

HEADQUARTERS
NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

APO 634,
22 June 1943.

SUBJECT: Base Engineering Report on Combat Mission of June 22, 1943.

TO : COMMANDING GENERAL, Fourth Bombardment Wing, APO 634.
COMMANDING OFFICER, 95th Bombardment Group (H).

1. The following information is submitted concerning combat mission of the 95th Bomb Group (H) of June 22, 1943.
 - a. Seventeen (17) B-17F airplanes took-off, one (1) returned to base before completing mission.
 - b. Sixteen (16) airplanes completed mission.
 - c. 42-30211 did not return.
2. There was one (1) abortive airplane.
 - a. 42-3277 - Oxygen leak at filler plug ball turret, believed to have been caused by ice.
3. Battle damage is as follows:
 - a. 42-30300 - small flak holes.
 - b. 42-29943 - Right horizontal stabilizer and elevator damaged by gun fire. Blade on #1 prop damaged by 20 mm shell.
 - c. 42-30178 - Slight sheet metal damage.
 - d. 42-30276 - Sheet metal damage. #3 supercharger damaged.
 - e. 42-30194 - Sheet metal damage.
 - f. 42-30283 - Oil cooler damaged. Small flak holes.
 - g. 42-3283 - Bombardier's window cracked. Numerous flak holes.
 - h. 42-30244 - Minor sheet metal damage.
 - i. 42-30286 - Minor sheet metal damage.
 - j. 42-3321 - Gas tank punctured by bullet.
 - k. 42-30173 - Sheet metal damage. Right horizontal stabilizer damaged.
 - l. 42-30188 - Sheet metal damage. Radio Liason set, ball turret, plexi-glass, top turret hydraulic damaged.
 - m. 42-30105 - Sheet metal damage.

CLARENCE D. FIELDS,
Major, Air Corps,
Base Engineering Officer.

LEAD

BENDER

0286
336H

MASON ^{Camera}

0283
336C

ONEAL

3283
336E

THOMPSON ^{Camera}

0244
336M

ROBICHAUD ^{Camera}

3277
336G
↑
FBOACTIVE

KNOWLTON ^{Camera}

0178
335S

ALLEN

HAMILTON

0194
3350

JOHNSON ^{Camera}

0276
335Q

TYLER ^{Camera}

0300
334C

SOUTH

0120
334D
↑
DID NOT TAKE-OFF

BOND

0211
335T

ROTHSCHILD

3321
336K

EXTRA

0284

272

288

LEAD

BENDER
0286
336H

MASON
0283
336C

ONEAL
3283
336E

LINDLEY
0235
412U

TOMPSON
0244
336M

ADAMS
0322
412P
Camera

KRING
0105
412R

ROTHSCHILD
3321
336K

ROBICHAUD
3277
336G
Camera
↑
ABOACTIVE

EASTLING
0185
412V
Camera

MCPHERSON
9943
334K

MASSEY
0173
412O
Camera

EXTRA

0284

BOMB SIGHTS

272
288

0286

0244

0194

0300

0235

0255

0283

LOCATION **HORTHAM**

F O R M 3

DATE **JUNE 22, '43.**

SHIP	PILOT	CARGO	TIME OFF		HANDING		REMARKS
			EST. ACFT	ACT. ACFT	EST. ACFT	ACT. ACFT	
H 0286	BENDER	HULS	0710	0710	1126		
E 3283	O'NEAL	"	0710	0710	1127		
C 0283	MASON	"	0710	0710	1125		
M 0244	THOMPSON	"	0710	0711	1134		
G 3277	ROBICHAUD	"	0710	0714		0952	<i>PROBATIVE - stops in ball turret frag</i>
³³⁵ K 3521	ROTHSCHILD	"	0710	0712	1127		
O 0194	HAMILTON	"	0710	0712	1130		
Q 0276	JOHNSON	"	0710	0713	1130+		
³³⁴ S 0178	KNOWLTON	"	0710	0714	1132		
³³⁵ C 0300	TYLER	"	0710	0713	1135		
T 0211	BUNCH	"	0710	0715			
³³⁴ D 0120	SCOTT	"	0710				
U 0235	LINDLEY	"	0710	0720	1136		<i>TRYING - RAN OFF RU RWBY AND GOT STUCK</i>
R 0605	KRING	"	0710	0720	1137		
P 0322	ADAMS	"	0710	0721	1140		
N 0195	EASTLING	"	0710	0724	1138		
O 0173	MASSEY	"	0710	0725	1139		
³³⁴ K 9943	McPHERSON	"	0710	0722	1138		

150
ME 109
0935
FW 190
0322

0945
ME 109
0185

1020
FW 190
0945
ME 109
0235
0955
ME 109

0173

0105

3321

0283

0296

0244
0954
ME 109

0283

0940
ME 109

1010
ME 109

0178

0283

0935
ME 109
0945
ME 109
0300

0194

0946
ME 109
0276
0935
FW 190

0283

Sortie No. 10)
Mission No. 10)

22 June 1943

TARGET: Synthetic Rubber Plant at Huls, near Recklinghausen.

17 A/C took off at 0710. 16 attacked target, one A/C aborting by reason of oxygen freezing in ball turret. Lead ship bombed at 0944. Bomb load 7 x 1000 GP. Large fire and heavy smoke over target. Fighter support spelled out U.S. with vapor trails. Morale of crews high after mission. Approximately 80 E/Am principally FW 190's and Me 109's, were encountered. Attacks started 20 minutes off Dutch coast and continued until fighter escort met the Group. E/A attacked from all clock positions and from all levels. Attacks not vigorously pressed and lasted about 40 minutes. Flak accurate and from meagre to intense. One A/C (Capt Dunch) was lost. Nose and tail shot off by 4 E/A just after it dropped its bombs. Levelled off at 5000 feet, possibly crash-landed. 4 to 10 'chutes reported as seen. E/A claims: 5-5-3.

VIII BC Narrative: Primary effort directed against important Synthetic Rubber Plant at Huls, where 170 B-17's dropped 1202 x 500 and 242 x 1000 GP with good results. As a secondary effort 39 B-17's attacked Ford and General Motors Plants at Antwerp, dropping 191 x 1000 GP with fair results. 21 B-17's from 100th Group carried out an uneventful diversion over North Sea. Bombers attacking Huls and Antwerp received withdrawal support from 23 squadrons of Spits, 2 squadrons of Typhoons, and 8 squadrons of P-47's. 20 heavy bombers mission.

235 dispatched to Huls, 183 attacked, 52 abortives, and 16 missing. E/A claims: 46-21-35. 42 dispatched to Antwerp, 39 attacked, 3 abortives, and 4 missing. E/A claims: 1-2-9.

Bender

Mason O'Neal

Lindley

Thompson

Hamilton

Adams Kring

Rothschild Robichaud
(ABORT)

Knowlton Johnson

Eastling

Tyler

McPherson Massey

South
CRASH
IN
CRASH

Dunch
(MISSING)

HEADQUARTERS
NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
Office of the Operations Officer

APO 634,
22 June, 1943.

SUBJECT: S-3 Narrative Report.

TO : Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (H), APO 634.

1. The 95th Bomb Group was alerted for a maximum effort mission at 18:20, 21 June, 1943 with a given loading of five one thousand GP bombs, 1/10 second nose fuse and 1/40 second tail fuse. Twenty one aircraft were loaded for the mission with eighteen crews standing by.

2.

- A. Field Order No. 1C was received at 11:20, 21 June, 1943.
- B. Crews were briefed at 0400. Take-off was at 0710. One aircraft 42-30120 ran off the perimeter path miring down causing some delay and confusion during take-off. Seventeen aircraft took-off. Four aircraft from the 96th Group joined our group making twenty one aircraft departing.
- C. The flight plan was followed as ordered, with no changes necessary.

3.

- A. Enemy aircraft were numerous, but due to good formation and a great number of bombers their effect was slight.
- B. Flak was heavy but did only slight damage.

4.

- A. Many Bombardiers and Navigators report excellent bombing results the whole target area being a mass of smoke and flames as the formation broke away.
- B. The 95th Group lost one plane, number two wing position of the second element, high squadron.
- C. Enemy fighters were aggressive, but seemed to have spent their strength on the leading wing. No new tactics were observed.
- D. This group flew a close, tight formation rather than the looser one flown on the two previous raids. It is believed that although a few guns are blocked in tight formation the greater intensity of fire power from such a formation more than offsets the disadvantages. It may be mentioned that a better tight formation is flown than loose, simply because of the ease of flying tight.

CLIFFORD E. COLE,
Captain, Air Corps,
Operations Officer.

HEADQUARTERS
NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
Office of the Operations Officer

APO 634
22 June, 1943

SUBJECT: Bombing Report of raid on Huls, Germany 22 June, 1943.

TO : Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (H), APO 634.

1. Complete narrative of mission:
 - a. The new M9M bombsight in conjunction with the low altitude attachment were used as two aids to bombing.
 - b. The Group turned from the I.P. and made a due course for Dorsten thinking that it was the target. They then turned on an 88° heading to the target after sighting smoke from the target's chimneys.
 - c. The bomb bay doors were opened at Dorsten at hours of 0941.
 - d. The lead bombardier used the low altitude attachment on the bombing run. He had to make one (1) correction for drift and two (2) corrections for range. The bombing run consisted of 30 seconds.
 - e. The enemy resistance to the bombing run was very slight as for as fighters were concerned. The flak was very heavy, intense and highly accurate.
 - f. The S-2 information on the target was excellent and very accurate.
 - g. Over the target area it was estimated that a 2/10 strato-cumulus prevailed. The temperature was 32° C.
 - h. There were no unusual tactics by the enemy to interfere with bombing run.
 - i. Due to visual results of the bombing; claims were made that bombs hit just some what over the aiming point.
 - j. There are no suggested tactical changes in bombing technique on any particular target or on all targets.

FRANK T. IMAND
1st Lt., Air Corps,
Group Bombardier.

