

IRIS Public Record

Key Information

Main: GROUP/0416/BOMBARDMENT (LIGHT)

Document Type:
 Call Number: **GP-416-SU-OP-S**
 IRIS Number: **00092033**

Accessions Notes:
 Old Accession Nbr:

Title:
 Beginning Date:
 End Date:
 Publication Date: **1945/02/25**

Classification **UNCLAS**

Media Roll #: **0000001717** First Frame: **666** Last Frame: **734** Linear Feet: **0**
 Old MFlm Roll # **B0537** Audio Rec:

NUMPAGE **68**

Title Extensions:

Abstract

Descriptive TITLE SUPPLIED.

Notes:

Title MISSION REPORTS: TARGET NORVENICH, GERMANY

Added

Entries

Author:

Subject:

Major Command:

Administrative Markings

No Administrative Markings Listed

Security Review Information:

Rev'd:	Rel	1985/03/05
Indexer ID: 33	Entered Date:	
QC ID:	QC'd Date::	
Scanner ID:	Scanned Date:	
Acc ID	Acc Date:	

(F-231459)

GENERAL INDEX

TARGET NOR VENICH DATE 2/2/48 No. A/C 37 MISS. # 215 F.O. # 765

STATUS ATTACHED. BRIEFING OFFICER _____

1. IX BC Synopsis of Mission -
2. Opflash Report -
3. Telephone Report -
4. Photos -
5. Field Orders, Annexes, Addmts -
6. Briefing Notes -
7. Loading List of Airplane Crews -
8. Chart of Route Flown - flak -
9. Operations Cprep Report -
10. E/A Encountered -
11. Bombing Information -
12. Weather Report -
13. Communications YS Report -
14. Navigator's Log and Flight plan -
15. Battle casualties -
16. Analysis of Gunnery -
17. Ammunition Expenditures -
18. Recapitulation Forms -

P.R.C.

00092033

ELAPDFHEGY

V JEA JEA 06/25 OP OP
T (LTA PASS TO JJF)

FROM 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 25/1215A
TO COMBOMDIV IX
COBOMGP 409
COBOMGP 410 (INFO)
COBOMGP 416
1ST PROV. PATHFINDER SQ.

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY BT
SECRET SENT IN CLEAR AUTH: LT. COL. MC AFEE

97CBW F-216-E

97TH COMBAT BOMB WING
A P O 140
25 FEBRUARY 1945

FIELD ORDER NO. 130-765

MAPS: NORMAL

1. B. (1) REFER. CURRENT BOMBLINE. COUNTER BATTERY FIRE WILL BE PROVIDED AGAINST ENEMY FLAK POSITIONS WITHIN RANGE.

2. THIS WING WILL ATTACK TARGETS IN GERMANY.

PLAN "A" - ZERO HOUR: 25/1630A
PLAN "B" - ZERO HOUR: 25/1630A

PLAN "A"

3. A. 409TH BOMB GROUP.

- (1) RHEINDAHLEN ROAD JUNCTIONS (F-039842)
- (2) MAXIMUM EFFORT BOMBING BY FLIGHTS OF 6 A/C
- (4) BASE TO I.P. TO TARGET
- (5) TARGET TURN LEFT TO R.P. TO BASE
- (6) BOMB AT 12,000 FEET OR BELOW CLOUD BASE DOWN TO BUT NOT BELOW 8,000 FEET.
- (7) K-8764
- (8) GEN. SW TO NE
- (9) M.P.I. - G.S.G.S. 4414 SHEET 4804, TWO FLIGHTS ON EACH GRID. COORD. 03678414, 03758451 AND 03808441. 1 FLIGHT ON EACH GRID. COORD. 03358395, 03908420 AND 04158400.
- (10) 8 X 500 G.P. FUSED: 1/10 SEC. NOSE, 1/40 SEC. TAIL. INTERVALOMETER SETTING MINIMUM
- (11) K-8764
- (12) T.O.T. - ZERO HOUR PLUS 05 MINUTES.
- (13) IF VISUAL CONDITIONS DO NOT EXIST AT PRIMARY TARGET, AN ALTERNATE TARGET IN ACCORDANCE WITH IX BOM. DIV. CIPHER F-576-E (9-2-45) WILL BE BOMBED.

3. B. 416TH BOMB GROUP.

- (1) ~~NORVENICH ROAD JUNCTIONS (F-231459)~~
- KME (2) MAXIMCT EFFTRT OMZING BY FLIGHTS OF 6 A/C
- (4) BASE TO I.P. TO TARGET.
- LOW (5) TARGET TURN LEFT TO R.P. TO BASZ;2 , (6) BOMB ATB 12,000 FEET OR CLOUD BASE DOWN TO BUT NOT BELOW 8,000 FEET.
- (7) K-9748
- (8) GEN. W TO E
- (9) M.P.I. - G.S.G.S. 4414 SHEET 5105. 3 FLIGHTS ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING GRID. COORD: 23004570, 23134595 AND 23374612.
- (10) 8 X 500 GP FUSED 1/10 SEC. NOSE 1/40 SEC TAIL. INTERVALOMETER SETTING MINIMUM
- (11) K-9748
- (12) T.O.T. - ZERO HOUR PLUS 10 MIN.
- (13) IF VISUAL CONDITIONS DO NOT EXIST AT PRIMARY TARGET, AN ALTERNATE TARGET IN ACCORDANCE WITH IX BOMBER DIV CIPHER F-576-E (9-2-45) WILL BE BOMBED.

" PLAN "B" "

EX 55
Briefing
kuria

DIST
S-2
S-3
SIG

Recd
1330 hrs
25 Feb 45
SAC

- (1) RHEINDAHLEN ROAD JUNCTIONS (F-039842)
- (2) 2 BOXES OF 18 A/C BOMBING ON 1 PPF A/C
- (3) WITH PPF A/C OVER FIELD
- (4) BASE TO K-4829 TO K-6942 TO TARGET
- (5) TARGET TURN LEFT TO K-8764 TO BASE.
- (6) BOMB AT 12,500 FEET. MINIMUM ALTITUDE IN EVENT OF VISUAL BOMBING IS 8,000 FEET.
- (9) M.P.I. GSGS 4414, SHEET 4804 IF BOMBING IS VISUAL AND BY FLIGHT, M.P.I.'S IN PLAN "A" WILL BE USED. ONE FLIGHT ON EACH GRID. COORD. GRID. COORD. 0375845, AND 03808441 TO BE USED IF BOMBING IS VISUAL AND BY BOXES. PPF M.P.I. 03908420
- (10) 8 X 500 G.P. FUSED 1/10 SECOND NOSE, 1/40 SECOND TAIL. INTERVALOMETER SETTING 30 FEET.
- (12) T.O.T. ZERO HOUR PLUS 05 MINUTES.
- (13) IF VISUAL CONDITIONS EXIST AT TARGET, BOMBING WILL BE BY VISUAL MEANS. THE DECISION TO BOMB VISUALLY WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE A-26 BOX LEADERS AND THEY WILL DO SO WHETHER THEY CONTACT THE PPF A/C OR NOT. IF BOMBING IS VISUAL, GROUP WILL BOMB BY (A) FLIGHTS (B) BOXES AND WILL USE K-8764 AS A VISUAL I.P. IF CLOUD COVER OBSCURES PRIMARY TARGET AND PPF EQUIPMENT FAILS, AN ALTERNATE TARGET IN ACCORDANCE WITH IX BOMBER DIV CIPHER F-576-E (9-2-45) WILL BE ATTACKED.

B. 416TH BOMB GROUP

- (1) NORVENICH ROAD JUNCTIONS (F-231459)
- (2) 2 BOXES OF 18 A/C BOMBING ON 1 PPF A/C
- (3) WITH PPF A/C OVER FIELD.
- (4) BASE TO K-5652 TO K-6661 TO TARGET.
- (5) TARGET TURN LEFT TO K-9748 TO BASE.
- (6) BOMB AT 13,500 FEET. MINIMUM ALTITUDE IN EVENT OF VISUAL BOMBING IS 8,000 FEET.
- (9) M.P.I. GSGS 4414 SHEET 5105 2 FLIGHTS ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING GRID. COORD. 23004570, 23134595 AND 23374612 TO BE USED IF BOMBING IS VISUAL AND BY FLIGHTS. GRID. COORD. 23134595 AND 23374612 TO BE USED IF BOMBING IS VISUAL AND BY BOXES. PPF M.P.I. 23134595
- (10) 8 X 500 G.P. FUSED 1/10 SECOND NOSE, 1/40 SECOND TAIL. INTERVALOMETER SETTING 30 FEET.
- (12) T.O.T. ZERO HOUR PLUS 10 MINUTES.
- (13) IF VISUAL CONDITIONS EXIST AT TARGET, BOMBING WILL BE BY VISUAL MEANS. THE DECISION TO BOMB VISUALLY WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE A-26 BOX LEADERS AND THEY WILL DO SO WHETHER THEY CAN CONTACT THE PPF A/C OR NOT. IF BOMBING IS VISUAL, GROUP WILL BOMB BY (A) FLIGHTS (B) BOXES AND USE K-9748 AS A VISUAL I.P. IF CLOUD COVER OBSCURES PRIMARY TARGET AND PPF EQUIPMENT FAILS, AN ALTERNATE TARGET IN ACCORDANCE WITH IX BOMB. DIV. CIPHER F-576-E (9-2-45) WILL BE BOMBED.

