

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

APO 559  
27 October 1944.

**SUBJECT:** Report of Operations Officer - Mission of 25 October, 1944, Hamburg, Germany.

**TO :** Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (H), AAF  
95 "A" Squadron Formation.

1. GENERAL NARRATIVE: The 95 A Squadron Formation took off at 0912 - 0923 hours, to fly as leader of 13 B Group. Squadron and group assembly were completed over the base, and the group departed in formation at 1026 hours, at an altitude (lead) of 12,000. Enroute to the wing assembly point the formation climbed to 16,000 and wing assembly was affected at 1048 hours at that altitude. The wing leader approached the assembly point 180° from briefed leading, and there was some stooging about before the coast was departed in Wing formation at 1109 hours, somewhat north of course. The climb to bombing altitude was started as briefed, and there was no interference from cumulus development over the North Sea. The first leg over the North Sea was flown about ten miles north of course in Wing formation, and the course was intercepted at the turning point (5402N - 0503E). By this time the undercast had become 10/10 and remained so for the remainder of the route to the East. At 1220 the formation made a correction turn to the right, and crossed the enemy coast 1246 hours, just after leveling off at bombing altitude (27,000'). Prior to the IP the group leader signalled for a Pathfinder run, which was made in group formation. The I.P. was crossed at 1257 hours, and bombs were dropped on the PFF marker at 1307 hours, from 27,000'. The route out was flown as briefed, and the enemy coast was crossed at 1340, on course. The high squadron leader lagged behind on the bomb run, and after bombs away he aborted. The deputy leader took over the lead and regained group formation shortly after the rally point.

The formation levelled off at 12,000 feet over the North Sea on the return, and the English coast was crossed at 1519 hours, after breaching away from wing formation. A Procedure let-down was made through the overcast at the base, and the squadron landed at 1550 - 1608 hours.

2. AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING: Eleven aircraft plus one PFF leader were dispatched as shown in diagram "A". All twelve A/C were over the target and received sorties.

3. LOST AIRCRAFT: None

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Authority NND 745205

By SA NARA Date 7/17

## 95 "B" Squadron Formation

1. GENERAL NARRATIVE: The 95 B Squadron formation, flying as high squadron of 13 B Combat Group, took off at 0900 - 0911 hours. Assembly was completed over the field at 13,400 by 0950 hours, and the formation made group assembly 24 minutes prior to departing the base.

Reference is made to the above report of the 95 A Squadron formation for a general narrative of the remainder of the mission, which was flown in company with the 95 A Squadron lead of 13 B Group. In addition, however, the following point is to be noted:

- (a) The 95 B Squadron leader developed serious engine trouble on the bomb run, and lowered the formation 3,000 feet in the attempt to keep up with the 95 A Squadron. After bombs away the leader aborted and returned safely to base, while the deputy leader rallied the formation into its former position shortly after the rally point.

2. AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING: Twelve A/C plus one PFF leader were dispatched in the formation shown in diagram B. Of these A/C, No. 43-38814 was unable to find the formation, so joined the 13 C Wing which was recalled. No Sortie. A/C No. 43-38441 was over the target, but was unable to release any bombs. This A/C received a sortie. Thus, eleven A/C and one PFF leader were over the target and made sorties.

3. AIRCRAFT LOST: None.

## 95 "C" Squadron Formation.

1. GENERAL NARRATIVE: The 95 C Squadron formation, flying as low squadron in 13 B Group, took off at 0924 - 0936 hours. Assembly was completed over the field by 1026 hours, and group formation was made shortly after departure, enroute to Buncher 12.

Reference is made to the above report of the 95 A Squadron formation for a general narrative of the remainder of the mission, which was flown in company with the 95 A lead squadron of 13 B combat group.

2. AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING: Thirteen aircraft were dispatched as shown in the diagram "C". Of these thirteen, one A/C returned early, and did not receive a sortie. Thus, twelve aircraft were over the target and earned sorties.

3. AIRCRAFT LOST: None

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

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Authority NND 745205

By S NARA Date 7/17

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

E-E-26

26 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Lead Navigator's Narrative, Ninety Fifth "A" Squadron, Mission  
of 25 October 1944, Hamburg, Germany.

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

1. The Ninety Fifth "A" Squadron led the 13th "B" Group. We took off at 0912 hours. We made group assembly over the base, departing at 1026 hours, at 12000' enroute for wing assembly at BU# 12. We arrived at BU# 12 at 1048 hours at 18000' and made division assembly. We left the English coast at 5227N 0143E, C.P. # 1 at 1109 hours at 16000'.

