

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

APO 559.  
4 September 1944.

**SUBJECT:** Report of Operations Officer, Mission of 3 September 1944.

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

1. **GENERAL NARRATIVE:** On this mission the 13 A combat wing was composed of the 95 A, 95 B, and 95 C groups. In this narrative these three groups will be treated as one unit.

The 13 A combat wing took off at 0540 - 0620 hours. By 0700 the wing had assembled over the base, the lead group assembling at 9,000 feet. At 0705 the wing left the base and proceeded on course. The route over England was flown as planned and the English coast was crossed on the course out at 0826.

The French coast was crossed on course at 0905. At the I.P. the groups peeled off as planned. On the first run none of the groups were able to bomb due to an undercast. All groups dropped down 3,000 feet for a second run. The 95 A, and 95 B groups bombed on the second run. The 95 C group made a third run.

After bombing the wing was not reformed. The groups returned to the base individually, reaching the base at 1210. The landing was made at 1225 - 1300 hours.

2. **AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING:** Thirty Six aircraft plus one PFF left the base in the formation shown in attached diagrams "1A", "2A", and "3A". A/C # 1675 took off late and was unable to catch the formation. A/C # 7801 and A/C # 8106 each failed to release six bombs due to rack malfunctions. A/C # 2066 took off late and joined the 486th group, bombing with that group. The formation over the target is shown in attached diagrams "1B", "2B", and "3B".

3. **AIRCRAFT LOST:** None.

THOMAS H. HOLBROOK,  
Lt. Col., Air Corps,  
Operations Officer.







HEADQUARTERS 95TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP  
APO 559

STATISTICAL CONTROL REPORT OF AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING

13TH COMBAT BOMBARDMENT WING

DATE RENDERED 8 SEPTEMBER 1944

PART I - TABULAR SUMMARY:

TACTICAL MISSION

DATE OF MISSION 8 SEPTEMBER 1944

COMBAT GROUP	SCHEDULED	AIRBORNE	AIRBORNE LESS RETURNING SPARES	ATTACKING	NOT ATTACKING	SORTIES
"A"	11	11	11	10	1	11
"B"	13	13	13	13	0	13
"C"	13	13	13	13	0	13

Note:

PART II - DESCRIPTION OF REASONS WHY AIRCRAFT DID NOT ATTACK:

COMBAT GROUP	WEATHER	PERSONNEL	FORMATION	ENEMY ACTION	OTHER	MECH & EQPT	TOTAL
"A"					1		1
TOTALS					1		1

THOMAS H. HOLBROOK,  
Lt. Col., Air Corps,  
Operations Officer.

# H. GROUP LEAD

A.T.F. \_\_\_\_\_

C.W. \_\_\_\_\_

FORMATION DIAGRAM

9ETH BOMB. GROUP (H)

DATE 3-SEPT-1944

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

STREETON  
7992

GIELEN  
7257

LASH  
7882

HOESRES  
7232

METZLINGER  
8288

RIBNIKAR.  
8140

SALVIA  
7376

GILLES  
8067

SMARSH  
7858

PIPKIN  
1462

RINGBLOOM  
1887

SOUYRES  
1675

ABORTIVE \_\_\_\_\_

MISSING \_\_\_\_\_

CHANGES \_\_\_\_\_

EXTRA \_\_\_\_\_

EXTRA A \_\_\_\_\_

GROUP

FORMATION DIAGRAM

95TH BOMB. GROUP (H)

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

SHELLER  
8199

ESSER  
427

HANSON  
7801

WALKER  
8106

BAUMGARTNER  
8333

GOTNER  
7844

SNOWDEN  
2066

ELLSWORTH  
2450

TAYLOR  
7194

HART  
6993

MOORING  
1989

HARVEY  
7334

EXTRA

EXTRA

C-GROUP - LOW

A.T.F. \_\_\_\_\_

C.W. \_\_\_\_\_

FORMATION DIAGRAM

95TH BOMB. GROUP (H)

