British SECTET couals U.S.SECRET 23.12.43

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INTERPRETATION REPORT SA. 704.

ATTACK ON MUNSTER ON 22.12.43.

- (1) INFORMATION RECEIVED ON THE ATTACK.
 - (a) These photographs were taken during a daylight attack on MUNSTER by 197 aircraft of US VIII Bomber Command at 1354 hours on 22.12.43.
 - (b) Bombs were dropped as follows:

908 x 500 lb. GP 1156 x 250 lb. IB 1338 x 100 lb. IB

- (c) Full fighter escort was provided.
- (d) The aircraft approached the target from the West.
- (ii) BOMB BURSTS ON AND NEAR THE TARGET.
 - (a) The entire city of MUNSTER and most of the surrounding countryside are largely cloud obscured. No bombs are seen bursting within the target area but markers appear immediately North and East of the target and bombs are seen falling nearby.

(iii) OTHER BURSTS.

- (a) Markers are seen East of the Dortmund/Ems Canal which forms the Eastern boundary of the target. Incendiary bombs dropped on these fell in open fields and sparsely settled areas near WERSE and South of HANSDOFF, 3 miles Northeast of the target. On largely cloud obscured photographs incendiaries are also seen on both sides of the Dortmund Ems Canal 2 miles North of MUNSTER.
- (b) Incendiaries and GP bombs are also in the following localities:
 - 1. South of TELCTE, $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles East of the target, GP bombs are seen falling but no bursts are observed. They probably landed in open fields southeast of the village. A second group is seen bursting South of the Ems river, 1 mile Northwest of the village, and a third in a wooded area West of WESTBEVERN.
 - 2. Three markers are visible over the airfield at HANDORF-BEI-MUNSTER 4 miles East Northeast of MUNSTER. GP bombs on these markers appear to have landed East of the airfield but no bursts are seen.
 - 3. Scattered bursts of GP bombs are seen near and Northeast of EINEN, $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles East of MUNSTER. Heavy cloud prevents an accurate count of these bursts.
 - 4. A group of incendiaries are seen bursting in open fields North of MILTE, 14 miles East Northeast of MUNSTER. The scale of the photographs and cloud again prevents an accurate count of these bursts.
- (iv) ACTIVITY AT THE TIME OF THE ATTACK.
 - A G.A.F. Controlling Station at HANDORF PEI-MUNSTER is covered on largely cloud obscured photographs. No useful statement concerning activity can be made.
- (v) BOME PLOTS ANDPRINTS.

No bomb plot or annotated prints will be generally distributed with this report.

(vi) PHOTOGRAPHS RECEIVED.

SORTIES	DATE	MEAN TIME	SCALE	FOCAL LENGTH	MEAN <u>ALTITUDE</u>	OLTY
SAV 385/96, 97	22.12.43	1354	1/39,000	8n	26,0001	101
SAV 94/194 thru	198 "	1354	1/41,000	711	24,0001	*C*
SAV 100/116 thru		14.03	1/43,000	711	25,5001	1 C1
SAV 390/102 thru	106 "	1403	1/41,000	7"	23,700	1 C1
SAV 482/47, 48	11 1	1404	1/45,000	711	26,5001	1,01
SAV 96/98,99	ye ye Maria	1404	1/41,000	711	24,000'	1 C 1
SAV 388/101 thru	103 "	$1404\frac{1}{2}$	1/43,000	711	25,0001	101
0 - 34-10-3881	11		wn 1/50,000) 6n	25,0001	101
SAV 95/207 thru 2	212 "	1405	1/48,000	711	28,0001	1 C 1
SAV 44/103 thru	L08 "	Unkno	wn 1/36,000) 8n	24,0001	101

The following sorties are F.L.12"

385/96 (1/25,0001) 96/99 (1/26,0001)

SECRET		J.,	DISTRIBUTION NO.11.
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R.A.F. STATION,			E: 154
MEDIENHAM.	 •	‡	1: LL
/MGB/A.			H.Q.F.C: 20
· / PMD/410			10)

Authority NND745005

By KJ NARA Date 02 17 109

Authority NND745005

By KJ NARA Date 02/17/09

Lyons

PY DR.L.S.

SECRET.

BY D.R.L.S.

From: Hwadquarters, Bomber Command.

BOMBER COMMAND INTELLIGENCE REPORT NO. 3920 - 24th. DECEMBER, 1943.

RAID ASSESSMENT SUMMARY OF THE 22nd. DECEMBER, 1943.

GERMANY:

BREMEN: Photographs taken on the 21st. December after several U.S.A.A.F. attacks, the last being on the 20th. December, cover the town except the Industrie Hafen and parts to the North. Smoke from fires still burning renders interpretation difficult but it can be seen that damage to industrial and shipping facilities is extensive, and a large number of warehouses along the Hafens I and II have been gutted or damaged. The petroleum refinery and the blending plant of Mineralcel Raffinerie vorn August Korff to the west of the Atlas Werke Shipbuilding Yards is damaged, and fires are still burning in this area. A medium sized M/V is on fire and there is some damage to the buildings in the yards. Considerable business and residential damage has been caused in the district of Doventors.

RAID ASSESSMENT SUMMARY OF THE 23rd. DECEMBER, 1943.

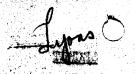
GERMANY:

HAMBURG: An unconfirmed report states that in the daylight attack by the U.S.A.A.F. on the 13th December, the majority of the bombs fell in the industrial district of Harburg and in the harbour area. In Harburg, which was the one district which had suffered little in previous attacks, the station was hit and considerable damage was caused to factories and housing.

Distribution
As for previous reports.

LOYD

Chief Intelligence Officer.



British SECRET equals U.S. SECRET.

22nd January 1944.

NEGATIVE DAMAGE REPORT NO.K.N.238.

Photographs taken by U.S. 7 PH Group on 21, Jan 1944.

Mezn time of Photography: 1500 A hours.

. SORTIE: AA/587.

SCATE: 1/22.800 (F.L.20")

LCCALITY: OS NABRÜCK,

COVER AND QUALITY.

The town of CSNABRUCK, with the exception of a small area immediately to the N.E. of the main railway station, is covered on photographs of good quality (Scale 1:22,800).

PERIOD UNDER REVIEW.

Those photographs were taken 30 days after the area attack by 8th U.S.A.A.F. with fighter escort on 22 Dec 1943. The last report on damage to OSNABRUCK was Interpretation Report No.K.M40 (H.Q.B.C.) issued on 27 Nov.1942.

DAMACE.

No new points of damage can be seen in the town itself. There are, however, two concentrations of craters seen, one in a sparcely built up area in the district of Eversheide just over two miles to the N.W. of the town centre, and one about 2 miles further to the north. In the first of these, 80-100 craters can be counted and in the other about 45 are seen.

Some damage has been caused in the vicinity of the railway station at Eversheido where two hits (now repaired) are seen on the track just S.E. of the station and a further two hits among rolling stock in nearby sidings. Half of the roof of the station itself has been destroyed by fire or H.E. and a few small points of damage can be seen among the surrounding scattered residential property.

/ No print

No print distributed.

Plan used: .D.T.M.

SECRET.

R.A.F.STATION, MEDMENHAM.

EID/PW.



3 km

British SECRET equals U.S. SECRET 2nd January, 1944

NEGATIVE DAMAGE REPORT NO. KN. 237

Photographs taken by U.S. 7 Ph Group on 23rd Oct. 1943

Mean time of photography: 1100A hours.

SORTIE: AA/476

SCALE: 1/12.500 (F.L.36")

LOCALITY: SOLINGEN

COVER ANT QUALITY

The whole of the town, except for a small area to the north west is covered on prints of fairly good quality.

The Rudolph Rautenbach Aero-Engine Casting Works is only half covered on print 8048.

PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

These photographs were taken after daylight a tacks by aircraft of 8th U.S.B.C. on 30th November 1943 and 1st Pecember 1943. No previous report on damage to Solingen has been issued. A few items of business residential damage were recorded in Immediate Interpretation Report No. K.1609 (Wuppertal) on 16th July, 1943.

DA" AGE

No fresh damage or craters can be seen,

SECRET

R.A.F.STATION,

MEDMENHAM

JSM/MJS/C

DISTRIBUTION NO.28

E: 107 I: 4

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British SECRET equals U.S. SECRET.

22nd January 1944.

NEGATIVE DAMAGE REPORT NO.KN. 240.

