# HEADQUARTERS 13TH COMBAT BOMB WING (H) APO 559

Date 21 February 1945 13 CBW FO 50 13 CBW OPS 277 3 AD FO 590

SUBJECTS Tastical Report (NUREMBURG, CERMANY)

TO 8 Comm anding Office, 95 B. S.

# 1. Information Concerning the Targets:

a. The primary target (visual) for today was the Railway Marshalling Yard, situated on the SE outskirts of Nuremburg, Germany.

b. The secondary target (H2X) was the Main Passenger Station and Goods Yards situated in the centre of Nuremburg, Germany.

e. The Terliary terget (visual or H2X) was the Reilway Mershalling Yard situated on the NW outskirts of Ulm, Germany.

## 2. Narretive of the Attacks

# a. 13 A Group - 100A, B, C Squadrens:

#### (1) Navigation

# (a) Assembly:

A nermal take off and Group assembly was made over Buncher 28 at 8000°. The Group was 2 minutes late at Buncher 27, the Wing assembly point, and 2 minutes early at CP 1. At this point they were 6 miles south of course with 13B abreast of them. The Group esset to the left in order to leave the proper interval in the Division column.

#### (b) Routes

The briefed route was followed across the channel, crossing the Continental Coast, CP 2, at 0912, 2 minutes early. CP 3 was reached at 1010, 5 minutes late at an altitude of 23700°. At the mext turning point the Group overshet 2 miles to 5022-0919 and paralleled the course 8 miles to the left until 5 minutes from the IP. At this point the mavigator noticed that the preceding Groups in the column were right of course and the decision was made to follow the bember stream. The IP was overshet 2 miles and individual H2X runs were made by the Squadrons to the secondary target. The Group 414 not drop to 24,000° on the run to the RP in order to stay above the D/P contrails in the target area. All Squadrons quickly reassembled in good Group formation at the RP and the descent to 20000° was started. The route was paralleled 6-5 miles right to 09355. At this point a left turn was made to get back on course and CP 4 was reached at 1219 at 21000°. The route to the Continental Coast was as briefed and the coast was crossed at 6600° at 1405. The English Coast was crossed at 1449 at an altitude of 1000°.

#### (e) Weather8

Conditions were CAVU ever the bases. Enroute ever the Continent these conditions prevailed until about 0700E, when a thin layer of high cirrus clouds was encountered with base at 23000°, tops 23500°. At the target there was 5-8/10 low cumulus with D/P contrails prevailing in the immediate target area.

### (d) Navigation Difficulties:

Because of misidentification of Groups the turn to Buncher 27 was not made as planned. The Group, consequently, was 2 minutes late at this point:

(e) Rozarkes

Navigation was very satisfactory.

## (f) PFF Narrative:

Three PFF aircraft were disputched. All radar sets sperated satisfactorily. A Squadron made an individual H2X sighting on the secondary target, while B and C made individual H2X and visual sightings.

### (2) Bembings

### (a) 100A Squadrens

Air Leader Lt. Col. Wallace Nav Capt. Anderson Pilot Capt. Brown Asst Nav Lt. Kropismann Co-Pilot Lt. Beedle M/O Lt. Lentz Bomb Lt. Edon

2. A/C Attacking:

Bembs Drepped

go Secondary 12 61x500 LB GP 57x500 LB IB Jettisoning None

Jettisening None Returning None

bo Bembing Altitudes 24000°

go Time of Release: 1124

3. Rum-in from IP to Target!

After the maneuver at the IP, the M/O pieked up the target and set up course. The bembardier was clutched in at 11 miles and checks in rate were made at 9, 8, 7, 6 and 5 miles. Rate refinements were necessary at 8, 7, and 6 miles because the M/O made three course corrections, which resulted in a change of heading and ground speed. The final rate check was reported as good, but actually rate was off as the bembs were short for range. Bembs were released on a true heading of 95 degrees, with 16 degrees of right drift. C-1 Auto-Pilet was used on the bemb run.

# 4. PI Reports

go No bursts are visible, but according to computations based on the bomb trajectory chart, the bombs fell in fields and a sparsely built-up suburban district \$\frac{1}{2}\$ miles North (left) and \$\frac{1}{2}\$ mile West (South) of the secondary target, on which the run was made.

5. Bembing Malfunctions: None

# (b) 100B Squadren:

1. Air Leader Capt. Ferbrache Pilet Lt. Blanding Asst Nav Co-Pilet M/O Lt. Jenista Benb Lt. Belimew

2. A/C Attacking:

Bembs Drepped

a. Secondary

13

66x500 LB GP 62x500 LB IB Jettisening Returning None None

b. Beabing Altitude: 24890°

e. Time of Release: 1125

3. Run-in from IP to Target:

After the manuever at the IP, the M/O picked up the target and set up course. The bembardier was successful in setting up rate through breaks in the clouds, after which he clutched in at 11 miles. The M/O proceeded to call off the rate checks, but approximately 5 miles from the target, the bembardier picked up the target area visually. There was insufficient time to set up course and rate, consequently, synchronization was incomplete when bembs were released on a true heading of 100 degrees. C-1 Auto-Pilet was used on the bemb

# 4. PI Report:

a. No bursts are visible, but according to computations based on the bemb trajectory chart the bembs probably fell in the city about 12 miles North (left) and 1 mile fest (short) of the secondary target, on which the run was made.

5. Bembing Malfunctions: None.

# (e) 1000 Squadron:

l. Air Leader Capt. Craft Nav Lt. Graham
Pilet Lt. Hutchinson Asst Nav
Co-Pilet M/O Lt. Courdier
Bemb Lt. Zenske

2. A/C Attacking:

Bembs Drepped

g. Secondary 13 66x500 LB GP 61x500 LB LB IB Returning None

b. Bembing Altitudes 23830°

e. Time of Release: 1126

3. Run-in from IP to Target:

After a good maneuver at the IP, the M/O picked up the target and set up course. The bembardier sighted for rate through breaks in the clouds, and then clutched in at 11 miles. Shortly after the clutch-in the bembardier abserved his cross hairs to be on the edge of a cloud, under which appeared to be the center of the city, close to the M/Y. He let his cross hairs ride and when the indices met released his bembs. Bembs were released on a true heading of 93 degrees. C-1 Auto-Pilot was used on the bemb run.

# 4. PI Report:

a. No bursts are visible, but according to computations based upon the bomb trajectory chart, the bombs from this Squadron probably fell in fields 3 miles NW of the secondary target, on which the run was made.