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

MAYER  
2678

McCULLEY  
8317

GROSSHEIM  
7154

GRIFFIN  
2455

BOUDAN  
8255

WICKER  
1760

RADKE  
1920

Mc VAY

HELM  
1600

LAYL  
1876

CURLEY  
8346

PAYNE

DAY  
7215

ABORTIVE \_\_\_\_\_

MISSING \_\_\_\_\_

CHANGES \_\_\_\_\_

EXTRA \_\_\_\_\_

EXTRA A \_\_\_\_\_



## FORM 3

STATION

119

DATE

Sept 3 -

LET	SHIP	PILOT	TARGET	TIME OFF		LANDING		REMARKS
				EST	ACT	EST	ACT	
335	G 7992	Stratton		✓	557		1219	
412	O 7232	Hafner		✓	604		1220	
"	T 7882	Lash		✓	555		1219	
"	E- 8067	Gilles		✓	556		1222	
"	W 1675			✓	753		1030	
"	Z 8281	Squires		✓	603		715	RETURNING TO BASE
"	K 1887	Kingblom		✓	558		1221	
"	V 8288	Mitgenier	Hi	✓	559		1226	
"	R 1462	Pepkin		✓	601		1226	
"	Y 7858	Emerch		✓	602		1225	
"	L 7257	Gieren	Ro.	✓	605		1228	
"	J 7376	Salvia		✓	606		1229	
"	C 8140	Rabinov		✓	607		1227	

FORM 3

STATION 119

DATE Sept 3-

LET	SHIP	PILOT	TARGET	TIME OFF		LANDING		REMARKS
				EST	ACT	EST	ACT	
336	Z 8199	Chelly		✓	539		1243	
"	E 8106	Walker		✓	540		1244	
"	P 7801	Hansen		✓	541		1242	
<del>412</del>	<del>A 8293</del>	<del>2046</del>		<del>✓</del>	<del>541</del>		<del>1249</del>	
"	F- 7383	Snowden		✓	542		642	
"	M 1989	Mooring		✓	545		1247	
"	W 6993	Hart		✓	546		1246	
"	H 8333	Benjamin Hi		✓	547		1240	
"	O 7194	Taylor		✓	548		1241	
"	K 2450	Olenworth		✓	549		1239	
"	S 7334	Harvey		✓	550		1245	
"	G 2427	Besse	Ho.	✓	551		1237	
"	P 7844	Ortner		✓	552		1238	
"	B 1867	Harry		✓	558		1236	

STATION

119

DATE

Sept 3-

	LET	SHIP	PILOT	TARGET	TIME OFF		LANDING		REMARKS
					EST	ACT	EST	ACT	
334	R	2678	Mayer		✓	610		1259	
"	Z	2455	Guffin		✓	611		1300	
"	F	7154	Grossheim		✓	612		1258	
"	Q	2951	McVay		✓	613		1302	
"	N	7215	Day		✓	614		1303	
"	H	7264	Payne		✓	615		1301	
"	C	8255	Bowden	Hi	✓	616		1256	
412	Q	1876	Gayle		✓	617		1255	
334	T	1600	Wolton		✓	618		1257	
"	K	8317	McCullay	Lo	✓	619		1253	
"	G	1920	Radtke		✓	620		1254	
"	D	1760	Wicker		✓	621		1254	
"	E	8346	Curley			623		1255	

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

E-E-26

3 September 1944

**SUBJECT:** Lead Navigator's Narrative, Ninety Fifth "C" Group, Mission of 3 September 1944, Brest, France.

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

1. The Ninety Fifth "C" Group was flying as low group in the 13th "A" Combat Wing. We took off at 0610 hours and assembled the group and joined the wing over the base at 0706 hours. We departed the field at 0706 hours on course.

2. We were several minutes early so flew north of SP# 10. We crossed SP# 12 at 0807 hours. We departed from the English coast at Portland Bill at 0826 hours at 11300'. We crossed the French coast at 0905 hours on course at 12300'. C.P. # 2, 4834N 0309W was reached at 0911 hours.

