

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

APO 559.
2 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Report of Operations Officer, Mission of 30 September 1944.

TO : Commanding Officer, 98th Bomb Group (H), APO 559.

95 A Group

1. GENERAL NARRATIVE: 95 A Group, leading the 13 CBW took off at 0940 - 0950 hours and assembled above the field at 15,000 feet at 1058. We made wing rendezvous and division assembly as briefed. The English coast was crossed out at 1134 at Lowestoft. Here our VHF and Mickey went out. At this point we changed to let the 95 B Group take over the lead of the wing. From then on we flew high group on the 95 B Group. We landed at 1530 - 1542 hours.

2. AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING: The 95 A Group dispatched 11 A/C and one PFF. Ten A/C attacked the target as shown in diagram "1A". A/C 44-6482 aborted because of low fuel pressure. All other A/C got credit for a sortie.

3. AIRCRAFT LOST: None.

95 B Group

1. GENERAL NARRATIVE: The 95 B Group took off at 0930 - 0940 hours, and were assembled over the field at 16,000 feet at 1058. We made wing assembly with the 95 A Group at 1115 hours. We crossed the English coast out at Lowestoft at 18,000 feet. Due to the VHF and Mickey going out in the lead ship of 95 A, 95 B Group took over the lead of the wing. This change was made at 1148 hours by calling Bezzie on command and having them call 95 A on VHF. The French coast was crossed at Ostend at 20,000 feet at 1204 hours. From here the briefed course was followed to the target where bombs were away at 1308 at 24,000 feet.

The rally point was reached at 1510 at 22,000 feet. From the rally point we were right of course five miles as a result of another wing on our left making it impossible to turn left to get on course. At 15209-0641 we got back on briefed course and hit the enemy coast going out at 1418 hours at 20,000 feet. The English coast was crossed coming back at Lowestoft at 3,000 feet at 1504 hours. The base was reached at 1515 and landing was made at 1517 - 1525 hours.

2. AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING: 95 B Group dispatched 12 A/C and one PFF. All aircraft were over the target as shown in diagram "1B". All A/C got credit for a sortie.

3. AIRCRAFT LOST: None.

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

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS 95TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP
APO 559

STATISTICAL CONTROL REPORT OF AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING

13TH COMBAT BOMBARDMENT WING

DATE RENDERED ~~30 SEPT 1944~~

PART I - TABULAR SUMMARY:

TACTICAL MISSION DATE OF MISSION ~~30 SEPT 1944~~

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

Note:

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

COMBAT GROUP	WEATHER	PERSONNEL	FORMATION	WEIGHT LOAD	OTHER	TECH & EPT	TOTAL
B						1	1
TOTALS						1	1

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

A.T.F.

C.W.

FORMATION DIAGRAM

95TH BOMB. GROUP (H)

DATE 30-9-44

TIME

MILLER
81/51

Walker
64/82

Sauvres
72/04

KROOS
82/69

Braund
80/67

TOWER
19/39

Waddel
73/83

LASH
83/05

PIPKIN
65/22

Wright
78/58

WILSON
84/41

STOTESBURY
83/31

ABORTIVE 0

EXTRA

EXTRA A

MISSING

CHANGES

A.T.F.

C.W.

B

FORMATION NUMBER

55TH BOMB. GROUP (H)

DATE

30-9-4

TIME

BASTION
81/44

Grossheim
25/60

FERGUSON
71/54

MADIGAN
24/47

HAMILTON, W.
83/33

Greer
70/47

NEAL
70/50

HEIM
19/20

HART
24/55

GLORICK
14/10

CORBIN
72/01

Day
72/15

WAITMAN
86/17

ABORTIVE _____

EXTRA _____

EXTRA A _____

MISSING _____

CHANGES _____

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

E-F-26

1 October 1944

SUBJECT: Lead Navigator's Narrative, Ninety Fifth "B" Group, Mission of 30 September 1944, Bielefeld, Germany.

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

1. We took off at 0930 hours, made group assembly over the base and departed from there at 1058 hours at 16,000 feet. We made wing assembly at 1115 hours at 5210N 0136E; reached 5210N 0113E at 1123 hours; buncher #23 at 1127 hours and departed from English Coast at Lowestoft, CP one, at 1134 hours at 17,000 feet.

