HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDAENT DIVISION APO 558 T.CTICAL MISSION REPORT FIELD ORDER NO. TARGET DATE T BRUNGWICK 8 AFRIL 1944 551 H I DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR 5200.9, 27 Sep 58 G E TABLE OF CONTENTS I S 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION ANNEX 1 - ROUTES U N ANNEX 2 - BOMBING C ANNEX 3 - ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE ANNEX 4 - ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS ANNEX 5 - COMMUNICATIONS ANNEX 6 - STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS E

HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION AAF 147 APO 558

SECRET

By Auth of CG

2d Bomb Div

Initials

Date 13 Magnin

11 May 1944

SUBJECT: Tactical Report of Mission, 8 April 1944.

TO : Commanding General, Eighth Air Force, AAF 101, APO 634.

1. Data.

T

H

I

S

P

AG

E

IS

U

N

C

LA

S

SI

I

D

- a. Date of Mission 8 April 1944.
- b. Primary Targets and Units Porticipating -

14th Combat Wing - Brunswick - Waggun A/D (A/C Assembly 44th Book Group Shops and North Hangars).

2nd Combat Wing - Brunswick - Bomber Component Factory
453rd Bomb Group
445th Bomb Group
389th Bomb Group

96th Combat Wing - Brunswick - Waggun A/D (South Hangurs 458th Bomb Group and Center of Airdrome)

20th Combat Wing - Brunswick - Bomber Component Factory
448th Bomb Group
93rd Bomb Group
446th Bomb Group

- c. Secondary Target Brunswick Center of City PFF.
- d. Last Resort Target Any military objective positively identified as being in Germany.

2. Narrative.

a. 328 B-24's were dispatched to visually attack targets in Brunswick area as specified above. Fighter support consisted of two Groups of P-47's, five Groups of P-51's and two Groups of P-38's.

b. Assemblies were effected with difficulty due to the heavy haze prevailing. Units, notwithstanding, departed on course in proper order and flew route in as briefed.

c. Due to difficulty encountered in pinpointing primary, the 14th Combat Wing bombed Lingenhagen, as a target of opportunity, with fair results. The 2nd, 96th and 20th Combat Wings (less the 446th and 466th Bomb Groups) attacked targets as briefed, results ranging from poor to very good. Hesslingen, a target of opportunity was attacked by the 446th and 466th Bomb Groups with poor results.

d. Anti-aircraft was reported as from moderate to heavy and accurate. Strong fighter attacks commenced in vicinity of the IP and continued for considerable distance on the route out. Claims are fifty-eight enemy aircraft destroyed, and losses are thirty aircraft to enemy action, two to anti-aircraft, five to anti-aircraft-enemy fighters, fifteen to enemy fighters and eight to unknown causes. Fighter support was good through the entire route.

For the Commanding General:

CHARLES B. WESTOVER
Colonel GSC
Chief of Staff

SECRET



THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

Tactical Report of Mission, 8 ipril 1944

2. Bombing.

a.	DIRECT	LENGTH	• .	TIME OF	FLEW AUTO	FLE	RANGE &		NUMBER A	/c
GROUP	OF RUN	OF RUN	ALTITUUS	RETEASE	PILOT	MANUAL	DEFLECT	RANGE	BO BED	
					LANGENHA	GEN A/3				
44	272°	12 min.	20,000 ft	1406	X		Dropped on :	Lead PFF	27 +	1 PFF
392	190°	50 sec.	22,000 ft	1407	X		1	1	19	
					BRUNS	WICK				
392	260°	50 sec.	22,000 ft	1355	X		1	1	9	
445	2450	4 min.	20,000 ft	1410	X		Dropped on	Lead PFF	33 +	2 PFF
453	245° 269° 260° 192°	12 min.	18,000 ft	1413		Х	2	2	30	
389	260°	6 mir.	22,300 ft	1415	X		2	2	29	
93	192°	2 min.	20,000 ft	1421		X	2	2	26	
93 448	219	2 min.	21,000 ft	1424		X	2	2	26	
458	281°	1 min.	20,000 ft	1417	X		Dropped on	Lead PFF	33 +	1 PFF
					HESSI	INGEN				
466	268°	50 sec.	21,000 ft	1414		X	2	2	22	
446	270	2 min.	19,770 ft	1420		X	3	3	32	

