

Mission reports from 322nd Bomb Group (11 pages)

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FROM NINTH BOMBER COMMAND 200844B 9BC P2808E

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PRIORITY CONFIDENTIAL BT

ATT: A-2

MISSION SUMMARY

19 APRIL 1944

(AFTERNOON MISSIONS)

FIELD ORDER 272

<u>GROUP</u>	
416 BG	BOIS DE HUIT RUES (NOBALL)
409 BG	FORET NATIONALE DE TOURNEHEM (NOBALL)
387 BG	MALINES M/Y
394 BG	MALINES M/Y
322 BG	MALINES M/Y
391 BG	MALINES M/Y
386 BG	MALINES M/Y
344 BG	COCOVE (NOBALL)

SUMMARY

A/C OFF		300
A/C BOMBING PRIMARIES	292	
A/C BOMBING SECONDARIES	0	
A/C BOMBING CASUAL TARGET	0	
A/C FAILING TO BOMB	8	
A/C RECALLED (WEATHER)	0	
OTHERS (WINDOW, UNACCOUNTED FOR, ETC)	0	
A/C LOST	0	

TOTAL 300

BOMBS ON PRIMARIES

476.95 TONS

BOMBS ON SECONDARIES

THIS PAGE IS

322 BC MALINES M/Y
391 BC MALINES M/Y
386 BC MALINES M/Y
344 BC COCOVE (NOBALL)

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A/C OFF		300
A/C BOMBING PRIMARIES	292	
A/C BOMBING SECONDARIES	0	
A/C BOMBING CASUAL TARGET	0	
A/C FAILING TO BOMB	8	
A/C RECALLED (WEATHER)	0	
OTHERS (WINDOW, UNACCOUNTED FOR, ETC)	0	
A/C LOST	0	

TOTAL 300

BOMBS ON PRIMARIES	476.95 TONS
BOMBS ON SECONDARIES	.00 TONS
BOMBS ON CASUAL TARGET	.00 TONS
TOTAL BOMBS FOR MISSION	476.95 TONS
BOMBS TO DATE	21,230.76 TONS

A/C LOST OVER ENEMY TERRITORY	0	
A/C CRASHED IN U.K.	0	
A/C RECEIVING BATTLE DAMAGE	23	7.7 PERCENT
KILLED	0	
WOUNDED	0	
MISSING	0	
CLAIMS	0	

CONCLUSIONS

IN AN AFTER NOON OF INTENSE BOMBARDMENT ACTIVITY EVERY SINGLE ONE OF OUR GROUPS HIT ITS PRIMARY TARGET, AND ALL SCORED EXCELLENT TO GOOD RESULTS.

OF 300 AIRCRAFT DISPATCHED AGAINST THREE NOBALL TARGETS AND AN IMPORTANT M/Y, ONLY EIGHT FAILED TO DROP BOMBS.

GENERAL RESULTS OF THESE ATTACKS STRONGLY ILLUSTRATE THE HIGH DEGREE OF EFFICIENCY IN PLANNING AND ACCURACY IN EXECUTION OF MEDIUM BOMBARDMENT OPERATIONS MAINTAINED BY THIS COMMAND.

BOIS DES HUIT RUES:

PERFORATING THE TARGET AREA OF THIS NOBALL WITH A FINE CONCENTRATION OF BOMBS, THE 416 BOMB GROUP SCORED MANY POSSIBLE HITS AND NEAR MISSES ON BUILDINGS AND ALL THREE SKIIS.

NO FLAK FIRE WAS REPORTED, THE FORMATION RETURNING WITHOUT LOSSES OR CASUALTIES.

FORET NATIONALE DE TOURNHEM:

EXCELLENT COVERAGE OF THE TARGET WAS ACCOMPLISHED ON THIS NOBALL BY MOST OF THE 409 BOMB GROUP AIRCRAFT.

FIVE AIRCRAFT OF THE SECOND BOX DROPPED 1 MILE SHORT OF THE TARGET BECAUSE OF A PREMATURE RELEASE BY A FLIGHT LEADER DUE TO A MALFUNCTION.

THERE WAS NO FLAK EXPERIENCED, ALL AIRCRAFT AND PERSONNEL RETURNING SAFELY.

MALINES M/Y:

V IN A DEVASTATING SATURATION ATTACK BY 102 MEMBERS OF FIVE GROUPS 131.00 TONS OF BOMBS WERE DROPPED ACCURATELY

SUMMARY

A/C OFF		300
A/C BOMBING PRIMARIES	292	
A/C BOMBING SECONDARIES	0	
A/C BOMBING CASUAL TARGET	0	
A/C FAILING TO BOMB	8	
A/C RECALLED (WEATHER)	0	
OTHERS (WINDOW, UNACCOUNTED FOR, ETC)	0	
A/C LOST	0	

TOTAL 300

BOMBS ON PRIMARIES	476.95 TONS
BOMBS ON SECONDARIES	.00 TONS
BOMBS ON CASUAL TARGET	.00 TONS
TOTAL BOMBS FOR MISSION	476.95 TONS
BOMBS TO DATE	21,230.76 TONS

A/C LOST OVER ENEMY TERRITORY	0	
A/C CRASHED IN U.K.	0	
A/C RECEIVING BATTLE DAMAGE	23	7.7 PERCENT
KILLED	0	
WOUNDED	0	
MISSING	0	
CLAIMS	0	

CONCLUSIONS

THE 409 BOMB GROUP HAS MAINTAINED HIGH EFFICIENCY IN ALL OPERATIONS SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE BOMBING CAMPAIGN, AND ALL BOMBING OPERATIONS TO DATE HAVE BEEN OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY.