3. The I.P., 4800N 0407W was reached at 0932 hours at 12000'. We were unable to drop bombs on our first run due to 10/10ths cloud coverage. A left turn was made from the target and we returned to the I.P. descending to make the second run at 8500'. Due to clouds at the target the bombardier was unable to be certain of his target in time to drop. At the suggestion of the Command Pilot we cut the third run short beginning with an I.P. at 4803N 0422W. The bombs were dropped on the target on this run at 1027½ hours from 8500' on a magnetic heading of 339°.

4. The briefed course was followed on the return route at 6500'. To avoid weather the English coast was crossed at 1144 hours at 6400'. We were over the base at 1252 hours.

JOHN D. BENTZ  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Lead Navigator.

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

H-F-26

3 September 1944

SUBJECT: Lead Bombardier's Narrative, Ninety Fifth "A" Group, Mission  
of 3 September 1944, Brest, France.

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

1. Narrative.

a. Bombing aids used were C-2, H-6-B computers, the A.F.C.H. and P.F.F. aircraft and its equipment.

b. The maneuver at the I.P. was a 90° turn to the right.

c. The bomb bay doors were opened at Quimper, France.

d. On the original run the undercast necessitated a second run. The second run was made cutting short of the I.P., the last of the run being made through a thin cloud layer. Bombs were away at 1003 hours with no flak being observed.

e. Bombing results observed to be on the target area.

f. No suggested tactical changes.

2. Bombardier's form 12-B modified is attached.

3. Disposition of Bombs - A/C

Main Bombfall	Over Target	Bombing	No.	Bombs		Fuzing	
				Size	Type	Nose	Tail
Brest, France.	10	10	300	250#	M-81	No	Non-delay
Total on Target.			300	250#	M-81	"	" "
Other Expenditures.			None.				
Bombs returned.			30	250#	M-81	"	" "
Total (loaded on A/C taking off).			330	250#	M-81	"	" "

4. Types of Release - Of the 300 bombs dropped on the primary target all were released through the intervalometer armed with a minimum setting.

G. J. LEMMON  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Lead Bombardier.

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

3 September 1944

SUBJECT: S-2 Report 95A, 95B, and 95C for Mission of 3 Sept. 1944.

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

1. Eleven A/C plus 1 PFF of the 95th A Group took off beginning at 0557 hours to form the lead group of the 13th A Combat wing and attack target near Brest, France. A/C 42-31675 returned after failing to catch the formation.

Thirteen A/C of the 95th B group took off at 0639 hours to form the high group of the 13th A combat wing and attack target near Brest, France. No A/C returned early.

Thirteen A/C of the 95th C group took off at 0610 hours to form the low group of the 13th A combat wing and attack target near Brest, France. No A/C returned early.

2. No E/A were encountered.

3. No flak was encountered on this sortie.

4. Bombing results were good for both the 95A and 95B groups. Very good for the 95C group. All MPI's were hit. Bombing was done visually.

5. Clouds were encountered over the target area resulting in all groups dropping several thousand feet. 95A and 95B groups made two runs on the target and 95C group made 3 runs on the target; due to clouds over the target area. Lt. Snowden of 95B group changed ships after the group took off and, failing to catch up with the formation, attacked himself to the 486th group and bombed with them, hitting their assigned MPI. Photo is available. There was no battle damage and all ships returned to base by 1303 hrs.

JOSEPH C WESTERKAMP,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Ass't. S-2 Officer.

*Low*

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
4 SEP 1944

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*all*  
*Oct 13*

INTERPRETATION REPORT NO. K. 3106

LOCALITY: TARGETS IN BREST AREA.

DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

COVER AND QUALITY:

Ten of the targets are fully covered on photographs of good quality.

PERIOD UNDER REVIEW:

This report deals with damage to these targets up to 1410 hours on 3 SEP 1944 and includes damage from the attack by aircraft of U.S. 8TH AIR FORCE on 3 SEP 1944. (S.A. 2673).

DETAILS OF DAMAGE:

(Target numbers refer to those on annotated prints distributed with this report and to items in S.A. 2673. A circle of 1,000 feet radius is drawn round each pinpoint).

TARGET NO. 7 - BREST/PONSCORFF - Light Coastal Battery (G.S.G.S. 4250 2G/4, 903924 - Illustration No. 4805W/66/h):

Two out of 3 gun positions are destroyed, direct hits being scored on all three positions. Approximately 38 craters are seen in the target area. The road alongside the position has been cratered in at least three places.