2. We followed the briefed course fairly well reaching C.P. # 2 at 1203 hours at 20500'. We crossed the Enemy coast at 1246 hours, altitude 27000' on briefed course. We reached the I.P. at 1257 hours at 27000' and reached the target at 1307 hours, 27000' altitude on a track of 68°. Bombs were dropped by P.F.F.

3. We made a wide sweeping right turn off the target and followed the briefed course to the Enemy coast which we crossed at 1340 hours at the briefed point.

4. From the coast we started descent to 12000' which we maintained until we reached the English coast at 1513 hours at Southwold at 11500'. We reached the base at 1519 hours at 11500'. Procedure let-down through the overcast and landed at 1549 hours.

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

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Authority NND 745205

By S. NARA Date 7/19

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

E-3-26

26 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Lead Navigator's Narrative, Ninety Fifth "B" Squadron, Mission of 25 October 1944, Hamburg, Germany.

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

1. The Ninety Fifth "B" Squadron flew as high in the 13th "B" Group. We began the mission leading the high element of the high squadron after taking off at 0906 hours. Squadron rendezvous was completed at 0950 while circling the base at 13400'. Group assembly was made at 1025 hours at 14000' over the base before departure to make wing assembly at 1049 hours over BU# 12 at 17700'.

2. Division assembly was made at 1058 hours over BU# 9 at 18000' prior to departure over English coast at 5231N 0142E at 18000', 1110 hours. The Enemy coast was reached at 1247 hours at 28200' at 5346N 0832E. The briefed I.P. was used and in general the route in was as planned. On the bomb run the squadron leader developed engine trouble and announced his intention of leaving the formation after bombs were dropped. During the run our squadron descended from 28000' to 25500' and indicated about 135 to 140 MPH while following the leader.

3. At bombs away the leader aborted and the remainder of the squadron immediately began forming upon us. We were at 25500' at 1308 hours on a magnetic heading of 83° when bombs were dropped and the squadron very quickly formed upon us. We joined the group at 5315N 1015E and proceeded to the Enemy coast.

4. The Enemy coast was crossed at 5405N 0901E at 25000' at 1340 hours. The English coast was crossed at 5220N 0140E at 12500' at 1514 hours and we passed over the base at 1520 hours and landed at 1543 hours. No undue difficulties in navigation were experienced.

ROBERT C. WOK  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Lead Navigator.

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Authority NND 745203

By SA NARA Date 7/1/9

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

W-26

26 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Lead Bombardier's Narrative, Ninety Fifth "B" Squadron, Mission  
of 25 October 1944, Hamburg, Germany.

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

1. Bombing Approach and Run - Turned on I.P. with 10/10 the coverage. Made run on target with P.F.F. Was to drop on my own rate but due to wind-mill prop lost two thousand feet altitude and fell way behind lead group. No chance to change tan or compensate for change in altitude. Drop when parallel with lead streamers. Pulled out of formation as soon as bombs away.

2. Disposition of Bombs - 13 A/C were dispatched to fly 95th "B" Squadron in the 13th "B" Group. Each A/C except the P.F.F. A/C #7992 were loaded with 19 x 250# G.P. AN-M57 bombs fused 1/10 nose and 1/40 tail, and P.F.F. A/C was loaded with 12 x 250# G.P. AN-M57 bombs. A/C #8814 aborted early and returned its load to the base. Thus 12 A/C attacked the secondary target, but A/C #8441 had an equipment failure and could not release its bombs. Results was that 202 x 250# G.P. AN-M57 bombs fused 1/10 nose and 1/40 tail were released on the secondary target.

3. Types of Release - Of the 202 x 250# G.P. bombs released armed on the secondary target, 190 were released by the intervalometer (100' interval and 12 were salvoed).

4. Tabular Summary - A/C

	Over Target	Bombing	Bombs			Fuzing	
			No.	Size	Type	Nose	Tail
Main Bombfall							
Hamburg, Germany.	12	11	202	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40
Total on Target.			202	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40
Other Expenditures.			None.				
Bombs Returned.			38	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40
Total (loaded on A/C taking off).			240	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40

JOHN M. GRIFFIN  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Lead Bombardier.

