

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

APO 559.
13 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Report of Operations Officer, Frantic mission of 12 August 1944.

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

1. GENERAL NARRATIVE: The 13 A combat wing, composed of the 95 A, 95 B and 95 C groups, flying as lead, high and low groups respectively, took off at 0610 - 0630 hours. By 0745 the groups has assembled over the base at 10,000'. Since the three 95th Groups flew the entire mission together they will be treated as one unit in this narrative.

At 0745 the 13 A wing set course for the assembly point of the 13 B wing. The 13 B wing was picked up as planned, at 0800 hours. The Italian coast was crossed at 0842. At 0949 the climb to bombing altitude was started. The enemy coast was crossed at 1114 at 21,000'.

Briefed course was followed to the target. Bombs were away at 1147, and the rally was effected as planned. After the rally point the groups started a let down, crossing the battle line at 1315 at 16,000'. The French coast was crossed at 1406 and Selsey Bill was reached at 1420. The groups arrived at the home base at 1527 and landed at 1535 - 1600.

2. AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING: Thirty-seven aircraft left the base in the formation shown in attached diagrams "1A", "2A" and "3A". A/C # 1887 and A/C # 7215 turned back before reaching the enemy coast and are not credited with sorties. The remaining 35 A/C bombed the primary and are credited with sorties. The formation over the target is shown in attached diagrams "1B", "2B" and "3B".

3. LCST AIRCRAFT: None.

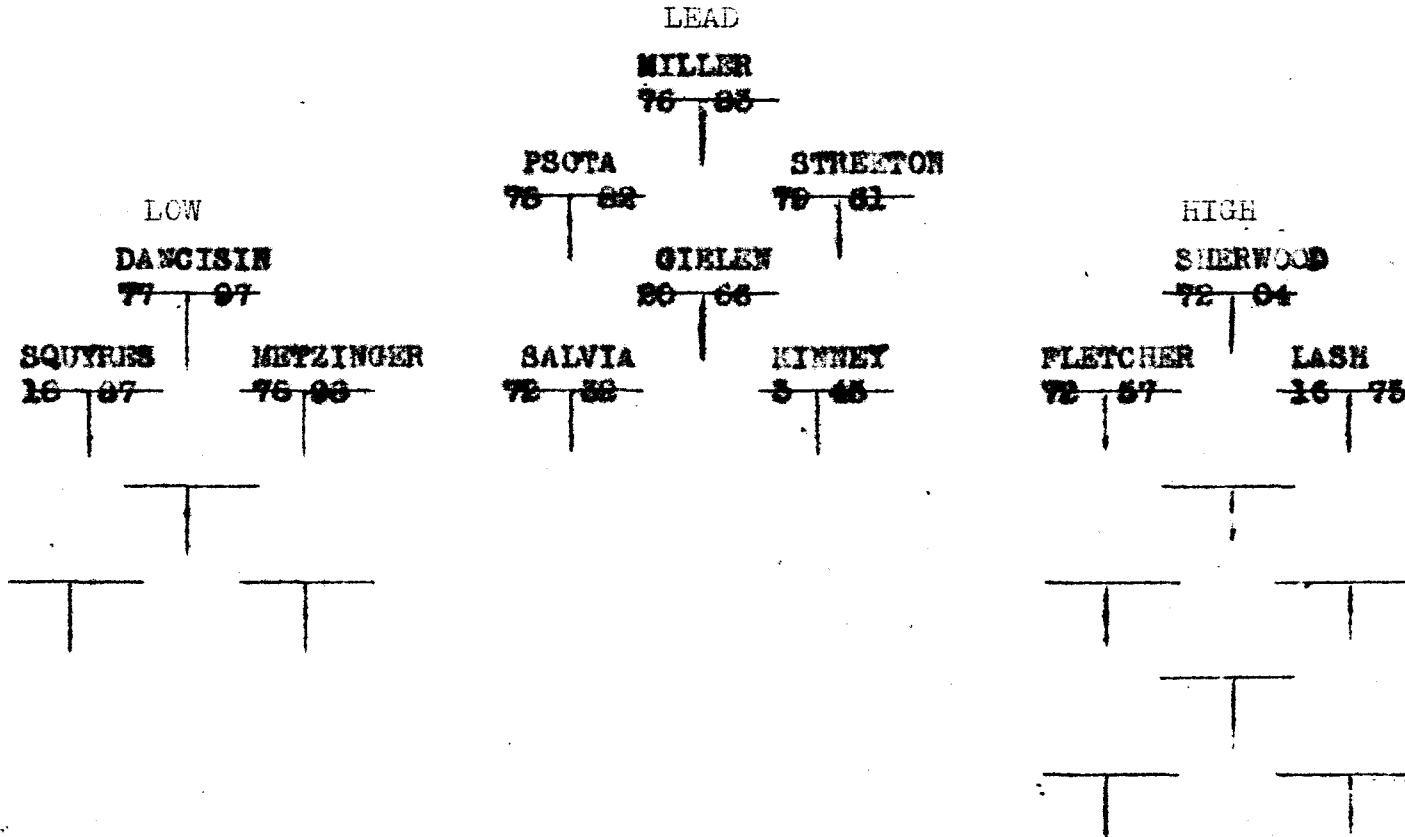
JAMES A. HEARN,
Capt., Air Corps,
Asst. Opn. Officer.

