

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

APO 559,
19 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Report of Operations Officer, Mission of 19 June 1944.

TO : Commanding Officer, 95th Bomb Group (H), APO 559.

1. GENERAL NARRATIVE. 95th Group designated to fly in low Group of the 13th "A" Combat Wing took off from base at 0500-0520 hours, forming the Group over the field at 13,000 feet by 0619 hours.

Wing assembly with the 390th and 100th Groups was made at Felixstowe flying at 13,000 feet, at 0650 hours. Buncher 22, the second Point on the wing assembly was reached 3 minutes late by the Combat Wing. Splasher 9 was cut short to gain time and the 13th "A" Combat Wing departed the English Coast just to the west of course and 6 minutes late. After crossing the English Coast out the climb to bombing altitude was begun, but due to cloud and con-trails an additional 1000 feet of altitude was needed to be in the clear of these. The French Coast in was reached at 0755 hours, with the 95th Group flying at 18,000 feet, to the right of course. Due to the 10/10 cloud layer below, a course well to the right of the briefed course was chosen to the I.P., at 0855 the 95th Group descended to 17,000 feet, the briefed bombing altitude. A new I.P. was selected, approximately 15 miles to the NE of the original I.P., the cloud cover dissipating in the target area, enabling the leaders to pick up the target and bombs were away at 0928 hours, using Plan X peel off at the I.P. No enemy opposition was encountered on the bomb run.

After bombs away the R.P. was reached after losing 1000 feet by the Combat Wing and Wing assembly was resumed. At this point the Combat Wing leader elected to fly up the coast around the Brest Peninsula to avoid the clouds, and found it possible to burn across the peninsula at 47°53'N-03°55'W, and the French Coast was departed at 1106 hours at 48°41'N-03°58'W where a descent to minimum permissible altitude was begun. The English Coast was crossed on the route back 1200 hours at 50°40'N-02°40'W at 10,000 feet. Bases, were reached at 1325 hours and landing were made at 1328-1349 hours.

Visual bombing methods were used.

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2. AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING. 20 a/c including 2 spares took off from base in formation as shown in attached diagram "A". Unused spares, a/c numbers 42-37882 and 42-102447 returned to base, and are not credited with sorties.

18 a/c in formation as shown in attached diagram "B" attacked the Primary target and all are credited with sorties.

3. AIRCRAFT LOST. None.

HARRY G. MUMFORD,
Lt. Col., Air Corps,
Operations Officer.

th Group
sembly
gram "A"

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

GROUP FORMATION FORM

DATE 19 June 1944

LEAD

HAGENBAUGH

24 | 55

HOUSER

70 | 47

MDLLER

25 | 60

HIGH

HENDERSON

27 | 00

LOW

GILBERT

78 | 44

DOBERTY

71 | 94

LAIRD

71 | 20

SHELLER

78 | 89

HOPSAES

14 | 62

HANNUM

00 | 54

PSOTA

81 | 40

BASTION

13 | 76

STRENTON

60 | 99

RIBBIZAR

77 | 97

OLMEY

81 | 23

BLUSSER

19 | 89

WYATT

18 | 76

AUSTIN

18 | 87

SHERWOOD

2447

SMARSH

7682

EXTRA SHIPS

BRIEFING _____
READINESS _____
STATIONS _____
TAXI _____
TAKE-OFF _____
RENDEZVOUS _____

334 _____
335 _____
336 _____
412 _____

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By AV NARA Date 09-15-06

HEADQUARTERS 95TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
APO 859

E-I-15

19 June 1944

AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING

95th Group Formation

Mission of 19 June 1944

A. Number of A/C Scheduled.....	18 and 2 Spares
B. Number of A/C Taking Off.....	18 and 2 Spares
C. A/C Taking Off less unused spares.....	18
D. Number of A/C Attacking.....	18
E. Number of A/C Not Attacking.....	0
F. Number of Sorties.....	18
G. Reasons for A/C Not Attacking:	

None

For the Commanding Officer:

HARRY G. MUMFORD,
Lt. Col., Air Corps,
Operations Officer.

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S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
AAF STATION 101
APO 634

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By AF NARA Date 09-15-06

INFOPS SUMMARY NO. 50

PERIOD: 0001 hours 19 June 1944. to 2400 hours 19 June 1944.

