IRIS Public Record

Key Information

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GP-416-SEC-OPS
17 Nov 1944

A-26
MISSION REPORTS
FOLDER NO. 1

MISSION NO.	F.O. NO.	DATE
159	634	17 NOV. 44
160	635	18 NOV. 44
161	636	19 NOV. 44
162	637	19 NOV. 44
163	649	29 NOV. 44
164	653	2 DEC. 44
165	656	5 DEC. 44
166	658	6 DEC. 44
167	661	8 DEC. 44
168	662	9 DEC. 44
169	663	9 DEC. 44
170	667	12 DEC. 44

SECRET
By authority
GO, 9th A-55
29 November 1944
Init.

R Fitz

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

APO 140, U.S. Army,
29 November 1944.

SUBJECT: Report of Combat Mission.

TO : Commanding General, 97th Combat Wing, APO 140, U.S. Army.

416th Bombardment Group (L).
181st Combat Mission, 29 November 1944.
97th CW FO 60-636.

1. 7 A-20K
41 A-26B

2. 6 A-20K
41 A-26B

3. 8 A-20K
39 A-26B

4. None.

5. 2 A-20

6. 41-31918
Major O. Barrie — No bombs released. Faulty right bomb door safety switch.

41-35310
Lt. J.F. Smith — Bombs failed to release in salvoing on train at target. Salvoed on range. Cause under investigation.

43-27300
Lt. F.E.R. Sherman — Bombs failed to release in salvoing on train at target. Salvoed on range. Cause under investigation.

7. None as above in addition to the following:

41-35217
Lt. C.A. Murphy — Stations 7A and 8A failed to release. Trip switches on stations 7 and 8 not re-set.

41-35214
Lt. J.J. Kachevich — Stations 7A and 8A failed to release. Trip switches on stations 7 and 8 not re-set.

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41-39209 Lt. M. Ruben	Station 8A failed to release. Station not cocked by loading personnel.
41-39214 Lt. J.J. Chalmers	Station 7A failed to release. Faulty A-4 release unit plug assembly.
41-39259 Lt. J.K. Colquitt	Station 8A failed to release. Faulty A-4 release unit plug assembly.
41-39242 Lt. M.W. DuBose	Station 7A failed to release. Trip screw on A-4 release unit on station 7 not re-set.
41-39244 Lt. W.F. Tripp	Stations 7A and 8A failed to release. Bomb bay doors were closed before all bombs were released, cutting out circuit to bomb bay.
43-2[illegible]34 Lt. L.H. McBride	Stations 7A and 8A failed to release at target. Salvoed at range. Bomb bay doors closed before all bombs were released, cutting out circuit to bomb bay.
41-39227 Lt. J.P. Hillerman	Station 8A failed to release. Trip screw on A-4 release unit on station 8A not re-set.
41-39215 Lt. F.[illegible]. Berensky	Stations 7A and 8A failed to release. Trip screws on A-4 release unit not re-set.

5. None.

For the Commanding Officer:

GEORGE SCHERMERHORN,
Captain, Air Corps,
Adjutant.

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ANNEX "A" BOMBING INFORMATION

IX B.C. FIELD ORDER NO. 636

BOX 1 Flt 1 GROUP 416 DATE 19 Nov, 1944 TARGET ATTACKED Nerrig

1. Method of Sighting:

Pre-set with corrections.

2. Bombing approach:
111°

3. Was mercury erection system used? YES____ NO X

4. Did entire (xxxx) (flight) drop on lead bombardier? YES X NO____

In either case explain fully method of sighting and dropping of bombs, and specify exact aiming point actually used:
Pre-set with corrections. Aimed at briefed aiming point in area.
C-1 Auto pilot was not used.

5. Name of lead Bombardier: Lt. A.H. Hand

6. Name of lead Pilot: Maj. R.F. Price

7. Intervalometer setting: 300 ft
8. Indicated Air Speed: 210 Ground Speed: 270 Altitude: 6200
9. Length of bomb run: 30 Sec:
10. Bomb Load and Fusing per A/C: 8 x 250 lb. FUSED 1/10 N 1/100 T
11. Total Bombs Dropped: 48

12. Full statement of all factors affecting bombing - including: -

(a) Did weather conditions or visibility adversely affect identification of target attacked or bombing. YES____ NO X. If "YES" state conditions and effect:

(b) Apart from weather or visibility, was any difficulty encountered in identifying target attacked, IP or AP? YES____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state circumstances and effect on bombing:

(c) Did Flak affect bombing? YES____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state to what extent did Flak affect bombing or bomb run:

(d) To what extent did attacks by enemy aircraft affect bombing?
None

(e) State any difficulties on bombing run:
None

(f) Malfunctions, personnel errors or other factors affecting bombing:
None

(g) Bombing results as reported by crews:

Aimed at right Target: YES X NO____

Results claimed: EXCEL ____ GOOD____ FAIR____ POOR____ GROSS____

A.B. In target area.

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ANNEX "A" BOMBING INFORMATION

IX B.C. FIELD ORDER NO. 696

BOX Flt 2 GROUP 416 DATE 19 Nov. 1944 TARGET ATTACKED Mersig

1. Method of Sighting:
Pre-set with corrections.

2. Bombing approach:
100°

3. Was mercury erection system used? YES____ NO X

4. Did entire ~~(box)~~ (flight) drop on lead bombardier? YES X NO____

In either case explain fully method of sighting and dropping of bombs, and specify exact aiming point actually used:
Pre-set with corrections. Aimed at briefed aiming point.
C-1 Auto pilot was not used.

5. Name of lead Bombardier: Lt. R.E. Joost

6. Name of lead Pilot: Capt. R.S. Rudisill

7. Intervalometer setting: 300 ft
8. Indicated Air Speed: 210 Ground Speed: 273 Altitude: 6700
9. Length of bomb run: 40 Sec:
10. Bomb Load and Fusing per A/C: 8 x 250 lb. FUSED 1/10 N 1/100 T
11. Total Bombs Dropped: 46

12. Full statement of all factors affecting bombing - including: -

(a) Did weather conditions or visibility adversely affect identification of target attacked or bombing. YES____ NO X. If "YES" state conditions and effect.