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Authority NND 745805

By SP-1 NARA Date 7/1/11

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

D-F-26

26 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Lead Bombardier's Narrative, Ninety Fifth "B" Squadron, Mission  
of 25 October 1944, Hamburg, Germany.

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

1. Narrative.

- a. Bombing aids used were E-6-B, C-2 and P.F.F. equipment.
- b. Made wide turn and came in on course.
- c. Doors were opened when level after I.P. on bombing run.
- d. Was to drop on my own rate but due to windmill prop lost two thousand feet altitude and fell way behind lead group. No chance to change tan or compensate for change in alt. Dropped when parallel with lead streamers. Pilled out of formation as soon as bombs away.
- e. Observed black smoke rising through clouds.
- f. There are no tactical changes to be made.

2. Bombardier's Form 12-3 modified is attached.

3. Disposition of Bombs - A/C

				Bombs			Fuzing	
Main Bombfall	Over Target	Bombing	No.	Size	Type	Nose	Tail	
Hamburg, Germany.	12	11	202	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40	
Total bombs on Target.			202	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40	
Other Expenditures.			None.					
Bombs Returned.			38	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40	
Total (loaded on A/C taking off).			240	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40	

4. Types of Release - Of the 202 x 250# G. bombs released armed on the secondary target, 190 were released by the intervalometer (100' interval) and 12 were salvoed armed.

JOHN M. GRIFFIN  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Lead Bombardier.

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Authority NND 745005

By NARA Date 7/17

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

E-F-26

26 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Lead Bombardier's Narrative, Ninety Fifth "C" Squadron, Mission  
of 25 October 1944, Hamburg, Germany.

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

1. Bombing Approach and Run - Turned left on I.P. leveled out and opened bomb bay doors. Due to 10/10ths coverage dropped bombs on P.F.F. After bombs away made a sharp right turn. Bombs were away at 1508 hours.

2. Disposition of Bombs - 13 A/C were dispatched from the 95th "C" Squadron and 12 A/C were over the secondary target dropping 228 x 250# G.P. AN-M57 bombs. A/C #1867 aborted and returned 19 x 250# G.P. AN-M57 bombs. The fuzing was 1/10 nose and 1/40 tail.

3. Types of Release - All 288 x 250# G.P. AN-M57 bombs dropped on the secondary target were released on a 10' interval and armed.

4. Tabular Summary - A/C

	Over Target Bombing		Bombs			Fuzing	
Main Bombfall	No.	No.	No.	Size	Type	Nose	Tail
Hamburg, Germany.	12	12	228	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40
Total on Target.			228	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40
Bombs Returned.			19	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40
Other Expenditures.			None.				
Total (loaded on A/C taking off).			247	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40

FLOYD A. HENDERSHOT  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Lead Bombardier.

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Authority NND 745005

By SP NARA Date 7/1/9

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

S-F-26

26 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Lead Bombardier's Narrative, Ninety Fifth "G" Squadron, Mission of 25 October 1944, Hamburg, Germany.

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

1. Narrative.

- a. Bombing aids were C-2, and B-5-B computers.
- b. A left turn was made at the Initial Point.
- c. Bomb bay doors were opened after turn on bombing run.
- d. Turned left on I.P. and leveled out and opened bomb bay doors. Due to 10/10ths coverage dropped bombs on P.F.F. After bombs away made a sharp right turn. Bombs were away at 1308 hours.
- e. Bombing results were unobserved.
- f. There are no suggested changes in bombing technique.

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

3. Disposition of Bombs - A/G

				Bombs		Fuzing	
Main Bombfall	Over Target	Bombing	No.	Size	Type	Nose	Tail
Hamburg, Germany.	12	12	228	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40
Total on Target.			228	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40
Bombs Returned.			19	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40
Other Expenditures.			None.				
Total (loaded on A/G taking off).			247	250#	M-57	1/10	1/40

4. Types of Release - All 228 x 250# G.P. AN-M57 bombs dropped on the secondary target were released on a 100' interval and armed.

FLOYD A. HENDERSHOT  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Lead Bombardier.

Authority NND 745805  
By S. NARA Date 7/1/71



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

V-A-1.

APO 559,  
26 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Engineering Report on Combat Mission of 25 October 1944.

TO : Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (H). Attention:  
Lt Col MUMFORD.

1. The following information is submitted concerning combat mission of 25 October 1944.

- a. Thirty-eight (38) B-17 airplanes took-off as scheduled.
- b. Thirty-six (36) B-17 airplanes returned to base after completion of combat mission.

