

CONFIDENTIAL 18 MAR 1945

#### ERPRETATION REPORT NO. K.

LOCALITY: DRESDEN

Up to 16 MAR 1945

#### ATTACKS:

-		Date	. ".1"	S.A.	Reported Weather
	J.S.Sta AIR FORCE	7 OCT	1944	2823	Clear
	J.S.Sth all Folgs	16 Jan	1945	3149	Clear
	R.A.T. BOMBER COMMAND	13/14 FEB	1945	-	Clear to 10/10 cloud
	J.S.8th ALL FORCE	14 FFB	1945	3207	Clear
	J.S.8th AIR FORGE	15 FMB	1945	3212	10/10 cloud
	J.S.8th AIR FORCE	2 MAR	1945	3314	8/10 to 10/10 cloud

#### ROVISIONAL STATEMENT ON DAMAGE .

It is now apparent that the whole central, south, and eastern sections of resden have been extensively gutted. Damage reaches devastating proportions in the city center, and is the districts of Johannstadt, Neustadt, and Plauen. Outside of this area there is severe damage extending to the northern, eastern and southern extremities of the city. In addition, considerable HE destruction is visible in the southwestern portion, south of the Friedrichstady marshalling yard.

Due to lack of cover no statement can be made for the industrial area around the Albert Hafen and the northern bend of the Elbe.

Details of damage in addition to that previously listed in supplement K.3742 arc:

#### Industrial

Shipyard : Heavy damage.

Aircraft Component Factory: Heavily damaged.

Aircraft Component Factory: gutted.

#### Parolic Buildings

Sexony Propaganda Ministry: partially gutted.

Main Post Office: Heavily damaged.

Nazi District Hqtrs: gutted

State Mailway Directory: severe damage.

#### Public Utilities

Town power station: some roof damage.

#### Military

Arsenal: slight damage

Barrack area: partial gutting

#### Transportation

Mair Passenger Station: heavy roof damage. Friedrichstadt Station: heavy damage

#### Friedrichstadt Marshalling Yard

Group of Railway shops: 2 roundhouses gutted
(S. of goods station) 2 ... severely damaged

Large shed destroyed.

Unidentified Railway Buildings: Numerous buildings destroyed on railway premises

throughout the town.

Road over Rail Bridges: 2 bridges W. of Main station holed, partially unservice-

ablo.

(Print 3160-90, 4160-4200)

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

PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY: 544 Squadron.

SORTIE: 106G/4864

MEAN TIME AND DATE OF PHOTOGRAFHY: 1500 A hrs. on 16 MAR 1945

SCALE: 1/8,000 (T.L.36")

COVER AND QUALTEY: Port cover on fair quality prints. The industrial area aroun

the northern bend of the river still not covered.

LAST REPORT: Supp. to K 3742 doted 18 FEB 1945

COMPARATIVE SORTE USED: 106G/230

PRINT DISTRIBUTED: 3187, 4169 (to follow when available)

CONFIDENTIAL A.C.I.U. JHN/MF DISTRIBUTION NO. 91-C
532 Copies.

7/1/2



#### INTEDIATE INTERPRETATION REPORT NO. K. 3993

LOCALITY: RUHLAND Synthetic Oil Plant

PERIOD COVERED: From 1300 A hours on 12 OCT 1944 to 1415 A hours on 16 MAR 1945.

#### ATTACKS:

	Dote	S.A.	Reported Weather
U.S. 8th AIR FORCE	2 AR 1945	3316	9/10 to 10/10 cloud
U.S. Sth AIR FORCE	3 MAR 1945	3319	5/10 to 9/10 cloud

#### PROVISIONAL STATEMENT ON DAMAGE:

On a single print, marred by a smoke screen in operation, little fresh damage is visible. Concentrations of craters are seen in the SW corner of the plant spreading out into open country and causing moderate damage in the small adjoining village.

One small building SW of the boiler house has been demolished and several of a large number of small huts clustered in the extreme south have been have been damaged or destroyed. One workman's hut just outside the plant has been hit. Railway tracks serving the plant have been cut in several places.

