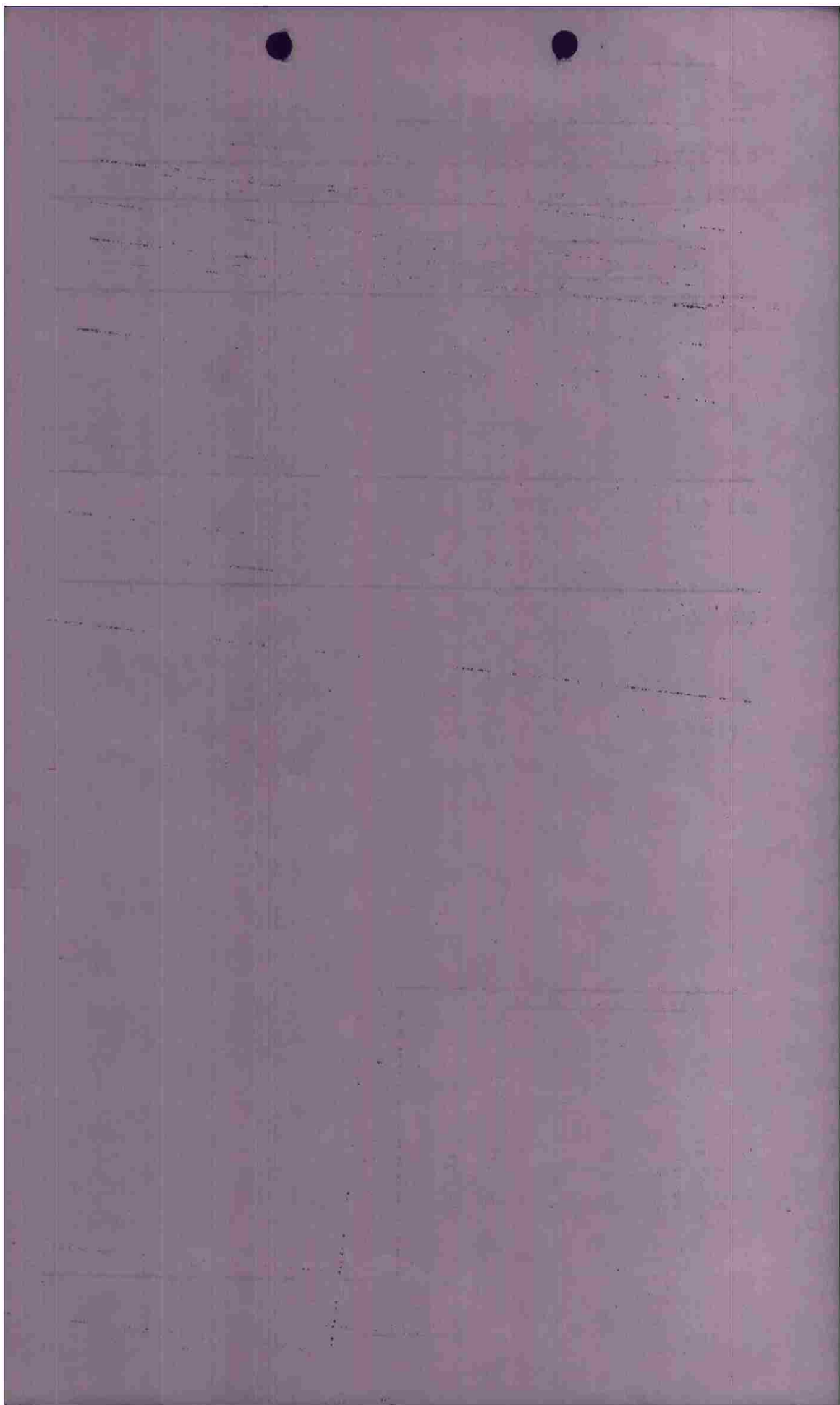
OBSERVATIONS:

Patchy clouds - hazy - did not see
bomb hit - Dropped on second
pass.



INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL



F/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL INTERIM FORM

PILOT Berman A/C# 2345-L BOX Plan A-1

CASUALTIES X

BOMBS : 3 X 1000 ON Primary BATTLE DAMAGE

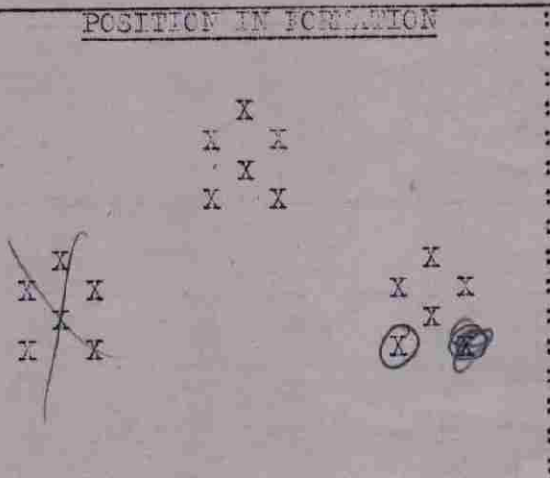
1 X 1000 RETURNED : "A-C" : "E"

X JETTISONED : Nil :

FLAK: XXXHA about 2 minutes on bomb run + on turn off.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS: X

OBSERVATIONS: 6 unidentified A/C came toward rear of formation on bomb run but turned away as flak started. Never came close enough to be identified. Made 2 runs + dropped on second run, Probably was first flt. to drop.



6.3
INTERREG. TOR

CONFIDENTIAL

