

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

2 January 1945.

SUBJECT: Operations Officer's Narrative - Mission 31 December 1944 - Hamburg, Germany.

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

95 "A" SQUADRON FORMATION

1. GENERAL NARRATIVE: The 95 "A" Squadron was leading the 13th Combat Wing, take off was 0655-0715 hours. Assembly was accomplished over BU #23 at 0815 hours. Wing assembly was at BU #28, but to avoid interference with 13 "B" Group on the assembly. Division assembly time was cut short, but the Wing was assembled and the coast was departed on course and on time.

The whole bomber stream was drifting south of course and at a point approximately 0630 east the stream was about twenty miles south of the briefed route. At approximately this time the 4th "E" Group made a ninety degree turn to the left and turned back to the briefed course. This caused all of the following groups to do the same. The I.P. was made good, the bombing run was visual and a sharp right turn was made after bombs away in order to avoid the flak defenses of the southern part of the city. The turn off the target brought the squadron south of course, and the turn was made south and west of the R.P.

At approximately 0600 east on the route back the lead ship of "A" squadron aborted because of wounded personnel on board. The lead of the Wing was assumed by the "B" squadron leader and the return flight to base was as briefed. Landing was accomplished at 1400-1454 hours.

2. AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING: Ten A/C and one PFF were dispatched. Ten A/C and one PFF attacked the target. Ten A/C and one PFF were credited with sorties.

3. AIRCRAFT LOST: None.

95 "B" SQUADRON FORMATION

1. GENERAL NARRATIVE: The 95 "B" squadron took off at 0701-0825 hours. Assembly was made over BU #23 at 0815 hours. Wing assembly was accomplished uneventfully. See General Narrative of "A" Squadron. The Wing leader aborted at about 0600 east on the way out. Lead was assumed by "B" Squadron leader, and the return to base was uneventful. Landing was 1414-1449 hours.

2. AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING: Eleven A/C and one PFF were dispatched. Eleven A/C and one PFF attacked the target. Eleven A/C and one PFF were credited with sorties.

3. AIRCRAFT LOST: None.

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Authority NND 195005
By PC NARA Date 7-14-11

95 "C" SQUADRON FORMATION

1. GENERAL NARRATIVE: Ninety Fifth "C" Squadron took off at 0657-0740 hours. Squadron assembly was completed at 0805 hours. The Squadron joined formation with the lead squadron. See the General Narrative of the "A" Squadron. After bombs were away a sharp turn was made to the right and enemy fighters attacked the formation. There were two attacks by waves of single engine fighters. The friendly fighter escort arrived after the second attack and dispersed the enemy fighters. "A" Squadron was cut off on the turn at the R.P. and group assembly was made a short time later. The remainder of the flight was as written in the General Narrative. Landing was at 1417-1451 hours.

2. AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING: Eight A/C and one PFF were dispatched. Eight A/C and one PFF attacked the target. Eight A/C and one PFF were credited with sorties.

3. AIRCRAFT LOST: A/C #6528 and A/C #7215 were lost to enemy fighter attacks.

NOEL T. GUMBAA
Major, Air Corps,
Operations Officer.

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Authority *NK 19505*
By *R.T. NARA* Date *9-1-11*

DIAGRAM A
ASSEMBLY

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

GROUP FORMATION FORM

DATE 31 December 1944

LEAD

HENDRICKSON
8210

LOW

J. HAMILTON
7844

RICHARDSON
6475

HIGH

GREER
8255

MELVIN
9052

TREGONING
7194

TUSS
6583

MILLER
8660

PAINTER
1939

CONOVER
2455

MERCER
1989

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

EXTRA SHIPS

334 _____
335 _____
336 _____
412 _____

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AFSA/MS/S
By FC NARA Date 9-14-11