(Print 3027 - Comparative 106G/2501, Print 4037)

"B" Section Notes:

Direct hit on South end of No. 1 position. No. 2 position totally destroyed. Battery appears to have been abandoned.

TARGET NO. 8 - BREST/TREGONDIN - Light Coastal Battery (4805W/6G/m):

Damage to possible observation post is seen. Small unidentified building severely damaged. Emplacements appear intact. Several new craters seen in target area.

"B" Section Notes:

No hits on emplacements. Position is unoccupied.

(Print 3095 - Comparative SAV 487A-261-4)

TARGET NO. 9 - BREST/POINTE DES ESPAGNOLS III - Heavy AA Battery (G.S.G.S. 4250 2G/4, 906943):

No new damage is apparent to emplacements. There are several near misses to each emplacement and a number of other craters in target area.

"B" Section Notes:

No. 1 emplacement partially destroyed. Near misses to three other emplacements. No. 4 position is unoccupied. Other three positions are occupied.

(Print 4020 - Comparative 106G/2501, 4099)

/TARGET NO. 10 - TELGRUC

TARGET NO. 10 - TELGRUC (4805W/83/061050):

Many craters are seen in the target area destroying or damaging about one half of all the buildings in the village, some of which are still smoking. At least three roads leading into the village are blocked by craters and debris.

(Print 4084 - Comparative SAV 447E/580-3)

"B" Section Notes:

Not a battery. Roads are not blocked. Many buildings destroyed.

TARGET NO. 11 - CAMRET FORT QUELEEN (4805W/66/1, G.S.G.S. 4250, 2G/4, 885900):

At least 30 bombs have fallen within the fortress. The central 1/3 of a large rectangular concrete building is destroyed. A bomb has penetrated the roof of the Southern third and the building is damaged by near hits. The Northern third is seriously damaged by two hits near the edge. A small long building in the centre of the courtyard is severely damaged by blast. The outside wall of the fortress is cut in five places by craters. The road into the fortress over the old moat has received a direct hit. All the surrounding roads are cut in several places. Eleven craters are seen in the lorry park but no vehicles are visible.

(Print 4102 - Comparative SAV 490A/147-3)

"B" Section Notes:

Two hits on moat walls and scattered hits inside. This is not a battery.

TARGET NO. 13 - TREMAIDIC - Gun Battery (4250/2G/4, 945846):

Approximately 413 craters are seen within the 1,000 ft. radius circle. Near misses to all emplacements are seen with probable hits on two.

(Print 3036)

"B" Section Notes:

Casemated battery appears intact. No direct hits on casemates.

TARGET NO. 14 - LANVROC (G.S.G.S. 4247, 7/8SE, 960880):

Craters are concentrated in three distinct groups within target area. There is a concentration immediately Northwest and West of the pinpoint where a large crater blocks the junction between the main road through town and a road from the North. A number of craters is seen approximately 1,000 feet Southeast of the pinpoint and at least two hits have been scored on the road. Approximately 1,000 feet North of the pinpoint another group of craters is seen and there is a direct hit upon a road. In the target area one building is practically destroyed, one is severely damaged and at least two more are damaged.

(Prints 3066, 4065)

"B" Section Notes:

Not a battery. Road blocked by hit on side. Three buildings destroyed.



## TARGET NO. 15 - POINTE DE LANVEOC (US 1607/6, 015053):

A heavy concentration of craters is seen within the target area. One side of a large sunken quadrilateral building is almost destroyed by at least 4 direct hits and one other side is seriously damaged. A small rectangular building to the East is seriously damaged. A road round the seaward side of the fortress is cut in three places.

A barge which was beached below the cliffs has received at least two direct hits and is now destroyed.

(Print 3065 - Comparative SAV 95E-1002  
4)

## "B" Section Notes:

One emplacement destroyed. One emplacement damaged by near miss. Remaining two emplacements unoccupied.