4. NO CHANGE

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. 409TH BOMB GROUP

- (2) BRADCAST
- (4) ROSELEE

B. 416TH BOMB GROUP

- (2) NINEPIN
- (4) ROSELEE

X. GENERAL INFORMATION

- (11) 409TH LEADER WILL CALL FLYPAPER AND 416TH LEADER WILL CALL XNNHUNTER 15 MINUTES PRIOR TO I.P. REPORTING TIME AHEAD OR BEHIND SCHEDULE AND WILL REPORT TO SAME STATIONS UPON LEAVING TARGET AREA.

COMCBTWIG 97

BT 25/1215A

AR JMB/RL

CC: PARA. 5 A.XX1)(2) MAKE READ BROADCAST RPT BROADCAST

ITA R.....25

JPO R/1301A SK AR

JKI R25/1310A EW AR

~~CC'S: UNDER PLAN "A" 416TH PARA. (3) (4) (6) PLSE
OK JES NEEDS SOME ALSO SO WILL RPT SOME FOR THEM ALONG WITH
YOURS~~

NEED TWO CC'S BOTH IN PLAN A
IN PLAN A 3. B. IMI (2) K
3. B. (2) MAXIMUM EFFORT BOMBING BY FLIGHTS OF 6 A/C

IMI IN PLAN A 3. B. (5) K
(5) TARGET TURN LEFT TO R.P. TO BASE K
OK T B F R

3
B. (2) MAXIMUM EFFORT BOMBING BY FLIGHTS OF 6 A/C
(4) BASE TO I.P. TO ARXXXX TARGET
(5) TARGET TURN LEFT TO R.P. TO AS XXXX AXXXX BASE
(6) BOMB AT 12,000 FEET OR BELOW CLOUD BASE DOWN TO BUT NOT
BELOW 8,000 FEET. TIC

JKI V JEA JEA 07/25 OP OP

151559

FROM 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 25/1400A
TO COBOMGP 416

DIST

SECRET SENT IN CLEAR AUTH: LT. COL. MC AFEE BT

97CBW F-217-E

S-2

INTELLIGENCE SUPPLEMENT 1 FIELD ORDER 180-765:

S-3

- (1) TARGET: NORVENICH F-231459 COMMUNICATION CENTER.
SEE GROUP G.L.O. FOR TACTICAL SIGNIFIGENCE
- (2) PHOTO COVERAGE:
US7/1593 PRINTS 3007, 3008, 3009
IX TAC T/265
5006E/5105
- (3) MAP COVERAGE:
G.S.G.S. 4414 SHEET 5105
- (4) TARGET IS ON THE CURRENT BOMBLINE (CHANGE NO 1 TO BOMBLINE 163)
TROOP LINE AT THE NEAREST POINT IS APPROX. 7 MILES WEST OF
TARGET. (FRONT LINES AS OF 241600 FEB) DEFINITE POSSIBILITY OF
TROOPS BEING CLOSER THAN THE LAST REPORT.
- (5) FLAK: SEE PLOTTED POSITIONS. THERE WILL BE COUNTER BATTERY FIRE
ON BOTH PLANS.

COMCBTWIG 97

BT 1400A
RL AR K

JKI R.....1KK.....25/1415A EW AR

DV

OX

ITA JES JPO JKI JJF V-SEA 11/25 OP OP
T (ITA PASS TO JJF)

FROM 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING 25/1533A
TO COMBOMDIV IX
COBOMGP 409TH
COBOMGP 410TH (INFO)
COBOMGP 416TH
1ST PATHFINDER SQDN. (PROV)

FX 567

1615
25 Feb 45
SAL

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY BT
SECRET SENT IN THE CLEAR AUTH: LT. COL. MC AFEE

97TH COMBAT BOMB WING
A P O - 140
25 FEBRUARY 1945.

ANNEX NO. 1 TO FIELD ORDER NO. 180-765 97CBW F-220-E

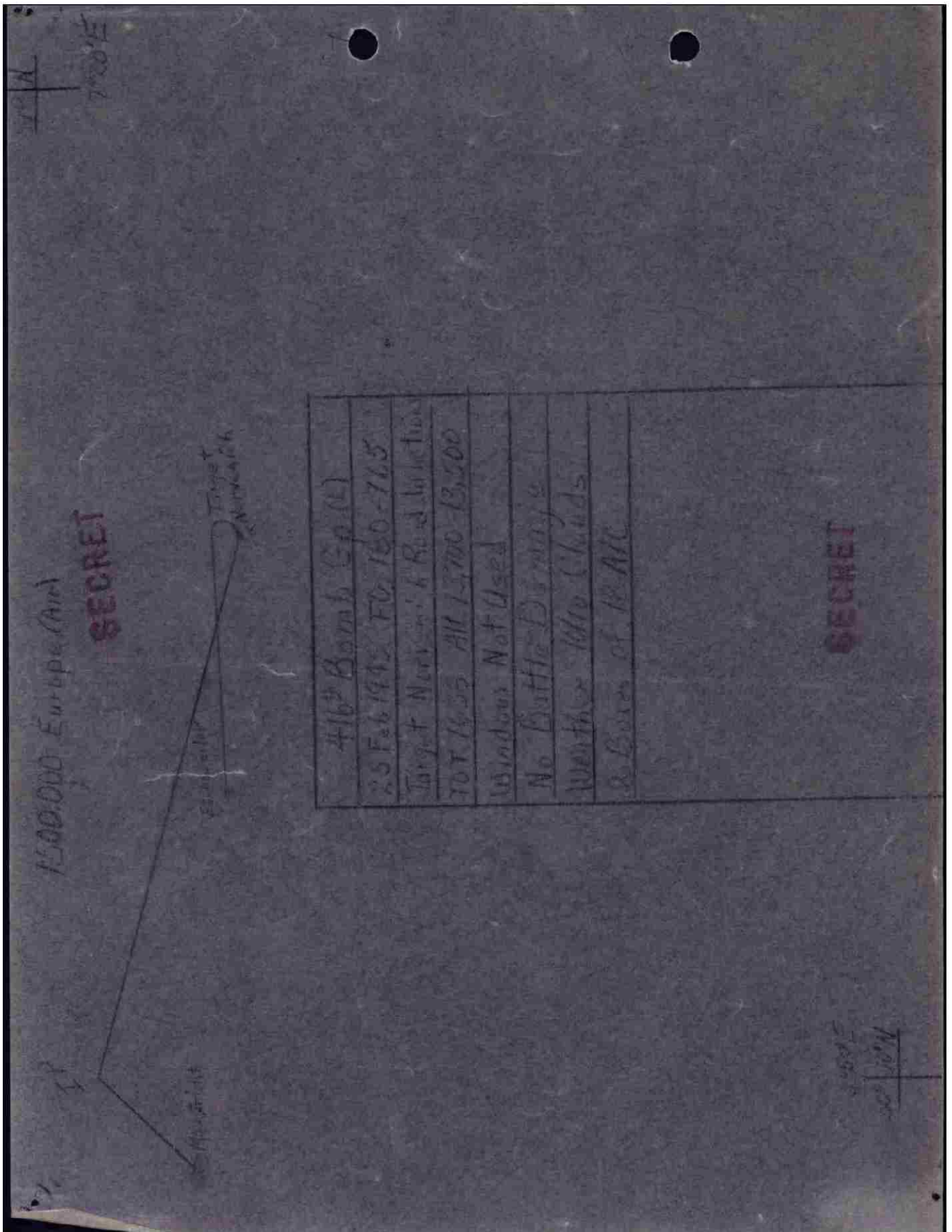
CANCEL PLAN "A". PLAN "B" IN EFFECT.

CHANGE PARA. 3. A. (9) ON PLAN "B":

(9) M.P.I. GSGS 4414 SHEET 4804. IF BOMBING IS VISUAL AND
BY FLIGHTS, M.P.I.'S IN PLAN "A" WILL BE USED. ONE FLIGHT
ON EACH GRID. COORD.
GRID. COORD. 03808441 AND 03908420 TO BE USED IF BOMBING IS
VISUAL AND BY BOXES.
PPF M.P.I. GRID. COORD. 03908420.