# 5. Bombing Malfumetions:

A/C 841: Shackle malfunction, 1 bomb kicked out shortly after bombs away.

# b. 13 B Group - 95A, B, C Squadrone:

# (1) Navigation:

#### (a) Assembly:

The Group assembled Without difficulty. At Buncher 27 another formation out in front of Baker and caused the Group to get ahead of Able leader. The coast out point was made good and on time.

#### (b) Routes

The correct Wing formation was attained over mid-channel after considerable "S"ing allowed Able to pull into position. On the route in both Groups were at a higher altitude than the Groups in front of the Division Column: this resulted in constant everrunning of the front Groups. Both Baker and Able were compelled to "S" constantly to stay in position. Baker, in addition, indicated a minus circpeed in an effort to keep from sliding over Able. "S"ing in the Limburg area caused the Group to skirt the flak defenses slightly North of course. The southeast log into the IP was cut off completely by the Wing leader. The Group followed suit and finally established an IP appreximately 25 miles Northwest of the briefed IP. The Squadrons made individual target approaches, using H2X and some visual assistance. After the turn on the RP, D/P contrails forced the Group to lose altitude in an effort to get below them. On the route out, the Group followed Able North of course until approximately 12 miles east of Stuttgart, where corrections were made towards the proper route. Back to the base the route was uneventful;

- (e) Weather: Seme as 13A Group.
- (4) Marigational Difficulties: None.
- (e) Remarks: The Havigation was satisfactory.
- (f) PFF Marrative:

Three FFF aircraft were dispatched. All radar sets operated satisfactorily. C Squadron made an individual H2X sighting on the secondary target, while A and B made individual H2X and Visual sightings.

# (2) Bombing:

# (a) 954 Squedrons

10	Air Leader C Pilet I Ge-Pilet	apt. Brittingham t. Savage	Aget Nev	Capt. Shire: Lt. Pieper Capt. Mitch Lt. Seferia
<b>2</b> °	A/C Attackin	<b>E</b> \$	Bombs D	ropped
	<b>. T</b> O	30	50 <del>-</del> 500	ra co

A. TO 10 50x500 LB GP 45x500 LB IB Fettisening 2 10x500 LB IB IB 10x500 LB IB

Returning Neme

h. Bembing Altitude: 24350°

0 1 0

# QQNIIDENTIAL

TR. 21 Tob. 945

e. Time of Releases 1126

# 3. Runein from IP to Targets

After a good maneuver at the IP, the M/O picked up the target and set up course. The bembardier clutched in at 11 miles and after three rate checks took over visually. A 40 degree course correction was nade to the right, and in doing so the bembardier ever-corrected. The bembardier failed to pick up the assigned target and chose an AP in the built-up area short of the M/Y. After synchronizing the bembardier released his bembs on a true heading of 130 degrees. C-1 Auto-Pilot was used on the bemb run.

# 4. PI Reports

a. The bombs from this Squadron fell on a fully built-up factory and residential district lightles short (NW) of the secondary target, on which the run was made.

b. The complete pattern is not visible.

# 5. Bembing Malfunctions

A/C 230: Rack malfunction - run made on Konningen (48128-0746E) 1 bemb dropped.

A/C 106: 10 bembs jettisomed on Giossom.

A/C 617: 10 bembs jettisomed at 5023E-9825E.

# (b) 95B Squadren:

l. Air Leader Capt. Jeneman May Lt. Optorburn
Pilet Lt. Taylor Agst May
Co-Pilet Lt. Murray M/O Lt. Carter
Bonb Lt. Webber

2. A/C Attacking8

Bembs Dropped

66x500 LB QP

60x500 LB IB

a. Secondary 13
Jetticoning None

Jettisening Mone Returning Mone

h. Bembing Altitude: 24850°

go Time of Release: 1127

# 3. Run-in from IP to Target?

Attacking on a true heading of 110 degrees, the M/O picked up the target and set up course. The bembardier clutched in at 11 miles and after four rate checks took ever visually for a 20 second sighting operation. Rate and course were reported as accurately preset, and cross hairs positioned on the assigned MPI when bembs were released. C-1 Auto-Pilet was used on the bemb run.

# 40 PI Reports

a. Insufficient terrain is visible to identify the position of the A/C during the bemb run.

5. Bembing Melfunetions: None.

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# CONFIDENTIAL

# (c) 95C Squadrens

1.	Air Leader Pilet	Lt.	Stanbereugh Jensen	Nav Asst	Nav	Lto	Serensen
	Co-Pilet		Minich	M/O Bemb			Painter Zultz

2. A/C Attacking:

Bambs Drapped

a. Secondary 12 61x500 LB GP 55x500 LB IB Fettisening 1 5x500 LB GP 5x500 LB IB

Returning None

b. Bembing Altitude: 238000

co Time of Releases 1128

## 3. Run-in from IP to Target?

Attacking on a true heading of 098 degrees, the M/O picked up the target and set up course. Rate was set up visually through breaks in the clouds after which the bembardier clutched in at 11 miles. All subsequent rate checks were reported as accurate. Col Aute-Pilet was used on the bemb run.

#### 4. PI Reports

a. The bembs from this Squadren fell in a sparsely built-up residential district la miles short (NW) of the secondary target, on which the run was made, and across the Pegnitz river from these of 95A Squadren.

b. The complete pattern is not visible.

5. Bembing Malfunctions:

A/C 455: 10 bembs jettisened at 5014N-0820E.

#### 3. Planning and Execution of the Mission:

#### a. Group Order and Strength:

(1)	45 A, B Groups:	6 x 12 A/C Squadrens
	(a) 388 Group (b) 452 Group	3 x 12 A/C Squadrens 3 x 12 A/C Squadrens
(2)	93 A, B, C, D Groups:	12 x 12 A/C Squedrens
	(a) 385 Group (b) 34 Group (c) 493 Group (d) 490 Group	3 x 12 A/C Squadrens
(3)	13 A, B Groups	6 x 12 A/C Squadrens
	(a) 100 Group (b) 95 Group	3 x 12 A/C Squadrens 3 x 12 A/C Squadrens
(4)	4 A, B, C Groups:	9 x 12 A/C Squadrens
	(a) 94 Group (b) 486 Group (c) 487 Group	3 x 12 A/C Squadrens 3 x 12 A/C Squadrens 3 x 12 A/C Squadrens

b. A/C and C/C Available:

(1)	<b>95</b>	Graup	reg PFF MH	9	A/C A/C	46 7 7	c/c c/c
(2)		Greup	reg PFF MH	8	A/C A/C	49 4 2	C/C C/C
(3)	390	Group	REG PFF MH	31 8 8		64 8 5	C/C C/C

- c. A/C Saheduled to Take Off:
  - (1) 95 Group 35 Plus 3 PFF (2) 100 Group 35 Plus 3 PFF
- do A/C Airbernes
  - (1) All Scheduled A/C Airborne.
- e. A/C Abortive:
  - (1) 95 Group:

A/C 8617: 336 Sqdn "Q" - #2 supercharger out - Pilet Lt. Burns - Sertie - Bembed TO.

