

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND745005

By KJ NARA Date 02/17/09

Sortie No. 41)  
Mission No 36)

2 October 1943

TARGET: Town Area of Emden, Germany.

1. 25 A/C took off to bomb the center of the town of Emden. Three spare A/C returned because they were not needed. All 22 A/C bombed the target. A/C #0244, which took off late filled the diamond of the low Sq of the 390th Gp.

VIII BC Narrative: The primary target was Emden where 186 A/C were dispatched, 180 attacked, 6 failed to bomb and 1 is missing. The target was covered by 10/10 cloud, so the formations bombed on markers placed by two Pathfinder planes of the 482nd Gp. Bombing results could not be observed because of the cloud cover. E/A claims 13-6-8.

161 A/C were dispatched to Emden, 157 attacked, 4 failed to bomb and one is missing. E/A claims 2-0-4.

MCPHERSON

KNOWLTON

ADAMS

WITT

CROWDER

SNOW

BROMAN

YUENGER

KRING

CARSON

EASTLING

ROBINSON

BUCKLEY

RIGGS

TUCKER

CROCKETT

FRANCIS

CASPERS

ROTHSCHILD

SCOTT

CORREIA

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

APO 634,  
8 October, 1943.

SUBJECT: S-3 Narrative Report of Operational Mission 2 October, 1943.

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

1. The 95th Bombardment Group (H) was alerted at 1705, 1 October, 1943 for an Operational Mission with a bomb loading of 12 x 500 pound bombs with 1/10 second nose and 1/40 second tail fuse.

2. Field Order number 69 was received at 2054, 1 October, 1943 and called for 21 crews. The 95th Group was set up as the low group of the 13th Combat Wing Formation with four extra aircraft two of which were to fill in any abortions of the 100th group. Twenty-Five crews were made ready and took off as scheduled. There were no abortions. Three of our extra ships returned early because they were not needed, the fourth extra filling in with the 390th Group giving us 22 aircraft over the target.

3. The 95th Groups bombs were dropped in accordance with "Tentative Operational Instructions No. 31" with undetermined results as the target was completely overcast.

4. Four of our aircraft received minor battle damage and all twenty-two returned to base at 1808 hours.

CHARLES M. FORNEY,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Asst Operations Officer.

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

2 October 1943

SUBJECT: S-2 Report.

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

1. Twenty five A/C took off from this base at 1250 hrs. to bomb the center of the town of Eaden, Germany. Three spare A/C numbered #3462, #3283, and #0342 returned because they were not needed. Another A/C numbered #0244, which took off late, filled the diamond of the low squadron of the 390th Group.

2. Twenty-Two A/C from this Group returned here at 1829 hours. The route followed was slightly to the north of the briefed course both into and away from the target. We cannot account for the slight deviation from the briefed course as we were following the Pathfinder.

3. This Group had no abortatives. All Twenty-Two A/C from this Group bombed the target. The lead ship from this Group bombed the target at 1601½ hrs.

4. This Group was flying the low position, and the target was attacked from a heading of 60 degrees magnetic.

CLYDE H. BINGHAM,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Ass't. S-2 Officer.

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By **KJ** NARA Date **02/17/09**

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

**APC 654  
3 October 1945**

**SUBJECT: Navigation Report on Operations of 2 October 1945.**

**TO : Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (H), APC 654.**

1. The rendezvous was met on the briefed point on time, with the Ninety Fifth Bombardment Group flying as low group of the Thirteenth Combat Wing.
2. The wing followed a course to the north of the briefed course, both on the route out and the route back, and corrected around the flank on the Presian Islands. The bombs were dropped through the undercast one minute after zero hour.
3. Seven "Gee" boxes were in operation; one of which was inoperative because of a broken connection. The results were good to  $55^{\circ} 55' N$   $05^{\circ} 50' E$ .
4. Log book procedures were good, and one compass failure has been reported to the proper authority.

**ELLIS B. SCRIPTURE  
Capt., Air Corps,  
Group Navigation Officer.**

FORMATION DIAGRAM

95TH BOMB. GROUP (B)

DATE 2-10-4

TIME TAKE

EMDEN

EXTRA

OFF-GR

20

ADAMS / 0817

FISCHER / 0226

YULENER / 3400

ROBINSON / 0634

BARRACLOUGH / 3317

ROUSSEAU / 0674

CORREIA / 0377

SCOTT / 4098

KALONSTEAD / 0178

BROWN / 0272

EASTMAN / 3465

CRACKETT / 3263

O'NEAL / 3283

SALAM / 0182

CROWDER / 0120

TUCKER / 5918

EXTRA

NO SHIP - CARTER / 0332  
PF 370TH GP

MCPHERSON / 0135

WILLI / 9943

CARON / 6080

RICE / 5776

EXTRAS

ONE

(Kerr)

0074  
5,000

95TH  
3,000

BUCKLEY / 0273

ONE

Bomber Command Narrative of Operations  
106th Operation - 2 October, 1943

Mission No. 1 - Emden  
Mission No. 2 - Emden  
Mission No. 3 - Airfield in Holland

Emden, the important port at the North Sea terminal of the Dortmund/Ems canal, was attacked by two Air Task Forces which were dispatched by the 1st and 3rd Bombardment Divisions. The target was covered by 10/10 cloud, so the formations bombed on markers placed by two Pathfinder planes of the 482nd Group. Bombing results could not be observed because of the cloud cover. Excellent fighter support was furnished by VIII Fighter Command P-47s, and the bomber formations had only mediocre e/a opposition. Two of the B-17s failed to return and claims are 15-6-12.

