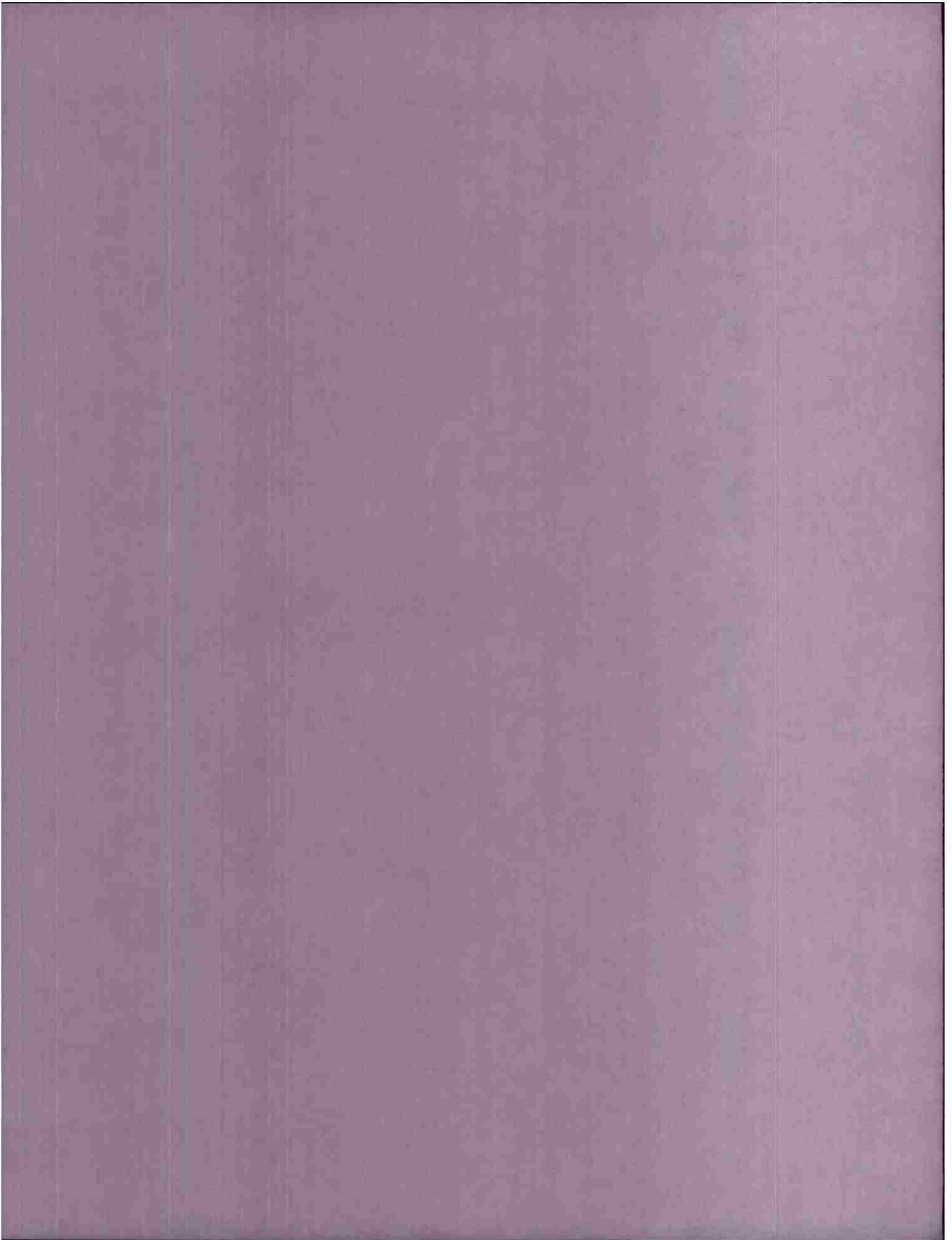


**IRIS Public Record****Key Information****Main:** GROUP/0416/BOMBARDMENT (LIGHT)**Document Type:****Call Number:** GP-416-SU-OP-S**IRIS Number:** 00092029**Accessions Notes:****Old Accession Nbr:****Title:****Beginning Date:****End Date:****Publication Date:** 1945/02/23**Classification** UNCLAS**Media** Roll #: 0000001717 First Frame: 397 Last Frame: 417 Linear Feet: 0  
Old MFlm Roll # B0537 Audio Rec:**NUMPAGE** 20**Title Extensions:****Abstract****Descriptive** TITLE SUPPLIED.  
**Notes:****Title** MISSION REPORTS: TARGET RAILROAD BRIDGE SIMMERN, GERMANY**Added****Entries****Author:****Subject:****Major Command:****Administrative Markings**

No Administrative Markings Listed

**Security Review Information:**

|                       |                      |                   |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Rcvd:</b>          | <b>Rel</b>           | <b>1985/03/05</b> |
| <b>Indexer ID: 33</b> | <b>Entered Date:</b> |                   |
| <b>QC ID:</b>         | <b>QC'd Date::</b>   |                   |
| <b>Scanner ID:</b>    | <b>Scanned Date:</b> |                   |
| <b>Acc ID</b>         | <b>Acc Date:</b>     |                   |



GP-416-SU-OP-5  
23 FEB 1945

AF9  
Ship 88E  
Item 1

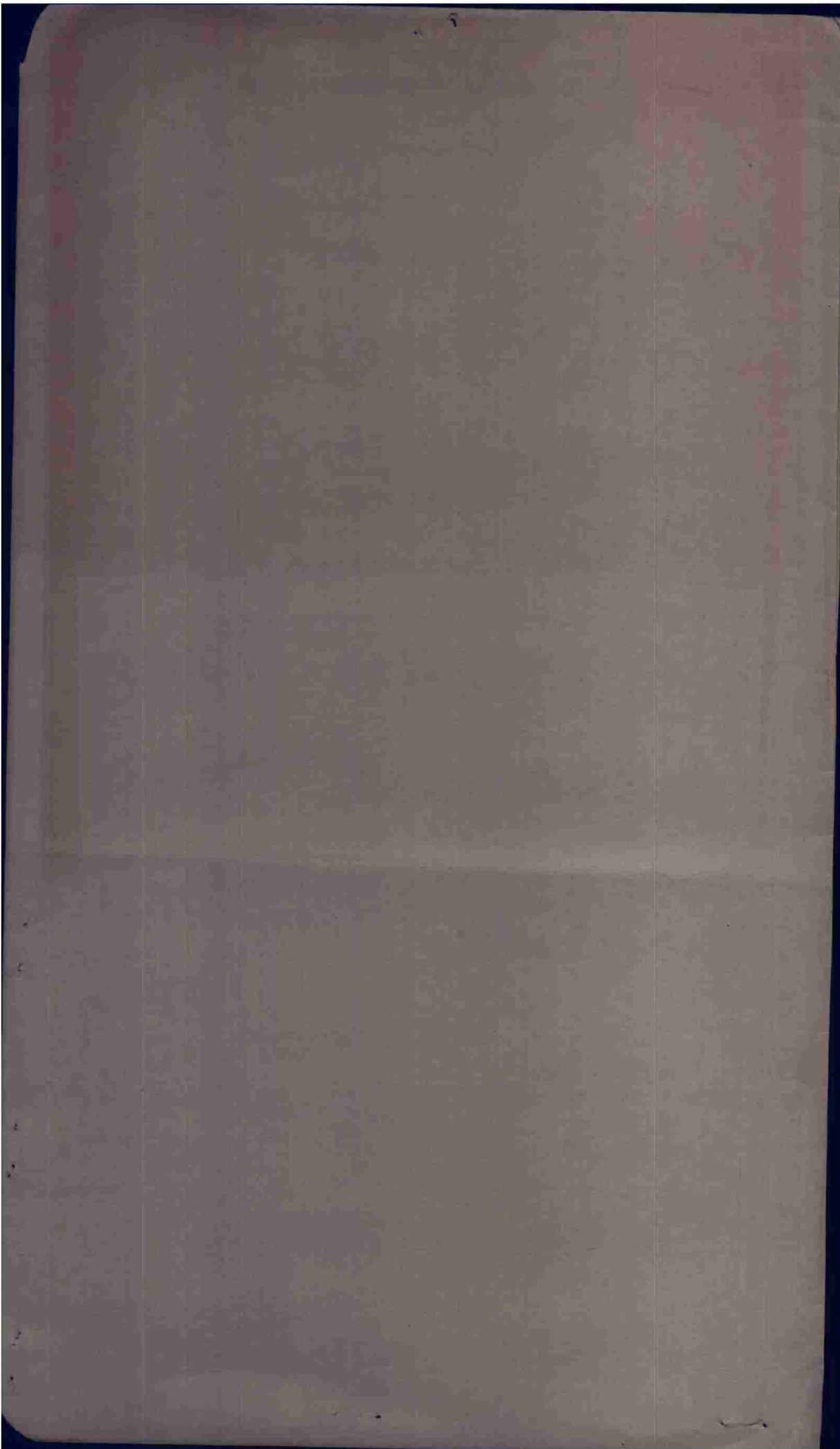
P.R.C.