A/C 2455: 335 Sqdn "Z" - Two turbes out - Pilet Lt.

Olsen - Sertie - Bembed TO.

A/C 8106: 336 Sqdn "E" - Intermal engine failure on #3
engine - Pilet Lt. Millpeugh - Sertie - Bembed TO.

- (2) 100 Group: None.
- f. A/C Outstandings None.
- g. A/C Attacking 13 A Group:

  (1) Secondary

  38

  193x500 LB GP
  180x500 LB IB
  - (2) Method of Bembing: H2X with Visual Assist
  - (3) Mothed of Roleage: 140° Train

$\mathbf{h}_{\circ}$	A/C	Attacking - 13 B Group:		Bembs Drepped			
	(1)	Secondary	15	127x500 LB GP			
		TO	10	115x500 LB IB 50x500 LB GP			
		Jettisening	3	45x500 LB IB 15x500 LB GP			
				15x500 LB IB			

- (2) Method of Bembing: H2X with Visual Assist
- (3) Method of Release: 140° Train

#### Lo Communications:

- a. VHF:
  - (1) Lt. Col. Wallace led the 13th Wing. Communications

within the Group and between Groups was reported to be very satis-factory, radio discipline being fair. There were some unnecessary transmissions on airdrome frequency to tower of the 95 Group.

(2) Contact was made with Kedak sircraft, and information passed very satisfactorily. Very good communications with both fighters and ground sectors was reported, fighters being contacted visually as well as by VHF.

#### b. W/T8

#### (1) Centrel Peints:

	CP 1	CP 2	CP 3	TOT	CP L	ETR
Timings	0844	0914	1005	1106	1202	1440
A.T.A.	0842	0912		1125	1225	1445

#### Strike Reports: (2)

100 Group SB 5 1125

(3) Wing leader sent Centrel Peints, Strike Report to Division Ground Station satisfactorily. Jamming of Division frequency was reported, with interference neticed throughout the entire mission. RTR report transmitted successfully to 95 HF D/F Station 2 hours before arrival at base.

## 5. Mission Camera Reports

a. The 100 Group installed no scope, 9 vertical, and 1 oblique camera, all of which took pictures.

b. The 95 Group installed 2 scepe, 9 vertical, and 3 oblique cameras, 1, 9, and 3 of which took pictures:

PFF A/C 8230 with scape camera: Camera malfunction; cause undeterminedo

#### 6 Centreller's Leg:

- 1930 from 3 AD: (1) Ferce.
- 1957 to Groups: (1)Perce. **b**。
- (1) Order (2) Target and Asutta ...
  (3) Tentative Bembing Altitude (4) Zere
  Heur (5) RBA (6) Weather A/C (7) Air
  Tender and Targets (8) RBW (9) 2nd 2033 from 3 AD: Division Routes.
- (1) Zere Heur (2) RBW (3) RBA and B Reutes (5) H2X Leads (6) do 2050 to Groups: Bembing Altitude.
- (1) AW to 3 AD FO 590. 2150 from 3 AD:
- **f**o 2151 to Groups: (1)Targets.
- AW to 13 CBW FO 50c (1) 2215 to Groups g o
- 2222 from 3 AD: (1)Time Centrel  $\mathbf{h}_{\odot}$
- 2239 from 3 AD: (1)Proliminary Timings. 1<sub>0</sub>
- Bemb Lead (2) Plan B Route Scrubbed 2327 from 3 AD: (3)

Assembly Altitude.

- ko 2340 to Groups: (1) Time Control (2) Bomb Load (3) Assembly Altitude (4) Instructions.
- 1. 2355 from 3 AD: (1) 8.8. Ref.
- m. 2355 from 3 ADs (1) Change of Bombing Altitude (2) Targets
  Plan B (3) Time Centrel (4) Division
  Assembly.

- no 0010 from 3 AD: (1) A-2 Annex to 3 AD FO 590 Plan Ao
- e. OOLS from 3 AD: (1) Annex 1 to AW to 3 AD FO 590.
- po 0026 from 3 AD8 (1) Intervalemeter Settingo
- qo 0035 to Groups: (1) Plan B Targetso
- r. 0039 to Groups: (1) AW to 13 CBW FO 50 Plan B.
- so Olio from 3 AD: (1) Plan A Tertiary Changed.
- to 0114 to Groups: (1) S.S. Ref.
- Mo Oll8 from 3 AD: (1) New Route,
- vo 0120 to Groups: (1) New Last Resort.
- wo 0125 to Groups: (1) Annex 1 to AW 13 CBW FO.
- x. 0157 to Groups: (1) 13 CBW F0 50 Plan A.
- y. 0200 from 3 AD: (1) Final Timings Plan B (2) 3 AD F0 590 Plan A.
- z. 0210 to Groups: (1) Assembly Altitude (2) Timings for Plan A and B.
- aa. 0230 from 3 AD: (1) Annex 1 to 3 AD TO 590 Plan A.
- bb. 0235 to Groups: (1) Annex 1 to 13 CBW FO 50 Plan A.
- cc. 0255 to Groups: (1) 13 CBW FO 50 Plan B.
- dd. 0300 from 3 AD: (1) 3 AD FO 590 Plan B.
- ee. 0310 from 3 AD 8 (1) A-2 Annex to 3 AD F0 590.
- ff. 0445 from 3 AD: (1) 447 Group is Scrubbed. Several A/C are on fire and blowing up.
- gg. 0448 to Groups: (1) 447 Group Scrubbed.
- hh. 0558 from 3 AD: (1) Plan B Will Run.
- ii. 0603 to Groups: (1) Plan B Will Run (2) May Get Visual Bembing.
- jj. 0622 te Greups: (1) Annex 2 te 13 CBW FO 50 Plan A.

For the Commanding General:

ERNEST A. KIRSELING.
Major, Air Corps.
Director of Training
and Analysis.

Q Q N E I D'EN T I A L

#### RAILWAY MARSHALLING YARD

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13A GROUP: BOMBED BY SQUADRONS.

