

IRIS Public Record

Key Information

Main: GROUP/0416/BOMBARDMENT (LIGHT)

Document Type:

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

IRIS Number: **00092059**

Accessions Notes:

Old Accession Nbr:

Title:

Beginning Date:

End Date:

Publication Date: **1945/03/18**

Classification **UNCLAS**

Media Roll #: **0000001718** First Frame: **1262** Last Frame: **1362** Linear Feet: **0**

Old MFlm Roll # **B0538**

Audio Rec:

NUMPAGE **100**

Title Extensions:

Abstract CONTAINS TARGET DATA AND MISSION REPORT. TARGET: WORMS COMMUNICATIONS CENTER.

Descriptive

Notes:

Title MISSION 239

Added

Entries

Author:

Subject:

Major Command:

Administrative Markings

No Administrative Markings Listed

Security Review Information:

Rcvd:	Rel	1985/03/05
Indexer ID: 24	Entered Date:	
QC ID:	QC'd Date::	
Scanner ID:	Scanned Date:	
Acc ID	Acc Date:	

GENERAL INDEX

TARGET NORMS COMM. CENT. DATE 18 MAR 45 NO. A/C 41 MISS. # 239
 COORD. M-448160 F.O. # 210-801 STATUS ATTACKED
 BRIEFING OFFICER CAPT. SHERIDAN

1. RECCO. PRINTS (IF ANY)
2. MISSION SUMMARY, IX BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
3. MISSION NARRATIVE
4. OPS FLASH
5. PHOTO REPORT
6. FIELD ORDER (ANNEXES, AMENDMENTS, SUPPLEMENTS)
7. LOADING LIST OF CREWS
8. FLAK REPORT
9. GEE & RADAR REPORTS
10. PPF CRITIQUE (IF ANY)
11. OPREP REPORT
12. YS REPORT
13. NAVIGATOR'S LOG AND FLIGHT PLAN
14. WEATHER REPORT
15. RECAPITULATION FORMS
16. INTERROGATION FORMS
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____

ITA JES JPO JKI V JEA JEA 13/17 (INFO)

FROM 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 17/2240A

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" OR "B"

A. 409TH BOMB GROUP (543189)

(2) QUICKSTART

(3) SLEEPY

(4) SWEEPSTAKE

B. 410TH BOMB GROUP (543189)

(2) BLIZZARD

(3) SLEEPY

(4) SWEEPSTAKES

C. 416TH BOMB GROUP (448160)

(2) BESTMAN

(3) PALLMALL

(4) RIPSAP

COMCBTWIG 97

BT 2240A

RL AR K

JES R.....17/2255A	MC	KK
JPO R.....17/2255A	JHS	AR
JKI R.....17/2255A	EJ	AR
ITA R.....17/2253A	ELC	AR

ITA JKT V JEA JEA 17/17 OP OP
T (ITA PASS TO JJF)

FROM 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 17/2338A
TO COMBOMB DIV IX
COBOMGP 416
1ST PROV. PATHFINDER SQDN.

BT

SECRET SENT IN CLEAR AUTH: LT. COL. MC AFEE

97CBW R-182-E

INTELLIGENCE SUPPLEMENT 1 FIELD ORDER 210-740.

(1) TARGET: WORMS ROAD JUNCTIONS (M-448160)

(2) PHOTO: 6(D)(V1)145/2-1
1(D)(1)44/3-2
4908E/6316
J673541 PRINT NO. 4022

MAPS: G.S.G.S. 4414 SHEET 6316
1:12,500 RHINE RIVER, MAINZ TO MANNHEIM SHEET NO. 13
TOWN PLAN OF WORMS A. RHEIN

(3) FLAK: SEE CURRENT PLOTS.

(4) BOMBLINE: SEE CHANGE 3 TO BOMBLINE 183 TROOPS ARE WELL BEHIND
THIS BOMBLINE ACCORDING TO LATEST REPORTS. YOU WILL
BE NOTIFIED AS SOON POSSIBLE.

COMCBTWIG 97

BT 2338A

SH BBBBBB

ITA R18/0002A

JKIR19/0002A

CHUCK JKK
RSS KK

784 784
0015
MBH
S-2
S-3
SIG

ITA JKI V JEA JEA 18 (INFO)
FROM 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 18/0105A
TO COMBOMDIV NINE
COBONGP 416
ATTN : SIGNALS OFFICER
ADV ADDITION TO PAR. 5 OF FIELD ORDER TO FOLLOW :
5. COMMUNICATIONS
A. 416TH COMB GROUP (317958)
PLAN "C" OR "D"
(2) BESTMAN
(3) PALLMALL
(4) RIPSAN
COMCBTWIG 97
BT 18/0105A
AR CES
ITA R.....18/0115A CD AR
JKI R.....18/0115A RSS AR

786
5-2
5-3
516

JKI ITA JJF V JEA 2/18 OP OP

T (ITA PASS TO JJF)

FROM 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 18/0158A
TO COMBOMDIV NINE
COBOMGP 416
1ST PROV PATHFINDER SQDN.

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

97 CBW R-182-E

BT

INTELLIGENCE SUPPLEMENT NR.3 TO FIELD ORDER NR.210-801

PLAN "C"

(1) TARGET : BAD-DURKHEIM, ROAD JUNCTIONS (M-317958) THIS TARGET IS
BEING SET UP SO THAT, IF THE GROUND FORCES REACH YOUR TARGET, YOU
WILL HAVE AN ALTERNATE.

(2) PHOTO : 4908E/6515
106W/400 - PRINTS 4126 - 4127

MAPS : GSGS 4414 SHEET 6514 - 6515

COMCBTWIG 97

BT 18/0158A

AR CES

ITA R.....18/0205A MZ AR KK

JKI R.....18/0205A RSS AR

M

788

R788

S-2

S-3

SIG

ITA JES JPO JKI JJF V JEA JEA 3/18 OP OP
ITA PASS TO JJF

FROM 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 18/0400A
TO COMBOMDIV NINE
COBOMGP 409
COBOMGP 410
COBOMGP 416
1ST PROV PATHFINDER SQDN.

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

R-183-E

97TH COMBAT BOMB WING
APO 140
18 MARCH 1945

FIELD ORDER NO. 210-301

MAPS : NORMAL

1. B. (1) THE XIX T.A.C. WILL FURNISH AREA COVER FOR THE 416TH BOMB GROUP. THE XXIX T.A.C. AND IX T.A.C. WILL FURNISH AREA COVER FOR THE 409TH AND 410TH BOMB GROUPS.

2. THIS WING WILL ATTACK TARGETS IN GERMANY.

ZERO HOUR PLAN "A" 18/1000A
ZERO HOUR PLAN "B" 18/1000A
ZERO HOUR PLAN "C" 18/1000A
ZERO HOUR PLAN "D" 18/1000A

PLAN "A" VISUAL

3. A. 409TH BOMB GROUP

- (6) BOMB 12,000 FEET OR BELOW CLOUDS DOWN TO BUT NOT BELOW 8,000 FEET. GROUP WILL FLY ROUTE OUT AT 12,000 FEET AND LOSE 2,000 FEET JUST BEFORE I.P. GAIN 1,000 FEET AFTER RELEASING BOMBS.
- (9) M.P.I. ILL. 5 (A) (46) A/4. COVER M/Y BETWEEN THE FOLLOWING REF. 030026 AND 057026.
INTERVALOMETER SETTING 50 FEET.
- (10) 4 X 1000 LB. G.P. FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE 1/100 SEC. TAIL.
- (12) T.O.T. ZERO HOUR PLUS 45 MIN.

B. 410TH BOMB GROUP

- (6) BOMB 12,000 FEET OR BELOW CLOUDS DOWN TO BUT NOT BELOW 8,000 FEET. LOSE 1,000 FEET AFTER RELEASING BOMBS.
- (9) M.P.I. ILL. 5(A) (46) A/4. COVER M/Y BETWEEN THE FOLLOWING REF. 057026 AND 103051.
- (10) 6 X 500 LB. G.P. FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE 1/100 SEC. TAIL.
- (12) T.O.T. ZERO HOUR PLUS 15 MIN.

C. 416TH BOMB GROUP

- (1) WORMS COMMUNICATION CENTER M-448160
- (2) MAXIMUM EFFORT BOMBING BY FLIGHTS OF 6 A/C.
- (4) BASE TO P-8340 TO L-5860 TO L-2554

- (11) M-2018
- (12) T.O.T. ZERO HOUR PLUS 15 MIN.
- (13) IF CLOUDS OBSCURE THE PRIMARY TARGET, BULLSEYE PROCEDURE WILL BE USED. (SEE 9BD OR-1347-E 17 MAR. 1945) IF BULLSEYE PROCEDURE IS NOT SUCCESSFUL AN ALTERNATE TARGET WILL BE ATTACKED IN THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY :
 - (A) VISUALLY
 - (B) "GEE"
 - (C) TARGET E.T.A.
- (14) EXTREME CAUTION WILL BE EXERCISED THAT ALTERNATE TARGETS WITHIN 5 MILES OF P/W CAMPS WILL NOT BE SELECTED.

X. (1) TO (4) NO CHANGE.

FOR THE 409TH AND 410TH BOMB GROUPS ONLY.

- (5) TARGET : WETZLAR M/Y G-543189
- (6) A/C REQUIRED : MAXIMUM EFFORT BOMBING BY FLIGHTS OF 6 A/C.
- (7) ROUTE OUT : BASE TO P-8587 TO F-6801 TO F-9220 TO G-1819 TO I.P. TO TARGET.
- (8) ROUTE BACK : TARGET TURN LEFT TO R.P. AND RETRACE ROUTE TO BASE.
- (9) I.P. : G-3013
- JKQPL AXIS OF ATTACK : GENERALLY SW TO NE.
- (11) R.P. :
 - GAQIQO
- (10) AXIS OF ATTACK : GENERALLY SW TO NE.
- (11) R.P. : G-1819
- (12) DUE TO THE PROXIMITY OF A P/W CAMP IN THE TARGET AREA IF THE PRIMARY TARGET CANNOT BE ATTACKED VISUALLY BULLSEYE PROCEDURE WILL BE USED. (SEE 9BD OR-1347 17 MAR. 1945) IF BULLSEYE PROCEDURE IS UNSUCCESSFUL AN ALTERNATE TARGET WILL BE ATTACKED IN THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY :
 - (A) VISUALLY
 - (B) "GEE"
 - (C) TARGET E.T.A.
- (13) EXTREME CAUTION WILL BE EXERCISED THAT ALTERNATE TARGETS WITHIN 5 MILES OF P/W CAMPS WILL NOT BE ATTACKED.

PLAN "B" PATHFINDER

A. 409TH BOMB GROUP

- (9) M.P.I. ILL. 5 (A) (46) A/4. COVER M/Y BETWEEN THE FOLLOWING REF. 030026 AND 057026 IF BOMBING IS VISUAL BY FLIGHTS OR BOXES. PPF M.P.I. G.S.G.S. 4416 SHEET S3. GRID. COORD. 54871885.
- INTERVALOMETER SETTING 50 FEET.
- (10) 4 X 1000 LB. G.P. FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE 1/100 SEC. TAIL.
- (12) T.O.T. ZERO HOUR PLUS 45 MIN.

B. 410TH BOMB GROUP

- (9) M.P.I. ILL. 5 (A) (46) A/4. COVER M/Y BETWEEN THE FOLLOWING REF. 057026 AND 103051 IF BOMBING IS VISUAL BY FLIGHTS OR BOXES. P.P.F. M.P.I. G.S.G.S. 4416 SHEET S3 GRID. COORD. 55701914.
- (10) 6 X 500 LB. G.P. FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE 1/100 SEC. TAIL.
- (12) T.O.T. ZERO HOUR PLUS 15 MIN.

C. 416TH BOMB GROUP

- (1) WORMS COMMUNICATION CENTER (M-448160)
- (2) 2 BOXES OF 18 A/C BOMBING ON 1 PPF A/C
- (3) WITH PPF A/C OVER BASE
- (4) BASE TO P-8340 TO L-5971 TO M-1367 TO TARGET.
- (5) TARGET TURN RIGHT TO M-2018 TO L-9433 TO L-8554 TO L-5860 TO BASE

- (6) BOMB 13,000 FEET. MINIMUM ALTITUDE FOR VISUAL BOMBING 8,000 FEET. LOSE 1000 FEET AFTER BOMBING
 - (9) MPI - GSGS 4414 SHEET NO. 6316. COVER ROAD JUNCTIONS WITHIN THE AREA BOUNDED BY THE FOLLOWING GRID COORD. 44801490, 45731475, 45621430, 44721440 IF BOMBING IS VISUAL BY FLIGHTS OR BOXES. PPF MPI - GRID COORD. 45091462. INTERVALOMETER SETTING 50 FEET
 - (10) 20 X 150 LB. GP FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE 1/100 SEC. TAIL
 - (12) T.O.T. ZERO HOUR PLUS 15 MIN.
 - (13) 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, GROUP WILL BOMB BY (A) FLIGHTS (B) BOXES AND USE M-2018 AS A VISUAL I.P. IF VISUAL CONDITIONS DO NOT EXIST, GROUP WILL BOMB IN THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY:
 - (A) PRIMARY TARGET ON PPF
 - (B) BULLSEYE PROCEEDURE (SEE 9BD OR-1347-E 17 MAR. 1945)
 - (14) IF BOMBING CANNOT BE ACCOMPLISHED BY ANY OF THE MEANS IN PARA. (13), GROUP WILL BOMB AN ALTERNATE TARGET IN THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY:
 - (A) VISUAL
 - (B) GROUP GEE
 - (C) TARGET E.T.A.
- X. (1) - (4) NO CHANGE
- (5) CAUTION WILL BE EXERCISED THAT ALTERNATE TARGETS WITHIN 5 MILES OF P/W CAMPS WILL NOT BE SELECTED.

--FOR 409TH AND 410TH GROUPS ONLY--

- (6) TARGET: WETZLAR M/Y (G-543139)
- (7) A/C REQUIRED: 2 BOXES OF 18 A/C BOMBING ON 2 PPF A/C
- (8) RNDV: WITH PPF A/C OVER FIELD
- (9) ROUTE OUT: BASE TO F-8587 TO F6801 TO F-9831 TO TARGET.
- (10) ROUTE BACK: TARGET TURN RIGHT TO F-9220 TO F-6801 TO BASE
- (11) ALTITUDE: BOMB 1ST BOX 13,000 FEET, 2ND BOX 12,500 FEET. LOSE 1,000 FEET AFTER BOMBING. MINIMUM ALTITUDE FOR VISUAL BOMBING 8,000 FEET
- (12) 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-20 AND 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-3013 AS A VISUAL I.P. IF VISUAL CONDITIONS DO NOT EXISTN GROUP WILL BOMB IN THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY:
 - (A) PRIMARY TARGET ON PPF
 - (B) BULLSEYE PROCEEDURE (SEE 9BD OR-1347-E 17 MAR. 1945)
- (13) IF BOMBING CANNOT BE ACCOMPLISHED BY ANY OF THE MEANS IN PARA. (12), GROUP WILL BOMB AN ALTERNATE TARGET IN THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY:
 - (A) VISUALLY
 - (B) GROUP GEE
 - (C) TARGET E.T.A.

PLAN "C" VISUAL

A. 416TH BOMB GROUP

- (1) BAD DURKHEIM ROAD JUNCTIONS R-317958
- (2) MAXIMUM EFFORT BOMBING BY FLIGHTS OF 6 A/C
- (4) BASE TO Q-7236 TO R-0453 TO I.P. TO TARGET
- (5) TARGET TURN LEFT TO R.P. TO L-5971 TO BASE
- (6) BOMB 12,500 FEET OR BELOW CLOUD BASE DOWN TO BUT NOT BELOW 8,000 FEET
- (7) R-1584
- (8) GENERALLY SW TO NE
- (9) MPI - GSGS 4414 SHEET NO. 6515. COVER ROAD JUNCTIONS AT COORD. 31359625 AND COORD. 31319584. INTERVALOMETER SETTING 50 FEET.
- (10) 20 X 150 LB. GP FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE 1/40 SEC. TAIL
- (11) M-2018
- (12) T.O.T. ZERO HOUR PLUS 15 MIN.
- (13) IF CLOUD COVER OBSCURES THE PRIMARY TARGET, BULLSEYE PROCEEDURE (SEE 9BD OR-1347-E 17 MAR. 1945) WILL BE USED. IF BULLSEYE PROCEEDURE IS UNSUCCESSFUL, GROUP WILL BOMB PRIMARY TARGET ON "GEE".
- (14) IF PRIMARY TARGET CANNOT BE ATTACKED AND BULLSEYE PROCEEDURE IS UNSUCCESSFUL, GROUP WILL ATTACK AN ALTERNATE TARGET IN THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY:
 - (A) VISUALLY
 - (B) GEE
 - (C) TARGET E.T.A.