## TARGET NO. 17 - GROZON (17/60, 029040, G.S.G.S. 4347, 7/8SE, 986835):

Craters are concentrated North and West of the pinpoint. The railway tracks are obliterated in one area and cut by direct hits in two other places. In the target area one building is destroyed and at least four others are severely damaged by direct hits.

(Prints 3045/6)

## "B" Section Notes:

Not a battery. One building destroyed, 2 damaged, railroad cut in four places.

## TARGET NO. 18 - MOGART/GOZON - Field Battery (17/63/F):

Approximately 126 craters are seen within the 1,000 ft. radius circle. Severe damage is visible at the North end of the battery.

(Print 3032)

## "B" Section Notes:

No hits on casemated battery. Numerous hits in old fort.

PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY: 22 Squadron on 3 SEP 1944.

MEAN TIME OF PHOTOGRAPHY: 1410B hours.

SORTIE: US7CR/3162.

SCALE: 1/5,000 (F.L.36").

PRINTS DISTRIBUTED: 3027, 3032, 3036, 3046, 3065, 3095, 4020, 4065, 4084,  
4102 (reduced in scale).

*Loay*

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE  
AAF STATION 101  
APO 634

INTOPS SUMMARY NO. 126

PERIOD: 0001 hours 3 September 1944 to 2400 hours 3 September 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.	27	752 +	740	719	2009.9	0-0-0	0	1	0	2	3
Fighter Escort	6	270	248	0	0	7-0-1A 0-0-1G	0	0	0	1	1
Fighter Sweeps	3	127	125	0	0	0-0-0	0	1	1	0	2
Fighter Bombing	1	50	49	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Photo Recon.	1	1	1	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Weather Recon.	15	15	15	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Air/Sea Rescue	14	14	14	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Operations	<u>19</u>	<u>114</u>	<u>113</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0-0-0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	86	1343	1305	719	2009.9	7-0-1A 0-0-1G	0	2	1	3	6

+ 13 spares, 3 used.

B. OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

1. Bomber Attacks

24 combat wings (752 B-17s) dispatched in two forces against gun positions in the Brest area and Ludwigshafen/Opau synthetic oil plant. 719 a/c dropped 2009.9 tons on all primaries. Targets in Brest area attacked visually. Ludwigshafen/Opau plant attacked with the aid of PFF. No e/a opposition to either force. Claims: nil. Losses: 3 B-17s.

First Force

9 combat wings (343 B-17s) dispatched against Ludwigshafen/Opau Synthetic Oil Plant. Five additional B-17s dispatched to break off from main force, drop leaflets on ten cities in western Germany and Luxembourg, rejoin bombers, 326 a/c dropped 649.5 tons G.P. and 322.5 tons I.B. - 972 tons on assigned primaries and one T/O at 1112-1140 hours from 24,300-26,800 feet. Weather: 9/10 to 10/10 at target. 6/10 to 9/10 en route. All bombing by PFF. Flak: moderate to intense and fairly accurate at Ludwigshafen. Nil en route. Battle damage: 27 major, 76 minor (two a/c crash-landed in France, category unknown). E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: one B-17 to unknown causes.

SECRET

S E C R E T

Details of attack as follows:

<u>Assigned Targets</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacking</u>	<u>Tons G. P.</u>	<u>Tons I. B.</u>	<u>Results</u>
Ludwigshafen/Opau Synthetic Oil Leaflet Mission +	343 5	325 0	647.5 0	321.5 0	Unobserved
<u>Other Target</u>					
T/O (4920N-0822E)	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2.0</u>	<u>1.0</u>	
Totals	348	326	649.5	322.5	

+ Leaflets - Leaflets were successfully dropped on the following cities:-  
Karlsruhe, Saarbrücken, Neunkirchen, Homburg, Mainz, Speyer, Mannheim, Frankenthal,  
Trier and Luxembourg.

Fighter Support - 5 fighter groups (254 P-51s) dispatched, including 52 P-51s as escort to bombers dropping leaflets. Sorties 233. Up 0828-0912 hours, down 1419-1455 hours. E/a opposition: 10 plus FW-190s were attacked taking off from A/F in vicinity of Antwerp. One Me-110 was attacked on ground on A/F west of Antwerp. One jet a/c observed vicinity of Chalons sur Marne. No attack. Claims: 7-0-1 s/e air, 0-0-1 t/e ground. Losses: one P-51 to unknown reasons.