100A SQUADRON (purple circle): 12 x 61 x 500 lb GP's. (H2X)

100B SQUADRON (red circle ): 13 x 66 x 500 lb GP's. (E2X & vis. Asst)

100C SQUADRON (green circle ): 13 x 66 x 500 lb GP's. (E2X & vis. Asst)

13B GROUP: BOMBED BY SQUADRONS.

95A SQUADRON (red dots ): 10 x 50 x 500 lb GP's. (H2X & vis. Asst)

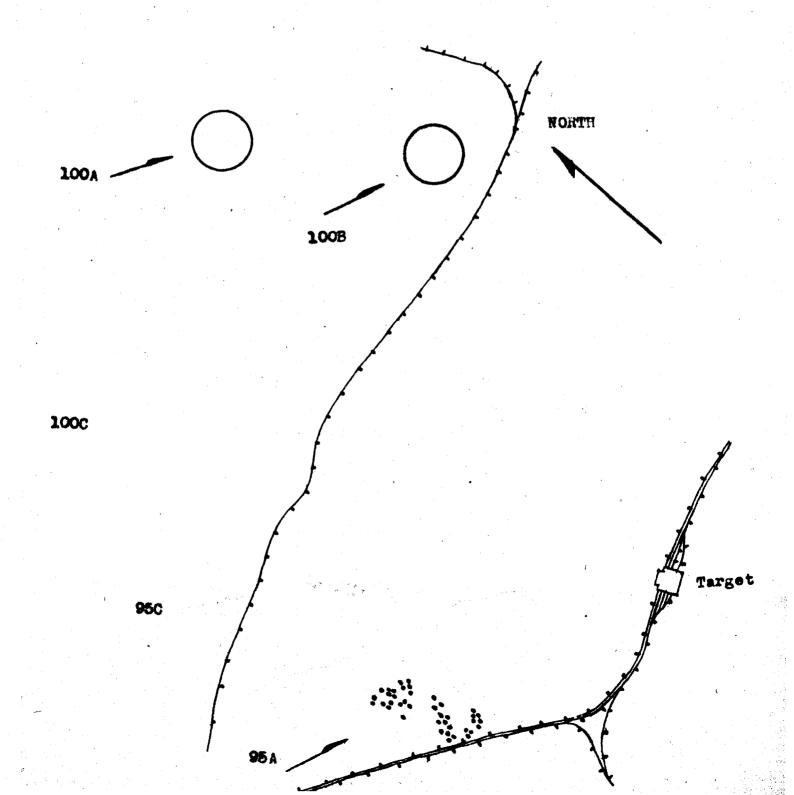
95B SQUADRON (red dots ): 13 x 66 x 500 lb GP's. (H2X)

95C SQUADRON (10/10ths ): 13 x 66 x 500 lb GP's. (H2X)

95C SQUADRON (green dots ): 12 x 61 x 500 lb GP's. (H2X & vis. Asst)

NOTE: CIRCLES FOR 100TH GROUP SHOW WHERE SMOKE BOMBS PELL.

SCALE 1:32,000 (approximate)
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FORM 3

DATE DI feb. 1945

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STATION - 119

FORM 3

DATE 21 Feb. 1945

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

24 February 1945

SUBJECT: S-2 Report for the mission to Nurnburg, Germany on the above date.

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

l. The Mission - the 95th Group flew as 13B Combat Group to attack marshalling yards at Nurnburg. Because of weather at the primary the secondary was attacked by 95A and 95B. 95C, because of Micky failure at secondary target attacked a target of Opportunity at Nurnburg and photos show bombs striking near a large building in built up area.

Nine A/C plus the PFF attacked a target of opportunity at Nurnburg. Lead A/C 8230 had one bomb hang up over Nurnburg and dropped it on the town of Kenzingen (4812N=0746E) erew reporting bomb hit int town. A/C 8106 turned back at 1043 hours 5019N=0911 because of battle damage and dropped bombs on target of opportunity at Giessen (5035N=0846E) erew report bombs hit edge of town. A/C 8617 turned back at 1033 hours 5024N=0844 because of mechanical failure and bombed a target of opportunity, a RR Junction at 5023N=0825, and report near misses on the Junction.

95A - Eleven A/C plus one PFF flew as the lead squadron.

95B = Twelve A/C plue one  $PF^F$  took off and formed the high squadron. All A/C bombed the Secondary target at Nurnburg.

95C - Twelve A/ plue one PFF took off and formed the low squadron. Eleven A/ plue the PFF bomed the secondary target at Nurnburg. One A/C 2455 turned back at 1036 hours 5016N-0832 because of mechanical failure and bomed a target of opportunity at Ildstein (5014N-0820E).

21 References is made to the Operational Narrative teletype of the Intelligence Section for further information on the mission.

For the Intelligence Officer:

FRANCIS X. PIERCE,
lst Lt., Air Corps,
Ass't. S-2 Officer.

Opn.

CG, 13TH CBW CO, 100TH BG CO. 39OTH BG

95TH RG

II

XX

21/2/45

1930

8-2

95TH BOMB GROUP INTELLIGENCE NARRATIVE, NURNBERG, GERMANY, 21 FBB 1945

- 1. LEAFLETS None.
- BOMBING RESULTS Bombing was by squadrons in order A-B-C. 95A made an HEX run with a visual assist, picking up target at 50 miles, on a TO. Nurnberg, and het prints show bombs striking near a horge building on which bombardier sighted in the built up area. Primary and secondary were not bombed because of mickey failure as noted in passagraph 7 and cloud interference. A/C 8106 bombed a TO, Giessen (5035-0846), visually with a sighting device, with hits observed on the edge of the town. A/C 8617 bembed a TO, a RR junction (5023-0825), visually using the chin turret sight and reported near misses on the junction. K-20 photo taker. Lead A/C, 8250, had one bomb hang up and dropped it right in the town of Kenzingen (4812-0746), a TO. 95B made an H2X run with visual assist, picking up target at 45 miles, on the secondary target with unobserved results, but crews, including the M/O, believe bombs on the target. Strike photos cloud covered. 950 made an MRX run on the secondary target, picking up the target at 25 miles, with unobserved results, but M/O reports target registered in the scope and believes bombs on the target. A/C 2455 bombed a TO, the flak battery at Idstein (5014-0820), killing his drift with the turnet sight and setting computed dropping angle with the guns in the turret. A cloud moved in, but erew believes bombing good. This A/C made several passes before bombing. Bombing results are therefor classified as: 95A, good; 95B, good; 95C, fair to good.
- 3. E/A None.

had steam up.