Photographs taken by U.S. 7Ph.GP on 21 Jan.44.

Mean time of photography: 1500 A hrs.

SORTIE: AA/587

SCALE: 1/22,800 (F.L.20")

LOCALITY: MUNSTER.

COVER AND QUALITY.

The town is fully covered on photographs of good quality (scale 1/22,803). (9026 - 8)

PERIOD UNDER REVIEW.

These photographs were taken after the attacks on 22 Dec. 43 and 4 Jan 44 by aircraft of VIII U.S. Bomber Command with fighter escort. The last report on damage at Munster was K.1819, issued on 30 Nov.43.

DAMAGE.

No fresh damage is visible. Some 16 fresh craters are seen in open ground distributed 2 to 3 miles S. of the town centre.

(9025 and 9026)

SECRET.

DISTRIBUTION NO.28.

R.A.F.STATION, MEDMENHAM. TAHM/PW. E: 103 I: 9 Authority NND745005

By KJ NARA Date 02/17/09

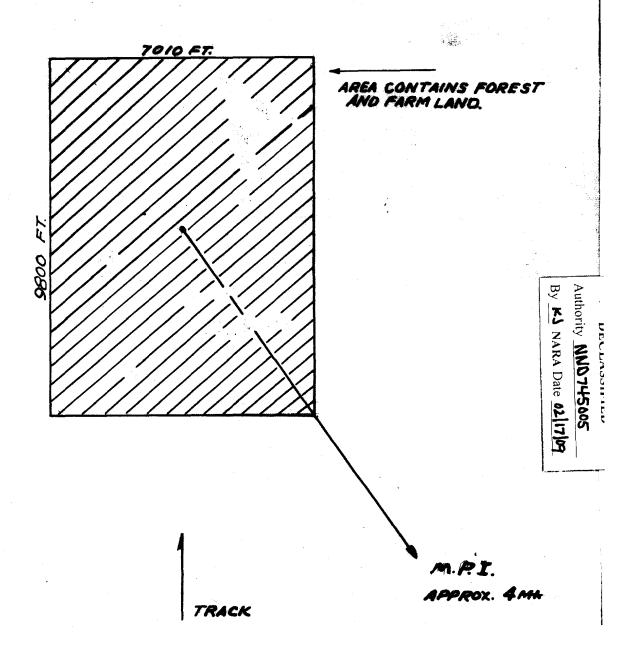
IS COMENT BOMB WING MUNSTER, 22 DEC.40

RF = 1:42,057

= AREA OF (JOCAGE 250* B. INCD #3908, 500*GP. (4 95MAP. = BURSTS POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED (INCD.)

390 GP. BOMBS OBSCURED BY CLOUDS

(1008 & 958GR: FELL 12 MILES-N85°E OF M.P.L. NEAR EINEN, GERMANY



By KJ NARA Date 02 17 09 Authority NND745005

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

APO 634 25 December 1945

SUBJECT: Operations Officers Marrative...22 December 1945...Munater.

: Commanding Officer, 95th Bemb Gp (H), APO 634. TO

1. General Narrative

95 "A" Group formation took off at 1045 - 1103 hours. Bad Weather cenditions made it necessary to assemble above the evercast at Buncher # 8. This was done without too much difficulty. The group climbed around cloud fermations and was four minutes late at Splasher # 7. The 15 Combat Wing assembly, at 1255 95 A tacked on as high group with one 390 B and 100 A. Left English Ceast 10 miles north of Orferdness at 1259 two minutes late. Good wing formation was observed leaving the coast.

Cressed enemy coast 40 south of course and intercepted briefed course in the Zuider Zee.

At the I.P. in Cembat Wing bembing fermation at 28,000 feet 95 A drepped their bembs on the flares from the PFF. A 180° turn was made to the left and Combat Wing formation resumed.

Cressed ememy ceast 1450 en course. Began descent reaching base at 1602 and landed from 1610 - 1638.

2. Aircraft not Attacking

23 A/C of the 95 A including 2 spares left base in the fermation shown in Diagram "A". A/C # 3529 returned from just off the Dutch coast. A/C # 7756 returned at 1330 from $52^{\circ}02^{\circ}N - 04^{\circ}05^{\circ}B$. A/C # 9924 returned at 1157 from ever Bungay. A/C # 7766 left the fermation just before bombs away.

19 A/C are credited with serties.

3. Aircraft Lost

A/C # 7766 was seen to leave fermation just before bembs away and is presumed lest.

> HARRY G. MUMPORD. Operations Officer.

Major, Air Corps,

Authority NN0745005

By KJ NARA Date 02 17 09

95 A A DIAGRAM

BRIEFING

STATIONS

TAKE*CFF BENEDLe Lugic

IXAT

NINETY PIFTH BOMBARDMETT GROUP (H) Office of the Operations Officer

DATE 22 December 1943 GROUP FORMATION FORM LEAD 7826 HIGH LOW 7935 0674 1063 7929 EXTRA SHIPS 334 READINESS 335 336 412

95 A

IXAT

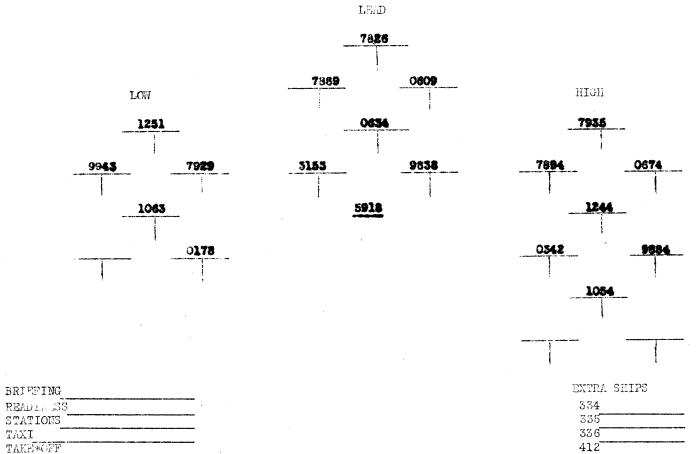
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NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMETT GROUP (H) Office of the Operations Officer

OVER TARGET

GROUP FORMATION FORM

DATE 22 December 1943



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

APO 634 26 December 1943

SUBJECT: Operations Officer's Narrative...22 December 1943....Munster.

TO: Commanding Officer, 95th Bemb Gp (H), APO 634.

1. Gameral Narrative

95 B composed of nine ships took off from base at 1030-1034 with orders to join nine aircraft from 100 B and 390 A over Buncher # 8 at 14,000. Rendezvous was made with the two other squadrons at 1146 at 14,000. 95B preceded to Combat Wing assembly line to join the 94 and 385 Groups.

Pesitions of aircraft furnished by 100th and 590th groups are indicated in attached diagram "B". Rendezvous was effected with the 94th and 585th groups to form the 4th Combat Wing with 95 B high. The climb to bembing altitude was begun at 1210 at Buncher #12 reaching 24,000 at 1254. Departing from the English Coast in good wing formation, the 4th Combat Wing left Lowestoft one minute late. The enemy coast was drossed slightly north of course at 26,000 feet at 1324.

Reaching the I P Combat Wing bombing positions were assumed. The bombs were dropped on the flare from the PFF leader with 10/10 clouds below. After the bombing, rally was effected as planned and a wide turning made. The enemycoast was recrossed at 1447 and descent began immediately. The Combat Wing reached Great Yarmouth at 1529 where the groups began breaking off. The 95 B group reached the home base at 1540 and landed at 1600-1605.

2. Aircraft Not Attacking

Six aircraft and three spares of 95 B left base in formation as shown in Diagram B. Aircraft #0235 returned at 1254. We Sortie. Hight aircraft attacked the target and are credited with sorties.

3. Aircraft Lest

Ne aircraft were lest from the 95 B Group.