ON 24 FEBRUARY 1945 THE 409 BOMB GROUP WAS DISPATCHED AGAINST THREE NOBALL TARGETS AND AN IMPORTANT N/T. ONLY EIGHT AIRCRAFT FAILED TO DROP BOMBS.

GENERAL RESULTS OF THESE ATTACKS STRONGLY ILLUSTRATE THE HIGH DEGREE OF EFFICIENCY IN PLANNING AND ACCURACY IN EXECUTION OF MEDIUM BOMBARDMENT OPERATIONS MAINTAINED BY THIS COMMAND.

BOIS DES HUIT RUES:

PERFORATING THE TARGET AREA OF THIS NOBALL WITH A FINE CONCENTRATION OF BOMBS, THE 416 BOMB GROUP SCORED MANY POSSIBLE HITS AND NEAR MISSES ON BUILDINGS AND ALL THREE SKIIS.

NO FLAK FIRE WAS REPORTED, THE FORMATION RETURNING WITHOUT LOSSES OR CASUALTIES.

FORT NATIONALE DE TOURNHEN:

EXCELLENT COVERAGE OF THE TARGET WAS ACCOMPLISHED ON THIS NOBALL BY MOST OF THE 409 BOMB GROUP AIRCRAFT.

FIVE AIRCRAFT OF THE SECOND BOX DROPPED 1 MILE SHORT OF THE TARGET BECAUSE OF A PREMATURE RELEASE BY A FLIGHT LEADER DUE TO A MALFUNCTION.

THERE WAS NO FLAK EXPERIENCED, ALL AIRCRAFT AND PERSONNEL RETURNING SAFELY.

MALINES N/T:

V IN A DEVASTATING SATURATION ATTACK BY 182 MARAUDERS OF FIVE GROUPS, 351.45 TONS OF BOMBS WERE POURED ACCURATELY AND WITH DEMOLISHING EFFECT ON THIS IMPORTANT CENTER OF AXIS TRANSPORT.

THREE TO FOUR HITS WERE SCORED ON USINE-BOTWEYER AERO ENGINE WORKS.

THE LAST THREE FORMATIONS OVER THE TARGET EXPERIENCED WEAK TO MODERATE HTF, ALTHOUGH NO LOSSES OR CASUALTIES RESULTED FROM THE MISSION.

THERE WAS AN INDICATED REACTION OF 20 TO 30 ENEMY AIRCRAFT TO OUR OPERATIONS IN THE MALINES AREA. NO COMBATS OCCURRED.

COCOVE:

HITTING THE TARGET AREA WITH A HEAVY ACCURATE CONCENTRATION OF BOMBS, THE 344 BOMB GROUP SCORED ENOUGH DIRECT HITS TO PLACE THIS NOBALL IN THE SUSPENDED CATEGORY.

FLAK CAUSED AIRCRAFT OF THE 2ND BOX TO WAVER, SCATTERING THEIR BOMBS SOMEWHAT.

ALTHOUGH 18 AIRCRAFT SUFFERED FLAK DAMAGE THERE WERE NO LOSSES OR CASUALTIES.

NO ENEMY FIGHTER OPPOSITION WAS ENCOUNTERED BY THE THREE GROUPS ATTACKING NOBALL TARGETS.

GROUP NARRATIVE

416 BG: 35 A/C WERE DISPATCHED AGAINST BOIS DE HUIT RUES (NOBALL), AND DROPPED 134 X 500 GP, PLACING A HEAVY CONCENTRATION WITHIN TARGET AREA. 1 A/C DROPPED 4 X 500 GP INTO CHANNEL DURING BOMBAY DOOR CHECK. NO TURNBACKS. NO LOSSES, NO CASUALTIES, NO BATTLE DAMAGE.

409 BG 37 A/C WERE DISPATCHED AGAINST FORET NATIONALE DE TOURNEHEM (NOBALL), AND DROPPED 144 X 500 GP, REPORTING MANY BURSTS IN TARGET AREA. 5 A/C DROPPED THEIR BOMBS 2 MILES SHORT OF TARGET WHEN BOMBS WERE RELEASED PREMATURELY BY FLIGHT LEADER OF 2ND FLIGHT OF 2ND BOX, CAUSED BY MALFUNCTION. NO LOSSES, NO CASUALTIES, NO BATTLE DAMAGE.

387 BG 38 A/C WERE DISPATCHED AGAINST MALINES M/Y AND REPAIR SHOPS. 36 A/C DROPPED 144 X 1000 GP; GOOD RESULTS. 2 A/C RETURNED EARLY BECAUSE OF MECHANICAL FAILURE. NO LOSSES, NO CASUALTIES, NO BATTLE DAMAGE.

397 BG 38 A/C WERE DISPATCHED MALINES M/Y AND REPAIR SHOPS, AND DROPPED 262 X 250 GV AND 559 X 100 I.B. WITH VERY GOOD RESULTS. NO TURNBACKS. NO LOSSES, NO CASUALTIES, NO BATTLE DAMAGE.

322 BG 36 A/C WERE DISPATCHED AGAINST MALINES M/Y AND REPAIR SHOPS, AND DROPPED ENTIRE BOMBLOAD OF 144 X 1000 GP, A HEAVY CONCENTRATION ON TARGET. NO LOSSES NO CASUALTIES, NO BATTLE DAMAGE.