95th "A" Group
Assembly
Diagram "1A"

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

GROUP FORMATION FORM

DATE 12 August 1944



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

EXTRA SHIPS
334 _____
335 _____
336 _____
412 _____

95th "B" Group
 Assembly
 Diagram "2A"

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

GROUP FORMATION FORM

DATE 12 August 1944

LEAD

HAGENBAUGH

24 | 55

BOUDON

72 | 60

AUSTIN

14 | 62

LOW

ROMANIGER

29 | 51

GRIFFIN

26 | 78

HIGH

BACHUZEWSKI

60 | 35

PRICE

15 | 89

DAY

72 | 15

MC CULLEY

70 | 47

PIPKIN

24 | 27

POWELL

19 | 92

CURLEY

16 | 00

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

EXTRA SHIPS

334 _____
 335 _____
 336 _____
 412 _____

95th "C" Group
 Assembly
 Diagram "3A"

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

GROUP FORMATION FORM

DATE 12 August 1944

LEAD

LYNDLEY
 75 | 99

LOW

WALKER
 24 | 50

BRODERSON
 19 | 39

HIGH

MERCENHAIN
 6 | 15

PIESS
 14 | 10

GILBERT
 75 | 83

LAYL
 18 | 76

ELLSWORTH
 78 | 44

DECKARD
 75 | 34

OLNEY
 71 | 94

BRAUND
 78 | 58

HANSON
 18 | 87

COTNER
 19 | 89

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

EXTRA SWIPS

334 _____
 335 _____
 336 _____
 412 _____

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS 13TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP
APO 559

STATISTICAL CONTROL REPORT OF AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING

13TH COMBAT BOMBARDMENT WING

DATE RECORDED 24 August 1944

PART I - TABULAR SUMMARY:

DATE OF MISSION 22 August 1944

STRATEGICAL MISSION

COMBAT GROUP	SCHEDULED	AIRBORNE	AIRBORNE LESS RETURNING SPARES	ATTACKING	NOT ATTACKING	SORTIES
A	11	11	11	10	1	10
B	11	11	11	9	2	10
C	12	12	12	12	0	12

PART II - REASONS WHY AIRCRAFT DID NOT ATTACK OR FAILED TO TAKE OFF:

Combat Gp	A.C.S.N.	Category	Reason for Failure & Corrective Action	Sortie (Yes-No)
"A"	42-51887	E	Unknown as A/C not at this station.	No
"B"	42-57215	E	Unknown as A/C not at this station.	No
"C"	42-51889	F	Couldn't keep in formation - Dropped bombs before target.	Yes

JAMES A. BEANE
Capt., Air Corps
Asst. Operations Officer

SECRET

7/13
S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
AAF STATION 101
APO 634

you
from

INTOPS SUMMARY NO. 104

PERIOD: 0001 hours 12 August 1944 to 2400 hours 12 August 1944.