HARRY G. MUMFORD, Major, Air Corps, Operations Officer. DECLASSIFIED
Authority NNO745605

By KJ NARA Date 02/17/09

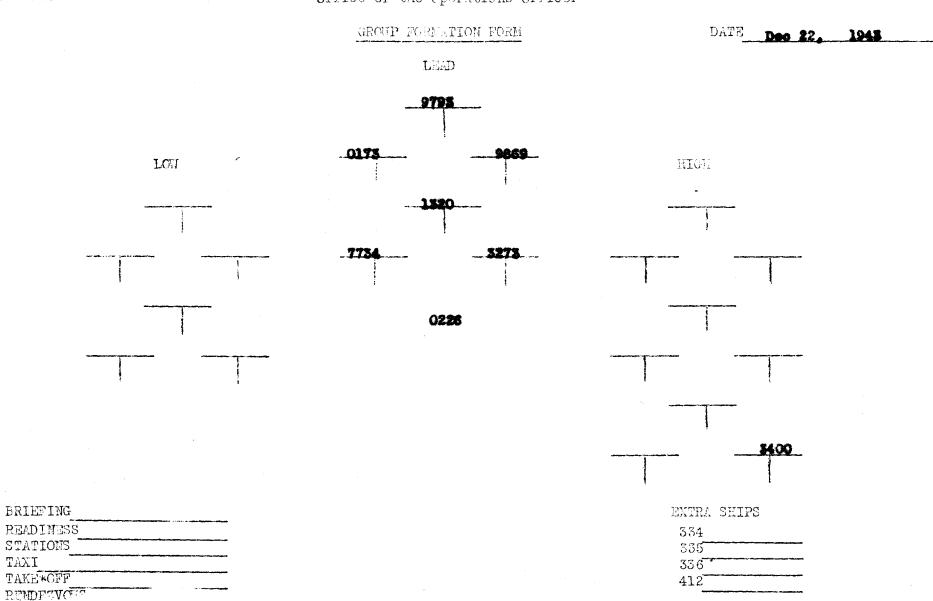
95 B B DIAGRAM	NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMET GROUP Office of the Operations Office	cer
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95 B

TAXI

OVER TARGET

MINETY FIFTH BOMBARDHATT GROUP (A) Office of the Operations Officer



HEADQUARTERS NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

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Authority NND745005

By KJ NARA Date 02[17]09

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Authority NND745005 By KJ NARA Date 02/17/09

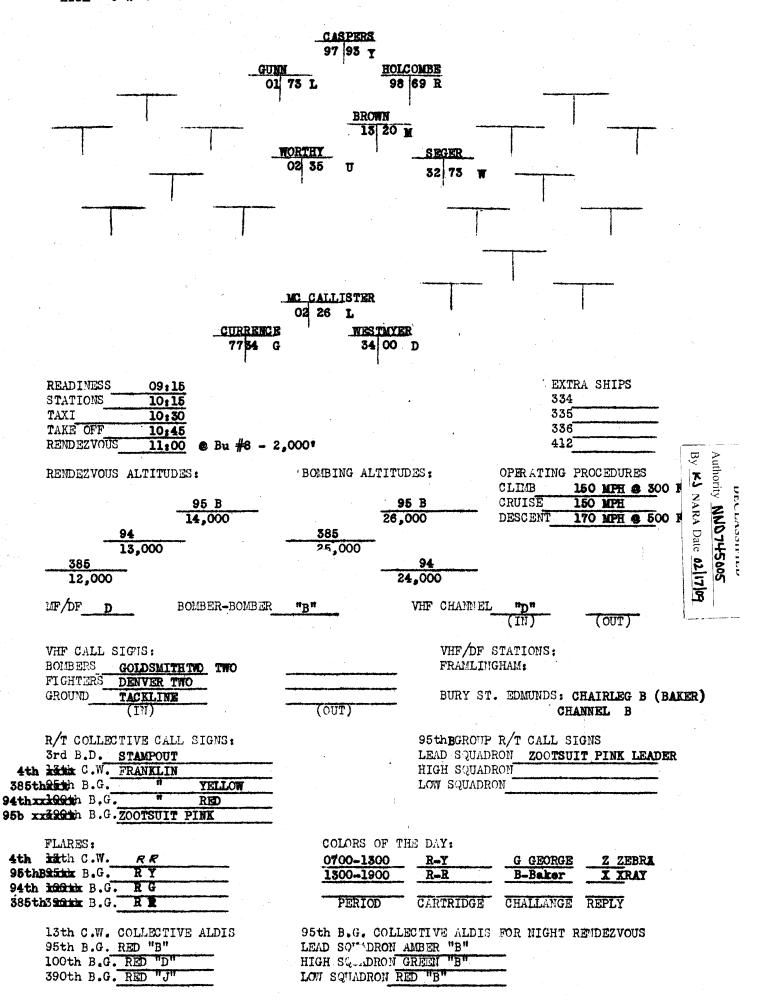
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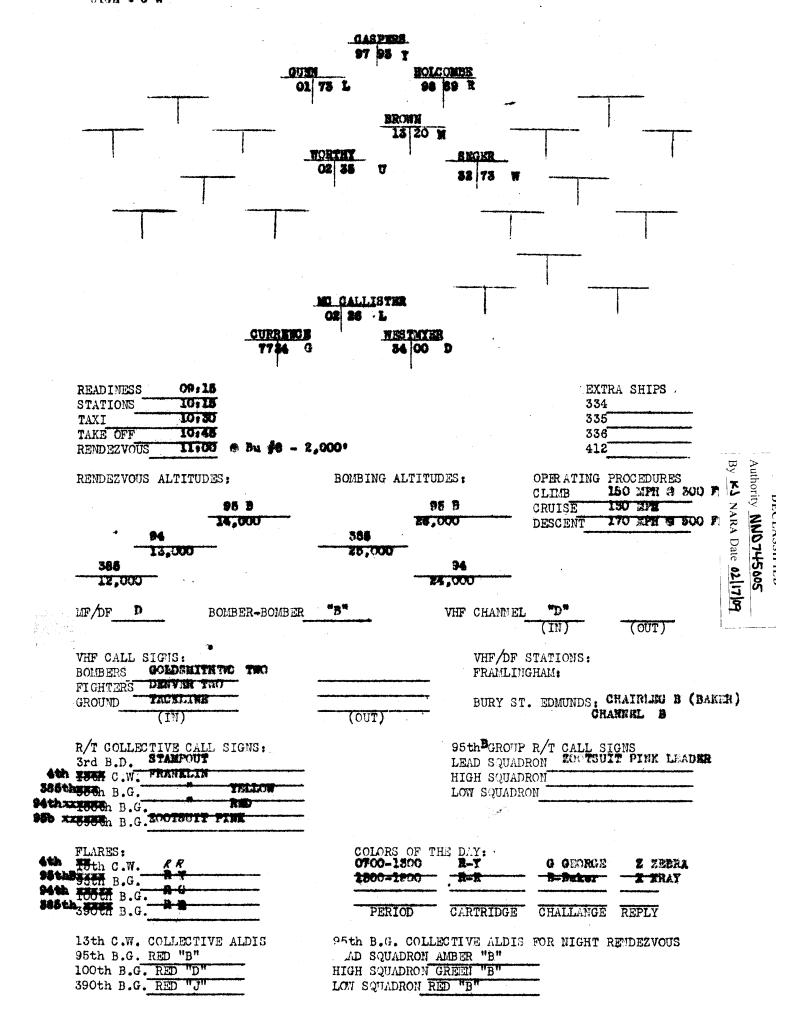
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HEADQUARTERS NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)

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Authority NN0745005 By KJ NARA Date 02/17/09

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

GROUP FORMATION FORM DATE 22 December 1943 LEAD 95 "A" FORMATION SCOTT 7826 CAMPBELL LOW HIGH 7889 WALLACE INFIELD REED 0634 * STERN MANGIS ... EDWARDS STUBER DUNHAM TUBEROSE 7894 7766 3529 98\$8 0674 POWERS HARGROVE 1065 1244 LEONAN MILWARD VANSANT WILLIAMS 9943 BATCHA × 1054 <u>Dean</u> 3153 WILSON GINSBERG 0542 BRIEFING EXTRA SHIPS READINESS 334 STATIONS 335 336 TAKE*OFF 412 RENDEZVOUS

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DECLASSIFIED Authority NN0745005 By KJ NARA Date 02 17 109

95 "B" Formation

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

	GROUP FOR	MATION FORM	DATE
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Authority NND745005 By KJ NARA Date 02 17 09

NINETY FIFTH POMEARDMENT GROUP (H)
CFFICE OF THE OPERATIONS OFFICER
A.P.O. #634
COMBAT MISSION

SQUADRON 334th

DATE 22 December 1943.