PLAN "D" PATRFINDER

A. 416TH BOMB GROUP

- (1) BAD BURGHEIM ROAD JUNCTIONS (R-317958)
- (2) 2 BOXES OF 18 BOMBING ON ONE PPF A/C
- (3) WITH PPF A/C OVER BASE
- (4) BASE TO L-5971 TO M-2018 TO TARGET
- (5) TARGET TURN RIGHT TO M-2018 TO L-5971 TO BASE
- (6) BOMB 13,000 FEET. MINIMUM ALTITUDE FOR VISUAL BOMBING 8,000 FEET.
- (9) MPI - GSGS 4414 SHEET 6515. COVER ROAD JUNCTIONS AT COORD. 31359625 AND COORD. 31319584 IF BOMBING IS VISUAL BY FLIGHTS OR BOXES. PPT MPI - COORD. 31359625. INTERVALOMETER SETTING 50 FEET
- (10) 20 X 150 LB. GP FUSE 1/10 SEC. NOSE 1/40 SEC. TAIL
- (12) T.O.T. ZERO HOUR PLUS 15 MIN.
- (13) 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, GROUP WILL BOMB BY (A) FLIGHTS (B) BOXES AND USE EITHER M-2018 OR R-1584 AS A VISUAL I.P. IF VISUAL CONDITIONS DO NOT EXIST. GROUP WILL BOMB IN THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY:
 - (A) PRIMARY TARGET ON PPF
 - (B) BULLSEYE PROCEDURE (SEE 9BD OR-1347-E 17 MAR. 1945)
 - (C) PRIMARY TARGET ON GROUP GEE
- (14) IF BOMBING CANNOT BE ACCOMPLISHED BY ANY OF THE MEANS IN PARA. (13), GROUP WILL BOMB AN ALTERNATE TARGET IN ACCORDANCE WITH IX BOMB DIV. CIPHER F-576-E (9-2-45) IN THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY:
 - (A) VISUALLY
 - (B) GROUP GEE
 - (C) TARGET E.T.A.

4. NO CHANGE

5. COMMUNICATIONS.

PLAN "A" OR "B"

A. 409TH BOMB GROUP (543189)

- (2) QUICKSTART
- (3) SLEEPY
- (4) SWEEPSTAKE

B. 410TH BOMB GROUP (543189)

- (2) BLIZZARD
- (3) SLEEPY
- (4) SWEEPSTAKES

C. 416TH BOMB GROUP (448160)

- (2) BESTMAN
- (3) PALLMALL
- (4) RIPSAN

PLAN "C" OR "D"

A. 416TH BOMB GROUP (317958)

- (2) BESTMAN
- (3) PALLMALL
- (4) RIPSAN

COMCBTWIG 97

BT 18/0400A
 LCB CES AR
 ITA R.....

JES R.....IA ITTTAIV00

JPO R.....18/0555A SK K
 JKI R.....'0718/0555A RSS KKK

ITA JJF JES JPO JKI V JEA JEA 4/18 OP OP

FROM 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 18/0615A
 TO COMBOMDIV NINE
 COBOMGP 409
 COBOMGP 410
 COBOMGP 416
 1ST PROV PATHFINDER SQDN

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

R-184-E

97TH COMBAT BOMB WING
 APO 140
 18 MARCH 1945

ANNEX NR.1 TO FIELD ORDER NR.210-301

CANCEL PLANS "A", "C" AND "D"

PLAN "B" IN EFFECT.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX CHANGE PAR.3 C (10) PLAN "B" TO READ :

(10) 20 X 150 LB. G.P. FUSED 1/10 SEC NOSE 1/40 SEC TAIL.

COMCBTWIG 97

BT 18/0615A

CES AR

JJF R.....	18/0718A	JN	AR
ITA R.....	18/0719A	AT	AR
JES R.....	18/0719A	WS	AR
JPO R.....	18/0719A	SK	AR
JKI R.....	18/0719A	EJ	AR

239

JEA V JKI JKI 4/18 P P

FROM 416TH BOMB GROUP (L) 180830A
TO CG 97TH BOMBARDMENT WING ATT: A-2
BT

CONFIDENTIAL 416BG R-359-D IF VISUAL CONDITIONS EXIST AT THE
TARGET THE FOLLOWING WILL BE THE MPI'S
ILLUSTRATION 1(D) (I) 44/2

REF 05600415
06150413
06500417
05900430
06200433
05640447

IF THE PRIMARY TARGET CANNOT BE ATTACKED MECKENHEIM R 360895
WILL BE BOMBED.