(b) Apart from weather or visibility, was any difficulty encountered in identifying target attacked, IP or AP? YES____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state circumstances and effect on bombing:

(c) Did Flak affect bombing? YES____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state to what extent did Flak affect bombing or bomb run:

(d) To what extent did attacks by enemy aircraft affect bombing?
None

(e) State any difficulties on bombing run:
None

(f) Malfunctions, personnel errors or other factors affecting bombing:
None

(g) Bombing results as reported by crews:

Aimed at right Target: YES X NO____

Results claimed: EXCEL ____ GOOD____ FAIR____ POOR____ GROSS____

A.B. In Target Area

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ANNEX "A" BOMBING INFORMATION

IX B.C. FIELD ORDER NO. 636

BOX 1 Flt 3 GROUP 416 DATE 19 Nov. 1944 TARGET ATTACKED Hornig

1. Method of Sighting:

Pre-set with corrections.

2. Bombing approach:
080°

3. Was mercury erection system used? YES____ NO X

4. Did entire ~~(box)~~ (flight) drop on lead bombardier? YES X NO____

In either case explain fully method of sighting and dropping of bombs, and specify exact aiming point actually used:
Pre-set with corrections. Aimed at briefed aiming point.
C-1 Auto pilot was not used.

5. Name of lead Bombardier: Lt. D.G. Ackerson

6. Name of lead Pilot: Capt. R.G. Atkinson

7. Intervalometer setting: 300 ft
8. Indicated Air Speed: 210 Ground Speed: 269 Altitude: 5800
9. Length of bomb run: 10 Sec:
10. Bomb Load and Fusing per A/C: 8 x 250 lb. FUSED 1/10 N 1/100 T
11. Total Bombs Dropped: 43

12. Full statement of all factors affecting bombing - including: -

(a) Did weather conditions or visibility adversely affect identification of target attacked or bombing. YES____ NO X. If "YES" state conditions and effect.

(b) Apart from weather or visibility, was any difficulty encountered in identifying target attacked, IP or AP? YES____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state circumstances and effect on bombing:

(c) Did Flak affect bombing? YES____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state to what extent did Flak affect bombing or bomb run:

(d) To what extent did attacks by enemy aircraft affect bombing?
None

(e) State any difficulties on bombing run:
None

(f) Malfunctions, personnel errors or other factors affecting bombing:
None

(g) Bombing results as reported by crews:

Aimed at right Target: YES X NO____

Results claimed: EXCEL ____ GOOD____ FAIR____ POOR____ GROSS____

A.B. In Target Area.

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ANNEX "A" BOMBING INFORMATION

IX B.C. FIELD ORDER NO. 636

BOX 2 Flt 1 GROUP 416 DATE 19 Nov., 1944 TARGET ATTACKED Bahrain

1. Method of Sighting:

Pre-set with corrections.

2. Bombing approach:

3. Was mercury erection system used? YES____ NO X

4. Did entire (~~box~~) (flight) drop on lead bombardier? YES X NO____

In either case explain fully method of sighting and dropping of bombs, and specify exact aiming point actually used:

Pre-set with corrections. Aimed at briefed aiming point. The target area was covered by smoke by the time this flight arrived and the B/N had to estimate where the exact A.P. was. Very short run due to this.
G-1 Auto pilot was not used.

5. Name of lead Bombardier: Lt. H. Forma

6. Name of lead Pilot: Capt. A.T. Osborne

7. Intervalometer setting: 300 ft
8. Indicated Air Speed: 210 Ground Speed: 270 Altitude: 6000
9. Length of bomb run: 10 Sec:
10. Bomb Load and Fusing per A/C: 8 x 250 lb. FUSED 1/30 N 1/100 T
11. Total Bombs Dropped: 38

12. Full statement of all factors affecting bombing - including: -

(a) Did weather conditions or visibility adversely affect identification of target attacked or bombing. YES X NO ____. If "YES" state conditions and effect.
Smoke covered target area. B/N had to estimate where A.P. was

(b) Apart from weather or visibility, was any difficulty encountered in identifying target attacked, IP or AP? YES____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state circumstances and effect on bombing:

(c) Did Flak affect bombing? YES____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state to what extent did Flak affect bombing or bomb run:

(d) To what extent did attacks by enemy aircraft affect bombing?
None

(e) State any difficulties on bombing run:
None other than smoke as stated above.

(f) Malfunctions, personnel errors or other factors affecting bombing:
None

(g) Bombing results as reported by crews:

Aimed at right Target: YES X NO____

Results claimed: EXCEL ____ GOOD____ FAIR____ POOR____ GROSS____

A.B. Out of target area

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ANNEX "A" BOMBING INFORMATION

IX B.C. FIELD ORDER NO. 636

BOX 2 Flt 2 GROUP 416 DATE 19 Nov. 1944 TARGET ATTACKED Merzig

1. Method of Sighting:
Pre-set with corrections.

2. Bombing approach:
035°

3. Was mercury erection system used? YES____ NO X

4. Did entire (~~box~~) (flight) drop on lead bombardier? YES X NO____

In either case explain fully method of sighting and dropping of bombs, and specify exact aiming point actually used:

Pre-set with corrections. Aimed attrieted aiming point.
C-1 Auto pilot was not used.

5. Name of lead Bombardier: Lt. J.L. Corum

6. Name of lead Pilot: Lt. H. F. Fair

7. Intervalometer setting: 300 ft
8. Indicated Air Speed: 210 Ground Speed: 272 Altitude: 6500
9. Length of bomb run: 40 Sec:
10. Bomb Load and Fusing per A/C: 8 x 250 lb. FUSED 1/10 N 1/100 T
11. Total Bombs Dropped: 53

12. Full statement of all factors affecting bombing - including: -

(a) Did weather conditions or visibility adversely affect identification of target attacked or bombing. YES____ NO X. If "YES" state conditions and effect.

