

DECLASSIFIED  
 Authority MWD 745005  
 By DTD NARA Date 2/14/71

*H. Lockwood*

*JRW*

SECRET.  
 (American CONFIDENTIAL)  
 26.8.43.

INTERPRETATION REPORT NO. S.A.483.

ATTACK ON BORDEAUX/MERIGNAC AIRFIELD ON 24.8.43.

Photographs:

SAV 96/44	4-12	24.8.43.	1158 hrs.	1:20500	(F.L. 12")	20,500'	'A'
96/45	3-13	"	1158 hrs.	1:20500	(F.L. 12")	20,500'	'A'
55/94	1-4	"	?		Obliques (F.L. 6")	21,000'	'A'
56/94	1-4	"	?		Obliques (F.L. 6")	21,000'	'A'
62/94	1-2	"	?		Obliques (F.L. 6")	21,000'	'A'

(i) INFORMATION RECEIVED ON THE ATTACK.

- (a) These photographs were taken during a daylight attack on Bordeaux/Merignac Airfield by 57 aircraft of U.S.B.C. on 24.8.43.
- (b) 567 x 500 lb. G.P. bombs were dropped.
- (c) There was no fighter escort.

(ii) BOMB BURSTS OBSERVED.

- (a) The attack developed from the S.S.E.
- (b) A large concentration of bomb bursts is seen at the E. end of the E. dispersal area. At least one aircraft shelter appears to have received a direct hit and three others near misses. The great majority of bursts are in the wood adjoining the Eastern boundary of the airfield, where an ammunition dump is reported. Many are seen among a group of huts in the wood.
- (c) A cloud of smoke immediately S.E. of the airfield is seen on oblique photographs and is probably from a further concentration of bomb bursts not seen on the vertical photographs.
- (d) A cluster of bomb bursts, probably 40 to 50 in number, is seen approximately 7 1/4 miles S.S.W. of the target, in open country near the railway line from Bordeaux to the coast.

ANNOTATED PRINT NO. I (SAV 96/45-12)

- A. A large cluster of bursts, too numerous and too concentrated to count, outside the Eastern boundary of the airfield.
- B. Of this concentration, at least 16 are among the aircraft shelters in the Eastern dispersal area, at least one shelter having received a direct hit and three near misses.
- C. A group of hits is partly covered by bomb bursts in the wood where an ammunition dump is reported to be situated.

ANNOTATED PRINT NO. II (O.62-1-94, 24.8.43).

- A. Smoke from the bursts seen at A on Print No. I.
- D. Smoke from a probable further concentration of bursts to S.E. of airfield.

ANNOTATED PRINT NO. III (O.56-1-94, 24.8.43)

- E. A concentration of bomb bursts, probably 40 - 50 in number, in / Open country

Authority 44074500  
By [unclear] NARA Date [unclear]  
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SECRET.

Page 2.

open country approximately 7 1/4 miles S.S.W. of the airfield,  
immediately S. of the railway line from Bordeaux to la Teste  
de Buch.

(iii) ACCOMPANYING PRINTS.

Annotated Print No. I is being generally distributed with  
this report, and will follow as soon as possible.

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DISTRIBUTION NO. 11

R.A.F. STATION,  
MEDMENHAM.

E : 122  
I : 22  

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144

TDW/C/KWS/A.



*Duplicate*

COMBAT DUPLICATION CHECK FORM

*95th Bomb GP.  
24-8-43*