2. There were two (2) abortive airplanes.

- a. 43-35814 - Failed to catch formation.
- b. 42-81867 - Maximum manifold pressure of 36 inches insufficient to maintain formation.

3. There was no battle damage.

CLARENCE B. FIELDS,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Base Engr. Officer.

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Authority NND 745005-

By S NARA Date 7/17

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HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE  
AAF STATION 101  
APO 634

INTOPS SUMMARY NO. 178

PERIOD: 0001 hours 25 October 1944 to 2400 hours 25 October 1944.

A. STATISTICS

	<u>Missions</u>	<u>Disp.</u>	<u>Sorties</u>	<u>Atkg.</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>	<u>Claims</u>	<u>E/A</u>	<u>AA</u>	<u>N/E</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>Total</u>
Heavy Bomber Atks.	8	1250+	1221	1194	3084.5	0-0-0	0	2	0	0	2
Fighter Escort	11	522	475	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	2	0	2
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.	14	14	9	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	1	1
Weather Recon.	44	44	43	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Air/Sea Rescue	1	12	12	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Operations	<u>1</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</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	79	1857	1775	1194	3084.5	0-0-0	0	2	2	1	5

\* 17 Spares - 10 Used .

B. OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

1. Bomber Attacks

Thirty-three combat wings (883 B-17s, 367 B-24s - 1250 a/c) dispatched against three oil refineries, A/F, a/c and military vehicles plants in the Hamburg areas, two synthetic oil plants at Gelsenkirchen. Support by 11 fighter groups. 1194 a/c dropped 3084.5 tons on five assigned targets, two secondary targets and T/Os. All bombing on PFF due to 10/10 undercast. No e/a opposition. Claims: nil. Losses: 2 B-17s, both to AA.

First Force

Thirteen combat wings (455 B-17s) dispatched against three oil refineries at Hamburg. 436 a/c dropped 995.8 tons GP, 28.5 tons IB - total 1024.3 tons, on two assigned targets and one T/O from 24,400 - 27,800 feet at 1259-1320 hours. All bombing on PFF. Leaflets dropped on Hamburg. Weather: 10/10 cloud enroute and over target, with tops at 10,000 feet. Flak: moderate to intense, generally inaccurate over target. Battle Damage: 83 minor, 11 major. E/A opposition: nil. One possible s/e jet-propelled e/a sighted at 5100N-0500E (northeast of Brussels); another at 5348N-0825E (North of Wilhelmshaven). Claims: nil. Losses: one B-17 to AA.

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Fighter Support: Three groups (139 P-51s) dispatched. Up 1052-1111 hours down 1516-1530 hours. 129 sorties. No e/a seen. One squadron strafed transportation targets in area south of Hamburg. E/A Claims: nil. Losses: 1 P-51 (pilot bailed out due to bomber inflicted damage).

Details of bomber attack as follows:

<u>Assigned Target</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacking</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>		<u>Results</u>
			<u>GP</u>	<u>IB</u>	
Hamburg/Rhenania Oil Refinery	116	214	482.9	12.0	Unobserved
Hamburg D.P.A.G.	114	Not Attacked			
Hamburg/Harburg (Rhenania)	225	221	510.5	16.5	Unobserved

Other Targets

T/O (5326N-1022E)	—	<u>1</u>	<u>2.4</u>	—	Unobserved
<b>Totals</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>995.8</b>	<b>28.5</b>	

Second Force

Four combat wings (225 B-24s) dispatched against Neumunster A/F and a/c repair factory. 220 A/c dropped 311.5 tons GP and 288.3 tons IB - 599.8 tons on assigned target and two T/Os from 17,500-24,500 feet at 1301-1336 hours. All bombing on PFF. Leaflets dropped on Neumunster. Weather: 10/10 undercast. Flak: meager to nil, inaccurate at Neumunster. Battle Damage: nil. E/A opposition: nil. Five jet contrails sighted at 5400N-0848E (north of Cuxhaven) and 12 u/i e/a, believed to be jet a/c seen in target area. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Fighter Support: One group (42 P-51s) dispatched. Up 1105 hours, down 1530 hours. 41 sorties. Mission uneventful. No e/a sighted. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Details of bomber attacks as follows:

<u>Assigned Target</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacking</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>		<u>Results</u>
			<u>GP</u>	<u>IB</u>	
Neumunster A/F & A/C Repair Factory	225	216	303.8	286.8	Unobserved

Other Targets

Munster M/Y		<u>3</u>	<u>6.2</u>		Unobserved
Utersum (Town)	—	<u>1</u>	<u>1.5</u>	<u>1.5</u>	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>311.5</b>	<b>288.3</b>	

Third Force

Nine combat wings (297 B-17s) dispatched against Me-262 Assembly Plant at Wenzendorf and Armored Force Vehicle and Motor Transport Plant at Hamburg/Rheinbeck.