(b) Apart from weather or visibility, was any difficulty encountered in identifying target attacked, IP or AP? YES____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state circumstances and effect on bombing:

(c) Did Flak affect bombing? YES____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state to what extent did Flak affect bombing or bomb run:

(d) To what extent did attacks by enemy aircraft affect bombing?
None

(e) State any difficulties on bombing run:
None

(f) Malfunctions, personnel errors or other factors affecting bombing:
None

(g) Bombing results as reported by crews:

Aimed at right Target: YES X NO____

Results claimed: EXCEL ____ GOOD____ FAIR____ POOR____ GROSS____

A.B. In Target Area

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S E C R E T

ANNEX "A" BOMBING INFORMATION

IX B.C. FIELD ORDER NO. 636

BOX 2 Flt 3 GROUP 416 DATE 19 Nov. 1944 TARGET ATTACKED Merzig

1. Method of Sighting:
Pre-set with corrections.

2. Bombing approach:
085

3. Was mercury erection system used? YES____ NO X

4. Did entire (~~show~~) (flight) drop on lead bombardier? YES X NO____

In either case explain fully method of sighting and dropping of bombs, and specify exact aiming point actually used:
Smoke from previous bombing obscured the briefed target. B/N misidentified the target area due to this and bombed an area short of the briefed one. The mistake was a combination of poor visibility, misidentification of target and a very short bomb run.

5. Name of lead Bombardier: Lt. R.J. Bassett

6. Name of lead Pilot: Capt. H.P. Cole

7. Intervalometer setting: 300 ft
8. Indicated Air Speed: 210 Ground Speed: 270 Altitude: 5800
9. Length of bomb run: 10 Sec:
10. Bomb Load and Fusing per A/C: 8 x 250 lb. FUSED 1/10 N 1/100 T
11. Total Bombs Dropped: 48

12. Full statement of all factors affecting bombing - including: -

(a) Did weather conditions or visibility adversely affect identification of target attacked or bombing. YES X NO ____. If "YES" state conditions and affect.
Smoke from previous bombing obscured target.

(b) Apart from weather or visibility, was any difficulty encountered in identifying target attacked, IP or AP? YES X NO____. If answer is "YES", state circumstances and effect on bombing:
Area bombed was identical to briefed area outwest of it.

(c) Did Flak affect bombing? YES____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state to what extent did Flak affect bombing or bomb run:

(d) To what extent did attacks by enemy aircraft affect bombing?
None

(e) State any difficulties on bombing run:
Smoke in area.

(f) Malfunctions, personnel errors or other factors affecting bombing:
B/N misidentified target. Bombed wrong area.

(g) Bombing results as reported by crews: X

Aimed at right Target: YES____ NO____

Results claimed: EXCEL ____ GOOD ____ FAIR ____ POOR ____ GROSS ____
A.B. Out of Target Area

S E C R E T

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S E C R E T

ANNEX "A" BOMBING INFORMATION

IX B.C. FIELD ORDER NO. 626

BOX 3 Flt 1 GROUP 416 DATE 19 Nov. 1944 TARGET ATTACKED Merzig

1. Method of Sighting:

Pre-set with corrections.

2. Bombing approach: 085

3. Was mercury erection system used? YES____ NO X

4. Did entire (flight) drop on lead bombardier? YES X NO____

In either case explain fully method of sighting and dropping of bombs, and specify exact aiming point actually used:
Pre-set with corrections. Aimed at briefed aiming point.

C-1 Auto pilot wasnot used.

5. Name of lead Bombardier: Lt. R. Conte

6. Name of lead Pilot: Capt. D.A. Rulso

7. Intervalometer setting: 300 ft.
8. Indicated Air Speed: 210 Ground Speed: 272 Altitude: 6200
9. Length of bomb run: 40 Sec:
10. Bomb Load and Fusing per A/C: 8 x 250 lb. FUSED 1/10 N 1/200 T
11. Total Bombs Dropped: 32

12. Full statement of all factors affecting bombing - including: -

(a) Did weather conditions or visibility adversely affect identification of target attacked or bombing. YES X NO ____. If "YES" state conditions and effect.
Smoke covered target area.

(b) Apart from weather or visibility, was any difficulty encountered in identifying target attacked, IP or AP? YES____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state circumstances and effect on bombing:

(c) Did Flak affect bombing? YES____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state to what extent did Flak affect bombing or bomb run:

(d) To what extent did attacks by enemy aircraft affect bombing?
None

(e) State any difficulties on bombing run:
None

(f) Malfunctions, personnel errors or other factors affecting bombing:
None

(g) Bombing results as reported by crews:

Aimed at right Target: YES X NO____

Results claimed: EXCEL ____ GOOD____ FAIR____ POOR____ GROSS____

A.B. Undet No strike photos

S E C R E T

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S E C R E T

ANNEX "A" BOMBING INFORMATION

IX B.C. FIELD ORDER NO. ___

BOX 3 Flt 2 GROUP 416 DATE 19 Nov. 1944 TARGET ATTACKED Merzig

1. Method of Sighting:

Pre- set with corrections.

2. Bombing approach:
085

3. Was mercury erection system used? YES ____ NO X

4. Did entire ~~(box)~~ (flight) drop on lead bombardier? YES X NO ____

In either case explain fully method of sighting and dropping of bombs, and specify exact aiming point actually used:

Pre-set with corrections. Smoke obscured the target area. B/N aimed into smoke that had drifted North of the target, thinking that the area was beneath the smoke.
C-1 Auto Pilot was not used.

5. Name of lead Bombardier: Lt. J.R. Nichols

6. Name of lead Pilot: Lt. W.J. Greene

7. Intervalometer setting: 300 ft
8. Indicated Air Speed: 210 Ground Speed: 271 Altitude: 6100
9. Length of bomb run: 20 Sec:
10. Bomb Load and Fusing per A/C: 8 x 250 lb. FUSED 1/10 N 1/100 T
11. Total Bombs Dropped: 45

12. Full statement of all factors affecting bombing - including: -

(a) Did weather conditions or visibility adversely affect identification of target attacked or bombing. YES X NO ____. If "YES" state conditions and effect.
Smoke in area. B/N aimed into smoke that had drifted North of area.

(b) Apart from weather or visibility, was any difficulty encountered in identifying target attacked, IP or AP? YES ____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state circumstances and effect on bombing:

(c) Did Flak affect bombing? YES ____ NO X. If answer is "YES", state to what extent did Flak affect bombing or bomb run:

(d) To what extent did attacks by enemy aircraft affect bombing?
None

(e) State any difficulties on bombing run:
None

(f) Malfunctions, personnel errors or other factors affecting bombing:

None

(g) Bombing results as reported by crews:

Aimed at right Target: YES ____ NO X

Results claimed: EXCEL ____ GOOD ____ FAIR ____ POOR ____ GROSS ____

A.B. Out of Target Area.