The 2nd Bombardment Division dispatched a small force of B-24s to make an attack on an airfield in Holland. The bombers found their target covered by 10/10 cloud and returned to bases without bombing in accordance with policy of only bombing in occupied countries when the target can be seen. Fighter support was provided by RAF Typhoons and Spitfires. The bombers had no opposition.

Unit	Number of A/C					Claims	Personnel Casualties		
	(Dispatched)	(Attacked)	(Failed)	(Lost)	(To Bomb+)		(Killed)	(Wounded)	(Missing)
<u>3RD BOMB DIV.</u>									
<u>MISSION NO. 1</u>									
<u>EMDEN</u>									
			To	Bomb+					
			A.	B.					
94	23	22	1	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0
95	22	22	0	0	0	6-1-2	0	0	0
96	42	39	3	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0
100	26	26	0	0	0	3-3-2	0	0	0
385	25	23	2	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0
388	21	21	0	0	1	0-0-0	0	0	10
390	27	27	0	0	0	4-2-4	0	0	0
	<u>186</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>13-6-8</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10</u>

<u>1ST BOMB DIV.</u>									
<u>MISSION NO. 2</u>									
<u>EMDEN</u>									
			To	Bomb+					
			A.	B.					
91	16	15	1	0	0	0-0-2	0	1	0
92	19	17	1	1	0	0-0-0	0	0	0
303	19	19	0	0	1	1-0-1	0	1	11
305	17	16	0	1	0	0-0-0	0	0	0
306	18	18	0	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0
351	19	19	0	0	0	1-0-0	0	0	0
379	17	17	0	0	0	0-0-1	0	0	0
381	19	19	0	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0
384	17	17	0	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0
	<u>161</u>	<u>157</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2-0-4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>11</u>

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

<u>MISSION NO. 3</u>		<u>Number of A/C</u>					<u>Claims</u>	<u>Personnel Casualties</u>		
		<u>(Dispatched Attacked Failed Lost)</u>						<u>(Killed Wounded Missing)</u>		
		<u>To Bomb+</u>								
		<u>A.</u>	<u>B.</u>							
392	21	0	0	21	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	
<u>PATHFINDER</u>										
482	2	2	0	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	
TOTALS	370	339	8	23	2	15-6-12	0	2	21	

+ Failed to Bomb - A - Mechanical and Equipment Failures.

B - Other than Mechanical and Equipment Failures (includes weather, enemy action, recall, etc.)

MISSION NO. 1 - EMDENMISSION NO. 2 - EMDEN

1st Bombardment Division dispatched 161 B-17s, and the 3rd Bombardment Division dispatched 186 B-17s. The Air Task Force composed of 3rd Bombardment planes attacked Emden first, and those of the 1st Bombardment Division followed. Each Task Force was led by a Pathfinder plane of the 482nd Group and bombed on markers because the target was so covered by heavy cloud that visual bombing was impossible. Bombing results could not be observed. E/A opposition was only mediocre because of the excellent fighter support provided by VIII Fighter Command P-47s. Two B-17s were lost and claims are 15-6-12.

BOMBING RESULTS: 180 B-17s of the 3rd Bombardment Division and 156 B-17s of the 1st Bombardment Division dropped 2795 x 500 G.P., 93 x 1000 G.P., both fused 1/10 sec. nose and 1/40 sec. tail, and 4160 x 100 I.B. on Emden. The attack developed in two main waves with the 3rd Bombardment Division attacking from 1557 - 1603 hours from 22,800 - 25,000 ft., and the 1st Bombardment Division planes attacked from 1604 - 1610 hours from 22,000 - 24,350 ft. Because the target was obscured by cloud it was not possible to observe results. PRU photo reconnaissance cover was taken at 1000 hours on 3 October, 1943. This is the first cover taken since the VIII Bomber Command attacks of 27 September and this date, as well as the smaller night attacks by RAF Bomber Command on 22/23 and 27/28 September, 1943. The photographs taken show that little or no damage was done in the town of Emden. Main heavy damage occurred in the area of the Binnen Hafen. The Nordsee Werke, a No. 1 priority target, suffered considerably, and a very heavy concentration of bombs has fallen around the Binnen Hafen, principally on the west side. The new work shops of the Nordsee Werke sustained several direct hits which caused a great deal of damage. An unidentified work shop has been wrecked and the railway lines to the works are blocked. In the Binnen Hafen, a very great number of buildings, including the Hammerwerk, have been destroyed. Dock facilities and dock walls also suffered extensive damage. One merchant vessel was sunk and is awash. Two floating docks were damaged and sunk. The railway yards south of the railway dock have received numerous hits which damaged both the tracks and the rolling stock.