CREW	SHlP	PI OT	GO-PILOT	NAV	BOMB	RAD. O	ENG'R	B.T.G.	TAIL G.	L.W.G.	R.W.G.
G-9	1251	INFIELD	MUNSON	FLADEBOE	WEISLO	LOIJA	TOPOLSKI	STEERE	BUMGARDNER	BAKER	SKLAR
G-11		STERN	NEALE	LEDDY	HEDIN	ROBINSON	ROTH	EUBERT	CROOKSHANK	WOLAK	HANRAHAN
G-3		KDWARDS	SPLANN	FILIPONIS	INGRAHAM	KINARCIAK	MCGANN	BEDSAUL	BRADLEY	REYNOLDS	BARTREE
G2	1244	HARGROVE	KEASBEY	HARRIS	SMITH	DOX	WOOD	SULLIVAN	BURDUE	DENHAM	JACOBSON
G-10	7766	MANGIS	LEMBEKE	BENNETT	CELUSNAK	DABNEY	TRACY	ALDRICH	SUOBODA	MCMASTER	SHORT
										l	
G-13	9924	REED	HARTE	SCHWARTZ	GADEK	EMERSON	BLAKE	BISHIP	SHERRY	POWER	JACELON
G-12	LECAL	4LOW	JEES	BKINNER	ALLMAN	JANNSEN	GILLMAR	- RICE	VALEX	HYGHT	ROBINSON
G-15	74	STUBER	RIMER	CORDELL	AC KERMAN	CANFIELD	PASSANTE	HARLAN	CULBERTSON	FOX	KELLY
G-14		WILSON	PRINCE	SULLIVAN	BROKUP	COWDERY	KERESTE	SEMERSKI	TROUSE	WARDELL	NEDZIHROZKY
G6	9943	V.M SANT	BOWDEN	HOWARD	LYON	LEWANDOWSKI	CAMBELL	BRADY	MANN	CONNELY	DUNC AN
				1			Ι .	JACKSON			
EXTP	A SHIP	S									

Authority NN0745005 By KJ NARA Date 62 17 109

NINETY FIFTH POMBARDMENT GROUP (H) CFFICE OF THE OPERATIONS OFFICER A.P.O. #634 COMBAT MISSION

SQUADRON 335th

DATE 22 December 1943.

CREW	SHIP	PITOT	CO-PILOT	NAV	BOMB	RAD. O	ENG'R	B.T.G.	TAIL G.	L.W.G.	R.W.G.
G-23	7826	SCOTT	BRADY	GILL	HAWK	COOPER	ANDERSON	BLACKLIDGE	THORNHILL	WALKER	CROKER
G-20	0609	MCINTYRE	BALMAN	PAINE	DECHAMBRE	NEAL	ROBERSON	SLIWKA	CHAMBERS	RISSI	DOHERTY, J. I
G-21	7889	CAMPBELL	BAUMGARTNER	SAHNER	WILSON	PRATHER	SCHMEIDER	JANECZKO	KEEFE	KNAG	KEIPER
G-27		WALLACE	KEENE	TRUE	WILKINSON	HARRIS	GARVEY	WEINBROER	MUSE	ECKSTEIN	BANGHART
G-25		TUBEROSE	KUPKA	STEELE	WHITMAN	CALANDROS	BENTZEL	DILLOW	DZEDZY	MANNIE	MILLER
G-29		DUNHAM	RENNER	MATTHEWS	LUND	THOMPSON	ANDERSON	PIFER	BITTNER	BARSTOW	MALDONADO
G-26	0178	MILWARD	FARRIS	MILTON	SCROGGINS	WINSTEAD	SPEARS	MCCOMBER	KODARIK	CARFAGNA	RIDDLE
G=33	7756	WILLIAMS	DAVILA	VACEK	SCHIERBURG	LEVINSON	WESTFALL	GANSTER	KUREK	LYNCH	HUNKE
G-22		GINSBURG	DEAN	GALLAGHER	ROCKETT	MICHAELS	CORE	KOSTEVIG	BUONO	HENRY	WRIGHT
G-31	1063	POWERS	MCLEOD	FOX	LEVINE	FELIX	KNIPPER	KENNEDY	ALLARD	DOHERTY, J.	W. O'KEEFE
EA P.	SHIP	3		The state of the s							
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Authority NND745805

By KJ NARA Date 02 17 109

NINETY FIFTH POMBARDMENT GROUP (H) CFFICE OF THE OPERATIONS OFFICER

SQUADRON 336th

A.P. #634 COMBAT MISSION DATE 22 December 1943.

CREW	SHIP	PITOT	CO-PILOT	NAV	BOMB	RAD. O	ENG'R	B.T.G.	TAIL G.	L.W.G.	R.W.G.
	7935	KERR	MURPHY	BALL	HEARTY	SWEENEY	BRACE	SEYMOUR	GROVE	MARTIN	NEWELL
		FOLEY	KEITH	SHAUGHNESSY	WAYMAN	CARTER	ROTHMAN	CADLE	HOBBS	KING	GEISLER
	3400	KROEGER	FITCHKO	CHARLES	DOMINICK	GREEN	SCHWARTZ	DULANEY	HICKS	KAITZ	BATTISTINI
	1	HEARN	TAYLER	HILL	REEVES	KLEIN	BELEW	ROUSE	SANDERS	HIGGINBOTH	M CHAVEZ
	7734	CURRENCE	HANKINS	EDWARDS	WERNER	WOZNICKI	RABINOWITZ	DAVIS	LANDY	CAMPBELL	KELLEHER
	0226	MCCALLISTER	KELSEY	SANDS	DEMARTINO	KIMECEK	SANDIN	FEI NGOLD	JONES	WEITRAZAKO	SKI RAPP
	<u> </u>	JEFFERS	THAYER	BLAGG	EDGAR	BECK	LAFARNERE	BACA	ADLER	BRISCOE	HEI MAN
V	3153	DEAN	CRAIG	MATETICH	WOLFE	ALVAREZ	THOMPSON	ARENSON	FEDEY	COOK	PICKUP
	1	HAMBY	CABALIER	DAY	DENARO	BLEYENBERG	GOUDET	HENDERS ON	STERNS	REBOULET	LESLIE
	0674	SMITH	BOOHER	FEINGOLD	TARKINGTON	MCEVOY	MORRISON	ESHIUS	KIRKALDIE	ADAMS	O'NESI
	1	WESTMEYER	TERRY	JOHNSON	RUDNICKY	LIGON	JETT	GARMONG	HEILWEIL	NOVAK	CAMPBELL
	[1				
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PRACTICE MISSION

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1		HEARN								
		HIGGINS								
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Authority NN0745005

By KJ NARA Date 02[17]09

NINETY FIFTH POMBARDMENT GROUP (H) CFFICE OF THE OPERATIONS OFFICER

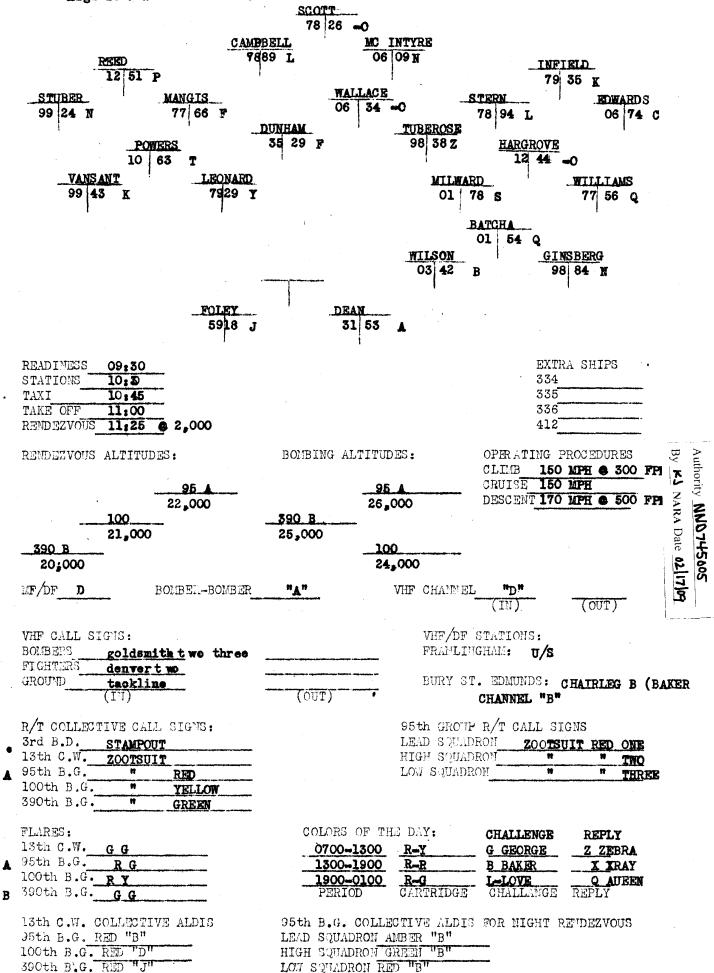
SQUADRON 412th

A.P.O. #634 COMBAT MISSLON DATE 22 December 1943.