A. STATISTICS

	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Disp.</u>	<u>Sorties</u>	<u>Atkg.</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>	<u>Claims</u>	<u>Losses</u>				<u>Totals</u>
							<u>E/A</u>	<u>AA</u>	<u>N/E</u>	<u>OT</u>	
Heavy Bomber Atks.	9	650 +	610	595	1433.4	0-0-0	0	1	2	4	7
Fighter Escort	11	436	386	0	0	1-0-0A	0	0	0	3	3
Fighter Sweeps	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Fighter-Bombing	35	894	850	706	278.6	5-0-0A 14-0-0G	0	0	0	16	16
Photo Recon.	27	27	26	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	1	1
Weather Recon.	23	23	22	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	1	0	1
Air/Sea Rescue	14	14	14	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Operations	40	84	80	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	159	2128	1988	1301	1712.0	6-0-0A 14-0-0G	0	1	3	24	28

+ 10 spares, 1 used.

B. OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

1. Bomber Attacks

Fifteen combat wings (374 B-17s, 276 B-24s - 650 a/c) dispatched in three forces to attack eight A/Fs and one M/Y in France. Support by nine fighter groups. 595 a/c dropped 1433.4 tons G.P. visually on all assigned primaries and one secondary target. No e/a opposition. Claims: nil. Losses: 7 a/c (5 B-24s, 2 B-17s).

First Force

Five combat wings (276 B-24s) dispatched to attack four A/Fs NE of Paris. Support by two fighter groups. 251 a/c dropped 654.5 tons G.P. on the four assigned targets at 1015 - 1036 hours from 19,600 - 24,000 feet. Weather: 1/10 - 3/10 in target areas. Flak: meager, inaccurate to accurate. Battle damage: 46 minor, 0 major. E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: 5 B-24s (1 to AA, 2 to unknown reasons, 2 crash-landed in U.K.).

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Details of attacks as follows:

<u>Assigned Targets</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacked</u>	<u>Tons GP</u>	<u>Results</u>
Laon/Couvron A/F	72	61	156.5	Very Good
Juvincourt A/F	67	52	131.2	Very Good
Laon/Athies A/F	63	63	158.1	Good
Mourmelon A/F	<u>74</u>	<u>75</u> *	<u>208.7</u>	Good
	276	251	654.5	

* Includes 4 a/c dispatched against other targets.

Second Force

Eight combat wings (301 B-17s) dispatched to attack one M/Y and two A/Fs east of Paris and a third A/F in the Paris area. Support by four fighter groups. 275 a/c dropped 620.1 tons G.P. on the four assigned targets and one secondary at 1039 - 1101 hours from 18,400 - 23,800 feet. Weather: CAVU over targets with slight haze at Buc A/F. Flak: meager, inaccurate. Battle damage: 18 minor, 10 major. E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: 2 B-17s to unknown reasons.

Details of attacks as follows:

<u>Assigned Targets</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacked</u>	<u>Tons GP</u>	<u>Results</u>
Metz M/Y	75	69	207.0	Good to Very Good
Chamont A/F	78	72	136.2	Very Good
Buc A/F	73	64	148.2	Fair to Good
La Perthe A/F	75	58	95.7	Good

Other Target

Etampes/Mondesir A/F	—	<u>12</u>	<u>33.0</u>	Fair to Good
Totals	301	275	620.1	

Third Force

Two combat wings (73 B-17s) dispatched from Italy to attack an A/F in south central France. Four a/c returned early. Support by three fighter groups. 69 a/c dropped 158.8 tons G.P. on assigned target at 1148 - 1153 hours from 19,700 - 22,000 feet and landed safely at bases in U.K. Weather: CAVU. Flak; meager to moderate over target, accurate on one group only. Battle damage: 14 minor, 0 major. E/A opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Details of attack as follows:

<u>Assigned Target</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacked</u>	<u>Tons GP</u>	<u>Results</u>
Toulouse/Francazal A/F	73	69	158.8	Very Good

Bombing and strafing claims (contd)