0747	290	-2	288	298	Bury St. Edmunds	150	2000			
0753	49	-6	43	53	Soham	150	10000			
0810	54 1/2	-10 1/2	44	54	Splasher # 5	150 130	-3 14000	165	184	Slightly ahead of time
0849	143	+6	149	156	DR 54-13N 04-13E	160	23000			turned to left of course to follow 1st Wing.
0901	143	+6	160	170	DR 53-37N 04-48E	160	23000	202		Altered course to miss Flak Area (Cross West)
0910	143			156	Enemy Coast (Vlieland)	160	23000		240	Crossed Western tip of Winds checked O.K.
0919	143			156	Stavoren	160	23000			Visibility Good
0929	143			156	Deventer	160	23000			pilotage procedures followed from coast, 7
							23000			IP-target-Rally-to coast on way out.
0940	160	+9	169	179	Kladder (IP)	160	23000		230	
0944 1/2					Target (Bombs Down)		2320		245	
0958	270				Isselburg	160	23000		160	
1002	270				Nijemin	160	23000			Heavy fighter attack from 0920 to 1037, heavy, accurate.
1037	280	+2	282	290	Leave Enemy Coast	160	20000			
1057					Aldeburg	170				Gentle turn to Base
1103					Base					Base
										Flight plan followed well. About 10 min. late to leave Enemy coast

SUN		MOON		TWILIGHT	
RISES	SETS	RISES	SETS	A.M.	P.M.

WATCH _____ FAST SLOW RATE _____ SEC'S GAINING PER HOUR — LOSING

COU-RSE	DRI-FT.	TRUE HDNG	VAR.	MAG. HDNG	G/S	DIST.	TIME	E.T.A.	CELESTIAL DATA TIME BODY ALT. AZI		
258	+1	259	+10	269	143	20	9	0747	wing 0745		
290	-2	288	+10	298	132	15	7+2	0756		cloud	
49	-6	43	+10	53	180	52	17	0813	0809		
54 1/2	-10 1/2	44	+10	54	195	105 1/2	20	0848	0841	pos-	53-311 02-50.8
	-11 1/2	43	+8	51	220	114	13 1/2 + 1 1/2				
143	+6	149	+11 1/2	156 1/2	240	121	30+1	0919	0923		
160	+9	169	+7	176	230	31	8+2	0929	0932		
100	-3	97	+7	104	245	24 1/2	6 +2	0937	0939		
11	-12	359	+6 1/2	05 1/2	187	17	5 1/2 + 1 1/2	0944	0944		
265 1/2	+6 1/2	272	+7	279	162	89	33+1	1018	1020		
273	+4 1/2	271 1/2	+8 1/2	286	160	101	38	1056	=		
273	+3	276	+9	285	172	25	9	1105	1102		
347	-10	357	+10	347	170	22	8	1113	✓		

ATIONAL ATION	I.A.S. M.P.H IK	HEIG- HT & A. TEMP.	T A S	D.R. G.S.	DIS. TO RUN	T I M E	E.T.A.	GENERAL OBSERVATIONS
	160 140	9000						
Winds	150 150	9000 10000						
#5	150 130	-3 14000	165	184				Slightly ahead of time.
13N 125	160	23000						Turned to left of course to follow 1st wing.
37N 285	160	23000	202					Altered course to miss Flak Rora (Cross West tip)
(Whellard)	160	23000		240				Crossed Western tip of Island Winds checked OK

258	+1	259	+10	269	143	20	9	0747	0745		
290	-2	288	+10	298	132	15	7+2	0756		climb	
49	-6	43	+10	53	180	52	17	0813	0809		
54 1/2	-10 1/2	44	+10	54	195	(65+9)	20	0848	0847	pos	53-31N 02-52E
	-11 1/2	43	+8	51	220	114	13 1/2 + 1 1/2				
143	+6	149	+7 1/2	156 1/2	240	121	30+1	0919	0923		
160	+9	169	+7	176	230	31	8+2	0929	0932		
100	-3	97	+7	104	245	24 1/2	6 +2	0937	0939		
11	-12	359	+6 1/2	05 1/2	187	17	5 1/2 + 1 1/2	0944	0944		
265 1/2	+6 1/2	272	+7	279	162	89	33+1	1018	1020		
273	+4 1/2	277 1/2	+8 1/2	286	160	101	38	1056	=		
273	+3	276	+9	285	172	25	9	1105	1102		
347	-10	357	+10	347	170	22	8	1115	✓		

ATIONAL VATION	I.A.S. MPH / K	HEIGHT & A. TEMP.	T A S	D.R. G.S.	DIS. TO RUN	T I M E	E.T.A.	GENERAL OBSERVATIONS
	160 / 40	9000						
Edwards	150	9000						
	150	10000						
# 5	150 / 130	-3 / 14000	165	184				slightly ahead of time.
13N	160	23000						turned to left of course to follow 1st wing.
12E								Altered course to miss Flag Rora (Cross West side)
37N	160	23000	202					Crossed Western tip of Island
48E								Winds checked O.K.
(Kullard)	160	23000		240				
27	160	23000						Visibility Good
ter	160	23000						Pilotage procedures followed from east thru IP-target-bally-to west coast on way out.
		23000						
17 (IP)	160	23000		230				
Bombs Runy		2320		245				

PILOT _____

NAV REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES ER

TO:	0710
LEAVE BASE:	0738
COAST OUT:	0813
ENEMY COAST:	0900
I.P.:	0929
TARGET:	0935
ENEMY COAST:	1029

MEMORANDA

NAVIGATOR _____

FROM	W/V USED	HEIGHT	I.A.S. MPH /K	T.A.S. (K)	COU-RSE	DRI-FT.	TRUE HDNG	VA
Sobham	270/13	9000	155/-2	155	258	+1	259	14
Bury St. Edmunds	275/20	MN	150/3	154	290	-2	288	11
Sobham	275/20	MN	150/3	154	290	-2	288	11
"	275/20	MN	150/3	154	290	-2	288	11
Splasher #5	275/20	13,500	150/8	162	49	-6	43	11
"	275/20	19000	150/8	176	54 1/2	-10 1/2	44	11
DR 54-13N	275/20	23000	160/32	202	143	+6	149	11
"		23000	160/32	202	143	+6	149	11
"			160		160	+9	169	11
Soldern (18)					100	-3	97	11
TARGET	295/44	-32			11	-12	359	11
"					265 1/2	+6 1/2	272	11
"					273	+4 1/2	277 1/2	11
DR 54-13N	290/39	MN	170/20	210	273	+3	276	11
Sobham		17000	170/20	195	347	-10	357	11

TIME	COU-RSE	W/V USED &/OR DR.DRIF	TR-UE HD NG.	MAG HD-NG.	NAVIGATIONAL OBSERVATION	I.A.S. MPH /K
0738	258	+1	259	269	Base	160/40
0747	290	-2	288	298	Bury St. Edmunds	150
0753	49	-6	43	53	Sobham	150
0810	54 1/2	-10 1/2	44	54	Splasher #5	150/130
0849	143	+6	149	156	DR 54-13N	160
0901	143	+6	160	170	DR 04-12E	160
					DR 53-37N	
					DR 04-48E	

141961									
Coastfield						11	-12	359	+
"									
Bladrecht						265 1/2	+6 1/2	272	+
"									
51-57N 02:00E						273	+4 1/2	277 1/2	+
"									
Felixstowe	290 39	14N	170	210	273	+3	276	+	
"									
Base		17000	170 120	195	347	-10	357	+	

TIME	COURSE	W/V USED &/OR DR.DRIF	TR- UE HD NG.	MAG HD- NG.	NAVIGATIONAL OBSERVATION	I.A.S. M.P.H /K
0738	258	+1	259	269	Base	160 140
0747	290	-2	288	298	Bury St. Edmunds	150
0753	49	-6	43	53	Soham	150
0810	54 1/2	-10 1/2	44	54	Splasher # 5	150 130
0849	143	+6	149	156	DR 54-13N 04-13E	160
0901	143	+6	160	170	DR 53-37N 04-48E	160
0910?	143			156	Enemy Cost (Vlieland)	160
0919	143			156	Stavoren	160
0920						160
0929	143			156	Deventer	160
0940	160	+9	169	179	Kalder n (IP)	160
0944 1/2					Target (Bombs Run)	

HEADQUARTERS
NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
Office of the Navigation Officer
APO 634

22 June 1943

SUBJECT: Navigation report for the operations of the 95th Bombardment Group on 22 June 1943.

TO : Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (H), APO 634.

