

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORDS
NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
Office of the Operations Officer

APO 559.
5 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Report of Operations Officer, Mission of 3 October 1944,
Nuremburg.

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

95A GROUP FORMATION

1. GENERAL NARRATIVE: The 95A group formation, flying as lead group of 13B combat wing, took off at 0640 - 0650 hours. Assembly was effected over the base at 20,000', and the group continued circling until 95B low group and 100B high group had joined wing formation. The base was departed at 0851 and the wing proceeded on course to division assembly over Felixstowe, arriving there at 0901 hours at 20,000'. Departing the English coast one minute early at this point, the formation crossed the Belgian coast on course at 0928 hours, and started climb to bombing altitude. The course in was flown as briefed until a left turn was made prematurely at 1001, which brought the formation twelve miles off course, within range of Koblenz. At 1022 a correction turn was made and the wing proceeded on course to the target. Bombs were dropped PFF at 1116 hours from 25,000' on a heading of 110°(T). There were no difficulties on the route out and the formation crossed the Belgian coast at Ostend at 1351 hours at 12,500'. Letdown was continued across the English Channel and the English coast was crossed at Clacton at 1430 hours. The base was reached at 1451 hours and the formation landed at 1452 - 1518 hours.

2. AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING: Eleven aircraft plus one PFF leader were dispatched in the formation as shown in Diagram A-1. One aircraft, #2427 returned from 0415E with #3 engine failure and is not credited with a sortie. The remaining aircraft, eleven including one PFF, crossed the target in the formation as shown in Diagram A-2, and all are credited with sorties.

3. AIRCRAFT LOST: None.

95B GROUP FORMATION

1. GENERAL NARRATIVE: The 95B group formation, flying as low group in 13B combat wing, took off at 0651 - 0713 hours. The group was assembled over the base at 19,000' and made wing rendezvous with 13B leader prior to departure from the base.

Reference is made to the above report of the 95A group formation for a general narrative of the remainder of the mission, which was flown in company with the 95A group formation. In addition, however, the following points are to be noted:

a. Bombs were dropped on smoke flares of the lead group from an altitude of 24,000' at 1116 hours.

b. The formation landed at base at 1437 - 1518 hours.

2. AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING: Thirteen A/C were dispatched in the formation as shown in Diagram B-1. A/C #7047 was unable to find the formation so flew in company with 1st Division. Turned back because of engine failure and bombed a target of opportunity at 5022N - 0728E. He was credited with a sortie. The remaining twelve A/C crossed the target in the formation as shown in B-2, and all are credited with sorties.

3. AIRCRAFT LOST: None.

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

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HEADQUARTERS 86TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP
APO 559

STATISTICAL CONTROL REPORT OF AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING

13TH COMBAT BOMBARDMENT WING

DATE REPORTED 3 OCT 1944

PART I - TABULAR SUMMARY:

DATE OF MISSION 3 OCT 1944

STRATEGICAL MISSION

COMBAT GROUP	SCHEDULED	AIRCRAFT	AIRCRAFT LEFT RETURN BASE	ATTACKING	NOT ATTACKING	SORTIES
"A"	11	11	11	10	1	10
"B"	13	13	13	13	0	13

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"	42-102427	F	No. 4 Engine Failure.	No

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

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A.T.F.

C.W.

FORMATION DIAGRAM

95TH BOMB. GROUP (H)

DATE

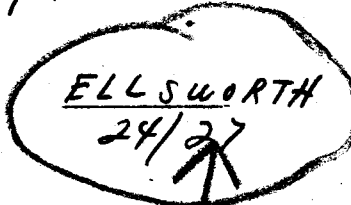
3-10-

TIME

Sherwood
80/40

Walker
86/17

HART
73/83



W. HAMILTON
83/33

J. HAMILTON
72/15

TOWER
14/10

H-P/M
25/60

GLOVICK
78/44

LENOX
71/94

Abweinder → MAGDIGAN
24/55 24/47

EXTRA

EXTRA

ABORTIVE ○

MISSING _____

CHANGES _____

A.T.F.

C.W.

B.