S E C R E T

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MISSION NO. 161 — LOADING LIST — 19 NOVEMBER 1944

BOX I

FLIGHT I

1. 081 (~~093~~) f
Major R.F. Price
Lt. A.R. Hand
a S/S J.R. Roberts 350
S/S S.L. Heitell

2. 213 A
Lt. T.D. McCready
a S/S D.R. Schenck * 320

3. 218 C
Lt. W.L. Hale
a Sgt J.F. Geyer 450

4. 216 Q
Lt. C.C. Mish
c Lt. R.E. Shaft 425
S/S R.F. Chustz

5. 269 K
Lt. O.F. Jacobson
a Sgt H.L. Gooch 420

6. 317 O
Lt. W.W. Annin
a Sgt C.J. Rivard * 400

FLIGHT II

1. 073 J
Capt. R.S. Rudisill
Lt. R.H. Joost
c S/S R.F. Stobert H* 480
Sgt S.R. Caudell

2. 212 K
Lt. R.B. Hall
c S/S L.G. Burger 500

3. 315 L
Capt. R.O. Gruetzemacher 470 returned
c S/S S.J. Majewski

4. 224 E
Lt. C.L. McGlohn 440
c S/S I. Binney

5. 334 G
Lt. J.C. Sewell
c S/S D.A. Sampson * 430

6. 217 I
Lt. T.A. Murphy
c S/S L.W. O'Connell * 420

FLIGHT III

1. 076 Q
Capt. P.G. Atkinson
Lt. D.G. Ackerson
c Sgt L.R. Friday H* 460 returned
Sgt J.L. Collier

2. 324 O
Lt. L.R. McBride 490 returned
c S/S J. McKee

3. 223 B
Lt. N.G. Brown
c Sgt P.F. Glynn * 450 returned

4. 227 F
Lt. J.P. Hillerman
c S/S F.P. Glynn 460

5. 307 N
Lt. J.R. Warren 430
c Sgt C.C. Stroup

6. 215 R
Lt. P.P. Barausky
c S/S M. Hall * 460

EXXXX

MISSION NO. 161
19 NOVEMBER 1944
BOX I

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MISSION NO. 161 — LOADING LIST — 19 NOVEMBER 1944

BOX II

FLIGHT I

1. 108 M
Capt. A.E. Osborne
Lt. W. Forma
S/S K.G. Lagerman
S/S J.R. Simmonds

2. 219 E
Major C. Ferris
Sgt R.J. Rio
Lt.Col. J.B. McAfee

3. 214 B
Lt. J.J. Chalmers
Sgt K. Fortner

4. 259 H
Lt. J.K. Colquitt
S/S D.E. Raines *

5. 264 I
Lt. P.E. Parker
S/S B. Kochan

6. 233 F
Lt. J.P. Kenny
Sgt J.J. Sittarich *

FLIGHT II

1. 089 R
Lt. H.F. Pair
Lt. J.L. Corum
S/S H.A. Marion
S/S V.P. Adams

2. 284 C
Lt. J.J. Lackovich
Lt. E.C. Francis
Pvt R.M. Barry

3. 234 P
Lt. J.A. Buskirk
S/S C.H. Corbitt *

4. 209 M
Lt. M. Zubon
Cpl V.F. Gross

5. 249 F
Lt. A.J.P. Winn
Cpl W.G. Davis

6. 313 B
Lt. D.A. Fero
Sgt A.A. Rojas

FLIGHT III

1. 560 X
Capt. H.P. Cole
Lt. R.J. Basnett
S/S F.R. Chvatal *
S/S B.G. Fandre

2. 239 N
Lt. C.J. Brown
Lt. J.E. Kerns
S/S H.E. Sunderland

3. 210 J
Lt. A.E. Herman
S/S J.C. Young

4. 211 K
Lt. R.D. Perkins
S/S A.E. DiMartino

5. 237 D
Lt. H.D. Andrews
S/S O.E. Swank *

6. 265 V
Lt. R.H. Smith
S/S H.R. Davis

SPARE

235 M
Lt.Col. H.A. Radetsky
Capt. R.A. Fontaine
Sgt F. Elliott

MISSION NO. 161
19 NOVEMBER 1944
BOX II

THIS PAGE DECLASSIFIED IAW EO12958

MISSION NO. 161 — LOADING LIST — 19 NOVEMBER 1944

BOX III
FLIGHT I

1. 024 E
Capt. D.A. Hulse
B Lt. R. Conte 455
S/S F.D. Allred H *
S/S D.W. Stephens

2. 292 H
B Lt. E.E. DeMun
S/S W.W. Donnelly 520

3. 300 F
B Lt. P.F.E. MacManus 500
S/SG.I. Fleischmann

4. 337 D
B Lt. R.H. Cornell 590
Lt. R.E. Enman
Cpl K.A. Reid

5. 240 K
B Lt. J.F. Smith 560
S/S C. Vafiadis *

6. 229 B
B Lt. J.W. Kehoe
Lt. J.W. Britt * 450
S/S C.L. Webb

FLIGHT II

1. 075 J
B Lt. W.J. Greene 440
Lt. J.R. Nichols
S/S J.E. Van Duyne H *
S/S H.C. Rodgers

2. 232 A
B Lt. M.S. Street
S/S R.P. Sharp 475

3. 241 F
B Capt. B.D. Stebbins
Lt. A.S. Galloway 540
S/S W.J. Brown

4. 242 Q
B Lt. M.W. DuBose
Lt. B.K. Berger 470
Sgt D.L. Griffin

5. 244 I
B Lt. W.F. Tripp 475
S/S J.C. Scott *

6. 344 C
B Lt. D.W. Sorrels 525
Sgt H.I. Triber

17

MISSION NO. 161
19 NOVEMBER 1944
BOX III

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1:500,000

SECRET

Second + Third
Run - - - -
Flown — -

Heavy + Light
Weak Inaccurate
Flak

7°20'E

49°30'N

Merzig

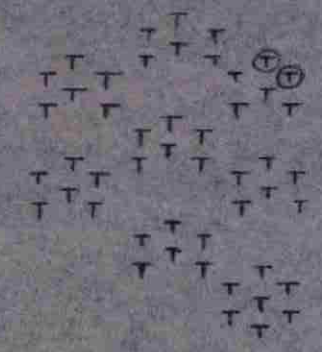
Thionville

Target

TP
+
RP

"PIE PLATE" FLAK
PHENOMENA REPORTED
IN TARGET AREA.