Since the last cover on 12 OCT 1944 extensive repairs have been carried out on installations, buildings, gasholders, and storage tanks.

(Print: 3062)

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

PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY: 13 Squadron.

SORTIE: US7GR/52B

FEAN TIME AND DATE OF PHOTOGRAPHY: 1415 A hrs. on 16 MAR 1945.

SCALE: 1/7.300

COVER AND QUALITY: Full cover on a single print of rather poor quality.

LAST REPORT: K. 3304 issued 28 OCT 1944.

COMPARATIVE SORTIE USED: 680/36 (4035,6,7)

PRINT DISTRIBUTED: Nonc.

CONFIDENTIAL A.C.I.U. JEM/CS DISTRIBUTION NO. 24-C

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Authority 745005
By ELNARA Date 9/44/07

RUHLAND K K4123

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By EUNARA Date 9/4/07 DRESDEN K 4020 (supplement) Dist-9/C

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CNARA Date 9/14/07

No.

HEADQUARTERS

13TH CO: BC B W VG (H)

APO 559

Date 2 March 1945 13 G. \_ 0 59 13 CB OPS 286 3 AD FO 599

SUBJECT: Tactical Report (RUHLAND AND DRESDEN, GREMANY)

· Col. Shuck - 95 =

Information Concerning the Targets: a. The primary target (visual) all Grows was the ar and a Plants in 5 the le Oil Plants atted 2 miles NNE of 1 any.

b. The secondary target (visual or H2X) for all Groups was the ter on Dresden, German

Narrative of the Attack:

a. 13 A Group - 390A, B, C Squadrons:

- (1) Navigation: (a) Assembly: The Squadrons made a normal take off and climbed to assembly altitude over Buncher 11. Kodak Red Weather Control advised the Group leaders to raise the assembly altitude a. addition 1 2000° so that no ifficulty would be experiented with the climber over the Channel. The Wing Assembly was made at Buncher 11, a minute early. The English Coast was crossed 2 miles south of Southwold, approximately a minute early.
- (b) Route: The Division was drifting off course while crossing the cannel. It was necessary, consequently, to make a correction to the North and intercept the briefed course at CP 2. The 13A was at 14500° when the Continental Coast was crossed. In order to remain in the homber stream: 13A was forced to fly slightly south of course to approximately of the at thich point the Division Leader began to make very pronounced "S" turns along the route. The 13A Air Leader control Clambake A and inquired as to his actions. the Lead Mavigator in the Division Lead A/C was was t appare bly 1 5 and was endeavouing to orient himself. After considerable in the briefed route was again assumed at 0830E and followed to the Pre-IP. At this point Kodak Red relayed weather data to the Air Leaders, informing them that the primary target was covered. Division Leader announced that the secondary would be attacked. Kodak Control game invaluable aid all along with target weather data. Just prior to reaching the IP, the 13A Le der was notified of bandits in the target area, and decided to bomb in Group formation. The IP was cut a little short by the R/N when he made his turn onto the target. The subsequent IP selected and used was 5121-1309. The R/N set up course into he tal and we the bombardier rate checks along the bomb run

abreast 93C. The 13A dev ted the left of course to avoid passing

b. The secondary tar at (visual or H2X) for all Groups was the center of Dresden, Germany.