COMCBTWIG 97
BT 25/1533A
LEG AR

JES R	.....25/1555A	DJP	AR
JPO R	.....25/1555A	SK	AR
JKI R	.....25/1555A	I EW	AR
ITA R	.....25/1555A	DON	AR



MISSION NO. 215

LOADING LIST
BOX I
FLIGHT I

25 FEBRUARY 1945

Intel
1. 585 Y
Major R.F. Price
Lt. E. Form
Lt. T.M. McCartney
S/S C. Petho

4. 305 U
Lt. L.S. Cannon
S/S W.P. Braszinski

2. 521 N
Lt. Col. J.G. Napier
Lt. D.F. Moore
S/S R.P. Shary

5. 321 T
Lt. G.J. Fortkurest
Sgt F. Neuman

3. 385 D
Lt. L.J. Fruchs
T/S D.H. Wilcox

6. 416 O
Lt. J.V. Elovins
Cpl F.L. Gerrens

FLIGHT II

1. 503 X
Lt. R.J. Rooney
Lt. R.L. Kirk
S/S E.R. Gaudoll

4. 320 S
Lt. W.R. Downing
Sgt A.T. Sigrod

2. 2315 L
Lt. J.F. Wallace
Sgt J.G. Everts

5. 224 E
Lt. R. Ford
Sgt R.J. Kaminiche

3. 215 R
Lt. J.R. Warren
S/S S.M. Turpin

6. 286 D
Lt. J.V. O'Brien
Sgt H. Wright

FLIGHT III

1. 501 W
Lt. W.H. Heineke
Lt. M.C. McHatt
S/S J.C. Ottaviano

4. 330 P
Lt. W. Macgrove
S/S N.C. Seighman

2. 9345 F
Lt. W.G. Bishop
S/S L.V. Hudault

5. 307 H
Lt. J.F. Stankowski
Sgt J.R. Vellinga

3. 384 O
Lt. J.G. Sewall
S/S A. Torres

6. 223 B
Lt. A.R. Turman
S/S C.D. Harman

SPARE

297 E
Lt. J.F. Henny
Lt. A.V. Everts
S/S J.J. Sittarich

MISSION NO. 215
25 FEBRUARY 1945
BOX I

MISSION NO. 215

LOADING LIST
BOX II
FLIGHT I

25 FEBRUARY 1945

1. 401 P
Capt. G.J. Anderson
Lt. W. Rebbage
Lt. R.E. Duff
S/S E.L. Schaefer

4. 361 M
Lt. H.C. Buchanan
Sgt G.L. Calabrese

2. 499 G
Lt. J.A. Buchheit
Lt. R.G. Hanna
S/S G.H. Corbitt

~~5. 325 L
Lt. J.F. Phillips
Sgt L.J. Brown~~

3. 271 R
Lt. W.W. Annin
Sgt G.J. Rivard

6. 213 A
Lt. R.H. Long
Sgt D. Yonics

FLIGHT II

1. 496 J
Lt. R.H. Cornell
Lt. R.E. Hanna
Sgt K.A. Reid

4. 252 B
Lt. M.W. Dubois
S/S J.H. Walters

2. 239 E
Lt. G.H. Anderson
Sgt J.H. Deatherage

5. 314 C
Lt. R.H. Hockley
Sgt O.T. Mack

3. 361 Q
Lt. G.S. Jordan
Sgt K.F. Jones

6. 354 D
Lt. E.N. Hayter
S/S F.P. Leonard

FLIGHT III

1. 490 X
Capt. R.J. Ritt
Lt. J.T. Beck
Sgt D. Schwarzwel

4. 339 N
Lt. F.H. Henderson
Tvt A.E. Schorn

2. 300 E
Lt. W.R. Johnson
Sgt E.J. Cronan

5. 250 A
Lt. J.R. Coode
S/S V.A. MacCarthy

3. 249 F
Capt. I.J. Sutton
S/S D.C. Gilliam

6. 332 P
Lt. D.M. Easton
S/S A.E. Foster

~~337 D
Lt. J.H. Montross
S/S R.S. Gandy~~

MISSION NO. 215
25 FEBRUARY 1945
BOX II

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTER. FORM

PILOT PRUCHA- A/C# 395 BOX I

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	QUANTITY	ON	TYPE	BATTLE DAMAGE	"A-C"	"E"
	<u>6</u>	<u>1500</u>	<u>ON</u>	<u>P.T.</u>		
	<u>X</u>		<u>RETURNED</u>			
	<u>X</u>		<u>JETTISONED</u>			

FLYK:

[Large handwritten mark]

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

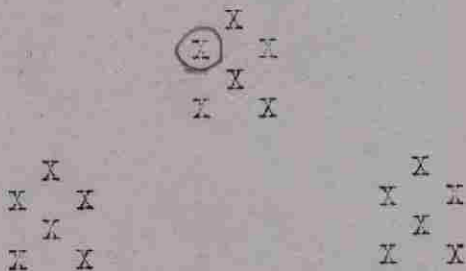
[Large handwritten mark]

OBSERVATIONS:

2-9/10

gunner that hit T/A O.K.

POSITION IN FORMATION



INTERROGATOR

[Handwritten signature]

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTER. FORM

PILOT TUTT A/C# 490 BOX 7B

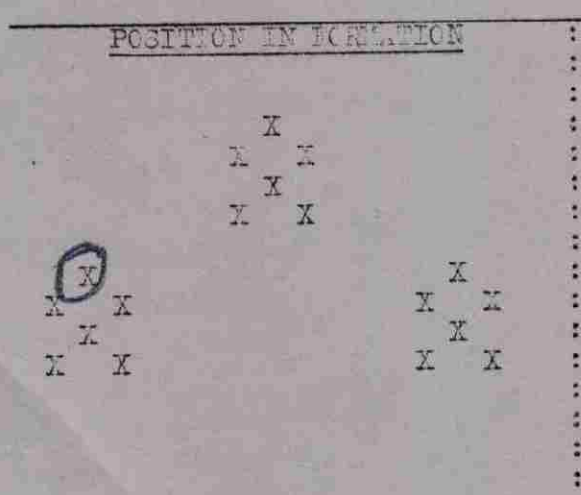
CASUALTIES

		<u>nil</u>			
BOBBS :	<u>5</u>	X	<u>500</u>	ON	: BATTLE DAMAGE
	<u>1</u>	X	<u>500</u>	RETURNED	: "A" : "A-C" : "E"
		X		JETTISONED	: : : : : :

FLK: nil

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

OBSERVATIONS:
Hang up



Shuler
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERROG FORM

PILOT WARREN A/C# 215 BOX I

CASUALTIES nil

BOBS :	<u>6</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>500</u>	ON	:	BATTLE DAMAGE	:	"L-C"	:	"E"
		<u>X</u>		RETURNED	:	<u>nil</u>	:		:	
		<u>X</u>		JETTISONED	:		:		:	

FLAK:

nil

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

nil

OBSERVATIONS:

9/10

POSITION IN RELATION :

```

      X
     X X
      X X
     X X

X   X   X
X   X   X
X   X   X

      X
     (X) X
      X X
     X X
  
```

Rusia

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERROG FORM

PILOT BLEVINS A/C# 416 BOX I

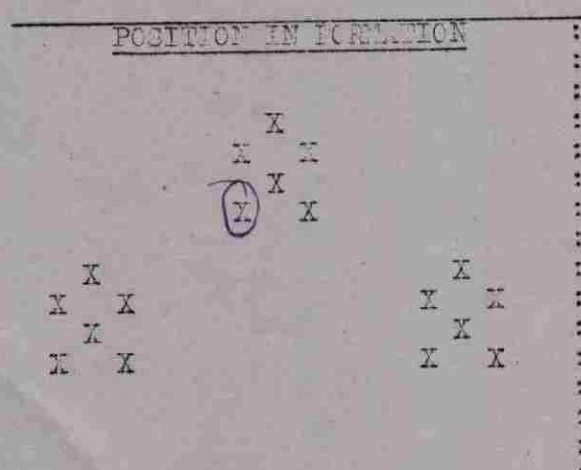
CASUALTIES nil

BOEBS :	<u>6</u>	<u>X 500</u>	ON _____	BATTLE DAMAGE			
		<u>X</u>	RETURNED	"A"	"A-C"	"E"	
		<u>X</u>	JETTISONED	<u>nil</u>			

FLAK: nil

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS: nil

OBSERVATIONS: 10/10



Luria
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTER. FORM

PILOT STANKOWSKI A/C# 307 BOX I

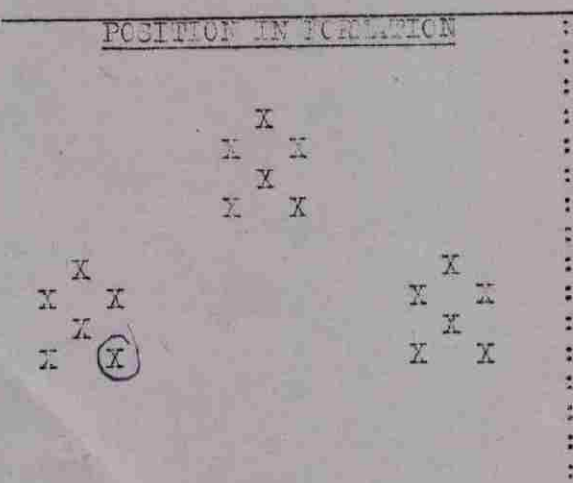
CASUALTIES nil

BOMBS :		ON	BATTLE DAMAGE	"I-C"	"E"
<u>6</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>500</u>			
	<u>X</u>	RETURNED			
	<u>X</u>	JETTISONED	<u>nil</u>		