<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
2 flak wagons	1 RR station
5 water towers	8 oil barges
59 tank cars	3 oil tanks
20 tanks	1 oil truck
2 trailers	5 flat cars
2 flak cars	50 ammo cars
14 staff cars	31 tank cars
4 bridges	1 flak car
4 switch cars	8 staff cars
2 roundhouses	4 bridges
2 tunnels	3 roundhouses
5 tracks	5 factories
1 factory	
1 jeep	

Second Operation

Ten groups (20 P-47s, 285 P-51s - 305 a/c) dispatched to bomb and strafe transportation facilities and moving traffic in northeastern France. Up 1520 - 1823 hours, down 1856 - 2110 hours. 220 a/c dropped 98.6 tons on M/Ys, bridges, tunnels, moving traffic, and other transportation facilities. All groups strafed assigned areas after bombing. E/a opposition: nil. Claims: 1-0-0 ground. Losses 3 P-51s to unknown causes.

Bombing and strafing claims include:

<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
135 RR cars	224 RR cars
1 bridge	18 locos
2 staff cars	3 M/Ys
1 power house	2 bridges
43 trucks	2 staff cars
5 half-tracks	28 flat cars
4 command cars	23 barges
60 ammo cars	11 trucks
1 oil tank	1 power house
1 automobile	10 passenger cars
1 truck-trailer	2 storage tanks
2 water towers	4 buildings
2 roundhouses	10 track sections
41 locos	

5. Photo Reconnaissance

27 a/c (19 F-5s and 8 Spitfires) dispatched on photo reconnaissance: 11 a/c mapping west Paris area; 7 a/c dispatched to Paris, Rheims, Strasbourg and south of Cologne; 3 a/c over Berlin; 4 a/c over northern France; 1 a/c recalled early; 1 a/c returning from Italy on special mapping operation. Three a/c failed to obtain photos. Losses: one F-5 B to unknown causes. All other a/c returned safely.

6. Weather Reconnaissance

23 a/c dispatched on weather reconnaissance: 10 P-51s as weather scouts for 1st Bomb Division; two B-17s on routine weather missions; three Mosquitoes on weather missions over France; three Mosquitoes as weather scouts for bombing operations; one Mosquito weather scout for special operations; two Mosquitoes, one B-25 and one B-26 on special weather reconnaissance. Losses: one Mosquito (scout for bomber operations). All other a/c returned safely.

7. Air/Sea Rescue

14 P-51s dispatched on air/sea rescue missions. One rescue incident by Yarmouth boat and Warwick a/c. Eight men rescued from 466th Group, 96th Wing. One bail-out on VHF. No ditchings. All a/c returned safely.

8. Special Operations

Six B-17s dropped leaflets over France at 0043-0114 hours. All a/c returned safely.

Two a/c dispatched on special testing operations. One a/c did not bomb due to equipment failure.

31 a/c dispatched on special operations. Three a/c returned early. All a/c returned safely.

Ten a/c (one B-17, two B-24s, two Mosquitoes and one P-38 photo reconnaissance with escort of four P-51s) dispatched on special operation. All a/c returned safely.

35 a/c (26 P-51s and 9 P-47s) dispatched as radio relays. All a/c returned safely.

C. INTELLIGENCE

1. Enemy Air Opposition

There was no enemy air opposition to the heavy bomber attacks on A/Fs and on M/Ys in France. One B-17 force reported sighting 17 black s/e e/a headed northwest, east of Melun but no attacks. B-17s returning from Italy sighted one s/e and two t/e in Toulouse area at 1200 hours but no attack was made.

Escorting fighters had but a single encounter. P-51s escorting bombers returning from Italy reported 1 Ju-188 engaged and destroyed in Toulouse area.

Fighters engaged in morning fighter bomber operations met no concentrated opposition and only 4 sporadic encounters. One P-47 group encountered 2 Ju-88s between Rosiers and Cambrai at 0730 hours and claimed one destroyed for no loss. Another group engaged 2 Ju-88s at Guise and Maubeuge destroying both without loss.

A P-38 group engaged and destroyed 1 Ju-88 on the deck in the Compiègne area without loss. A fighter group of P-47s destroyed one Me-109 with no markings heading southwest in the deck near Maubeuge.