#### 2. Narrative of the Attack:

- a. 13 A Group 390A, B, C Squadrons:
- (1) Navigation: (a) Assembly: The Squadrons made a normal take off a cli ed to ass bly altitude over Buncher II. Kodak Red Lather Control advised the Group leaders to raise the assembly altitude an additional 2000 so that no difficulty would be experienced with the loud layer over the Channel. The Wing Assembly was made at Buncher II, a minute early. The English Coast was crossed 2 miles the of a stable approximately a minute early.
- (b) Routes The Division was drifting off course while ssing the channel. It was necessary, consequently, to make a reclion to the North and int cept the briefed course at CP 2. The was at 14500° when the Continental Coast was crossed. In order to in in the bomber stream; 13A was forced to fly slightly south of se to approximately 0600E, at which point the Division Leader in to have very p. nounced "I turns along the route. The 13A Le der c. ... cted Clam e A and inquired as to his actions. It the larred that the Lead Mavigator in the Division Lead A/C was arently 10s. and was endeavoring to orient himself. After considcharle "ing, the briefed route was again assumed at 0830E and followed to the I east this point Kodak Re rele d weather data to the Air Leders, informing them that the primary target was covered. The Division Leader announced that the secondary would be attacked. Kodak Control gave invaluable aid all along with target weather data. Just prior to reaching the IP, the 13A Le der was notified of bandits in target a. ap and decided to bomb in Group formation. It is IP was cut a little short by the R/N when he made his turn onto the target. The subsequent IP relected and used was 5121-1309. The R/W set up course into the tallet and gave the bombardier rate checks along the bomb run

After bombs away the Group made good the RP and abreast 93C. The 13A deviated to the left of course to avoid passing over the Brux lak defenses near the brilled route. The turning point 5020-1358 was over not several minimal of the first amo From this point, he havision Column be an to drift south of course to about 11 degrees F, where the column vers 15 miles south of course. After polarized a like to the base of lines at CP and a like the Direct of the lines at CP and a like the Direct of Transfer Division Column.

- 1 -

The 13A altered course to base at CP 4 and was north of course at the Continental Coast, which was crossed at 1439, altitude 2000°. The Er ish Coast was reached at 5219-0141, at 1522, altitude 1100°.

- (c) Weather: A low cloud layer prevailed over the base areas. No difficulty, swever, was experienced during assembly with this layer. Kodak Red gave very good weather aid throughout. The assembly altitude was raised an additional 2000 to avoid reported activity over the channel. A 10/10 undercast, with an occasional break, was reported over the Continent and target area. With a ported from 325 sprees at 80 k. the.
  - (d) Difficulties: "S"ing along the route made navigation ault. 3900 lead A/C has very poor all receptions, Tank R/ reported efinition and tak range and a lid be used very sparintly as a tion aid. The unit went out at the battle lines on return.
    - (e) PFF Nerrative: Three PFF A/C were dispatched. All sets operated sati autority.
      - (2) Bombing:

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- which was made 4 miles short of briefed IP, was good. The R/N took over, set up course, and picked up the target in the Radar Scope at 40 miles. The bombardier we cluthed in at 10 mile, and a sequent rate cheef of 8 and 6 were very accurate. To jent of dropping angle at bombs away was 68. Bombs were released on a true heading of 150 degrees. C-1 Auto-Pilot was used on the bomb run. 390B and C released off 390A because of the presence of 1.
  - 4. PI rt. Photos show 10/10 undercast.

5. Bombing Malfunctions: 390B: A/C 600 returned 9x250 LB GP because of all lions, A/C 093 jettisoned 14x1 0 LB

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#### STATION WEATHER OFFICE AAF STATION 119 APO 559

3 March 1945

SUBJECT: Meteorological Interrogation Summary for Mission of 2 March 1945.

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

- l. Base at take-off: Time was 6650 hours. 4-6/10 stratocumulus base 5-4000 ft., tops 5000 ft. Visibility 5 miles.
- 2. Route to target: Scattered stratocumulus below 5000 ft. over the channel becoming broken cumulus below 8000 ft. over Zuider Zee, then 10/10 with breaks for remainder of route.
- 5. Target area: Dresden, Germany. Time was 1030 hours. 9-10/10 stratogumulus below 8000 ft.
  - 4. Beturn route: Referse of route to target.
- 5. Base on return: 5-6/10 high stratocumulus base 7000 ft., tops 8000 ft. and 4-5/10 cumulus base 3000 ft., tops 5-6000 ft. Visibility 5-10 miles.

6. Remarks: None.

WALTER S. MILLS, JR., Capt., Air Comps, Staff Weather Officer.

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

APO 559 2 March 1945

SUBJECT: Engineering Report on Combat Mission of 2 March 1945.