FLAK: nil

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS: nil

OBSERVATIONS: 10/10



Lucia
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTER. FORM

PILOT SEWELL A/C# 334 BOX I

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	<u>6 x 500</u>	<u>ON PA</u>	:	BATTLE DAMAGE	:	"A-C"	:	"E"
	<u>X</u>	RETURNED	:		:		:	
	<u>X</u>	JETTISONED	:		:		:	

FLAK:

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

OBSERVATIONS:

POSITION IN CORRELATION

```

      X
    X X
      X
    X X
  
```

```

    X X
  X X
  
```

L. S. Rogers
 INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERFORM

PILOT WALLACE A/C# 2315 BOX: I

CASUALTIES _____

BOMBS :	<u>6</u> X <u>500</u> ON	BATTLE DAMAGE		
	X	RETURNED	"A"	"W-C"
	X	JETTISONED		"E"

FLAK: _____

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS: _____

OBSERVATIONS: _____

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      #
      X
     X X
      X
     X X
  X   X
 X   X
 X   X
  
```

R. J. Rogers
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTER. FORM

PILOT DOWNING - A/C# 320 BOX I

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	G	L500	ON	RETURNED	BATTLE DAMAGE		
					"A"	"A-C"	"E"
X							
X				JETTISONED			

FLAK:

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

OBSERVATIONS:

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
     X X
      X
     X X
X   X   X
X   X   X
X   X   X
  
```

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERCOM FORM

PILOT DuBOISE A/C# 252 BOX 11

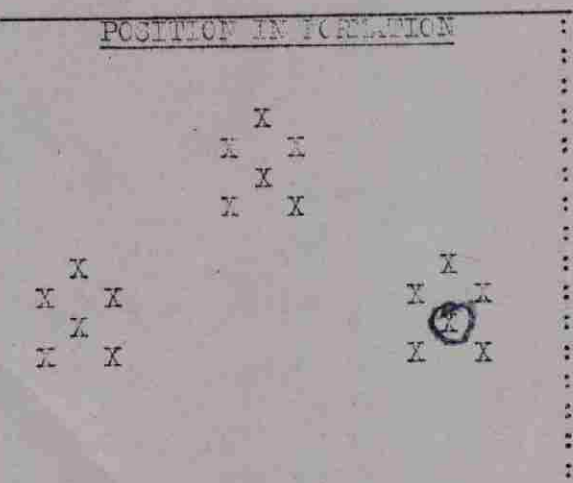
CASUALTIES nil

BOUMBS :	ON	BATTLE DAMAGE	"L-C"	"E"
<u>6</u> X <u>500</u>	ON			
X	RETURNED			
X	JETTISONED			

FLAK: nil

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS: nil

OBSERVATIONS: 10/10 at target



Shuster
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERFORM

PILOT BUCHANAN - - A/C# 367 BOX IV

CASUALTIES

BOBBS :	<u>6</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>500</u>	ON	<u>PT</u>	:	BATTLE DAMAGE	<u>X</u>
		<u>X</u>			RETURNED	:	"A"	"B-C"
		<u>X</u>			JETTISONED	:		"E"

FLYK: X

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

X

OBSERVATIONS:

None 10/10

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
     X X
    (X)
     X X
  X  X
  X  X
  X  X
  
```

T. W. S.

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERFORM

PILOT ANDERSEN A/C# 481 BOX II

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	<u>6</u>	X	<u>500</u>	ON	<u>PPF</u>	:	BATTLE DAMAGE	:		:		:	
		X		RETURNED		:		:		:		:	
		X		JETTISONED		:		:		:		:	

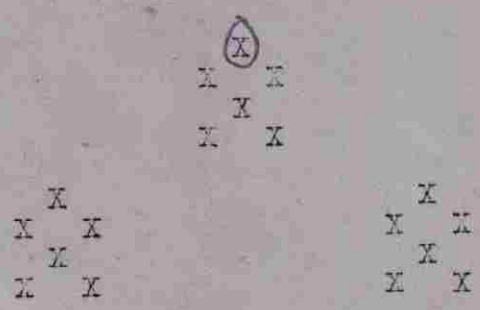
FLAK: X

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

X

OBSERVATIONS: None 10/10
TOT ~~1640~~ 1639
All 12,900
Bomb on PPF

POSITION IN FORMATION



T. W. S.
INTERRECTOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERFORM

PILOT SDTTON

A/C# 249

BOX IF

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	<u>6</u>	X	<u>500</u>	ON	<u>POT</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE			
		X		RETURNED			"A-C"	"E"	
		X		JETTISONED					

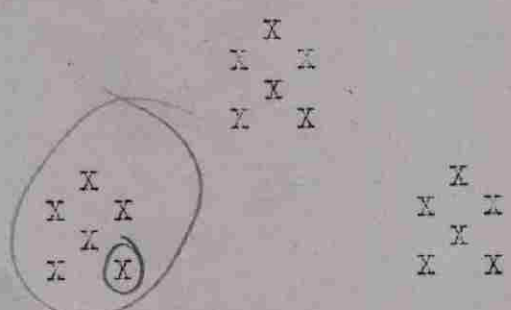
FLAK: X

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

X

OBSERVATIONS: - 10/10 Covey

POSITION IN FORMATION



T.W.S-
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERFORM

PILOT HENDERSON A/C# 239 BOX IV

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	<u>6</u>	X	<u>500</u>	ON	<u>PJT</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE			
		X		RETURNED		"A-C"	"E"		
		X		JETTISONED					

FLAK: X

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

X

OBSERVATIONS:

X

POSITION IN CORRELATION

```

      X
     X X
      X
     X X
  (X) X
     X X
     X X
  
```

T.W.S
INTERCEPTOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTER. FORM

PILOT COCKE A/C# 250 BOX IV

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	<u>6</u> X <u>500</u> ON <u>PIT</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE	X		
	X	RETURNED		"A-C"	"E"
	X	JETTISONED			

FLAK: X

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

X

OBSERVATIONS:

X 10/10

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
     X X
      X
     X X
X   X   X
  (X)
X   X   X
      X
     X X
      X
     X X

```

T.W.S.
INTERCATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERFORM

PILOT JOKINEN A/C# 300 BOX IF

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	ON	RETURNED	JETTISONED	BATTLE DAMAGE		
				"A"	"A-C"	"E"
<u>6</u> X <u>500</u>	<u>PT</u>					
X						
X						

FLAK: X

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

X

OBSERVATIONS: None 10/10

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
     X X
      X
     X X
X   X (X)
X   X
X   X
X   X
X   X

```

T. W. S

INTERRECTOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERRO. FORM

PILOT BUSKIRK A/C# 499 BOX II

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	<u>6</u>	X	<u>500</u>	ON	<u>P.T</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE	X		
		X			RETURNED				
		X			JETTISONED				

FLAK: X

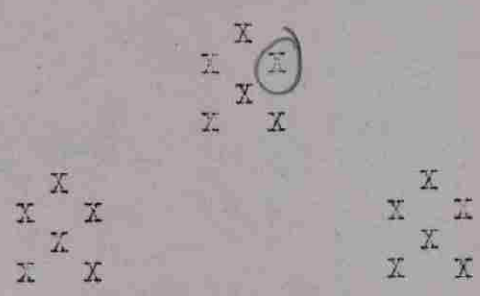
ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

X

OBSERVATIONS:

TOT 1640
 ALT - 13000
 Drop on P.P.F

POSITION IN FORMATION



T.W.S

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTER. FORM

PILOT JORDAN A/C# 381 BOX 4

CASUALTIES

BOOMBS :	<u>6 X 500</u>	ON	<u>PT</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE			
	<u>X</u>	RETURNED				"I-C"	"E"
	<u>X</u>	JETTISONED					

FLAK: X

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

X

OBSERVATIONS:

X

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
     X X
      X X
     X X

X   X   X
X   X   X
X   X   X
  
```

T. V. S.

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERFORM

PILOT ANNIN A/C# 378 BOX II

CASUALTIES

BOMBS :	<u>6</u> X <u>500</u> ON <u>P.T.</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE	X		
	X	RETURNED		"A-C"	"E"
	X	JETTISONED			

FLAK: X

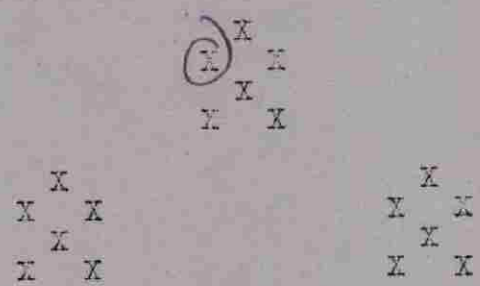
ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

X

OBSERVATIONS:

None 10/10

POSITION BY CORRELATION



T.W.S.