- b. The assigned primar; targets for this mission were at Brunswick,
- c. Six Groups bombed Brunswick, and Langenhagen A/F and Hesslingen were each attacked by 2 Groups as targets of last resort. The targets of opporturity were attacked because the pilotage navigators were confused by smoke screens and were unable to proper pinpoint themselves at the primary.
- d. A lead A/C had to release its bombs by tripping release levers in the bomb bay, thus causing a scattered pattern. Three A/C failed to bomb use to a reck ralfunction. One lead A/C had two bombs drop out when bomb doors were opened and then at release time the bombs had to be salveed. At that time an anti-aircraft burst hit the ship, the bombardier and navigator both being knocked over and delaying the salve a few seconds.
- e. The results at Brurswick ware generally good to fair.

SECRET

SECRET

Tactical Report of Mission, 8 April 1944

3. Anti-Aircraft Fire.

- a. The 14th Combat Wing which led the Division failed to bomb their primary target on account of the smoke screen, but they did cross the northern portion of the defences at Brunswick and the 392nd Group encountered a fairly accurate predicted concentration. During their bombing run both Groups encountered intense and accurate predictor control fire from the Hanover defences, the 44th Group being engaged by particularly intense fire.
- b. All Groups in the 2nd Combat Wing encountered moderate to intense and accurate predictor control fire during their bombing runs, and also reported a fixed barrage over the actual target. An AA burst was seen which emitted a parachute, but no object could be seen attached to it. A rocket was also seen which spiralled up leaving a smoke trail, arched over, and started to spiral down again before petering out.
- c. Both Groups of the 96th Wing encountered moderate to intense predictor control fire during their bombing runs. Rockets were seen which left smoke trails in the target area, and a number of small flashes resembling automatic weapons bursts were also seen at 21,000 ft. These small bursts were reported to crackle like machine gum fire.
- d. All Groups of the 20th Combat Wing also encountered intense and accurate predictor control fire during their bombing run, and the leading Group also reported a fixed barrage over the target.
- o. All Groups reported that the AA was practically continuous from Gardelegen to the target, there being apparently a fairly heavy concentration in the Fallersleben and Versfelde areas. Intense and very accerate predictor control fire was encountered in the Diepholz/Dummer Lake area, AA bursts were seen here which broke up into three red streamers. Moderate gunfire was encountered at Vechta, Gardelegen and Schwermstadt. Meager gunfire was encountered at Mappen, Bippen, Quackenbruck, Ijmuiden, Peine, Hesepe area, Lingen and Egmond. Several rockets were fired from the Salzwedel area.