REW	SHIP	PIT OF	CO-PILOT	NAV	BOMB	RAD. 0	ENG R	B, T, G.	TAIL G.	L.W.G.	R.W.G
ASPEAS	1320	MILLER.	PATRICE	WATTERS	BOWEN	MURPHY	THORPE	CASTONA	PULLER	FETTER -	O'SULLIVAN
		HOLC OMBE	BABER	SPIERLING	BARRETT	MARTIN	KENNEDY	RAEMER	BLAKE	BOOTH	LONG
		GUNN	BECKER	VAVERKA	PIERCE	CHICK	MURNAME	JACOBY	HOLSAPPLE	HUTCHERSON	SHAWER
	9869	BROWN	DIPPERY	DURR	FLAGLER	ATTEBURY	SMITH	NUTTER	ADDISON	RANEY	CRADDOCK
		SEGER	BUGIE	HUTCHINGS	MYERS	BESSEMER	HELD	MACK	MCKINNEY	HARTNEY	STORY
	0233	WORTHY	IRELAND	GAYNOR	SPANGLER	RUPRIGHT	RUSSO	RUIZ	ROYALL	MCHALE	BRINSON
	1054	BATCHA	SHARP	GOFF	BARRON	KILLEN	RYAN	LINTELMAN	GARDNER	FORST	HOLLIS
		NEWSON	MARCHESE	GARRETT	BRADY	HENDERSON	ENGELL	POUST	LESLIE	DALY	MOYE
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PRACTICE MISSION

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		ROGERS								
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		NEWSON								
		BATCHA								
		READ					 <u> </u>			
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HEADQUARTERS NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) Office of the Operations Officer

APO 654 24 December 1945

SUBJECT: Lead Navigator's Marrative, Minety Five "A" Group, Mission of 22 December 1945, Munster.

- TO : Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (H), A.A.F.
- l. Ninety Five "A" Group took off under bad weather conditions, and assembled above the overcast at Bu #8. It was necessary to climb around cloud formations, and we arrived at the Combat Wing rendezvous point four minutes late. However by cutting corners and intercepting courses, we were in good formation before leaving the English Coast.
- 2. We crossed the Enemy Coast approximately forty miles south of the briefed course, and intercepted briefed course in the Zuider Zee.
- 3. I followed the pilot with an air plot up to the point where bombs were away. Using the wind I had obtained, the bombs are plotted northeast of Munster. Bombs were dropped at 1405 hours, magnetic heading 105°, altitude 28,000°.
- 4. After bombs away, the Combat wing made a 180° turn to the left, and flew an average magnetic heading of 280° to the enemy coast where the descent was begun. The English Coast was crossed at Southwold and we arrived over the home base at 160% hours.

JOHN F. GILL 2nd Lt., Air Corps, Lead Navigator.

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

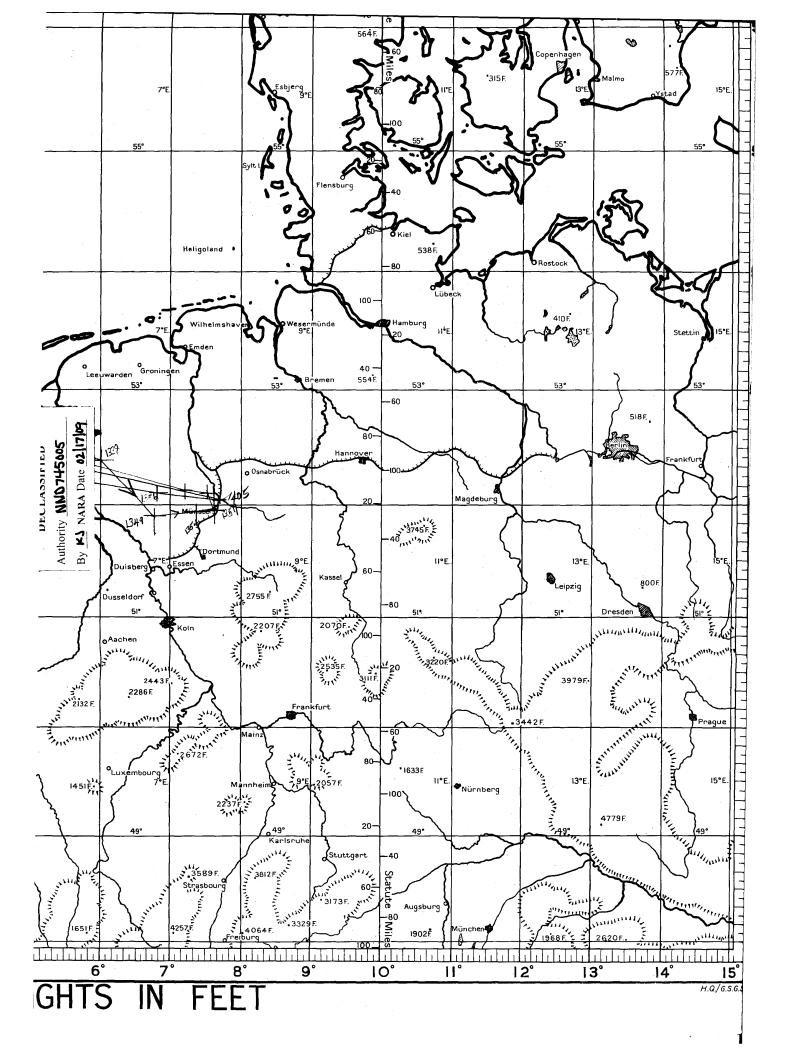
APO **634** 24 December 1943

SUBJECT: Lead Navigator's Marrative, Minety Five "B" Group, Mission of 22 December 1943, Munater.

TO : Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (8), A.A.F.

1. The Minety Five "B" Group composed of nine aircraft which took off at 1030 - 1040 and rendezvoused at Bu #8 at 1110, altitude 12,000 feet. At 1146, at 14,000' with one squadron from the 390th Bombardment Group the group departed from Bu #8 and proceeded to Bu #12. Arriving early we made a 270° turn to the north and passed over Bu # 12 two minutes late. By cutting corners we intercepted the lead group which we followed throughout the mission. At 1254, at 24,000' we left the English Coast at Lowestoft, proceeded on a southeasterly heading to intercept the briefed route and crossed the enemy coast on time slightly north of course at 26.000. At 1383 we dropped our bombs on a flare fired by the P.F.F. aircraft on a heading of approximately 110° magnetic heading. The position by D.R. is 520 19'N 070 26'E which is borne out by the fact that we were able to see flak fired at the 1st Division 10 - 15 miles ahead. received no flak ourselves, and other 3rd Division wings were south. made a wide aweeping turn two minutes after bombs away and made our withdrawel on a heading of 2700. Crossing the enemy coast at 1447 at 520 34'N 04 37'S, south of course at 28,000', we started our let down. Arrived at great Yarmouth at 1529 at 13,000' and proceeded to our base.

> ROBERT CLOWES 2nd Lt., Air Corps, Lead Navigator.



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

APO 634 22 December 1943

SUBJECT: Lead Bombardier's Marrative, Minety Five "A" Group, Mission of 22 December 1945, Manster.