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERFORM

PILOT EASTMAN

A/C# 532

BOX 4

CASUALTIES

BOUMBS :	X	ON	BATTLE DAMAGE	"I-C"	"E"
<u>6</u> X <u>500</u>		RETURNED			
X		JETTISONED			

FLAK:

nil

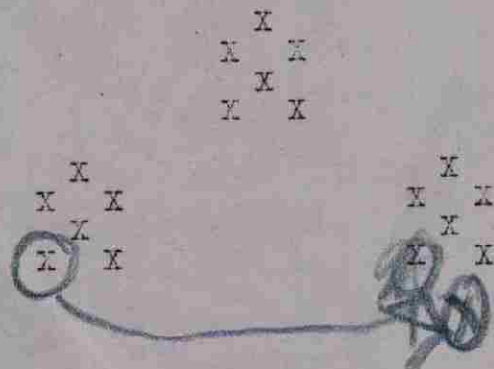
ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

nil

OBSERVATIONS:

*Was position for switches
found to be late
Personal error.*

POSITION IN CORRELATION



INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERFORM

PILOT PRICE A/C# 505 BOX I

CASUALTIES

BOBBS :	<u>6</u>	<u>2500</u>	ON	<u>PPF</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE		
					"A-C"	"E"	
<u>1 Run</u>	X		RETURNED				
	X		JETTISONED	<u>me</u>			

FLAK:

nil

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

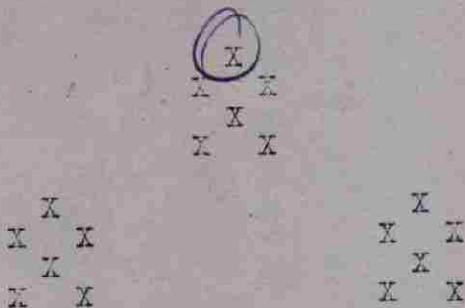
nil

OBSERVATIONS:

9/10 cloud

TOT 16 39
 alt 13 700
 axis - 88° mag.

POSITION IN FORMATION



FGC was not called by A-26 leader. Briefed for PPF^{to} call.

Luvia

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERR. FORM

PILOT NAPIER A/C# 527 BOX I

CASUALTIES nil

BOBBS :	<u>6</u> X <u>500</u>	ON <u>PPF</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE	"A-C"	"E"
	X	RETURNED	nil		
	X	JETTISONED			

FLAK:

nil

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

nil

OBSERVATIONS:

8 to 9/10

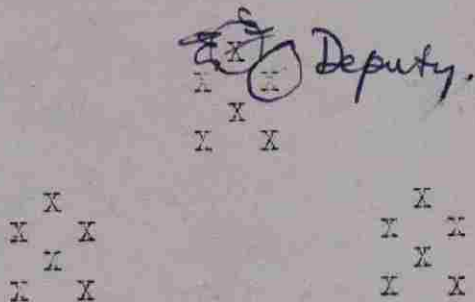
TOT - 1639

alt 13,700

axis 105°

PPF left with ^{right} ~~left~~ turn off target. Briefed left.

POSITION- IN FORMATION



Luvia

INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

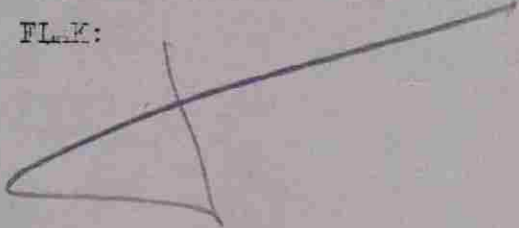
INTER. FORM

PILOT CANNON A/C# 305 BOX II

CASUALTIES

BOBBS :	<u>6</u>	<u>X-500</u>	ON <u>P.T.</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE			
	<u>X</u>		RETURNED				
	<u>X</u>		JETTISONED				

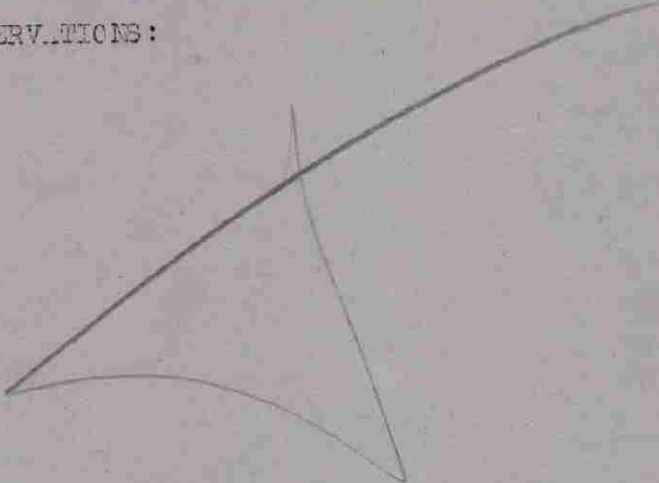
FLYK:



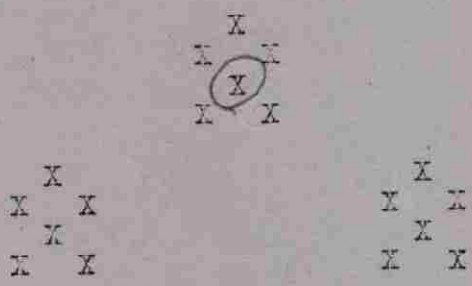
ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:



OBSERVATIONS:



POSITION IN FORMATION



Hope
INTER. FORM

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

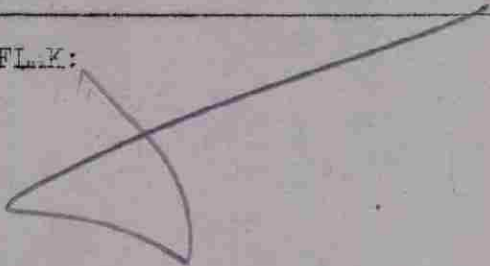
INTERFORM

PILOT PARMHURST A/C# 321 BOX I

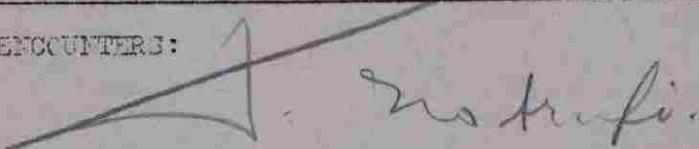
CASUALTIES

BOOMBS :	<u>6</u> X 50	ON	<u>PT</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE			
	X	RETURNED				"A-C"	"E"
	X	JETTISONED					

FLAK:



ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:



OBSERVATIONS:

lot of art. fire

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
     X X
    X X
   X  X
  X   X
 X    X
X     X

```

Hopper
INTERRECTOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O

CONFIDENTIAL

INTER. FORM

PILOT ROONEY A/C# 503 BOX I

CASUALTIES

BOBBS :	<u>6</u> X <u>500</u>	ON	<u>P.P.F.</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE			
	X	RETURNED		" "	"L-C"	"E"	
	X	JETTISONED					

FLAK:

[Large handwritten mark]

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

[Handwritten mark] *no fr. fi.*

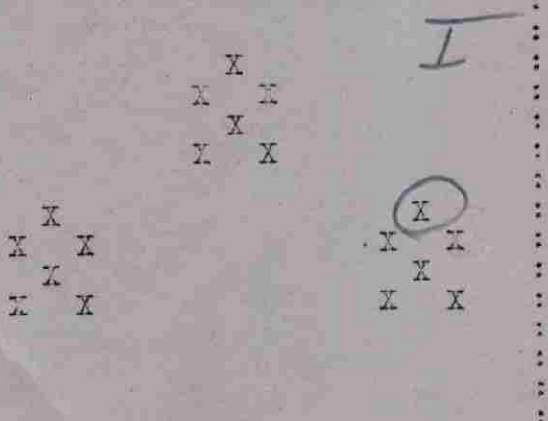
OBSERVATIONS:

*2 layers { 3,000
10,000 + one at 13,500*

*TOT 1639 1/2
alt. 13,000
MH - 110°*

P.P.F. "good" on E.T.A.

POSITION IN FORMATION



Hoppe

INTERCOMTOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERFORM

PILOT LONG A/C# 213- BOX II

CASUALTIES

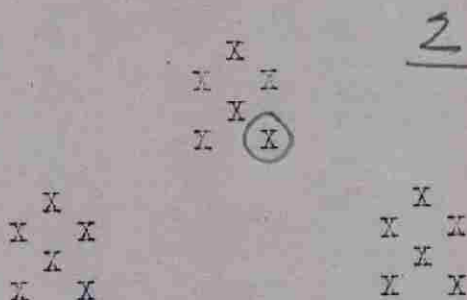
BOMBS :	<u>6</u>	<u>1500</u>	ON	<u>P.T.</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE			
	<u>X</u>		RETURNED				"I-C"	"E"
	<u>X</u>		JETTISONED					

FLAK:

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

OBSERVATIONS:

POSITION IN RELATION



INTERROTOR

CONFIDENTIAL

F/O _____

CONFIDENTIAL

INTER. FORM

PILOT CORNELL A/C# 496 BOX II

CASUALTIES nil

BOBBS :	<u>6</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>500</u>	ON	<u>POF</u>	BATTLE DAMAGE			
		<u>X</u>		RETURNED				"A-C"	"E"
		<u>X</u>		JETTISONED		<u>nil</u>			

FLAK: ~~nil~~ 1 burst, 1 mi behind coming off bomb run

ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS:

nil

OBSERVATIONS:

10/10

TOT - 1640

alt - 13000 (I)

azis - @ approx 110° mag

POSITION IN FORMATION