BT 180830A
Z EJ AR K

JEA R.....18/0838A

FK

AR

SECRET

MISSION NO. 239

LOADING LIST

18 MARCH 1945

BOX I
FLIGHT I

File

1. 523 N
Capt H M Evans
Lt T M McCartney
Lt D R Freed
S/S C L Skene

4. 259 H
Lt J K Colquitt
S/S L E Singleton

2. 490 X
Lt J J Lackovich
Lt R C Muir
S/S T Connery

5. 213 A
Lt G J Vars
Sgt J J Griffith

3. 361 M
Lt J F Kenny
S/S J J Sittlerich

*Blewing
mail bin*

6. 378 O
Lt G J Parkhurst
Sgt F Newman

FLIGHT II

1. 501 W
Lt D B Grunig
Lt B G Morris
S/S H J Nowosielski

4. 224 E
Lt E O Turner
S/S J O Beland

2. 215 R
Lt W D Chitty
Sgt V B Raccio

5. 205 M-1
Capt H W Borman
Sgt R J Ferujo

3. 307 M-1
Lt A R Turman
Sgt C D Harmon

6. 416 O-1
Lt J F Wallace
Sgt J G Krentz

FLIGHT III

1. 469 A-1
Lt F S Brewster
Lt L W Dennis
S/S W O Clark

4. 223 B
Lt R S Bower
Sgt N A Puskas

2. 9315 F
Lt J F Stankowski
Sgt A H Kimball

5. 233 F
Lt A G Henson
Opl R K Holmer

3. 2315 L
Lt R Fald
Sgt C J Thompson

6. 320 S
Lt J V O'Brien
Sgt F E Corey
Sgt D B Richards

SPARE

385 D
Lt A S Nathanson
Sgt C M Hicks

MISSION NO. 239

LOADING LIST

18 MARCH 1945

BOX II

FLIGHT I

1. 505 Y
Capt C J Anderson
Lt W Babbage
Lt L J Roman
S/S P J Profite

4. 264 I
Lt L J Prucha
S/S L C Ferguson

2. 521 N
Lt R H Cornell
Lt R E Enman
S/S A Carter

5. 389 X
Lt J W Enevins
Sgt F Centry

3. 495 G
Lt J H Carver
S/S N M Graham

6. 325 L
Lt R H Long
Sgt C J McCarthy

FLIGHT II

1. 304 T
Capt B D Stebbins
Lt A S Galloway
S/S W J Brown

4. 487 J
Lt D O Turner
Lt P J McGivern
S/S M R Reyes

2. 351 F
Lt C E Weinert
Sgt R D Francis

5. 271 R
Lt F G Dunn
Sgt L C Stein

3. 314 H
Lt E C Martin
Lt J W Britt
S/S L B Draft

6. 381 Q
Lt A W Depner
Sgt R H Gillispie
S/S G J Krueger

FLIGHT III

1. 499 G-1
Lt J A Buskirk
Lt R C Hanna
S/S H S Fessler

4. 313 B
Lt A Remiszewski
S/S J H Miguez

2. 497 E
Capt L J Sutton
Lt J V Reeds
S/S R J Brown

5. 237 D
Lt W R Jokinen
Sgt E J Creeden

3. 356 C
Lt H M VanNoorden
S/S R I Staffey

6. 419 Z
Lt D A Fero
S/S T W Shelton

SPARE

305 U
Lt F R Tank
Sgt F B Harmon

HINDQW

1. 508 Z
Lt H Popeney
Lt C F Fry
S/S W E Arnett
S/S H C S Candler

2. 249 F
Lt J H Miller
Sgt C W Gurkin
Sgt V F Gross

3. 297 T
Lt A J P Winn
Sgt W G Davis
S/S G G Stephenson

1 A.M.

E/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL INTERR. FORM

PILOT Poucha A/C# 254 BOX 11 FLT 1

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :		ON	BATTLE DAMAGE		
	X	RETURNED	"A"	"A-C"	"E"
	X	JETTISONED	✓		

FLAK : 1P-XKXNA 30 seconds
797-XKXNA

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS : bombs scattered in town

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 (SPARE)
```

MAZ
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

INDEX

PILOT Popeney A/C# 508 BOX FLT

CASUALTIES

BOMBS ~~to be used~~ ON

RATTLE DAMAGE

1. ~~consider~~ RETURNED

57 Δ 9

SS A-1-C 57

1275

JETTISONED

FLAK :

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS 5

2 A-26 's observed

① et plode

② Losing altitude out of control.

Bore from Box I. at
least 1 from II,

no Charles Allen

POSITION IN FORMATION

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

Y (SPARE)

Dropped window from
3/4 mile ahead - directly
front about 300'
below lowest fl.

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

.....
A.M. Window
CONFIDENTIAL
Pilot Miller A/C# 249 BOX F2F

CASUALTIES

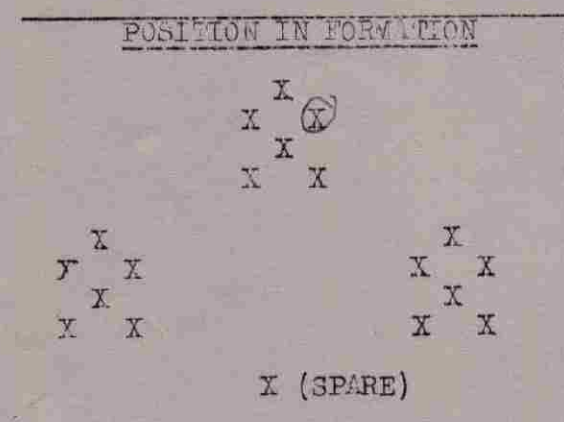
BOMBS :	X	ON	BATTLE DAMAGE		
	X	RETURNED	"A"	"A-C"	"E"
	X	JETTISONED			

FLAK : XXXA IP + Target

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

clear
This window ship was to
left of lead window as lead was way to
right of main formation.
saw one ship blow up. Box I
pull away no chutes.
between IP + Target



Window dropped IP to target.
Then lost formation.
alt dropped 11,000 (going
down) below 1000 ft from
lead ship - 3/4 mi ahead.

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

.....

AM

Window

170

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERVIEW

PILOT

Winn

A/C#

297

BOX

FET

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :

X

ON

BATTLE DAMAGE

X

RETURNED

"A"

"A-C"

"E"

X

JETTISONED

hit

FLAK :

None at this ship

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

1 to 1 1/2 miles

ahead - 1000+ ft. below

4 to 8 bursts but at 1000

Second was also out of position

abt 2 min before target.

POSITION IN FORMATION

X

X X

(X)

X X

X X

X X

X X

X X

X (SPARE)

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

CASUALTIES

BATTLE DAMAGE

15 A 59

VI A-C VI

'E'

X JETTISONED

FLAK : XXXX #A after time, a prompt. to above all

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

OBSERVATIONS : *bearded with fire in back - long
noses burning - + given got Haidan
ground.*

POSITION IN FORMATION

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

	X	
Y		X
	X	
X		X

X X
X X
X X

X (SPARE)

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

CASUALTIES

FLAK : *XXXX/4A* *see Xap/Alman*

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

POSITION IN FORMATION

X (SPARE)

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

A.M.

F/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL _____ INTERR. FORM _____

PILOT Turner A/C# 224 BOX 1 FLT 11

CASUALTIES _____

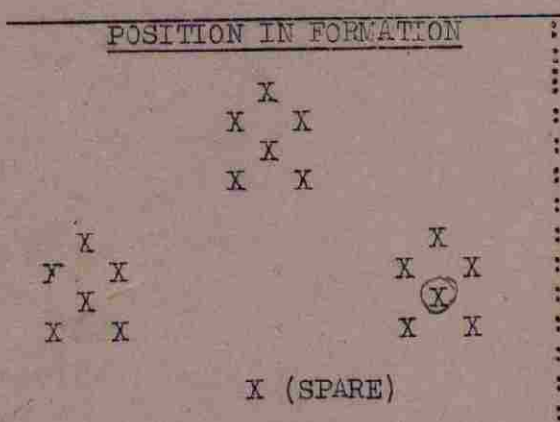
BOMBS : <u>20</u> X <u>150</u> ON _____		BATTLE DAMAGE		
		"A"	"A-C"	"E"
X	RETURNED			
X	JETTISONED			

FLAK : IP - And target turn turn off
XXHA

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS : Nil

OBSERVATIONS : Saw 1 A-26 in flames. No
clouds observed.

Dropped on H leader



Amia
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

FLT

BOMBS :	<u>20</u>	X	<u>150</u>	ON	BATTLE DAMAGE			
		X		RETURNED	"A"		"A-C"	"E"
		X		JETTISONED	5 times			

FLAK : ~~XXHA~~ - from doors open
then turn off

mit

Saw 1 unidentified E/A S/E radial
no poss coming at 12 o'clock
then turned off

OBSERVATIONS :

Bowl pattern in town
Bombed on 76 loads

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

	X	
Y		X
	X	
X		X

X X
X X
X X

X (SPARE)

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL INTERR.FORM

PILOT Grunig A/C# 581 BOX 1 FLT 11

CASUALTIES _____

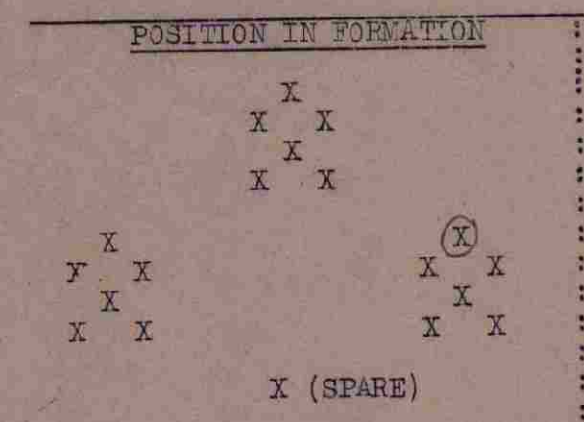
BOMBS :	<u>20</u>	X	<u>150</u>	ON	BATTLE DAMAGE			
		X		RETURNED	"A"	"A-C"	"E"	
		X		JETTISONED		<u>nil</u>		

FLAK : XX to XXX A-
1st time crossing Rhine - then followed
to target town. Possibly railway or
large peak

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS : nil

OBSERVATIONS : This H dropped on the
bot leader - visually
Bombs in town.

#3 in H / Box I direct hit
exploded - no chutes seen.
1 other - fire in cockpit -
lost sight of.



101 1013 1/2
alt 11,800
afis 150
PAS 200
Luria
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

CASUALTIES

FLAK : XXX44- from River Bingen-
 XXX44- " ~~5th~~ ^{4th} Frumersheim to Tgt.
 Same fire on way out scattered. -

X -

OBSERVATIONS : One ship went down. Left wing came off, went down in flames — No chutes —

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

	X	
Y		X
	X	
X		X

X X
X X
X X

X (SPARE)

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

A.M.

F/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL INTERR. FORM

PILOT Nathanson A/C# 385 BOX 1 FLT Spare

CASUALTIES _____

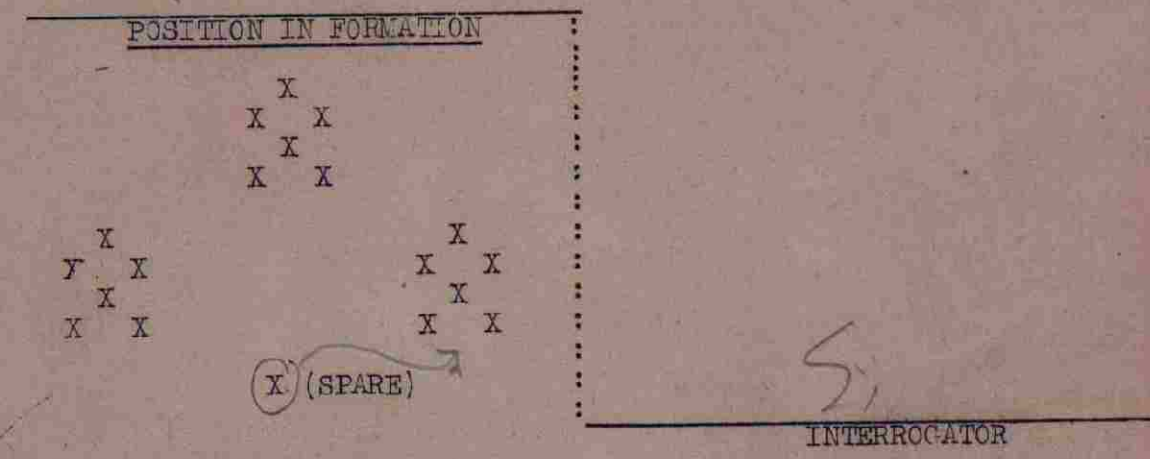
BOMBS :	<u>22</u>	X	<u>1500</u>	ON	<u>P.</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE		
		X		RETURNED		"A"	"A-C"	"E"
		X		JETTISONED		X		

FLAK : Continued from 11th to target.
XXXXHA.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

Four hours



CONFIDENTIAL

A.M.

F/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR.FORM

PILOT

Vars

A/C#

213

BOX

1

FLT

1

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	X	ON	BATTLE DAMAGE		
	X	RETURNED	"A"	"A-C"	"E"
	X	JETTISONED			

FLAK :

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

POSITION IN FORMATION

X

X X

X

X (X)

X X

X X

X X

X X

X X

X (SPARE)

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

A.M.

F/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL INTERR.FORM

PILOT Parkhurst A/C# 378 BOX 1 FLT 1

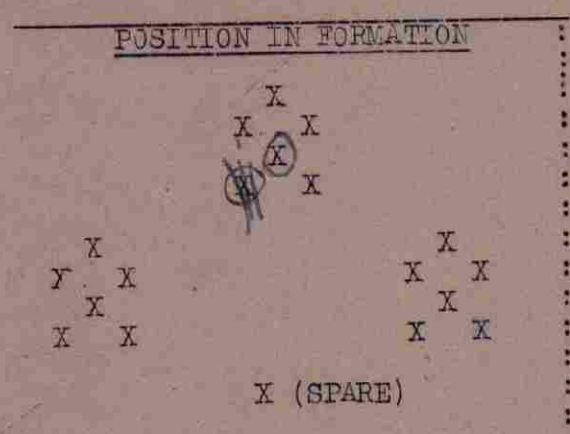
CASUALTIES _____

BOMBS :	<u>20</u>	X	<u>150</u>	ON	<u>P.T.</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE		
		X		RETURNED		"A"	"A-C"	"E"
		X		JETTISONED			X	

FLAK : XXXHA - on 1st part of Bomb run from Bingen - and last part of run in target area -

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :
X -

OBSERVATIONS : No Kenny seen to get a hit on left wing and engine. No chafes seen -



T. W. S.
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

PILOT Colquhitt A/C# 259 BOX 1 FLT 1

CASUALTIES

BOMBS : 20 X 150 ON 1 yes BATTLE DAMAGE
 X RETURNED "A" "A-C" "E"
 X JETTISONED X

FLAK :

Along Bk from 1P to target
mod acc - 5
at target - 2nd acc

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

nil

OBSERVATIONS :

#3 man - left engine
hit direct - burned
pulled off into bush
engine - saw no
chets come out

POSITION IN FORMATION

X
 X X
 X (X) X
 X X

 X X X
 X X X
 X X X
 X (SPARE)

[Signature]

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

A.M.

F/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL INTERR. FORM

PILOT Lackovich A/C# 490 BOX 1 FLT 1

CASUALTIES _____

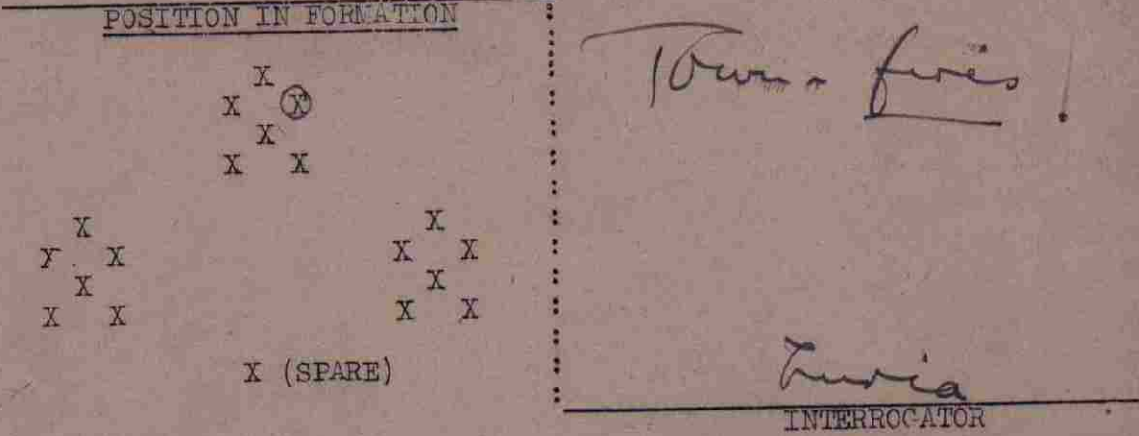
BOMBS :	ON	BATTLE DAMAGE
<u>20</u> X <u>150</u>	<u>Returned</u>	"A" : "A-C" : "E" :
X	RETURNED	✓ 3 holes
X	JETTISONED	

FLAK : ~~XXHA~~ Buizen and target

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS : Bandits made no passes.

OBSERVATIONS : Dropped on H leader - doesn't know whether visual or PPF - we were still on PPF from #3 in this (Xanner) H- almost hit in left engine - landing gear & struts come off - got up on right wing - wing over & down. No chutes seen. Flames. Saw it go down way down. Bandits in area at time below us - S/E - radial engine - probably FW 190's - black color. TOT 1013 1/2

Alt 13,000
IAS 200
at is 1500 mag



CONFIDENTIAL

A.M.

E/C

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

PILOT Kenny A/C# 361 BOX 1 FLT 1

CASUALTIES

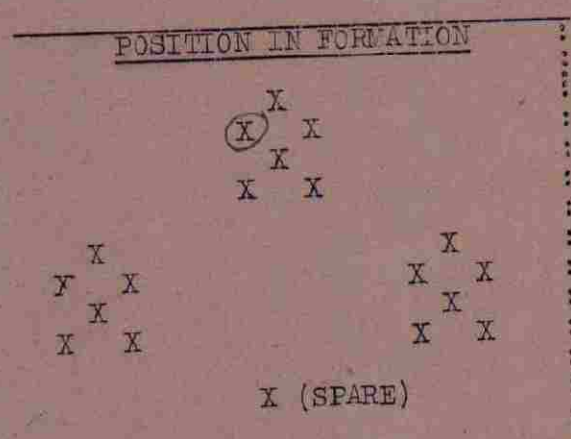
BOMBS :		ON	BATTLE DAMAGE		
			"A"	"A-C"	"E"
	<u>X</u>	RETURNED			
	<u>X</u>	JETTISONED			

FLAK :

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

MISSING



INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O
CONFIDENTIAL *A.M.*
INTERR. FORM
PILOT Evans A/C# 513 BOX 1 FLT 1

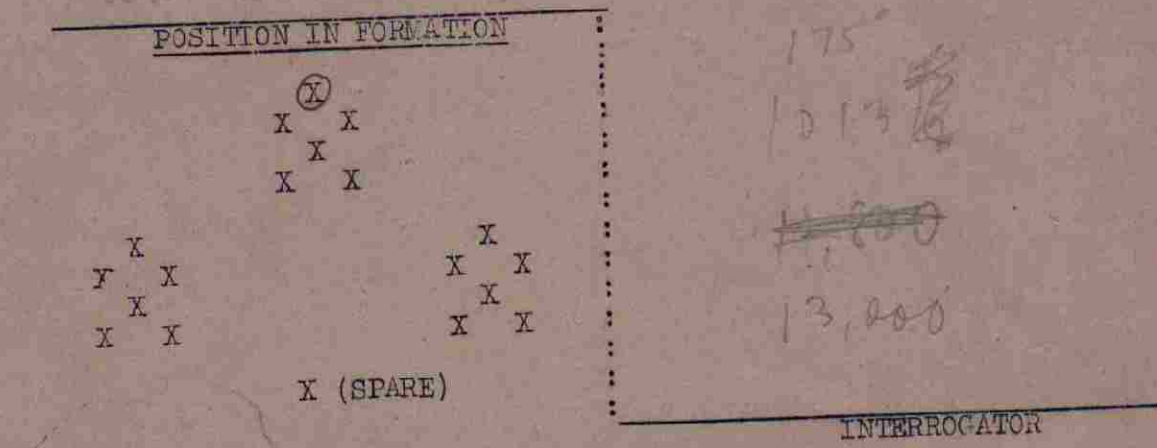
CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	<u>20</u> X <u>150</u>	ON <u>P</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE		
	X	RETURNED	"A"	"A-C"	"E"
	X	JETTISONED			

FLAK : *Int accurate at target*
weak to mod at Bt near P

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :
Nil

OBSERVATIONS :
Low #3 burn burning just after BB doors open
Bombard visually by Box. PPF was in lead - bombed at same time



CONFIDENTIAL

F/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

PILOT Stankowski A/C# 9315 BOX 1 FLT 111

CASUALTIES

BOMBS : <u>20</u> X <u>100</u> ON <u>P.T.</u>		BATTLE DAMAGE		
		"A"	"A-C"	"E"
X	RETURNED			
X	JETTISONED	<u>scattered</u>		
		<u>1 hit</u>		

FLAK : XXXXHA before Bombing
1 mine before enemy stopped & started
for 2nd time see above

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

hits in town - burning before got
away & return hit

5 or 6 pl. of inst flt - direct hit on left wing
& engine knocked out - no chutes

open at T/A

POSITION IN FORMATION

X (SPARE)

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____ *One Mission* *A.M.* CONFIDENTIAL INTERR. FORM
 PILOT Bower A/C# 123 BOX 1 FLT 111

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :		ON	BATTLE DAMAGE		
			"A"	"A-C"	"E"
<u>20</u>	X <u>100</u>	ON <u>PT</u>			
	X	RETURNED			
	X	JETTISONED		<u>out</u>	
				<u>to take</u>	

FLAK : *at 1st turn onto T. across Rhine XXX HA*
over target on turn

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

[Handwritten mark]

OBSERVATIONS :

good path in turn
one A/C before to enemy left wing exploded
no further seen
at beg of flak bridge burning seen
mine

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
    X  X
      X
    X  X

  X  X  X
Y  X  X
  X  X  X
    X  X  X
    X  X  X
    X  X  X
  
```

X (SPARE)

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

3 A.M

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

PILOT O'Brien

A/C# 320

BOX 1

FLT III

CASUALTIES

BOMBS : <u>20</u> X <u>100</u> ON <u>PT.</u>		BATTLE DAMAGE		
<u>X</u>	RETURNED	"A"	"A-C"	"E"
<u>X</u>	JETTISONED	<u>2 holes</u> <u>1 undamaged one</u>		

FLAK : started at Rhine (1005) continued
after turn off XXXHA

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

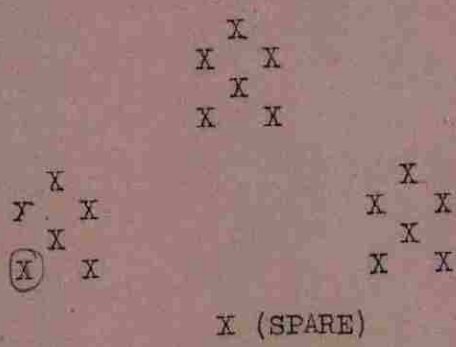


OBSERVATIONS :

Good pat in unal. of terrain.

one A/C sighted - no chutes seen

POSITION IN FORMATION



Loppe
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

E/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

PILOT Brewster A/C# 469 BOX 1 FLT 111

CASUALTIES

BOMBS : 20 X 1 ON

BATTLE DAMAGE

X RETURNED
X JETTISONED

"A" "A-C" "E"
Rel in vt nacelle
Check cat
manifold live up
engine + holes.

FLAK :

XXXHA
I P

turn target with a small interval
between

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

nil

OBSERVATIONS :

Dropped on box leader
Bombs in town.
#3 Bot. T fl 1 - direct hit
in Right engine - Flames - seen
to hit ground after wingover and
down. No chutes.

POSITION IN FORMATION

X
X X
X
X X

X X X
X X X
X X X
X (SPARE)

TOT 1013 1/2

alt 13700

IAS 195

at is 160° mag

Luvia

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____ *A.M.* CONFIDENTIAL INTERR.FORM

PILOT Henson A/C# 233 BOX 1 FLT 111

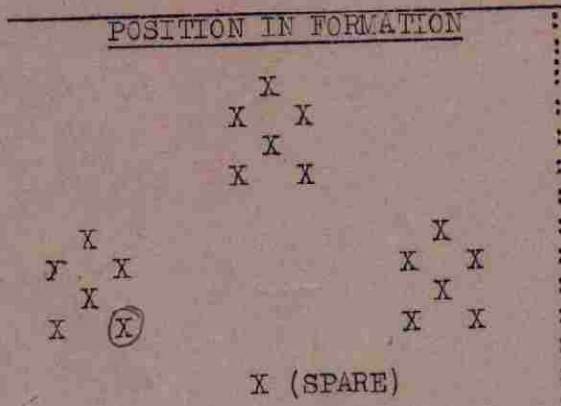
CASUALTIES _____

BOMBS :		ON	BATTLE DAMAGE			
	<u>20</u> X <u>150</u>	<u>P.T</u>	"A"	"A-C"	"E"	
	X	RETURNED				
	X	JETTISONED	X			

FLAK : XX HA- over target -

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS : One ship seen to go down
out of 1st F light — —



T. Wil
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____ A.M. _____
 CONFIDENTIAL INTERR. FORM

PILOT Ford A/C# 2315 BOX 1 FLT 111

CASUALTIES none

BOMBS : <u>20</u> X <u>150</u>		ON	BATTLE DAMAGE		
			"A"	"A-C"	"E"
X	RETURNED				
X	JETTISONED		✓		

FLAK : ~~XXXX~~ H A at ~~141~~ 3 8 miles
 by B/B does good
 H A at 141

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

none

OBSERVATIONS :

Dropped on Flight Leader
 Alt 13400

Left for mission at R.P.
 because of vibration due
 to Flak damage

POSITION IN FORMATION

	X	
X		X
	X	
X		X

X		X
(Y)	X	
	X	X
X		X

X (SPARE)

WST
 INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

PILOT Werner A/C# 351 BOX 11 FLT 11

CASUALTIES

none

BOMBS : 20 X 150 ON

BATTLE DAMAGE

X RETURNED

"A"

"A-C"

"E"

X JETTISONED

none

FLAK :

Just before IP XXXH/A -
XXXH/A at tgt.
2nd Run over tgt (XXXH/A)

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

Bombed 3 small by flights
on 2nd run over tgt.

Alt about 12,000

2nd A/c spiralling down
at IP after A/c down in
flames -

POSITION IN FORMATION

X
X
X
X X

X
X X
X X
X X

X
X (X)
X X
X X

X (SPARE)

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

IND. 15, 1913

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :		BATTLE DAMAGE		
		"A"	"A-C"	"E"
20	X 126 ON	None		
	X RETURNED			
	X JETTISONED			

FLAK :

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

Bombed on Flight leader #2
Flight on Second run

Art. 1200

Wing off Kinney ship
Another A/c down
after Kinney at

9 of Kinnery
Another A/c down with
after Kinnery at I.P. -
looked to be under control
No charts seen

POSITION IN FORMATION

X
X X
X
X X

X
X X
X X
X X

X
X X
X X
X X

X (SPARE) X

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

INTER. FORM

CASUALTIES

FLAK : after dark from 1 P.
1st seen was behind, when ship went down
hearing on Boat on 1st run.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

on brown - on tracks

POSITION IN FORMATION

X (SPARE)

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

A.M.