391 BG 39 A/C WERE DISPATCHED AGAINST MALINES M/Y AND REPAIR SHOPS. 38 A/C DROPPED 192 X 1000 GP, WITH GOOD RESULTS. 1 A/C FAILED TO BOMB DUE TO ENGINE TROUBLE. NO LOSSES, NO CASUALTIES. 1 A/C DAMAGED BY FLAK (CAT. A). GROUP REPORTS STATES THAT FIGHTER SUPPORT WAS ONE OF BEST JOBS DONE TO DATE.

386 BG 37 A/C WERE DISPATCHED AGAINST MALINES M/Y AND REPAIR SHOPS. 34 A/C DROPPED 1015 X 100 I.B., WITH GOOD RESULTS. 2 A/C TURNED BACK DUE TO MECHANICAL DIFFICULTIES, AND 1 A/C LANDED AWAY FROM BASE, ABOUT WHICH NO DETAILS ARE YET KNOWN. NO LOSSES, NO CASUALTIES. 1 A/C WERE DAMAGED BY FLAK (CAT. A).

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- 1 A/C DROPPED 4 X 500 GP AND 2 X 1000 GP. CHECK, NO TURNBACK, NO LOSSES, NO CASUALTIES, NO BATTLE DAMAGE.
- 409 BG 37 A/C WERE DISPATCHED AGAINST FORET NATIONALE DE TOURNEHEIM (NOBALL), AND DROPPED 144 X 500 GP, REPORTING MANY BURSTS IN TARGET AREA. 5 A/C DROPPED THEIR BOMBS 2 MILES SHORT OF TARGET WHEN BOMBS WERE RELEASED PREMATURELY BY FLIGHT LEADER OF 2ND FLIGHT OF 2ND BOX, CAUSED BY MALFUNCTION. NO LOSSES, NO CASUALTIES, NO BATTLE DAMAGE.
- 387 BG 38 A/C WERE DISPATCHED AGAINST MALINES M/Y AND REPAIR SHOPS. 36 A/C DROPPED 144 X 1000 GP; GOOD RESULTS. 2 A/C RETURNED EARLY BECAUSE OF MECHANICAL FAILURE. NO LOSSES, NO CASUALTIES, NO BATTLE DAMAGE.
- 397 BG 38 A/C WERE DISPATCHED MALINES M/Y AND REPAIR SHOPS, AND DROPPED 262 X 250 GV AND 559 X 100 I.B. WITH VERY GOOD RESULTS. NO TURNBACKS, NO LOSSES, NO CASUALTIES, NO BATTLE DAMAGE.
- 322 BG 36 A/C WERE DISPATCHED AGAINST MALINES M/Y AND REPAIR SHOPS, AND DROPPED ENTIRE BOMBLOAD OF 144 X 1000 GP, A HEAVY CONCENTRATION ON TARGET. NO LOSSES NO CASUALTIES, NO BATTLE DAMAGE.
- 391 BG 39 A/C WERE DISPATCHED AGAINST MALINES M/Y AND REPAIR SHOPS. 38 A/C DROPPED 132 X 1000 GP, WITH GOOD RESULTS. 1 A/C FAILED TO BOMB DUE TO ENGINE TROUBLE. NO LOSSES, NO CASUALTIES. 1 A/C DAMAGED BY FLAK (CAT. A). GROUP REPORTS STATES THAT FIGHTER SUPPORT WAS ONE OF BEST JOBS DONE TO DATE.
- 386 BG 37 A/C WERE DISPATCHED AGAINST MALINES M/Y AND REPAIR SHOPS. 34 A/C DROPPED 1015 X 100 I.B., WITH GOOD RESULTS. 2 A/C TURNED BACK DUE TO MECHANICAL DIFFICULTIES, AND 1 A/C LANDED AWAY FROM BASE, ABOUT WHICH NO DETAILS ARE YET KNOWN. NO LOSSES, NO CASUALTIES. 4 A/C WERE DAMAGED BY FLAK (CAT. A).
- 344 BG 40 A/C WERE DISPATCHED AGAINST COCOVE (NOBALL). 38 A/C DROPPED 296 X 500 GP AND 4 X 1000 GP. AN EXCELLENT BOMB PATTERN AROUND MPI AND LARGE PERCENTAGE OF BOMBS IN TARGET AREA RESULTED IN THE PLACING OF THE TARGET IN "SUSPENDED" CATEGORY. 1 A/C FAILED TO BOMB DUE TO ENGINE FAILURE OVER TARGET, AND THE BOMBARDIER OF 1 A/C DID NOT RELEASE FOR FEAR OF HITTING SHIP OUT OF FORMATION BECAUSE OF ENGINE FAILURE. NO LOSSES, NO CASUALTIES. 18 A/C DAMAGED BY FLAK (1 CAT. B-A/C, 17 CAT. A).

OBSERVATIONS

WEATHER, BOIS DE HUIT RUES:

.2 TO .3 LOW CLOUDS WITH TOPS AT 3,000 TO 4,000 FEET OVER TARGET AT 1909 HOURS. VISIBILITY 8 TO 10 MILES.

WEATHER, FORET NATIONALE DE TOURNEHEIM:

OVER TARGET AT 1815 HOURS WITH .2 LOW CLOUDS. VISIBILITY UNLIMITED.