- 4. FLAK 5016-0822 Accurate, tracking, meagre.

  Murnberg Accurate, barrage and tracking, moderate.

  Freidburg Accurate, tracking, meagre.
- 5. WEATHER 5/10 to 5/10 low cloud in target area.
  - OBSERVATIONS \_
    O914 5113-0855 Vapor trail at a 20 degree angle upwards and westward estimated climbing from 8,000 to 25,000 feet over 5148-0400 or
    over Rotterdam.
    1040 5020-0845 Freidburg M/Y full of rolling stock, and six engines

1115 4945-0640 2 bridges 8 of Trier knocked out, and there appeared to be two new bridges across Moselle River N of Trier.
1300 4925-0548 B-17 in a field.
1440 5215-0154 Two ships in channel took evasive action, heading north when they saw A/C formation.

7. OTHER INFORMATION \_ Fighter support was reported generally good. The only deviation from the briefed course prior to the target came at 5012-0810 when the group essed ten miles south of course to avoid flak. The bomber stream cut short the IP and this group used 4933-1014 as an IP before bombing in squadron formation with unobserved results. Flak damage stabove coordinates caused HEX malfunction in 95A but M/O was able to give rate checks up to the five mile check. 95C had interphone difficulty but the 11, 7, 6, and 5 mile checks were made. The relly point was made good and bomber stream followed to 4855-0930 where 95th Group essed south to briefed course to avoid flak Stuttgart flak. Front line crossing was as briefed and bomber stream followed to about 5000-0550 where 95th Group returned to briefed course and to base.

### **4**5

#### RAILWAY MARSHALLING YARD

13/ HROUP: BOMBED BY SQUADRONS.

100A SQUADRON (purple circle): 12 x 61 x 500 lb GP's. (H2X)

100B SQUADRON (red circle): 15 x 66 x 500 lb GP's. (H2X & vis. Asst)

100C SQUADRON (green circle): 15 x 66 x 500 lb GP's. (H2X & vis. Asst)

13B GROUP: BOMBED BY SQUADRONS.

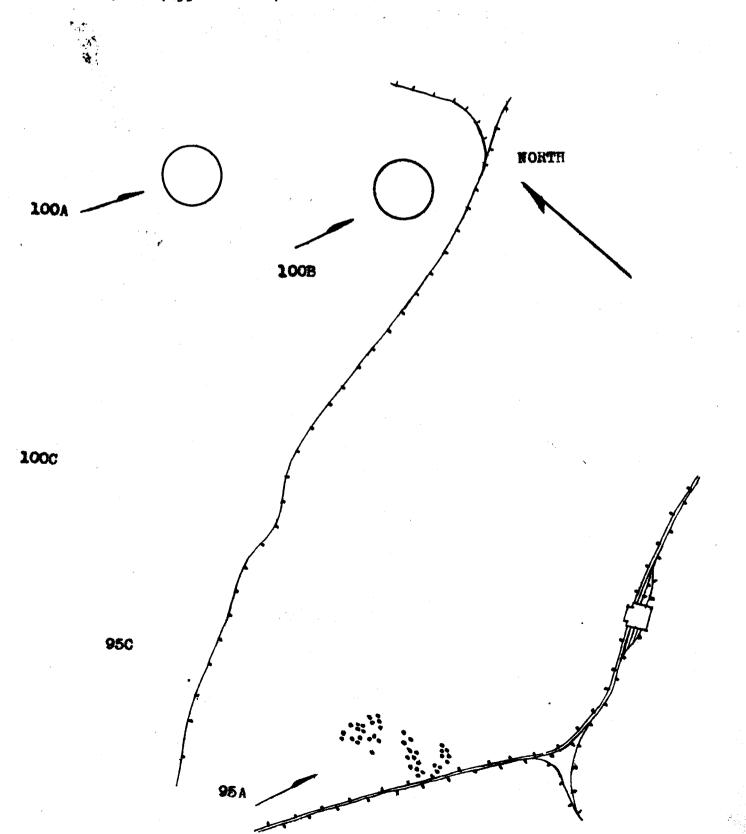
95A SQUADRON (red dots): 10 x 50 x 500 lb GP's. (H2X & vis. Asst)

95B SQUADRON (10/10ths): 15 x 66 x 500 lb GP's. (H2X)

95C SQUADRON (green dots): 12 x 61 x 500 lb GP's. (H2X & vis. Asst)

NOTE: CIRCLES FOR 100TH GROUP SHOW WHERE SNOKE BOMBS FELL.

SCALE 1:32,000 (approximate)



Me

#### SEORET

# HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE AAF STATION 101 APO 634

#### INTOPS SUMMARY NO. 297

PERIOD: 0001 hours 21 February 1945 to 2400 hours 21 February 1945.

#### A. STATISTICS

	Total Sorties	Effective Sorties			-	OBB			N TOWN
	DAT ATOB	SOT ATAR	Tonnage	Claims	E/A	AA	01.	Totals	NYR
Heavy Bomber Atks.	1262	1219	2893.9	0-0-0	0	0	5	5	0
Fighter Escort (a)	685	64.6	CONTRACTOR	0-0-0					
				4-0-12	G O	3	2	5	2
Fighter Sweeps	46	45	0	000	0	2	0	2	0
Fighter Bombing	0	0	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0,
Photo Recon.	48	45	Q (	(b), <b>I-0-0</b> A	1	0	0	1	0
Weather Recon.	41	<b>33</b>	0	0-0-0	0	0	1	1	0
Air/Sea Rescue	18	18	0	0-0-0	0	<b>Q</b> .	0	, 0	0
Special Operations	51_	_47_	0	0-0-0	1.	<u>0</u>	<u>o</u>	. 1	1
Totals	2151	2053	2893.9	(b)1-0-0 A 4-0-12G		5	8	15	3

(a) Groups based on the Continent operated in support of 9th Air Force.

(b) An Me-262

# B. OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

## 1. Bomber Attacks

1262 a/c (857 B-17s, 395 B-24s) from three Air Divisions sortied in three forces against the M.A.N. Tank Plant, the Main Station and M/Ys, and Locomotive Shops in Nurnburg. 1219 a/c dropped 2893.9 tons (1701.9 tons G.P., 1192.0 tons I.B.) on assigned targets and 13 T/Os. Bombing on H2X with visual assists. Weather: generally 6/10 to 10/10 cloud in target area with some breaks. E/a opposition: nil. 9 t/e e/a (vicinity of Murnburg), 7 FW-190s (SW of Strasbourg), and 2 u/i e/a (SE of Strasbourg) sighted. Claims: nil. Losses: 5 a/c (4 B-24s, 1 B-17) - all to unknown causes.