Second Force

15 combat wings (404 B-17s) dispatched against 16 gun batteries and defended localities in the Brest area. 393 a/c dropped 1037.9 tons G. P. on all assigned targets and one T/O at 0935-1100 hours from 7,000-11,000 feet. Weather: under 10,000 feet altitude, CAVU with slight ground haze in target area. 6/10-7/10 middle cloud layer. All bombing visual. Flak: nil at target. Meager to moderate accurate on one group at Guernsey Island. Battle damage: 3 major, 10 minor. E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: 2 B-17s (one to AA, one to unknown causes).

Details of attack as follows:

<u>Assigned Targets</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacking</u>	<u>Tons G. P.</u>	<u>Results</u>
Bk 17 Ill. 83	26	26	49.4	Very Good
17/J/71	26	25	46.8	Fair
17/J/78	26	26	76.0	Fair-Good
Bk 17 Ill. 60	26	26	49.4	Good
Z357-041040/6	12	11	40.5	Poor-Fair
Z357-015053/6	29	25	71.5	Good-Very Good
GSGS 4250	26	26	48.9	Fair-Good
17/J/133	26	26	76.5	Fair-Good
16/J/120	26	26	72.0	Poor-Fair
17/J/131	26	23	68.8	Fair
17/J/270	26	25	45.6	Very Good

S E C R E T

<u>Assigned Targets</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacking</u>	<u>Tons</u> <u>GP</u>	<u>Results</u>
17/J/165	26	25	74.5	Good to Very Good
17/J/173	26	26	77.5	Fair to Good
17/J/151	26	27	79.7	Very Good
17/J/148	26	26	87.0	Good
17/F/5	25	24	70.8	Good

• one a/c. attacking 17/J/151 was dispatched against Z357

Other Targets

T/O	—	<u>1</u>	<u>3.0</u>	Unobserved
Totals	404	393	1037.9	

Fighter Support - one group (16 P-51s) dispatched. Sorties 15. Up 0656, down 1230 hours. E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

2. Fighter Escort

Six groups (270 P-51s) dispatched to escort first and second force bombers attacking targets in Brest area and western Germany. Sorties 248. Up 0656 - 1912 hours, down 1230 - 1455 hours. No e/a opposition to either bomber force. Fighters escorting first force bombers observed one jet e/a in vicinity of Chalons sur Marne but e/a did not attack. Ten plus FW-190s were attacked taking off from A/F in vicinity of Antwerp. One Me-110 attacked on ground on A/F west of Antwerp. Total claims: 7-0-1 air, 0-0-1 ground. Losses: one P-51 to unknown causes.

3. Fighter Sweeps

Three groups (127 P-47s) dispatched to strafe Tilburg, Namur and Cologne areas. Sorties 125. Up 1429 - 1430 hours, down 1732 - 1748 hours. E/a opposition: nil. E/a claims: nil. Losses: two P-47s (one to flak, one crash-landed Cat "E").

Claims for strafing:

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
Locomotives	42	13
RR cars, including 1 oil, and 2 flak cars	8	69
Trucks, including oil and ammo trucks	100	46
Other military vehicles	25	22
Barges		2
Tug		1
Mobile Gun		1

4. Fighter Bombing

One group (50 P-38s) dispatched to bomb strong points in Brest area. Sorties 49. Up 1308 hours, down 1720 hours. Mission abandoned due to weather

S E C R E T

and all bombs returned to base with exception of 2 x 500 G.P. jettisoned in channel. E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

5. Photo Reconnaissance

One F-5 dispatched. Pictures obtained of Brest. A/c returned safely.

6. Weather Reconnaissance

Fifteen a/c dispatched. Two B-17s flew routine patrols. Four Mosquitoes flew weather reconnaissance over Brest Peninsula, southern Germany, northern France, the North Sea and Belgium. Nine P-51s scouted for first force bombers. One P-51 crash-landed in France, Cat "E". Other a/c returned safely.