T H I S P A G E I S U N C L A S S I F I E D

SECRET

Tactical Report of Mission, 8 April 1944

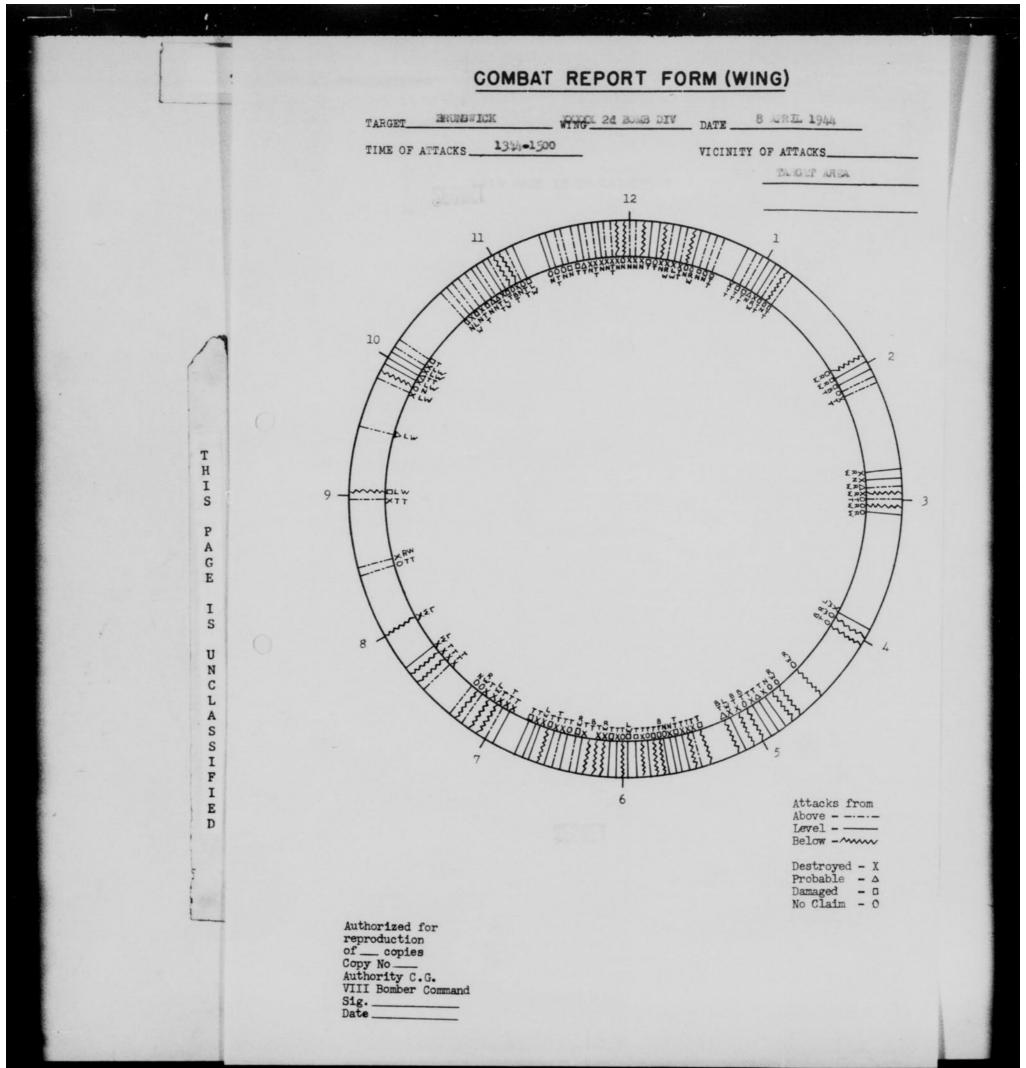
4. Enemy Aircraft Encounters,

- a. The total number of E/A reported by the entire Division was some 225 A/C with very few TE A/C seen. Although unquestionably there were some duplications between Combat Wings, it is conservatively estimated that between 175 and 200 E/A were put up to attack this Division. The 14th CW encountered approximately 75 E/A - 50 ME 109s. 20 FW 190s, 3 JU 88s and 1 ME 410. There was only one main attack which took place in the Salzwedle area. The E/A started their attack on the lead Group from the mose flying from four to ten abreast. The attack, coming in two waves, passed through the entire formation of the lead Group, then attacked the other Group of this CBW by coming in from below, two or three E/A at the time and making individual attacks on the block to the low and left. One E/A crashed with a B-24 and all attacks could be described as aggressive and determined until the friendly support came up from the rear of the formation about the time of the second wave and engaged the E/A in dog fights. No unusual tactics occurred except three crows reported 4 E/A flying about 1000 feet above and to the left, dropped large black balls which seemed to float through the formation, smoking but not flaming and no damage was done. No unusual colors were reported. The amber colored ME 109s carried belly tanks.
- b. The 2nd CW was attacked by some 50 to 60 SE E/A from near the WingIP to target area with a few more FW 190s than ME 109s. One Group of the CW received the brunt of the attacks which were made by Groups of from 12 to 20 A/C attacking from directly ahead and above, passing through the formation and then