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HEADQUARTERS
AAF 123 APO 634
Office of the Operations Officer

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AUTH: CO. 458 DG

INITIALS: *CH*

DATE: 2-26-44

26 February 1944

SUBJECT: S-3 Narrative, Mission of 25 February 1944.

TO : Commanding Officer, 458th Bombardment Group (H)
AAF 123, APO 634

Thirty four (34) aircraft took off on a scheduled Diversion Mission on 25 February 1944. An assembly was made along the Division assembly line above the overcast. A three section formation was employed (middle-low left and high right).

The group formation then departed Horeham along the ordered route. No rendezvous was made with any other formations and also no relative position was maintained with other Group or Wing formations.

Being a "Diversion Mission", no fighter support was present. The enemy did not attempt to intercept the formation, and no anti-aircraft fire was encountered. All aircraft returned safely.

Attached herewith is the diagram of the formation as flown.

1 Incl--Copy of formation diagram

Charles H. Booth
CHARLES H. BOOTH
Captain, Air Corps
Asst Group Opns Officer

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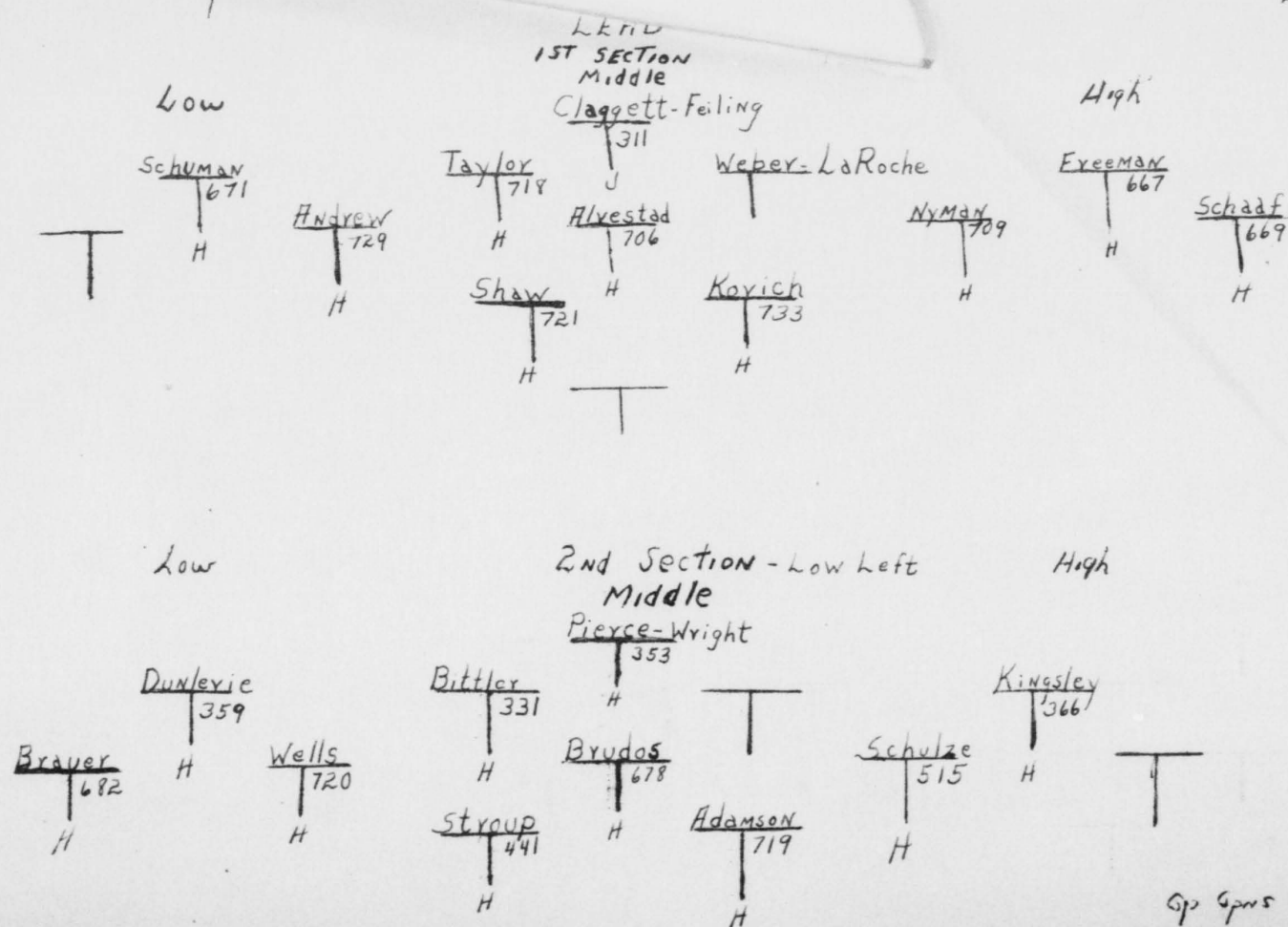
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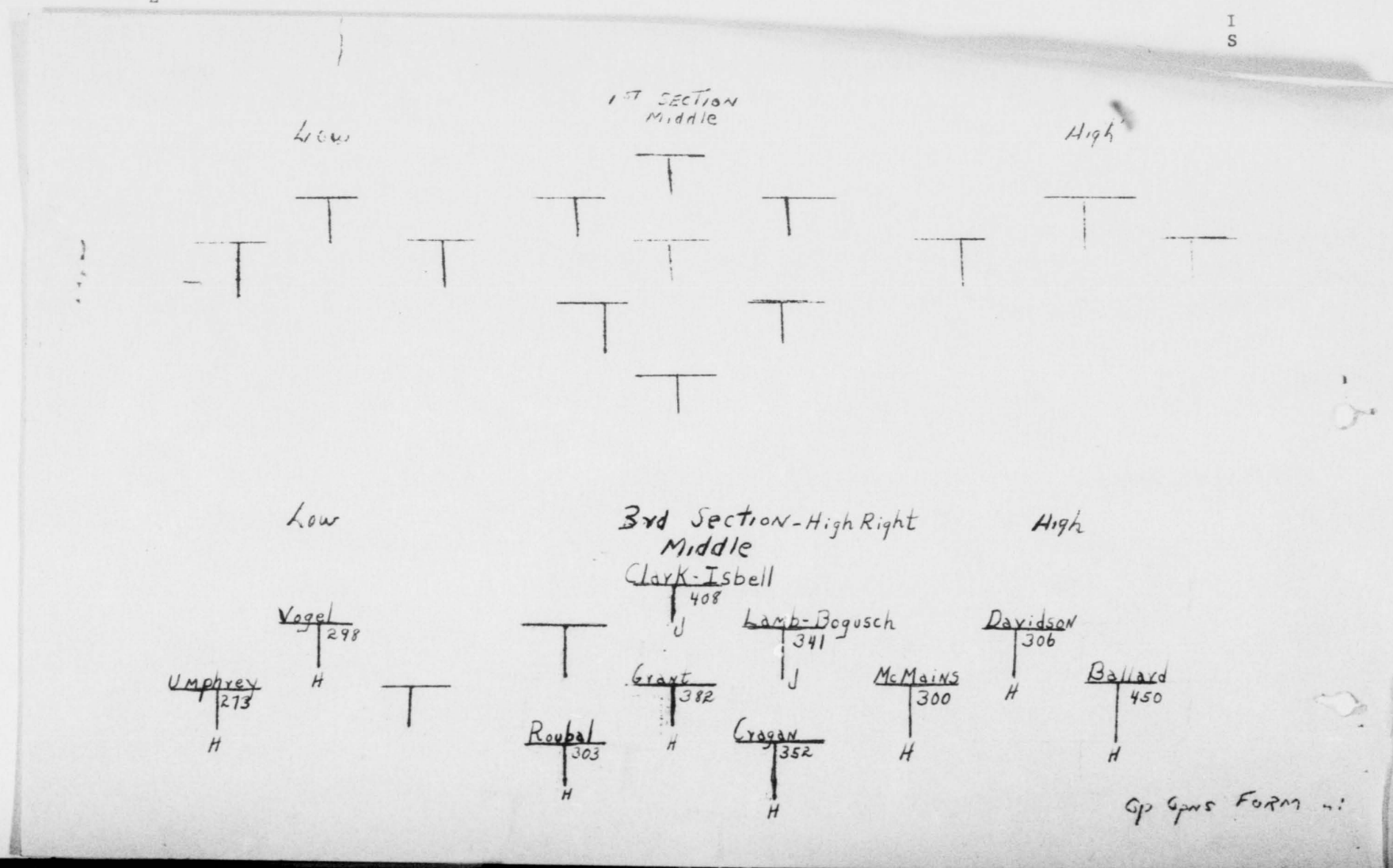
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HEADQUARTERS
458TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
AAF 123 APC 634