SCANNED BY ACD  
2007-11

00092029

DECLASSIFIED  
DOD DIR 5200.9, 27 Sep 58

MICROFILMED





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CONFIDENTIAL

23 Feb 45

NINTH AF 2ND PHASE INTERPRETATION REPORT US10/D 753

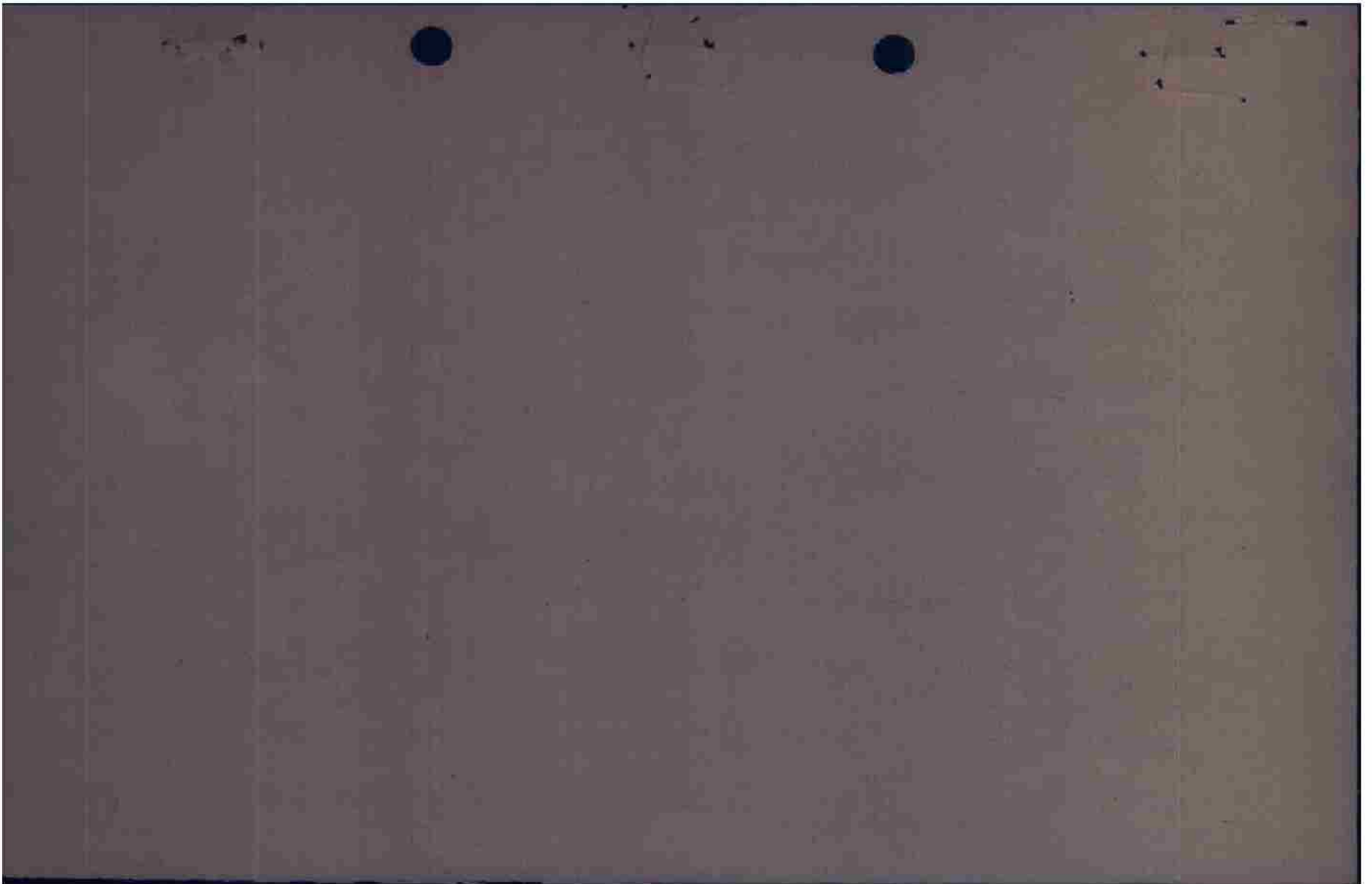
- (a) LOCALITY: SIMMERN R/C (GSGS 4416/T2 - L/851537)
- (b) SORTIE: US 12/4098 - 5011 SORTIE SCALE: 4,000
- (c) TOT: 23 Feb 45, 1000A F.L.: 12" ANNOTATED PRINT: None
- (d) PERIOD UNDER REVIEW: This report includes all damage to date.
- (e) COVER: Two-thirds of the R/C is covered on a single hazy print of good quality.
- (f) STATEMENT:  
Approximately 11 craters are visible within the R/C cutting at least 7 lines and destroying or damaging 6 wagons. On the basis of the cover available limited thru traffic is probable along one, and possibly two, tracks.
- (g) ACTIVITY: The R/C is lightly loaded with approximately 70 mixed wagons. At least 6 light flak wagons (3 guns) are visible within the R/C. Two hospital wagons are stabled in the center of the R/C. One dead loco and one possible loco in steam are visible.

**P.R.C.**CONFIDENTIAL

20th P.I.D. at Hq. 10th P.G.

DISTRIBUTION "D"