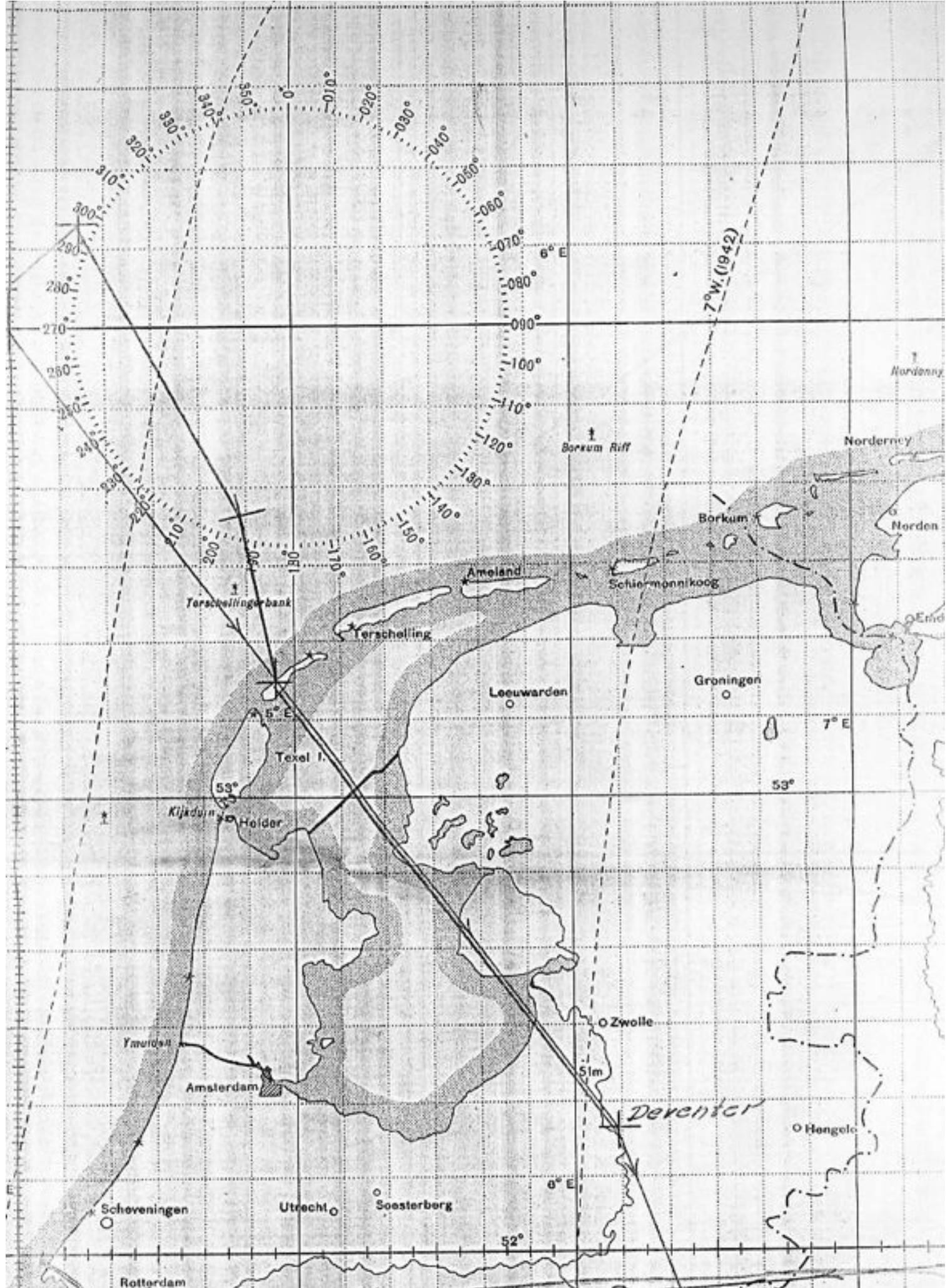
1. Several failures of compasses in new planes were reported, due to faulty installation.

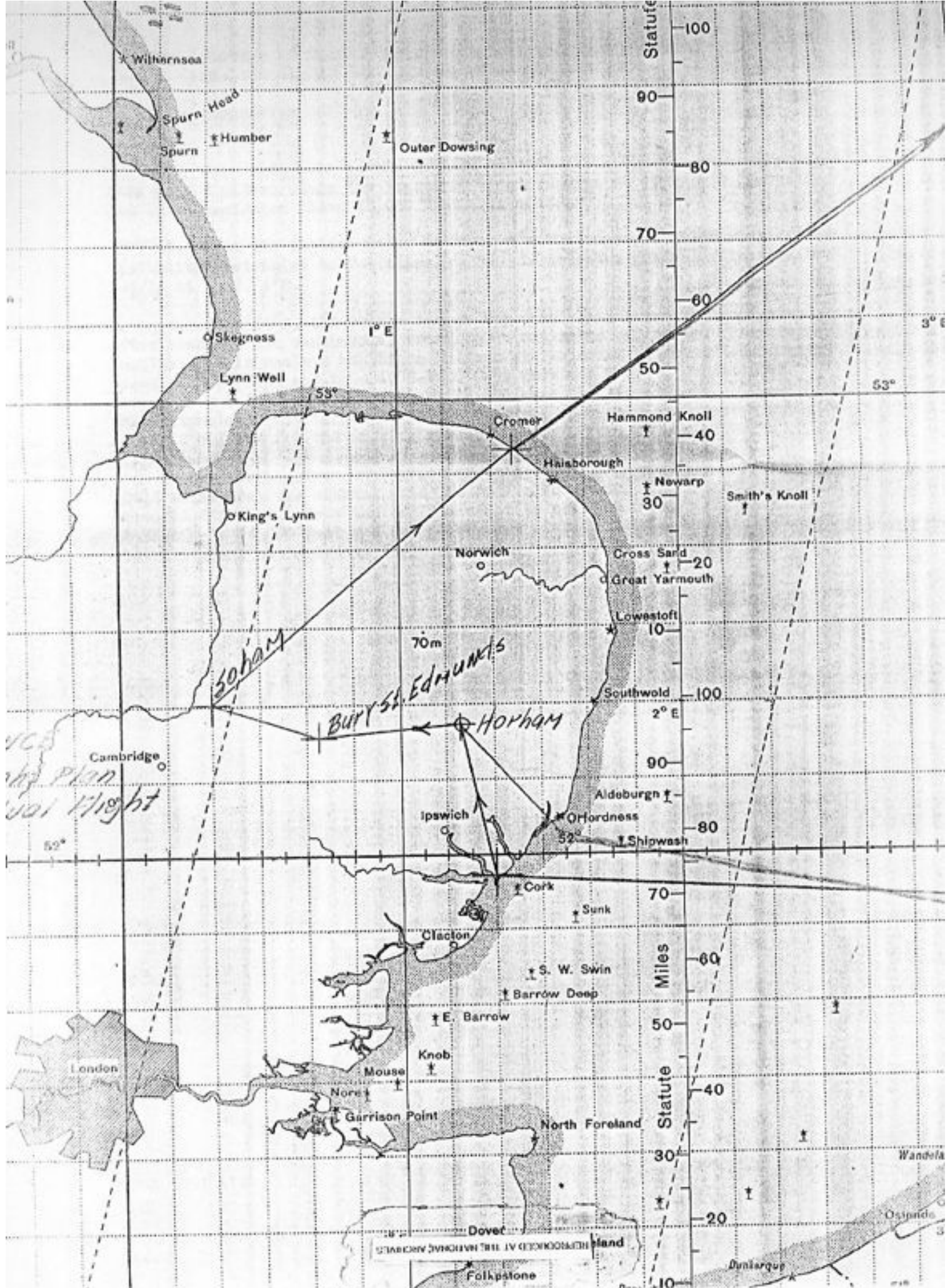
2. Navigators report excellent courses were followed by the lead navigator, which enabled the formation to evade the worse flak areas.

3. The flight plan was closely followed, with time being lost over the North Sea to enable the Fourth Wing to follow the First Wing as per schedule.

4. A great improvement was noticed in all log books and position reports, etc. in spite of heavy fighter attacks.

ELLIS B. SCRIPTURE
2nd Lt. , Air Corps,
Group Navigation Officer.





*UCA
the plan
not right*

Soham
Bury St. Edmunds

STATIONS MARKED AT THE NATIONAL GRID

HEADQUARTERS
NINETY-FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
OFFICE OF THE GROUP WEATHER OFFICER

AFPO 634
22 June 1943

SUBJECT: Summary of Weather Interrogation Over Route and Target Area for
Mission of June 22, 1943 by 95th Bomb Group to Huls, Germany.

TO : Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (H), AFPO 634, U.S. Army.

1. From this base to the English coast the visibility was reduced by haze to 2-3 miles. Some low scattered stratocumulus at 1000-1500 feet and 6-8/10 cirrostratus above 25,000 feet were noted.

2. From the English coast to 54°N, 4°E the haze prevailed with visibility restricted to 2-4 miles. The cirrostratus gradually thinned to 1-3/10 at 54°N, 4°E.

3. From 54°N, 4°E to the target the visibility improved considerably after reaching the continental coast to an estimated 4-6 miles. Scattered cumulus of fair weather had begun to form at the coast becoming 4-6/10 with bases at 3000 feet and tops at 6-8000 feet over the target. Scattered cirrus from 0-3/10 were noted above 25,000 over the target area. The temperature over the target at 25,000 feet was -25°C and the general position of the 0°C level for the mission was 12,000 feet.

4. Returning from the target to this base the visibility improved to 10-12 miles over the channel with the only clouds being 4-6/10 ~~cirrostratus~~ above 25,000 feet. From the English coast to this base 6-8/10 altostratus at 12,000 to 14,000 feet and 3-5/10 cumulus of fair weather were noted and visibility was estimated at 12-15 miles.

WALTER S. MILLS, JR.
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Group Weather Officer.

LEAD

BENDER
0286
336H

LOW

LINDLEY
0235
412U

MASON
0283
336C

ONEAL
3283
336E

THOMPSON
0244
336M

ROTHSCHILD
3321
336K

ROBICHAUD
3277
336G
↑
BOATIVE

KNOWLTON
0178
335S

HAMILTON
0194
3350

KRING
0105
412R

EASTLINIC
0185
412V

MCPHERSON
9943
334K

MASSEY
0173
4120

EXTRA

0284

272

288

SOUTH
0120
334D
↑
DID NOT TAKE-OFF

TYLER
0300
334C

BOMB SIGHTS

- 0286
- 0244
- 0194
- 0300
- 0235
- 0255
- 0283

STATION HOBHAM

FORM 3

DATE JUNE 22, '43.