# First Force

Eleven group formations (416 B-17s - 3rd Air Division) sortied against the Nurnburg M/Y. 405 a/c dropped 515.5 tons G.P. and 471.3 tons I.B. (986.8 tons - total) on the assigned target and 9 T/Os at 1111-1137 hours from 23,600 - 26,700 feet. Bombing on H2X with some visual assists. Leaflets dropped in

Nurnburg area. Weather: 5/10 - 10/10 over target with some breaks. Flak: moderate to intense, fairly accurate. Battle damage: 151 minor, 24 major, 1 category "E". E/a opposition: nil. 9 t/e e/a (vicinity of Nurnburg), 7 FW-190s (SW of Strasbourg), and 2 u/i e/a (SE of Strasbourg) sighted. Losses: 1 B-17 to unknown causes.

Fighter Support: Four groups (200 P-51s) sortied. Up 0821-0840 hours, down 1343-1432 hours. 189 effective sorties. E/a opposition: nil. All group strated ground targets. E/a claims: nil. Losses: 2 P-51s to AA.

#### Details of bomber attack as follows:

Assigned Targets	*	Sorties	Effective			Results
		The real section is			G.P. I.B	<b>.</b>
Murnburg M/Y		416	396		504.7 46	0.5 Fair
Other Targets			**************************************			
9 T/Os		-	_ 9	2. 1 - 1	10.8 1	<u>0.8</u>
		<b>41</b> 6	405	j	515.5 47	1.3 Unob.

#### Second Force

Twelve group formations (451 B-17s - 1st Air Division) sortied against the Nurnburg M.A.N. Tank Plant. 436 a/c dropped 1074.0 tons (539.5 tons G.P., 534.5 tons I.B.) on the Nurnburg M/Ys (the secondary) and 1 T/O at 1147-1205 hours from 24,500-27,500 feet. Bombing on H2X. Leaflets dropped on Nurnburg. Weather: 8/10 to 10/10 low cloud, tops about 10,000 feet with occasional clear strips prevailing to target area. Flak: meager to moderate, inaccurate, at Nurnburg. Battle damage: 80 minor, 23 major. E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Fighter Support: Four groups (191 P-51s) sortied. Up 0859-0911 hours, down 1430-1500 hours. 184 effective sorties. E/a opposition: nil. Three groups strafed ground targets, including A/Fs south of Nurnburg (4857-1037E). NW of Crailheim, and at Schweinfurt (5004-1010E) and Deimingen (4853-1034E). E/a claims: 2-0-11 ground. Losses: nil. NYR: 2 P-51s, known safe on continent.

Details of bomber attack as follows:

Assigned Targets Sorties	Effective Sorties	Tonnage Results G.P. I.B.
Nurnburg M.A.N. Tank Plant 451 Nurnburg M/Y (Sec.)	Not Attacked 434	537.0 532.0 Unobserved
Other Targets T/Os  Totals 451	<u>2</u> 436	2.5 2.5 Unobserved 539.5 534.5

#### Third Force

Thirty-nine squadron formations (395 B-24s - 2nd Air Division) sortied against the Nurnburg Main Station and M/Ys. 378 a/c dropped 833.1 tons (646.9 tons G.P. and 186.2 tons E.B.) on the assigned target and 3 T/Os at 1125-1225 hours from 12,700 - 23,900 feet. Bombing on H2X. Leaflets dropped in Nurnburg area. Weather: 9/10 to 10/10 undercast in target area. Flak: meager to moderate, generally inaccurate. Battle damage: 63 minor. E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: 4 B-24s to unknown reasons.

Fighter Support: Four groups (156 P-51s, 37 P-47s - 193 a/c) sortied. Up 0900-0915 hours, down 1452-1505 hours. 175 effective sorties. E/a opposition nil. One FW-190 sighted vicinity of Neustadt. Three groups strafed ground targets, including Gotha A/F. E/a claims: 2-0-0 ground. Losses: 3 P-51s (1 to AA, 2 to strafing accident).

Details of bomber attack as follows:

Assigned Target	<u>:s</u>	Sorties	Effective	Sorties	Tonnag G.P.	<u>e I.B.</u>	<u>esults</u>
Murnburg Main S	itation &	395	<i>3</i> 75.		644. <sub>7</sub>	184.0	Unobserved
Other Targets							
Speyer T/O 4949-0723E T/O 5016-0738E			1 1 1		•5 •5 1.2	.5 .5 <u>1.2</u>	Unobserved Unobserved Unobserved
Totals	,	395	378		646.9	186,2	

#### 2. Fighter Escort

12 Groups (584 a/c - 517 P-51s, 37 P-47s) sortied in support of the three bomber forces. 548 effective sorties. E/a opposition: nil. One FW-190 sighted vicinity of Neustadt. Ten groups strafed ground targets. E/a claims: 4-0-11 ground. Losses: 5 P-51s (3 to M, 2 to accident). NYR: 2 P-51s, known safe on Continent.

Two groups (101 P-51s of 352nd and 361st Groups, based on Continent) sortied in support of Ninth Air Force bombers. 98 effective sorties. E/a opposition: nil. One Me-262 (SW of Munster) and 2 Me-262s (w of Arnhem) sighted. Both groups strafed. E/a claims: 0-0-1 ground. Losses: nil.

Miscellaneous ground target claims as follows:

		Destroyed	•	•	Damaged
Locomotives		54.		٠,	14
Goods Wagons		29			201
Passenger Car	(RR)	11			15

#### SEORET

# Miscellaneous ground claims (contd)

	Destroyed	Damaged
Oil cars		39
RR Station		2.
Switch Tower		2
Power Station		1
Radar, Installations		1
Radio Station		1
Buildings		****
Trucks	<b>寛付款 10.4 10.4 1</b>	<b> </b>
Half Track		1
Flak Position		<b>.</b>
Hangar		1
Gas Tank	the state of the s	<b>1</b>

#### 3. Fighter Sweeps

One group (46 P-51s) swept the Meiningen, Coburg, and Nurnburg areas. Up 0827 hours, down 1355 hours. 45 effective sorties. E/a opposition: nil. Ground targets strafed. E/a claims: nil. Iosses: 2 P-51s to AA.