directing their individual attacks to A/C from the rear and generally from below. On one occasion an unusual attack was made by 12 FW 190s coming in abreast and directly ahead, shot a barrage of rockets from 2000-2500 yards, then pressed home additional attacks with 20 mm cannon fire where hits were observed. The E/A colors were of the usual variety.
- c. The 96th CN observed some 50 E/A, mostly ME 109s, from the IP to target area. The tactics were of the usual variety, which apparently were directed to break up the formation. They would hang around out of range and when a break occurred in fighter cover would come in for any attack that presented itself. In the target area some of the ME 109s were painted to rescable P-51s. Some ME 109s were reported with rockets, A few FN 190s fired 20 mm cannon. The bursts were described as being small red balls surrounded by white balls which were apparently time fused. Cable air-to-air bombing was reported but said to be ineffective.
- d. The 20th CM reported some 50 SE E/A, mostly in the target area, with the ME 109 predominating. One Group experienced the majority of attacks which were described to be aggressive to the extent that they would come in through their own ha fire to attack usually in groups of 4 to 6 from the mose position. At one time while an attack of this kind was being made other ME 109s were attacking from the tail position. Just before reaching the target an ME 410 flew parallel to the formation and a few minutes thereafter a concentrated attack occurred by ME 109s and FM 190s. The ME 109s attacking this group in the target area were also reported to resemble P-51s.
- e. The fighter support was considered as excellent although at certain periods in the target area the E/A outnumbered the friendly escort.