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GENERAL INDEX

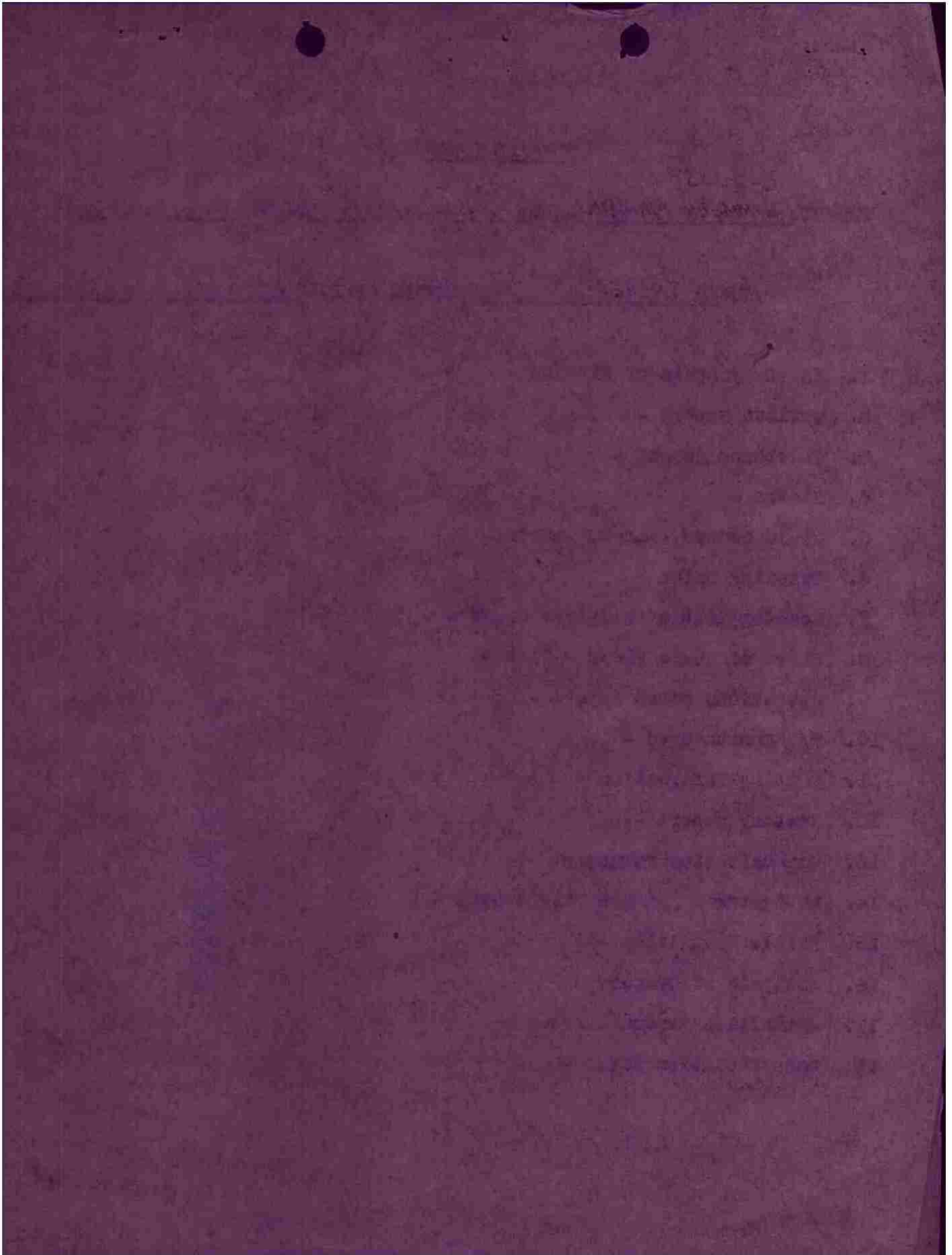
TARGET L-844530  
SIMMERN R/R BRIDGE DATE 23/12/45 NO. A/C 5 MISS. 1 F.O. CLARION

STATUS ATTACHED.

BRIEFING OFFICER \_\_\_\_\_

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

00092029



ITA JEA V JKI JKI 25/22 OP OP

FROM 416TH BOMB GROUP (L) 22/1948A  
TO CG, 9TH BOMB DIVISION  
CG, 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING  
ATTENTION: A-2

BT

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY  
GPSFLASH FOR 22 FEB. 1945.

CONFIDENTIAL 416TH BG FAX-169-D PERIOD

A. 416TH BOMB GROUP

B. TARGET NUMBER 50 - SIMMERN RAIL BRIDGE

C. 5 A-26'S

D. 5 A-26'S

E. NONE

F. 20 X 1000 ON PRIMARY

G. EXCELLENT RESULTS. THIS FLIGHT MADE THREE RUNS DUE TO SCATTERED CLOUD COVER. BOMBED VISUALLY ON THIRD RUN.

H. NONE

I. NONE

J. NO HEAVY FLAK. MACHINE GUN FIRE ON STRAFING RUN.

K. NONE

L. 12,000 FT.

M 1511

X. THIS FLIGHT ATTACKED WITH 416TH BOMB GROUP..TOWN AND M/Y AT  
SIMMERN AND TOWN OF HUNDHELM (L-750560) STRAFED.  
ONE (1) Locomotive (DAMAGED) SIMMERN.  
ONE (1) HEAVY M/T DESTROYED.  
FIFTEEN (15) BUILDINGS PROBABLY BARRACKS NEAR HUNDHELM DAMAGED.  
SEVERAL GOODS WAGONS IN M/Y AT SIMMERN DAMAGED.  
OIL TANKS NEAR SIMMERN DAMAGED.

AYLESWORTH COBOMGR 416

BT 22/1948A  
EM BBBB

ITA R.....2/21-2A DON  
JEA R.....22/2030A LEG KK

Gun position at 8652 sprayed, probably damaged  
 warehouse type Bldg - at BRIEDEN (662 768)  
 damaged and smoking after attack  
 18-20 Goods wagons in NY at Simmer damaged  
 1 Heavy MT damaged ~~at~~ 1211 NE of Simmer  
 NY at Simmer ~~after attack~~  
 Oil Storage Tanks at 8159 burning. Probably  
 destroyed.

TO : CG, 9TH BOMB DIVISION      ATT: A-2  
      CG, 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING    ATT: A-2

FROM : 416 Bomb Group

CONFIDENTIAL

OPFLASH FOR 22 FEBRUARY 1945

- A. 416 Bomb Group
- B. Target Number 50 - SIMMERN RAIL BRIDGE
- C. 5 A-26's
- D. 5 A-26's
- E. None.
- F. 20 x 1000 on Primary
- G. Excellent results. This flight made three runs due to scattered cloud cover. Bombed visually on third run.
- H. None.
- I. None.
- J. No Heavy Flak. Machine gun fire on strafing run.
- K. None.
- L. 12000 ft.
- M. 1511
- N. This flight attacked with 410th Bomb Group. Town and M/Y at SIMMERN and town of HUNDHELM (L-750560) strafed. One (1) locomotive (damaged) SIMMERN. One (1) heavy M/T destroyed. Fifteen (15) buildings probably barracks near HUNDHELM damaged. Several goods wagons in M/Y at SIMMERN damaged. Oil tanks near SIMMERN damaged.