26 February 1944.

SUBJECT: Aircraft Not Attacking Report for Diversion Mission of 25 February 1944.

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

AIRCRAFT NOT ATTACKING

- a. A/C Taking Off: 34
- b. Number A/C Attacking: 31 - Diversion
- c. Number A/C Not Attacking: 3 - Diversion
- d. Detailed Description of Reasons why A/C Did Not Attack:
- | | |
|---------------|---|
| A/C 41-28705 | Was Not Pathfinder. Was not dispatched. Left formation because of mechanical failure. Gas tank leak. |
| A/C 42-100362 | Was not pathfinder. Was dispatched. Left formation because of mechanical failure. Nose turret door came off and damaged aerial. |
| A/C 41-29288 | Was not pathfinder. Was dispatched. Personnel failure - Pilot couldn't find formation. |
- e. Number A/C equipped with cameras: 14
- f. Photo coverage not available for:
- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 42-100311 | 42-52306 |
| 41-293440 | 42-100408 |
| 42-109812 | 42552441 |
| 42-100341 | 42-52392 |

No flying over enemy territory. No bombs dropped. Nothing to photograph.

For the Commanding Officer:

Joseph S. Williams
JOSEPH S. WILLIAMS,
1st Lt, AC,
Gp Stat Officer.

Ind #9

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HEADQUARTERS
AAF 123 APO 634
Office of the Operations Officer

SECRET

AUTH: CG. 458 DG
INITIALS: *W.H.B.*
DATE: *2-26-44*

26 February 1944

SUBJECT: Narrative Account of Mission, 25 February 1944.

TO : Commanding Officer, 458th Bombardment Group (H)
Sta 123, APO 634

MISSION: Diversion.

DATE: 25 February 1944

COMMAND PILOT: Major Brunow W. Peiling

PILOT: Captain Ellwood T. Claggett

NAVIGATOR: 2nd Lt Irving R. Burton

NARRATIVE ACCOUNT OF MISSION

1. Take-off and Assembly: Take-off at 0905 hours, on time. Departed at 1005 hours four miles east of Horsham. Departed from intended course to avoid E-17 formation. Formation was ten miles east of course at 1012 hours; passed four miles right of Splasher 6 and flew directly to Cromer to make up lost time.
2. Flight Out: Left Cromer at 1032 hours; two minutes late. Gee fix at 1110 gave new wind of 87°/24 K (Netro: 1050°/38 K). Altered course at 1120. At 1130, took heading of 360 magnetic to start radius of action to arrive at 55°00'N-06°00'E at 1205 hours. At 1142 hours, magnetic of 693°. At 1204 hours, position using fix wind, 55°00'N-06°00'E. Actual position, using wind derived from fixes on flight back: 265°/23 : 55°N 07°10'E. Made 180° left turn.
3. Flight Back: Used last fix wind (087°/24 K) for heading. Gee chart had run out, but 1231 hours Gee fix estimated 30 miles south of course. Altered course 12° right at 1235 hours. Altered course 1252 hours 14° right. At 1253 hours, Gee fix 40 miles south of intended course (fix wind 265°/23 K). Continued on Gee fixes. At 1314 hours, altered course 5° left. At 1317 hours, Gee fix gave ETA of 1341 hours. At 1335 hours, started homing on Cromer; ATA 1341 hours.
4. Last ship landed at 1525 hours.