F/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL INTERR.FORM

PILOT Defner A/C# 381 BOX 11 FLT 11

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :		ON	BATTLE DAMAGE		
<u>2</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>"A"</u>	<u>"A-C"</u>	<u>"E"</u>
	<u>X</u>	RETURNED			
	<u>X</u>	JETTISONED			

FLAK : started up light & increased over 1/4
barage as started for 2nd run
not too close in 2nd run

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

2-513

OBSERVATIONS :

in 3 ft - of road box lost air
plane intact - starting slow speed
no chutes (even at 1005) over target

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
    X  X
      X
    X  X

  X      X
Y  X    X
  X      X
X  X    X

      X
    X  X
      X
    X  X
  (X)  X

X (SPARE)
    
```

Roppe
 INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____ A.M. _____
 CONFIDENTIAL _____
 INTERR. FORM _____

PILOT Anderson A/C# 505 BOX 11 FLT 1

CASUALTIES nil

BOMBS :		BATTLE DAMAGE		
		"A"	"A-C"	"E"
<u>20</u>	X <u>100</u> ON			
	X RETURNED	<u>shock</u>		
	X JETTISONED	<u>✓</u>		

FLAK : IP - XXHA } Small interval
Target XXHA } between

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS : nil

OBSERVATIONS : Visually by flight (Box II)
 # 2 H 1 Box II (Cornell) got direct
 hits as we turned off target - smoke
 out of both engines. Lost him after
 turn off target - losing little altitude
 under apparent control. No flames.
 No chutes. (N man Cornell's call letter?
 called to say could make it)
 (Xenney seem to burst in flames + no chutes)

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      (X)
     X  X
      X  X
     X  X

X      X
X      X
X      X

X      X
X      X
X      X

X (SPARE)
    
```

TOT 1025
 alt 12000
 afis 110° mag
 IAS 200
Curis
 INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

INTER. FORM

PILOT

A/C#

325

BOX

FLT

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :

22 X 150

ON

RETURNED

X

JETTISONED

X

BATTLE DAMAGE

W. A. 76

"A=C"

“五”

FLAK

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

POSITION IN FORMATION

X X
X X
X X
(X) X

	X	
Y		X
	X	
X		X

X X
X X
X X

X (SPARE)

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

PILOT Carver A/C# 495 BOX 11 FLT 1

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :		BATTLE DAMAGE		
		"A"	"A-C"	"E"
20	X 150 - ON P.T.			
	X RETURNED			
	X JETTISONED	X		

FLAK : XXXXA at target area

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS : - 1st Box hit in center of town - one ship seen to go down in flames - Another ship - one engine started smoking peeled up and went over on back and went into spin - didn't follow to ground -

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
    (X) X
      X
      X X
  
```

```

      X
    F X
      X
    X X
  
```

```

      X
    X X
      X
    X X
  
```

X (SPARE)

Talks
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

A.M.

F/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL INTERR. FORM

PILOT Blevins A/C# 389 BOX 11 FLT 1

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :		ON	BATTLE DAMAGE		
			"A"	"A-C"	"E"
<u>20</u>	<u>X 150</u>	RETURNED			
<u>X</u>		JETTISONED			

FLAK : 1P XXHA
T9T XXHA 1/2"

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS : bombs would not release
5/6 flak positive
2 guns + edge of town
2 guns near center

POSITION IN FORMATION

```
      X
     X X
      X X
     X (X)

      X
     X X
    X X
   X X

X (SPARE)
```

MAZ
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

INTER. FORM

Cornell

A/C#

521

BOX

11

FLT

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :

X

ON

BATTLE DAMAGE

"A"

"A-C"

"E"

RETURNED

X

JETTISONED

X

FLAK :

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

POSITION IN FORMATION

x

X

X

X

X

X

I

X

X

X

3

X

X

2

X

X

3

X (SPARE)

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O

CASUALTIES

FLAK :

OBSERVATIONS :

POSITION IN FORMATION

X X
X X
X X

	X	
Y		X
	X	
X		X

X (SPARE)

X
X X
X (X) X
X X

OT 1126
all 11800
axis 120° mag
IAS 240

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/C

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

PILOT Stebbins A/C# 304 BOX 11 FLT 11

CASUALTIES

BOMBS : ~~200~~ X 150 ON

BATTLE DAMAGE

X RETURNED

"A"

"A-C"

"E"

X JETTISONED

nil

FLAK :

XXHA - IP - (turn short)

XXXHA - target. (through bombline)

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

nil

OBSERVATIONS :

Whole 2nd Box went on PPF run practically to target then to visual IP for bomb run - on vis run caught flak again as approached target. Saw 1 A-26 781 Box II (?) go down - no chutes. This A/C not seen to hit. Flames.

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
    X  X
      X
    X  X
  
```

```

    X
  X  X
    X
  X  X
  
```

```

    (X)
  X  X
    X
  X  X
  
```

X (SPARE)

TOT 1025

alt 12000

IAS 200

accs 1000 mag.

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

Last 2
bomb.Bomb on
target

A.M.

F/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL INTERR. FORM

PILOT Martin A/C# 314 BOX 11 FLT 11

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	<u>20</u> X <u>150</u>	ON <u>P</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE		
	X	RETURNED	"A"	"A-C"	"E"
	X	JETTISONED			

FLAK : Before bombing report engine

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

nil

OBSERVATIONS :

Made 2 runs -
second from W to East
1st was XH1
on 1st run was XXHA

POSITION IN FORMATION

X

X X

X

X X

X X

X X

X X

X (SPARE)

3 courses of four
being

Shinden
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

5 A.M.

F/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

PILOT Remiszewski

A/C# 313

BOX 11

FLT 111

CASUALTIES None

BOMBS : 20 X 150 ON

X RETURNED

X JETTISONED

BATTLE DAMAGE

"A"

✓

"A-C"

"E"

FLAK :

just before I.P. - and to I.P. where it was heaviest
2nd Run heavy - extremely accurate

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

None

OBSERVATIONS :

Ship in 1st Box fell out of formation at I.P. down in flames -
2 Runs on tgt
5 A/c in 1st flight disappeared on second run on tgt -
was last seen after turn off tgt -
standing by on channel "A"

POSITION IN FORMATION

X

X X

X X

X X

X

X X

X X

X X

X (SPARE)

lost on 2nd run on tgt

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

PILOT Buskirk + Hanna A/C# 499 BOX 11 FLT 111

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	ON	RETURNED	JETTISONED	"A"	"A-C"	"E"
20 X 150	P.T.					
X						
X				X		

FLAK : XXXHA - on entire length of Bomb-run -

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

Alt - 11,200 - TOT 1026
1st Box Bombs were scattered all over town -

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
    X  X
      X
    X  X

  (K)
Y  X  X
  X
X  X

      X
    X  X
      X  X

X (SPARE)
    
```

T.W.S -
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

A.M.

H/O _____ CONFIDENTIAL INTERR. FORM

PILOT Van Norden A/C# 356 BOX 11 FLT 111

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	<u>20</u> X <u>150</u>	ON <u>P.T.</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE		
	X	RETURNED	"A"	"A-C"	"E"
	X	JETTISONED			

FLAK : XXHA - from N of river - nr Bingen -
XXHA - on bomb runs -

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS : One ship - seen to go down -
 nr Bingen on fire - No chutes seen
 Bombs not seen - -

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
    X  X
      X
    X  X

  X  X  X
  X  X  X
  X  X  X

  X (SPARE)
    
```

T.W.S.
 INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

P/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTEL. FORM

PILOT

Fero

A/C#

419

BOX

11

FLT

111

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :

20 X 150

ON

BATTLE DAMAGE

X

RETURNED

"A"

"A-C"

"E"

X

JETTISONED

FLAK : XXHA over river at Bingen - and
on last pt of Bomb run - over target -

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

one ship hit in right wing -
went down nr Bingen - no chutes seen
one cluster of Bombs in NW section
Most of them in central part of city