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dropped 6 x 500 G.P., 4 x 1000 G.P., and 82 x 100 I.B. on targets of opportunity. Results were not observed.

REASONS FOR FAILURE TO BOMB: Mission No. 1 - 6 a/c failed to bomb because of mechanical and equipment failures.

Mission No. 2 - 4 a/c failed to bomb - 2 because of mechanical and equipment failures, 1 failed to see the flares placed by the Pathfinder Plane and 1 was unable to catch the formation because of late take off.

ENCOUNTERS: Mission No. 1 - Fighter opposition was light with about 20 of 30 e/a seen attacking. Attacks which were sporadic and not vigorous started just prior to the target on the route in and lasted for about thirty minutes. Fighter cover was evidently very effective as e/a were seen to fly with the formation from time to time without attacking, apparently attempting to simulate fighter cover. Me-109s were predominant, with some FW-190s. Two Me's which attacked the rear group were reported equipped with rockets under the wings. Aerial bombing with parachutes was reported with unobserved results.

Mission No. 2 - From 5 to 30 e/a were encountered or observed in the target area - mostly FW-190s and Me-109s. Attacks were considered weak because of the excellent P-47 support. E/A approached the formations in the same formation as friendly fighters and would fly parallel and then peel off to attack. Some tail attacks were made singly from 5, 6 and 7 o'clock from not nearer than 300 yards. A few passes were made from head-on. Some e/a flew through the formation and made passes as they did so. Other attacks were made from high at 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9 o'clock and low at 7 o'clock. E/A generally were encountered first at the I.P. and continued until well out to sea.

CASUALTIES: Mission No. 1 - Personnel - 10 crew members are missing.  
Equipment - 1 B-17 was lost because of AA fire.  
Estimated Battle Damage - 8 category "A" and 1 category "AC".

Mission No. 2 - Personnel - 2 crew members were slightly wounded and 11 are missing.

Equipment - 1 B-17 was lost to e/a.  
Estimated Battle Damage - 13 category "A".

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE: Mission No. 1 - Moderate accurate fire was encountered at Emden where a possible barrage was reported. In Emden area several unusually large bursts were seen which seemed to form an ascending column, one burst occurring every five or six seconds. Other fire was meagre and inaccurate and of an unseen continuously pointed type, with cloud cover hindering pin pointing.

Mission No. 2 - AA fire was reported as being meagre to moderate and generally inaccurate at coast and the target area.

ROUTE: Mission No. 1 - Bases to Louth to 53°00'N - 04°30'E, to 53°45'N - 06°30'E to Schiermonnikoog to Groningen to Emden to 53°41'N - 06°58'E, to 53°59'N - 00°30'E to Cromer to Bases.

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Lon No. 2 - Bases to Cromer to 53°58'N - 04°53'E, to 53°50'N - 06°18'E, to 53°20'N - 07°05'E, to target to 53°55'N - 07°15'E, to 53°42'N - 03°08'E, to 52°54'N - 01°25'E to bases.

FIGHTER SUPPORT: Five groups of three squadrons each of P-47s supported the B-17s. 195 P-47s provided escort and 51 acted as withdrawal cover. Bomber crews reported the fighter support to be excellent. The P-47s claim 5 e/a destroyed, 3 probably destroyed, and 1 damaged without loss to themselves.

OBSERVATIONS: There were no observations because of heavy cloud which obscured the ground.

MISSION NO. 3 - AIRFIELD IN HOLLAND

The 2nd Bombardment Division dispatched 21 B-24s to attack an assigned airfield in Holland. Because the target was so obscured by cloud that visual bombing could not be accurate, the B-24s returned without attacking. They had no encounters but did experience AA fire at Zeebrugge, Knocke, Terneuzen, Kloosterzande, Klundert, Woensdrecht and Antwerp. The AA fire was generally accurate for altitude, but inaccurate for deflection and appeared to be predictor controlled.

Fighter support was furnished by 25 RAF Typhoons and 48 RAF Spitfires. All of the B-24s returned to base.

WEATHER

EMDEN: Route Out - On the route over the North Sea there was 5/10 to 7/10 cumulus, increasing to 9/10 to 10/10 over the continent. Target: 9/10 to 10/10 cumulus with visibility of 10+ miles. Return Route: 9/10 to 10/10 cumulus over continent decreased to 2/10 to 4/10 over North Sea.

Airfield in Holland (not attacked): Route Out - Over the North Sea there was 6/10 cumulus which increased to 10/10 over continent and target. Return Route: Similar to route out.

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