FORMATION DIAGRAM

95TH BOMB. GROUP (H)

DATE 3-10-44

TIME

Braund
77/83

LASH
85/43

KROOS
83/31

WEISZ
14/62

Mc Vay
83/17

COFFMAN
84/41

wright
78/58

POZULO
70/50

GUITTIN
72/64

FARRAR
71/54

JENSEN
83/05

CORBIN
70/47

WICKER
17/60

ABORTIVE ○

EXTRA

EXTRA A

MISSING

CHANGES

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

E-E-26

4 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Lead Navigator's Narrative, Ninety Fifth "B" Group, Mission of
3 October 1944, Nurnberg, Germany.

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

1. The Ninety Fifth "B" Group took off at 0650 hours and assembled over the base at 19000'. The Wing was also assembled at this point at 0854 hours at 19000' altitude.

2. We left the English coast at 5156N 0121E at 0901 hours at 19000' altitude. Division assembly was according to plan and landfall was made on the Belgian coast at 5111N 0249E at 0928 hours at 19000'.

3. The wing was twelve miles north of course at Koblenz and caught flak at this point. The secondary target, Nurnberg, was bombed by P.F.F. at 1116 hours on a magnetic heading of 115° at 24000'.

4. The group left the Belgian coast at 5115N 0255E at 1351½ hours at 18000' and made landfall on the English coast at Felixstowe at 1425½ hours, at 4000'. We were over the base at 1436 hours and landed at 1445 hours.

E. J. MURRAY
2nd Lt., Air Corps,
Lead Navigator.

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

APO 559.
3 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Abortion of A/C #2427.

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

1. We turned back from the mission at 0945 hours in ship #2427 due to an internal engine failure in #4 engine.

RICHARD W. ELLSWORTH,
1st Lt., Air Corps.

886 BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEERING OFFICER
AAF 119 APO 559

3 October 1944

SUBJECT : Airplane Abortions.

TO : Group Operations.

1. Airplane 102427 came back early on the mission of this date because the oil pressure on number four engine dropped to 30 PSI. Ground check showed the engine had failed internally.

ROBERT E. BAXTER,
Capt., Air Corp.,
Engineering Officer.

THREE HUNDRED THIRTY FOURTH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)
NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
OFFICE OF THE SQUADRON ENGINEERING OFFICER
A.P.O. 559

3 November 1944

SUBJECT: Abortion of B-17G No. 42-107047.

TO: Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (H), AAF Station 119.

1. This aircraft aborted from the mission of 3 November 1944, returning to this base at 1245.

2. The pilot reported noticing smoke issuing from the No. 3 engine. At the same time oil on the wing. The propeller was immediately feathered.

3. On ground inspection it was noted that oil was issuing from the breather of No. 3 engine.

4. This is an engine failure. Aircraft will be in commission 5 November 1944.

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

APO 559.
3 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Abortion of A/C #7047.

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

1. We aborted from the 1st Division formation at approx-

23,500'. We feathered engine and returned to base at 1245.

JOHN H. CORBIN,
2nd Lt., Air Corps

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

3 October 1944

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

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

1. 95A and B Groups flew as Lead and Low Groups in 132 Combat Wing in a PFF attack against the secondary target at Nurnberg, Germany, the AFV plant of Man.

Ten A/C and one PFF in 95A attacked. A/C #2427 returned early from 50°54'N-06°15'E at 0945 hours with #3 engine failure.

Eleven A/C in 95B attacked. A/C #7154 released bombs 8 minutes early because of oxygen failure at 1108 hours. A/C #7047 bombed a town as a target of opportunity at 50°22'N-07°28'E at 1025 hrs because of engine failure.

2. Bombing results were unobserved because of a solid undercast, but crews report a release of bombs on PFF markers in a flak area - verified by strike photo. Mickey operator of 95A said that the target was right on the button in the scope.

3. No enemy fighters were seen.

4. Moderate and accurate AA fire was encountered at Koblenz and Nurnberg, the fire at Koblenz tracking the formation, and that at the target Nurnberg a combination of barrage and tracking fire. The formation flew thru a meagre but continuous and accurate path of fire, coming up in bursts of three, from Strasbourg to Nancy, France. A/C flak damage was not excessive despite the accuracy of fire.

5. The fighter support was reported as "nice", the fighter boys giving close cover to those A/C leaving the formation. A/C #7383 landed at Woodbridge. All other A/C returned to the base.