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
    X  X
      X
    X  X

  X      X
Y  X    X
  X      X
(X) X    X

      X
    X  X
      X
    X  X

X (SPARE)

```

T.W.S.
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

INTER.FORM

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :		BATTLE DAMAGE		
		"A"	"A-C"	"E"
X	ON			
X	RETURNED			
X	JETTISONED			

FLAK :

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

OBSERVATIONS :

POSITION IN FORMATION

X (SPARE)

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

E/O *On Mission* - A.M. CONFIDENTIAL INTERR. FORM
 PILOT Sutton & Rude A/C# 499 BOX 11 FLT 111

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	<u>20</u>	X	<u>1</u>	ON		BATTLE DAMAGE		
		X		RETURNED		"A"	"A-C"	"E"
		X		JETTISONED		<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	

FLAK :

XXHA - IP turn turn off target

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS :

Heard Bandit call C channel

OBSERVATIONS :

*4 exploded { 1 A/c Box I down just after turn onto IP
 1 A/c #5 7L3 Box II - blew up upon hitting ground 1 mile W of river after turn off target.
 No chutes seen*

POSITION IN FORMATION

		X		
	X		X	
		X		
	X		X	
X	X			X
X	X		X	X
			X	X

X (SPARE)

Livera

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

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

: 416TH	: 9TH B.D. (M) WING	: 97TH	: B
: GROUP	: DATE	: 18 MARCH 1945	:
: OTHER UNITS: TARGET	:	:	: WORMS COMMUNICATION:
:	:	:	: CENTER
:	: FIRST PHASE INTERPRETATION	:	:
:	:	:	: TARGET HIT

A. TARGET BRIEFED WORMS COMMUNICATION CENTER PRIMARY

SECONDARY

M.P.I. ROAD JUNCTION IN S PART OF TOWN

A.P. _____

(3 WINDOW)

C. NO. AND TYPE OF A/C DISPATCHED 41 A-26'S NO. OF A/C ATTACKING 33
 BOX I - 18'S

D. BOMBING BY 3's, 6's, 12's, 18's BOX II - 6'S IN FOLLOWING ORDER 1,2,4,3.

E. NO. AND SIZE OF BOMBS DROPPED 660 X 150 GPFUSING 1/10 -- 1/100

F. HEADING OF A/C WHEN BOMBS DROPPED _____
 BOX I - 150° - 1013½
 BOX II - _____

G. TIME BOMBS DROPPED _____
 FLT A - 110° - 1025
 FLT B - 100° - 1026
 FLT C - 125° - 1025½

H. ACTIVITY AT TARGET

J. RESULTS OF BOMBING

BOX I DMPI - GOOD: BOMBED AS A BOX 40% OF BOMBS WITHIN 1000 FT OF DMPI WITH CENTER OF PATTERN 1270 FT NE OF DMPI. BOMBS FELL IN TWO PATTERNS IN CENTER OF TOWN CAUSING EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO BUILDINGS. SEVERAL HITS ON STREETS IN TOWN 2 HITS ON RR PROBABLY CUTTING TRACKS.

BOX II FLT A DMPI - UNSAT: 15% OF BOMBS WITHIN 1000 FT OF DMPI WITH MAIN PATTERN BEING 2630 FT NW OF DMPI. BLANKET OF BURSTS IN MARSHALLING YARD WITH SEVERAL HITS ON TRACKS CUTTING THEM AND PROBABLY DESTROYING ROLLING STOCK. HIGHWAY OVERPASS IS COVERED BY BURSTS PROBABLY DESTROYING OR SEVERELY DAMAGING IT.

FLT B DMPI - UNDET: (LAST TO BOMB) NO STRIKE PHOTOS DUE TO EVASIVE ACTION. VISUAL REPORTS INDICATE BOMBS HIT IN TOWN WITH EXCELLENT RESULTS.

FLT C DMPI - UNSAT: NO BOMBS WITHIN 1000 FT OF DMPI WITH CENTER OF PATTERN 4320 FT SW OF DMPI. BOMBS HIT IN FIELDS AND ACROSS 2 SMALL ROADS

CLAYTON W. ZESIGER,
 Captain, Air Corps,
 Photo Intelligence Officer

INVESTIGATION REPORTGROUP 416 B.G.MISSION OF 18 MARCH 1945TO WORMS COMB. CENTERREASONS FOR GROSS BOMBING
ON FAILURE TO ATTACK
PRIMARY

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RESULTS</u>		
BOX I	<u>CAPT. H.M. EVANS (P)</u>	D.M.P.I. GOOD		
	<u>LT. T.M. MCCARTNEY (B)</u>			
	<u>LT. D.R. FRED (B)</u>			
BOX II FLT A	<u>CAPT. G.J. ANDERSON (P)</u>	D.M.P.I. UNSAT.	Bomberdier mis-identified A.P. due to sluggish gyro of sight. This and short run resulted in not enough time to pick out proper reference points. Bombed what he thought was A.P.	
	<u>LT. W. BARBER (B)</u>			
	<u>LT. I.J. NORMAN (B)</u>			
FLT B	<u>CAPT. E.D. STEBBINS (P)</u>	D.M.P.I. UNSAT.	No photos due to evasive action off target.	
	<u>LT. A.S. GALLOWAY (B)</u>			
FLT C	<u>LT. J.A. BISHOP (P)</u>	D.M.P.I. UNSAT.	Reason unknown. Investigation being made.	
	<u>LT. H.C. BAUNA (B/N)</u>			

Box I made run on PTV course. Flights A, B, and C of Box II made runs from visual I.P.

VERNON H. FOWELL,
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Group Bomberdier.

CAMERAS INSTALLED	<u>12</u>	GROUP	<u>416th. Bomb Gr.</u>
CAMERAS PHOTOGRAPHING	<u>12</u>	100 % WING	<u>97th. BnB.</u>
CAMERA FAILURES	<u>0</u>	0 % DATE	<u>18 March 45</u>
PERSONNEL FAILURES	<u>0</u>	0 %	
OTHERS	<u>0</u>		

TARGET WORMS
ALTITUDE 15000 FEET
TRUE AIR SPEED 200 MPH
GROUND SPEED 274 MPH

495 _____
_____ 264 _____
_____ _____

556 _____
_____ 513 _____

314 _____ 551 _____
_____ _____

TARGET WORMS
ALTITUDE 12000 FEET
TRUE AIR SPEED 210 MPH
GROUND SPEED 280 MPH

TARGET _____

ALTITUDE _____ FEET

TRUE AIR SPEED _____ MPH

GROUND SPEED _____ MPH

BOX NO.	A/C NO.	CAM. TYPE	F.L.	INT.	PRINTED SORTIES	UNPRINT SORTIES	EXPLANATION
1	259	K-24	7	0			duplicate coverage
1	213	"	7	0			A/C did not return
1	224	"	7	0			duplicate coverage
1	315	"	5	0	882		
1	416	"	5	0			" "
1	223	"	7	0			" "
2	495	"	6 3/8	0	885		
2	264	"	7	0			" "
2	351	"	7	0	884		
2	314	"	6 3/8	0			No photos due to evasive action
2	356	"	7	0	883		
2	313	"	6 3/8	0			duplicate coverage

Sortie No. _____	Gmaeraman _____	Reason Failure _____
Sortie No. _____	Camaraman _____	Reason Failure _____

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

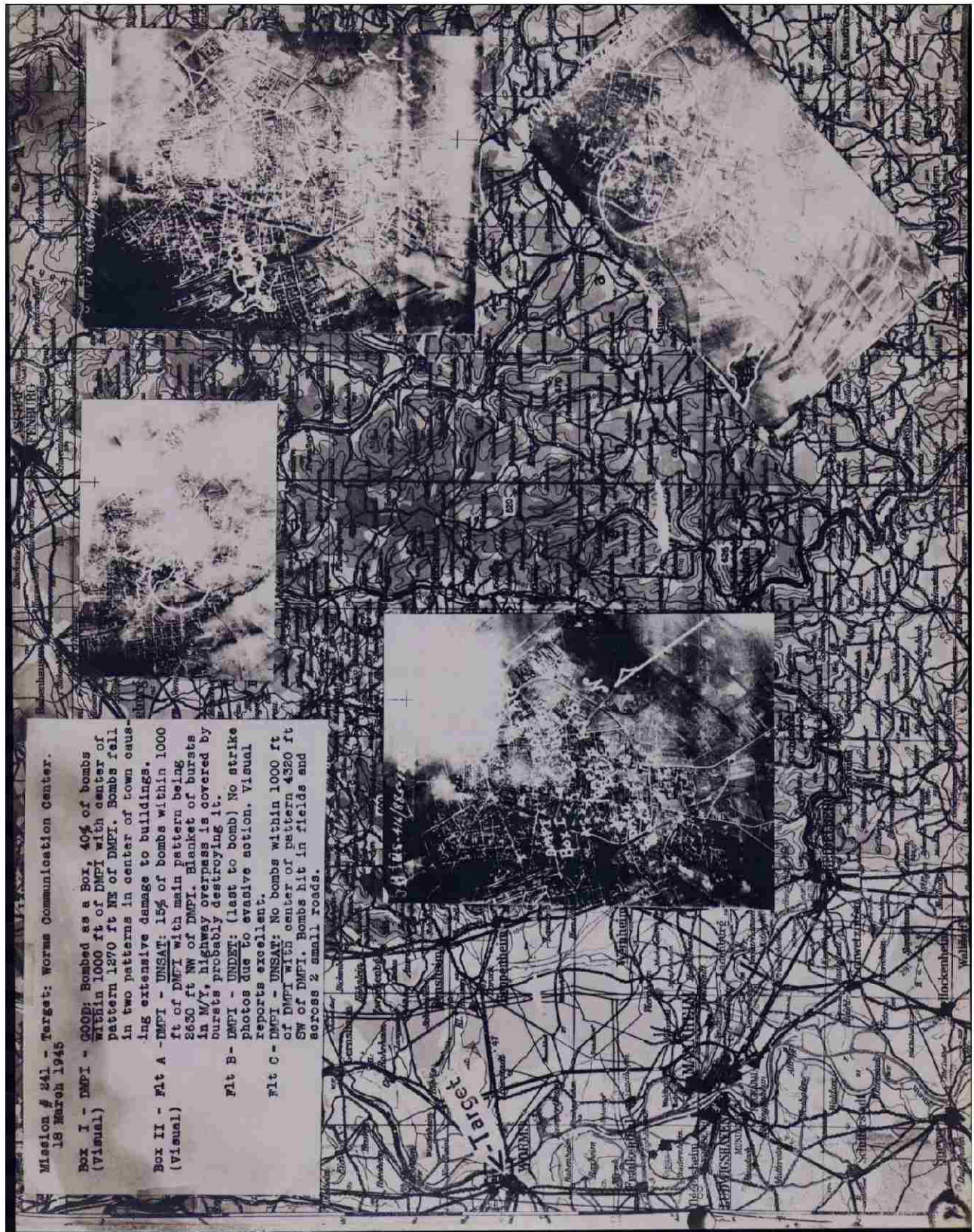


THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958



THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958



Box #	CDSFL	Date	T/O	Target	Alt.	Box Leader	T/O	15 min.
1	385	SPARE	20				L/D	
2	320		20				TOP	
3	361		20					
4	259		20					
5	213		20					
6	378		20					
7	501		20					
8	215		20					
9	307		20					
10	224		20					
11	225		20					
12	416		20					
13	469		20					
14	2315		20					
15	2315		20					
16	223		20					
17	233		20					
18	320		20					
19	385	SPARE	20					

361 498
Henny Radenick

259
Cognate

378 213
Pardner Vane

523
Ciana

225
Murray

416
Turner

2315
Chitty

223
Borman

469
Wallace

233
Borman

Box #	CPSFL	Date	F/O	Target	Alt.	Box Leader	T/O	15 min.
II		18/3/45				Anderson	TOP	
							L/D	
A/C	Fail to Bomb	ATT	Bomb Disp	A/C Dam	E/A	Pers.		
Pos No.	Reason	P	S	O	T	S	J	T
1	505							
2	521							
3	495							
4	304							
5	389							
6	325							
1	304							
2	351							
3	314							
4	487							
5	271							
6	381							
1	499							
2	499							
3	356							
4	319							
5	237							
6	419							
1	305							

Anderson
505

Carver
495

Carver
274

Long
325

Anderson
389

Anderson
505

Carver
521

Carver
304

Anderson
381

Anderson
487

Anderson
351

Anderson
314

Anderson
487

Anderson
271

Anderson
381

Anderson
499

Anderson
499

Anderson
356

Anderson
319

Anderson
237

Anderson
419

Anderson
305

Anderson
505

Carver
521

Carver
304

Anderson
381

Anderson
487

Anderson
351

Anderson
314

Anderson
487

Anderson
271

Anderson
381

Anderson
499

Anderson
499

Anderson
356

Anderson
319

Anderson
237

Anderson
419

Anderson
305

Peperay
 508
Winn Muller
 297 249

To: CG, 9th Bombardment Division, Att: A-2

CG, 97th Combat Wing, Att: A-2

From: 416th Bomb Gp.

Operational Priority. CONFIDENTIAL.

Opflash for morning mission of 18 March 1945.

A. 416th Bomb Gp.

B. Worms Communication Center (M-448160)

C. 41 A-26's

D. 33 A-26's attacked primary.

E. 3 A-26's carried window only.
Information lacking from 4 A-26's. See Para H.

1 A-26 did not bomb due to claimed bomb release malfunction.
Inspection results are as yet undetermined.

F. 660 x 150 lb. G.P's on Primary.

20 x 150 lb. G.P's Returned.

80 x 150 lb. G.P's unaccounted for. See Para H.

G. Box I bombed by visual means as a box. Crews report excellent results.

Box II bombed by flights by visual means. Results unobserved
due to smoke of earlier bombing and evasive action off target
(361) while on run between and target

H. #3 a/c Flight A Box I was observed to receive direct flak hit
in left engine while on run between PPF IP and target. A/C
was last seen disintegrating and in flames on way down. No
chutes observed. *at undetermined point*

#5 a/c (213), flight A Box I unaccounted for. This a/c may be
the ship seen by two crews to leave formation in target area
with fire in cockpit, after direct flak hit in left engine on
bomb run. No chutes observed.

#2 a/c (521), Flight A Box II received direct flak hits on
turn off target. This a/c was seen after turn off target, both
engines smoking and losing altitude but apparently under control.
This a/c may be the ship seen to hit ground near JOHANNISBERG
(M 175565), after flames broke out in right nacelle and right
wing broke off about 3000 feet above the ground. No chutes
observed.

#5 a/c (237), Flight C Box II received flak hit in right wing
and was seen to hit ground in flames in vicinity of BINGEN
(M 120530). No chutes observed.

17 a/c damaged by flak. category A.

6 a/c damaged by flak. category AC.

I. 9 crew members missing in four a/c enumerated in par. H. of these 4 are pilots, 1 is a bombardier-navigator, 4 are gunners.

J. Target: Moderate to Intense accurate HFF, through turn off target.

Elsewhere: Moderate to Intense accurate HFF from M 130670 to target and from vicinity of Kirchheim-Bolanden (M 200188) to target.

K. Nil.

L. Box I ~~13200~~ - 13000 - ~~13200~~

Box II Flight A 12000

Flight B 12000

Flight C 11200

M. Box I 1014 on ~~run~~ run from PPF IP.

Box II Flight A 1025

Flight B 1025

Flight C 1026

Box II left PPF run at approximately 1012 and proceeded to visual IP near Kirchheim-Bolanden (M200188) for its bomb run.

X. Two unidentified black color radial S/E-A/c observed in target area. Made no passes at formation.

to bomb usually by flights

Lewis
TP to Bombay
1450 Filed

ITA JEA V JKI JKI 11/18 OP OP

FROM 416TH BOMB GROUP 181500A
TO (1)CG, 9TH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION, ATT: A-2
(2) CG, 97TH COMBAT WING ATT: A-2
BT

CONFIDENTIAL 416BG R-366-D OPFLASH FOR MORNING MISSION OF 18 MARCH 1945.

- A. 416TH BOMB GP.
- B. WORMS COMMUNICATION CENTER (M-448160)
- C. 41 A-26'S
- D. 33 A-26'S ATTACKED PRIMARY.
- E. 3 A-26'S CARRIED WINDOW ONLY.
INFORMATION LACKING FROM 4 A-26'S. SEE PARA H.
1 A-26 DID NOT BOMB DUE TO CLAIMED BOMB RELEASE MALFUNCTION.
INSPECTION RESULTS ARE AS YET UNDETERMINED.
- F. 660 X 150 LB. G.P'S ON PRIMARY.
20 X 150 LB. G.P'S RETURNED.
80 X 150 LB. G.P'S UNACCOUNTED FOR. SEE PARA H.
- G. BOX I BOMBED BY VISUAL MDANS AS A BOX. CREWS REPORT EXCELLENT RESULTS.
BOX II BOMBED BY FLIGHTS BY VISUAL MEANS. RESULTS UNOBSERVED DUE TO SMOKE OF EARLIER BOMBING AND EVASIVE ACTION OFF TARGET.
- H. NR 3 A/C 361 FLIGHT A BOX I WAS OBSERVED TO RECEIVE DIRECT FLAK HIT IN LEFT ENGINE WHILE ON RUN BETWEEN PPF IP AND TARGET. A/C WAS LAST SEEN DISINTEGRATING AND IN FLAMES ON WAY DOWN AT UNDETERMINED POINT. NO CHUTES OBSERVED.
NR 5 A/C (213), FLIGHT A BOX I UNACCOUNTED FOR. THIS A/C MAY BE THE SHIP SEEN BY TWO CREWS TO LEAVE FORMATION IN TARGET AREA WITH FIRE IN COCKPIT, AFTER DIRECT FLAK HIT IN LEFT ENGINE ON BOMB RUN. NO CHUTES OBSERVED.
NR 2 A/C (521), FLIGHT A BOX II RECEIVED DIRECT FLAK HITS ON TURN OFF TARGET. THIS A/C WAS SEEN AFTER TURN OFF TARGET, BOTH ENGINES SMOKING AND LOSING ALTITUDE BUT APPARENTLY UNDER CONTROL. THIS A/C MAY BE THE SHIP SEEN TO HIT GROUND NEAR JOHANNISBERG (M175565), AFTER FLAMES BROKE OUT IN RIGHT NACELLE AND RIGHT WING BROKE OFF ABOUT 3000 FEET ABOVE THE GROUND. NO CHUTES OBSERVED.
NR 5 A/C (237), FLIGHT C BOX II RECEIVED FLAK HIT IN RIGHT WING AND WAS SEEN TO HIT GROUND IN FLAMES IN VICINITY OF BINGEN (M120530), NO CHUTES OBSERVED.
17 A/C DAMAGED BY FLAK. CATEGORY A.
6 A/C DAMAGED BY FLAK. CATEGORY AC.
- I. 9 CREW MEMBERS MISSING IN FOUR A/C ENUMERATED IN PAR. H. OF *cc: made*
THESE 4 ARE PILOTS, 1 IS A BOMBARDIER/NAVIGATOR, 4 ARE GUNNERS.
- J. TARGET: MODERATE TO INTENSE ACCURATE HFF, THROUGH TURN OFF TARGET.
ELSEWHERE: MODERATE TO INTENSE ACCURATE HFF FROM (M130670) TO TARGET AND FROM VICINITY OF KIRCHEIM-GOLANDEN (M200188) TO TARGET.
- K. NIL
- L. BOX - 13000
BOX II FLIGHT A 12000
FLIGHT B 12000
FLIGHT C 11200
- M. BOX I 1014 ON RUN FROM PPF IP.
BOX II FLIGHT A 1025
FLIGHT B 1025
FLIGHT C 1026
BOX II LEFT PPF RUN AT APPROXIMATELY 1012 TO BOMB VISUALLY BY FLIGHTS AND PROCEEDED TO VISUAL IP NEAR KIRCHHEIM-BOLANDEN (M200188) FOR ITS BOMB RUN.
- X. TWO UNIDENTIFIED BLACK COLOR RADIAL S/E - A/C OBSERVED IN TARGET AREA. MADE NO PASSES AT FORMATION.

BT 181500A

CC: L. BOX I - 13000
BOX II FLIGHT A AND ETC
EJ BB TO ITA AR TO NJEA

ITA R.....AS.....18/1625A SK K
JEA R.....18/1625A DJP KKK

239
ITA JEA V JKI JKI 16/16 P P

FROM COBONGR 416 181500A
TO COBONDIV NINE ATTN: SIG O.
CONCETWIG 97 (FOR INFO)
BT

CONFIDENTIAL 416BG R-371-J

A - YS - 67

B - 18 MARCH 1965 (0832-1145)

C - H - NAN REPORTED OPS COMPLETED TO PAREKXX PARADE, FOR BOTH
BOXES.

D - H - NAN CALLED FIGHTER GROUND CONTROL UPON ENTERING
TACTICAL AREA AND ALSO HEARD PFF SHIP CALLING F.G.C. BUT NEITHER
SHIP RECEIVED AN ANSWER.

E - NONE

F - NONE

G - NONE

H - NONE

I - NONE

J - NONE

K - NONE

AYLESWORTH COBONGR416

BT 181500A

CC: HXXKXKX-

CC: IN PARA D. WA NAN CALLED FIGHTER GROUND CONTROL ETC

KN ALSO SORGI NR. R-371-J

EJ AR TO ITA DBB O TO JEA

ITA R.....181710A

JEA R.....18/1710A

DB

AR

CES

KKKK

ITA JEA V JKI JKI23/18 P - P
T - ITA PASS TO JJF

0100
19 March
SAC

FROM 416TH BOMB GROUP (L) 18/1900A
TO 9TH BOMB DIV. (M) (INFO COPY)
97TH COMBAT WING (L) (INFO COPY)
COMMANDING OFFICER, FIRST PATHFINDER SQUADRON (PROV.)

BT
CONFIDENTIAL 416BG R-381-E 18 MARCH 1945

PATHFINDER LEAD SATISFACTORY A.M. MISSION. GROUP BOMBED VISUALLY ON
GROUP LEAD. FIRST PATHFINDER LEAD SATISFACTORY P.M. MISSION. PATH-
FINDER ABANDONED BOMBRUN JUST PRIOR TO RELEASE POINT. GROUP BOMBED ON