7. Air/Sea Rescue

14 a/c dispatched on Air/Sea Rescue. One rescue incident; three men rescued. No losses.

8. Special Operations

114 a/c dispatched on Special Operations as follows:

16 B-17s dispatched on Special Operations. One B-17 returned early. No losses.

Two B-17s and ten P-51s dispatched as radio relay and escort. No losses.

61 B-24s dispatched on "Trucking" Mission carried 183 tons of freight to Orleans/Bricy A/F. No losses.

10 a/c dispatched on special bombing operation. Escort by 15 P-51s. Mission successful. No losses.

C. INTELLIGENCE

1. Enemy Air Opposition

There was no e/a opposition to bombers on today's operations. Two squadrons of one of the P-51 groups escorting the first force to Ludwigshafen sighted ~~men~~ plus FW-190s apparently just taking off from an A/F in the vicinity of Antwerp. The sighting was made from 9,000 feet at 1320 hours, about three-quarters of an hour after breaking escort in the vicinity of Chalons in order to sweep through Belgium on the way back. Two flights of P-51s peeled off and chased several of the e/a down through the Chaussee de Malines in Antwerp, receiving light flak along the way. When attacked, e/a made a gentle turn to starboard and increased speed, but in the resulting combats P-51s shot down seven and damaged one of them. One of the P-51s surprised a Me-110 rolling to a stop on an A/F west of Antwerp, and a/a is believed to have been badly damaged as a result of the attack.

At 1040 hours, P-51s of another escorting group, observed one jet a/c twin contrail at 32,000 feet in the vicinity of Chalons-sur-Marne. E/a was flying NE, away from the bombers and made no attempt to attack.

S E C R E T

2. Flak

Ludwigshafen - moderate to intense, fairly accurate.

Eindhoven A/F - intense, accurate.

Venlo - meager, accurate.

Hill over RR tunnel (4 VK-1180) - intense, accurate (light).

Weert (4 VK-5897), Sittard (4 VK-6968) - moderate, accurate (light).

Cologne-Bonn area - intense, accurate.

Antwerp - moderate, accurate.

Flushing - moderate, accurate.

Four steel flak towers near factories east of town believed to be Duren - intense, accurate (light).

Roosendaal - meager, very accurate.

RR from Antwerp-to-Breda - moderate, accurate (light).

Valkenburg (4 WK-7854 to 4 WK-7756) - moderate to intense, accurate (light).

15 miles west of Cologne (4 WF-2562) - intense, accurate (light).

3. Observations

One large silver a/c in center of field and 25 plus s/e a/c in revetments in A/F at approximately 4910N-0550E.

Considerable road and rail activity moving east and NE in Tilburg area.

Four or five large gun emplacements, partly underground at 4 WF-2055.

Large fires noted in Calais and Boulogne.

4. Damage to Enemy Installations

Bk. 17 Ill. 83 - Very Good

Target blanketed by bursts.

17/J/71 - Fair

About half of target area covered by bursts.

17/J/78 - Fair to Good

Cloud cover prevents complete evaluation but one pattern appears to blanket MPI.

Bk. 17 Ill. 60 - Good

One group completely blanketed MPI.

Z-357-041040/6 - Poor to Fair

Bombs from two a/c hit MPI.

Z-357-015053/6 - Good to Very Good

Parts of two large patterns concentrated around MPI.

0838-1250 - Fair to Good

One pattern blanketed MFL.

17/J/133 - Fair to Good

About half of target area covered by bursts.

17/J/120 - Poor to Fair

One quarter of total bursts in target area.

17/J/131 - Fair

Part of patterns from two groups in target area.

17/J/270 - Very Good

Parts of patterns from two groups very tight in target area.

17/J/165 - Good to Very Good

Target well covered by bursts from two groups.

17/J/172 - Fair to Good

Most of bombs wide of target but two tight clusters in target area.

17/J/151 - Very Good

Two tight patterns squarely on target.

17/J/148 - Good

Almost two-thirds of target area covered by one pattern.

17/E/5 - Good

About three-quarters of bombs from two groups in target area.

NOTE: The foregoing is based on preliminary reports and is not to be used for record purposes.