For the Intelligence Officer:

ARNO A. KRAUSE,
Capt., Air Corps,
Ass't. S-2 Officer.

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S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
AAF STATION 101
APO 634

INTOPS SUMMARY NO. 156

PERIOD: 0001 hours 3 October 1944 to 2400 hours 3 October 1944

A. STATISTICS

	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Disp.</u>	<u>Sorties</u>	<u>Atks.</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.	7	1065	1013	995	2523.2	0-0-0	0	1	2	8	11
Fighter Escort	16	753	699	0	0	2-0-0	0	0	2	10	12
Fighter Sweeps	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Fighter Bombing	0	0	0	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Photo Recon.	6	6	6	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Weather Recon.	7	34	32	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	1	1
Air/Sea Rescue	23	23	23	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Operations	2	18	18	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	68	1899	1791	995	2523.2	2-0-0	0	1	4	19	24

+ Includes 21 spares, 13 used.

B. OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

1. Bomber Attacks

Twenty-four combat wings (727 B-17s and 338 B-24s - 1065 a/c) dispatched in four forces against power plants and A/Fs in Karlsruhe and Nurnberg areas, one synthetic oil plant south of Cologne. Seven assigned targets. -Support by 16 fighter groups. 995 a/e dropped 2523.2 tons GP and IB on five primaries, three secondaries, additional T/Os. Weather: heavy undercast necessitated instrument bombing on all targets except those in Karlsruhe area. No e/a opposition. Claims: nil. Losses: 11 a/c (6 B-17s, 5 B-24s).

First Force

Ten combat wings (380 B-17s) dispatched against three A/Fs west of Nurnberg. Weather caused most wings to bomb secondary on PFF. 353 a/c dropped 587 tons GP, 263.5 tons IB - total 850.5 tons - on one primary, Giebelstadt, secondary (Nurnberg), and scattered T/Os from 24,000-26,000 feet at 1116-1155

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hours. Weather: 7/10-9/10 at primaries caused attack on secondary, Nurnberg, which was 9/10 - 10/10 undercast. Flak: moderate, fairly accurate at Nurnberg. Battle damage: 117 minor, 13 major. E/a opposition: one formation sighted four u/i e/a, but there were no attacks. Claims: nil. Losses: two B-17s (one to flak, one to unknown causes).

Fighter Support: Six groups (49 P-47s, 243 P-51s - 292 a/c) dispatched. Up 0848-0907, down 1355-1435 hours. 260 sorties. No e/a reported. One group strafed grass A/F in Nordlingen area. Claims: 2-0-0 ground. One electric loco damaged in strafing. Losses: ~~Nil~~ P-51s - one to mechanical failure, remainder to unknown causes. Five are believed down in friendly territory.

Details of bomber attack as follows:

<u>Assigned Targets</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacking</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>		<u>Results</u>
			<u>G.P.</u>	<u>I.B.</u>	
Illesheim A/F	113	Not attacked			
Kitzingen A/F	153	Not attacked			
Giebelstadt A/F	114	49	62.5	52.5	Fair to Good
<u>Other Targets</u>					
Nurnberg	0	1256	413.0	206.0	Unobserved
Ludwigsburg		13	32.5		Fair
Ulm (Armaments Plant)		11	26.0		Unobserved
T/Os		24	53.0	5.0	Unobserved
Totals	380	353	587.0	263.5	

Second Force

Six combat wings (228 B-17s) dispatched against motor works at Nurnberg. Cloud caused all wings to attack Nurnberg on PFF. 208 a/c dropped 175.5 tons IB, 332.5 tons GP - total 508.0 tons on Nurnberg, one T/O from 25,000-27,500 feet at 1146-1209 hours. Leaflets dropped on Nurnberg. Weather: 7/10-10/10 at primary. Flak: moderate, accurate. Battle damage: 50 minor, 13 major. E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: three B-17s (two to accident, one to unknown causes).

Fighter Support: Five groups (48 P-47s, 188 P-51s - 236 a/c) dispatched. Up 0905-0948 hours, down 1445-1508 hours. 227 sorties. Missions uneventful, with no e/a reported. Claims: nil. Losses: three P-51s (one crash-landed, two to unknown causes, of which one believed safe in France).