95 A SQUADRON
DIAGRAM 1 A
OVER TARGET

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

GROUP FORMATION FORM

DATE 31 December 1944

LEAD

HENDRICKSON
8210

LOW

J. HAMILTON
7844

RICHARDSON
6475

HIGH

GREER
8255

MELVIN
9062

TREGONING
7194

TUSE
8833

MILLER
8660

PAINTER
1939

CONOVER
2455

MEECH
1989

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

EXTRA SHIPS

334 _____
335 _____
336 _____
412 _____

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AFSA/MS/S
By SP-1 NARA Date 9-17-11

95 B SQUADRON
DIAGRAM B
ASSEMBLY

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

GROUP FORMATION FORM

DATE 31 December 1944

LEAD

WILSON
8179

LOW

TESSIER
8774

WEISZ
8623

HIGH

BUSSE
8441

DOXON
8281

RINGLOOM
8333

FAND
8106

WALINE
8272

SUTKOWSKI
7783

OLSON
8617

BEK
7257

RAIL
8199

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

EXTRA SHIPS

334 _____
335 _____
336 _____
412 _____

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AFSA/MSD/S
By TC NARA Date 9-14-11

95 B SQUADRON
DIAGRAM 1 B
OVER TARGET

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

GROUP FORMATION FORM

DATE 31 December 1944

LEAD

WILSON
8179

LOW

YESSIER
8774

WEINZ
8628

HIGH

WALTER
8272

DOXON
8281

RINGELOOM
8333

RAND
8106

SUTKOWSKI
7783

OLSON
8617

DEK
7257

HALL
8199

BUNSE
8441
BOMBED WITH
390th Group

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

EXTRA SHIPS
334 _____
335 _____
336 _____
412 _____

DECLASSIFIED
Authority PPD/MS/S
By J. NARA Date 9-14-11

95 C SQUADRON
DIAGRAM C
ASSEMBLY

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

GROUP FORMATION FORM

DATE 31 December 1944

LEAD

PHILPOTT
8040

LOW

SCOTT
7154

RYAN
8657

HIGH

O'REILLY
6528

GRIFFIN
8776

REED
7215

RIDDINGS
7201

BRAMLETT
8640

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

EXTRA SHIPS

334 _____
335 _____
336 _____
412 _____

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AFSA/MS/S
By SP-1 NARA Date 9-14-11

95 C SQUADRON
Diagram 1 C
Over Target

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

GROUP FORMATION FORM

DATE 31 December 1944

LEAD

PHILPOTT
8040

LOW

SCOTT
7154

RYAN
8657

HIGH

O'NEILLY
6528

BUDKINS
7201

NEED
7215

KOENLER
8525

BRAMLET
3940

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

EXTRA SHIPS

334 _____
335 _____
336 _____
412 _____

DECLASSIFIED
Authority AFSA
By SP-1 NARA Date 9-14-11

A

FORM 3

STATION 119DATE 31 Dec.

LET	SHIP	PILOT	TARG T	TIME OFF		LANDING		REMARKS
				EST	ACT	EST	ACT	
335	J 8210	Hendrickson	✓ 414	0655		1400		
"	T 6475	Richardson	✓ 35	0656		1454		
336	R 7844	H. Hamilton	✓	0658		1425		
335	S 9052	Melvin	✓	0747		1406		
"	Z 2455	Conover	✓	0711		1426		
336	J 1939	Painter	✓	0726		1427		
335	O 7194	Tregoring	Hi ✓	0717		1425		
336	W 6993	Bradley		Scrubbed				
"	M 1989	Mercer	✓	0712		1424		
335	A 8255	Dreer	Lo ✓	713		1427		
334	W 8660	Miller	✓ 36	714		1426		
336	Y 6583	Juss	✓ 36	716		1424		

Recorded

By FL NARA Date 9-14-11Authority HR 275005

DECLASSIFIED

B

STATION 119

FORM 3

DATE 31 Dec.