A. STATISTICS

	Missions	Disp.	Sorties	Atkg.	Tonnage	Claims	Losses				
							E/A	A/A	N/E	OT TOT	
Heavy Bomber Attacks	42	1167	1111	774	1675	0-0-0	0	4	0	5	9
Fighter Escort	16	715	658	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	16++
Fighter Sweeps	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Fighter Bombing	1	17+	17	14	2	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Photo Recon.	12	12	8	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Weather Recon.	6	6	6	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Operations	9	9	9	8	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	1	1
Totals	86	1926	1809	796	1677	0-0-0	0	4	0	6	26

+ Group bombed after completing Escort Mission.
++ Breakdown not available.

B. OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

1. Bomber Attacks

First Operation - 464 B-17s dispatched to attack six A/Fs in the Bordeaux area. Several formations abandoned missions due to dense persistent contrails at 10/10 cloud extending up to 30,000 feet. 264 B-17s visually attacked four of the assigned airfields, Cabanac A/F and three other T/Os, dropping 553 tons G.P. through occasional breaks in clouds over the target areas. Attacks were carried out between 0914 and 1000 hours from 16,700 to 24,500 feet. No enemy air opposition although one formation reported seeing six FW-190s which did not engage, before the target area. Flak was moderate to intense and very accurate over Bordeaux/Merignac A/F and moderate, inaccurate over Nantes. Seven bombers were lost, three to AA, three to unknown reasons, and one to crash-landing in England upon return. Ten B-17s suffered major battle damage and 52 B-17s suffered minor battle damage.

Details of the attacks are as follows:

Target	Dispatched	Attacked	Tons	Results
Bordeaux/Merignac A/F	112	84	152.5	Good
Landes de Bussac A/F	80	34	64.5	Fair
Cazaux A/F	36	39+	71.0	Fair to Good

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<u>Target</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacked</u>	<u>Tons</u>	
Cabanac A/F		12	22.5	Unobserved
Z-462	121	0		
Cornes Ecluse A/F	58	92++	235.0	Fair
Z-482	57	0		
T/Os	---	3	7.5	Unobserved
Totals	464	264	553.0	

+ Includes 17 a/c assigned to attack Bordeaux/Merignac.

++ Includes 38 a/c assigned to attack Z-462.

Second Operation - 423 a/c (267 B-17s and 156 B-24s) dispatched to attack 13 Noball targets and an electric power switching station in the Pas de Calais area. One combat wing (143 B-17s), dispatched to attack visually, failed to bomb because of 10/10 cloud over its six assigned targets. 240 a/c (96 B-17s and 144 B-24s) dropped 540 tons G.P. at 0947-1054 hours from 20,000 - 25,500 feet through 10/10 cloud on PFF markers with unobserved results. No e/a opposition and flak was no deterrent. No losses. Five B-24s suffered minor battle damage. Bombing details below.

Third Operation - 280 a/c (124 B-17s and 156 B-24s) dispatched to attack 15 Noball targets bombed in the 2nd Operation and two others. 270 a/c (120 B-17 and 150 B-24s) dropped 567 tons G.P. and 15 tons S.A.P. at 1728-1813 hours from 20,000 - 22,000 feet. Two targets attacked visually through 2/10 cloud and 15 on PFF markers through 8/10 cloud. No e/a opposition and flak was generally moderate and inaccurate. Three a/c were lost, two B-17s to unknown reasons and one B-24 to crash-landing in England as a result of flak damage. 19 B-17s and 56 B-24s suffered minor battle damage, and seven B-17s and three B-24s major damage. Bombing details as follows:

1st Division

<u>Target</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacked</u>	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Results</u>
Z-3176+	44	39	72	Unobserved
Z-3148+	44	39	120	Unobserved
Z-3205+	40	40	75	Unobserved
Z-3166+	40	40	76	Unobserved
Z-3167	20	19	32	Unobserved
Z-3171	20	0	0	
Z-3180	20	20	36	Unobserved
Z-3197	20	19	35	Unobserved
	248	216	446	

2nd Division

Z-3186+	24	24	57	Unobserved
Z-3206+	24	20	50	Fair
Z-3227+	23	23	43	Unobserved

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<u>Target</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacked</u>	<u>Tons</u>	<u>RESULTS</u>
Z-3213+	35	34	80	Poor
Z-3190	12	12	28	Unobserved
Z-3203+	24	23	48	Fair
Z-3163+	24	24	47	Poor
Z-3162+	24	22	52	Unobserved
Z-3193+	36	33	76	Unobserved
Z-3217+	25	24	52	Unobserved
Z-3189+	25	23	53	Unobserved
5/A/9	12	10	23	Unobserved
Z-3004B	24	23	67	Unobserved
	<u>312</u>	<u>295</u>	<u>676</u>	

+ Targets hit twice.