2. The wing leaders micky went out and we took over the wing lead at 1148 hours. We reached 5125N 0201E at 1155 hours having been left of course since leaving the English Coast. We reached the enemy coast, CP two at 1204 hours at 20,500 feet. We turned at 1222 hours at 5108N 0422E at 23,000 feet. We reached the Initial Point, 5209N 0730E at 1255 hours. We reached the target which was bombed by PFF, at 1305 hours at 23,000 feet on a Mag Heading of 99°.

3. We reached the Rally Point 5212N 0836E at 1310 hours at 22,000 feet. From the Rally Point we were right of course five miles as a result of another wing on our left making it impossible to turn left to get on course. We turned at 5212N 0700E at 1338 hours after having taken evasive action as we passed by Osnabruk where we encountered light flak. At 1345 hours we turned at 5220N 0641E and at 1418 hours left the enemy coast at 5237N 0438E at 20,000 feet. At this point we started our descent from 20,000 feet and reached the English Coast at 1504 hours at 5223N 0143E at 3,000 feet. We reached the base at 1513 hours at 1,500 feet.

THOMAS A. HENRY
1st Lt., Air Corps
Lead Navigator.

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HEADQUARTERS
NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO 559

September 31, 1944.
D-H-11

SUBJECT: S-2 Report (95A, 95B, Groups).

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

1. (a) 95A Group was composed of 11 A/C and 1 PFF A/C.
95B Group was composed of 12 A/C and 1 PFF A/C.
- (b) 95B Group took off at 0930 hours.
95A Group took off at 0940 hours.
- (c) The target was an ordnance Depot at the eastern edge of Bielefeld, Germany.
- (d) 95B Group flew as lead of the 13A Combat Wing over target; 95A Group flew as high Group in 13A Combat Wing.
- (e) A/C of 95A Group flew 11 sorties (including 1 PFF A/C) with one abortion and no extras.
A/C of 95B Group flew 12 sorties (including 1 PFF A/C) with no abortions and no extras.
2. No enemy air opposition was encountered.
3. Neither 95A nor 95B encountered any flak.
4. Primary target was bombed by PFF methods; however, strike photos show a pattern of bombs exploding within, and at the edge of, the city of Bielfeld.
5. There were no unusual occurrences.

For the Commanding Officer:

MALCOLM D. DURR,
Captain, Air Corps,
Ass't S-2 Officer.

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3 OCT 1944

IMMEDIATE INTERPRETATION REPORT NO. K.3236

LOCALITY : BIELEFELD

PERIOD UNDER REVIEW

This report deals with damage to the target between 22 FEB 1944 and 2 OCT 1944, and includes the attack by aircraft of U.S. 8th Air Force on 30 SEP 1944.
(S.A.2774)

PROVISIONAL STATEMENT ON DAMAGE

Damage is primarily confined to the East side of the main railway which skirts the old town, where whole blocks of buildings have been gutted. A considerable amount of severe damage also spreads away from the centre North-eastwards, as far as the goods station. Beyond that point and elsewhere in the town, scattered incidents are seen, with fire damage predominating.

The important Thermal Power Station (M.E.W. Priority 3) has suffered severe damage to two unidentified buildings, and the plant appears to be inactive. The main passenger and goods stations have been affected, the latter fairly severely. Four tracks in the railway sidings (possible marshalling yard) East of the Gas Works have been cut, and the line from East Bielefeld Station to the junction with the main lines, has been cut in five places. Important factories which have been damaged, include Koch & Co. (Iron Founders) (Priority 2), Anker Werke (Priority 2) and Anker Werke (Priority 3), both parts of the latter firm producing army motor-cycles and small arms ammunition. The factory of Durkopp A.G. (Priority 2), also producing small arms ammunition, is severely damaged, and the un-rated firms of Strunkmann and Meister, Wittkop & Co., E. Gundloch A.G. and C-H. Kramler are among others which have been fairly severely affected.

A number of business/residential buildings in the old town are still smouldering at the time of photography.

(Prints 4030/40 3032/9)

This report is subject to correction and amplification from a more detailed assessment.

PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY : 544 Squadron.

SORTIE : 106G/3179.

MEAN TIME AND DATE OF PHOTOGRAPHY : 1608 A hrs. on 2 OCT 1944.

SCALE : 1/9,000 (F.L.36").

COVER AND QUALITY : Full, good.

LAST REPORT : K.1925, issued on 14 MAR 1944.

COMPARATIVE SORTIES USED : AA706 106G/417.

PRINT DISTRIBUTED : 3036 (to follow when available).

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JHK/WL

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Mc

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
AAF STATION 101
APO 634

INTOPS SUMMARY NO. 153

PERIOD: 0001 hours 30 September 1944 to 2400 hours 30 September 1944

A. STATISTICS

	Missions	Disp.	Sorties	Atkg.	Tonnage	Claims	Losses				Totals
							E/A	AA	N/E	OT	
Heavy Bomber Atks.	5	834	798	767	2050.5	0-0-0	0	6	4	1	11
Fighter Escort	13	629	587	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	1	1
Fighter Sweeps	2	97	86	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	1	1
Fighter Bombing	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Photo Recon.	5	5	5	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Weather Recon.	9	34	34	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Air/Sea Rescue	9	9	9	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Operations	<u>30</u>	<u>154</u>	<u>152</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	73	1762	1671	767	2050.5	0-0-0	0	6	4	3	13

+ 25 Spares -- 12 used

B. OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

1. Bomber Attacks

Eighteen combat wings (579 B-17s, 255 B-24s - 834 a/c) dispatched in three forces against three M/Ys, an Ordnance depot and an A/F in northwestern Germany. Support by 13 fighter groups. 767 a/c dropped 2050.5 tons GP and IB on four assigned targets, the city Munster and four additional T/Os. Bombing by PFF technique. In some instances breaks through clouds allowed visual corrections and assists. Weather: 6/10 to 10/10 at all targets. Dense, persistent contrails above 22,000 feet, encountered in some cases, made formation flying difficult. E/A Opposition: three ME-109s and four ME-410s sighted in Bielefeld area. No attacks. Claims: nil. Losses: 11 a/c (8 B-17s, 3 B-24s).

First Force

Seven combat wings (266 B-17s) dispatched against ordnance depot and M/Y at Bielefeld. 259 a/c dropped 405.2 tons G.P., 196.8 I.B. - total 602 tons - on Bielefeld M/Y and two T/Os from 22,500-26,000 feet at 1300-1314 hours. Leaflets dropped on Bielefeld. Bombing by PFF technique with visual corrections and assists made through breaks in clouds in some instances. Weather: 7/10 to 9/10 at target. Dense persistent contrails above 22,000 feet made formation flying difficult. Flak: moderate, inaccurate at target. Battle Damage: 18

minor, 6 major. E/A Opposition: one group reported sighting three Me-109s and four Me-410s at 23,000 feet in target area. No attacks. Claims: nil. Losses: 5 B-17s (four to accident, one to mechanical failure).

Fighter Support: Five groups (150 P-51s, 102 P-47s - 252 a/c) dispatched. Up 1115-1136 hours, down 1505-1546 hours. 240 sorties. E/A Opposition: One Me-109 seen in combat with a P-51 at Bielefeld; one possible jet a/c seen north of Apeldoorn. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Details of bomber attacks as follows:

<u>Assigned Targets</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacking</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>		<u>Results</u>
	<u>B-17s</u>	<u>B-17s</u>	<u>B.P.</u>	<u>I.B.</u>	
Bielefeld (Ordnance Depot)+	152	Not attacked			
Bielefeld M/Y	114	257	399.2	196.8	Fair to Good
<u>Other Targets</u>					
T/Os	—	2	6.0	—	Unobserved
Totals	266	259	405.2	196.8	

+ 146 a/c dispatched against Bielefeld Ordnance Depot attacked Bielefeld M/Y, a secondary.