WEATHER, MALINES M/Y:

ALL GROUPS REPORT TARGET CLEAR, WITH VISIBILITY RANGING FROM 10 TO 20 MILES AT 1852 HOURS TO 6 TO 8 MILES AT 1910 HOURS.

WEATHER, COCOVE:

TARGET CLEAR WITH VISIBILITY AT 25 MILES.

ENEMY FIGHTERS:

MALINES AREA: INDICATED REACTION OF 20 TO 30 A/C. NO COMBATS.

FLAK:

BOIS DES HUIT RUES:

FLAK NIL THROUGHOUT MISSION.

FORET NATIONALE DE TOURNEHEIM:

FLAK NIL THROUGHOUT MISSION.

MALINES M/Y:

FLAK AT TARGET WAS REPORTED AS NIL BY ONE GROUP, HEAVY, ACCURATE BY TWO GROUPS, AND HEAVY TO MODERATE, FAIRLY ACCURATE, BY ONE GROUP. HEAVY INACCURATE HIT WAS REPORTED FROM NE TIP OF MALINES M/Y.

WEATHER, COCOVE

TARGET CLEAR WITH VISIBILITY AT 25 MILES.

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ENEMY FIGHTERS:

MALINES AREA: INDICATED REACTION OF 20 TO 30 A/C. NO COMBATS.

FLAK:

BOIS DES HUIT RUES:

FLAK NIL THROUGHOUT MISSION.

FORET NATIONALE DE TOURNEHEM:

FLAK NIL THROUGHOUT MISSION.

MALINES M/Y:

FLAK AT TARGET WAS REPORTED AS NIL BY ONE GROUP, MEAGER, ACCURATE BY TWO GROUPS, AND MEAGER TO MODERATE, FAIRLY ACCURATE, BY ONE GROUP.
MEAGER INACCURATE HFF WAS REPORTED ENROUTE FROM NE TIP OF WALCHEREN ISLAND, SW TIP OF SHOOWEN ISLAND, GILZE/RIJEN A/T AND TURNOUT.

COCOVE:

FLAK AT TARGET WAS DESCRIBED AS MODERATE ACCURATE AND WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE COME FROM VICINITY OF WATTEN FORET, 4 MILES WEST OF TARGET.
ONE BOX MADE ENTRY INTO ENEMY COAST 4 MILES SOUTH OF BOULOGNE, ENCOUNTERING MODERATE ACCURATE HFF FROM THE BOULOGNE DEFENSES, WHILE THE REMAINDER OF THE FORMATION MADE ENTRY AT BRIEFED LANDFALL, 4 MILES SOUTH OF HARDELLOT, ENCOUNTERING MEAGER INACCURATE HFF FROM HARDELLOT. FORMATION ALSO ENCOUNTERED MEAGER INACCURATE HFF FROM DESVRES AND GRAVELINES.

SHIPPING:

7-8 SHIPS 6 MILES NORTH CALAIS. DESTROYER CIRCLING. LARGE WAKES OBSERVED.
TEN E/R BOATS OFF DUNKIRK.
NINE 'E' BOATS AT 51 DEG. 10 MIN. NORTH-01 DEG. 50 MIN. EAST.
DINGY AT 51 DEG. 20 MIN. NORTH-01 DEG. 50 MIN. EAST.
24 SHIPS IN CONVOY NEAR NORTH FORELAND.
LONG SHIP OF NARROW BEAM (EST. LENGTH 200') LOW IN WATER OF INLET AT LEPANNE. DARK BROWN OR BLACK IN COLOR.
5 MEDIUM FREIGHTERS IN BAY OFF DINTELOORD.
3 LARGE FREIGHTERS WITH FAST ESCORT OFF GRAVELINES, 51 DEG. 07 MIN. NORTH-01 DEG. 57 MIN. EAST, AT 1854.
BARGE IN CANAL BETWEEN DIEST AND MALL.
SMALL SHIPS IN HARBOR AT DUNKIRK, IN RIVER NEAR MOERDIJK.
9 TO 10 SMALL BOATS MANEUVERING IN CHANNEL ABOUT 10 MILES WEST OF DUNKIRK.
3 MINESWEEPERS AND 3 LARGER SHIPS AT 51 DEG. 00 MIN. NORTH-01 DEG. 35 MIN. EAST.
BARGES IN CANALS AT FURNES, OSTEND, TURNHOUT, OOSTMALLE, TERMONDE, AND BETWEEN ANTWERP AND TURNHOUT.

RAILROAD:

HEAVY RR ACTIVITY IN M/Y'S ROOSENDAAL, THEILT, AND GHENT MANY GOODS WAGONS IN SIDINGS AT AMLL, TOURNHOUT, ROULERS DIEST, TERMONDE.
CONCENTRATION OF CARS AND TRAINS AT: M/Y AT HERENTHALS ROULERS M/Y, SIDING ON RR FROM GHENT EAST, M/Y 8 MILES DUE EAST OF BIXMUDE.
2 TRAINS, ABOUT 20 CARS EACH, ON FURNES-DUNKIRK RR;
2 TRAINS HEADING EAST FROM OOSTMALLE; 25-CAR TRAIN STATIONARY ON RR JUST SOUTH OF FURNES;
TRAIN HEADING TOWARD TERMONDE FROM GHENT.