In a late afternoon fighter bombing operation no e/a were encountered.

2. Flak

Laon/Couvron-meager, inaccurate.
Laon/Athies-moderate, accurate.
Juvincourt-nil to meager, inaccurate.
Mourmelon - meager, inaccurate.
Chalons - meager, accurate.
Romily - meager, inaccurate.
Chamant - meager, inaccurate.
Metz - meager, inaccurate.
La Perthe - meager, inaccurate to accurate.

3. Observations

Long runway in woods, 4825N-0240E, from 20,000 feet.
1000 freight cars in M/Y, 5015N-0355E, from 20,000 feet.
Large clearing, possibly runway, in woods at 5023N-0408E, from 19,000 feet.
Large concentration of freight cars at Maubeuge M/Y from 21,000 feet.
Large concentration of freight cars at La Louvier M/Y from 20,000 feet.
Large concentration of freight cars at Mons M/Y from 20,000 feet.
Area northeast of Paris overrun with railroad traffic headed southwest.
Standing train camouflaged by foliage, carrying trucks or tanks on the first six cars, 10 miles south of Lille.
Area between Ostend and Dunkirk flooded.
Extreme activity at steel mills or foundries near Lens. Many trains moving in and out.
Two large ships under construction at Dunkirk. An acre of constructional steel lay along water front.
Camouflaged A/F, 4 miles south of La Fere (4VN-8624), 3 hangars and 2 runways on it.
15 s/e e/a on Pois A/F, 4VN-8651.
100 plus goods cars in M/Y at St. Etienne.

4. Damage to Enemy Installations

Toulouse Francazal A/F - Very Good Results

Two combat wings bombed A/F with 500 GP bombs. Blanketed hangars and A/F buildings. All of 12 large hangars and 5 of the 10 smaller hangars hit, or received near misses. Total of 18 hits and several near misses noted on hangars. About 3/4 of bombs fell in target area. Neither of the 2 medium-sized s/e a/c seen on field were hit.

Mourmelon A/F - Good Results

Hangars and installations hit. Southern and eastern area of field post-holed.

Juvincourt A/F - Very Good Results

Assigned area concentrated with hits. Dispersal area hit and runway postholed.

Laon/Couvron A/F - Very Good Results

Assigned area postholed. Pattern extending from central area to northern and southern area.

Metz M/Y - Good - Very Good Results

Six concentrations of GP in target area. Approximately 400 bursts on rail lines, railroad cars and the Sablon locomotive depot. Concentrations are well-placed. Damage to rail lines at entrance of the sorting siding and railroad cars in the yard will be extremely severe. Sidings were filled to approximately 50% capacity. Two large explosions seen and fires burning late in the attack indicate that oil tanks have been hit. Three concentrations of GP fell into the storage siding and loco workshop, individual pin-pointing of strikes in this area is impossible due to smoke. From the concentrations noted it is evident that main weight of bombs fell into sidings and workshop area and damage will be severe.

La Perthe A/F - Good Results

Five concentrations of bombs totalling 1300 burst on the landing field proper. Two double bay hangars and at least 8 small buildings in the central part of landing ground received direct hits. All concentrations were well-placed and covered most of landing ground area. Field will be unsuitable for use.

Chamant A/F - Very Good Results

Six concentrations in target area. Direct hits could be seen on the one a/c shelter in the area and on the administration and living quarters buildings. Area was completely covered by bomb bursts. No a/c visible on field at the time of the attack.

Buc A/F - Fair to Good Results

Approximately 300 bombs fell on the Fort due Haut, western side of the A/F. One explosion seen. Late photography shows two fires burning. Two concentrations of bombs in the hangar workshops area. Area severely damaged before attack. Additional hits made on a two-bay hangar, two workshops, and the eastern portion of the landing field proper. One concentration of bombs in open fields adjacent to the west edge of the Fort du Haut.

Etampes/Mondesir A/F - Fair to Good Results

Approximately 125 bombs in central portion of the landing field proper. Two direct hits on large flight hangar, seriously damaged previous to those hits, and two direct hits on a rail line adjacent to the A/F. Damage to the center of the A/F will be severe.