Second Force

Four combat wings (255 B-24s) dispatched against Hamm M/Y. 219 a/c dropped 524.5 tons G.P., 77.7 tons I.B. - total 602.2 tons on the primary and two T/Os, including the city of Munster, from 21,500-24,500 feet at 1324-1329 hours. Leaflets dropped on Hamm. Bombing by PFF technique, visual in the case of one a/c. Weather: 8/10-10/10 at target, with dense persistent contrails at 23,000 feet. Flak: moderate, inaccurate at target. Battle damage: 31 minor, 1 major. E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: three B-24s to AA (two believed to have landed in Belgium).

Fighter Support: Four groups (129 P-51s, 36 P-47s, 18 P-38s - 183 a/c) dispatched. Up 1141-1158 hours, down 1555-1700 hours. 170 sorties. E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Details of bomber attack as follows:

<u>Assigned Targets</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacking</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>		<u>Results</u>
	<u>B-24s</u>	<u>B-24s</u>	<u>G.P.</u>	<u>I.B.</u>	
Hamm M/Y	255	206	483.0	77.7	Good
<u>Other Targets</u>					
Munster (City)	—	12	38.5	—	Fair to Good
Gescher (City)	—	1	3.0	—	Unobserved
Totals	255	219	524.5	77.7	

Third Force

Seven combat wings (313 B-17s) dispatched against Handorf A/F and Munster M/Y. 289 a/c dropped 672.8 tons G.P., 173.5 tons I.B. - total 846.3 tons - on the two primaries, on the city of Munster, and an additional T/O, from 24,500-27,200 feet at 1334-1354 hours. Leaflets dropped on Handorf and Munster. Bombing by PFF technique, breaks in clouds enabling a few groups to bomb visually. Weather: 6/10-10/10 at target; tops of clouds at 12,000-15,000 feet with non-persistent contrails. Flak: meager to moderate, generally inaccurate. Battle damage: 70 minor, 15 major. E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: three B-17s to AA.

Fighter Support: Four groups (146 P-51s, 48 P-47s - 194 a/c) dispatched. Up 1150-1205 hours, down 1552-1555 hours. 177 sorties. E/a Opposition: three possible jet a/c seen between Munster and Gutersloh. No attacks. Claims: nil. Losses: one P-51 crashed on take-off.

Details of bomber attack as follows:

<u>Assigned Targets</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>		<u>Attacking</u>		<u>Tonnage</u>		<u>Results</u>
	<u>B-17s</u>		<u>B-17s</u>		<u>G.P.</u>	<u>I.B.</u>	
Handorf A/F	161		14		41.5		Unobserved
Munster M/Y	152		35		104.0		Unobserved
<u>Other Targets</u>							
Munster (City)			239		524.3	173.5	Fair to Good
Wreden			1		3.0		
Totals	313		289		672.8	173.5	

2. Fighter Escort

Thirteen groups (425 P-51s, 186 P-47s, 18 P-38s - 629 a/c) dispatched to support three forces of bombers attacking targets in northwestern Germany. Up 1115-1205 hours, down 1505-1700 hours. 587 sorties. E/a opposition: several possible jet a/c sighted, with no attacks; one Me-109 seen in combat with a P-51 over Bielefeld. Claims: nil. Losses: one P-51 crashed on take-off.

3. Fighter Sweeps

Two groups (97 P-51s) dispatched on sweeps in support of bomber forces. Up 1042-1110 hours, down 1603-1620 hours. 86 sorties. E/a opposition: 15 plus u/i s/e e/a vicinity of Fassberg, six to eight JU 188s north of Arnhem, one Me-410 in Northeim area. No attacks. Claims: nil. Losses: one P-51 crash-landed on return.

4. Fighter Bombing.

Nil.

5. Photo Reconnaissance

Five a/c (four F-5s, one Spitfire) dispatched. Only two a/c obtained photos of targets since clouds covered other objectives. The Spitfire obtained photos of the Wissenhorn, Sindelfingen and Bittche areas. The other successful mission was a routine coverage of Lingen A/F, Wildeshausen A/F, and D/A of the Bremen/Westertinke A/F, Oldenburg A/F, and Wenzendorf A/F. There were no intercepts and all a/c returned safely.

6. Weather Reconnaissance

34 a/c dispatched as follows:

2 B-24s on weather flights to Azores.

1 B-24 on flight to northwest of England.

3 Mosquitoes on routine weather flights.

28 P-51s scouting bomber targets.

No losses.