GROUP GEE. SECOND PATHFINDER TURNED LEFT OFF TARGET INSTEAD OF RIGHT
AS BRIEFED OTHERWISE LEAD SATISFACTORY.

AYLESWORTH

BT 18/1900A

JF B B

ITA R.....182293A P PETZ P KK

JEA R.....18/2255A LCB KKKK

ITA JEA-V, JKI

JKI28/18

OP - OP

FROM 416TH BOMB GP (L) S-2 PI
 TO HQ, 9TH BOMBER DIV. (M)
 HQ, 97TH COMBAT WING (L)

18/2130A
 ATTN: A-2 PI
 ATTN: DUTY OFF.

0100
 19 March
 San

BT

SECRET 416BG R-382-D

B. WORMS COMMUNICATION CENTER

G. 1013 - 1026

J. BOX I DMPI - GOOD: BOMBED AS A BOX WITH 40 PERCENT OF BOMBS WITHIN 1000 FT OF DMPI WITH CENTER OF PATTERN 1270 FR NE OF DMPI. BOMBS FELL IN TWO PATTERNS IN CENTER OF TOWN CASUING EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO BUILDINGS. HITS ON STREETS AND 2 ON RR TRACKS.

BOX II FLT A DMPI - UNSAT: 15 PERCENT OF BOMBS WITHIN 1000 FT OF DMPI WITH MAIN PATTERN BEING 2630 FT NW OF DMPI. BLANKET OF BURSTS IN MARSHALLING YARD WITH SEVERAL HITS. HIGHWAY OVERPASS COVERED BY BURSTS.

FLT B DMPI - UNDET: (LAST TO BOMB) NO STRIKE PHOTOS DUE TO EVASIVE ACTION. VISUAL REPORTS STATE RESULTS EXCELLENT.

FLT C DMPI - UNSAT: NO BOMBS WITHIN 1000 FT OF DMPI WITH CENTER OF PATTERN 4320 FT SE OF DMPI. BOMBS HIT IN FIELDS AND ACROSS 2 ROADS.

K. BOX I DMPI GOOD

BOX II FLT A DMPI - UNSAT: BOMBARDIER MIS-IDENTIFIED AP DUE TO SLUGGISH GYRO OF SIGHT. THIS AND SHORT RUN RESULTED IN NOT ENOUGH TIME TO PICK OUT PROPER REFERENCE POINTS BOMBED WHAT HE THOUGHT WAS AP.

FLT B DMPI - UNDET: NO PHOTOS DUE TO EVASIVE ACTION OFF TARGET.

FLT C DMPI - UNSAT: REASON UNKNOWN. INVESTIGATION BEING MADE.

BOX I MADE RUN ON PPF COURSE. FLIGHTS A, B, AND C OF BOX II MADE RUNS FROM VUXXXX VISUAL IP.

M. A) 12 / 1 100PERCENT

B) 0 / 0 "

C) 0 / 0 "

N. 100 BOMBS ON RR M/Y CUTTING TRACKS AND DESTROYING 10 FREIGHT CARS AND 4 WAREHOUSE TYPE BUILDINGS. APPROX 85 BUILDINGS DESTROYED OR DAMAGED. 24 HITS ON ROADS AND STREETS CUTTING THEM AND 2 HITS ON HIGHWAY OVERPASS PROBABLY DESTROYING.

AYLWORTH

BT 18/2130A

JF AS

CC: IN J. BOX I 2ND LINE 10TH GROUP SHOULD BE "FT" AND IN 3RD LINE LAST WORD SHOULD BE "TOWN" WITH WA CAUSING

JF BBB

ITA R.....

18/2313A HHW I H K

JEA R.....18/23TA LCB

KKK

Intel
239
USAAF FORM 34A

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
416TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)
Office of the Commanding Officer

SECRET
AUTH: CO STA A-69
DATE: 20 March 1945
INIT:

TO: Commanding General, 9th Bombardment Division (H), APO 140, U. S. Army.
Attn: Statistical Control.

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

Ref: Oprep A No. 349 for 24 hrs. ending midnight 18 March 1945
Mission or Operation No. 239 97th OWS FOS 210-501

A. Short Narrative of Operation:

Target Normal Communication Center
Place of take-off Station A-69
Place of landing Station A-69
Take-off time 0532 Landing time 1148
Time over target 1026 Bombing Altitude 11200-12000
Nature of mission Bombing Other None
Weather Clear over target area - light haze.
Results Run I - Good, Run II - Flt 1 Unsat, Flt 2 Unsat, Flt 3 Unsat.
Enemy opposition Moderate to intense accurate HVT.

B. Type & model of aircraft:

1. Dispatched 41 A-26's
2. Attacking target (indicate target) or completing mission.
33 Window
Normal Comm. Center
3. Abortive due to:
 - (1) Weather: None
 - (2) Personnel: None
 - (3) Mechanical: 1 A-26 bomb release malfunction.
 - (4) Other: 4 (shown in paragraph 4).
4. Missing (i.e. cause and place unknown) 4
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) 17 category "A" - flak.
6 category "B" - flak.
8. Sorties 41

SECRET

(over)

USAF FORM 344 (cont'd)

SECRET

D. Total operational flying hours

a. Day (Sunrise to sunset)

116.50

b. Night (Sunset to sunrise)

None

E. Ammunition by calibres:

a. Total carried into air 70200 x .50 calibre

b. Expended on operations 1055 x .50 calibre (testing)

c. Lost on wrecked or missing a/c None

F. Bombs, Flares, etc. used:

a. Total carried into air: 760 x 150 lb GP's Used 1/100

b. Expended on operations: 60 x 150's
(List targets separately)

c. Jettisoned

None

d. Lost or wrecked on
missing a/c

80 x 150's

e. Total Returned

80 x 150's

G. Own Personnel Casualties:

Type of Casualty	Pilot	Co-pilot	Nav	Bomb	R.Gun	E.Gun	T.Gun	Aerial Gunner (611)
Killed in Action	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Missing in Action	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Seriously Wounded	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Slightly Wounded	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

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

a. Destroyed

None

b. Prob. Des

None

c. Damaged

None

For the Commanding Officer:

GEORGE SCHENKELIN,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

CONFIDENTIAL

239
 HEADQUARTERS
 416TH BOMBARDMENT GP (L)
 OFFICE OF THE RADAR OFFICER

APO 140 - US ARMY,
 19 MARCH 1945.

SUBJECT: REPORT OF OPERATIONAL USE OF WINDOW.

TO : RADAR COUNTERMEASURES OFFICER,
 9TH BOMB DIVISION (M), APO 140, US ARMY.

1. RCM DISPENSING 66
2. 18 MARCH 1945
3. KIRCHEN-GLONDEN TO TARGET
4. 50° 7N 7° 55E
5. 49° 38N 8° 22E
6. 3
7. 17 PACKAGES TYPE 28 (3)
8. 310° AT 28 MPH
9. 13,000' TO 12,000'
10. ONE TENTH
11. INTENSE HEAVE
12. ACCURATE
13. 2 MINUTES
14. FOUR PLANES LOST; 17 OTHER IN CAT. "A", 6 OTHER IN CAT. "C".
15. CREWMEN BELIEVE WINDOW DID NOT AFFECT FLAK GUNS. THIS MAY BE DUE TO THE FORMATION BEING COMPLETELY VISIBLE TO THE GROUND.

CHARLES F. GUNDERSON,
 1ST LT, G.S.C.,
 RADAR OFFICER.

PRIORITY

FROM: 416TH BOMB GROUP (L)

TO : 9TH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION (M) (INFO COPY)
 97TH COMBAT WING (L) (INFO COPY)
 COMMANDING OFFICER, FIRST PATHFINDER SQUADRON (PROV.)

416BG R_____E

CONFIDENTIAL

18 MARCH 1945

1900

PATHFINDER LEAD SATISFACTORY A.M. MISSION. GROUP BOMBED VISUALLY ON GROUP LEAD.
 FIRST PATHFINDER LEAD SATISFACTORY P.M. MISSION. PATHFINDER ABANDONED BOMBING
 JUST PRIOR TO RELEASE POINT. GROUP BOMBED ON GROUP GEE. SECOND PATHFINDER
 TURNED LEFT OFF TARGET INSTEAD OF RIGHT AS BRIEFED. OTHERWISE LEAD SATISFACTORY.

AYLESWORTH COBOLGR 416

I certify that this is official business:

RICHARD V. WHEELER,
 Capt., Air Corps.

Mission # 239--18 March 1945.

Two boxes of aircraft took off in an early morning attack on communication centers in Worms. A PPF plane accompanied the formation. A solid cloud cover hung over the ground up to the time that the formation crossed the Rhine. The PPF plane began its long bomb run. At the same time intense accurate flak began to be fired at the formation. The first box leader called the PPF plane and said that he was going to attempt a visual run, but asked him to stay in the lead in case it was impossible. Both the first box and the PPF plane ^{dropped} together, although the first box dropped visually. The leader of the second box decided to go around again and bomb visually by flights. They turned off ~~at the target from the first box~~ and went out to the visual I.P., west of the target. Peeling off, they bombed by flights. The results appeared to be excellent.

The intense accurate flak at the ^{tail fin} IP continued to the target, except for one momentary break. The second box went out of the flak area after it left the target the first time. Coming back from their IP, they began to catch flak, ^{moderate} ~~intense~~ and accurate, up to the target.

Four planes were ^{assumed} lost to flak. ^{who they failed to return to base.} Two planes went down in the vicinity of the PPF IP NE of Bingen. Two planes went down in the vicinity of the target. Twenty-three other planes suffered battle damage. Only one other crew member was injured. No chutes were seen to come out of ~~three of~~ the planes lost. ~~One chute was seen coming from the fourth plane lost.~~

There were no enemy planes sighted by the formation.

Captain Stanley and Capt. Evans led the two boxes.

JES JPO JKI VIA JEA V ITA JJF 12/18 OP OP

FROM: CO 1ST PATHFINDER SQ PROV 18/1345A
 TO : CG IX BOMB DIVISION (ATT A-2)
 CG 97TH COMBAT WING
 CG 98TH COMBAT WING
 CG 99TH COMBAT WING
 CO'S 387TH, 416TH, 394TH, 397TH, 391ST,
 344TH, 323RD, 410TH, 322ND, 409TH,
 AND 386TH BOMB GROUPS

CONFIDENTIAL BT

1ST PATHFINDER SQ PROV R-465-D

- A. FIRST PATHFINDER SQUADRON WITH THE 387TH BOMB GROUP
- B. WORMS COMM. CENTER WM 454149
- C. 1 B26
- D. 1 - ATTACKED PRIMARY WITH GROUP LEADING. GROUP MADE VISUAL RUN ON NORDEN IN PREFERENCE TO PFF EQUIPMENT LEAD.
- E. NONE
- F. 4 X 500 GP ON PRIMARY
- G. GOOD RESULTS OBSERVED
- H. NONE
- I. NONE
- J. MAHFF FROM TGT AREA (WM454149) AND INGELHEIM WR 245599
- K. NONE
- L. 13,000 - PRIMARY
- M. 0958 - PRIMARY

GOOD FORMATION AND GOOD WINDOW SHIPS FLOWN BY GROUP

- A. FIRST PATHFINDER SQUADRON WITH THE 416TH BOMB GROUP
 - B. WORMS COMM CENTER WM 450146
 - C. 1 B-26
 - D. 1 B-26 PRIMARY ON NORDEN DUE TO CAVU CONDITIONS
 - E. NONE
 - F. 4 X 500 GP PRIMARY
 - G. GOOD, TARGET AREA.
 - H. NONE
 - I. NONE
 - J. MODERATE, ACCURATE, HEAVY, TARGET AREA AND INGELHEIM WR 245599
 - K. NONE
 - L. 13,000 PRIMARY
 - M. 1013 PRIMARY
- GROUP FORMATION AND WINDOW SHIPS GOOD.

- A. FIRST PATHFINDER SQUADRON WITH THE 410TH BOMB GROUP
- B. WETZLAR M/Y WG 557191
- C. 2 B-26'S
- D. 2 B-26'S PRIMARY ON EQUIPMENT
- E. NONE
- F. 3 X 500 GP PRIMARY
- G. 1ST BOX POOR
2ND BOX UNOBSERVED
- H. NONE
- I. NONE
- J. MODERATE, INACCURATE, HEAVY, TARGET AREA
- K. NONE
- L. 12,400-12,000 PRIMARY
- M. 1017-1017 1/2 PRIMARY
1ST BOX FORMATION POOR EXCEPT AT TIME OF RELEASE IT WAS GOOD.
2ND BOX FORMATION VERY GOOD. WINDOW SHIPS POOR.

A. FIRST PATHFINDER SQUADRON WITH THE 394TH BOMB GROUP
 B. WORMS M/Y WM 449162
 C. 1 B-26
 D. NONE
 E. 1 B-26. GROUP BOMBED VISUALLY. PFF DIDN'T DROP. COULDN'T CATCH FORMATION AFTER GROUP TOOK OVER, IN TIME TO BOMB.
 F. 4 X 500 GP RETURNED
 G. NO ATTACK
 H. NONE
 I. NONE
 J. MODERATE, ACCURATE, HEAVY, TARGET AREA, AND INGELHEIM WR 245599
 K. NONE
 L. 13,000 PRIMARY
 M. 1030 PRIMARY
 GROUP FORMATION EXCELLENT. WINDOW SHIPS GOOD. EXCELLENT COOPERATION FROM GROUP NAVIGATOR.

A. FIRST PATHFINDERS SQUADRON WITH THE 322ND BOMB GROUP
 B. WETZLAR M/Y WG 553189
 C. 1 B-26'S
 D. 1 B-26'S PRIMARY ON EQUIPMENT
 E. NONE
 F. 4 X 500 GP PRIMARY
 G. GOOD. HITS SEEN IN TARGET AREA
 H. THRU K. NONE
 L. 13,000 PRIMARY
 M. 1028 PRIMARY
 GROUP FORMATION 1ST BOX EXCELLENT, 2ND BOX FAIR.

A. FIRST PATHFINDER SQUADRON WITH THE 323RD BOMB GROUP
 B. WETZLAR M/Y WG 559193
 C. 2 B-26'S
 D. 1 B-26 PRIMARY ON EQUIPMENT.
 1 B-26 PRIMARY GROUP LEADING. THIS BOX DROPPED ON LEAD PFF.
 E. NONE
 F. 8 X 500 GP PRIMARY
 G. GOOD. GOOD PATTERN COVERED TARGET AREA.
 H. NONE
 I. NONE
 J. MODERATE, ACCURATE, HEAVY, TARGET AREA AND WESTERBURG WG 172183
 L. 11,500-11,000 PRIMARY
 M. 1001 1/2-1003 PRIMARY
 GROUP FORMATION GOOD. 2ND BOX TOOK OVER LEAD WHEN 1ST BOX PFF HAD EQUIPMENT FAILURE. BOTH BOXES BOMBED ON PFF LEAD.

A. FIRST PATHFINDER SQUADRON WITH THE 397TH BOMB GROUP
 B. WORMS M/Y WM 449159
 C. 2 B-26'S
 D. 1 B-26 PRIMARY GROUP LEADING. GROUP TOOK OVER FOR VISUAL RUN.
 E. 1 B-26. GROUP TOOK OVER FOR VISUAL THIS SIDE OF BOMBLINE AFTER CROSSING FROM ENEMY TERRITORY HALF WAY DOWN BOMB RUN. PFF DID NOT KNOW WHICH WAY GROUP WAS TURNING, SO RETURNED TO BASE.
 F. 4 X 500 GP PRIMARY
 4 X 500 GP RETURNED
 G. GOOD
 H. NONE
 I. NONE
 J. MODERATE, INACCURATE, HEAVY, TARGET AREA.
 K. NONE
 L. 13,000 PRIMARY
 M. 1045 PRIMARY
 GROUP FORMATION AND WINDOW SHIPS GOOD.

A. FIRST PATHFINDER SQUADRON WITH THE 391ST BOMB GROUP
 B. WORMS M/Y WM 448155
 C. 2 B-26'S
 D. 2 B-26'S PRIMARY ON EQUIPMENT
 E. NONE
 F. 8 X 500 GP PRIMARY
 G. GOOD. HITS COVERED TARGET AREA
 H. NONE
 I. NONE
 J. MODERATE, ACCURATE, HEAVY, TARGET AREA, AND ALZEY WM 278279
 K. NONE
 L. 13,000-12,500
 M. 1101-1101 1/2 PRIMARY
 GROUP FORMATION GOOD. WINDOW SHIPS POOR 1ST BOX, GOOD 2ND BOX. EXPLODED OIL BURNING AT M/Y AT WORMS WM 448155.

A. FIRST PATHFINDER SQUADRON WITH THE 344TH BOMB GROUP
 B. WORMS M/Y WM 448152
 C. 2 B-26'S
 D. 1 B-26 PRIMARY ON EQUIPMENT. 2ND BOX.
 1 B-26 PRIMARY ON NORDEN. BOMBED ALONE UPON EQUIPMENT FAILURE.
 E. NONE
 F. 8 X 500 GP PRIMARY
 G. PFF OF 1ST BOX. STRIKES SEEN IN TARGET AREA.
 2ND BOX BOMBS E SEEM TO HIT 3/4 MILE NW OF TARGET.
 H. NONE
 I. NONE
 J. MODERATE, ACCURATE, HEAVY, TARGET AREA.
 K. NONE
 L. 12,800-12,800 PRIMARY
 M. 1117-1117 1/2 PRIMARY
 GROUP FORMATION AND WINDOW SHIPS GOOD.

A. FIRST PATHFINDER SQUADRON WITH THE 409TH BOMB GROUP
 B. WETZLAR M/Y WG 548188
 C. 2 B-26'S
 D. 2 B-26'S PRIMARY ON EQUIPMENT
 E. NONE
 F. 8 X 500 GP PRIMARY
 G. EXCELLENT- STRIKES SEEN IN TARGET AREA.
 H. NONE
 I. NONE
 J. WEAK, INACCURATE, HEAVY, TARGET AREA.
 K. NONE
 L. 13,300-12,500 PRIMARY
 M. 1045 1/2-1046 PRIMARY
 GROUP FORMATION GOOD, EXCELLENT AT BOMBS AWAY. WINDOW SHIPS GOOD.

A. FIRST PATHFINDER SQUADRON WITH THE 386TH BOMB GROUP
 B. WETZLAR M/Y WG 554188
 C. 2 B-26'S
 D. 1 B-26 PRIMARY ON EQUIPMENT.
 1 B-26 CASUAL OBR. KLEEN WG 605073 ON NORDEN. BOMBED ALONE.
 E. NONE
 F. 4 X 500 GP PRIMARY
 4 X 500 GP CASUAL
 G. PRIMARY - GOOD. HITS SEEN IN TARGET AREA
 CASUAL - UNOBSERVED.
 H. 1 B-26 CAT "A" . FLAK
 I. NONE
 J. WEAK , ACCURATE, HEAVY, GIESSEN WG 660210
 C. NONE
 L. 11,500 CASUAL
 12,500 PRIMARY
 M. 1112 CASUAL
 1059 PRIMARY
 M/Y AT GIESSEN WAS EMPTY. GROUP FORMATION VERY GOOD.

ANNEX TO FIRST PATHFINDER SQUADRON WITH THE 387TH BOMB GROUP

STEEL SPAN TYPE BRIDGE AT WIESBADEN ENTIRELY ON FIRE.
 HIGHWAY BRIDGE AND RR BRIDGE JUST NORTH OF WORMS STILL SGC, \$8, &.

-----CO 1ST PATHFINDER SQ PROV-----

BT 18/1345A
 RELAYED (JMB)
 LAST LINE SHLD READ
 JUST NORTH OF WORMS STILL STANDING.
 BBBBBBBBBB
 JES R.....18/1602A HO K
 JPO R18/1602A JHS KK
 JKI R.....18/1602A MEP KK

JKI VIA JEA V ITA JJF NR 14/18 OP - OP

FROM: CO 1ST PATHFINDER SQ PROV 18/1600A