TO : CO, 3RD BOMB DIVISION  
 CO, 3RD BOMB DIVISION  
 FROM : 3RD BOMB DIVISION

CONFIDENTIAL

OPERATION FOR 22 FEBRUARY 1945

A. 3RD BOMB DIVISION

B. Targeted Number 50 - BIRMINGHAM RAIL BRIDGE

C. 5 A-26's

D. 5 A-26's

E. None

F. 30 x 1000 on primary

G. Excellent results. This flight made three runs due to excellent cloud cover. Bombed visually on third run.

H. None

I. None

J. No heavy flak. Machine gun fire on starting run.

K. None

L. 12000 ft.

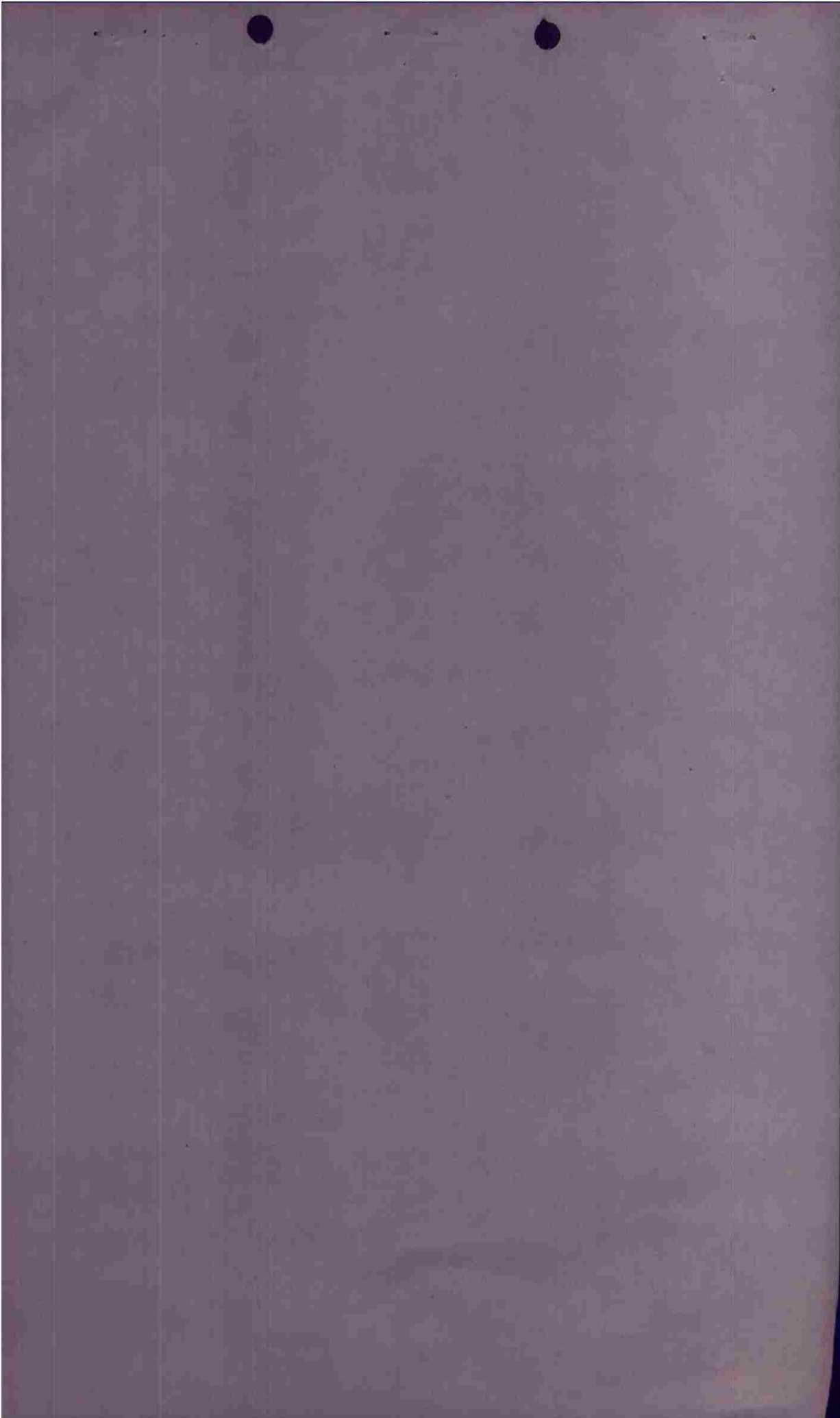
M. 1511

N. This flight attacked with 4100 Bomb Group. Town and WY  
 - J. BIRMINGHAM and town of HUNTER (I-25050) started.  
 One (1) locomotive (damaged) BIRMINGHAM.  
 One (1) heavy M/T destroyed.  
 Fifteen (15) buildings probably destroyed near BIRMINGHAM damaged.  
 Several houses damaged in WY of BIRMINGHAM.  
 Oil tanks near BIRMINGHAM damaged.

MISSION #211

FOR FIELD ORDER REF.

TO MISSION #210.