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 By SP NARA Date 7/1/97

Primaries not attacked. 285 a/c dropped 415.0 tons GP, 418.5 tons IB - total 833.5 tons on secondary targets, two oil refineries at Hamburg, and one T/O, from 25,000-28,000 feet at 1335-1349 hours. All bombing on PFF. Leaflets dropped on Hamburg. Weather: 10/10 over continent and targets. Good visibility above cloud. Flak: moderate to intense, inaccurate at Hamburg. Meager, inaccurate at Bremerhaven, Nordholz and Wangerooge Island. Battle Damage: 15 minor, 1 major. E/a Opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: 1 B-17 to AA.

Fighter Support: Five groups (255 P-51s) dispatched. Up 1055-1120 hours Down 1535-1542 hours. 221 sorties. One group assigned general support, (included in statistics) aided withdrawal of this force. Missions uneventful. No e/a seen. Claims: nil. Losses: 1 P-51 crashed on take-off, pilot uninjured.

Details of bomber attacks as follows:

<u>Assigned Target</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacking</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>		<u>Results</u>
			<u>GP</u>	<u>IB</u>	
Wenzendorf - Me-262 Plant	182	Not Attacked			
Hamburg/Rheinbeck AFV & MT (Kurbelwellenwerke)	115	Not Attacked			
<u>Other Targets</u>					
Hamburg/Harburg Oil Refinery (secondary)		179	261.0	263.0	Unobserved
Hamburg/Rhenania Oil Refinery (secondary)		105	152.5	154.0	Unobserved
U/I T/O		<u>1</u>	<u>1.5</u>	<u>1.5</u>	
Totals	297	285	415.0	418.5	

Fourth Force

Three combat wings (131 B-17s) dispatched against Gelsenkirchen/Nordstern Synthetic Oil Plant. 127 a/c dropped 281.9 tons GP on assigned target and secondary, Hamm M/Y from 26,800-29,000 feet at 1316-1319 hours. All bombing on PFF. Leaflets dropped on Hamm. Weather: 8/10 to 10/10 in target area with tops of low cloud at 8,000 feet. Flak: meager to moderate, inaccurate at Gelsenkirchen, Osnabruck and Hamm. Battle Damage: 38 minor, 11 major. E/A Opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Fighter Support: One group (50 P-47s) dispatched. Up 1125 hours. Down 1502 hours. 50 sorties. No e/a seen. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Details of bomber attacks as follows:

<u>Assigned Target</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacking</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>		<u>Results</u>
			<u>GP</u>	<u>IB</u>	
Gelsenkirchen/Nordstern Syn. Oil Plant	131	27	60.0		Unobserved
<u>Other Targets</u>					
Hamm M/Y		<u>100</u>	<u>221.9</u>		Unobserved
Totals	131	127	281.9		

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Fifth Force

Four combat wings (142 B-24s) dispatched against Scholven/Buer Synthetic Oil Plant. 126 a/c dropped 345.0 tons GP on primary and two T/Os, from 22,000-24,500 feet at 1329-1338 hours. All bombing on PFF. Weather: 10/10 over target Flak: moderate to intense, accurate to inaccurate at Gelsenkirchen. Battle Damage: 35 minor, 4 major. E/A Opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Fighter Support; One group (36 P-47s) dispatched. Up 1118 hours - down 1511 hours. 34 sorties. No e/a seen. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Details of bomber attacks as follows:

<u>Assigned Target</u>	<u>Dispatched</u>	<u>Attacking</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>		<u>Results</u>
			<u>GP</u>	<u>IB</u>	
Scholven/Buer Syn. Oil Plant	142	91	246.1		Unobserved
<u>Other Targets</u>					
Munster M/Y		34	96.0		Unobserved
Gronau		<u>1</u>	<u>2.9</u>		
Totals	142	126	345.0		

2. Fighter Escort

Eleven groups (86 P-47s, 436 P-51s - 522 a/c) dispatched to support bombers attacking targets in Hamburg and Gelsenkirchen areas. Ten groups provided close support to five bomber forces. One group provided general area support aiding withdrawal of third force B-17s. Up 1052-1125 hours, down 1502-1550 hours. 475 sorties. No e/a seen. One squadron strafed area south of Hamburg for transportation claims. E/A Claims: nil. Losses 2 P-51s (one a/c crashed on take-off; one a/c abandoned off Terschelling Island due to bomber inflicted damage.