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Details of bomber attack as follows:

<u>Assigned Target</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacking</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>		<u>Results</u>
			<u>G.P.</u>	<u>I.B.</u>	
Nurnberg	228	198	307.5	175.5	Unobserved
<u>Other Targets</u>					
Oettingen A/F		10	25.0		Fair
Totals	228	208	332.5	175.5	

Third Force

Three combat wings (119 B-17s) dispatched against Wesseling Synthetic Oil Plant, south of Cologne. 114 a/c dropped 285 tons GP on primary, city of Cologne, and one T/O from 25,000-27,500 feet at 1052-1209 hours. Primary bombed on Gee-H, Cologne on PFF. Weather: 8/10-10/10 cloud at primary. Flak: moderate, accurate. Battle damage: 35 minor, 16 major. E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: one B-17 to unknown causes.

Fighter Support: One group (24 P-47s) dispatched. Up 0939 hours, down 1316 hours. 24 sorties. Mission completely uneventful. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Details of bomber attack as follows:

<u>Assigned Target</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacking</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>		<u>Results</u>
			<u>G.P.</u>	<u>I.B.</u>	
Wesseling	119	87	217.5		Unobserved
<u>Other Targets</u>					
Cologne		26	65.0		Unobserved
T/O		1	2.5		Unobserved
Totals	119	114	285.0		

Fourth Force

Five combat wings (338 B-24s) dispatched against one motor works, one A/F in Karlsruhe area. 320 a/c dropped 579.2 tons G.P., 300.5 tons I.B. - total 879.7 tons - on both primaries, two secondaries, and two T/Os from 22,000 - 24,000 feet at 1138-1201 hours. All targets bombed visually. Weather: 1/10-5/10 at Gaggenau, CAVU to 2/10 at Lachen/Spayendorf. Flak: Gaggenau, nil to meager, inaccurate; Lachen/Spayendorf, meager, fairly accurate. Battle damage: 36 minor, 2 major. E/a opposition: two s/e sighted south of Gaggenau, but no attacks. Claims: nil. Losses: five B-24s (four to unknown causes, one crash-landed).

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Fighter Support: Four groups (48 P-47s, 13 P-38s, 140 P-51s - 201 a/c) dispatched. Up 0935-0948 hours, down 1420-1430 hours. 188 sorties. Missions uneventful. No e/a reported. 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>G. P.</u>	<u>I. B.</u>	
Gaggenau	187	139	292.0	110.5	Good
Lachen/Speyerdorf A/F	151	111	156.5	137.5	Very Good
<u>Other Targets</u>					
Pforzheim A/F		19		52.5	Fair
Offenburg M/Y		19	55.0		Fair
Speyer A/F		30	70.7		Good
Lachen		2	5.0		Unobserved
Totals	338	320	579.2	300.5	

2. Fighter Escort

Sixteen groups (169 P-47s, 571 P-51s, 13 P-38s - 753 a/c) dispatched to support bombers attacking targets in Nurnberg, Cologne, Karlsruhe area. Up 0848-0948 hours, down 1316-1508, 699 sorties. Missions uneventful with no e/a reported. One group strafed grass A/F in Nordlingen area, and one loco was claimed damaged by strafing. Claims: 2-0-0 ground. Losses: 12 P-51s (one to mechanical failure, one crash-landed, remainder to unknown causes - six are believed safe in friendly territory.

3. Fighter Sweeps

Nil.

4. Fighter Bombing

Nil.

5. Photo Reconnaissance

Day Photography: Four F-5s dispatched. Two a/c were successful in obtaining D/A photos. Two a/c did not obtain photos due to clouds. All a/c returned safely. Night Photography: Two Mosquitoes dispatched. Missions were successful and photos were obtained in the following areas: Northeim, Holzminden, Neuenhaus and Emden. A/c returned safely.

S E C R E T

6. Weather Reconnaissance

34 a/c dispatched (3 B-24s, 2 Mosquitoes and 29 P-51s). Two B-24s completed special weather reconnaissance. One B-24 completed heavy weather reconnaissance over sea to northwest of England. Two Mosquitoes completed light weather reconnaissance over Europe. P 51s scouted bomber targets. Losses: One P-51 to unknown causes.

7. Air/Sea Rescue

23 a/c dispatched. Flew total of 75½ hours. No incidents reported. Losses: nil.