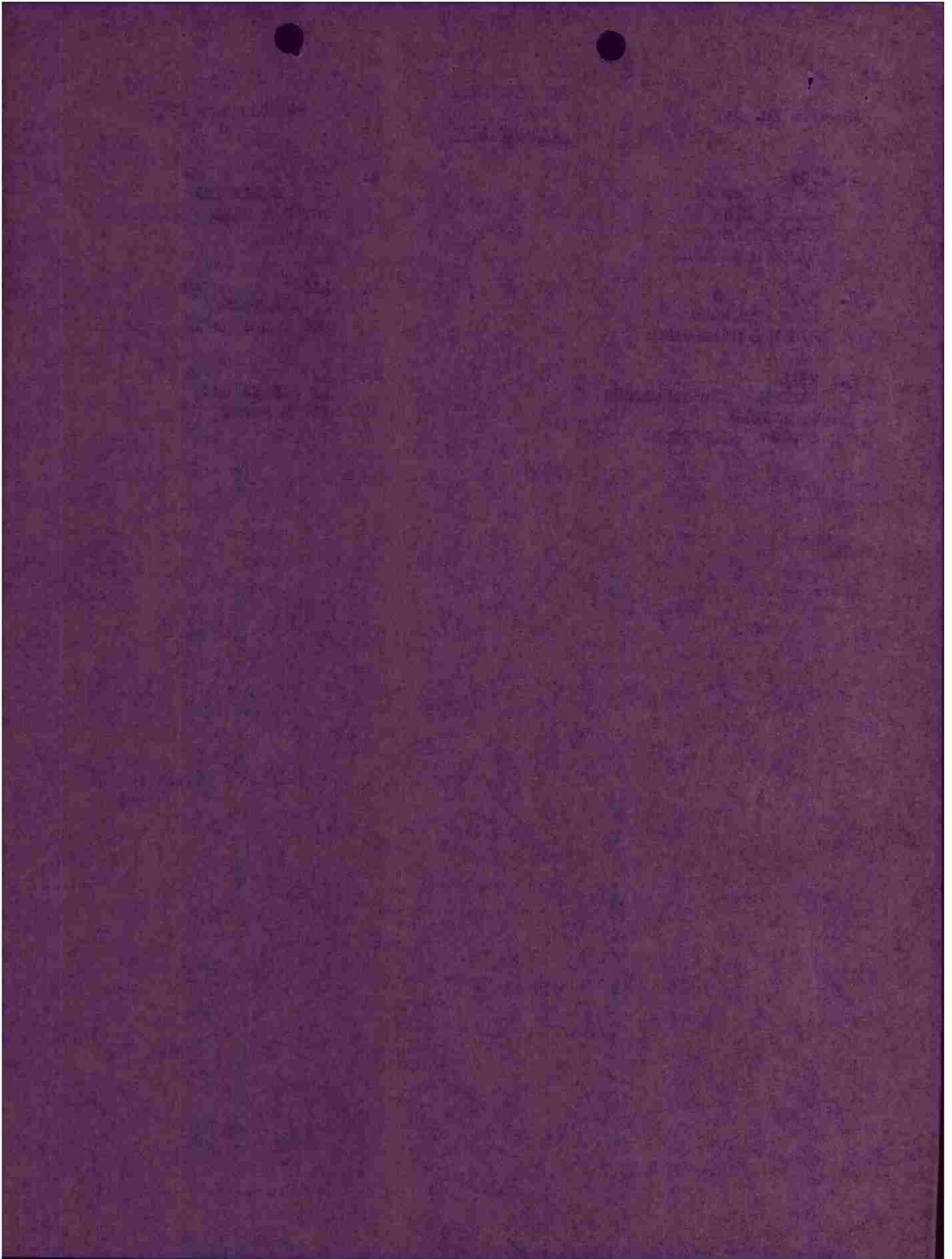
*Intelligence*  
MISSION NO. 211

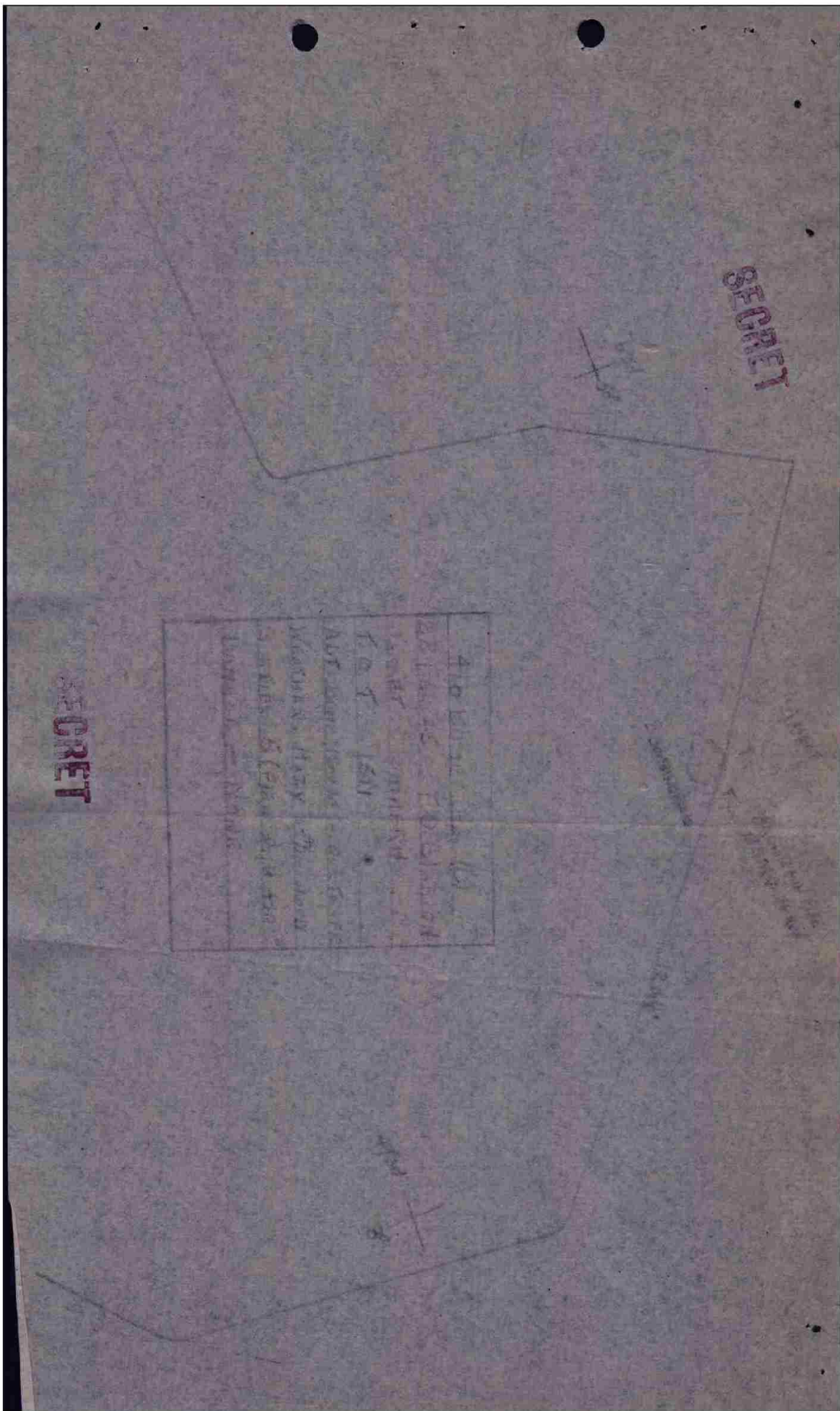
LOADING LIST  
BOX 1  
FLIGHT 1

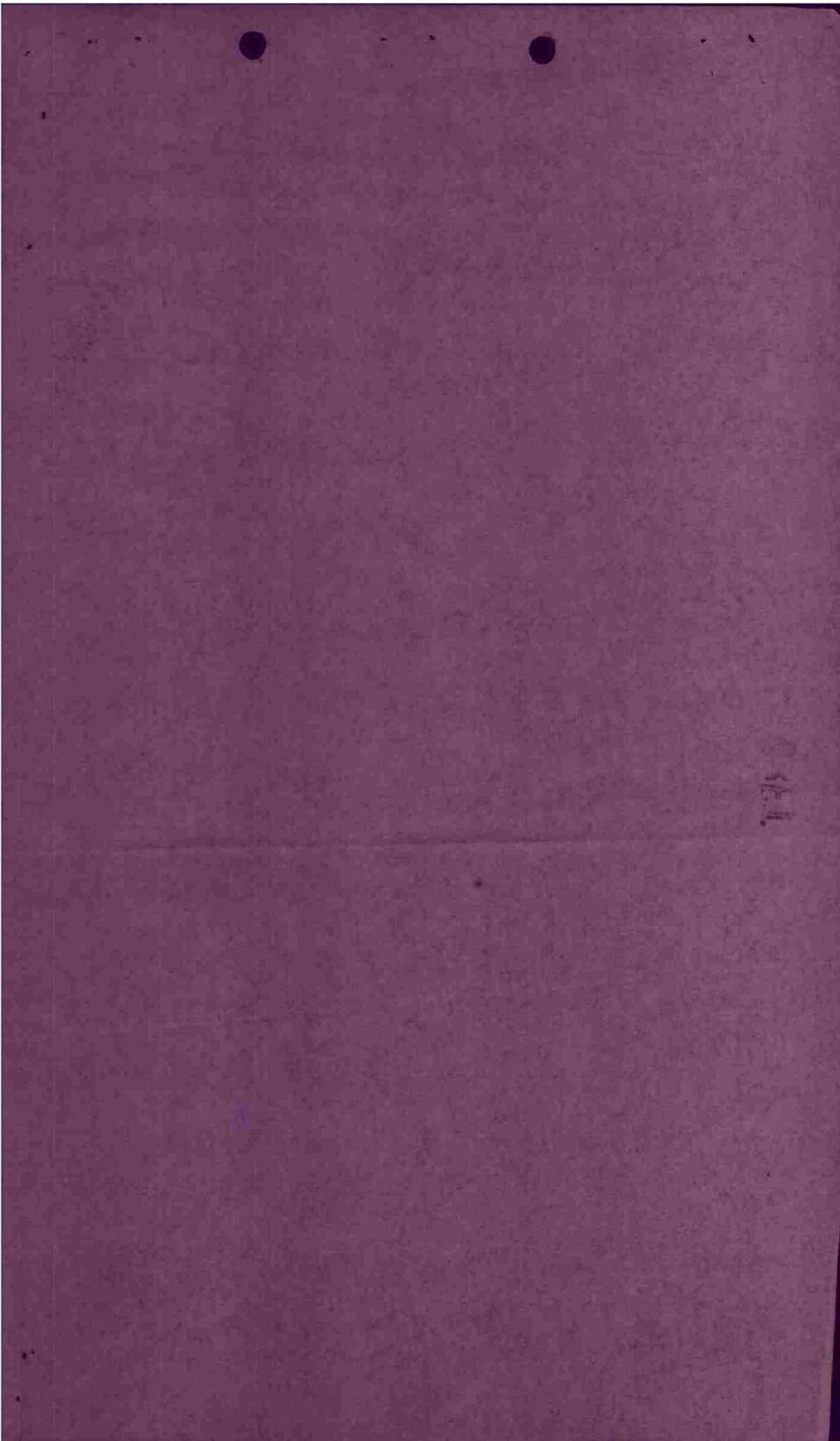
22 February 1945

1. 505 Y  
LT R J ROONEY  
LT R L NIKK  
CAPT NEILSON  
S/S S R CADELL
2. 307 N  
LT W MUSGROVE  
S/S H O SEIGHMAN
3. 2315 L  
CAPT R O GRUETZMACHER  
LT R FORD  
S/S J J RICKETSON

4. 394 Q  
LT W E DOWNING  
SGT D R NEAL
5. 416 Q  
LT A R TURNAN  
SGT T D CARNEY
6. 378 Q  
LT J E WALLACE  
~~SGT R PLANT~~







USAF FORM 34A

SECRET

SECRET

AUTH: CO STA 4-69  
DATE: 24 Feb. 1945  
INIT:HEADQUARTERS  
416TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)  
Office of the Commanding OfficerTO: Commanding General, 9th Bombardment Division (M), APO 140, U.S. Army.  
Attn: Statistical Control.

From: 416th Bombardment Group (L), APO 140, U.S. Army.

Ref: Oprep A No. 325 a for 24 hrs. ending midnight 22 Feb. 1945  
Mission or Operation No. 211 97th CSB F.O. Operations Division

## A. Short Narrative of Operation:

Target Sierra Rail Bridge  
 Place of take-off Station 4-69  
 Place of landing Station 4-69  
 Take-off time 1311 Landing time 1631  
 Time over target 1511 Bombing Altitude 12,000 ft.  
 Nature of mission Bombing & Strafing Other None  
 Weather 4/10 clouds on approach. Ground haze and fog. Visibility 2 miles  
 Results Undetermined. No photographs  
 Enemy opposition No heavy flak. Machine gun fire on strafing run.