SHIP	PILOT	CARGO	TIME OF		LOADING		REMARKS
			EST.	ACT.	EST.	ACT.	
³³⁶ H	0286	BENDER	HULLS	0710	0710	1126	
E	3283	O'NEAL	"	0710	0710	1127	
C	0283	MASON	"	0710	0711	1125	
M	0244	THOMPSON	"	0710	0711	1134	
G	3277	ROBICHAUD	"	0710	0714	1132	ABORTIVE - <i>operator in ball turret frag</i>
³³⁵ K	3321	ROTHSCHILD	"	0710	0712	1127	
O	0194	HAMILTON	"	0710	0712	1130	
Q	0276	JOHNSON	"	0710	0713	1130 ⁺	
³³⁴ S	0178	KNOWLTON	"	0710	0714	1132	
³³⁵ C	0300	TYLER	"	0710	0713	1135	
T	0211	BUNCH	"	0710	0715		MISSING
³³⁴ D	0120	SOUTH	"	0710			THYLING - <i>RAM OFF RUMWAY and got stuck</i>
U	0235	LINDLEY	"	0710	0720	1136	
R	0605	KRING	"	0710	0720	1137	
P	0322	ADAMS	"	0710	0721	1140	
N	0195	EASTLINE	"	0710	0724	1138	
³³⁴ O	0173	MASSEY	"	0710	0725	1139	
³³⁴ K	9943	MC PHERSON	"	0710	0722	1138	

EXTRA
0284
272
288

67/29
CONFIDENTIALHEADQUARTERS
VIII BOMBER COMMAND
A.P.O. 634Bomber Command Narrative of Operations
Day Operation - 22 June, 1943
Mission No. 65**TARGET:** Synthetic Rubber Plant at Huls, near Recklinghausen,
Ford and General Motors Plants at Antwerp.

The primary effort was directed against the important Synthetic Rubber Plant at Huls, where 170 B-17s dropped 1202x500 and 243x1000 G.P. with good results. As a secondary effort 39 B-17s attacked the Ford and General Motors Plants at Antwerp, dropping 191x1000 G.P. with fair results. 21 B-17s of 100 Group carried out an uneventful diversion over the North Sea, and 12 Mitchells of R.A.F. 2 Group escorted by Spitfires carried out a diversionary attack on Rotterdam. The bombers attacking Huls and Antwerp received withdrawal support from 23 Squadrons of Spitfires, 3 Squadrons of Typhoons, and 8 Squadrons of P-47s. Enemy opposition was strong. 20 heavy bombers are missing.

Target	Number of A/C					Personnel Casualties			
	(Dispatched)	(Attacking)	(Abortive*)	(Lost)	(Claims)	(Killed)	(Wounded)	(Missing)	
	A.	B.							
HULS									
Group									
91	22	16	3	3	5	9-2-4	1	5	41
92	29	25	4	0	1	0-1-1	0	1	10
94	16	9	7	0	2	5-2-2	0	7	20
95	17	16	1	0	1	5-5-3	0	0	10
96	30	24	4	2	2	4-5-6	0	0	20
303	15	14	1	0	1	0-0-1	0	1	10
305	25	18	4	3	1	0-1-0	0	0	10
306	24	16	8	0	1	4-0-0	0	0	10
351	21	15	5	1	1	17-1-12	1	0	10
379	16	14	2	0	1	2-3-5	0	2	10
Composite	20	16	4	0	0	0-1-1	0	0	0
	235	183	43	9	16	46-21-35	2	16	151
ANTWERP									
381	22	19	3	0	2	0-1-7	1	0	20
384	20	20	0	0	2	1-1-2	0	3	20
	42	39	3	0	4	1-2-9	1	3	40
DIVERSION									
100	21	-	0	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0

*Abortive A. - Mechanical, equipment or personnel failures.

B. - Weather, recall or enemy action.

* Composite Group consists of 13 a/c from 303rd Group and 7 from 379th Group.

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
NINETY-FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
OFFICE OF THE GROUP WEATHER OFFICER

APO 634
22 June 1943

SUBJECT: Summary of Weather Interrogation Over Route and Target Area for Mission of June 22, 1943 by 95th Bomb Group to Huls, Germany.

TO : Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (H), APO 634, U.S. Army.

1. From this base to the English coast the visibility was reduced by haze to 2-3 miles. Some low scattered stratocumulus at 1000-1500 feet and 6-8/10 cirrostratus above 25,000 feet were noted.

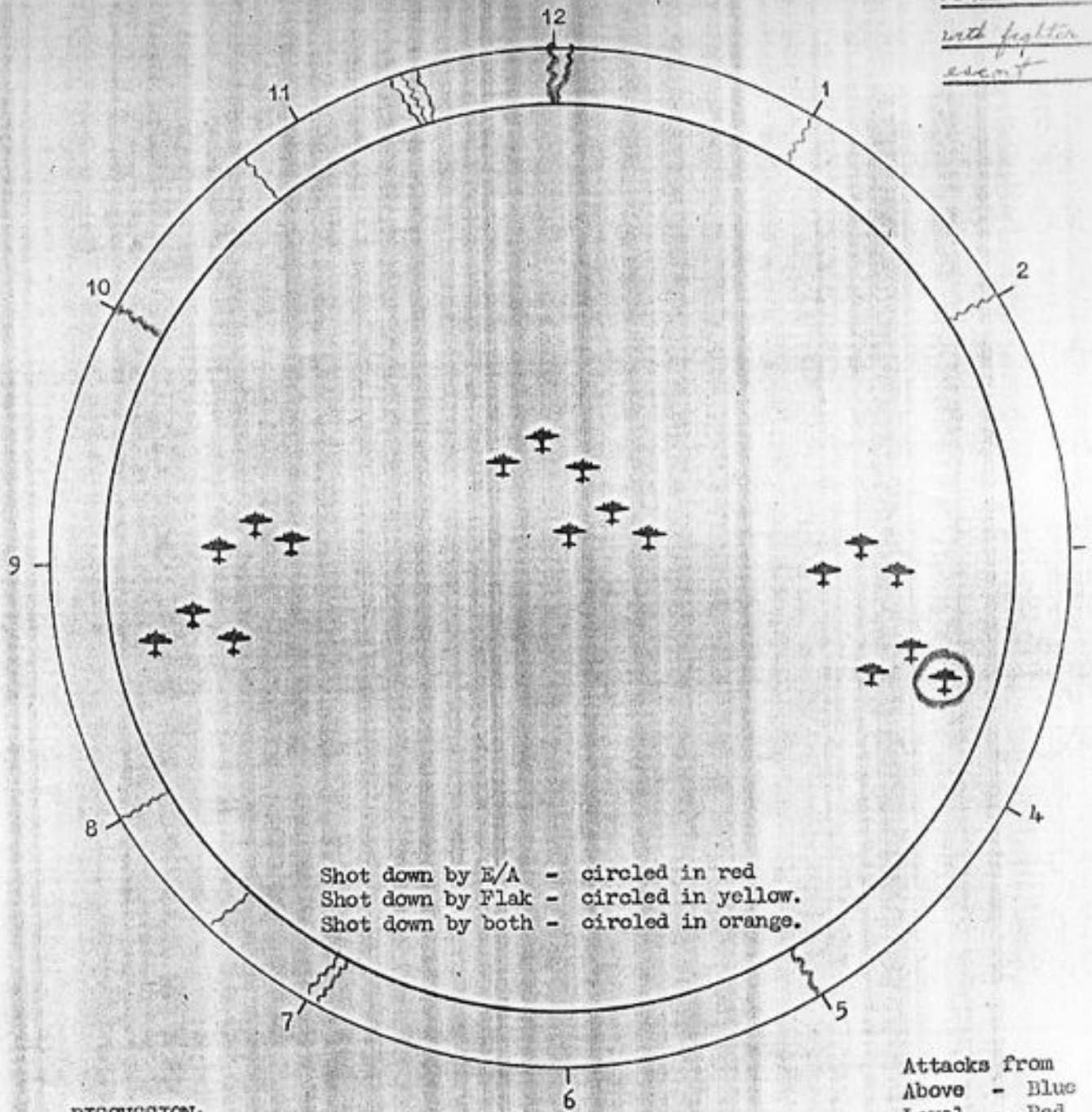
2. From the English coast to 54°N, 4°E the haze prevailed with visibility restricted to 2-4 miles. The cirrostratus gradually thinned to 1-3/10 at 54°N, 4°E.

3. From 54°N, 4°E to the target the visibility improved considerably after reaching the continental coast to an estimated 4-6 miles. Scattered cumulus of fair weather had begun to form at the coast becoming 4-6/10 with bases at 3000 feet and tops at 6-8000 feet over the target. Scattered cirrus from 0-3/10 were noted above 25,000 over the target area. The temperature over the target at 23,000 feet was -23°C and the general position of the 0°C level for the mission was 12,000 feet.

4. Returning from the target to this base the visibility improved to 10-12 miles over the channel with the only clouds being 4-6/10 ~~altocumulus~~ above 25,000 feet. From the English coast to this base 6-8/10 altocumulus at 12,000 to 14,000 feet and 3-5/10 cumulus of fair weather were noted and visibility was estimated at 12-15 miles.

WALTER S. MILLS, JR.
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Group Weather Officer.

TARGET HULS GROUP 95th DATE 22/6/43
 TIME OF ATTACKS 0935 to 1020 VICINITY OF ATTACKS (east of Junder)
to rendezvous
with fighter
escort



DISCUSSION:

4. None.

Attacks from
 Above - Blue
 Level - Red
 Below - Green.

091 W 190
0945 FW 190
ME 109
0235
0955 FW 190
ME 109
0185 TV
0945 FW 190
ME 109

0173

0105

3321

0283

0286

0244

0956 FW 190
ME 109

3337

0283
0940 FW 190
ME 109

0110 FW 190
ME 109
0178

3337

0300
0935 FW 190
ME 109
0945 FW 190
ME 109

0194

0276
0945 FW 190
ME 109
0937 FW 190
ME 109

3337

Handwritten notes and markings on the left side of the page, including a vertical line and some illegible text.