HIGHWAYS:

MOTOR CONVOY 2 MILES LONG HEADING TOWARD ROULERS.
TRUCK CONVOY (10 OR 12) ON ROAD FROM TERMONDE.
MANY MOTOR VEHICLES STOPPED ON ROAD LEADING INTO DUNKIRK FROM FURNES.
ABOUT 30 VEHICLES IN CONVOY HEADING WEST ON HIGHWAY BETWEEN ROOSENDAAL AND BERGEN OP ZOOM.

CAMPS: LARGE CAMP IN WOODS JUST EAST BOULERS, WITH BLAST WALLS OR REVETMENTS.

CONSTRUCTIONS: LARGE GUN POSITION JUST WEST SCHOUWEN. POSSIBLE AMMUNITION DUMP 4 MILES SE DIXHUE, 50 DEG. 55 MIN. NORTH-04 DEG. 18 MIN. EAST. SIX-GUN BATTERY DIRECTLY SOUTH ALPRECH A/D. RED CROSS HOSPITAL 2 MILES NORTHEAST SAMER. CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION WORK WITH SLOPING EMBANKMENT FROM SHORE TO RIVER NEAR MOERDIJK. 6-GUN POSITION 1 MILE TO RIGHT OF LANDFALL, NEAR COXYDE A/D. POSSIBLE LARGE CAMOUFLAGED GUN EMPLACEMENT ON BEACH WEST OF FURNES.

DEFENSES: BALLOON BARRAGE AT ROTTERDAM - 25 BALLOONS AT 3000 FEET. 15 TO 20 BALLOONS IN BARRAGE OVER FLUSHING. THREE SMOKE POTS IN CITY AT MALINES, WEST OF PRIMARY, SMOKE HAVING DRIFTED INTO TARGET AREA. PLANES LOW OVER DUNKIRK BEING FIRED AT BY FLAK.

GENERAL: BRONZE SMOKE FROM EXPLOSION IN TARGET AREA. COLUMN OF SMOKE RISING FROM BOURHOURG, SOUTH OF DUNKIRK, TO APPROX. 3000 FEET. ROADS LEADING INTO DUNKIRK CLEARLY VISIBLE, IN SPITE OF FLOODS. FLOODED AREA EXTENDS FROM NEAR KNOCKE ON SOUTH INLAND TO HULST, THEN N COVERING MOST OF WALCHEREN, NORT BEVELAND, SUID BEVELAND, THALEN, SCHOUWEN AND OVERFLAAKI ONLY HOUSE TOPS ABOVE WATER LEVEL IN MANY PLACES. ALSO ALONG CANAL IN VICINITY OF BERGUES, SE OF DUNKIRK.

FAILURES TO BOMB

<u>GROUPS</u>	<u>NO. OF A/C</u>	<u>CLASSIFICATION</u>	<u>REASONS</u>
387 BG	2	MECHANICAL	1 A/C TOP TURRET KEPT REVOLVING. 1 A/C VHF IN NOSE CAUGHT ON FIRE.
391 BG	1	MECHANICAL	ENGINE TROUBLE.
386 BG	2	MECHANICAL	1 A/C ENGINE TROUBLE. 1 A/C PROP AND OIL TEMPERATUR MALFUNCTION.
	1	OTHER	1 A/C LANDED AWAY FROM BASE- REASON UNKNOWN.
R344 BG	1	MECHANICAL	ENGINE FAILURE.
	1	PERSONNEL	BOMBARDIER DID NOT RELEASE FOR FEAR OF HITTING A/C OUT OF FORMATION WITH ENGINE TROUBLE.

BOMBING RESULTS

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>TARGET</u>	<u>STRIKE ATTACK CLASSIFICATION</u>
416 BG	BOIS DES HUIT RUES	GOOD
409 BG	FORET NATIONALE DE TOURNEHEM	GOOD
387 BG	MALINES M/Y	GOOD
394 BG	MALINES M/Y	GOOD
322 BG	MALINES M/Y	GOOD
391 BG	MALINES M/Y	EXCELLENT
386 BG	MALINES M/Y	EXCELLENT
344 BG	SOCOVE	FAIR TO GOOD
		EXCELLENT