8. Special Operations

Night - 2/3 October 1944

Eight a/c (5 B-24s, 3 B-17s) dropped leaflets over Holland, France, Germany. Losses: nil.

Day - 3 October 1944

Ten a/c flew radio relay missions. Losses: nil.

C. INTELLIGENCE

1. E/A Opposition.

In spite of reasonably good weather conditions the G.A.F. again failed to oppose today's widespread heavy bomber attacks. Fighter Groups reported no e/a, and there were only two sightings reported by bombers. The first sighting of four u/i e/a by B-17s of the first force attacking Giebelstadt, and the other of two s/e observed south of Gaggenau on the withdrawal from this target. In neither case was there an attack, nor did e/a come close enough to be identified.

2. Flak

Gaggenau- nil to meager, inaccurate.
Lachen/Speyerdorf - meager, fairly accurate.
Wesseling - moderate, accurate.
Nurnberg - moderate, fairly accurate.
Strasbourg - moderate, inaccurate.
Cologne - intense, accurate.

3. Observations

A/F Activity

A/F at WT 0834 with black letters "AB4x5".

U/i t/e a/c on Creilsheim A/F (WS 6962).

30 plus e/a on A/F believed to be Malsheim, west of Stuttgart.

Four t/e and one s/c noted on A/F south of Limburg.

Six t/e on Giebelstadt A/F.

Ten e/a on Euttingen A/F (4829N-0848E). Jet e/a seen taking off from this

field.

A/Fs under construction at 5009N-0735E and 4830N-0855E.

75 large e/a and one fighter on Keipheim A/F.

Two or three e/a visible on Stuttgart/Echterdingen and Nelligen A/Fs.

Other observations

Factory in woods at 4842N-0900E.

Oil storage tanks at 4840N-0930E.

Effective smoke screen over large Rhine bridge at 4959W-0758E.

50 Barrack site SW Nordlingen.

4. Damage to Enemy Installations

Nurnberg - Unobserved Results

Cloud cover 6/10-10/10 density over entire Nurnberg area. Consequently, only a minute portion of bombs can be plotted. One concentration of IB and a few scattered GP seen bursting in a compact residential area, one mile NE of the center of Nurnberg. This area includes a RR workshop, and it is probable that some damage may have been done to this target. Approximately 30 GP in a wooded area 3-3/4 miles SW of the center of the city and an additional 15 GP in a wooded area 2-1/2 miles south of the city. Two bombs of the second concentration cut a RR line leading to the city. Target indicators seen through breaks in the cloud would indicate that the main weight of the bombs will fall in the town area.

Ottingen A/F - Fair Results

Approximately 35 bombs could be seen bursting in and adjacent to the NE corner of the field. At least three direct hits on NE-SW runway. Damage to landing ground will be slight. One a/c burning on field at time of attack. 15 bombs in open fields, one mile south of landing ground.

Giebelstadt A/F - Fair to Good Results

First three groups bombed in a wing formation blanketing hangars, motor transport yards and barracks, on the north and east side of the A/F. The fourth group's bombs not seen, but a study of the "bombs-away" photos indicates they probably landed over the target in open field. Of the 15 a/c seen widely dispersed in nearby field, possibly two were under the IB pattern, three of the 15 a/c are small fighters, the balance medium and large planes.

Ulm - Unobserved Results

Cloud cover prevents assessment but "bombs-away" photos show that the bombs fell short and right of the M/Y.

Ludwigsberg M/Y - Fair Results

Pattern of 500 IB bombs seen at west edge of the town. Incomplete photo coverage prevents accurate assessment.

Gaggenau - Good Results

Patchy clouds partially obscured the target, but numerous patterns of GPs can be seen bursting squarely on the target. All major units appear to have hits or near misses.

Offenburg - Fair Results

Bursts seen in M/Y which was moderate loaded at time of attack. Some lines cut, rolling stock hit.

Speyer - Good Results

Two patterns of GPs seen bursting squarely on main installations.

Pforzheim - Fair Results

IBs unobserved in SAVs. A calculated projectile path probably
just NW of M/Y.

Lachen/Speyerdorf A/F - Very Good Results

GPs seen to burst squarely on the main installations at the eastern
of the airfield in numerous good patterns and hits seen on most of main installations,
perimeter and landing ground. M 17 patterns seen to start good fire
damage to this target probably servers.

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