416th Bomb Gp. (L)
19 Nov. 1944 F.O. 60-636
Target - Area "C"
Alt. 6,000' T.O.T. 1037 - 1046
Weather: Cloud Base at 6,000'.



Cat "A" ⊕

FLIGHTS WHICH MADE SHORTEST TURN
OFF TARGET RECEIVED FEWEST BURSTS.
BURSTS REPORTED TO COME IN "FOURS."
TRACER BROKE ABOUT 200-300 FEET
BELOW FORMATION.

48°50'E

5°50'E

SECRET

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Mission #161 Box I 19 Nov 1944

SQDN	A/C LTR	A/C NO.	PILOT	DISTANCE	TARGET	ATO	ENG. COAST OUT	ENEMY COAST IN	TOT	ENEMY COAST OUT	ENG. COAST IN	CAMERA	FUEL LOAD	BOMB LOAD	ENDUR	LAND TIME	REMARKS
a	P	081	Price			0932										1149	
a	a	213	McCready			0930										1150	
a	c	218	Hale			0930										1150	
c	Q	216	Mish			0929										1151	
a	K	269	Jacobsen			0930										1152	
a	O	317	Annin			0930										1152	
c	J	073	Rudisill			0922										1153	
c	K-1	212	Hall			0927										1155	
c	L	315	Fruetzemacher			0923										1155	
c	E	224	McGehee			0923										1156	
c	B	334	Sewell			0923										1156	
c	D	217	Murphy			0936										1157	
c	Q	076	Atkinson			0924										1157	
c	O	324	McBride			0925										1221	
c	B	223	Brown			0924										1158	
c	F	227	Hillerman			0925										1159	
c	N	307	Warren			0925										1159	
c	R	215	Baranosky			0925										1226	

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Mission #161 Box II 19 Nov. 1944

SQDN	A/C LTR	A/C NO.	PILOT	DISTANCE	TARGET	ATO	ENG. COAST OUT	ENEMY COAST IN	TOT	ENEMY COAST OUT	ENG. COAST IN	CAMERA	FUEL LOAD	BOMB LOAD	ENDUR	LANDING TIME	REMARKS
a	M	108	Osborne			0931										1200	
[illegible]	E	219	Ferris			0931										1202	
a	B	214	Chalmers			0931										1210	
a	H	259	Colquitt			0932										1201	
a	L	264	Parker			0932										1201	
a	F	233	Kenny			0932										1202	
D	R	089	Fair			0933										1203	
D	C	284	Lackovich			0933										1231	
D	P	234	Buckirk			0933										1204	
D	M	209	Zuban			0934										1211	
D	F	249	Flinn			0934										1205	
D	B	313	Fero			0934										1203	
[illegible]	L	560	Cole			0935										1206	
D	N	239	Brown			0935										1207	
D	J	210	Herman			0935										1219	
D	K	211	Perkins			0936										1208	
D	D	237	Andrews			0936										1209	
D	V	265	Smith, R.H.			0936										1210	
D	M	235	Radetsky			0959										1153	

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Mission #161 Box III 19 Nov 1944

SQDN	A/C LTR	A/C NO.	PILOT	DISTANCE	TARGET	ATO	ENG. COAST OUT	ENEMY COAST IN	TOT	ENEMY COAST OUT	ENG. COAST IN	CAMERA	FUEL LOAD	BOMB LOAD	ENDUR	LAND TIME	REMARKS
B	E	024	Hulse			0926										1211	
B	H	292	DeMun			0926										1212	
B	P	300	MacManus			0926										1225	
B	D	337	Cornell			0927										1213	
B	K	240	Smith, J.F.			0927										1233	
B	B	229	Kehoe			0927										1215	
B	Q	075	Greene			0927										1205	
B	A	232	Street			0928										1216	
B	F	241	Stebbins			0928										1205	
B	Q	242	DuBose			0928										1251	
B	L	244	Tripp			0929										1205	
B	C	344	Sorrels			0929										1206	

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Mission 161 19 Nov. '44

SHIP NO	SQUADRON	PILOT and/or BOMBADIER	GUNNER	MALFUNCTIONS	CAUSES OF MALFUNCTIONS
219	A	Ferris	– "	Pilot was unable to release bombs in Train or salvo. all Bombs returned	Right bomb door safety switch faulty.
14	A	Chalmers	– "	Station 7A failed to release –	Faulty A-4 release unit mating plug assembly.
259	A	Calquitt	– "	Sta. 8A. failed to release	Same ↑
300	B	MacMannus	– "	Bombs failed to release in sufficient time on Train at Target. Salvoed on Range	Undetermined – Still under investigation
240	B	Smith	– "		Same ↑
242	B	Dubose	– "	Sta. 7A failed to release	Trip screw on A-4 release unit on Sta. 7 not reset.
244	B	Triff	– "	Sta. 7A + 8A failed to release	Bomb bay doors were closed before all bombs were released cutting out circuit to bomb bay.
324	C	McBride	– "	Sta. 7A and 8A failed to release at Target – Salvoed at Range.	Bomb bay doors closed before all bombs were released cutting out circuit to bomb bay.
227	C	Hillerman	– "	Sta. 8A failed to release	Trip screws on A-4 release unit on Sta. 8 not re-set.
215	C	Barausky	– "	Sta. 7A + 8A. failed to release.	Same ↑

William G. McDonald
Capt. A.C.

