

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
458TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
AAF 123 APO 558

9 November 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of
8 November 1944.

TO: Commanding General, 2d Bombardment Division.
Attention: Statistical Control.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A.	Group	458
B.	Division F.O. No.	514
C.	Date of Operation	8 November 1944
D.	Ordered Primary Target.	Rheine M/Y
E-1	A/C Airborne.	29
E-2	A/C Airborne Less Unused Spares	29
F.	A/C Sorties	23
G.	A/C Attacking	21
H.	A/C Not Attacking	8
I.	A/C Attacking Primary Target.	Nil
J.	A/C Attacking Secondary Target.	13 - 140 X 500 GP 24 bombs jettisoned 72 bombs returned PT with H2X MPI
K.	A/C Attacking Last Resort Target.	Nil
L.	A/C Attacking Opportunity Target.	8 - 80 X 500 GP Nordhorn Village
M.	A/C Lost - Flak	Nil
N.	A/C Lost - Flak and E/A.	Nil
O.	A/C Lost - E/A.	Nil
P.	A/C Lost - Accident	Nil
Q.	A/C Lost - Cause Unknown.	Nil
R.	Time of Take Off.	0817
S.	Average Time of Flight.	5:20
T.	Comments.	Nil

For the Commanding Officer:

JOSEPH S. WILLIAMS
1st Lt, AC
Statistical Officer

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HEADQUARTERS
458TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
AAF 123 APO 558

9 November 1944.

SUBJECT: Aircraft Not Attacking, Mission of 8 November 1944.

TO: Commanding General, 2d Bombardment Division.
Attention: Statistical Control.

AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING

- A. A/C Taking Off 29
- B. A/C Taking Off Less Unused Spares. 29
- C. A/C Attacking. 21
- D. A/C Not Attacking. 8

44-40277 Not pathfinder. No sortie. Returned bombs. Pilot reported losing formation while assembling at Splasher 5 because of poor visibility. A/C could not stay with Group below 44" and 2500 RPM. Attempted to rejoin Group at Buncher 24 but could not make contact. Navigator then gave an approximate heading across the North Sea. At the Dutch Coast, Pilot heard Lincoln Leader state he would be at Control Point 2 in 9 minutes and would circle to pick up stragglers. We again tried to make contact at CP 2 but was unsuccessful. Pilot then spotted a formation about 20 miles away and 2,000 feet above. Tried to join this Group but upon reaching the Zuyder Zee crew gave up and came home.

42-95018 Not pathfinder. No sortie. Returned bombs. Pilot reported gyro horizon out on takeoff. Needle-ball A/S to 20,000. Attempted to utilize other A/C as secondary horizon. Enroute to Buncher 24 he was forced into an unusual position to avoid collision. Resumed flight altitude at 14,000. Could not relocate formation and returned to base.

42-51196 Not pathfinder. No sortie. Returned bombs. Pilot reported radio compass was out. Followed lead ship up to 20,000 feet where haze was very bad. Both co-pilot and pilot were getting vertigo after short intervals of flying. Lost formation for a time between vertigo and the dense haze and was unable to relocate it. Formation left for Buncher 24 and without a radio compass Pilot could not pick them up there so returned to base.

42-100425 Not pathfinder. No sortie. Returned bombs. Pilot reported the only time he saw the 458th Group was while climbing to altitude. When route was changed to Buncher 24 he flew by radio compass and it proved to be incorrect in the clouds. Navigator's jackbox was out so they had no communication. Pitot-tube froze up and had to lose altitude to thaw it out. By this time it was too late to overtake the Group, so A/C returned to base.

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