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344 BG

EXCELLENT

EXCELLENT

FIRST PHASE INTERPRETATION

- 416 BG - BOX I. CONCENTRATION OF BURSTS EXTENDING FROM 950 FEET SOUTH OF TARGET AREA INTO SOUTH CORNER OF TARGET. 15 BURSTS IN TARGET AREA AND 21 IN FIELDS SOUTH OF TARGET. 4 BURSTS IN NORTH EDGE OF TARGET, 2 BEING NEAR MISSES ON Q BUILDING.
- BOX II 31 BURSTS IN TARGET AREA. 6 IN WOODS 200 FEET WEST OF AREA AND 16 EXTENDING 600 FEET NORTHWEST OF TARGET IN FIELDS AND WOODS. 2 POSSIBLE HITS OR NEAR MISSES ON A SKI, AND POSSIBLE HITS AND NEAR MISSES ON 2 OTHER SKIS.
- 409 BG - EXCELLENT COVERAGE OF TARGET. 5 PLANES OF 2ND BOX DROPPED IN AREA 1 MILE SW OF TARGET NEAR ALQUINES.
- 322 BG - BOX I. THE RESULTS ARE EXCELLENT. FIRST BOMBS HIT THE A. P. SQUARELY AND ALL HITS WERE WITHIN AN AREA 2,000 FEET X 1500 FEET, ALL ON THE LOCOMOTIVE REPAIR SHOPS, DIRECT HITS ON THE POWER STATION, ON TRACKS JUST IN FRONT, ON AND NEAR THE AREA OF SMALL BUILDINGS, SHOPS, AND POSSIBLE RESIDENCES LINING THE NW/SE STREE, WITH A FEW HITS ON OR VERY NEAR THE CARRIAGE AND WAGON SHOPS AND THE TRACKS TO THE W OF THESE SHOPS.
- BOX II EVERY BOMB OF THIS BOX HIT IN THE TARGET AREA, LANDING IN THE SMOKE OF BOX I BOMBS, ON THE LOCOMOTIVE REPAIR SHOPS, POWER STATION AND TRACKS IN FRONT.
- 391 BG - 100 PER CENT OF BOMBS HIT IN TARGET AREA. HITS OBSERVED IN YARDS AND ON REPAIR SHEDS.
- 394 BG - BOX I. LARGEST CONCENTRATION IN TARGET AREA. A FEW BOMBS APPROXIMATELY 200 FEET SHORT AND TO RIGHT (NNW) OF A.P.
- BOX II I.B.'S DROPPED APPROXIMATELY 500 YDS. SHORT AND TO LEFT (NW) OF A.P. IN CITY.
- 387 BG - BOX I. CONCENTRATION AROUND A.P. ABOUT 6 DIRECT HITS ON CARRIAGE AND WAGON SHOPS AND NEAR HITS TO BRIDGE AT INTERSECTION OF ELEVATED AND LOWER TRACKS DIRECTLY EAST. NORTH CHOKE POINT AND ENGINE REPAIR SHOPS ALSO RECEIVED MANY HITS.
- BOX II DIRECT HITS ON THROUGH TRACKS RUNNING N AND S, INCLUDING POSSIBLE DIRECT HITS FURTHER N ON RR BRIDGE OVER CANAL. OTHER BURSTS STRUNG NE INTO TARGET AREA CAUSING CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE TO SIDINGS AND LOCO REPAIR WORKS. 3-4 NITS ON THE USINE BOXMEYER AERO ENGINE WORKS. HUGE COLUMNS OF SMOKE, APPARENTLY FROM A VIOLENT EXPLOSION, CAN BE SEEN RISING FROM A.P. CARRIAGE AND WAGON SHOPS APPEAR TO BE FILLED WITH GOODS WAGONS.
- 386 BG - BOX I. MAIN CONCENTRATION FELL 1500 FEET NW OF A.P. LOW FLIGHT DROPPED 3000 FEET NW OF A/P IN CITY OF MALINES. LEAD AND HIGH FLIGHTS CARRIED INTO TARGET AREA.
- BOX II MAIN CONCENTRATION CENTERS AROUND THE PASSENGER STATION 1500 FEET W OF A.P. PATTERN COVERS THE A.P. AND ALSO MOST OF THE TARGET AREA. ASSESSMENT OF DAMAGE FROM IB' S CANNOT BE MADE FROM S/A PHOTOS.
- 344 BG - BOTH BOXES HIT PRIMARY TARGET AREA.
- BOX I. HEAVY CONCENTRATED PATTERN ON W SIDE OF TARGET AREA SCORING DIRECT HITS ON 2 SKI SITES. 1 PLANE, BOMBING SHORT, SCORED A POSSIBLE HIT AND CERTAIN NEAR HITS ON ANOTHER SKI. THE SQUARE BUILDING RECEIVED 1 POSSIBLE DIRECT HIT. AT LEAST 2 STICKS WALKED ACROSS CONCRETE PLATFORM WITH DIRECT HITS. AN ESTIMATED 85 PER CENT OF THE BOMBS ARE IN THIS AREA.
- BOX II BOMBS IN SCATTERED PATTERN DUE TO FLAK, CAUSING FORMATION TO WAVER. NO. 3 FLIGHT HIT 500 FEET W OF TARGET. THE OTHER FLIGHTS HIT N EDGE OF TARGET, SCATTERED BOMBS FALLING IN SEVERAL PLACES JUST N OF TARGET AREA. THIS BOX MAY HAVE HIT RECTANGULAR BUILDINGS.

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409 BG -

EXCELLENT COVERAGE OF TARGET. 3 PLANES OF ONE BOX DROPPED IN AREA 1 MILE SW OF TARGET NEAR ALBUQUERQUE.

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322 BG - BOX I. THE RESULTS ARE EXCELLENT. FIRST BOMBS HIT THE A. P. SQUARELY AND ALL HITS WERE WITHIN AN AREA 2,000 FEET X 1500 FEET, ALL ON THE LOCOMOTIVE REPAIR SHOPS, DIRECT HITS ON THE POWER STATION, ON TRACKS JUST IN FRONT, ON AND NEAR THE AREA OF SMALL BUILDINGS, SHOPS, AND POSSIBLE RESIDENCES LINING THE NW/SE STREET, WITH A FEW HITS ON OR VERY NEAR THE CARRIAGE AND WAGON SHOPS AND THE TRACKS TO THE W OF THESE SHOPS.

BOX II EVERY BOMB OF THIS BOX HIT IN THE TARGET AREA, LANDING IN THE SMOKE OF BOX I BOMBS, ON THE LOCOMOTIVE REPAIR SHOPS, POWER STATION AND TRACKS IN FRONT.