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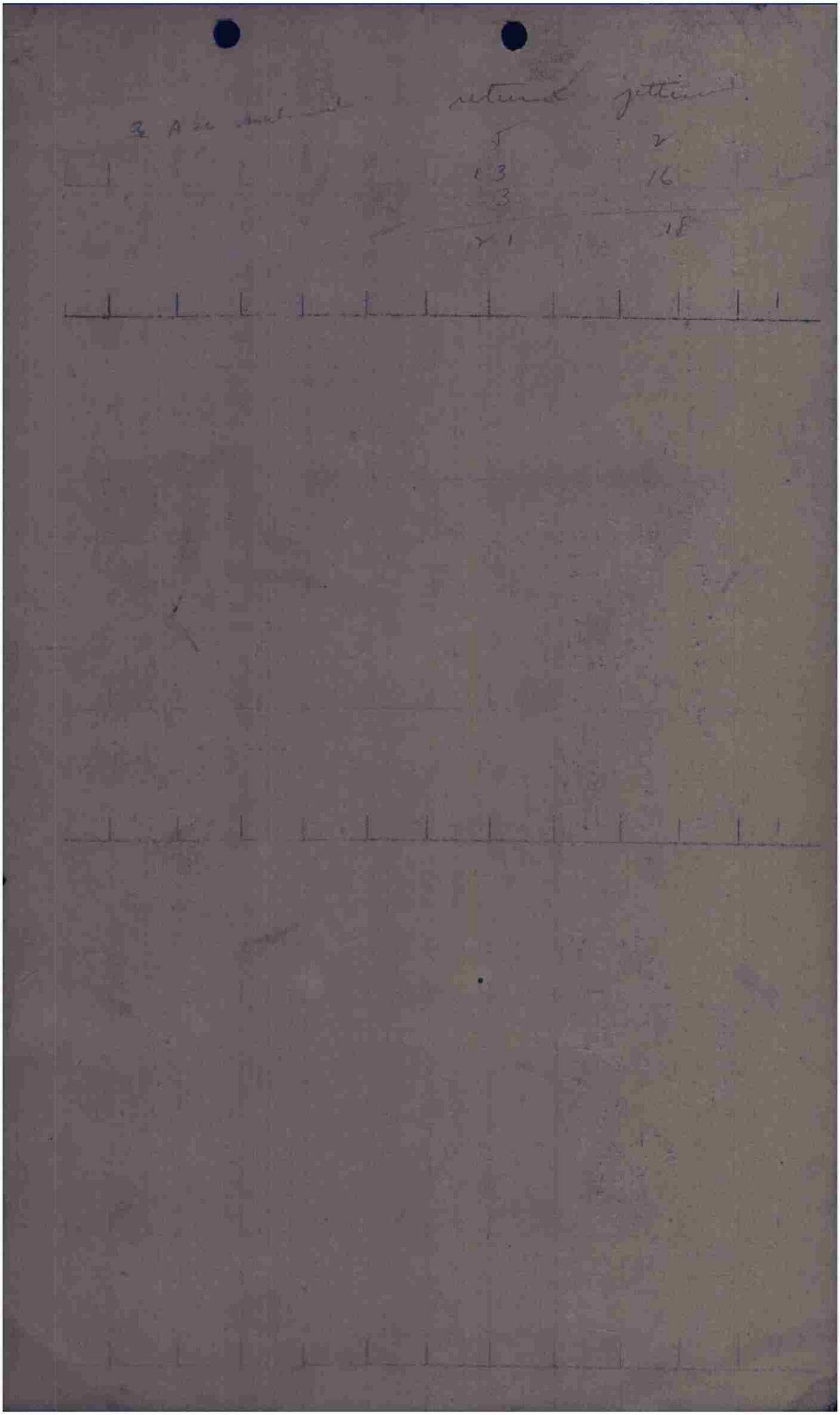

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MISSION NO. 161 ARMAMENT INTERROGATION AND MALFUNCTIONS FORM DATE 19 Nov. 44

SHIP NO	SQUADRON	PILOT and/or BOMBARDIER	GUNNERS	NO. BOMBS DROPPED	Malfunction NO. BOMBS RETURNED	Cause REMARKS	TURRET AND TUNNEL GUN STATUS	NOSE GUN STATUS
217	C	Murphy		"	Sta. 7A + 8A failed to release	Trip screws on Stas. 7 + 8 not re-set.		
284	D	Lichevich		"	Stas. 7A + 8A failed to release	Trip screw on Stas. 8 + 7 not re-set.		
309	D	Zuber		"	Sta. 8A failed to release	Station not cocked by loading personnel		

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OIITA OIJJF OIJES OIJPO OIJKI V OIJEA OIJEA 10/19 OP - OP
T-(OIITA PASS TO OIJJF)

FROM: 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 19/0340A N-172-E
TO : IX BOMBER DIV.
409TH BOMB GROUP.
410TH BOMB GROUP.
416TH BOMB GROUP.
1ST PATHFINDER SQDN. (PROV)

N-397

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

97TH COMBAT BOMB WING
A P O 140
19 NOVEMBER 1944

FIELD ORDER NO. 60-636

MAPS: NORMAL

1. B. (1) REF. CURRENT BOMBLINE.
(2) XII T.A.:. WILL FURNISH CLOSE ESCORT FOR 409TH GROUP AND 410TH GROUP. XIX T.A.C. WILL FURNISH AREA COVER FOR 416TH GROUP.

2. THIS WING WILL ATTACK TARGETS IN GERMANY AND FRANCE.

ZERO HOUR PLAN "A" 19/1000A
ZERO HOUR PLAN "B" 19/1000A

- - PLAN "A" - -

3. A. 409TH BOMB GROUP.
(3) WITH FIGHTERS AT 4842N 0612E AT 12,000 FEET AT ZERO HOUR MINUS 10 MIN.
(9) M.P.I. ILL. PHOTO SORTIE 106G/2451 048,5 3096 ONE FLIGHT ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING REF. 018012, 027015, 047011, 045008, 038006. TWO FLIGHTS ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING REF. 023014, 040009.

B. 410TH BOMB GROUP.
(3) WITH FIGHTERS AT 4842N 0612E AT 12,000 AT ZERO HOUR.
(9) M.P.I. ILL. PHOTO SORTIE 106G/2451 PRINT 3096 ONE FLIGHT ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING REF. 018012, 027015, 047011, 038006, 040009. TWO FLIGHTS ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING REF. 023014, 045008.