```

      X
     X X
      X X
     X X
X     X
X     X
X     X
X     X
  
```

POW
4/6/2

[Signature]
INTERROGATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

6X500

Box #	OpSTL	Date	F/O	Target	Alt.	Box Leader	T/O	15 min.
I						PRICE	TOT	
							L/D	
A/C	Rel to Bomb	ATT	F S O	F S J F R	A/C Dam	E/A	Fers.	
Pos. No.	Reason							
1	505							
2	521							
3	385							
4	305							
5	321							
6	416							
1	503							
2	315							
3	215							
4	320							
5	224							
6	286							
1	501							
2	9315							
3	334							
4	330							
5	307							
6	223							
6	297							

114

505
PRICE
385- 521
PRUCHA WARREN

416
BLEVINS PARKHURST
305-
GANNON

501
HEINKE
503
ROONEY

334
SEWELL
9315-
BISHOP
215-
WARREN
2315-
WALLAGE

320
MUSGRIVE
320
DOWNING

223
307
STANKOWSKI
ORRIEN
286
224
FORD

297
KENNEY

19 14
18 14
17 14
16 14
15 14
14 14
13 14
12 14
11 14
10 14
9 14
8 14
7 14
6 14
5 14
4 14
3 14
2 14
1 14

Box #	OpSTL	Date	F/O	Target	Alt.	Box Leader	T/O	15 min.
						ANDERSEN	TOT	
							L/D	
II								
A/C	Reil to Bomb	ATT	Bomb Issp	A/C Dam	E/A	Pats.		
As No.	Reason	T S O	T S T R	M D A AC B E D P D K W M				
1 481			b					481 ANDERSEN
2 499			b					371 378 499 ANWIN BOSHIK
3 328 371			b					361 BUCHANAN
4 361			b					213 323- KON PHILLIPS
5 325- Not airborne								
6 213			b					
1 496			b					496
2 329			b					496
3 381			b					TOTI CORNEAL
4 252			b					
5 344			b					
6 354			b					249 300 SOTTON JOKINEN JORDAN ANDERSON C.M.
1 498			5					259 HENDERSON 252 DuROSE
2 300			b					332 250 EASTMAN COCKE 354 344 HAYTER HAWLEY
3 249			b					337 MONTROSE
4 239			b					
5 350			b					
6 332	Plot error		b					
239			b					
271			101					7

ITA JEA V JKI JKI 15755 OP OP

FROM 416TH BOMB GRP. 25/1915A

TO CG 9TH BOMBARDMENT DIV: ATTEN: A-2
CG 97TH COMBAT WING ATTEN: A-2

CONFIDENTIAL BT

FAX-235-D

OPFLASH FOR 25 JANUARY 1945

- A. 416TH BOMB GRP. (L)
- B. NORVENICH ROAD JUCTIONS
- C. EX 37 A-26'S
- D. 36 A-26'S
- E. 1 A-26 A/C FAILED TO BOMB, PILOT ERRØR.
- F. ~~25~~ 215 X 500 GP ON PRIMARY
7 X 500 GP RETURNED
- G. UNOBSERVED
- H. NIL.
- I. NIL.
- J. NIL.
- K. NIL.
- L. 1ST BOX 13,700
2ND BOX 13,500
- M. 1638

BT 1915A
WFG BBBB

ITA R.....251.*9APPQKPIKMWMA!0;l;/ 2919/2AIHICPIKMWQ3

IMI ACK PLS LTRS HERE T B F R
NO GOOD

THIS IS JEA ERE IS ITA R FOR THI SIGNAL
 I ITA R ..,.....25/1935A EEXXX IC AR
 KKKK
 JEA R.25/1935A FK AR
 K

ITA JEA V JKI JKI 19/25 GP OP

FROM 416TH BOMB GRP. 25/1915A

TO CG 9TH BOMBARDMENT DIV: ATTEN: A-2
CG 97TH COMBAT WING ATTEN: A-2

CONFIDENTIAL BT

FAX-239-D

OPFLASH FOR 25 JANUARY 1945

- A. 416TH BOMB GRP. (L)
- B. NORVENICH ROAD JUNCTIONS
- C. XX 37 A-26'S
- D. 36 A-26'S
- E. 1 A-26 A/C FAILED TO BOMB, PILOT ERROR.
- F. XX 215 X 500 GP ON PRIMARY
7 X 500 GP RETURNED
- G. UNOBSERVED
- H. NIL.
- I. NIL.
- J. NIL.
- K. NIL.
- L. 1ST BOX 13,700
2ND BOX 13,500
- M. 1638

BT 1915A
WFC BDD

ITA R.....251."9APPQKPIKIM *****NA10;1; / 2919/2AIHICPIKIM03

IMI ACK PL'S LTRS HERE T B F R
NO GOOD

THIS IS JEA ERE IS ITA R FOR THE SIGNAL
 I ITA R25/1939A EEXXX IC AR
 KKKK
 JEA R. 25/1939A FK AR
 K

Intel

PRIORITY

FROM: 416TH BOMB GROUP (L)

TO : 9TH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION (M) (INFO COPY)
 97TH COMBAT BOMB WING (L) (INFO COPY)
 COMMANDING OFFICER, 1ST PATHFINDER SQUADRON (PROV.)

416BG F _____ E CONFIDENTIAL 25 FEBRUARY 1945 2000

MORNING MISSION 25 FEBRUARY 1945 PPF LEAD SATISFACTORY. GROUP BOMBED VISUALLY ON GROUP LEADER. BECAUSE TARGET WAS PICKED UP LATE ON RUN GROUP LEADER DID NOT HAVE TIME TO CONTACT PATHFINDER LEADER AS TO VISUAL BOMBING. AFTERNOON MISSION 25 FEBRUARY 1945 PPF LEAD SATISFACTORY WITH FOLLOWING EXCEPTION. PPF AIRCRAFT TURNED RIGHT OFF TARGET. GROUP TURNED LEFT OFF TARGET AS BRIEFED.

AYLESWORTH COBOMCR 416

I certify that this is official business:

WILLIAM H. AMES,
 1st Lt., Air Corps.

ITA JEA V JKI JKI 19/25 OP OP

FROM HQS, 416TH BOMB GP (L) APO 140 U.S. ARMY 25/2030A

TO HQS, 9TH BOMB DIV (M) APO 140 U.S. ARMY
HQS, 97TH COMBAT WING APO 140 U.S. ARMY

SECRET BT

FAX-239-D

B. NORVENICH ROAD JUNCTION.

J. NO PHOTOS DUE TO CLOUD COVER.

BT 2030A
WFG BBBB

ITA R.....25/2055A EG
JEA R.....25/2055A LCB

KKK
QQQ

Intel

SECRET

USAAF FORM 34A

SECRET

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
416TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)
Office of the Commanding Officer

AUTH: CO STA-69
DATE: 27 Feb. 1945
INIT:

TO: Commanding General, 9th Bombardment Division (M), APO 140, U.S. Army.
Attn: Statistical Control.

From: 416th Bombardment Group (L), APO 140, U.S. Army.

Ref: Oprep A. No. 328 a for 24 hrs. ending midnight 25 Feb. 1945
Mission or Operation No. 215 97th CG F.O./180-765

A. Short Narrative of Operation:

Target Norwich Road Junction
Place of take-off Station A-69
Place of landing Station A-69
Take-off time 1518 Landing time 1804
Time over target 1638 Bombing Altitude 13,500-13,700
Nature of mission Bombing Other None
Weather 10/10s cloud cover
Results Unobserved due to cloud cover
Enemy opposition None

B. Type & model of aircraft:

1. Dispatched 37 A-26's

2. Attacking target (indicate target) or completing mission.
36 A-26's Norwich Road Junction

3. Abortive due to:
(1) Weather: None
(2) Personnel: 1 A-26 - bomb master switch not turned on
(3) Mechanical: None
(4) Other: None

4. Missing (i.e. cause and place unknown) None

5. Destroyed - before reaching target None
giving cause where known

6. Destroyed - over or after leaving None
target giving cause where known

7. Damaged (give category & cause) None

8. Sorties 37 A-26's

SECRET

(over)

SECRET

USAF FORM 344 (cont'd)

SECRET

D. Total operational flying hours
 a. Day (Sunrise to sunset) 93:05

 b. Night (Sunset to sunrise) None

E. Ammunition by calibres:
 a. Total carried into air 7100 x .50 cal.
 b. Expended on operations 925 x .50 cal (testing)
 c. Lost on wrecked or missing a/c None

F. Bombs, flares, etc. used:
 a. Total carried into air: 222 x 500 lb GP 1/100 1/100

 b. Expended on operations: 235 x 500 lb GP
