H E A D Q U A R T E R S 416TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L) Office of the Commanding Officer SECRET By authority CO, Sta.170 26 May 1944 Init.

APO 140, U. S. Army, 26 May 1944.

Subject: Oprep A, USAAF Form 34A.

To : Commanding General, Ninth Air Force, APO 696, U. S. Army. Attention 26th Statistical Control Unit.

Oprep A Number 55 for 24 hours ending sunset 25 May 1944. Mission Number 55. IX Bomber Command Field Order Number 529.

A. Formation consisted of two boxes, 18 ships box 1 and 19 ships box 2. Time of take off was 1103. Time over target 1228 on second bomb run. Target - Monchy Breton Airfield. System prearranged by lead pilot and bombardier-navigator was for pilot also to push toggle upon release by bombardier-navigator. This resulted in premature release by pilot under mistaken impression that bombardier-navigator had bombed. A total of 71 bombs were dropped in open fields and across highway 4 to 5 miles east of target. Box 2, at 10,500 feet, dropped a total of 72 bombs in the target area with excellent results. Clouds obscured target and made two bomb runs necessary. Visibility was 4 to 6 miles. Anti-aircraft was moderate accurate HFF around target area, 5 aircraft receiving category A damage. No enemy aircraft encountered. Planes landed at 1348.

B. (1) 31 A-ROG's and 6 A-ROJ's The (11) 16 A-ROG's and 3 A-ROJ's.

(iii) 15 A-20G's and 3 A-20J's in box 1 released bombs prematurely.

(iv) None (v) None

(vi) None

(vii) 5 A-20G's category A - flak (viii) 31 A-20G's and 5 A-20J's.

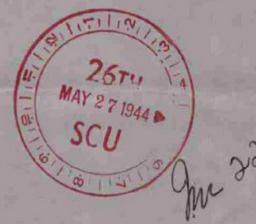
C. (1) None (11) None

D. (i) A-200's 90:00 A-20J's 17:10

(ii) None

E. (i) A-20G's 97,650 x 50 cal. A-20J's 12,000 x 50 cal.

(11) A-20G's 744 x 50 cal. (testing) A-20J's 144 x 50 cal. (testing)



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(Cont'd.)

(iii) None

- A-20G's 124 x 500 lb GP 1/10 N 1/100 T A-20J's 24 x 500 lb GP 1/10 N 1/100 T A-20G's 120 x 500 lb GP
 - (11) A-20J's 23 x 500 lb GP
 - A-20G's 4 x 500 lb GP (111)
 - (1v) None A-20J 1 x 500 lb GP returned to base - sway braces too tight.
- G. None
- (1) H. None . (ii) None (iii) None

For the Commanding Officer:

GEORGE SCHENKEIN, Captain, Air Corps, Adjutant.