## B. Type &amp; model of aircraft:

1. Dispatched 5 A-26's
2. Attacking target (indicate target) or completing mission.  
5 A-26's Sierra Rail Bridge
3. Abortive due to:
  - (1) Weather: None
  - (2) Personnel: None
  - (3) Mechanical: None
  - (4) Other: None
4. Missing (i.e. cause and place unknown) None
5. Destroyed - before reaching target None  
 giving cause where known
6. Destroyed - over or after leaving None  
 target giving cause where known
7. Damaged (give category & cause) None
8. Sorties 5 A-26's

SECRET

(over)

GEORGE SCHENKELIN,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Adjutant.

For the Commanding Officer:

Destroyed None  
Prob. Destroyed None  
Damaged None

H. Enemy aircraft by type or description (tentative claims):

| Type of           | Pilot | Co-pilot | Nav | Bomb | R. Gun | E. Gun | T. Gun |
|-------------------|-------|----------|-----|------|--------|--------|--------|
| Killed in Action  | 0     | 0        | 0   | 0    | 0      | 0      | 0      |
| Missing in Action | 0     | 0        | 0   | 0    | 0      | 0      | 0      |
| Wounded Seriously | 0     | 0        | 0   | 0    | 0      | 0      | 0      |
| Wounded Slightly  | 0     | 0        | 0   | 0    | 0      | 0      | 0      |
| Wounded           | 0     | 0        | 0   | 0    | 0      | 0      | 0      |

G. Own Personnel Casualties:

Total Returned None  
Lost or wrecked on missing a/c None  
Detained None  
Expended on operations (List targets separately)  
20 x 1000 lb. H.

Bombs, flares, etc. used:  
Total carried into air 20 x 1000 lb. of 1/2 ton 1/1000  
Lost on wrecked or missing a/c None  
Expended on operations 2,000 x 50 lbs.  
Total carried into air 20,000 x 50 lbs.

Ammunition by caliber:  
Night (Sunset to sunrise) None  
Day (Sunrise to sunset) 16,000  
Total operational flying hours

U S A F

USAF FORM 34a (6-54)

Drawing  
 35057  
 Thrufrankia Thompson  
 9315  
 Drawing  
 35057  
 Wallace T. Leman  
 398 416  
 made to and being deposited

TOTALS FOR MISSION

B.

- (2) No. a/c off by type: \_\_\_\_\_  
                                     A-20G's \_\_\_\_\_ A-20J's (obtained from Opns) \_\_\_\_\_
- (3) 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 recaps.) \_\_\_\_\_

C.

- (1) Time up \_\_\_\_\_  
     T.O.T. \_\_\_\_\_ (Obtained from Tower).  
     Time Down \_\_\_\_\_

D.

- (1) No. a/c \_\_\_\_\_  
                                     Missing \_\_\_\_\_  
                                     Destroyed \_\_\_\_\_  
                                     Damaged \_\_\_\_\_ (cat. B/C)  
                                     Damaged \_\_\_\_\_ (cat. A)
- (3) No. Crew \_\_\_\_\_ Killed \_\_\_\_\_ Wounded \_\_\_\_\_ Missing \_\_\_\_\_  
     (Obtained from Recaps).

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

|                        | No. | Type              |
|------------------------|-----|-------------------|
| I. Bombs on Primary    | X   | _____             |
| Bombs on Secondary     | X   | _____             |
| Bombs on Other         | X   | _____             |
| Bombs Returned         | X   | _____             |
| Bombs Jettisoned       | X   | _____ Where _____ |
| (Obtained from Recaps) |     |                   |

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

F/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERFORM

PILOT

*wallace*  
*Kan. Foster*

A/C#

*378*  
*208*

BOX

*13*

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :

*X*

ON

BATTLE DAMAGE

*X*

RETURNED

*X*

JETTISONED

FLAK:

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

OBSERVATIONS:

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
    X  X
      X
    X  X
  
```