- TO : Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (H) A.A.F.
- l. Bembing Approach and Run At the I.P. I saw a yellow yellow flare from the lead group, at which time I tried to open the bomb bay doors, but was unable to do so after trying for about half of the run. The pilot then pulled the emergency release handle until the doors came open and I salvoed the bombs from the nose when the formation was over the smoke flares released by the lead group. Undercast prohibited any visual sighting although there was a break in the clouds at the time of bombs away. There were no enemy fighter attacks and flak was meager. When we saw we were unable to get the doors open, the pilot called the rest of the formation and told them to open their doors, but was unable to get any response from them. Also we fired a yellow yellow flare at the I.P.
- 2. Disposition of Bombs Minteen aircraft were in the formation as it went over the target. One A/C (No. 7889) failed to bomb as its bomb bay doors were frozen shut. Each of the 18 other A/C dropped 16 x 250% British Incendiaries Mark II series fused with 855 Mark I inertia fuse. A/C (No. 7766) which was lost has no bomb disposition given. Total no. of bombs dropped on primary was thus 288. A/C (No. 7889) and (No. 7766) jettisioned bombs in the channel. A/C (No. 7766) aborted before reaching the target. A/C (No. 5829 and No. 9924) which aborted returned their bombs to the base.
- 5. Types of Release Of the bombs dropped at target numbering 288, 176 were released by intervolmeter (75 ft. interval), 64 were toggled and 48 were salvoed armed by the pilot in A/C (No. 826, 1251, 674) whose bemb bay doors were froses.

4. Tabular Summary:

	Aircraf		Bombs	}		l	
0	vor far.	Bombing	No.	Sise	Туре	Fuse	
Main Bombfall (Munster)	19	78	288	250/	Mark II	855 Mark	T
Total Bombs on Target			288	250#	Mark II	855 Mark	I
Other Bomb Expenditures	(Jottision	ed)	48	250#	Mark II	855 Mark	I

Aircraft		Bo		
Over Tar. Bombing	No.	Size	Type	Fuse
Bombs Brought Back	32	250y	Wark II	855 Mark I
Total (A/C loaded taking off)	368	250#	Mark II	855 Mark I

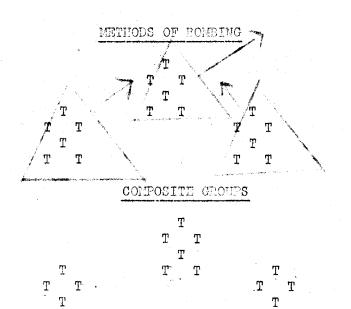
W.D.
A.C. FORM
12 E MODIFIED
17-10-43 3BD APO 634

COMBAT POINING FLIGHT RECORD

BOMBARDIER	P.P. HAHK	Ind 18.	na kandani manaka ay naganganga anay akin dagan tana	DATE 22 Dece	mber 1943.
PILOT	SCOTT 1st	lt.		TALE-OFF	1045
MAVIGATOR 1.7. ATL	and the		Na appropriate a separate de la constitución de la	TANDED 1616	EXEX
ORGANIZATION SS	quadron	96 Gr	oup	AIRFLANE Type	. 7-G 826 9 Number
OBJECTIVE	Minster	ege version de la company. La company de la company d			
AIMING POINT (MPI)	Pal	t.F.			
INITIAL POINT	3				
METHOD OF ATTACK	dividual	Flight	Squadron	Group	X Wing
NUMBER OF ATTACKING A	A/C IN GROUP_	18	COMP	CSITE GROUP	
NUMBER A/C DROPPING I	BOMBS BY OUN	SIGHTING O	PERATION:		
DEFLECTION AND RANGE	SIGHTING, GR	OUP None	COIP	OSITE"GROUP	r i skriver program
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BO/BS, TYPES AND SIZI	S 250# MA	rk II Brit	ish Incend.		2
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FUZING, NOSE	855 mrk	*	TAIL	None	
SYNCHRONIZATION			***************************************		31ow 31ow
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Altimeter Setting	Target •		True Track T Actual Range	87	errendensk kriverendelgnessesieren van en en en en den dersech vonsigen.
I.A.S.	150		Bomb Sight T		
G.S., Est, Company	Actual		Time of Reies	se 1408	POX - B WINA
and Direction, Metro				r Setting 7	
Wind Velocity, Metro	86 Acti	ıal. (C-l Pilot	<u> </u>	
D.S. Trail. Trail. Trail.		المتحدث فتسقم ستحصيبك بمعت	A-5 Pilot		The first section of the section of
ran. D.A. Est	Acti	AGT :	Manual Pilot	X	

TYPE OF RELEASE	-		X		
	Individual	Train	Salvo	Jettisoned	Returned
POINT OF IMPACT	IF SEEN_	Not seen du	e to over	cest.	, dalam e disabigue que la ribada e desarrib. Dalam una distribuida de la colonida del colonida de la colonida de la colonida del colonida de la colonida del colonida de la colonida de la colonida del colonida de la colonida de la colonida de la colonida de la colonida del colonida d
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		WI	MDS		

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Sombardier making complete sighting operations --- (T)
Sombardier making range operation only
Sombardier dropping on leader, with arrow
indicating leader's position

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HEADQUARTERS HINETY FIFTH BOLBARDMENT GROUP (H) Office of the Operations Officer

APO 634 22 December 1943

SUBJECT: Lead Bombardier's Marrative, Minety Five "B" Group, Mission of 22 December 1943, Munster.

TO : Commanding Officer, 96th Bombardment Group (H), A.A.F.

- left and started the run on a Mag. heading of 95°. I opened the bomb bay doors. The area was 10/10 covered by clouds and therefore any form of visual bombing was impossible. Hence, during the run I was watching for smoke bomb trails; also the wing lead ship which I was able to see. When the Wing Leader dropped his bombs which I saw drop I waited approximately two seconds after passing his bomb release line and let my bombs go as we were in tight wing formation. Flak did not interfere with the bombing run. No fighter attacks were made and good fighter protection was given us. Fight A/C of Ninety Five "B" Group led the composite group of the Fourth Wing.
- 2. Disposition of Bombs Bight A/C went over the target. Of these seven A/C dropped 16 x 250# Mark II British Incendaries, with 855 Mark I inertia fuses. A/C (No. 3400) dropped 1 x 250# Mark II incendiary and returned 15 to the base. A/C (No. 0235) returned 16 x 250# incendaries to base. Total No. of bombs dropped on the primary target was 115 x 250# British Mark II incendaries.
- 3. Types of Release Of the 113 bombs dropped armed at the primary target 80 were released through the intervolometer (spacing 75°) and 52 were toggled. A/C (No. 3400) used intervolometer and released one bomb.

4. Tabular Suspery:

	Aircra	Bombs					
	over far.	Hombing	No.	Size	Type	Fuse	
Main Bombfall (Munster)	8	8	113	25O#	Wark II	855 Mark	I
Bombs returned to base.			31	250#	Wark II	855 Mark	: I
Total (loaded on A/C tak	ing off).		144	250#	Mark II	855 Mark	I

WAYNE R. PITZGERALD Captain, Air Corps, Group Bombardier. W.D. A.C. FORM 12 E MODIFIED 17-10-43 3BD APO 634

J. 1

COMBAT POINT FLIGHT RECORD

BOMBARDIER	JOHNSON, D.W.	CAPT. A.G.	DATE 22	December 1945.
PILOT	CASPERS, J.P.	let Lt.	TAKE-OFF	1050
NAVIGATOR	CLOWES, R.	let Lt.	IANDED :	1605
ORGANIZATION	412 th Squadron	95-3 Group		B-17-G 9793 Vpe Number
OBJECTIVE	minster			
AIMING POINT (MPI)	P.	P.Y.	Tidhynninginathikayinnipi kunondarintinggan	
INITIAL POINT				
METROD OF ATTACK.	Individual P	light Squad	ron Grou	X Wing
NUMBER OF ATTACKING	A/C IN GROUP	8 C	OMPOSITE GROUI	3
NUMBER A/C DROPPING				
DEFLECTION AND RANG	GE SIGHTING, GROUP	None	OMPOSITE GROUP	
RANGE SIGHTING ONLY			No. of the second	and the state of t
BOIDS, TYPES AND S			and the second of the second of	
NUMBER OF BOTES LOA				
FUZING, NOSE		e de en fordage en en ordage de la	ATE STATE	
SYNCHRONIZATION				
INFORMATION AT RELE	On the second second	Fast		S w
Altitude of Target	180*	Mag. Hend	, Order	7 Actual 98
True Alvisude Above Ind. Altitude Pressure Altitude of Altimeter Setting	24,681 26,000'.	True Head Drift, Es	ing 90 t. 402.	Actual
I.A.S. 150 T.A.S. 235 G.S., Not. 37 Wind Direction, Not	Actual	Bomb Sigh Time of R Length of		
Wind Velocity, Metr D.S. 174 Twai TAN. D.A. Est.	o 56 Actual	SS C-1 Pilot A-5 Pilot		

TYPE OF REE	· ·ENIOT	Individual	Train	Salv	o Jettis	oned	Returned
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METHODS OF BOMBING

COMPOSITE GROUPS

Bombardier making complete signting operations --- (T)
Bombardier making range operation only
Bombardier dropping on leader, with arrow
indicating leader's position

HEADQUARTERS BINETY FIFTH BOMBARDHERT GROUP (H) Office of the Engineering Officer

APU 634, 22 December 1943.