391 BG - 100 PER CENT OF BOMBS HIT IN TARGET AREA. HITS OBSERVED IN YARDS AND ON REPAIR SHEDS.

394 BG - BOX I. LARGEST CONCENTRATION IN TARGET AREA. A FEW BOMBS APPROXIMATELY 200 FEET SHORT AND TO RIGHT (NNW) OF A.P.

BOX II I.B.'S DROPPED APPROXIMATELY 500 YDS. SHORT AND TO LEFT (NW) OF A.P. IN CITY.

387 BG - BOX I. CONCENTRATION AROUND A.P. ABOUT 6 DIRECT HITS ON CARRIAGE AND WAGON SHOPS AND NEAR HITS TO BRIDGE AT INTERSECTION OF ELEVATED AND LOWER TRACKS DIRECTLY EAST. NORTH CHOKE POINT AND ENGINE REPAIR SHOPS ALSO RECEIVED MANY HITS.

BOX II DIRECT HITS ON THROUGH TRACKS RUNNING N AND S, INCLUDING POSSIBLE DIRECT HITS FURTHER N ON RR BRIDGE OVER CANAL. OTHER BURSTS STRUNG NE INTO TARGET AREA CAUSING CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE TO SIDINGS AND LOCO REPAIR WORKS. 3-4 HITS ON THE USINE BOXMEYER AERO ENGINE WORKS. HUGE COLUMNS OF SMOKE, APPARENTLY FROM A VIOLENT EXPLOSION, CAN BE SEEN RISING FROM A.P. CARRIAGE AND WAGON SHOPS APPEAR TO BE FILLED WITH GOODS WAGONS.

386 BG - BOX I. MAIN CONCENTRATION FELL 1500 FEET NW OF A.P. LOW FLIGHT DROPPED 3000 FEET NW OF A/P IN CITY OF MALINES. LEAD AND HIGH FLIGHTS CARRIED INTO TARGET AREA.

BOX II MAIN CONCENTRATION CENTERS AROUND THE PASSENGER STATION 1500 FEET W OF A.P. PATTERN COVERS THE A.P. AND ALSO MOST OF THE TARGET AREA. ASSESSMENT OF DAMAGE FROM I.B.'S CANNOT BE MADE FROM S/A PHOTOS.

344 BG - BOTH BOXES HIT PRIMARY TARGET AREA.

BOX I. HEAVY CONCENTRATED PATTERN ON W SIDE OF TARGET AREA SCORING DIRECT HITS ON 2 SKI SITES. 1 PLANE, BOMBING SHORT, SCORED A POSSIBLE HIT AND CERTAIN NEAR HITS ON ANOTHER SKI. THE SQUARE BUILDING RECEIVED 1 POSSIBLE DIRECT HIT. AT LEAST 2 STICKS WALKED ACROSS CONCRETE PLATFORM WITH DIRECT HITS. AN ESTIMATED 85 PER CENT OF THE BOMBS ARE IN THIS AREA.

BOX II BOMBS IN SCATTERED PATTERN DUE TO FLAK, CAUSING FORMATION TO WAVER. NO. 3 FLIGHT HIT 300 FEET W OF TARGET. THE OTHER FLIGHTS HIT N EDGE OF TARGET, SCATTERED BOMBS FALLING IN SEVERAL PLACES JUST N OF TARGET AREA. THIS BOX MAY HAVE HIT RECTANGULAR BUILDINGS.

BT200800B

COMBOMCOM NINE

WB AR
ALL STATIONS AS FOR THE K WITH R

OISW
OICOC R.....20/111515B DLW AR

OISM
OICOC R.....20/1515B JSS AR

OIMAG
OICOC R.....20/1515B ER AR

OISLG
OICOC R.....20/1516B JTW AR

OICAC

OISLG OISMC OIOW OIMAG OICOG V GAC 5/19 OP
FROM: 99TH COMBAT BOMBARDMENT WING 19/1315B 99CBW P-095-E
TO : COBOMGP 322, 344, 386, 391
COMBOMCOM 9

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY
SECRET SENT IN CLEAR AUTH. MAJ. MC GLYNN BT

99TH COMBAT BOMBARDMENT WING
A. P. O. 140
19 APRIL 1944

FIELD ORDER NO. 15-272

MAPS: NORMAL

1. SPITFIRE ESCORT FOR THIS WING.
2. THIS WING WILL ATTACK TARGETS IN FRANCE AND BELGIUM.

ZERO HOUR: 191800B

3. A. 322ND GROUP:

- (1) TARGET: (A) PRIMARY: ZB-918A - M.P.I.: 064062 ILL. S5268/2
(B) SECONDARY: ZH-54
(C) ALTERNATE: ZH-1011
- (2) RENDEZVOUS:
(A) WITH 391ST GROUP AT HERNE BAY AT ZERO HOUR PLUS 11 MIN
AT 12,000 FEET. THE 322ND GROUP WILL LEAD.
(B) WITH FIGHTERS AT NORTH FORELAND AT 12,000 FEET, AT
ZERO HOUR PLUS 15 MINUTES.
(3) RALLY POINT: 4 MILES WEST OF OOSTMALLE.