 (List targets separately) _____

 c. Jettisoned None

 d. Lost or wrecked on missing a/c None

 e. Total Returned 7 x 500 lb GP

G. Own Personnel Casualties:

Type of Casualty	Pilot	Co-pilot	Nav	Bomb	R.Gun	E.Gun	T.Gun
Killed in Action	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Missing in Action	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Seriously Wounded	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Slightly Wounded	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

H. Enemy aircraft by type or description (tentative claims):
 a. Destroyed None

 b. Prob. Des None

 c. Damaged None

For the Commanding Officer:

GEORGE SCHENKEL,
 Captain, Air Corps,
 Adjutant.

SECRET

JES JKI VIA JEA V ITA JJP 08/25 0P 0P
 FROM 1ST PATHFINDER SQ PROV. 25/1700A
 TO C G IX BOMB DIV. ATTN A-2
 C G 97TH, 98TH COMBAT WINGS
 C O 409TH, 416TH, AND 387TH BOMB GPs.
 SECRET BR

FAX 570

1ST PATHFINDER SQ PROV. F-337-D

"P.M. MISSION"

- A. FIRST PATHFINDER SQ WITH THE 409TH BOMB GROUP
- B. RHEINDANLEN COMM CENTER WF 0484
- C. 1 B-26
- D. 1 - ATTACKED PRIMARY ON PFF EQUIPMENT WITH PFF LEAD
- E. NONE
- F. 4 X 500 GP ON PRIMARY
- G. UNOBSERVED
- H. NONE
- I. NONE
- J. NONE
- K. NONE
- L. 12,500 - PRIMARY
- M. 1635 - PRIMARY

EXCELLENT GROUP FORMATION FLOWN
 SWEEPSTAKES CALLED AND RECEIVED FIX SIX MINUTES IN TGT AREA.

- A. FIRST PATHFINDER SQ WITH THE 416TH BOMB GROUP.
- B. NORVENICH COMM CENTER WF 2346
- C. 1 B-26
- D. 1 - ATTACKED PRIMARY ON PFF EQUIPMENT WITH PFF LEAD
- E. NONE
- F. 4 X 500 GP ON PRIMARY
- G. UNOBSERVED
- H. NONE
- I. NONE
- J. NONE
- K. NONE
- L. 13,700 - PRIMARY
- M. 1639 - PRIMARY

EXCELLENT FORMATION FLOWN BY GROUP
 CALL WAS MADE TO ROSALEE BUT SWEEPSTAKES ANSWERED. FIX RECEIVED
 APX SEVEN MINUTES WITHIN TAG AREA. "HUNTER" WAS NOTIFIED AS BRIEFED.

- A. FIRST PATHFINDER SQ WITH THE 387TH BOMB GROUP
- B. AHRVEILER RR BRIDGE WF 5215
- C. 1 B-26
- D. 1 - DROPPED ON GROUP LEAD. GROUP TOOK OVER FOR VISUAL RUN.
- E. NONE
- F. 4 X 500 GP ON PRIMARY.
- G. BELIEVED GOOD, OBSERVED HITS IN TARGET AREA.
- H. NONE
- I. NONE
- J. MIHFF FROM TARGET AREA WF 5215
- K. NONE
- L. 13,000 - PRIMARY
- M. 1630 - PRIMARY

GOOD FORMATION FLOWN BY GROUP
 GROUP MADE CALL, FOR GROUP WAS LEADING.

GO 1ST PATHFINDER SQ PROV

BT 25/1700A
 AL AR AR AR
 SS (RELAY)
 JKI R 26/0345A BSS AR
 JES R 26/0345A

SECRET

*Mission
Zeller*



HEADQUARTERS
9TH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION (M)

APO # 140
26 February 1945

MISSION SUMMARY #51
(Afternoon Missions)

25 February 1945

Section I

Field Order 765

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>TARGET</u>	<u>MISSION RESULTS</u>
387 BG:	Ahrweiler (F-521152) Rail Bridge	Box I, Flight A - P.N.D. Flight B - A.P.N.D. Flight C - Unsat. ("GEE") Box II, Flight A - Excellent Flight B - Undet. Flight C - Excellent
309 BG:	Rheindahlen (F-039842) Communication Center	Undet. (FFF)
416 BG:	Norvenich (F-231459) Communication Center	Undet. (FFF)

SECRET

S E C R E T

GROUP NARRATIVE

Three groups attacked one rail bridge and two communication centers with EXCELLENT to UNDETERMINED results.

Abrweiler (Rail Bridge)

387 BG: 34 a/c dispatched (including 1 FFF), 26 dropping 50 x 2000, 4 x 500 GP on Primary; 5 a/c dropped 10 x 2000 GP on Other target. 3 window a/c.

13 a/c flak battle damaged; 2 crewmen wounded. No losses.

Group leader contacted Ripsaw at bomblines and obtained desired fix.

Visual bombing by flights (with the exception of 1 flight which dropped on "GEE") from 11,000 - 12,500 feet. Group reports that there was no radio contact with FFF, which peeled out of formation in vicinity of IP. FFF reports that group took over for visual run.

Box I - Flight A. P.N.B. Haze obscured target until last 20 seconds of bomb run. Bombs were released accidentally when indices crossed 10 seconds before D.R.P. Bursts appear in woods 4500' south of DMPI.

Flight B. A.P.N.B. Due to poor visibility bombardier was unable to identify AP. Selected road and rail converging point as DMPI. Bombs fell in excellent pattern 1800' east of DMPI, blanketing and severing selected DMPI.

Flight C. UNSATISFACTORY. No bursts within 1000' radius of DMPI. Pattern is centered approximately 4650' south of DMPI. This flight dropped on "GEE" due to poor visibility.

Box II - Flight A. EXCELLENT. All bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Excellent pattern centered 350' SE of DMPI, scoring probable damage to bridge and hits on bridge approach. Tracks are severed in several places and main highway is cut.

Flight B. UNDETERMINED. Bursts do not appear on photos. Due to haze bombardier could not perform sighting operation on first run. Hydraulic system was shot out on second run and bombs were salvaged approximately 8 miles SW of Primary.

Flight C. EXCELLENT. 85% of bombs within 1000' radius of DMPI. Good pattern centered 750' SW of DMPI, scoring near misses to west end of bridge. Probable damage.

Rheindahlen (Communication Center)

409 BG: 39 a/c dispatched (including 30 A-26, 8 A-20, 1 FFF), 36 (29 A-26, 6 A-20, 1 FFF) dropping 174 x 500, 24 x 500 GP and 4 x 500 GP, respectively, on Primary. 1 (A-20) window a/c.

1 a/c (A-26) failed to bomb: mechanical failure.

1 a/c (A-20) accidentally dropped 4 x 500 GP - armed - on friendly territory at K-880647, 1/2 mile NE of Geilenkirchen, when bombs fell out as bomb bay doors opened.

No losses, damage, casualties.

FFF called Ripsaw and obtained desired fix 6 minutes after entering Tactical area.

B - 2

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Bombing by boxes on PFF lead from 12,500 feet.

No photo coverage or visual observations of results due to cloud cover.

Norvenich (Communication Center)

416 BG: 38 a/c dispatched (including 37 A-26, 1 PFF), 37 (36 A-26, 1 PFF) dropping 215 x 500, 4 x 500 GP on Primary.

1 a/c failed to bomb: personnel failure.

No losses, damage, casualties.

PFF called Roselce on entering Tactical Area; Sweepstakes answered and desired fix was obtained 7 minutes later.