```

      X
    X  X
      X
    X  X
  
```

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

Van Norden  
Crashed on T/O  
Cat B  
engine failure  
no injuries

f/o \_\_\_\_\_ CONFIDENTIAL 5 INTERNAL FORM

PILOT Murphy A/C# 307 BOX \_\_\_\_\_CASUALTIES None

| BOMBS : | 4 x 1000 | ON         | Running | BATTLE DAMAGE | "A-G" | "E" |
|---------|----------|------------|---------|---------------|-------|-----|
| X       |          | RETURNED   |         |               |       |     |
| X       |          | JETTISONED |         | Nil           |       |     |

FLAK:

at target - machine gun fire.  
 from chateaus at 8058 - machine gun fire  
 we find at them.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

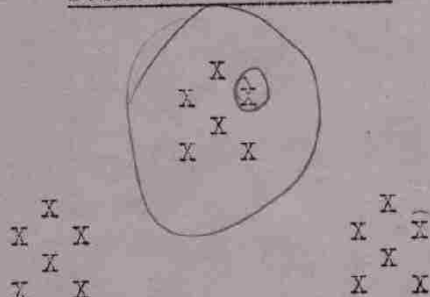
OBSERVATIONS:

gunner fired into locomotive, in disrepair.  
 15 houses at edge of woods (chateaus) but. Sprayed across the  
 street.

Strayed HUNDHELM (L-7556)

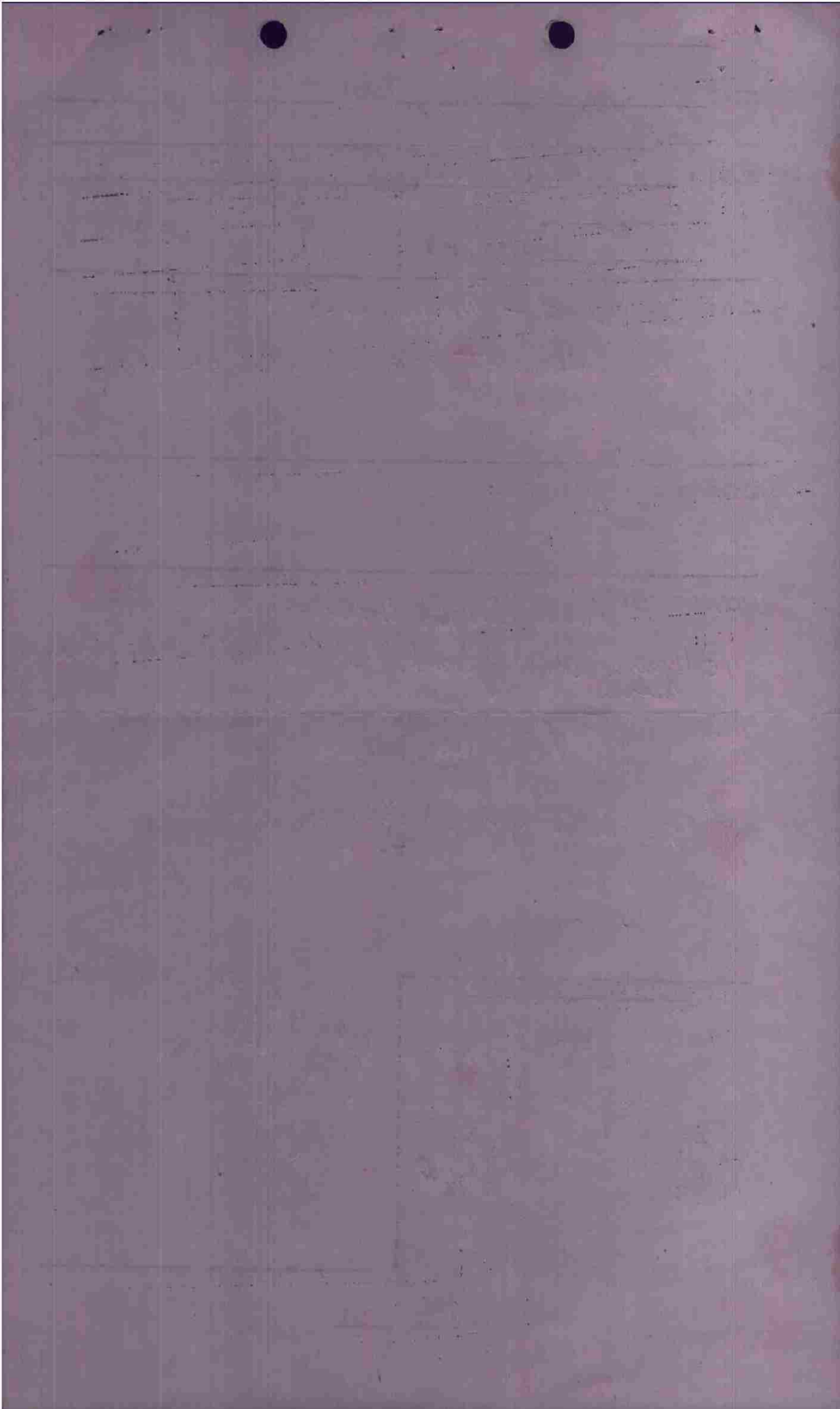
25 cars in NY at 1537 hrs - (Near Trier) no engines

POSITION IN FORMATION



MB5  
 INTERRECTOR

CONFIDENTIAL



F/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERROG FORM

PILOT Guntzmaier A/C# 2315 BOX

CASUALTIES

| BOMBS : | 4 | 1000 | ON         | PT. | BATTLE DAMAGE | "L-C" | "E" |
|---------|---|------|------------|-----|---------------|-------|-----|
| X       |   |      | RETURNED   |     |               |       |     |
| X       |   |      | JETTISONED |     |               |       |     |

FLAK:

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

OBSERVATIONS:

Bombed on 3rd run on recip. hdy.  
 c.c. were targeted.

Big col. of smoke in air. of T,  
 Striped smoke in sky.  
 hits in town

Bldgs in woods N.W. of T/A.

Bldgs in Town - roofs burned. - 3-4 mi. off.

Fired at loco. + one truck.

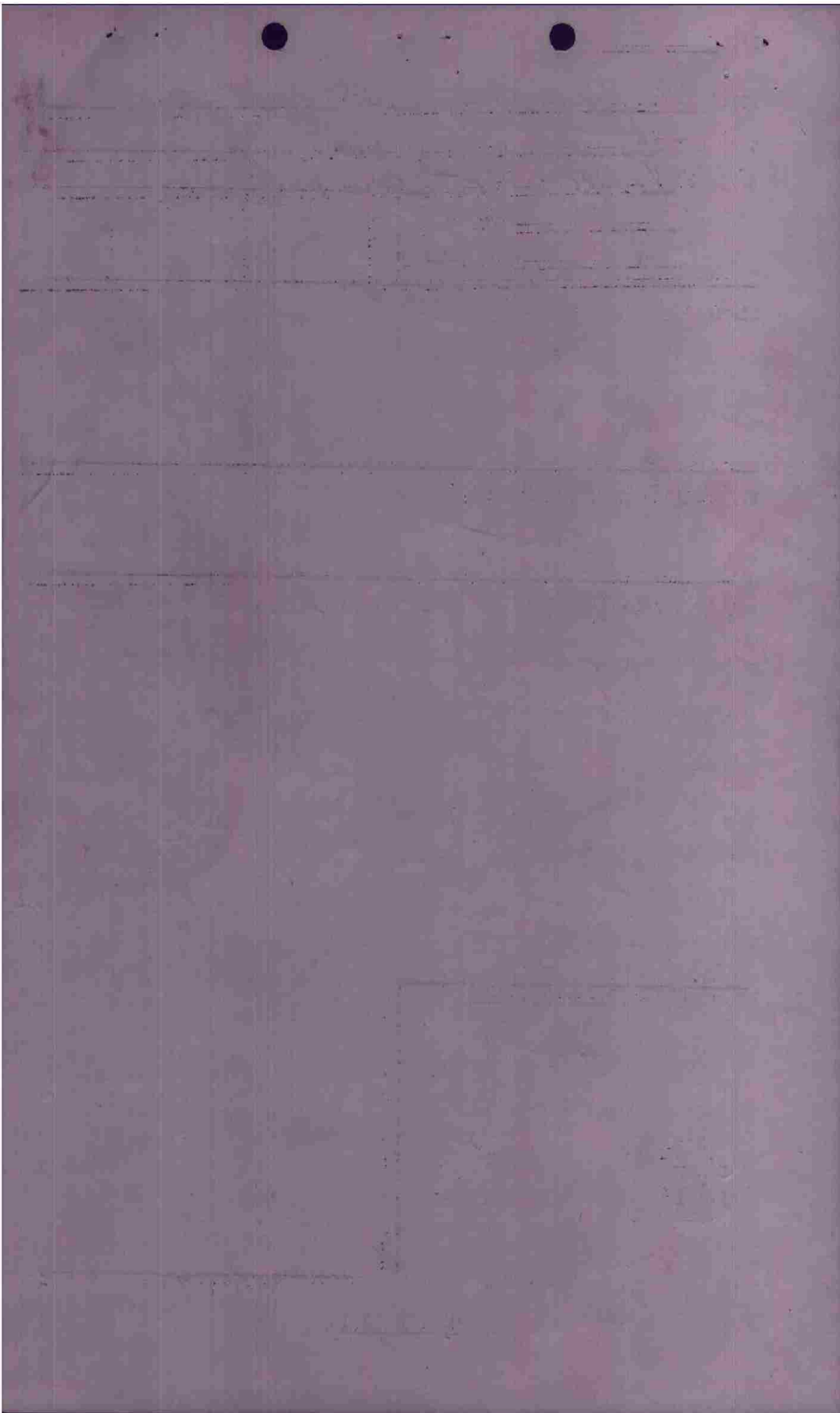
POSITION IN FORMATION

|        |   |     |   |
|--------|---|-----|---|
|        |   | X   |   |
|        | X |     | X |
|        |   | X   |   |
|        | X |     | X |
| Rooney |   |     |   |
| X      | X | X   |   |
| (X)    | X | 410 |   |
| X      |   |     |   |
| X      | X |     |   |

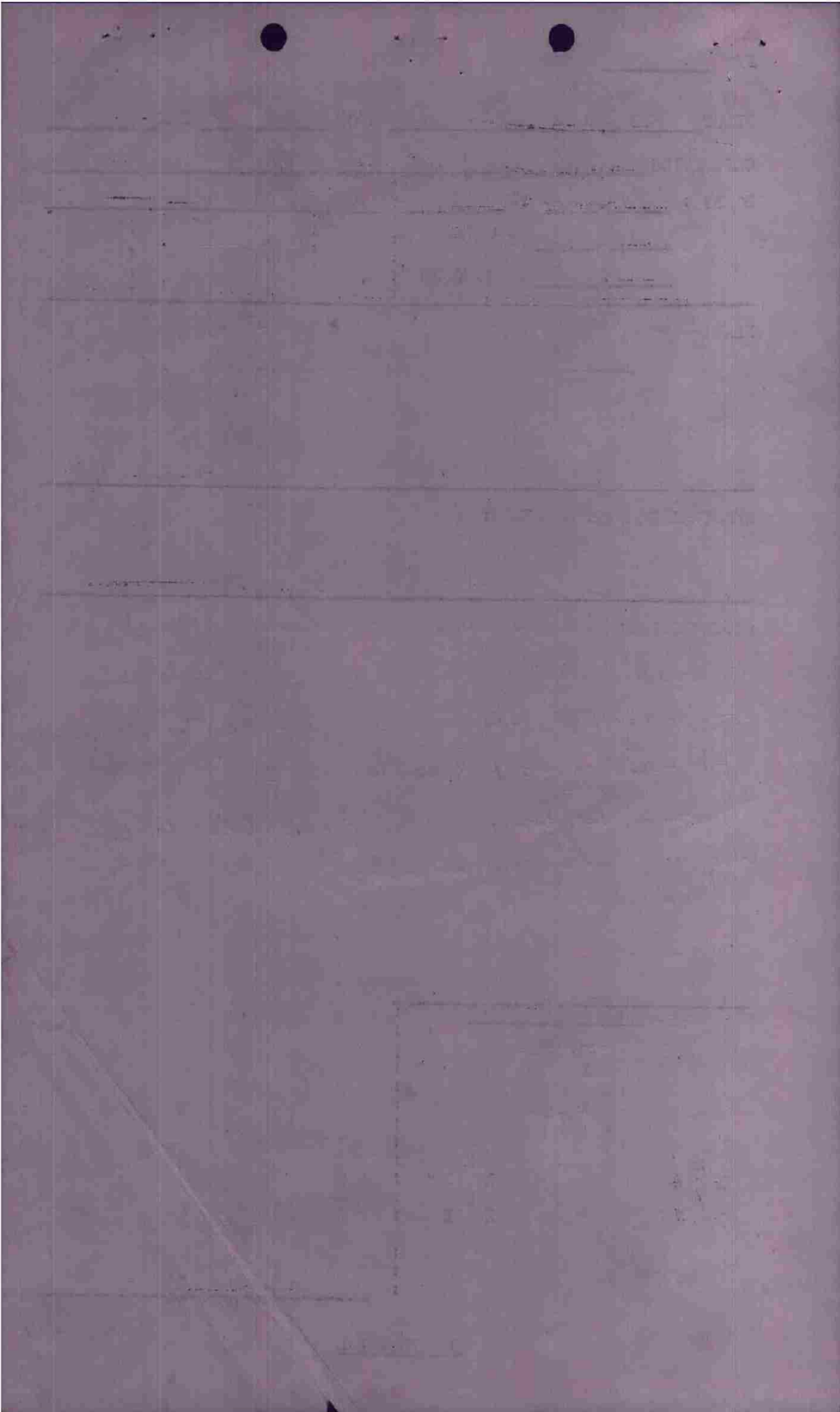
2 towns later hit.  