C. 416TH BOMB GROUP.
(1) AREA "C" ?97,3 ?6 &48$:994$. Q-203938, Q-210938, Q-203930 Q-210930.
(2) 48 A/C BOMBING BY FLIGHTS OF 6
(4) BASE TO I.P. TO TARGET.
(5) TARGET TURN LEFT TO R.P. TO BASE.
(6) BOMB 12,000 FEET OR BELOW CLOUD BASE DOWN TO BUT NOT BELOW 6,000 FEET. LOOSE 1,000 FEET UPON LEAVING TARGET AREA.
(7) 4922N 0610E
(8) GEN. SW TO NE
(9) A.P. ILL. PHOTO U.S. 31/2679 13 SEP. 44. 048,5 ,9. 2070 2 FLIGHTS ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING REF. 043057, 046062, 049068. 7.. PHOTO 31/2679 13 SEP. 44 048,5 ,9. 1069 2 FLIGHTS ON REF. 011044. FLIGHT LEADERS WILL SALVO THEIR BOMBS ON A.P. AND REMAINDER OF FLIGHT WILL RELEASE BOMBS ON FLIGHT LEADERS WITH INTEVALOMETER SETTING OF 100 YDS.
(10) 8 X 250)?. &. P. FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE 1/100 SEC. TAIL.
(11) 4922N 0610E
(12) T.O.T. "349 974 0)7 30 MIN.
(13) IN THE EVENT PRIMARY TARGET CANNOT BE BOMBED, FORMATION WILL CONTINUE ON COURSE FROM I.P. TO TARGET, ONE MINUTE BEYOND TARGET E.T.A. AND RELEASE BOMBS. HOWEVER BOMBS WILL BE RELEASED ONLY IF FORMATION LEADER IS CERTAIN THAT BOMBLINE HAS BEEN CROSSED. IN CASE THE FORMATION OR INDIVIDUAL A/C CANNOT REACH ENEMY TERRITORY, A-26'S WILL JETTISON BOMBS "SAFE" ON THE ARBONNE BOMBING RANGE.
(14) ONE B-26 GROUP WILL BE IN TARGET AREA AT ZERO HOUR PLUS 20 MIN.

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X. (1) TO (4) NO CHANGE.
194 0-4-. 3. A. AND 3. B. ONLY:
(5) TARGET: ZARNHOFF WARE HOUSE Q 739168 AND Q 744168
(6) A/C REQUIRED: 54 BOMBING BY FLIGHTS OF 6
(7) ROUTE OUT: BASE TO 4842N 0612E TO 4834N 06303 59 8.0. TO TARGET.
(8) ROUTE BACK: TARGET TURN RIGHT TO R.P. 59 4834N 0630E TO BASE.
(9) ALTITUDES: BOMB 12,000 FEET OR BELOW CLOUD BASE DOWN TO BUT NOT BELOW 10,000 FEET. LOOSE 1,000 1335 709,)3-;8,& 5-4&35 -43-.
(10) I.P. 4832N 0722E
(11) AXIS OF ATTACK: GEN. S TO N
(12) BOMB LOAD AND FUSING: 6 X 500 LB. G.P. FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE 1/100 SEC. TAIL.
(13) R.P. 4832, 0722E
(14) IN THE EVENT PRIMARY TARGET CANNOT BE ATTACKED TARGETS OF MILITARY VALUE ALONG THE ROUTE BACK BETWEEN THE PRIMARY TARGET AND 4832N 0712E MAY BE ATTACKED.

PLAN "B"

A. 409TH BOMB GROUP.
(1) ZARNHOFF WAREHOUSE Q-739168.
(3) WITH FIGHTERS AT 4942N 0548E AT 12,000 FEET AT ZERO HOUR MINUS 33 MIN.
(4) BASE TO 4942N 0548E TO 4925N 0710E TO 4917N 0710E TO TARGET.
(9) M.P.I. ILL. PHOTO SORTIE 106G/2451 PRINT 3096 REF. 042008. TO BE USED ONLY IF BOMBING IS VISUAL.
(12) T.O.T. ZERO HOUR.

B. 410TH BOMB GROUP.
(1) ZARNHOFF WAREHOUSE Q 744168.
(3) WITH FIGHTERS AT 4942N 0548E AT 12,000 FEET AT ZERO HOUR MINUS 13 MIN.
(4) BASE TO 4942N 0548E TO 4925N 0710E TO 4917N 0712E TO TARGET.
(9) M.P.I. ILL. 0959 94583 106G/2451 PRINT 3096 REF. 023014. TO BE USED ONLY IF BOMBING IS VISUAL.
(12) T.O.T. "349 974 0)7 20 MIN.

X. (1) TO (4) NO CHANGE
(5) A/C REQUIRED: 30 A/C PLUS 2 PPF. A/:.
(6) ROUTE BACK: 5-4&35 48&5 59 4830N 0712E TO 4842N 0612E TO BASE.
(7) ALTITUDES: BOMB 1ST BOX 12,500 FEET, 2ND BOX 12,000 FEET. MINIMUM ALTITUDE FOR VISUAL BOMBING IS 10,000 FEET.
(8) AXIS OF ATTACK: GENERALLY NNW TO SSE.
(9) BOMB LOAD AND FUSING: 6 X 500 LB. G.P. FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE 1/100 SEC. TAIL.
(10) ALTERNATE TARGETS WILL NOT BE ATTACKED.
(11) IN THE EVENT VISUAL CONDITIONS EXIST, BOMBING WILL BE BY VISUAL MEANS. THE DECISION TO BOMB VISUALLY WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE A-20 BOX LEADER AND HE WILL NOTIFY THE P.P.F. 81 0987)3.

4. NO CHANGE.

5. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. 409TH BOMB GROUP. (PLAN A & B)
(2) PROCTOR
(3) GAYLIFE
(5) BAGGAGE

B. 410TH BOMB GROUP. (PLAN A & B)
(2) CORNHILL
(3) BYPASS
(5) BAGGAGE

C. 416TH BOMB GROUP. (PLAN A)
(2) VISION
(3) POKER
(5) RIPSAW

X. GENERAL INFORMATION.
(11) BOX LEADERS WILL REPORT TO F.G.C. STATION 2 MIN. PRIOR TO I.P.
(12) RIPSAW AND BAGGAGE AVAILABLE FOR EMERGENCY HOMING. BAGGAGE REPORTED AS HAVING GOOD FACILITIES.

COMCBTWIG 97

BT 19/0340A
FK/RL AR K

ITA R.....