LET	SHIP	PILOT	TARGET	TIME OFF		LANDING		REMARKS
				EST	ACT	EST	ACT	
334	S 8179	Wilson ✓	412		719		1420	
412	H 6528	Weig ✓			701		1421	
"	B 8774	Jessier ✓			706		1419	
"	Z 8281	Dotoc ✓			702		1422	
336	Q 8617	Olson ✓			709		1423	
412	F 7783	Suthowski ✓			703		1422	
336	S 8333	Ringbloom Hi			703		1416	
"	Z 8199	Nail ✓			704		1417	
412	L 7257	Bek ✓			705		1415	
"	P 8441	Busec To ✓			828		1449	
336	P 8272	Walter ✓			710		1414	
"	E 8106	Rand ✓			707		1414	

Recorded

By *TC* NARA Date 9-14-11Authority *HR 2958*

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C

STATION

119

FORM 3

DATE

31 Dec

	LET	SHIP	PILOT	TARGET	TIME OFF		LANDING		REMARKS
					EST	ACT	EST	ACT	
412	N	8046	Philpott ✓	36		657		1423	
334	V	8657	Ryan	34		718		1451	
"	F	7154	Scott ✓			718			Landed Woodbridge
"	B	8776	Griffin ✓			720		1242	
"	D	8640	Bramlett ✓			728		1418	
"	J	7201	Rudkins ✓			²⁷ 740		1428	
"	P	6528	O'Reilly Lov ✓			⁴⁰ 728		—	
"	U	8525	Koehler ✓			²⁸ 722		1417	
"	N	7215	Reed ✓		727		—		

Reed

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 Authority: 448795005
 By: T. NARA Date: 9-14-11

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

APO 559
31 December 1944

SUBJECT: S-2 Report, Hamburg Mission 31 December 1944.

TO: Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (H), APO 559, U.S. Army.

1. Ten plus one PFF A/C from the 95th Group took off beginning at 0655 hours to form the lead squadron of the 13A Combat Group to attack oil targets in Hamburg, Germany.

Eleven plus one PFF A/C from the 95th Group took off beginning at 0701 hours to form the high squadron of the 13A Combat Group to attack oil targets in Hamburg, Germany.

Eight plus one PFF A/C from the 95th Group took off beginning at 0657 hours to form the low squadron of the 13A Combat Group to attack oil targets in Hamburg, Germany. Three A/C from the 100th Group flew with this squadron. A/C No. 8776 aborted at 1105 hours at 5355-0815, because ball turret gunner was unconscious from anoxia. A/C No. 6528 and No. 7216 were lost in action due to E/A

2. 95C squadron, flying in trail of 95A and 95B after bombs away, and not in combat group formation, was attacked. 5/7 FW-190s, including 1/2 possible Me-109s, attacked at 1153 hours at 5322-0931. Flying above and against the bomber stream to a position of advantage between 95C and the sun, then swinging in a pursuit curve, they attacked abreast from 5 to 7 o'clock a little high and came in to 4/500 yards and broke off both right and left, and down. Pilots were experienced and pressed home attacks. Twenty MMs were used, but several crews reported three additional FW-190s following immediately in the wake of the attack, staying out of range and firing rockets. E/A were dirty silver, brown, battleship gray, black, some had straight-lined crosses outlined in white, and one had a red circular stripe around the fuselage. Two B-17s on fire, and two E/A down in this attack. At 1154 hours three FW-190s, possibly a repeat attack, came in from five o'clock and slightly low, pressing attack to 300 yards and then breaking away down. One E/A down. Claims 3-3-2. Ten to fifteen additional FW-190s were flying with the five to seven FW-190s against the bomber stream and crews have no reports on them. At 1152 hours at 5404-0900, five minutes before the IP a dark colored T/E A/C circled above the formation. Crews did not believe this A/C a Mosquito.