HRM NR18 22/1610B
TO COMBOWIG FOUR
PRIORITY SECRET U376D
A. 95TH BOMB GROUP (H)

- O. 2-6 X 1,000
- P. 0
- Q. 10 MISSING
- R. 9--3--1
- S. TO FOLLOW

1
Typographic
group in Teltup
Col. Horst called
inquiring -
explained.
Kranz
2:00 hr

17

16

0

0

0

0

0

1

0

0

09¹¹1/2

23,000

78 X 1,000 GP

1. 85 X 1,000 GP

OLD 0

CC C 16 NOT 17 AS SENT
 CC L 09441/2 NOT 09331/2 AS SENT
 CC XXX ADD N. 2. 0 UNDER N1
 KK WITH R
 WYM VA

HRM R 1625/22 HBH VA

CG, 4TH BOMB WING

COBOMGP 95

22 JUNE, 1943 1745

X

X

1070
JUN 22 18 14

PART B NARRATIVE

1. 60 TO 70 E/A ATTACKED OUR FORMATION BETWEEN TESSILL ON ROUTE TO TARGET AND POINT OF RENDEZVOUS WITH FRIENDLY FIGHTERS. ME 109's PREDOMINATED WITH 110's, FW 190's, JU 88's AND 1 JU 87 ALSO REPORTED. AGGRESSIVE ATTACK OF E/A FALTERED IN FACE OF FIRE POWER OF OUR FORMATION. ATTACKS WERE CHIEFLY FROM 11 AND 1 O'CLOCK AND FROM ABOVE.

2. AA MODERATE TO MEAGER BUT ACCURATE IN RANGE NEAR PRISIAN ISLAND. MODERATE TO INTENSE^N YET EXTREMELY ACCURATE NEAR TARGET. BURSTS OF USUAL COLOR. A BARRAGE WAS SET UP OVER THE TARGET. AA FIRE REPORTED BY ONE CREW FIRING FROM UNREPORTED POSITION FOR FLAK NORTH OF TARGET.

3. B-17 No. 0211 OF THIS GROUP WAS SEEN TO BE HIT JUST AFTER HAVING DROPPED ITS BOMB LOAD. WAS UNDER ATTACK FROM FOUR FIGHTERS WHICH SHOT OFF ITS NOSE AND TAIL. WAS SEEN TO LEVEL OFF AT 3,000 FEET. ESTIMATE OF CHUTES FROM 4 TO 10. POSSIBILITY OF CRASH LANDING STATED. A B-17 REPORTED EXPLODING AT 52° 45' N 5° 40' E. ONE

95 Narr

NARRATIVE (CONT)

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

CHUTE: ANOTHER B-17 REPORTED EXPLODING AT 0935 NEAR VARSEVELD. A THIRD REPORTED OUT OF FORMATION NEAR MUNSTER EXPLODING AT 0948. A FOURTH REPORTED HIT OVER TARGET WAS OBSERVED NEAR ARNHEM WITH 8 CHUTES OPENING.

4. NONE

5. 8 A/C SUSTAINED MINOR DAMAGE TO SHEET METAL. FLAK HOLES SMALL. ONE COOLER SYSTEM DAMAGED ALSO ONE HORIZONTAL STABILIZER.

6. AS MANY AS 40 BARGES WERE SIGHTED AT MOUTH OF RHINE RIVER. 8 SHIPS INCLUDING 2 DESTROYERS WERE REPORTED AT ROTTERDAM. 3 LARGE AND 2 SMALL FLAT CARS BEARING RAILWAY GUNS WERE REPORTED NEAR STAVOREN AND A CAMOUFLAGED AIRDROME WEST SOUTHWEST OF APELDORN. 10 PARACHUTES WERE COUNTED NEAR BRUNEN. A BALLON BARRAGE WEST OF TARGET AND NORTH OF DORSTEN, SMOKE POTS AT ELBURG AND 6 FRIENDLY VESSELS ESCORTED BY 7 SMALL ESCORT VESSELS OFF SPLASHER 5 AT 0825 WERE ALSO REPORTED.

7. BOMBING RESULTS WERE CONSIDERED EXCELLENT. LARGE FIRES DESCRIBED BY ONE OBSERVER AS CHERRY RED AND HEAVY SMOKE AT 15,000 FEET WERE REPORTED. LEADER OF LOW SQUADRON SAID, "WE KNOCKED HELL OUT OF THE TARGET." ANOTHER OBSERVER SAID, "NO RETURN TRIP HERE!"

8. NEED FOR GREATER STUDY OF AIRCRAFT RECOGNITION, OBJECTION TO FRIENDLY AIRCRAFT FROM OTHER GROUPS JOINING A FORMATION ON GROUNDS OF DANGEROUS CROWDING, AND PRAISE FOR APPARENT CAREFUL PLANNING OF MISSION BY COMMAND OBSERVED BY CREWS. FRIENDLY FIGHTERS REPORTED MAKING U S WITH VAPOR TRAILS.

9. 17 B-17's OF 95TH BOMB GROUP TOOK OFF BEGINNING AT 0710 22 JUNE TO ATTACK SYNTHETIC RUBBER PLANT AT HULS, GERMANY. 16 ATTACKED THE TARGET, ONE No. 277 RETURNING AT 0952 FROM 54° N 04° E BY REASON OF FREEZING OF OXYGEN SYSTEM IN BALL TURRET. ONE AIRCRAFT

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

NARRATIVE (CONT)

FAILED TO RETURN. ALL OR SUBSTANTIALLY ALL OF ITS CREW ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE MADE LANDINGS IN HOLLAND. ENEMY FIGHTERS FAILED TO PRESS HOME THEIR ATTACK IN THE FACE OF OUR LARGE AND CLOSE BOMBER FORMATION. FLAK WAS CONSIDERABLE AND ACCURATE AS TO ALTITUDE BUT CAUSED THIS GROUP NO LOSS. CREWS WERE ENTHUSIASTIC IN THEIR REPORTS OF THE BOMBING AND HIGH IN THEIR PRAISE OF RAF FIGHTER WITHDRAWAL SUPPORT. THE LEAD SHIP ON A GOOD RUN ON HEADING OF 90° BOMBED AT 0944½. ENTHUSIASM? MORALE AND CONFIDENCE OF CREWS AT HIGH PEAK.

95th

GROUP

FLAK REPORT

Date 6/22/43

Telephoned by X Target Huls, Ger

1. Route followed, To Target: Vlissingen, Holland; Deventer, Holland; Haltern, Holland; TARGET
 from Target: Coesfeld, Ger; Sliedrecht, Holland; just south of Rotterdam, Holland.

2. Visibility at Target (Any condensation trails?)

4/10 to 5/10 cloud coverage, but a ~~flk~~ good sighting for bombs

3. No. of A/C over target.

16
average estimate of ~~10~~ ~~15~~ E/A.

4. Formation over target, with height of each A/C. Those A/C damaged by flak to be circled, and if seriously damaged, insert small "S". If any A/C shot down by flak, say so:-

see reverse side.

5. General Axis of attack (from lead A/C if possible)

97° TRUE

6. How long did formation fly straight and level before bombing?

about 40 sec.

7. Turn after bombing. Sharp left turn of 45°, then another almost immediate 45° turn so as to catch last position.

8. Position of Group in relation to other Groups. Javelin-down, directly behind lead gr, but 1000 ft. lower, and 1000 ft higher than the 9th following.

9. What evasive action was taken? Constantly weaving, and except for bomb-run no direct course for more than 30 seconds.

10. A short description of Flak en route (if any) and at the target, including if possible a suggestion as to type of fire control employed-i.e. Continuous following predicted concentrations, predicted barrages, or fixed barrages.

AA fire over Frisian Is was accurate but not severe. Several flat cars with guns were observed at STAVOREN, Holland, shooting at our A/c over Zuider Zee.

AA fire over Huls, Germany was very accurate and more than moderately severe. Reports were that AA installations must be N. of red areas on map (RUHR) 4 to 5 north of Huls.

AA dir was Continuous-following, changing to predicted barrage for 3rd group.

11. Any other Comments, Phenomena, etc.

STAND BY FOR THE
5-58 STATIONS CLR

CAST

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

1073-23 02

STAND BY FOR THE B/CAST
BSE NR 28 PASS 94 B.G.
HRM NR 28 PASS 95 AND 100 B.G.
SNT NR 27 PASS 96 B.G.

THE NR THE 29/22 2200B CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY
ATT: 9-2

4BW U598D 22-6-43

REPORT ON FIRST WING OPERATIONS , JUNE 22

TARGETS: HULS AND ANTWERP

- A. DESIGNATED UNITS 91, 92, 303, 305, 306, 351, 279, 94, 95, 96.
- B. NO A/C DISPATCHED 235
- C. ABORTIVE A/C 43: 2 SPARE FROM 305TH GROUP
- D. NO A/C ON TARGET 169 ON PRIMARY HULSC NORTH OF RECKHAUSEN = 1 A/C ON VLIELAND: 1 ON DORTMUND: 11YB-40S
- E. NO A/C LOST 16
- F. BOMBING RESULTS GOOD
- G. PERSONAL CASUALTIES 2- 21- 160
- H. ENEMY AIR OPPOSITION STRONG TO MEDIOCRE
- I. FLAK INTENSE TO MODERATE
- J. WEATHER APPROACHING TARGET 6/10 TO 8/10.
CLEAR OVER TARGET
- K. OBSERVATIONS AND TONS ON TARGET 427.5 TONS

PART 2 ATTACK ON ANTWERP

- A. DESIGNATED UNITS 381- 284
- B. NO A/C DISPATCHED 41
- C. ABORTIVE A/C 1
- D. NO A/C ON TARGET NO REPORT AS YET FROM 2 A/C LANDED AWAY FROM BASE. PRIMARY 36. G. H. PLANT AT ANTWERP.
- E. NO A/C LOST 4
- F. BOMBING RESULTS GOOD TO FAIR
- G. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES 1 - 4 - 40
- H. ENEMY AIR OPPOSITION STRONG TO MEDIOCRE
- I. FLAK MODERATE
- J. WEATHER GOOD
- K. OBSERVATIONS AND TONS ON TARGET 90 TONS

COMBOMWIG FOUR

CC IN PART 1 D. (NORTH OF RECKLING-HAUSEN)
T.O.D. 2244/22 WMD VA+

Wing 945
STRT

NARRAT

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

S-1

APPROXIMATELY 80 E/A, PRINCIPALLY FW.190S AND ME-109S WERE ENCOUNTERED. THE ATTACKS STARTED TWENTY MILES OFF DUTCH COAST AND CONTINUED UNTIL FIGHTER ESCORT MET US, FIFTEEN MILES EAST OF ROTTERDAM. ME-110, JU-88, JU-87 AND ME-210 OF VARIED COLORS WERE SEEN. THERE WERE NO PARTICULAR METHODS OF ATTACK, THE E/A COMING IN FROM ALL CLOCK POSITIONS, AND ALL LEVELS, HOWEVER 95 GP REPORTED ATTACKS FROM ABOVE, PRINCIPALLY FROM ELEVEN AND ONE O'CLOCK. ATTACKS WERE NOT VIGOROUSLY PRESSED, AND LASTED APPROXIMATELY FORTY MINUTES. TWO AERIAL BOMBS WERE DROPPED FROM A JU-88, AND VERY LONG CANNON FLASHES WERE SEEN FROM ONE FW-190. OF TWENTY CLAIMS REPORTED FROM ONE GROUP FOURTEEN WERE FRONTAL AND AT ALL LEVELS.