- Commanding Officer, 95th Bombardment Group (H). Attn: TO Operations Officer.
- 1. The following information is submitted concerning combat mission of 2 March 1945.
  - Thirty-seven (37) B-17 aircraft took-off as scheduled.
- Thirty-seven (37) B-17 aircraft returned to base after completion of combat mission.
  - 2. There were no abortive aircraft.
  - 3. There was no battle damage.

DONALD H. DOWLIN Capt., Air Corps

Gp Engineering O

## Authority 745005 By Genara Date 9/6/07

## HEADQUARTERS NINETY FIFTH BOMBARDWENT GROUP (H) Office of the Armament Officer

APO 559 2 March 1945

SUBJECT: Mission Expenditure Report for 2 March 1945.

TO : CommandingOfficer, 95th Bombardment Group (H).

1. Following are the armement expenditures for the mission of 2 Mar 1945.

A. Station

**AAF 119** 

B. Unit

95th Bombardment Group (H)

C. Type of Ammunition

Cal. 50 API&I-TIEI

D. Gun locations and number of guns

74 Ball Turret Guns	740
74 Upper Turret Guns	740
37 Left Waist Guns	370
37 Right Waist Guns	370
37 Left Nose Guns	370
37 Right Nose Guns	370
74 Chin Turret Guns	740
74 Tail Guns	740

E. Total number of guns .... 444

F. Total amount of ammunition expended .... 4440 rounds.

G. Total number of bombs expended....713- 250 lb. G.P. Demolition Bombs.

6- Chb M 1 Sky Markers.

LEONARD F. DAWSON Capt. Air Corps

Group Armament Officer

SECRET 95BG R58D. OPERATIONAL NARRATIVE REPORT.

- NONE. 1.
- A SQUADRON. PRIMARY RUHLAND, H2X, PHOTOS CLOUD COVERED. RN ESTIMATES FAIR RESULTS. B SQUADRON. SECONDARY DRESDEN, H2X, PHOTOS CLOUD COVERED. RN CALLS NW SECTION OF DRESDEN HIT. C. SQUADRON. PRIMARY RUHLAND, RELEADED ON A SQUADRON, PHOTOS CLOUD COVERED, FOR RESULTS SEE A SQUADRON. EXPLANATION IN PAR. 7.
- 1015 HOURS 5217-1217-22,500 FEET TWO ME 109'S AFTER FOLLOWING 3. FORMATION LEVEL FOR ABOUT TEN MINUTES MADE AN ATTACK ON THE LOW SQUADRON. E/A FELL IN TRAIL ABOUT 600 YARDS APART AND MADE ATTACK FROM YXXXXX FROM 6 O'CLOCK LEVEL. OPENED FIRE AT ABOUT 600 YARDS AND PRESSED ATTACK TO 300 YARDS, SEEMING TO HANG IN AIR FOR A FEW SECONDS, BEFORE BREAKING OFF TO THEIR RIGHT AND DIVING DOWN INTO THE CLOUDS HEADING NORTH WITH P-51'S ON ONE MINUTE PRIOR TO THIS ATTACK 3 ME 163'S THEIR TAIL. CAME LOW UNDER FORMATION FROM NOSE TO FIVE O'CLOCK WITH P-51'S THIS COULD POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN A DECOY. THE ME 109'S ON TAIL. WERE DULL GREY. TWO E/A WERE CLAIMED DAMAGED. OUR FORMATION AT THE TIME OF ATTACK WAS GOOD. FIGHTER ESCORT BUSY AT THE TIME BEING ENGAGED WITH ABOUT 10 FW 190'S IN DOG-FIGHTS. NO BATTLE DAMAGE. ENEMY FIGHTER PILOTS WERE BOTH AGGRESSIVE AND EX-

PERIENCED. WE WERE FLYING AS 13C WHICH WAS NUMBER TWO BOMBER STREAM OF DIVISION. OUR HEADING WAS 100 DEGREES.

FLAK.

DAMAGE AND LOSSES. NONE-FINAL.