SUBJECT: Base Engineering Report on Combat Mission 22 December 1943.

TO: COMMANDING GENERAL, Third Bombardment Division (H), APC 634.

COMMANDING OFFICER, 95th Bombardment Group (H). Attn: Lt Col

MC KNEGHT, Base Operations.

- 1. The following information is submitted concerning combat mission of the 95th Bombardment Group (H) on 22 December 1943.
 - a. Thirty-two 3-17 airplanes took off as scheduled.
 - b. Twenty-six (26) B-17 sirplanes returned to base after completing mission.
 - c. 42-37700 failed to return from mission.
 - d. 42-3273 Crash landed at Ludham.
 - 2. There were four (4) abortive airplanes.
 - a. 42-39924 #4 runaway propeller.
 - b. 42-37756 32 runaway propeller.
 - c. 42-3529 #2 runaway supercharger.
 - d. 42-30235 44 runaway propeller.
 - a. All mircraft took off as scheduled.
 - 4. There was no battle damage.

GARFIELD A. BENSEN, Major, Air Corps, Base Engr. officer.

By KJ NARA Date 02/17/09

HEADQUARTERS EINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) OFFICE OF THE ARMAMENT OFFICER APO 534

22 December 1343.

SUBJECT: Mission Expenditure Report for 22 December 1948.

- TO : Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (A).
 - 1. Following is the expenditure report for 22 December 1943:
 - a. Station
 - b. Unit
 - e. Type of Ammunition
 - d. Gun location and number of guns

AAF 119 95th Bombardment Group Cal. 50 AP.

5 6	Lower Turret Guns	950
50	Upper Turret Guns	835
28	Left Waist Guns.	555
28	Right Waist Gums	585
28	Radio Guns	515
28	Left Nose Guns	535
28	Right Mose Guns	520
28	Center Nose Guns	550
53	Tail Guns	865

- e. Total number of guns 336
- f. Total number of rounds fired 5.890
- g. Airoraft number 37766 reported missing loaded with 16-250 lb. British Incendiary bombs and 7,000 rounds of Cal. 50 AP.
- h. Total number of rounds expended 12,630
- i. Total number of bombs expended 449-250 lb. British Incendiary bombs.

LEGNARL F. DAWSON Capt. Air Corps. Group Armament Officer.

READQUARTERS NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) Office of the Communications Officer

(J-1)

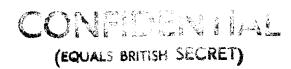
APO 634 December 22 1943

SUBJECT: Operational Communications

- TC : Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group, Station #119
- 1. Of the thirty-two (32) erews that went on the mission, thirty (30) were available for interrogation by the Communications Officer.
 - 2. Mechanical and electrical failures were as follows:
 - (a) 334-P (BT Interphone/faulty mike switch)
 - (b) 335-P (Liaison Transmitter/keying relay sticky)
 - (e) 336-F (Right Waist Interphone/broken headset cord)
 - (d) A12-L (Radio Interphone/broken mike cord)
 - (e) 412-0 (Radio Interphone/faulty mike switch)
 - 3. The following navigational aids were used successfully:
 - (a) Eighteen A/C used Splashers and Bunchers for assembly and homing
 - (b) 412-0 obtained four ODM's on home station
 - (c) Thirteen A/C used Station 7000

4. Havigators report improved reception of Bunchers on higher frequency. Al2-O turned IFF on emergency position and contacted MF/DF section in anticipation of possible ditching.

RICHARD'F, KNOX Captain, A. C. Communications



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

22 December 1943

SUBJECT: S-2 Report \$5A

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

1. 25 A/C of the 95A Group took off at 1045 December 22, 1943 to bomb targets in Munster, Germany.

2. A/C #3529 (Dunham) returned from just off the Dutch Coast #2 prop ran away.

A/C #7756 (Williams) returned at 1330 from 52°02° 04°05°E #2 Prop ranaway.

A/C #9924(Stuber) returned at 1157 from over Bungay, England #4 engine ran away.

A/C #7765 (Mangis) was seen to leave formation just before bombs away and is presumed lost.

- 3. The Other 19 A/C flew over target all bombing except #7889 (Campbell) whose bomb bay doors would not open.
 Bombing results were considered poor.
 - 4. Briefed course was not followed closely formation being south of course.
 - 5. All planes except #7765 returned to base by 1682.

STANLEY R. WHEATON, 1st Lt., Air Corps, Ass't. S-2 Officer.

HEADQUARTERS WINETY PIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

22 December 1943

SUBJECT: S-2 Report on 95B.

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

1. Six A/C and 3 spares A/C of the 95th Group took off at 1030 22 December 1945 and formed the lead squadron of the high group of the 4th Combat Wing. The following A/C returned early:

A/C #0235 from North of Oxford at 1254 #4 Prop ran away. (No Sortio)

- 2. Eight A/C attack the target with poor results. One A/C, #5400, only dropped one bomb as the others hung up and were returned to base.
- 3. A maximum of 10-12 E/A were sighted but no attacks were made on this group. Fighter escort was termed by crews to be "wonderful".
- 4. Only meagre flak was encountered at the coast and in the target area.
- 5. A/C #3273 crash landed at Ludham with bombay doors open. Ship badly damaged but all of crew all right.
- 6. All other A/C returned to this base and landed by 1625 hours.

STANLEY R. WHEATON, lst Lt., Air Corps, Ass't S-2 Officer.

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T- THE
FROM HRM 22/2050A
TO THE
INFO OTHRM
SECRET 95 BT D-377-D
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103-A 95TH B

MUNSTER, GERMANY

22 DECEMBER 1943

S-1

NONE

S-2

MODERATE A A FIRE FROM VICINITY OF MUNSTER. IT WAS CONTINUOUS-FOLLOWING-UNSEEN TYPE, VERY ACCURATE FOR ALTITUDE BUT AHEAD OF THIS GROUP.

GROUP.

MODERATE FIRE FROM AMSTERDAM, BUT 5 MILES TO RIGHT OF COURSE:

OF DESTERRENT BARRABE TYPE AND ACCURATE FOR ALTITUDE ONLY.

S-3

NO A/C OF THIS GROUP ARE MISSING. OTHERA/C:

TARGET AREA 2 B-17'S FROM WING AHEAD.

ONE A/C WAS SEEN SPINNING - 4 CHUTES REPORTED ONE A/C SPINNING AND ON FIRE 1 CHUTE REPORTED JUST AFTER TARGET 2 B-17'S FROM GROUP BEHIND. ONE A/C EXPLODED NO CHUTES

ONE A/C SPINNING 4 CHUTES.

B-17 IS TAIL END OF GROUP AHEAD LEFT FORMATION AND WAS JUMPED BY E/A NO CHUTES 52 DEG 29'N 03DEG 31'E B17 IN SPI N 4 CHUTES REPORTED.

1 A/C CRASH LANDED AT LUDHAM. SHIP BADLY DAMAGED AS IT LANDED WITH BOMBAY DOORS OPEN. CREW ALL OKAY.

3-5

NOT AVAILABLE

3-6

NONE

BOMBNXXXXX BOMBING GENERALLY BELIEVED TO BE POOR. PICTURES NOT YET AVAILABLE.

S-8

MONE

5-9

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CC VA DESTERRENT BARRAGE
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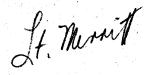
By KJ NARA Date 02/17/09

_A.T.F.

FORMATION DIAGRAM

		Authority NNO 745005 By KJ NARA Date 02 17 109		FORMATION DIAGRAI	м . С
A.T.F.				95TH BOMB. GROUP	
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HEADQUARTERS
VIII BOMBER COMMAND
APO 634



Authority <u>MND 74500</u> By <u>JG</u> NARA Date <u>218</u>0

BOMBER COMMAND NARRATIVE OF OPERATIONS

161st Operation - 22nd December, 1943

Mission No. 1 - Osnabruck Mission No. 2 - Osnabruck Mission No. 3 - Munster Mission No. 4 - Munster

Led by Pathfinders, ten Combat Wings were dispatched to attack Osnabruck and Munster, strategic junctions in the German east-west communication system. Through heavy cloud, three Combat Wings of the 1st Bombardment Division, followed by two of the 2nd Division attacked Osnabruck. Simultaneously, three Combat Wings of the 3rd and one of the 2nd Division attacked Munster. One 1st Division Combat Wing was unable to bomb Osnabruck as another formation flew beneath it over the target.