S-2

MEAGRE, ACCURATE GUN FIRE RECEIVED FROM VLIELAND. MEAGRE TO MODERATE INACCURATE RECEIVED FROM WEST COAST OF ZUIDER ZEE. MODERATE TO INTENSE ACCURATE GUN FIRE FROM I.P. TO AND OVER TARGET, MODERATE INACCURATE GUN FIRE RECEIVED FROM ROTTERDAM.

S-3

FIVE B-12 WERE LOST. ONE A/C 02-11 OF THE 95GP HAD ITS NOSE AND TAIL SHOT OFF BY FOUR E/A, JUST AFTER DROPPING ITS BOMBS ON THE TARGET. IT LEVELLED OFF AT 5,000 FT AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT IT CRASH LANDED. FROM 4-10 CHUTES WERE SEEN. A B-17 EXPLODED APPROACHING I.P. AFOER SPIRALING DOWN TO 20,000' AT 0935, NEAR VARSEVELD AN A/C WAS SEEN TO EXPLODE= ALSO NEAR MUNSTER A B-17 EXPLODED AT 0948. A B-17 REPORTED HIT OVER TARGET WAS SEEN NEAR ARNHEM WITH EIGHT CHUTES OPENING.

S-4 NONE

S-5 NOT AVAILABLE

S-6

BALLOON BARRAGE WEST OF TARGET NORTH OF DORSTEN.

S-7

LARGE FIRE AND HEAVY SMOKE OBSERVED OVER TARGET. FIGHTER SUPPORT SPELLED OUT LETTERS "U.S." WITH VAPOR TRAILS. MORALE OF OUR CREWS HIGH AFTER RAID.

S-8

HIGH PRAISE FOR FIGHTER SUPPORT FROM ALL CREWS.

S-9

SIXTY-THREE B-17S OF THE 4TH BOMB WING TOOK OFF STARTING AT 0610, AND FOLLOWED THE BRIEFED COURSE. 49 A/C REACHED THE PRIMARY TARGET DROPPING 243 X 1000 LB COMBS. FOURTEEN A/C 1000 LB COMBS DROPPED BEFORE TARGET. ONE A/C OF 95TH GROUP JETTISONED 2 X 1000 LB COMBS SHOT DOWN. ONE A/C OF 95TH GROUP JETTISONED 2 X 1000 LB COMBS ABOVE AND TYPHOONS BELOW WAS MOST WELCOME, AND HELPED TO RAISE MORALE TO A VERY HIGH POINT. THE CREWS WERE ENTHUSIASTIC UPON RETURN. AN OBSERVATION REPORTED SEVERAL TIMES WAS A "BRICK RED" VAPOR RISING FROM TARGET AFTER BOMBING.

100TH GROUP DIVERSION.

21 A/C OF THE 100TH GROUP FLEW A DIVERSION INTO THE NORTH SEA, AT 0820 HOURS. NO BOMBS WERE CARRIED. ALL PLANES LANDED AT APPROX 1215. NO E/A OR FLAK ENCOUNTERED.

COBOMWIG FOUR

HOLD

TOD 1724/23 P.A. VA+
THE R 231721B WUM VA

STATISTICS.

- 4TH BOMBARDMENT WING 94, 95, 96 GPs.
 - 63
 - 49
 - 0
 - 0
 - 0
 - 14
 - 2
 - 3
 - 0
 - 0
 - 0943-0947
 - 22,000 - 24,000 FT.
 - 243 X 1,000
 -1- 315 X 1,000
 -2- 10 X 1,000
 - 27 X 1,000
 - 35 X 1,000
 - 0-1-6-50
 - 19-12-9

NARRATIVE MISSION, HULS.

1-1 APPROXIMATELY 80 E/A, PRINCIPALLY FW.190S AND ME-109S WERE ENCOUNTERED. THE ATTACKS STARTED TWENTY MILES OFF DUTCH COAST AND CONTINUED UNTIL FIGHTER ESCORT MET US, FIFTEEN MILES EAST OF ROTTERDAM. ME-110, JU-88, JU-87 AND ME-210 OF VARIED COLORS WERE SEEN. THERE WERE NO PARTICULAR METHODS OF ATTACK, THE E/A COMING IN FROM ALL CLOCK POSITIONS, AND ALL LEVELS, HOWEVER 95 GP REPORTED ATTACKS FROM ABOVE, PRINCIPALLY FROM ELEVEN AND ONE O'CLOCK. ATTACKS WERE NOT VIGOROUSLY PRESSED, AND LASTED APPROXIMATELY FORTY MINUTES. TWO AERIAL BOMBS WERE DROPPED FROM A JU-88, AND VERY LONG CANNON FLASHES WERE SEEN FROM ONE FW-190. OF TWENTY CLAIMS REPORTED FROM ONE GROUP FOURTEEN WERE FRONTAL AND AT ALL LEVELS.

2-2 NEAGRE, ACCURATE GUN FIRE RECEIVED FROM VLIELAND. NEAGRE TO MODERATE INACCURATE RECEIVED FROM WEST COAST OF ZUIDER ZEE. MODERATE TO INTENSE ACCURATE GUN FIRE FROM I.P. TO AND OVER TARGET, MODERATE INACCURATE GUN FIRE RECEIVED FROM ROTTERDAM.

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4-4 NONE

5-5 NOT AVAILABLE

6-6

BALLOON BARRAGE WEST OF TARGET NORTH OF DORSTEN.

7-7

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8-8

HIGH PRAISE FOR FIGHTER SUPPORT FROM ALL CREWS.

9-9

SIXTY-THREE B-17S OF THE 4TH BOMB WING TOOK OFF STARTING AT 0640. AND FOLLOWED THE BRIEFED COURSE. 49 A/C REACHED THE PRIMARY

Mission #10

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

1943

STAND BY FOR B/CAST

BSE 12 PASS 94GP

HRM 12 PASS 95 = 100 GPS

SNT 12 PASS 96

CONFIDENTIAL BSE - SNT - HRM - TAF V THE NR THE 18/231530B URGENT C

ADM U619D 23 JUNE 1943

ATT: A-2

TELETYPE MISSION REPORT HULS - 22 JUNE 1943, ATT. A-2

STATISTICS.

- A - 4TH BOMBARDMENT WING 94, 95, 96 GPS.
- B - 63
- C - 49
- D - 0
- E - 0
- F - 0
- G - 14
- H - 2
- I - 3
- J - 0
- K - 0
- L - 0943-0947
- M - 22,000 - 24,000 FT.
- N - 243 X 1,000
- N-1- 315 X 1,000
- N-2- 10 X 1,000
- O - 27 X 1,000
- P - 35 X 1,000
- Q - 0-1-6-50
- R - 19-12-9

NARRATIVE MISSION, HULS.

S-1

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Sortie No. 10)
Mission No. 10)

22 June 1943

TARGET: Synthetic Rubber Plant at Huls, near Recklinghausen.

17 A/C took off at 0710. 16 attacked target, one A/C aborting by reason of oxygen freezing in ball turret. Lead ship bombed at 0944. Bomb load 7 x 1000 GP. Large fire and heavy smoke over target. Fighter support spelled out U.S. with vapor trails. Morale of crews high after mission. Approximately 80 E/Am principally FW 190's and Me 109's, were encountered. Attacks started 20 minutes off Dutch coast and continued until fighter escort met the Group. E/A attacked from all clock positions and from all levels. Attacks not vigorously pressed and lasted about 40 minutes. Flak accurate and from meagre to intense. One A/C (Capt Bunch) was lost. Nose and tail shot off by 4 E/A just after it dropped its bombs. Levelled off at 5000 feet, possibly crash-landed. 4 to 10 'chutes reported as seen. E/A claims: 5-5-3.

VIII BC Narrative: Primary effort directed against important Synthetic Rubber Plant at Huls, where 170 B-17's dropped 1202 x 500 and 242 x 1000 GP with good results. As a secondary effort 39 B-17's attacked Ford and General Motors Plants at Antwerp, dropping 191 x 1000 GP with fair results. 21 B-17's from 100th Group carried out an uneventful diversion over North Sea. Bombers attacking Huls and Antwerp received withdrawal support from 23 squadrons of Spits, 2 squadrons of Typhoons, and 8 squadrons of P-47's. 20 heavy bombers mission.

235 dispatched to Huls, 183 attacked, 52 abortives, and 16 missing. E/A claims: 46-21-35. 42 dispatched to Antwerp, 39 attacked, 3 abortives, and 4 missing. E/A claims: 1-2-9.

Bender

Mason O'Neal

Lindley

Thompson

Hamilton

Adams Ering

Rothschild Robichaud
(ABORT)

Knowlton Johnson

Eastling

Tyler

McPherson Massey

South

Bunch
(MISSING)

WASH
COMMUNICATIONS
CHANNEL

PRELIMINARY INTERPRETATION REPORT NO. S.A.359 (contd).