NONE 1. Βφ.. OPERATIONS .

2. NONE

95A AND 95C BOMBED RUHLAND, 95B BOMBED

DRES DEN.

AMOUNT ACCURACY AND TYPE OF FIRE. C.

1. TARGET 95A, 95C INACCURATE MEAGRE TRACKING. TARGET 95B, INACCURATE MEAGRE BARRAGE.

NONE

OBSERVED: ZWOLLE INACCURATE MEAGRE TRACKING. BARRAGE ... 5237-1005 "

HANNOVER

5012-1321 # 4. OBSERVED:

TRACKING.

NONE 5.

PHENOMENA: NONE. D.

- WEATHER: 10/10THS CLOUDS WITH SMALL BREAKS
- **OBSERVATIONS:** 6. 5033-1205-1120-27 E/A ON A/D. 4957-1137-1123-AT BAYREUTH SAW A/F WITH 6 LARGE TRANSPORT PLANES M/Y FULL OF CARS. 5034-1146-1133-40 TO 50 CAR HOSPITAL TRAINS STANDING STILL. 3-4 SECTIONS OF CARS MARKED WITH RED CROSS. FULDA-1228-M/Y FULL OF CARS.

3BD INST 45-2 (9 OCT 44)
OPERATIONAL REPORT - STATISTICAL SECTION

,	GROUP Sol	95 A	95B	950
	AYC A IRBORITE SORTIES	11+1	12+1	11+1
	SORTIES CREOTED	11+1		The second state of the se
4	DO ATTACKING EVECTIVE BUT	11+1	12+1	11+1
5.	A/A FAILING TO ATTACK	0	0	0
٠,	a. Mechanical			
	c. Enemy action			1
	d. Other			
6.	A/C LOST		0	0
0.	a. TO AA			
	b. TO E/A			
	O. TO AA AND E/A	i		
ĺ	d. TO Accident			į
7-	e. By Reasons Unknown TIME OF ATTACK	1031	1047	1031
8.	ALTITUDE OF ATTACK	20500	21000	225001
9.	BOMBS DROPPED (PRIMARY)	Rubland H2X		Ruhland (H2X-
00	a. Number	232		K2/
	1. 04	250	a	100
	c. Type	GP		GP
	d. Number A/C Bombing BOMBS DROPPED (OTHER)	/2		. /2
	BOMBS DEOPPED (OTHER)	l	Vresden See.	
	a. Number.		250	
	b. Size		130	
	a Marmo	1	GP.	
	d Number 4/C Rombins			
	BOMBS DROPPED (OTHER)	to a common common common		
	a. Number	t Lancas de la companya		
	b. Size			
	c. Type			
	d. Number A/C Bombing			
10.	BATTLE DAMAGE		0	
	a. Minor.			
	b. Major	فاستحدث بيايي	in the same of the	
	a 1			
12.	Claims	į <b>.</b>		0-0-2
87		}	1x 150GPRet	1 X 250GP Ret
	28 OZ	1	P() - P() - P - () - ()	

Sepret 16/5h

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

2 March 1945

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

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

1. The Mission - the 95th group flew as the 13 C Combat Group to attack the Cil Refinery at Ruhland, Germany. 95A and 95C bombed the primary target on H2X with 95C dropping on 95A because there were E/A in the area. 95B was in the group formation on the primary bomb run but left them at 5105N-1410E using that point as an IP for a run on the secondary at Dresden using H2X.

A. 1015 hours 5217N-1217E at 22,500' tow Me 109s, after following group for about ten minutes, made an attack from six oclock level on the low squadron. There was no battle damge from the attack.

95A - Eleven A/ plus one PF took off and formed the lead squadron. All A/C bomed the primary target on H2X.

95B. Twelve A/ plus one PFF took off and formed the high squadron. All A/ bombed the secondary target on H2X.

95C - Eleven A/C plus one PF took off and formed the low squadron. All A/C bomed the primary target dropping on 95A.

2. Reference is suggested to the Operational Narrative teletype of the intelligence section for further information.

For the Intelligence Officer:

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