Bombing by boxes on PFF lead from 13,500 - 13,700 feet.

No photo coverage or visual observation of results due to cloud cover.

C - 2

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

SECTION II

A/C OFF		111
A/C Bombing	104	
A/C Failing to Bomb	3	
Other (Window)	4	
TOTAL		111

Bombs on Enemy Territory		166.25
Total Bombs to Date		113,471.60

A/C Lost	0	
A/C Missing	0	
A/C Crash-Landed	0	
A/C Battle Damaged	13	11.81%
Killed	0	
Wounded	2	
Missing	0	
Injured	0	
Claims	0	

S E C R E T

FAILURES TO BOMB

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>NO. A/C</u>	<u>CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>REASON</u>
409	1 (A-26)	Mechanical	Left engine cut out.
	1 (A-20)	Mechanical	Accidental release over friendly territory (VK-880647). Due to electrical malfunction when bomb bay doors opened.
416	1	Personnel	Pilot could not find bomb release switch in time to drop. (New modification on a/c

OBSERVATIONS

WEATHER: Ahrweiler 387 BG: 6/10 strato-cumulus, tops 5000', 6/10 medium cloud, base 15,000'. Visibility 8 miles except 4 miles under cloud in moderate haze.

Rheindahlen 409 BG: 10/10 alto-cumulus, base 10,000', tops 12,000'. Other layers below. 10/10 altostratus, base 15,000'. Visibility air to air unlimited.

Norvenich 416 BG: 9/10 strato-cumulus, tops 4-5000'. 5/10 to 6/10 cirrus, base estimated 20,000'. Visibility 3 to 5 miles. Haze very thick in spots.

S/A PHOTO REPORT

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>CAMERAS PHOTOGRAPHING</u>	<u>MECHANICAL FAILURES</u>		<u>PERSONNEL FAILURES</u>	
		<u>NO.</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
387	86%	0	0	2	14

FLAK ANALYSIS ANNEX

A/C OVER ENEMY TERRITORY	110
A/C LOST TO FLAK	0
A/C BATTLE DAMAGED	13
% A/C BATTLE DAMAGED	11.81%
<u>Ahrweiler R. R. Bridge</u>	<u>387 Gp.</u>
A/C Lost to Flak	0
A/C Battle Damaged	13
% A/C Battle Damaged	38.23%

S E C R E T

Moderate accurate heavy flak was encountered on the bomb run and on the turn off target. 21 heavy guns are plotted in a circular pattern within range of the target. This type of arrangement for AA guns is planned so that at least two batteries may engage attacking a/c on the bomb run and all are within range of the target. It is probable that all of these guns were in action at some time during the attack.

<u>Rheindahlen Communication Center</u>	409 Gp.
<u>Norvenich Communication Center</u>	416 Gp.
A/C Lost to Flak	0
A/C Battle Damaged	0
% A/C Battle Damaged	0

Flak was not encountered enroute or at the target.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT REACTION

T.O.T.'s: 1631 to 1653

No e/a encountered during this mission.

3 - 2

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Mission folder

CONSOLIDATED MISSION STATISTICS

25 February 1945

A/C Off		472
A/C Bombing	426	
A/C Failing to Bomb	25	
Other		
Window	19	
Bombs of 2 A/C Unaccounted for	21	
Total		472



Bombs on Enemy Territory	749.50
Total Bombs to Date	113,471.60

A/C Lost (394 BG - 2, 416 BG - 1, 323 BG - 1)	4	
A/C Missing (323 BG)	1	
A/C Crash-Landed (409 BG - 2, 323 BG - 1)	3	
A/C Battle Damaged	112	(24.22%)
Killed	14	
Wounded	8	
Missing	14	
Injured	0	
Claims	0	

S E C R E T

PUBLIC RELATIONS
PRESS RELEASE

NINTH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION HEADQUARTERS, France—In their second operation of the day, approximately 100 medium bombers of the Ninth Bombardment Division attacked two communications centers ahead of the Ninth and First Armies and a railway bridge south of Bonn late Sunday afternoon.

Invaders bombed the communications centers of Rheindahlen, 28 miles northwest of Cologne, and Norvenich, seven miles east of Duren. Marauders attacked the railway bridge at Ahrweiler, 16 miles south of Bonn, spanning the Ahr River. Results were unobserved because of clouds that made pathfinder technique necessary.

Rheindahlen is an important communications center on the north flank of the advancing Ninth Army. Norvenich is the junction of main roads in the path of the advancing First Army. The four-span Ahrweiler bridge is on a rail line that could be used by the Germans for movement of troops from the static front northeast of Luxembourg to the battle area in the north.

Earlier in the day, nearly 340 Marauders and Invaders bombed other communications centers in the Cologne plain and bridges east of Cologne. Two bombers were lost and one is missing in these attacks.

Flak was encountered over the Ahrweiler bridge but no losses were reported in the late afternoon operation. No enemy aircraft were seen during the day.

--30--

25 February 1945: Phoned to Paris 1930, Press Camp 2030.

PUBLIC RELATIONS
PRESS RELEASE

HEADQUARTERS, NINTH BOMBARDMENT DIVISION, France, Feb., 25 -

Following are operational statistics, including preliminary damage assessment figures, for the medium and light bomber operations for the Ninth Bombardment Division on Sunday:

Aircraft dispatched.....	472	
Aircraft over enemy territory.....	464	
Aircraft lost.....	4	
Aircraft missing.....	1	
Defended communications centers hit.....	5	(Crevenbroich, Horrem, Quadrath and Medrath)
Marshalling yards hit.....	1	(Crevenbroich)
Rail cuts.....	21	
Highway cuts.....	35	
Railway cars destroyed.....	20	
Railway cars damaged.....	10	
Locomotives destroyed.....	1	
Railway bridges damaged.....	1	
Highway bridges damaged.....	4	
Factory bridges damaged.....	9	
Other buildings damaged or destroyed.....	135	
Bomb tonnage.....	749.50	

Results could not be observed due to cloud cover over a number of the targets, necessitating the use of blind bombing technique by approximately half of the bombers participating in the day's operations. This prevented the taking of strike photographs for preliminary damage assessments.

GP-416-SU-OP-S
25 FEB 45

AF9
Ship 88-E
Item 1

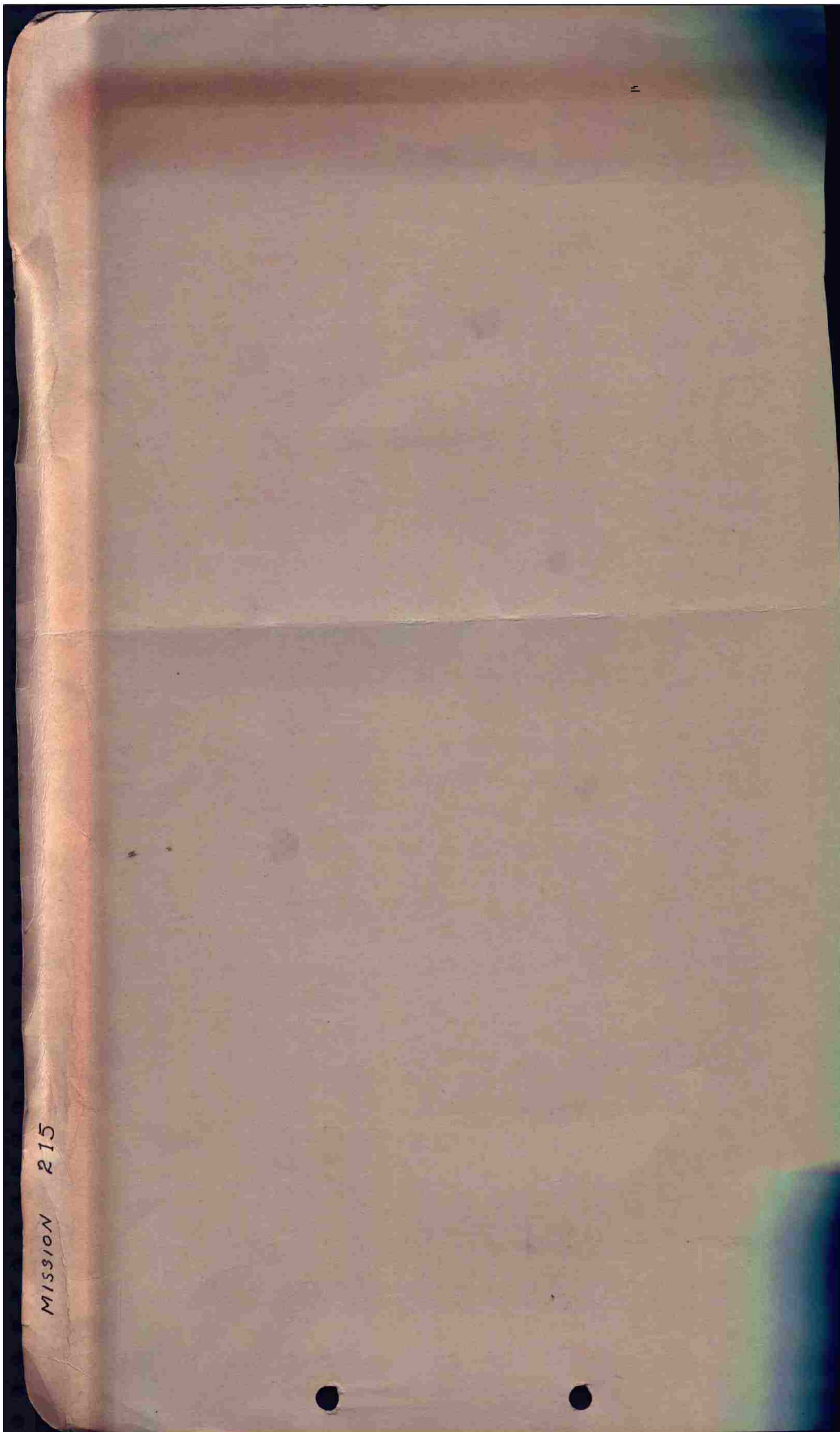
P.R.C.

00092033

DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.101 21 Sep 58

SCANNED BY ACD
2007

MICROFILMED



MISSION 215