B. 391ST GROUP:

- (1) TARGET: (A) PRIMARY: ZB-918A - M.P.I.: 064062 ILL. S5268/2
(B) SECONDARY: ZH-54
(C) ALTERNATE: ZH-1011
- (2) RENDEZVOUS:
(A) WITH 322ND GROUP AT HERNE BAY AT 12,000 FEET, AT ZERO
HOUR PLUS 11 MIN. THE 322ND GROUP WILL LEAD.
(B) WITH FIGHTERS AT NORTH FORELAND AT 12,000 FEET, AT ZERO
HOUR PLUS 15 MINUTES.
(3) RALLY POINT: 4 MILES WEST OF OOSTMALLE.

C. 386TH GROUP:

- (1) TARGET: (A) PRIMARY: ZB-918A - M.P.I.: 064062 ILL. S5268/2
(B) SECONDARY: ZH-54
(C) ALTERNATE: ZH-1011
- (2) RENDEZVOUS:
(A) WITH FIGHTERS AT NORTH FORELAND AT 12,000 FEET, AT
ZERO HOUR PLUS 30 MINUTES.

D. 344TH GROUP:

- (1) TARGET: (A) PRIMARY: Z-3063 - M.P.I.: 020046 ILL. XI/A/70/1
- (2) RENDEZVOUS:
(1) WITH FIGHTERS AT BUNGHESS AT 12,000 FEET, AT ZERO HOUR
PLUS 30 MINUTES.
- (3) ROUTE OUT: BARK TO BUNGHESS TO 4 MILES NORTHEAST SOUTH OF
BUNGHESS TO SENGHESS (4 MILES EAST OF DESVRES) TARGET.
- (4) ROUTE BACK: 3 MILES WEST OF SENGHESS TO NORTH FORELAND TO

(2) BOMBERS:
(4) WITH FIGHTERS AT NORTH FORELAND AT 12,000 FEET, AT
ZERO HOUR PLUS 30 MINUTES.

THIS IS

- B. 344TH GROUP:
 - (1) TARGETS: (4) PRIMARY: T-3063 - H.F.L.; G20046 ILL. XI/A/TO/1
 - (2) BOMBERS:
 - (3) WITH FIGHTERS AT DUNGENESS AT 12,000 FEET, AT ZERO HOUR PLUS 30 MINUTES.
 - (4) ROUTE OUT: BASE TO DUNGENESS TO 4 MILES NORTHEAST SOUTH OF HARDELOT TO SENLEQUES (4 MILES EAST OF DESVRES) TARGET.
 - (5) ROUTE BACK: 3 MILES WEST OF GRAVELINES TO NORTH FORELAND TO BASE.
 - (6) INITIAL POINT: SENLEQUES.
 - (7) AXIS OF ATTACK: GENERALLY SOUTH TO NORTH.

- X. (1) A/C REQUIRED: 34 PER GROUP.
- (2) BOMB LOAD: 322ND AND 391ST 4 X 1000 LB G.P.
344TH 5 X 500 LB G.P.
FUEING: 1/40 NOSE AND 1/40 SEC. TAIL.
344TH 30 X 100 LB INCENDIARIES.
- (3) INTERVALOMETER SETTINGS: 200 FEET FOR 322ND AND 391ST
200 FEET FOR 344TH
- (4) ROUTE OUT: (EXCEPT 344TH) BASE TO NORTH FORELAND TO FURNESS TO WAEREGHEN TO TERMONDE TO TARGET.
- (5) ROUTE BACK: (EXCEPT 344TH) TURN LEFT TO 5 MILES WEST OF OOSTMALLE TO ROOSENDAAL TO LAT. 51 DE 40 MIN NORTH. LONG. 03 DEG 34 MIN EAST TO NAZE TO BASE.
- (6) INITIAL POINT: TERMONDE (EXCEPT FOR 344TH)
- (7) AXIS OF ATTACK: WEST TO EAST (EXCEPT FOR 344TH)
- (8) RALLY POINT: (EXCEPT FOR 344TH AND 386TH) 5 MILES WEST OF OOSTMALLE.

5. COMMUNICATIONS.

- A. 322 GROUP
 - (1) BOMBER C/S: KAYBUSH
 - (2) RECALL CODE WORD: NO. 56
 - (3) VERIFICATION CODE: BOX NO. 56
- B. 391 GROUP
 - (1) BOMBER C/S: YANTREE
 - (2) RECALL CODE WORD: NO. 92
 - (3) VERIFICATION CODE: BOX NO. 92
- C. 386 GROUP
 - (1) BOMBER C/S: LADYMAN
 - (2) RECALL CODE WORD: NO. 61
 - (3) VERIFICATION CODE: BOX NO. 61
- D. 344 GROUP
 - (1) BOMBER C/S: GRILLROOM
 - (2) RECALL CODE WORD: NO. 97
 - (3) VERIFICATION CODE: BOX NO. 97

X. GENERAL INFORMATION.

- (1) WEATHER CODE SEQUENCE: VABT
- (2) FLASHER BEACONS: NORMAL
- (3) HF/DF: N
- (4) GEE INFORMATION: EASTERN WYOMING - SOUTHERN UTAH
- (5) EMERGENCY HOMING TO: BRADWELL BAY, CHANNEL D
MANSTON (U.S. D/F) CHANNEL B

BT 19/1138

CC PARA 3 X VELETE PARA (8)

CC BBBBBB

OICOG R... 19/1138 TFC AR
 NENE NENE NENE ARE NOT FOR YOU
 OICOG R... 19/1138 RFP AR BBBBBB
 OICOG R... 19/1138 CRR AR
 OICOG R... 19/1138 ER AR
 OICOG R... 19/1138 UN ANDY ST ALL STA