Ground claims as follows:

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
Locomotives	8	1
Tank Cars	6	30
Box Cars	1	0
Barge	4	0
Light gun position	1	0

3. Fighter Sweeps

Nil.

4. Fighter Bombing

Nil.

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5. Photo Reconnaissance

Fourteen a/c (5 F-5s, 9 Mosquitoes) dispatched. One F-5 obtained photos of assigned target in western Germany. Four F-5s were recalled and missions cancelled. Seven Mosquitoes successfully completed night-photographic missions over areas of western Germany, France and Italy. One Mosquito aborted due to mechanical failure. Three jet-propelled e/a were sighted by one Mosquito but e/a did not attack. Losses: One Mosquito crashed near Ypres, reason unknown; pilot killed, navigator saved. All other a/c returned safely.

6. Weather Reconnaissance

44 a/c (35 P-51s, 4 B-24s, 5 Mosquitoes) dispatched. Two B-24s flew routine flights to Azores area. Two B-24s flew routine flights over Atlantic west of England. Five Mosquitoes flew special flights to Belgium, Holland, Germany and into Atlantic west of England. 34 P-51s (one abort) scouted for bomber forces. All a/c returned safely.

7. Air/Sea Rescue

Twelve P-47s dispatched. No incidents. All a/c returned safely.

8. Special Operations

Fifteen a/c (1 B-17, 6 P-38s, 4 P-51s, 4 P-47s) dispatched. All a/c completed radio relay missions and returned safely.

Correction: Intops Summary No. 177 - 24 October 1944. Fighter bombers dispatched should read 415, not 465 as previously stated.

C. INTELLIGENCE1. Enemy Air Opposition

Weather conditions over the Continent were generally bad, with low clouds from 1,000 to 7,000 feet with some fog patches. Though enemy fighters could have climbed through the breaks in small flights, there was no enemy opposition.

2. FlakFighters

Hamburg - heavy, accurate to inaccurate, moderate to intense.

Juist Island - light, meager, inaccurate.

Lubeck - meager, inaccurate, heavy.

Kaiser Wilhelm Canal Area - moderate, inaccurate, heavy.

Wenzendorf - intense, heavy, inaccurate.

Kiel - intense, heavy, accurate.

Buhr Area - heavy, moderate, inaccurate.

Gelsenkirchen - heavy, moderate to intense, accurate to inaccurate.

Munster - heavy, intense, accurate.

Alkmaar - heavy, intense, accurate.

Gladbeck - heavy, moderate, inaccurate.

Recklinghausen - heavy, intense, accurate.

Neumunster - heavy, meager, inaccurate.

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SECRET

Bombers

Hamburg - moderate to intense, inaccurate.

Neumunster - meager to nil, inaccurate.

Bremerhaven - meager, inaccurate

Gelsenkirchen - Osnabruck-Hamm- meager to moderate, inaccurate.

3. Observations

Nil

4. Damage to Enemy Installations

Hamburg/Harburg and Hamburg/Rhenania Oil Refineries - Unobserved Results.

Bomber and fighter crews reported heavy black smoke pouring up through dense cloud layer. Strike attack photographs are completely obscured by undercast except for large disturbances in the cloud surface at three points. These points are probably one to one and one-half miles apart on the ground. In one area three distinct disturbances are visible and in the two other areas, there are two disturbances in each. No smoke is noted, however, in strike attack pictures.

Hamm M/Y - Unobserved Results.

Strike attack photographs are obscured by the 9/10-10/10 undercast. The start of a concentration of bombs is seen bursting in the northeast sector of the town area, a compact residential area adjacent to the M/Y. Approximately 200 GP bombs burst in open fields adjacent to the northwestern edge of the bridge over the Lippe Canal, a few bombs possibly striking individual lines leading to the north end of the M/Y. Approximately 80 bombs fell in a slightly built-up residential area one-half mile west of the north end of the M/Y. At least six bursts are plotted in the Vereinigte Stahlwerke Phoenix A.G. where slight damage is expected.

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

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