TO : CG IX BOMB DIVISION
CO 97 BOMB WING
CO 416 BOMB GROUP

CONFIDENTIAL BT
A1ST PATHFINDER SQ QROV R-467-E

PFF PILOT A.B. JOHNSON
DATE 18/3/45 TIME AM

A. FORMATION:

1. CLASSIFICATION: GOOD
2. REMARKS:

B. WINDOW SHIPS:

1. CLASSIFICATION: EXCELLENT
2. REMARKS:

C. NAVIGATION:

1. CLASSIFICATION: PFF
2. REMARKS:

D. INTERPLANE COMMUNICATIONS: 99\$

3. BRIEFING: EXCELLENT

F. MISCELLANEOUS JEVAKS: NONE

CO 1ST PATHFINDER SQ QROV

BT 18/1600A

MJS

CC: COL D. SECOND WORD SHOULD READ COMMUNICATIONS: GOOD

COL F. SECOND WORD SHOULD READ REMARKS:

DJPRELAY

JKI R.....18/1655A EJ AR

AR

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
9TH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION (M)



Mission Order

239

Field Order #801.

MISSION SUMMARY #72

(Morning Missions)

140

28 March 1945

Section I

GROUP	TARGET	MISSION RESULTS
387 BG:	Worms (M-453148) Communications Center	Box I - Flt. A - Excellent B - Superior C - Excellent Box II - Flt. A - Superior (SMPI) B - Excellent C - Excellent
416 BG:	" "	Box I Good Box II - Flt. A - Unsatisfactory B - Undetermined C - Unsatisfactory
394 BG:	Worms (M-448160) Marshalling Yard	Box I Superior Box II - Flt. A - Superior B - Unsatisfactory C - Excellent
397 BG:	" "	Box I - Flt. A - Excellent (SMPI) B - Excellent (SMPI) C - Excellent (SMPI) Box II - Flt. A - Excellent B - Excellent (SMPI) C - Undetermined (SMPI)
391 BG:	" "	Box I Poor (FFF) Box II p Flt. A - Superior B - N.A.O. C - Excellent (FFF)
344 BG:	" "	Box I - Flt. A - Excellent B - Excellent C - Excellent Box II Unsatisfactory (FFF)
323 BG:	Wetzlar (G-543189) Marshalling Yard	Box I Excellent (FFF) Box II Excellent (FFF)

A - 1

SECRET

S E C R E T

410 BG:	Wetzlar (G-543189)	Box I	Unsatisfactory (PTF)
	Marshalling Yard	Box II	Excellent (PTF)
322 BG:	" "	Box I	Unsatisfactory (PTF)
		Box II	Unsatisfactory (PTF)
109 BG:	" "	Box I	Excellent (PTF)
		Box II	Excellent (PTF)
386 BG:	" "	Box I	Undetermined (AMPI)
		Box II	Excellent (PTF)

B - 1

S E C R E T

SECRET

GROUP NARRATIVE

Ten groups plus one box of another attacked one communication center and two marshalling yards recording SUPERIOR to UNDETERMINED results. One box attacked Other target.

Worms (Communications Center)

387 BG: 38 a/c dispatched (including 1 PFF), 32 dropping 868 x 100 GP, 4 x 500 GP on Primary. 1 a/c dropped 28 x 100 GP short of target at M-350270, 9 miles in front of troop line, when bombardier hit switch after a/c was hit by flak. 3 window a/c.

2 a/c failed to bomb: 1, mechanical; 1, other (shot down before reaching target).

1 a/c lost. This a/c was hit by flak in the vicinity of Bingen at M-150540. A/c was seen to explode at about 2,000 feet. No chutes seen. 6 crewmen are missing.

19 other a/c battle damage, 3 crewmen wounded.

Group leader called Ripsaw on entering tactical area and obtained desired fix.

Visual bombing by flights on group lead from 12,000-13,000 feet.

Box I - Flt. A - DMPI - EXCELLENT. 75% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. MPI of burst is 500' N of DMPI and blankets building, streets and intersection in good pattern, starting fires.

Flt. B - DMPI - SUPERIOR. 90% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Center of pattern 225' N of DMPI. Bursts fell into the bomb pattern of Flt. A, blanketing street and junctions and extending to the S.

Flt. C - DMPI - EXCELLENT. No photo coverage. In this flight camera a/c banked off the target too sharply. From later coverage it is apparent bombs hit in smoke of first two flights and over 50% of bombs are within 1000' radius of DMPI. Smoke prevents determination of position of concentration.

Box II - Flt. A - SMPI - SUPERIOR. Bombardier elected Highway junction 1 mile N of town for SMPI when DMPI was obscured by clouds. Bomb pattern concentrated approximately 200' NW of SMPI with 90% within 1000' radius of SMPI. Pattern blankets 2 road junctions and numerous buildings. Large explosions of several seconds duration observed northwest of pattern, caused by stray bomb. Other hits on R.R. tracks and wagons in M/Y.

Flt. B - DMPI - EXCELLENT. Bombs fell into smoke of preceding flights and it is impossible to determine exact pattern. Apparently 50% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI.

Flt. C - DMPI - EXCELLENT. Bombs in smoke of preceding flights. Unable to determine size of pattern due to smoke, but it is apparent over 50% of bombs is within 1000' radius of DMPI.

416 BG: 42 a/c dispatched (including 41 A-26, 1 PFF), 34 dropping 660 x 150 GP, 4 x 500 GP on Primary. Bomb disposition unknown of 4 a/c (2 lost, 2 missing). 3 window a/c.

1 a/c failed to bomb: mechanical.

C - 1

SECRET

S E C R E T

Two a/c, mentioned above, were lost to flak. One a/c received direct flak hit in left engine between PFF IP and target. The a/c was last seen disintegrating and in flames on way down. No chutes seen. The other a/c received flak hit in right wing and was seen to hit the ground in flames in the vicinity of Bingen (M-120530). No chutes seen.

Two other a/c, mentioned above, are missing. One received direct flak hit in left engine on bomb run. Fire was observed in cockpit and a/c was last seen to leave formation in target area. No chutes observed. The other a/c received direct flak hits on turn off target. This a/c was seen after turn off target with both engines smoking and losing altitude but apparently under control. No chutes observed.

23 other a/c battle damaged, 9 crewmen are missing from the a/c mentioned above.

Visual bombing by box and flights on group lead from 11,200 - 13,000 feet.

Box I - DMPI - GOOD. 40% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI with center of pattern 1270' NE of DMPI. Bombs fell in two patterns in center of town causing extensive damage to buildings. Hits on streets and two on R.R. tracks.

Box II - Flt. A - DMPI - UNSATISFACTORY. Bombardier misidentified AP due to sluggish gyro of sight. This and short run resulted in not enough time to pick out proper reference points. 15% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI, with main pattern being 2630' NW of DMPI. Blanket of bursts in marshalling yard with several hits. Highway overpass covered by bursts.

Flt. B - DMPI - UNDETERMINED. No strike photos due to evasive action. Visual reports state results excellent.

Flt. C - DMPI - UNSATISFACTORY. Reason unknown. Investigation being made. No bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI, with center of pattern 4320' SE of DMPI. Bombs hit in fields and across 2 roads.

Worms (Marshalling Yard)

394 BG: 39 a/c dispatched (including 1 PFF), 35 dropping 140 x 1000 GP on Primary. 3 window a/c.

1 (PFF) a/c failed to bomb: other (could not keep up with formation when group decided to bomb visually.

No losses, 12 a/c battle damaged, no casualties.

Group leader called Ripsaw on entering tactical area and obtained desired fix.

Visual bombing by box and flights on group lead from 11,000 - 13,000 feet.

Box I - DMPI - SUPERIOR. 98% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Center of pattern fell approximately 250' from DMPI. Bombs of one flight extended across marshalling yard and across R.R. overpass. Roundhouse, and locomotive shot as well as 6 adjoining repair type buildings covered by impacts from all flights. Huge fires resulted

Box II - Flt. A - DMPI - SUPERIOR. 100% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI, centering 175' from DMPI, with hits falling across marshalling yard choke point and onto warehouse and storage type buildings. Several R.R. cars hit. One, at least, explosion resulted probably from gasoline.

B - 1

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Flt. B - DMPI - UNSATISFACTORY. Too short a bomb run made. No bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Pattern centered 2400' W of DMPI. A few impacts observed across dwellings and main highway.

Flt. C - DMPI - EXCELLENT. 60% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI, pattern centering 900' from DMPI. Most of bombs fell into dwellings E of marshalling yard.

397 BG: 34 a/c dispatched (including 2 PFF), 27 dropping 104 x 1000 GP, 4 x 500 G on Primary. Bomb disposition unknown of 1 a/c which is missing. 3 window a/c.

3 a/c failed to bomb: 1, mechanical; 2, other (PFF left formation when visual bombing was announced; 1 late take-off).

The a/c mentioned above as missing was hit by flak in vicinity of IP. It began smoking and losing altitude and air speed. 4/c was last seen dropping behind formation prior to target at N-265445. No chutes reported. 7 crewmen are missing.

No losses, 14 a/c battle damaged, 1 crewman wounded.

Visual bombing by flights on group lead from 11,000 - 13,000 feet.

Box I - Flt. A - SMPI - EXCELLENT. DMPI not located due to smoke. Bombardier selected MPI in marshalling yard 3000' NNE of DMPI. 100% of bombs within 1000' radius of SMPI in good pattern 540' SW of SMPI, hitting storage buildings and factory buildings W of M/Y.

Flt. B - SMPI - EXCELLENT. DMPI not located due to smoke. Bombardier selected MPI in M/Y 2400' SW of DMPI. 100% of bombs within 1000' radius of SMPI (a second pattern outside of circle to the E may be part of this flight). Good pattern 535' W of SMPI. Probable hits on tracks, R.R., bridge, buildings and road.

Flt. C - SMPI - EXCELLENT. DMPI not located due to smoke. Bombardier selected MPI 1500' NNE of DMPI. 100% of bombs within 1000' radius of SMPI in good pattern 512' WSW of SMPI. Bombs hit across tracks and road, probably damaging both in addition to R.R. station and buildings W of yard.

Box II - Flt. A - DMPI - EXCELLENT. 100% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI in smoke. Obscured pattern 550' SE of DMPI hitting across road E of yards, probably hitting large buildings.

Flt. B - SMPI - EXCELLENT. DMPI not located due to smoke. Bombardier selected a highway overpass as MPI 5400' SSE of DMPI. 100% of bombs within 1000' radius of SMPI in good pattern 290' W of SMPI and on it, probably hitting R.R. bridge, road underpass and buildings E side of road.

Flt. C - SMPI - UNDETERMINED. DMPI not located due to smoke. Bombardier selected R.R. overpass as MPI 1200' SSE of DMPI. No photo coverage due to (1) camera a/c did not take off; (2) fuse blow in Janet box of a/c. Bombs believed a little over.

391 BG: 35 a/c dispatched (including 2 PFF), 31 dropping 116 x 1000 GP, 3 x 500 GP on Primary. 3 window a/c dropped 12 x 1000 GP on window Primary.

1 a/c failed to bomb: mechanical.

No losses, 6 a/c battle damaged, no casualties.

Bombing by box and flights on PFF and group lead from 12,000 feet.

E - 1

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Box I - DMPI - POOR - PFF. About 20% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Bombs fell in 4 patterns, 3 of which are centered about 1300' N of DMPI, cutting 5 roadways in several places and damaging at least 35 residential type buildings. The fourth pattern fell about 1300' SW of DMPI cutting 4 roadways and damaging at least 15 residential type buildings.

Box II - Flt. A - DMPI - SUPERIOR. All bombs fell within 1000' radius of DMPI. Tight pattern fell centered on DMPI across M/Y, probably cutting all through lines and hitting 3 small buildings and 10 goods wagons in yards, and at least 3 residential type buildings.

Flt. B - N.A.O. Bombed on Flt. A, Box II. No bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Bombs fell in a dispersed pattern about 1600' W of DMPI cutting 3 roadways and damaging 3 residential type buildings.

Flt. C - PFF - EXCELLENT. This flight bombed on the second PFF a/c when leader failed to receive instructions from box leader to bomb visually. Over 50% of bombs fell within 1000' radius of DMPI. Flight's bombs fell about 1000' NE of DMPI, cutting several sidings in M/Y and damaging at least 20 goods wagons. 3 roadways and at least 5 residential type buildings outside yard were also hit. PFF's bombs fell about 800' N of DMPI hitting a road junction and at least 3 residential type buildings.

3 WINDOW A/C - DMPI - SUPERIOR. Bombed R.R. choke point at Bensheim (M-638193). All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Tight pattern fell about 175' SW of DMPI with at least 3 hits on R.R. tracks and one on R.R. junction.

344 BG: 36 a/c dispatched (including 2 PFF), 32 dropping 87 x 1000 GP, 32 x 1000 Comp. B, 8 x 500 GP on Primary. 1 a/c due to single engine jettisoned 4 x 1000 Comp. B one mile W of Vinton at P-389105 (friendly territory). 3 window a/c.

No losses, 2 a/c battle damaged, no casualties.

Bombing by flights and box on group lead and PFF from 11,800 - 11,950 feet.

Box I - Flt. A - DMPI - EXCELLENT. Approximately 95% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Good pattern 750' SW of DMPI. Strikes extend across M/Y covering storage sidings, rolling stock, main lines and edge of locomotive shed.

Flt. B - DMPI - EXCELLENT. 100% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Good pattern 540' SW of DMPI. Strikes across M/Y and residential area, covering storage sidings, rolling stock, main line and locomotive shed.

Flt. C - DMPI - EXCELLENT. 100% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Good pattern 580' N of DMPI. Strikes extend across M/Y covering storage sidings and station sidings.

Box II - PFF - UNSATISFACTORY. No bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Loose pattern one mile NW of DMPI. Strikes in open covering a series of trench systems and main road. Bombs hit just inside bomb line which runs along outer edge of city. Troop line, however, is approximately 20 miles W of city.

F - 1

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Wetzlar (Marshalling Yard)