#### Miscellaneous ground claims as follows:

	Destroyed		Damaged
Locos	· 🦩 9		0
Goods Wagons	ĺ		13
Flat cars loaded with	h vehicles 0.	•	12
Coaches carrying tro			7
Oil tank car	1		ć ⊶ં ⊃ <b>O</b> `
Flak RR Car	Ō		1
Flak Towers	0		<b></b>
Wlak Gun Emplacement	0,	en grande de la companya de la comp La companya de la co	<b>1</b>
Barracks Building	0		2
Motor Transport	3		1.
Switch Tower			1

## 4. Fighter Bombing

Nil.

## 5. Photo Reconnaissance

48 a/c sortied as follows:

17 a/c (10 F-5s, 7 Spitfires) sortied to obtain D/A photos in all parts of Germany. 2 F-5s failed to obtain photos due to mechanical failure. E/a opposition: 1 F-5 attacked by a Me-262 vicinity of Politz. Another F-5 was attacked by 2 Me-262s in Berlin area. Claims: nil. bosses: 1 F-5 to e/a.

30 P-51s escorted PRU missions. 29 effective sorties. E/a opposition: 2 Me-262s attacked in Brunswick area, 2 Me-262s attacked in Stettin area. Claims; 1-0-0 Me-262. Losses: nil.

1 Mosquito sortied on mission to N France, completed mission and returned.

6. Weather Reconnaissance

41 a/c (5 B-17s, 5 Mosquitoes, 31 P-51s) sortied as follows:

3 B-17s completed routine weather flights over sea NW of Lands End.

2 B-17s completed a routine flight to and from the Azores.

5 Mosquitoes completed special weather reconnaissance over Germany, Holland, North Sea and the U.K. No losses.

31 P-51s sortied as weather scouts for bomber operations. 8 a/c returned early. 1 P-51 lost.

#### 7. Air/Sea Rescue

18 a/c (15 P-47s, 3 PBYs) sortied on routine search and patrol. All a/c completed mission and returned safely.

## 8. Special Operations

51 a/c (14 P-51s, 37 B-24s) sortled as follows:

15 a/c (14 P-51s, 1 B-24) sortied as airborne radio relays. All a/c completed mission and returned safely.

7 B-24s sortied on RCM mission, jamming between 0551-0830 hours. All a/c

completed mission and returned safely.

29 B-24s sortied against Duisburg. 25 B-24s dropped 57.5 tons G.P. on assigned target at 2012-2027 hours from 18,000 feet. Bombing on markers with results believed good. Weather: CAVU. Flak: meager to moderate, inaccurate. E/a opposition: 3 crews report encounters with e/a in target area; 1 e/a identified as a Me-410. Claims: nil. Losses: 1 B-24 to e/a. NYR: 1 B-24.

# C. INTELLIGENCE

# 1. Fnemy Air Opposition

There was no opposition to today's mission. One FW-190 (on a NE course near Neustadt), 9 t/e a/c (in the vicinity of Nurnburg), 7 FW-190s (SW of Strasbourg) and 2 u/i e/a (SE of Strasbourg) were sighted but offered no opposition.

Two P-51s escorting a PRU a/o shot down an Me-262 which attacked the P-38 in the Stettin area. The same P-51s also bounced another Me-262 east of Hamburg but this e/a split-essed to the dock. 4 P-51s, as PRU earnt, were bounced by 2 Me-262s in the Magdeburg area, each jet making but one pass and then retiring.

#### 2. Flak

Numberg enerally meager to moderate, inecourate St. Goar - moderate and accurate Frankfurt area - meager and accurate.

#### 3. Observations

Friedburg, Wengerohr M/Ys reported very active and well loaded.
Sidings at 5018N 0848E had a great number of cars on them.

Large number of barges observed at Kestert.

Large motor convoy was observed heading NE - 5017N-0833E.

Three long buildings with silver colored roofs which are believed newly erected observed about five miles SE of Frankfurt.

Two new bridges over the Moselle River at 4945N 0640E observed.

Much barge traffic on Rhone-Rhine Canal.

M/Y at Frankfurt jammed with rail transportation.

# 4. Damage to Enemy Installations

#### Numberg M/Y - Fair Results

Broken cloud makes photo interpretation difficult sometimes practically impossible. Eleven groups dropped GP and IB on main RR station and of these three groups dropped bombs on city. Remainder of groups not definitely plotted but appear N of city in open fields and wooded areas. A few photos show bomb bursts and incendiaries burning in area lying north of main E and W RR lines - through the city extending from one side of the city to the other.

# 5. Ground Activity

21st Army Group: Enemy still has small helding in southeast corner of Gooh. Own troops established in area E 9141 outside of town. High ground captured southwest of Bucholt (E 9543). Total P/Ws in operation to date 10.900. Main bridge at Gooh captured intact.

12th Army Group: Steady progress at three points; lines of forward troops L 1203- 1304 - 0906; P 9949 - 9349; P 9170 - 9470 - 9565. Prisoners to date 1000.

6th Army Group: Fighting continues in Forbach and pressure continue in Sear area. Leading troops at Q 5559 - 5261 - 5060 - 4963 - 4862 - 4564 - 4466 - 4267.

# Miscellaneous : Emphasis on Snipers

. A reprint of an order by the Commanding General, 39 Pz Corps and supplementary order of 905 Division z.b.v. (reprint dated 1 February) stated:

"The situation on the Eastern Front forces upon us at present an economy of artillery ammunition which may seem unbearable. Esceedially the consumption of arty How ammunition must be reduced. The consumption of inf How ammunition also must be curtailed, although it is not as critical as the above mentioned. The same applies to mortar ammunition. The confidence of the rifleman in his weapon (MG, rifle or carbine) must be strengthened by all means ... sniper activity must be considerably increased. Also, units not equipped with telescopic sights must train their snipers in an adequate manner to destroy as many as possible... Snipers who have accounted for 15 certified victims will receive a certficate from the Commanding General of 39 Pz Corps and if possible a special furlough or special PX ration. Snipers who can only account for 10 certified victims will be issued a special PX ration by the Div."

# 6. GAF Activity over England

Flying Bombs - To 2400 Hours 21 February 1945

#### D. OPERATIONS OF OTHER AIR FORCES

#### 1. Tactical Air Forces

Sortie	s Claims	Losses
Ninth Air Force 1724	1-0-0 A 1-0-4 G	12
First US T.A.F. 719	0=0=0	1
Second T.A.F. 1405	4=0-3 Л	5
R.A.F. Fighter Command 341	5-2-2 A	4
Totals 4189	10-2-5 A 1-0-4 G	22

#### Ninth Air Force

#### Night - 20/21 February 1945

Sorties

: 1 a/c

Mission

Attacked Weilerwift. Claims and losses: nil.

