Authority NND745005

By L NARA Date 12 10 09

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

APO 559. 24 April 1944.

SUBJECT: Report of Operations Officer, Mission of 22 April 1944,

Hamm.

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

95TH "A" GROUP

1. GENERAL NARRATIVE: The 95th "A" Group took off at 1530-1547, to form the lead Group of the 13th "A" Combat Wing. By 1550 the 95th "A" Group had assembled over the base at 2000 feet and started a climb to assembly altitude. The Combat Wing assembly control point at Colchester was crossed at 1727 at 21,000 feet. The 390th "A" Group flying high and the 95th "B" Composite Group flying low pulled into Combat Wing assembly at this point. All Groups were a little strung out at this point, however by time of Buncher #12 the Groups within themselves and the Combat Wing was in excellent formation.

The Combat Wing departed Lowestoft on time at 1750 at an altitude of 23,000 feet. the enemy coast was crossed on course at 1818 at 52037: - 04037 Eat 23,000 feet. Patchy cirrus existed at the altitude of the high Group, however no descent was made as it was not enough to bother formation flying.

On route to the target the turns at 52°05' - 07°E and 51°50'E - 07°17'E were not made as sharply as briefed due to an excessively high ground speed. A flare was fired at the I.P. and high and low Groups told to "S" to the left and right respectively if not enough interval for bembing had been attained.

The bombing run was uneventful for 95th "A" Group and bombs were observed to drop with excellent results. Bombs were away at 1850 at 23,000 feet. The route to the R.P. was flown as briefed, however course was continued beyond the R.P. and announcement made to the high and low Groups that it would be extended in order to enable them to cut the lead Group off a little more.

Descent to 18,000 feet was started at the R.P. and the leg behind the Rhur flown east of briefed route with the 390th "A" and 95th "B" Groups falling back into Combat Wing Formation.

Control point #4 was made good at 1923 at 18,000 feet. Due to time lost on leg behind the Rhur the 13th "A" Combat Wing was no longer in the lead. The 13th "A" Combat Wing returned as third Combat Wing in the Division formation. Briefed route b



back was flown with landfall at enemy coast being made at 51007: - 02040:E at 2040 at 18,000 feet.

Descent to base altitude was started at this point. the 390th "A" and 95th "B" Groups were dispatched to return to their bases upon making landfall on the English Coast at 52000 • 01024 E at 2109 at 4,000 feet. The 95th "A" Group returned to the base at 2116 and landed at 2129 - 2205.

2. AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING: Twenty three (23) aircraft including two spares left the base in the formation shown in Diagram "A". Spare aircraft returned as order, thus twenty one (21) aircraft were dispatched and are credited with sorties.

Of the twenty one (21) aircraft dispatched, all bombed the primary target.

3. LOST AIRCRAFT: No aircraft were lost from 95th "A" Group.

95th"B" Composite Group

1. GENERAL NARRATIVE: Six (6) aircraft took off at 1515 - 1519 to form the lead Squadron of the 95th "B" Composite Group which was to fly as low Group in the 13th "A" Combat Wing. Assembly was made over the base at 3,000 feet with the 100th high Squadron and 390th low Squadron. By 1600 the 95th "B" Composite Group had formed and started climb to assembly altitude of 22,000 feet.

Rendezvous was made with the 95th "A" Group at Colchester at 1727. The 95th "B" Composite Group was slightly strung out at this point, however in good formation at Buncher #12.

Reference is made to the above report of the 95th "A" Group formation for a general narrative for the remainder of the mission, which was flown in company with the 95th "A" Group. However the following points are to be noted.

- a. Due to excessive ground speed the 95th "B" Composite Group was unable to drop far enough behind for a bombing run on the primary target. Rather than disrupt the bombing run of the high Group by crossing under them near the primary target, a bombing run was made on the Marshalling yards at Soest.
- b. The 95th "B" Composite Group fell back into Combat Wing formation shortly after the R.P. and flew home in Combat Wing formation.

The position of the aircraft furnished by the 95th "B" Group to the Composite formation are shown in attached diagram "A".

2. AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING: All six (6) of the aircraft put up by the 95th "B" Group were dispatched and are credited with sorties.

All Six aircraft put up by the 95th "B" Group bombed the target at Soest.

3. LOST AIRCRAFT: No aircraft were lost from the aircraft furnished by the 95th "B" Group.

> HARRY G. MUMFORD, Lt. Colonel, Air Corps, Operations Officer.

95th A GROUP ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM "A"

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

> 22 April DATE GROUP FORMATION FORM LEAD HUBBS 20 166 GUMN GIELEN HIGH 87 72 32 18 LEONARD LEASER 92 19 82 78 JOHNSON JACOBSON HATHEWAY BUCKLAND 70 47 14 10 57 72 07 HARRIS GILBERT ROTTSTEDT OI 88 72 CUNNINGHAM FORD 19 93 7290 WILSON MCREYNOLDS MAYER 2560 80 EXTRA SHIPS 334 335 336 412

19

44

E) NARA Date 12[10]09 DECLASSIFIED Authority NND745005

BRIEFING READINESS STATIONS TAXI TAKE-OFF RENDEZVOUS

LOW

15

79

MCFEE

78

DELUCA

EDWARDS

ROURKE 89

15

14

MARTIN

WRIGHT

16

32

95 % GROUP ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM "A" NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) Office of the Operations Officer

RIVENBARK

69 93

GROUP FORMATION FORM
LEAD

| KROEGER | 13 | 76 | HIGH | HIGH | CAVALIER | 98 | 84 | HOLT | 70 | 68 | HOLT | TO | 68 | HIGH | HOLT | TO | 68 | HOLT | TO

LOW S90th

BRIEFING
READINESS
STATIONS
TAXI
TAKE-OFF
RENDEZVOUS

EXTRA SHIPS

334 335 336 412

DATE 22 April

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND745005
By E) NARA Date 12[10[09

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

DATE GROUP FORMATION FORM 22 April LEAD GIELEN HIGH LOW 72 32 18 87 LEGWARD LEASER 92 82 JOHNSON HATHEWAY "JACOBSON BUCKLAND 70 47 10 72 57 07 MARKIS GILBERT 79 88 ROTTSTEDT WRIGHT 72 01 16 32 97 CUMRINGHAM MCREYNOLDS EXTRA SHIPS . BRIEFING READINESS 334 STATIONS 335 336 TAKE-OFF 412

E) NARA Date 12[10]09 DECLASSIFIED Authority NND745005

TAXI

RENDEZVOUS

95th B GROUP OVER TARGET DIAGRAM "B"

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

GROUP FORMATION FORM

DATE 22 April

LEAD

HIGH

100th

BRIEFING
READINESS
STATIONS
TAXI
TAKE-OFF
RENDEZVOUS

LOW

390th

EXTRA SHIPS

334 335 336 412