SECRET

D

TI



SECRET

Tactical Report of Mission, 8 April 1944

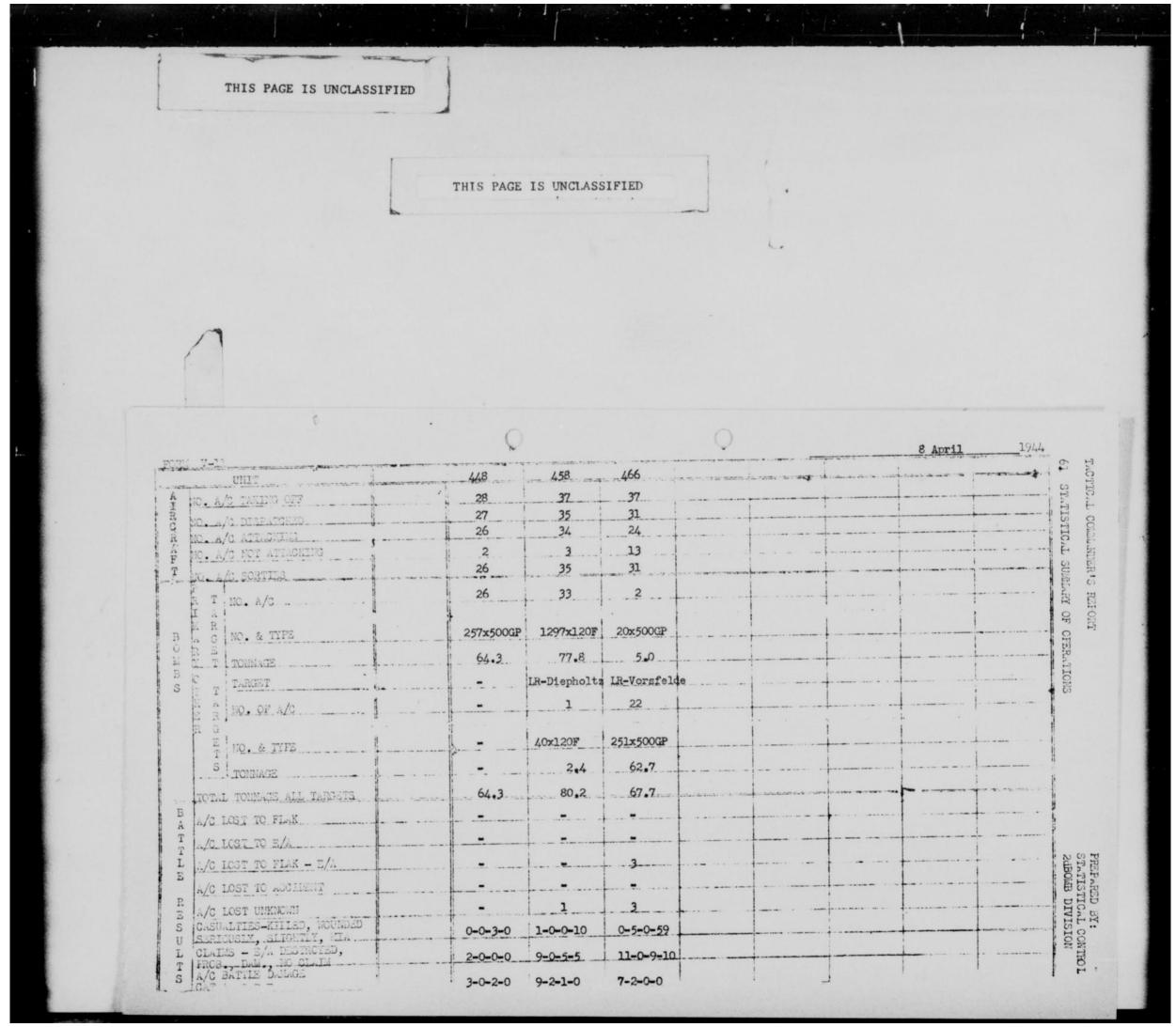
5. Communications.

- a. Channels.
 - (1) Reception on Division W/T frequency was very poor. VHF communication was very good, with Division channel very active. Leader of 14th Combat Bomb Wing referred to a location as "over English coast". Two aircraft of 448th Bomb Group sent in an 303 for aircraft in distress.
- b. Navigational Aids.
 - (1) Fourteen aircraft obtained 23 QLM's. Three aircraft requested and obtained fixes. GEE performance was satisfactory; railing type jamming and spurious blips were encountered at enemy coast and inland.
- c. Equipment Failures and Performance.
 - (1) Reported failures were of a minor nature.
- d. Radar and Radio Counterneasures.
 - (1) All aircraft carried 270 units of "Window" chaff for dispersing at rate of one unit every four seconds.
- c. Pathfinder Equipment and Performance.
 - (1) Six HPX aircraft from 564th Squadron were assigned two each to the 14th, 2nd and 96th Combat Bomb Wings. Landmarks and target were recognized with good to excellent recognition. Bombing was done visually.