2. Fighter Escort

Eight fighter groups (88 P-38s, 261 P-51s - total of 349 a/c) dispatched to escort heavy bombers which attacked A/Ts in Bordeaux area. Up 0649-0853 hours down 0945-1220 hours and 204 sorties flown. 10/10 cloud up to 33,000 feet prevented carrying out planned escort. One group recalled and another abandoned. Two groups unable to sight bombers although one had R/T contact. No e/a opposition. One P-51 flight landed on French landing strip (Allied). Four P-38s and 12 P-51s lost - two P-38s collided in the vicinity of Muron (2VT 5521), and two P-38s and 12 P-51s to unknown reasons.

Four fighter groups (86 P-47s, 101 P-38s - total of 187 a/c) dispatched to support bombs in first attack on Noball targets. Up 0634-0809 hours, down 0855-1210 hours and 179 sorties flown. 10/10 cloud up to 27,000 feet restricted operations and two groups were recalled. Escort was uneventful. No losses.

Four fighter groups (36 P-47s, 95 P-38s, 48 P-51s - total of 179 a/c) dispatched to support bombers in second attack on Noball targets. Up 1555-1717, down 1842-1953 hours and 175 sorties flown. Escort was uneventful. One P-38 group dropped 16x250 G.P. and strafed with the following claims: 1 locomotive and 3 barges destroyed; 5 R.R. cars and 5 barges damaged. M/Y in the vicinity of Rogny (4VO-1738) and a storehouse were attacked with unobserved results. No losses.

3. Fighter Sweeps

Nil

4. Fighter-Bombers

One group bombed after completing escort mission. See Fighter Escort.

5. Photo Reconnaissance

Four Spitfires and four F-5s dispatched on photographic missions. Four

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a/c were unsuccessful, two a/c cancelled because of adverse weather, 1 a/c unsuccessful because of weather and one unsuccessful due to interception. Photos were taken of Hamburg, Marburg, Brunsbuttel, Bremerhaven, Leeuwarden A/F, Nordholz A/F, Bremen, Schwerin, Misburg, Magdeburg, Soesterberg A/F and Twente Enschede A/F. Inaccurate flak at Bremerhaven, Nordholz and Hanover. Interception at Groningen, convoys at Frisian Islands, Cuxhaven and Wilhelmshaven.

Two B-17s and two B-24s on combat camera missions over France. All aircraft returned safely.

Pilot returned from first U.S. photo reconnaissance shuttle mission to Russia.

6. Weather Reconnaissance

Three B-17s were dispatched on heavy weather and three Mosquitos on light weather reconnaissance. All missions completed and all a/c returned safely.

7. Special Operations - Night 18/19 June 1944

Nine a/c on Special Operations - 1 a/c was lost.

C. INTELLIGENCE

1. Enemy Air Opposition

Activities of the G.A.F. on the 19th appeared to be on the smallest scale since "D" Day, and it is believed that unusually adverse weather conditions over northern France grounded most of the e/a which would normally have operated over the battle area. Fighters reported only one FW-190 sighted and the only bomber sighting was six FW-190s which did not attack, near Cognac A/F.

2. Flak

Meager to moderate inaccurate at Nantes; meager, inaccurate, heavy flak at Lille. Flak heavy, moderate, inaccurate at 23,000 feet over target at Bordeaux/Merignac.

On missions in the Pas de Calais area, an intense, inaccurate, barrage at Sluis, Urel and moderate, very accurate barrage at Bruges. Moderate to intense, accurate fire was experienced at Bachomont. One B-24 was lost to flak near Sluis.

3. Observations

At 0932 hours from 25,000 feet, along the coast from 4440 N to 4445 N a strip of beach was seen covered with armored vehicles.

At 0915 hours from 24,000 feet, 15 trucks heading north on highway 20 miles south of Rochefort.

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A/F at 4610-0053W - noticed a number of e/a on it.

4. Damage to Enemy Installations

Bordeaux/Merignac A/F - Results Good

Six concentrations of bombs on airfield and adjacent dispersal area. At least 500 bursts covering central portion of A/F with 42 direct hits on EW runway and 36 on NE SW runway. 3 a/c probably damaged. In barracks area 2 direct hits on barracks. Several hits were seen in the ammunition storage area.