3. Flak was encountered as follows:

Hamburg	Inaccurate Tracking	Meagre
Bremershaven	Inaccurate Tracking	Meagre
5401-0610	Inaccurate Tracking	Meagre
5335-0630	Inaccurate Tracking	Meagre
5342-0650	Inaccurate Barrage	Moderate to Intense

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Authority *NK 19505*
By *R.C. NARA* Date *9-11-11*

5340-0720	Inaccurate	Tracking	Meagre
5404-0910	Accurate	Tracking	Moderate
5415-0815	Accurate	Tracking	Moderate
5400-0755	Inaccurate	Tracking	Meagre
5340-0840	Inaccurate	Tracking	Meagre
5340-0755	Accurate	Tracking	Moderate
5340-0900	Accurate	Tracking	Meagre

4. 95A, B, and C squadrons bombed the primary target at Hamburg visually in that order. 95A bombs dropped short with some hits on the MPI. A large explosion occurred just west of the MPI. 95B squadron had a good pattern on and slightly over the MPI. Three fires seen in the target area. 95C bombs dropped into the smoke in the target area. All bombing considered very good.

5. This group had some difficulty on rendezvous due to darkness. However, they were in position before leaving the coast. Division leader went south of course and kept going further south, due to strong north wind. Started getting flak from Frisian Islands when formation was about 5350-0710. Turned due north to get back on course. Drifted a bit south of course again before briefed IP, but made it good. Briefed course followed the rest of mission except A squadron swung a bit wide of RP and other two squadrons cut a bit short to close group formation. Crews report friendly fighters drawn to Lubeck area while on bomb run. Consequently there were only 3 friendly fighters observed covering this wing from target area to enemy coast on the route out. One group of friendly fighters was reported coming into tail of formation in attack formation at enemy coast on route out. Closed in very close in a hostile manner and were fired on by our formation. The bombardier's in the lead ships of the A and C squadrons were injured by flak prior to the bombing but remained at the sight and dropped with very good results.

A/C No. 7215 was hit by E/A at 1155 just after bombs away. No. 3 engine was on fire. The plane went into a spiral but plane was under control. One chute was seen. A/C No. 6528 was hit at 1155 hours at 5330-0900. The right wing was on fire. Pilot tried to put out fire but failed. The A/C went into a flat spin, but was under control. Two chutes were seen. All other A/C returned to base by 1454 hours.

WILLIAM ROWELL
2nd. Lt., Air Corps
Ass't. S-2 Officer

3BD INST 45-2 (9 OCT 44)

OPERATIONAL REPORT - STATISTICAL SECTION

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Authority *NK 19505*
By *P.C.* NARA Date *9-14-11*

	95A	95B	95C
1. GROUP			
2. A/C AIRBORNE	11	12	9
3. SORTIES	11	12	8
4. A/C ATTACKING	11	12	8
5. A/A FAILING TO ATTACK	0	0	1
a. Mechanical			1
b. Weather			
c. Enemy action			
d. Other			
6. A/C LOST	0	0	2
a. TO AA			
b. TO E/A			2
c. TO AA AND E/A			
d. TO Accident			
e. By Reasons Unknown			
7. TIME OF ATTACK	1146	1147	1148
8. ALTITUDE OF ATTACK	25,500	27,300	25,300
9. BOMBS DROPPED (PRIMARY)			
a. Number	211	220	160
b. Size	250	250	250
c. Type	G.P.	G.P.	G.P.
d. Number A/C Bombing	11	11	8
BOMBS DROPPED (OTHER) <i>T.O.</i>	<i>5330-0850</i>	<i>HAMBURG</i>	
a. Number	9	20	
b. Size	250	250	
c. Type	G.P.	G.P.	
d. Number A/C Bombing	1	1	
BOMBS DROPPED (OTHER)			
a. Number			
b. Size			
c. Type			
d. Number A/C Bombing			
10. BATTLE DAMAGE	11	11	4
a. Minor	3	9	1
b. Major	8	2	3
c. Salvage			
12. Claims	0-0-0	0-0-0	3-2-3
			<i>Ret. 20X250</i>