 shacks left of course  
 on edge of pine (amm.)

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL







F/O

CONFIDENTIAL 50

INTERVIEW FORM

PILOT Downing A/C# 334 BOX \_\_\_\_\_

CASUALTIES \_\_\_\_\_

| BOMBS : |            | ON <u>Primary</u> | BATTLE DAMAGE |       |     |
|---------|------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|-----|
|         |            |                   | "A"           | "A-C" | "E" |
| X       | RETURNED   |                   |               |       |     |
| X       | JETTISONED |                   |               |       |     |

FLAK: nilENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS: nil

OBSERVATIONS: Bombing good - hit bridge -  
Struffed into woods from bombs in m/y -  
9 1/2 ton truck by gunner with turret - truck  
went off road + appeared wrecked - also shot w/  
R.R. cars -

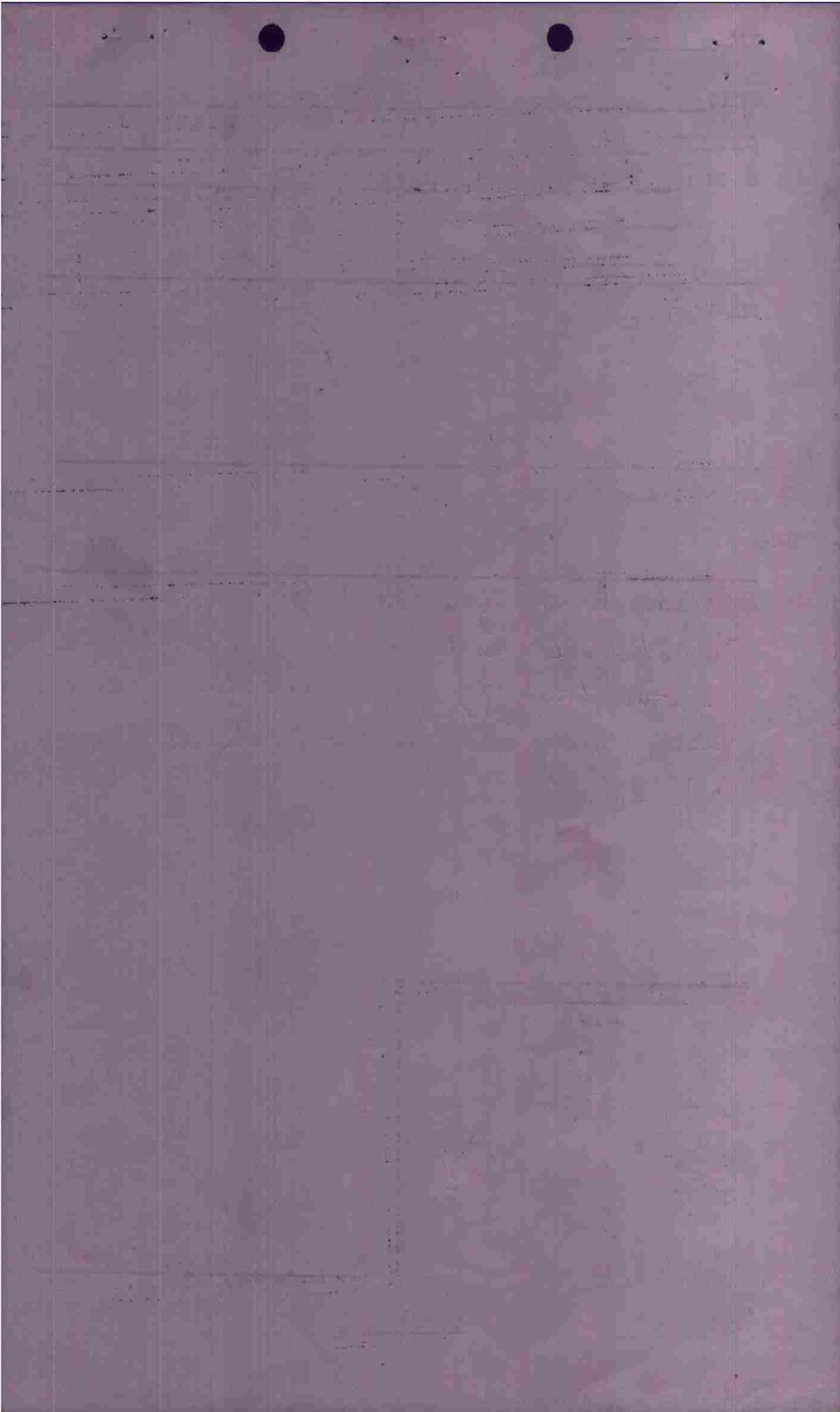
## POSITION IN FORMATION

Downing  
 X  
 X X  
 X (X) X  
 X X

X X X  
 X X X  
 X X X

L. S. Rogers  
 INTERVIEWER

CONFIDENTIAL



F/O \_\_\_\_\_ CONFIDENTIAL 30 INTERCOM FORM

PILOT Rooney A/C# 505 BOX HW/410CASUALTIES nilBOMBS : 4 X 1000 ON Simmern BR UTILE DAMAGE

|               |   |            | "A-C" | "E" |
|---------------|---|------------|-------|-----|
| <u>3 runs</u> | X | RETURNED   | :     | :   |
|               | X | JETTISONED | :     | :   |

FLAK: nilENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS: nil

OBSERVATIONS: Bombing  
300 to 400 ft to right of bridge.  
Was not hit either by 410 which dropped  
two clouds on 1st run or by us on 3rd  
run. Bombed on a 90° heading instead of 324°  
as briefed - because of cloud cover. Then  
return to strafing Simmern town - good job  
of strafing on town. Hits on goods wagons  
in M/Y at SIMMERN. Then on deck from target  
to BUCHEL <sup>(RP)</sup> then pulled up but 410th had  
already left. We got to 1500 instead of 1504

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
    X  X
      X
    X  X
  
```

```

      X
    X  X
      X
    X  X
  
```

because we made 3 runs.  
 Bombs away at 1511

Altitude 12000

IAS 200

Axis 90°

First run at 1451 1/2

Strafed at 1516 hrs

INTERCOM FORM Rooney

CONFIDENTIAL