#### Day - 21 February 1945

Sorties

: 1723 a/c

Missions

9th Bomb Division - 355 scrties against 3 Railway bridges, 2 communication centers, 1 RR overpass and 1 oil storage depot in western Germany.
Claims: nil. Losses: 5 a/c (1 to AA, 4 NYR), 1 category "E".

9th T.A.C. - 400 sorties on armed reconnaissance, visual and photo reconnaissance and escort to bombers.

E/a claims: nil. Losses : 2 a/c

19th T.A.C. - 587 sorties on armed reconnaissance, tactical and photo reconnaissance, ground cooperation, escort to bombers.

E/A claims: 1-0-0 air, 1-0-2 ground.

Losses : 4 a/c.

29th T.A.C. - (Operationally controlled by 2nd

381 sorties in Cologne-Ruhr-Rhine areas. Cologne rail interdiction and escort to bombers.

E/a claims: 0-0-2 ground

Losses: 1 a/c to unknown reasons. 1 Cat. "E".

SECRET

#### Miscellaneous ground claims as follows:

	Destroyed	Damaged
M/T	202	132
Locos	-33	26
RR cars	<b>3</b> 59	524
AFV .	8	37
Gun Positions	33	ġ
Horse ārawn vehicles	25	01
Rail cuts	133	
Barges	3	10
Highway cuts	11	Company of the Company

#### First U.S. T.A.F.

Night - 20/21 February

Nil.

# Day - 21 February

Sortics

: 719 a/o

Missions

: 42nd Bomb Division - 116 sorties against Bad Munster RR bridge and M/Y, and two other RR bridges in western Germany. Claims and losses: nil.

12th T.A.M. - 462 sorties on armed reconnaissance in SW Germany, escort to bombers, and cooperation with 7th U.S. Army. E/a claims: nil. Losses: 1 a/c to AA.

<u>lst French Air Force</u> - 141 sorties against targets in Strasbourg - Basle - Belfort areas. Claims and losses: nil.

# Western French Air Force - Nil.

#### Miscellaneous ground claims as follows:

		Destroyed	Damaged
Locos		3	12
RR cars		163	138
MI	•	7	5
Rail Cuts		16	• 0

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#### Second TAF

# Night - 20/21 February 1945

Sorties

120 a/c

Missions

: Attacked Munster-Arnhem-Bocholt areas; Armed

Recommaissance in the Ruhr area; attacking shipping on

Dutch Coast; visual and photo recommaissance.

Claims and Losses: Nil.

#### Day - 21 February 1945

Sorties

: 1285 a/c

Missions

Attacked Dunkerque, Udem, Weeze, Calcan and Sousbech; Armed Reconnaissance S and SE of Canadian Army Front.

Claims: 4-0-3 Air. Losses: 5 a/c.

Ground	Claims:		Destro	yed		Damaged
		M/T	41		•	112
•		Locomotives Reil Cuts	4 55			89
		Barges Tugs	0 1	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		4 0

#### Fighter Command

# Night - 20/21 February 1945

Sorties

: 44 a/o

Missions : Intruder and interception patrols in NW Germany.

Olaims & Losses: N11.

# Day - 21 February 1945

Sorties

297 a/c

Missions

: Attacked rocket targets; rail interdiction; escort to a/c of Coastal Command attacking targets in Norway; weather

reconnaissance, defensive patrols.

Claims

5-2-2 Air

Losses

4 a/c (2 a/c to ground explosions while strafing, 2 to e/a)

Ground Claims:

3 complete trains (including air ammunition train) and

6 locomotives destroyed.

## SEDRET

#### 2. Fifteenth Air Force

Night 20/21 February 1945 1 B-17 and 15 B-24s sortied. 1 B-17 and 13 B-24s were effective dropping 41 tons on supplies and

leaflets in Northern Italy.

Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Day 21 February 1945

167 B-17s, 359 B-24s, 87 P-38s and 153 P-51s sortied. 157 B-17s, 359 B-24s, 83 P-38s and 131 P-51s effective as follows:

152 B-17s and 78 B-24s dropped 590 tons on Vienna Central Yards. 189 B-24s dropped 370 tons on Vienna Marzleinsdorf M/Y

Weiner/Neustadt M/Y dropping 59 tons GP. 83 P-38s and 131 P-51s as escort.

62 B-24s dropped 110 tons on Vienna South Station. 5 B-17s and 30 B-24s attacked T/Os including Pola. Sopron M/Y and

Claims: nil. Losses: 2 B-17s and 3 B-24s

NYR: 1 B-17 and 7 B-24s

44 P-51s sortied.

41 P-51s were effective as follows: 8 P-51s escorted supply mission to Yugoslavia.

21 P-51s as photo reconnaissance and escort in Germany. Austria. Italy and Yugoslavia. 8 P-51s on weather reconnaissance.

> 4 P-51s on photo reconnaissance. Claims: nil.

Losses: nil.

Bombers: Sorties: 542 (168 B-17s, 374 B-24s)

Claims: nil

Effective Sorties: 530 (158 B-17s, 372 B-24s) Tonnage: 1129 tons Claims: nil

Losses: 2 B-17s and 3 B-24s

Fighters:

Sorties: 284 (87 P-38s, 197 P-51s) Effective Sorties: 255 (83 P-38s, 172 P-51s)

Losses: nil

-11-

# R. A. F. Bomber Command

10 Mosquitoes

43 Mosquitoes 5 Stirlings

10 Fortresses

8 Liberators

5 Halifaxes

1 Mosquito

6 Hudsons

22 Stirlings

1107 a/c - Total

29 Halifaxes

Day - 21 February 1945

1 Mosquito Weather Recon. 1 Halifax Signal Investig  Night - 21/22 February 1945  288 Halifaxes Worms 36 Lancasters	0 Pation Patrol 0
288 Halifaxes Worms	
,	er (m. 1919). A seek (k Lyddin 1919). A seek (m. 1919).
16 Mosquitoes	16 1 0
166 Lancasters Gravenhorst Ca 11 Mosquitoes Embankment 362 Lancasters Duisburg 11 Mosquitoes	•
31 Mosquitoes (1st Attack) Berlin 46 Mosquitoes (2nd Attack)	
5 Mosquitoes Bremen/Deschim	mag Shipyard 0

·		1. A. 1.	
NOTE:	The foregoing is based or	n preliminary	reports and is not to be
!	usedfor record purposes.		

CHARLES Y. BANFILL. Brig. General, U.S.A., Director of Intelligence.

Signals Investigation Patrol

Special Operations

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