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ITA JEA V JKI JKI 7/19 OP OP

FROM 416TH BOMB GROUP (L) 19/1421A

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

CONFIDENTIAL BT ~~N-ZZ~~ N-241-D

OPFLASH FOR 19 NOV. 1944

A.-416 BOMB. GP.
B.-AREA C
C.-8 A20. 41 A26
D.-47 ON PRIMARY (8,:)7$8,& 8 A20'S)
E.-2A/C FAILED TO BOMB.-BOTH MECHANICAL FAILURE (RACKS)
F.-327 X 250 ~~XX~~ GP ON PRIMARY (32 X 250 GPS BY A20'S 295 X 250 GPS BY A26'S INCLUDED IN TOTAL OF 327)
8 X 250 JETTISONED ON BOMBING RANGE
25 X 250 RETURNED
G.-BOX 1
FLT. 1 EXCELLENT
FLT. 2 EXCELLENT
FLT. 3 UNKNOWN
BOX 2
FLT 1 UNKNOWN
FLT 2 EXCELLENT
FLT 3 1/4 TO 1/2 MILE SHORT.
BOX 3
FLT 1 EXCELLENT
FLT 2 UNKNOWN
H.-2 DAMAGE CAT. A (INCLUDING 1 A20 AND 1 A26)
I.-NIL
J.-WEAK INACCURATE HEAVY FLAK AT TARGET
WEAK INACCURATE LIGHT FLAK AT TARGET
ELSEWHERE - ,8)
K.-NIL
L.-6000 TO 6200 FT.
M.-1037 - 1046 (ATTACK)
1028 - 1030 (1ST RUNS, NO BOMBS DROPPED. RUN MADE ABOVE CLOUD)
X.-LARGE CONCENTRATION OF "RED NOSE" TRUCKS AT Q1393

CCCC THIRD LINE PART ~~XXXXXXX~~ J.-ELSEWHERE - NIL

BT 1421A
WFG BBBB
ITA R.....19/1455ANN MICKEY KKKKK
JEA R.....19/1455A CW KKKK
CCCC L PART ~~XXXXXXXX~~ D.-47 ON PRIMARY (INCLUDING 8 A20'S)

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JEA ITA V JKI JKI 13/19 OP OP
T SELF

FROM HQ 416TH BOMB GROUP K (L) 192125A N-246-D
TO 9TH BOMBARDMENT DIV. ATTN: A-2 P/I
97TH COMBATWNG ATTN: A-2 DUTY OFFICER

SECRET QQX BT
S/A REPORT 19 NOVEMBER1944

B. MERZIG (AREA C)
G. 1037-1046
J. BOX I-FLT. A: AB: 95 PERCENT OF BOMBS IN TARGET AREA IN LONG PATTER AS BRIEFED. BOMBS STARTED AT AP WEST EDGE OF TARGET AREA AND RUN ACROSS AREA AS BRIEFED.
FLT. B: AB : 95 PERCENT OF BOMBS IN TARGET AREA IN LONG PATTERN AS BREIFED. BOMBS FELL INTO SMOKE OF FLT.-A, STARTING AT AP ON WEST EDGE OF TARGET AREA AND RUNNING ACROSS AREA AS BREIFED.
FLT.C: AB: ALL BOMBS IN TARGET AREA IN LONG PATTERN AS DESIRED. BMBS STARTED ON WESTERN XXXXXXXXXX EDGE OF TARGET AT AP AND RUN ACROSS AREA JUST WEST OF FLTS. A AND B.
BOX II-FLT.A: AB: ALL BOMBS FELL OUTSIDE TARGET ZXXXX AREA (2100 FT. NORTH OF NEAREST EDGE OF TARGET AREA) IN CONCENTRATED PATTERN. BOMBS FELL IN FIELDS NEAR EDGE OF TOWN OF MERZIFXXX MERZIG.
FLT. B: -?AB: ALL BOMBS I N TARGET AREA IN LONG PATTERN AS BREIFED. ?BOMBS STARTED AT WESTERN EDGE OF TARGET AREA AND RAN ACROSS AREA.
FLT. C: AB: ALL BOMBS OUTSIDE TARGET AREA (5 1/2 MILES WEST OF NEAREST EDGE OF TARGET). BOMBS FELL IN FIELDS 1/2 MILE WEST OF TOWN OF WALDWISSE, (1:100,000 MAP U-1 COORD. 125915).
BOX III- FLT. A: AB: UNDET. NO PHOTO COVERAG E AS NO PICTURES WERE TAKEN WITH K-20 CAMERA AND FIXED CAMERAS HAD MALFUNCTIONS.
FLT.B: AB: ALL BOMBS OUTSIDE OF TARGET AREA, (1.75 MILES NORTHWEST OF NEAREST EDGE OF TARGET). BOMBS FELL ON EDGE OF TOWN OF FITTEN, (1:100,000 MAP U-1 COORD. 175945).
K. BOX I- FLT: A: AB:
FLT. B: AB:
FLT. C: AB:
BOX II- FLT. XX A: AB: OUT OF TARGET AREA. BOMBING ERROR- BOMBARDIER TOOK VERY SHORT RUN DUE TO DIFFICULTY IN PICKING UP TARGET X IN SMOKE. WAS NOT SYNCHRONIZED AT RELEASE. BOMBS HIT OVER TARGET AREA.
FLT.B: AB:
FLT.C:-AB: OUT OF TARGET AREA. BOMBING ERROR- MISINDENTIFIED TARGET AREA DUE TO CMOKE OF PREVIOUS BOMBING. BOMBS HIT SHORT OF TARGET AREA.
BOX III-FLT.A:AB: UNDET. NO STRIKE PHOTOES. BOMBARDIER STATED THAT BOMBS FELL INTO SMOKE OF BOMBS IN TARGET AREA.
FLT.B: AB: OUT OF TARGET AREA. BOMBING ERROR- MISIDENTIFIED TARGET AREA DUE TO SMOKE OF PREVIOUS BOMBING. BOMBS HIT NORTH OF TARGET AREA.
AXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXU
ALL FLIGHTS MADE TWO RUNS OF TARGET.
M. (1) 11 85 PERCENT
(2) 2 15 "
(3) 0 0 "
AFTERNOON MISSION.
B. TOWN OF LANDAU
G. 1541
J. NO PHOTO COVERAGE DUE TO COXXX CLOUD COVER.

CC: BOX II WA FLT B: AB: DELETE -?
BT 192125A

EJ B TO JEA
ITA .....192337A AL AR
JEA .....192337A FK AR

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