- E. Bursts on and in the vicinity of the pit head buildings of the Coal Mine Auguste Viktoria III/IV which adjoins and supplies the plant.
 - F. The huge volume of smoke and steam believed to be from the main power station and cooling plant. This is seen to merge with a small cloud formation above the target.
 - G. A very heavy and exceptional discharge of steam from the cooling towers adjoining the power station.
- (ix) ANNOTATED PRINT NO. 3. (SAV. 92/12-1)
- H. Two hits which have occurred to pipe lines within the plant. The print also shows further development of the bursts indicated on Annotated Print No. 2.
- (x) ANNOTATED PRINT NO. 4. (SAV 306/79 - 5)
- H. A large explosion and column of smoke resulting from direct hits on one or more of three large gasometers situated near the centre of the plant.
 - J. Numerous bursts on and in the vicinity of the Wesol-Datteln Canal to the West of the target.
- (xi) ANNOTATED PRINT NO. 5. (SAV.303/118-1)
- K. A striking oblique view showing a late stage of the immense column of smoke and steam rising from the plant after the attack. This column, it will be noted, rises above the surrounding cloud formation to an estimated height of 7500 ft.

SECRET
R.A.F. STATION,
MEDMENHAM.
TWD/C/PIW/A

DISTRIBUTION NO. 11.
Plus H.Q.F.C. 20
E: 119
I: 15
154

(iv) FIRES AND EXPLOSIONS SEEN DURING THE ATTACK.

- (a) The main power station is believed to have been hit. It is seen to be emitting great volumes of smoke and steam which mingling with a great discharge of steam from the cooling towers produces a towering column of smoke and steam which at the end of the attack rises to an estimated height of 7,500'.
- (b) A large explosion and resulting column of smoke which appears to be due to direct hits on one or all of three large gas holders near the centre of the plant is seen during the second phase of the attack.
- (c) Several fires due to direct hits on oil and other pipe lines observed. Two occur within the plant itself and one is seen on the oil pipe line from the Gelsenkirchen Synthetic oil plant near to the point where the line enters the southwest corner of the pl

(v) ADJOINING COAL MINES AND RAILWAY SIDINGS.

- (a) Hits are seen on and in the vicinity of pit head buildings of the Coal Mine Auguste Viktoria iii/iv which adjoins and serves the plant.
- (b) Numerous hits are seen on the railway sidings which are connected to the Eastern side of the plant.

(vi) BURSTS OUTSIDE IMMEDIATE TARGET AREA.

- (a) A certain number of bursts are seen outside the boundary of the plant. Details of these will be given when a full report on bomb plot is issued.

(vii) ANNOTATED PRINT NO. 1 (SAV. 303/11-28)

This print shows the large concentration of bursts which fell across the South side and the South West corner of the plant during the first phase of the attack.

- A. A number of bursts in the vicinity of the point of entry of the oil pipe line from the Gelsenkirchen Synthetic Oil Plant including one direct hit on the pipe resulting in a fire of considerable proportions (marked by arrow on print).
- B. Large concentration of bursts across the Southern part of the works which includes the main power plant, chemical plants, acetylene plants and other vital installations. It will be seen, however, that the South Eastern section of the plant is obscured by cloud and steam but the general development of the bursts suggests that many have almost certainly occurred within this area.

(viii) ANNOTATED PRINT NO. 2. (SAV. 305/79-6)

This print shows the large number of bursts across the Northern and Eastern parts of the plant, which occurred during the second phase of the attack.

- C. Large concentration of bursts across the Northern part of the plant.
- D. Numerous bursts on the railway sidings which serve the Eastern side of the plant.

PRELIMINARY INTERPRETATION REPORT NO. S.A. 359.

ATTACK ON SYNTHETIC RUBBER PLANT HULS ON 22.6.43.

SAV 303/111	22.6.43	0936 hrs	1/27,800 (F.L.12")	27,800'	'A' and 'B'
303/112	22.6.43	0938 hrs	1/25,500 (F.L.12")	25,500'	'A' and 'B'
303/113	22.6.43	0940 hrs	1/26,000 (F.L.12")	26,000'	'A' and 'B'
303/114	22.6.43	0937 hrs	1/26,500 (F.L.12")	26,500'	'A' and 'B'
303/116	22.6.43	0940 hrs	1/28,000 (F.L.12")	28,000'	'A' and 'B'
303/17	22.6.43	0940 hrs	1/50,000 (F.L.6")	25,000'	'A' and 'B'
379/4	22.6.43	0940 hrs	1/24,000 (F.L.12")	24,000'	'A' and 'B'
379/5	22.6.43	0939 hrs	1/36,000 (F.L.8")	24,000'	'A' and 'B'
379/6	22.6.43	0938 hrs	1/36,000 (F.L.8")	24,000'	'A' and 'B'
305/78	22.6.43	0935 hrs	1/25,000 (F.L.12")	25,000'	'A' and 'B'
305/79	22.6.43	0937 hrs	1/38,100 (F.L.8")	25,400'	'A' and 'B'
306/78	22.6.43	0938 hrs	1/24,400 (F.L.12")	24,400'	'A' and 'B'
306/79	22.6.43	0941 hrs	1/36,300 (F.L.8")	24,200'	'A' and 'B'
306/80	22.6.43	0938 hrs	1/36,600 (F.L.8")	24,400'	'A' and 'B'
92/12	22.6.43	0939 hrs	1/25,900 (F.L.12")	25,900'	'A' and 'B'
92/13	22.6.43	0936 hrs	1/52,000 (F.L.6")	26,000'	'A' and 'B'
351/10	22.6.43	0941 hrs	1/25,000 (F.L.12")	25,000'	'A' and 'B'
351/11	22.6.43	0935 hrs	1/25,000 (F.L.12")	25,000'	'A' and 'B'
96/7	22.6.43	0941 hrs	1/24,000 (F.L.12")	24,000'	'A' and 'B'
95/10	22.6.43	0942 hrs	1/34,950 (F.L.8")	23,300'	'A' and 'B'
95/11	22.6.43	0945 hrs	1/34,500 (F.L.8")	23,000'	'A' and 'B'
95/12	22.6.43	0943 hrs	1/23,000 (F.L.12")	23,000'	'A' and 'B'
303/118	22.6.43	0947 hrs	1/52,000 (F.L.6")	26,000'	'A' and 'B'

(i) INFORMATION RECEIVED ON ATTACK.

- (a) These photographs were taken during a daylight attack on the Synthetic Rubber Plant at HULS by 170 aircraft of U.S.A.C. on 22.6.43
- (b) The attacking force had fighter escort during the withdrawal.
- (c) A total of 243 x 1,000 lb. G.P. bombs and 1202 x 500 lb G.P. bombs were dropped.

(ii) NOTE:-

This report combined with the accompanying annotated photographs should be considered as a preliminary interpretation report only. Because of the great concentration of bursts within the target area and the difficulty of interpretation due to ground shadow and the close proximity of bursts it is impossible to give the exact location of every burst or to detail in this report the many parts of the plant that have been hit. A full report accompanied by an approximate bomb plot and annotated photographs showing all bursts will follow.

(iii) BOMB BURSTS OBSERVED.

Photographs show the aircraft to have attacked in two main waves. The first phase shows heavy concentrations across the Southern and South-Western part of the plant. Although cloud and steam obscured the South-east part the development of the bursts suggests that this area also received a number of hits.

The second phase of the attack approximately one minute afterwards shows a heavy concentration of bursts across the North and Northeastern part of the plant and the adjoining railway sidings and coal mine i.e. that part of the plant which was not affected by the first phase of the attack. The whole attack therefore resulted in bomb bursts being distributed over the whole of the plant.

H. Lockwood

SECRET.
(American CONFIDENTIAL).
25th July 1943

7

IMMEDIATE INTERPRETATION REPORT NO. K.1618.
(Subject to correction and amplification from a more detailed assessment).

Photographs taken by 542 Squadron on 24th July, 43.

Mean time of photography: 1200 hrs.

SORTIE : D/861.

SCALE: 1/17,700 (P.L.20")

LOCALITY : HÜLS.

DAMAGE ASSESSMENT.

COVER.

The Synthetic Rubber Plant at Hüls is almost entirely covered, the only portion not covered being the extreme S.E. corner, involving two or three small buildings and a few railway lines leading to the plant.

810

PERIOD UNDER REVIEW.

These photographs were taken following the attack on 22nd June, 43 by aircraft of U.S.A.A.F. The last report on damage at this plant was K.1273, issued on 12th March, 42.

PROVISIONAL STATEMENT ON DAMAGE.

The enlargement (Neg. No. 27584) distributed with this report shows the main damage to the buildings and hits on tracks; no attempt has been made here to mark the craters, which are numerous and in most instances obvious.

It is now seen that the many hits known to have been scored on this plant (reported in S.A. 359) have caused considerable damage. In spite of the camouflage to the main buildings in the centre of the plant, the hits can be seen, though it is not always possible to assess the resulting damage to the buildings.

Only one of the five boiler-house chimneys is smoking and none of the cooling towers is in use.

Preliminary details are as follows:

Boiler house and power plant	at least 3 hits.
Six gas-holders	exploded.
Gas plant	slight damage
Cooling tower	damaged.
Acrylonitrile plant	at least 3 hits,
Probable Acetaldehyde plant	part destroyed.
Ethylene Glycol Derivatives plant	1 hit
Five or six sheds	damaged or part destroyed.
	(3068 and 3069).

A hit near the pipe line from the Golsenkirchen Synthetic Oil Plants has caused possible damage to pipe (3071) and there are several hits on works railway sidings and roads.

/ There is a profusion

There is a profusion of craters both inside and around the works, especially on the W. side.

One print distributed: enlargement of part of print 3069 to scale of approx. 1/6,800. (Neg. No. 27584).

Target material used: C.I.U. plan of plant.

SECRET.

R.I.F. STATION, MEDENHAM.

TAH/KRS/B.

DISTRIBUTION NO. 24.

H.Q.F.C.	20
E	135
I	31
Total :	186 copies.