T H I S P A G E I S U N C L A S S I F I E D

SECRET

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED ORM Y-21 2d BD 389 PFF 445 453 392 93 446 44 NO. A/C TaKING OFF 6 351 30 34 42 39 28 35 35 April NO. A/C DISPATCHED 328 29 6 34 32 38 36 28 32 COMMANDER'S R NO. A/C ATTACKING 297 29 5 33 30 27 30 27 32 1944 R NO. A/C NOT ATTACKING 15 9 54 5 1 3 NO. A/C SORTIES 325 29 30 38 35 28 33 PRIMARY REPORT NO. A/C 29 33 30 9 26 4 NO. & TYPE 1508x100IB 16x500GP 330x500GP 299x500GP 108x500GP 260x500GP TONNAGE 0 475.8 75.4 82.5 74.8 27.0 65.0 0 T T 4 M Langen-Langengen TARGET В LR- hagen IR- hagen LR-Geitelde LR-Hesslin-HR S 10. UF A/C 105 1841×508GF 1851×188FF 40×120F A-19 B-2 228x500GP 24x500GP RE C. & TYFE 4x500GP 324x500GP 1651x100IB T 10x500GP S 295.2 81 63.0 82.6 TOTAL TONNINGE ALL TARGETS 771.0 75.4 5.0 82.5 74.8 81.0 67.5 82.6 90.0 В A/C LOST TO FLAK 2 1 1 SELTISTICAL CONTROL 2d BOUR DIVISION T A/C LOST TO E/A 15 2 7 6 A/C LOST TO FLAK-E/A E A/C LOST TO ACCIDENT R A/C LOST UNKNOWN 8 E CASUALTIES - KILLED, MOURDE 0-0-0-0 0-0-0-0 7-7-12-302 0-0-1-0 0-0-0-72 SER., SLT., MIA 1-1-5-111 5-0-1-21 0-0-1-9 0-1-1-20 CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED, FROB., Dall., NO CLAIM 0-0-0-0 0-0-0-0 2-0-0-0 10-1-6-2 8-5-5-0 7-0-3-6 0-0-0-0 9-3-1-6 A/C BATTLE DanaGE 0-0-0-0 3-3-0-0 13-1-0-0 9-2-1-0 2-13-1-0 4-0-0-1 B-52038'N - 08020'E A-Langenhagen



THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED IAW EO 13526

HEADQUARTERS 458TH BOMBARMENT GROUP (H) AAF 123 APO 558 Office of the Operations Officer

SECRET
AUTH: <u>Co 4586</u>P
INITIALS: SLW
DATE: S SYL

9 April 1944.

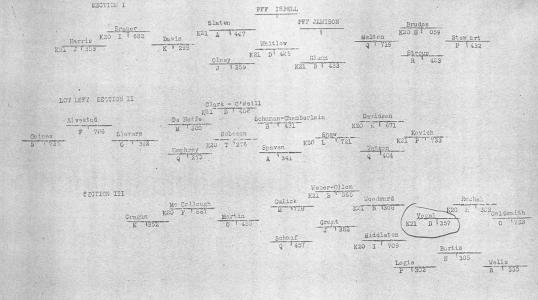
SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 8 April 1944.

TO: Commanding Officer, 458th Bombardment Group (H), AAF 123, APO 558.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A.	Group
B.	Division F.O. No
C.	Date of Operation
-	Managem Africana
D.	Ordered Primary Target
E.	A/C Taking Off
F.	A/C Dispatched
G.	Sorties
H.	A/G Attacking
	A/C Not Attacking
1.	ATO NOT ADDRESS OF ACTION OF THE PROPERTY OF T
J.	A/C Attacking - Primary Target
K.	A/G Attacking - Secondary Target
L.	A/C Attacking - Last Resort Target
M.	A/C Attacking - Opportunity Target
N.	A/C Lost - Flak
0.	A/C Lost - Flak and E/A
P	A/C Lost - E/A
Q.	A/C Lost - Aggident
**************************************	A/C Lost - Cause Unknown
n.	with many a farme amountains

Joseph S. WILLIAMS
1st Lt. Air Corps
Group Statistical Officer.