7. Air/Sea Rescue

Nine P-47s flew air/sea rescue missions totalling 22 hours. No incidents. All a/c returned safely.

8. Special Operations

Night - 29/30 September 1944

Ten a/c (5 B-24s and 5 B-17s) dispatched on leaflet missions. Nine a/c dropped leaflets over France, Holland and Germany. No losses.

Day - 30 September 1944

144 a/c dispatched as follows:

28 a/c (2 B-17s, 18 P-51s, 4 P-47s, 4 P-38s) on radio relay missions. No losses.

116 B-24s dispatched on "Truckin" missions, 114 B-24s carried 176,961 gallons of gasoline to the continent. No losses.

C. INTELLIGENCE

I. Enemy Air Opposition

Today's heavy bomber attack was entirely unopposed by the Luftwaffe. Only one group of the first bomber force reported any e/a sightings, namely, three Me-109s and four Me-410s at 23,000 feet over Bielefeld. E/a did not attack.

Fighters escorting the First Force reported one Me-109 in a dive over the target at Bielefeld, with a P-51 on its tail. E/a evaded. A possible jet a/c was seen at 1220 hours north of Apeldoorn headed west and flying at 22,000 feet. E/a was being pursued by several fighters but evaded. Fighters escorting the third bomber force reported three possible jet a/c at 13,000 feet between Munster and Gutersloh, heading east of Munster at 1343 hours. P-51s gave chase but could not overtake e/a.

2. Flak

Bielefeld - moderate, inaccurate.
 Osnabruck - meager, inaccurate.
 Munster - meager to moderate, inaccurate.
 Handorf - meager, inaccurate.
 Hamm - moderate, inaccurate.

3. Observations

One t/e e/a, believed to be a He-177, and ten plus u/i s/e e/a on A/F southeast of Rotterdam.

Ten barrage balloons at Herford, 5206N-0640E.

Harbor at 5240N-0640E appeared to be heavily mined with surface mines. Pill boxes in pairs along coast enclosing harbor.

4. Damage to Enemy Installations

Munster (City) - Fair to Good Results

5/10 to 10/10 cloud over city makes it possible to plot about 50% of the concentration. Six concentrations G.P. bombs and one I.B. concentration seen bursting in central and northern portions of Munster. Three of these concentrations fell into the heavily built-up portion of the city, which had been severely damaged in previous attacks. Fires seen burning late in attack; additional damage should result. Two G.P. concentrations seen bursting on rail lines and in industrial areas immediately south of main railway station and adjacent to Ludwighansen aircraft repair works. At least ten direct hits made on rail lines in the vicinity; damage expected to goods cars parked here at time of attack. Large I.B. concentration seen bursting in Marienthal residential district one mile northwest of city center. Bursts blanketed a barracks area in this vicinity. A G.P. concentration fell into residential area, 10 to 40 per cent built-up, situated 3/4 of a mile northeast of city center. Main railway line to the north received at least two direct hits. Concentrations of G.P. bombs seen blanketing RR to Holland approximately 3 1/2 miles N-NW of Munster center. There were at least five direct hits on rail lines. Two G.P. concentrations fell across RR to Emden, about three miles due north of city center, cutting rail lines in at least seven places.

Bielefeld M/Y - Fair to Good Results

Five out of seven attacking combat wings dropped either on target or in built-up city area. Bombs from first two C.W.s can be accurately plotted; condensation trail smoke from bombs and clouds obscure most of area during latter stages of attack. One third of electric power station at RR junction hit, starting a large fire. One tight concentration fell across tracks in this vicinity. Concentration across north end of M/Ys with three or four hits noted on the main RR station. Most of G.P.s and practically all of incendiaries fell on heavily built-up part of city E-SE of the M/Y. Some bombs fell on lines just north of the main RR junction and on the residential area to the east and southeast. Droppings noted on heavily built-up part of city in the old part S of the M/Y with other concentrations seen on the southern edge of the heavily built-up area.

Hamm M/Y - Good Results

Excellent bomb pattern on concentrated rolling stock in M/Y. East bound sorting siding and northern end of west bound sorting siding hit. Fly-over also believed hit. Built-up area west of east bound sorting received hits.

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