Corme-Ecluse A/F - Results Fair

One-half of the A/F was covered by a concentration.

Cazeaux - Results Fair to Good

Three concentrations fell into A/F and one of these fell on the fuel area and the Northwest dispersal area. Three a/c parked on dispersal area severely damaged and direct hits were made on fuel storage with blasts and fire following. 1 concentration covered central portion of the A/F and NE SW Runway. 25 hits on NE SW runway. Bombs covered most of the Central area. The hangar and barracks area are obscured by smoke from fuel fire but bombs seen starting to burst in the air. Fair bombing results. 11 a/c visible on A/F at time of attack.

Landes De Bussac - Results Fair

Three concentrations of bombs fell on the field. A good concentration on the south dispersal area. Direct hits on ammunition area but no fire or blast seen.

Z-3176 - Results Poor

Concentration of bombs 15 miles NW of target area covering the village of Trois-Marquets. Damage to village severe. 379th Group.

Z-3180 - Results Poor

Concentration of bombs approximately 2000 feet south of target area. Minor damage to village.

Z-3148 - Results Good

A heavy concentration blanketed most of target area. Two probable hits on "P", one probable hit on S-1 and S-2 and one probable hit on "Q".

Z-3197 - Results Poor

Concentration of bombs fell in and adjacent to target area which resulted in 30 strikes in target area. Three hits on "P" and one probable hit on "Q".

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Z-3166 - Results Poor

This concentration is approximately 700 yards SW of target area. Few bombs in the village of Fiefs.

Z-3205 - Results Poor

Concentration of bombs 2 1/4 miles NE of target area and 1 mile east of Iairs - in open fields.

Unidentified T/O

Small concentration of bombs seen falling heavily wooded area beside what appears to be a forest fire.

5. Ground and Naval Activities.

Ground Situation - 0500 hours 19 June - 0500 hours 20 June 1944.

During the past twenty-four hours, U. S. VII Corps has made important further progress towards Cherbourg, capturing Bric Quebec and reaching the outskirts of Valognes. The width of the wedge driven across the peninsula has been widened and the possibility of any enemy break through now seems remote. In the sector of U. S. XIX Corps, our forward troops are within two miles of St. Lo. On front of the Second Army report local gains in the Tilly Sur Suelles area. There were no developments of importance. All enemy counter-attacks repulsed.

Naval Situation - 0900/18 - 0900/19 June 1944.

U-Boats - Fairly quiet except in the Channel area. A total of eleven U-Boats were sighted by aircraft of Coastal Command west of Cherbourg. Attacks were made on five of these, but no details as to results are yet available.

English Channel - In the Graveline Calais area two M class minesweepers are reported to have been severely damaged by Beaufighters of Coastal Command. H.M.S. Destroyer ONSLOW has been slightly damaged by aerial torpedo which did not explode. Two Ju-88 aircraft have been shot into the Channel in flames.

E-Boats - No activity reported. British MTBS attacked E-Boats between St. Malo and Cherbourg. The MTBS have not yet returned and results are therefore not available.

Naval Situation - Latest Information up to 0500 hours 20 June 1944.

A choppy sea and breakers due to a stiff on shore wind which arose during the day caused suspension of LSTs and all smaller craft sailing to other side of the Channel. Enemy air activity over the anchorage was increased. One LST sunk. Some casualties occurred in the Utah sector. Movement suspended during further sweep. 285 mines swept up to 0900 hours. Three U-Boats attacked with inconclusive results by aircraft of Coastal Command. Landing of personnel, equipment and supplies is continuing.

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By AK NARA Date 02-15-06

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6. G.A.F. Activity over England - Night 19/20 June 1944

A few e/a operated over the beachheads about 0500 hours, 19 June. Three e/a destroyed. 60 o/a operated between Dutch Isles and Dieppe from 0029 hours to 0245 hours, 20 June, 7 -21,000 feet. Four a/c flew over Straits of Dover, two making brief landfall at Dungeness. No incidents.

Divers -- 61 operated at altitudes ranging from 1,000 - 5,000 feet, 52 made landfall; 25 reaching Greater London appeared to have come from area of Cape Gris Nez and St. Valery, making landfall between South Foreland and Worthing. 27 divers shot down.