Date	Target	Pilot	458th Msn	Pilot Msn	Cmd Pilot	Ld	Serial	Last 3	RCL	Sqdn	A/C Msn	A/C Name	Comments
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	ALVESTAD	17	9			41-28706	706	F	J4	5	DREAM BOAT/SPARE PARTS	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	BRAUER	17	8			41-28682	682	I	Z5	13	UNKNOWN 003	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	BRUDOS	17	10			42-110059	059	E	J3	2	UNKNOWN 056	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	BURTIS	17	7			41-29305	305	N	Z5	6	I'LL BE BACK/HYPOCHONDRIAC	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	CLARK	17	6	O'NEILL	L2	42-100408	408	D	J4	7	BEASTFACE	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	CRAGUN	17	8			41-29352	352	K	7V	9	WOLVE'S LAIR	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	DAVIDSON	17	5			41-28671	671	K	J4	12	UNKNOWN 001	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	DAVIS	17	8			41-29295	295	K	Z5	9	BOMB TOTIN' MAMA	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	DeNEFFE	17	9			41-29300	300	М	J4	15	LORELEI	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	GAINES	17	8			41-28735	735	S	J4	7	UNKNOWN 005	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	GLENN	17	7			42-100433	433	В	J3	8	BIG DICK HARD TO HIT	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	GOLDSMITH	17	6			41-28738	738	0	Z5	4	MEAT AROUND THE CORNER	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	GRANT	17	12			42-52382	382	J	7V	14	WURF'LESS	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	GULICK	17	6			41-28718	718	М	7V	15	ВО	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	HARRIS, T	17	5			42-52353	353	J	Z5	14	UNKNOWN 049	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	KOVICH	17	7			41-28733	733	Р	J4	10	RHAPSODY IN JUNK	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	LAMB	17		JAMISON	D1	41-28713	713	G	YO		389BG/564SQ	EX- 458 PILOT
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	LOCKE	17		ISBELL	L1	41-28714	714	С	YO		CYCLONE/UTTERLY DEVASTATING (389BG)	389TH CREW (SCORZA PN)
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	LOGIE	17	10			41-29302	302	Р	7V	9	NOKKISH	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	MARTIN, J	17	9			42-52455	455	0	7V	11	PLUTOCRAT	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	McCOLLOUGH	17	8			41-28667	667	F	7V	7	JAYHAWKER	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	MELTON	17	10			41-28719	719	Q	J3	9	PADDLEFOOT	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	MIDDLETON	17	2			41-28709	709	ı	7V	9	LUCKY STRIKE	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	OLNEY	17	2			41-29359	359	J	J3	10	TAIL WIND	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	ROBESON	17	11			41-29276	276	Т	J4	4	URGIN VIRGIN/The ROTTEN SOCK	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	ROUBAL	17	11			41-29303	303	Н	Z5	11	LIBERTY LIB	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	SCHAAF	17	11			42-52457	457	Q	7V	9	FINAL APPROACH	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	SCHUMAN	17	8	CHAMBERLAIN	D2	42-100431	431	В	J4	8	BOMB-AH-DEAR	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	SHAW, C	17	7			41-28721	721	L	J4	10	DOWNWIND LEG	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	SIEVERS	17	FTR			42-52392	392	0	J4	12	WABBIT TWACKS	FIGHTERS
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	SLATON	17	4			42-100407	407	Α	J3	7	LITTLE LAMBSY DIVEY	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	SPAVEN	17	8			42-100341	341	Α	J4	6	SATAN'S MATE	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	STEWART	17	8			42-52432	432	Р	J3	15	BACHELOR'S PARADISE	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	STROUP	17	7			42-52423	423	R	J3	8	UNKNOWN 031	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	UMPHREY	17	10			41-29273	273	Q	J4	13	FLAK MAGNET	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	VOGEL	17	9			42-100357	357	D	Z 5	7	VALE OREGAN	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	WATSON	17	9			42-52404	404	Q	Z 5	5	BELLE OF BOSTON	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	WEBER	17	8	OLLUM	L3	42-100365	365	В	7V	9	WOLFGANG (maybe)	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	WELLS	17	8			42-52335	335	R	Z 5	15	ADMIRABLE LITTLE CHARACTER	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	WHITLOW	17	9			42-100425	425	D	J3	6	THE BIRD	
08-Apr-44	BRUNSWICK/WAGGUM	WOODWARD	17	6			42-100366	366	В	Z 5	6	MIZPAH	