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Irving R. Burton
IRVING R. BURTON
1st Lt, Air Corps
Lead Navigator

0782



458th Pilot List

DATE	TARGET	PILOT	458th Msn #	Pilot Msn #	Cmd / Inst Pilot	LD	Serial	Last 3	RCL	Sqdn	A/C Msn #	A/C Name	Notes
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	ADAMSON	D2	--			41-28719	719	--	J3	D2	PADDLEFOOT	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	ALVESTAD	D2	--			41-28706	706	--	J4	D2	DREAM BOAT/SPARE PARTS	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	ANDREW	D2	--			41-28729	729	--	J4	D2	UNKNOWN 046	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	BALLARD	D2	--			42-52450	450	--	Z5	D2	UNKNOWN 032	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	BITTLER	D2	--			41-29331	331	--	J3	D2	BLONDIE'S FOLLY	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	BRAUER	D2	--			41-28682	682	--	Z5	D2	UNKNOWN 003	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	BRUDOS	D2	--			41-28678	678	--	J3	D2	UNKNOWN 002	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	CLAGGETT	D2	--	FEILING	L1	42-100311	311	--	7V	D2	YOKUM BOY	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	CLARK	D2	--	ISBELL	L2	42-100408	408	--	J4	D2	BEASTFACE	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	CRAGUN	D2	--			41-29353	353	--	7V	D2	WOLVE'S LAIR	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	DAVIDSON	D2	--			42-52306	306	--	J4	D2	UNKNOWN 030	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	DUNLEVIE	D2	--			41-29359	359	--	J3	D2	TAIL WIND	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	FREEMAN	D2	--			41-28667	667	--	7V	D2	JAYHAWKER	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	GRANT	D2	--			42-52382	382	--	7V	D2	WURF'LESS	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	KINGSLEY	D2	--			42-100366	366	--	Z5	D2	MIZPAH	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	KOVICH	D2	--			41-28733	733	--	J4	D2	RHAPSODY IN JUNK	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	LAMB	D2	--	BOGUSCH	D2	42-100341	341	--	J4	D2	SATAN'S MATE	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	McMAINS	D2	--			41-29300	300	--	J4	D2	LORELEI	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	NYMAN	D2	--			41-28709	709	--	7V	D2	LUCKY STRIKE	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	PIERCE	D2	--	WRIGHT	L3	42-52353	353	--	Z5	D2	UNKNOWN 049	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	ROUBAL	D2	--			41-29303	303	--	Z5	D2	LIBERTY LIB	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	SCHAAF	D2	--			41-28669	669	--	7V	D2	GINNY	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	SCHULZE	D2	--			42-52515	515	--	Z5	D2	FORD'S FOLLY	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	SCHUMAN	D2	--			41-28671	671	--	J4	D2	UNKNOWN 001	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	SHAW, C	D2	--			41-28721	721	--	J4	D2	DOWNWIND LEG	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	STROUP	D2	--			42-52441	441	--	J3	D2	LAST CARD LOUIE	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	TAYLOR, O	D2	--			41-28718	718	--	7V	D2	BO	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	UMPHREY	D2	--			41-29273	273	--	J4	D2	FLAK MAGNET	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	VOGEL	D2	--			41-29298	298	G	J3	D2	OLE SATAN	Diversion Mission
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	WEBER	D2	--	LaROCHE	D1	--		--	--	D2		SERIAL NOT LISTED
25-Feb-44	DUTCH COAST	WELLS	D2	--			41-28720	720	--	J3	D2	UNKNOWN 004	Diversion Mission