INTERPRETATION REPORT NO. K. 1618

Photographs taken by 542 Squadron on 24.7.43.

Mean time of photography: 1200 hours.

Sortie D/861

Scale: 1/17,700 (P.L. 20")

Locality: HULS

DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

COVER

The Synthetic Rubber Plant at HULS is almost entirely covered, apart from the extreme S.E. part of the Works.

PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

These photographs were taken after the daylight attack by aircraft of U.S.A.A.F. on 22.5.43. Immediate Report No. K.1618 was issued on 25.7.43 and the last Detailed report was No. K.1273 issued on 12.3.42.

GENERAL STATEMENT

A high proportion of the bombs dropped fell within the target, and considerable damage is seen throughout the plant. Owing, however, to camouflage of the main buildings, the full extent of the damage to several buildings cannot be completely assessed.

Many of the most important plants and buildings have been damaged, including the A.C. CONVERTERS Plant, the BUTYLENE GLYCOL Plant, the ALDOL Plant, the ACRYLONITRILE Plant, the BUTADIENE Plant, the ACETALDEHYDE Plant, the POLYMERISATION building and the GAS COMPRESSION AND FRACTIONATION building. Other damage includes many miscellaneous buildings and sheds throughout the plant destroyed or severely damaged.

At least 6 large gas holders have been burned out and several cooling towers damaged. The pipe lines, both in the plant, and the one leading to the GELSENKIRCHEN SYNTHETIC OIL Plant have been damaged.

A few points of damage to the railways can be seen, although most of the tracks are S.E. of the plant in the area not seen on this sortie.

DETAILS OF DAMAGE

(The numbers refer to those on annotated print, which is an enlargement of a portion of Print 3069, Neg. No. 27677).

SYNTHETIC RUBBER PLANT, HULS

1. One building (140' x 40') and a small shed have been destroyed and a pipeline damaged.
2. Two sheds (100' x 35') have been destroyed, and three other sheds have received severe damage.
3. One building (375' x 35') has been half destroyed by fire, and a building (230' x 50') has slight roof damage.
4. A building (260' x 130') which is under construction, appears to have received a direct hit at the N.W. end.
5. Several small sheds and possible store buildings appear to have been destroyed.
6. Possible damage from blast to two sheds and built-up embankment.
7. An irregular-shaped building has one end severely damaged by fire and blast, and a small shed has been destroyed.

8. An overhead pipeline has been damaged by fire for at least 200 ft.
9. A small building has possible damage from a near miss.
10. An irregular-shaped shed has one section (130' x 30') destroyed by a direct hit and 2 small buildings have been destroyed.
11. A gas holder has received possible blast damage from a near miss.
12. Two sheds totalling (260' x 130') and a building (70' x 50') have been destroyed or gutted. Another building (260' x 60') has been destroyed and cleared.
13. A gas holder (130' diameter) has been burned out, and a building (240' x 90') appears to have recent roof repairs.
14. Three small buildings have been destroyed or severely damaged.
15. A building (200' x 60') has been 2/3 destroyed, and several small sheds and buildings have been demolished or damaged.
16. A gas holder and cooling tower have received possible damage from blast.
17. Of 2 buildings (125' x 50') one has been destroyed, and the other has severe roof damage.
18. The MANTALDENHEDE Plant (430' x 60') has the west end demolished over 500 sq. yds. and an additional 600 sq. yds. of roof destroyed.
19. Four probable oil storage tanks appear burned out.
20. The NO. COMBUSTERS building (250' x 75') has 1800 sq. yds of roof destroyed. (A most important plant producing IGTTIAMS).
21. A gas holder 80' in diameter, has been burned out.
22. A cooling tower (50' in diameter) appears to have received a direct hit and is severely damaged.
23. One building (120' x 30') has been destroyed, another (220' x 70') has been destroyed over 400 sq. yds, and a gas holder (80' in diameter) appears burned out.
24. Three gas holders, 120' and 95' in diameter have been exploded, and 2 to 3 small buildings destroyed.
25. A building (260' x 65') has blast damage to entire roof.
26. An L shaped building (200' x 45') has been damaged over half its area, and a building (120' x 120') has recent roof repairs over 400 sq. yds.
27. The POLYMERIZATION building (295' x 290') has received a direct hit near its centre.
28. The GAS COMPRESSION and FRIGORIFICATION building (325' x 230') has received a direct hit on W. end causing 800 sq. yds. of severe damage.
29. The GAS PLANT building (580' x 130') has roof damage at east end.
30. Building (same as above) appears to have 800 sq. yds. of roof damage over western portion.
31. A building (180' x 60') has been 1/3 destroyed.
32. Three small irregular shaped buildings have been destroyed and another damaged.

- 53. Four sheds have been destroyed by H.B. and fire, and one building (125' x 55') has roof burned off exposing 4 tanks of 30' diameters. The overhead pipeline appears damaged for 100'.
- 54. At least 1 hit on railway tracks.
- 55. At least 6 hits on railway tracks.
- 56. The pipeline to the CHELSWITCHER SYNTHETIC OIL Plant has a section severely damaged by blast and fire.
- 57. Three to four sheds and stores of probable construction job have been destroyed.
- 58. One gun of a flak position has possibly been damaged from a near miss, and adjoining ammunition stores appear to have been exploded.

The additional points of damage may be seen on print 3068 (not distributed) without stereo cover.

- 1. A building (195' x 60') has centre of roof burned off.
- 2. Building (140' x 50') (possibly roof over distillation columns) has severe damage to roof from blast and fire.
- 3. A building (120' x 60') on top storey severely damaged, and another building (50' x 50') has been destroyed. A shed and loading platform has been destroyed over 400 sq. yds.
- 4. A building (400' x 110') has received a direct hit on corner damaging 100 sq. yds.
- 5. Stores partly destroyed by a direct hit.
- 6. A direct hit has probably cut the railway tracks.
- 7. Two to three sheds and stores over an area of 1400 sq. yds have been destroyed by direct hits and fire.
- 8. A building (225' x 75') has been slightly damaged by blast at one corner.
- 9. There is a concentration of at least 25 craters near the southern boundary of the plant.

One print distributed: Enlargement of part of print 3068, to scale of approx. 1/6,800 (Reg. No. 27677).

SECRET

R.A.P. EMERSON,
MEMPHIS,
AE/CB/SPT/A

DISTRIBUTION NO. 24

H.Q.P.C.	20
E	135
I	31
Total	: 186 copies

INTERPRETATION REPORT NO. K. 1618 (Cont'd.)

33. A medium size building has been slightly damaged from near miss.
34. The BOILER HOUSE and POWER PLANT appears to have roof damage, however the camouflage makes a detailed assessment impossible.
35. The BUTADIENE PLANT (TOLL HOUSE) (285' x 40') has half of its stacks damaged by direct hits and much of the camouflage is damaged.
36. A small building has been severely damaged over 250 sq. yds.
37. A small building has been severely damaged.
38. A building 130' x 120' has been damaged on one corner, and the camouflage in this area has been destroyed over 5000 sq. yds.
39. A building (130' x 45') has roof lights gone over 2/3 of its area and a small building has been destroyed by a direct hit.
40. A building (65' x 30') has been gutted and camouflage destroyed.
41. A building (230' x 50') has been 1/2 destroyed.
42. A building (180' x 50') has received a direct hit on edge causing 100 sq. yds. of damage.
43. A small building has been destroyed, and 2 of a series of small tanks have been damaged by blast.
44. A shed (60' x 50') has been destroyed.
45. Several small sheds under camouflage have been destroyed, and a small building severely damaged.
46. The ETHYLENE GLYCOL Plant has the camouflage stripped from three of the main buildings (270' x 90', 260' x 50', and 260' x 40') and the corner of the largest building has blast marks over 200 sq. yds. A small building adjacent to above, appears severely damaged by a direct hit.
47. The ALDOL Plant (385' x 75') has 8 of 13 columns severely damaged, the building is camouflaged, but adjacent to its centre part the camouflage has been pierced.
48. Of the possible ETHYLENE GLYCOL derivatives buildings.
 - a. The main building (325' x 225') has 450 sq. yds. of roof gone.
 - b. Irregular shaped building (300' x 60') has blast damage to 200 sq. yds. of roof.
 - c. A small building has received a direct hit damaging 150 sq. yds. and a small shed has been demolished.
49. Possible ETHYLENE GLYCOL DERIVATIVES buildings, one (270' x 80') has received a direct hit on the east end, which has broken the camouflage over 200 sq. yds. Another building (220' x 200') has a probable hit on roof, the camouflage being damaged over 100 sq. yds.
50. The ACRYLONITRILE Plant has the camouflage damaged over 400 sq. yds. and one building (70' x 50') appears to have roof damage.
51. A structure (260' x 45') containing 12 columns in line has received a direct hit...

Authority NND 715-005
By K.C. NARA Date 7/17/97

HEADQUARTERS
NINTY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H),
Office of the Communications Officer

(3-1)

CONFIDENTIAL

(EQUALS BRITISH SECRET)

APD 634
22 June 1949

SUBJECT: Operational Communications on 22 June 1949.

TO : Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group, Station #119,
APO 634.

1. Of the seventeen (17) aircraft which went over the target, sixteen (16) were available for interrogation by the Communications Officer, 95th B.G.
2. Mechanical and electrical failures were as follows:
 - (a) 336C, interphone system faulty, being investigated and corrected;
 - (b) 336K, interphone system faulty, being checked and corrected;
 - (c) 412R, interphone poor at altitude;
 - (d) 412U, interphone system out, being repaired.
3. Other failures beyond control of this department were:
 - (a) 336C, command antenna shot away, being replaced;
 - (b) 336K, command antenna shot away, being replaced;

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 712,005
By K.C. NARA Date 7/17/97

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

5. Radio communications and navigational aid reception was quite satisfactory. It has again been brought to the attention of this department that Radio Silence should be maintained prior to take-off.

RICHARD F. INOX
1st Lieut., A.C.
Communications