No assessment of results is possible due to continued bad visibility over the target areas.

Enemy fighter opposition was mediocre against groups attacking Osnabruck, and there was no opposition at Munster. B-17s and B-24s were escorted by P-47 P-38s and P-51s. Twenty-one bombers are missing. Crews claims are 22-8-9.

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PATHFINDERS 482	8	6			0	4-0-0	0		O	Authority <u>M</u> By <u>JG</u> NARA
TOTALS + Failed to Bo		439 Mechanica	44. al and		ment E	22-8-9 Pailure	. 4 S.	14	216	NND 74 ARA Date 2

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

x PFF Equipment failed.

y Another formation was underneath.

z 25 failed to bomb because group leader did not bomb.

xx Flew with 1st Bomb Division.

MISSION NOS. 1 and 2 - OSNABRUCK

Led by PFF, the 40th, 1st and 41st Combat Wings attacked Osnabruck between 1356 and 1405 hours, followed by the 20th and 2nd Combat Wings of 2nd Division at 1405 to 1434 hours. The 92nd Combat Wing of 1st Division was unable to bomb as another formation flew beneath it at the bomb release point. No results of the attack could be observed due to cloud, and no PRU photographs are yet available.

Fighter opposition was strong against some 2nd Division groups. Flak was described as meager to mederate. P-47s and P-38s provided escort over enemy territory. Seventeen bombers are missing on these missions. Claims are 18

BOMBING RESULTS: 130 B-17s, including 2 PFF a/c, dropped 491 x 500 G.P. and 1369 x 250 1.B., and 83 B-24s dropped 950 x 500 G.P., on Osnabruck from 23,000 -28,000 feet at 1356 - 1434 hours. Strike photographs were completely cloud obscured and no evaluation of results is possible,

19 B-17s, and 4 B-24s dropped 259 x 500 G.P. on unknown targets of opportunity with unobserved results.

REASONS FOR FAILURE TO BOMB: 114 a/c failed to bomb - 24 due to mechanical or equipment failure, 22 due to weather, 20 because of PFF equipment failure, 20 due to another formation being underneath, 25 because lead group did not bomb, 1 because of personnel failure and 2 which were lost before reaching the target.

ENCOUNTERS: Enemy opposition was generally mediocre with not over 50 e/a seen, but some strong attacks were experienced by 2nd Division groups. Most of the attacks began in the vicinity of the I.P., were most aggressive over the target, and continued for approximately ten minutes after the target. Numerous nose and tail attacks were made with e/a coming aggressively through the formation, rolling over and diving away. Some e/a would stay out of range, drawing bombers! fire, while other e/a closed in for attacks. One attack was made from 2 o'clock level with e/a going into a dive, raking the formation, then coming up in a perfect "U" under the low squadron of the low group and on up alongside of the higher elements. Some groups of the 2nd Division, which was last to fly over the target, report most intense attacks in the vicinity of Amsterdam. Most of the e/a were FW-190s and Me-109s with some Me-210s, JU-88s and DO-217s. <u> </u>JG NARA Date 2 1 ৪

CASUALTIES: Personnel - 4 crew members were killed, 6 seriously wounded, 7 slightly wounded and 160 are missing.

Equipment - 5 B-17s and 12 B-24s were lost, 4 to e/a, 2 to accide and 11 to unknown causes.

Estimated Battle Damage - 17 category "A". 14 category "AC". 1 category "B" and 3 category "E".

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE: At the target, fairly accurate meager to moderate AA fire was encountered. Meager and inaccurate flak was encountered at scattered points along the route.

FIGHTER ESCORT: Penetration, target and withdrawal escort was provided by 5 groups of P-47s and 1 Group of P-38s. An average of 35 single-engine and 2 twinengine e/a were seen and though many engagements were reported, enemy pilots did not seem any too eager for combats. Reports indicate that enemy tactics were to operate at bomber level and below, keeping near the cumulus cloud layer, tops 15,000 feet, for quick cover. In many instances friendly fighters were able to break up enemy attacks while the e/a were maneuvering for favorable positions. Claims are 11-1-5. Two P-47s and 2 P-38s are missing.

ROUTE: Bases to 52045'N - 01018'E, to 52045'N - 01040'E, to 52041'N - 04017'E, to 52°48'N - 04°40'E, to 52°11'N - 07°21'E. (I.P.) to target, to 52°30'N - $07^{\circ}45^{\circ}E$, to $52^{\circ}37^{\circ}N - 04^{\circ}36^{\circ}E$, to $52^{\circ}55^{\circ}N - 01^{\circ}22^{\circ}E$, to bases.

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WEATHER: Route Out - 8/10 to 10/10 stratocumilus, tops 6000 to 10,000 feet to English coast with tops over Channel to 16,000 to 18,000 feet. Front evidently passed near Continental Coast with curulus, tops 23,000 to 27,000 feet. Target: 10/10 stratocumilus, tops 15,000 to 18,000 feet. Visibility above clouds unrestricted. Light persistent contrails at flight altitude. Return Route: Same as route out except stratocumilus over Channel lowered to 10,000 to 13,000 feet breaking up to 3/10 to 5/10 over England, base 2000 feet, tops 7000 feet.

MISSION NOS. 3 and 4 - MUNSTER

The 4th, 13th and 45th Combat Wings of 3rd Division, followed by the 14th Combat Wing of 2nd Division, attacked Munster between 1353 and 1417 hours. The attack was led by 3 PFF a/c and bombing was done through heavy cloud, at altitudes of 24,000 to 28,000 feet. Flak was moderate to intense and e/a opposition was nil. Five bombers are missing.

BOMBING RESULTS: 167 B-17s, including 3 PFF, dropped 572 x 500 G.P., 1338 x 100 T.B., and 1156 x 250 T.B. and 30 B-24s dropped 336 x 500 G.P. on Munster from 24,000 - 28,000 feet at 1353 - 1417 hours. Strike attack photographs are cloud obscured and PRU cover is not available.

5 B-17s dropped 80 x 250 I.B. on Osnabruck, and 1 B-17 dropped 6 x 500 G.P. on Rheine, with unobserved results.

REASONS FOR FAILURE TO BOMB: 26 a/c failed to bomb, 20 due to mechanical dequipment failure, 5 because of weather and 1 which was lost before reaching the target.

ENCOUNTERS: No attacks were made on any of the 4 Combat Wings over Munster only 20 e/a being sighted. E/a seen were mostly FW-190s, Me-109s and a few twin-engine e/a.

CASUALTIES:

Personnel - 1 crew member was slightly wounded and 50 are miss

Equipment - 3 B-17s and 2 B-24s were lost, all to unknown caus

Estimated Battle Domage - 25 category "A", 16 category "AG" and 1

oategory "B".

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE: Moderate to intense accurate continuously pointed flak encountered in the target area. One group reported accurate unseen continuously pointed AA fire from Twente A/D.

FIGHTER ESCORT: Penetration, target and withdrawal support was provided by 4 groups of P-47s and 1 group of P-51s. Very few e/a were seen, 5 Me-109s being the largest number reported by any group. E/a made half-hearted attacks on a few scattered boxes of bombers but ran when challenged by the escort. Claims are 4-0-1. No friendly fighters are missing.

ROUTE: Bases to 52°03'N - 03°42'E, to 52°00'N - 03°45'E, to 52°32'N - 04°35'E, to 1.P. to target to 52°36'N - 04°36'E, to 52°12'N - 01°38'E, to bases.

WEATHER: Route Out - Broken stratocumulus over the bases increased to 10/10 cumulus and stratocumulus at the English Coast. The low clouds continued

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overcast to the target with tops over the North Sea, 10,000 to 15,000 feet.

Over the Zuider Zee, the tops lowered to 10,000 feet. Target: 8/10 to 10/10 stratocumulus and swelling cumulus with tops to 12,000 feet, 2/10 to 4/10 cirrus at 25,000 feet. Return Route: Same as route out.

OBSERVATIONS

Flak barges seen along the coast at 52030'N - 04032'E.