323 BG: 35 a/c dispatched (including 2 PFF), 32 dropping 110 x 1000 GP, 8 x 500 GP on Primary. 3 window a/c.

No losses, battle damage, casualties.

Bombing by boxes on PFF lead from 11,000 - 11,700 feet.

Box I & II - PFF - EXCELLENT. 80% of bombs fell within 1000' radius of DMPI in good concentration. The MPI of bursts is 660' SW of DMPI. Center of pattern blankets yard in this area of yard. Many hits are scored on tracks and cars with the exception of 4 small patterns of railroad bombs in the city. One pattern is seen 2600' NW of DMPI. Box I Pathfinder failed to bomb. Group leader dropped on Box II.

410 BG: 42 a/c dispatched (37 A-20, 3 B-26, plus 2 PFF), 39 dropping 230 x 500 GP on Primary. 3 window a/c.

No losses, 8 a/c battle damaged, no casualties.

Bombing by boxes on PFF lead from 11,300 - 12,000 feet.

Box I - PFF - UNSATISFACTORY. No bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. All bombs fell in split pattern 1-3/4 miles S of DMPI. Majority of bombs fell in open fields, but pattern extended over 3 secondary highways.

Box II - PFF - EXCELLENT. 75% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Good pattern centered 800' NW of DMPI. A few bombs fell inside M/Y but majority of bombs burst in fields north of M/Y.

322 BG: 36 a/c dispatched (including 1 PFF), 32 dropping 251 x 500 GP on Primary.

4 a/c failed to bomb: 1, mechanical; 3, other (mid-air collision).

3 a/c lost. These a/c crashed and exploded after a mid-air collision during form up. The crash occurred in open fields 5 miles SW of base. 18 crewmen were killed as the result of this incident.

No further losses, damage, casualties.

Bombing by boxes on PFF lead from 12,500 - 13,000 feet.

Box I - PFF - UNSATISFACTORY. About 10% of the bombs fell within 1000' radius of DMPI, in a very scattered pattern. Only with difficulty can an MPI for the box as a whole be determined, but the approximate center of the three patterns lies 1200' to the N, the closest on the DMPI among the cars in the M/Y, the farthest being 3000' to the N, and another group among large industrial type buildings, another among large buildings and houses.

Box II - PFF - UNSATISFACTORY. Less than 10% of the bombs within 1000' radius of the DMPI in three distinct, widely scattered patterns. The center of the three patterns lies about 1890' to the E, the closest centering 1440' to the S, the farthest 650' to the E. Hits were scored on the choke point of the W end of the M/Y on the E side of the river, on a main road by the tracks, and the rest in fields.

G - 1

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

409 BG: 43 a/c dispatched (30 A-26, 11 A-20, 2 FFF), 40 (30 A-26, 8 A-20, 2 FFF) dropping 120 x 1000, 40 x 500 GP on Primary. 3 window a/c.

No losses, 1 a/c battle damaged, no casualties.

Bombing by boxes on FFF from 12,500 - 13,000 feet.

Box I - FFF - EXCELLENT. Approximately 90% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Probable center of spread pattern is approximately 430' SSW of DMPI. Bombs from the smallest portion of the pattern can be seen landing on or very near to the DMPI, landing on or very near to the double tracked R.R. bridge crossing the Lahn river and extending into an industrial area N of the M/Y which previous reconnaissance shows unidentified open stores, goods wagons and large buildings or sheds. The main portion of the pattern blankets the round house at the E end of the M/Y, a part of a large factory type building and many adjacent smaller buildings S of the DMPI, as well as rail spurs and secondary roads in the area of the strikes. Poor photo coverage because of haze prevented accurate damage assessment.

Box II - FFF - EXCELLENT. Approximately 55% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Probable center of two part pattern is approximately 915' SW of DMPI. Main portion of pattern blankets dead end sidings, goods wagons, industrial buildings and sheds W and SW of the DMPI. Smaller pattern is in sparsely settled area SSW of the DMPI and across Lahn river. Smoke from Box I, as well as heavy haze, made precise damage assessments and measurements impossible.

386 BG: 34 a/c dispatched (including 32 A-26, 2 FFF), 18 (17 A-26, 1 FFF) dropping 203 x 250 GP, 4 x 500 GP on Primary, 15 dropping 180 x 250 GP on Other, 1 (FFF) dropping 4 x 500 GP on Other (Jar. Klein, G-605073) due to equipment failure at Primary.

No losses, 7 a/c battle damaged, no casualties.

Bombing by boxes on group lead and FFF from 11,000 - 12,000 feet.

Box I - AMPI - UNDETERMINED. FFF failed to bomb. Another run made on primary target but did not bomb as bombardier could not locate target soon enough to make sighting operation due to cloud cover. Selected a casual target Biskirchen (G-409150), approximately 7 miles W of Primary, and dropped visually with undetermined results. No photo coverage due to cloud cover. Crews reported excellent results.

Box II - FFF - EXCELLENT. More than 50% of bursts are within 1000' radius of DMPI. Center of long pattern 650' NE of DMPI. Bursts of Flt. A blankets R.R. tracks, E end of passenger station, R.R. wagons and also damage to R.R. buildings in M/Y. Pattern of Flt. B covers the SE end of M/Y, damaging several R.R. buildings and numerous R.R. wagons, also possible hits on roundhouse. Flt. C's bomb pattern blankets about 15 residential type buildings and damaging several buildings in factory area 1100' N of DMPI.

H - 1

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

SECTION II

A/C OFF		413
A/C Bombing	372	
A/C Failing to Bomb	12	
A/C Recalled (Weather)	0	
Other		
Window	24	
Bombs of 5 A/C Unaccounted For	29	
TOTAL		413

Bombs on Enemy Territory	642,525
Total Bombs to Date	128,028,200

A/C Lost (1,387 BG; 2 (A-26), 416 BG; 3, 322 BG)	6	
A/C Missing (2 (A-26), 416 BG; 1, 397 BG)	3	
A/C Crash-Landed	0	
A/C Battle Damaged	92	28,898
Killed	18	
Wounded	4	
Missing	22	
Injured	0	
Claims	0	

1 - 1
S E C R E T

S E C R E T

FAILURES TO BOMB

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>NO. A/C</u>	<u>CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>REASON</u>
387	1	Mechanical	Oil pressure completely out.
	1	Other	Lost to flak.
416	1 (4-25)	Mechanical	Bomb release malfunction.
394	1 (PFF)	Other	Group elected to bomb visually and PFF could not join formation after group took lead.
397	1	Mechanical	Right engine cut out.
	2	Other	1-late takeoff due to runaway prop. 1-(PFF), left formation after group took over lead for visual run.
391	1	Mechanical	Bomb rack malfunction.
322	1	Mechanical	Right engine cutting out.
	3	Other	Lost in mid-air collision.

OBSERVATIONS

WEATHER: Worms

387 BG: 5/10 strato-cumulus, tops 7000' with big break over target. Visibility 3 miles on bomb run.

416 BG: Clear, visibility 5-10 miles in haze.

394 BG: ML cloud, Visibility 10 miles air-to-ground on bomb run.

397 BG: Large patches of cloud in area, 2-3/10 cloud over target itself, base 5000', tops 7000'. Visibility 5-7 miles down sun, 2-3 miles up sun in haze.

391 BG: 4/10 low cloud, tops 7000', base 5000'. Visibility excellent aloft. Visibility 6 miles air-to-ground.

344 BG: 5-7/10 strato-cumulus, tops 6000'. Patches of haze aloft at flight altitude. Patchy medium cloud estimated 12,000' to north of route. Visibility 5-10 miles aloft in haze.

Wetzlar 323 BG: 3/10 strato-cumulus, tops 6500'. 10/10 thin medium cloud at 13,000' tops. Visibility 3 miles on bomb run up sun.

410 BG: 7/10 strato-cumulus, 6500'/5500'. 7-9/10 thin alto-stratus, base 11,000'. 1 mile visibility in cloud. Air-to-ground visibility less than 1 mile.

322 BG: 7/10 strato-cumulus estimated 6-7000' tops. Visibility 2-4 miles down, thick haze.

409 BG: 6/10 strato-cumulus, tops 6000'. Visibility air-to-air 2 miles. Air-to-ground 1/4 - 1/2 mile. Thick haze from 6000' to above 13,000' over target.

386 BG: 8/10 low cloud estimated 7000' tops. 6/10 thin alto-stratus base 12-14,000'. Visibility 6-8 miles air-to-ground.

2 - 1
S E C R E T

S E C R E T

FLAK ANALYSIS ANNEX

A/C OVER ENEMY TERRITORY	406
A/C LOST TO FLAK	3
A/C MISSING	3
A/C BATTLE DAMAGED	92
% A/C BATTLE DAMAGED	23.74%
Worms Communications Center	
and M/Y	387, 416, 394, 397, 391, 344 Gp.
A/C Lost to Flak	3
A/C Missing	3
A/C Battle Damaged	76
% A/C Battle Damaged	36.74%

The first three Groups attacking experienced moderate to intense accurate heavy flak from the Bingen area to the target. The fire followed them through the turn off target. Cloud conditions were 10/10 until the IP was reached, then broke to clear. About 25 guns were able to engage the formation on the bomb run and approximately 30 more heavy guns are located at the target. The flak decreased in intensity until it was only weak accurate for the last Group attacking. The entire attack lasted over an hour, and by the time the last Group attacked most of the guns had probably expended all of their ammunition.

The a/c from the 387 Group that was lost was hit and began to lose altitude. It exploded at about 2000' near M-150540. The other two a/c (416 Group) received direct hits. One was hit in the left engine and was last seen disintegrating and on fire. The other a/c was hit in the right wing and crashed in flames near Bingen. The three missing a/c were also thought to be lost to flak.

Wetzlar M/Y	323, 410, 322, 409, 386 Gp.
A/C Lost to Flak	0
A/C Battle Damaged	16
% A/C Battle Damaged	8.64%

Flak at the target was weak inaccurate. 11 heavy guns are located about half way between Giessen and the target. These guns would be firing at extreme range. The 386 Group overran the target on their second run and encountered weak to moderate accurate heavy flak at Giessen.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY

T.O.T.'s: 0958 to 1130

Three crews of the 397th Group observed a jetcraft at 1050, several minutes after leaving target. The aircraft was believed to have been an Me 163, and was headed east at approximately 25,000 feet. No attack.

3 - 1

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

GROUP	CAMERAS PHOTOGRAPHING	S/A PHOTO REPORT			
		MECHANICAL FAILURES NO.	PERCENT	PERSONNEL FAILURES NO.	PERCENT
387	93%	0	0	1	7
416	100%	0	0	0	0
394	100%	0	0	0	0
397	89%	1	11	0	0
391	86%	1	14	0	0
344	100%	0	0	0	0
323	100%	0	0	0	0
410	100%	0	0	0	0
322	100%	0	0	0	0
409	100%	0	0	0	0
386	100%	0	0	0	0

Mission Folder

SECRET

CONSOLIDATED MISSION STATISTICS

18 March 1945



A/C Off		
A/C Bombing		
A/C Failing to Bomb		
A/C Recalled (Weather)		
Other		
Window 42		
Bombs of 5 A/C Unaccounted for	47	
Total		748

Bombs on Enemy Territory	1,120,175
Total Bombs to Date	128,505,850

A/C Lost (1, 387 BG; 2(A-26), 416 BG; 3, 322 BG)	6	
A/C Missing (2(A-26), 416 BG; 1, 397 BG)	3	
A/C Crash-Landed	0	
A/C Battle Damaged	93	(12.54%)
Killed	18	
Wounded	4	
Missing	22	
Injured	0	
Claims	0	

SECRET

PUBLIC RELATIONS

PRESS RELEASE

NINTH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION HEADQUARTERS, France, March 18 —Attacking in anticipation of a possible enemy withdrawal from the "Saarbrücken squeeze" of U. S. Third and Seventh Armies, large forces of medium bombers Sunday struck heavily at the railroad yards and main road intersections in the city of Worms, on the west bank of the Rhine.

Two-hundred Marauders and Invaders carried out the offensive, dropping 400 tons of high explosives on the strategically-located transportation center, while nearly 175 other bombers hammered a rail yard at Wetzlar to slow the movement of reinforcements and supplies to the Remagen bridgehead area. A separate attack by a small Invader force on the Biskirchen communications center, 16 miles west of Wetzlar, completed the mid-day operations by a total of approximately 400 Ninth Bombardment Division aircraft.

of weather

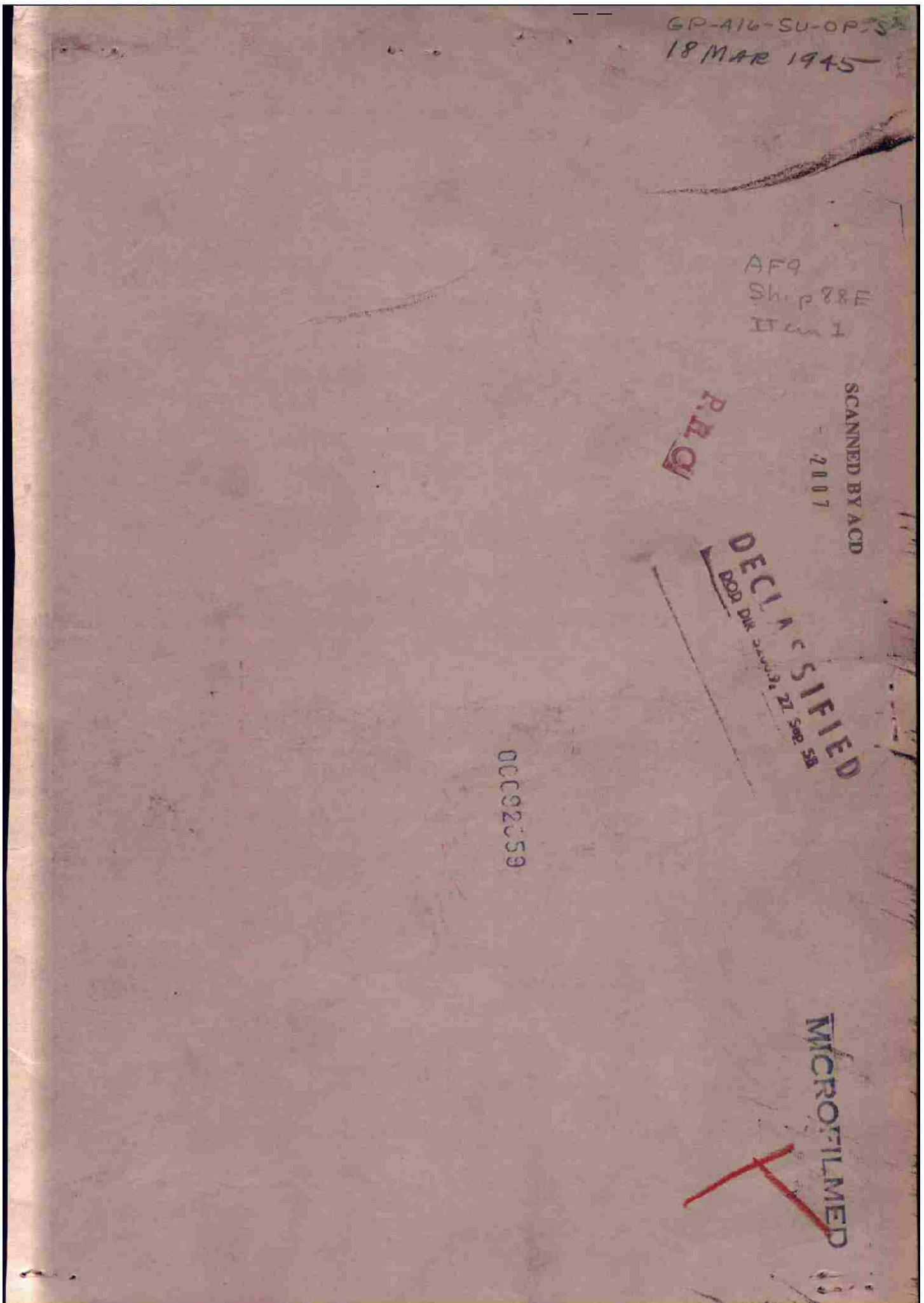
The bomber forces encountered a variety over the two main objectives. At Worms, clouds dispersed at zero hour, and the bombers dropped visually with good to excellent results. Over Wetzlar, dense clouds persisted and attacks were carried out with the aid of pathfinder technique. Flak was moderate at the latter target, but intense at Worms. Four bombers failed to return.

Describing the attack against the Worms rail and road centers, Marauder and Invader crews reported their bombs set off large explosions in the marshalling yards and caused further damage to the town proper. A city of 47,000 population, Worms recently had been gutted by fires as a result of an R. A. F. night attack, but main roads and rail lines were still intact prior to today's assault by Ninth bombers. Other eye-witness accounts by medium bomber crews Sunday indicated a heavy concentration of bomb bursts blanketed a major part of the rail yards, badly needed by the enemy in withdrawing his forces from a possible trap in the Saarbrücken area.

At Wetzlar, medium and light bombers started fires and at least one large explosion in the rail yards, located at a junction of main lines leading from Giessen to Coblenz and Bonn. With smaller rail yards between there and Remagen largely unserviceable as a result of previous bomber blows, traffic through the Wetzlar yards has been greatly increased in recent weeks. Object of today's attacks was to destroy rail lines and rolling stock in the yards, thereby blocking the movement of enemy troops and equipment to the Remagen fighting front.

Throughout the entire operations Sunday, the Luftwaffe failed to appear against the bomber formations.

-30- News room 1430, Press Camp 1515



THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

WAR DEPARTMENT

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

