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HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558

TACTICAL MISSION REPORTFIELD ORDER NO.TARGETDATE

573

BRANDENBURG
RATHENOW

18 APRIL 1944

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Tactical Report of Mission, 18 April 1944 (cont'd)

using check points prior to the target in calculating release point. The remaining Groups attacked targets of opportunity at Salzenedel, Wittenberg, Saltan, Cuxhaven and Rathenow with fair results.

d. Flak was meager to moderate and inaccurate enroute with moderate and accurate gunfire in the target area. Fighter support was excellent and only seven enemy fighters were seen. Two aircraft were lost to unknown causes and there were no claims.

For the Commanding General:

Charles B. Westover
CHARLES B. WESTOVER
Colonel GSC
Chief of Staff

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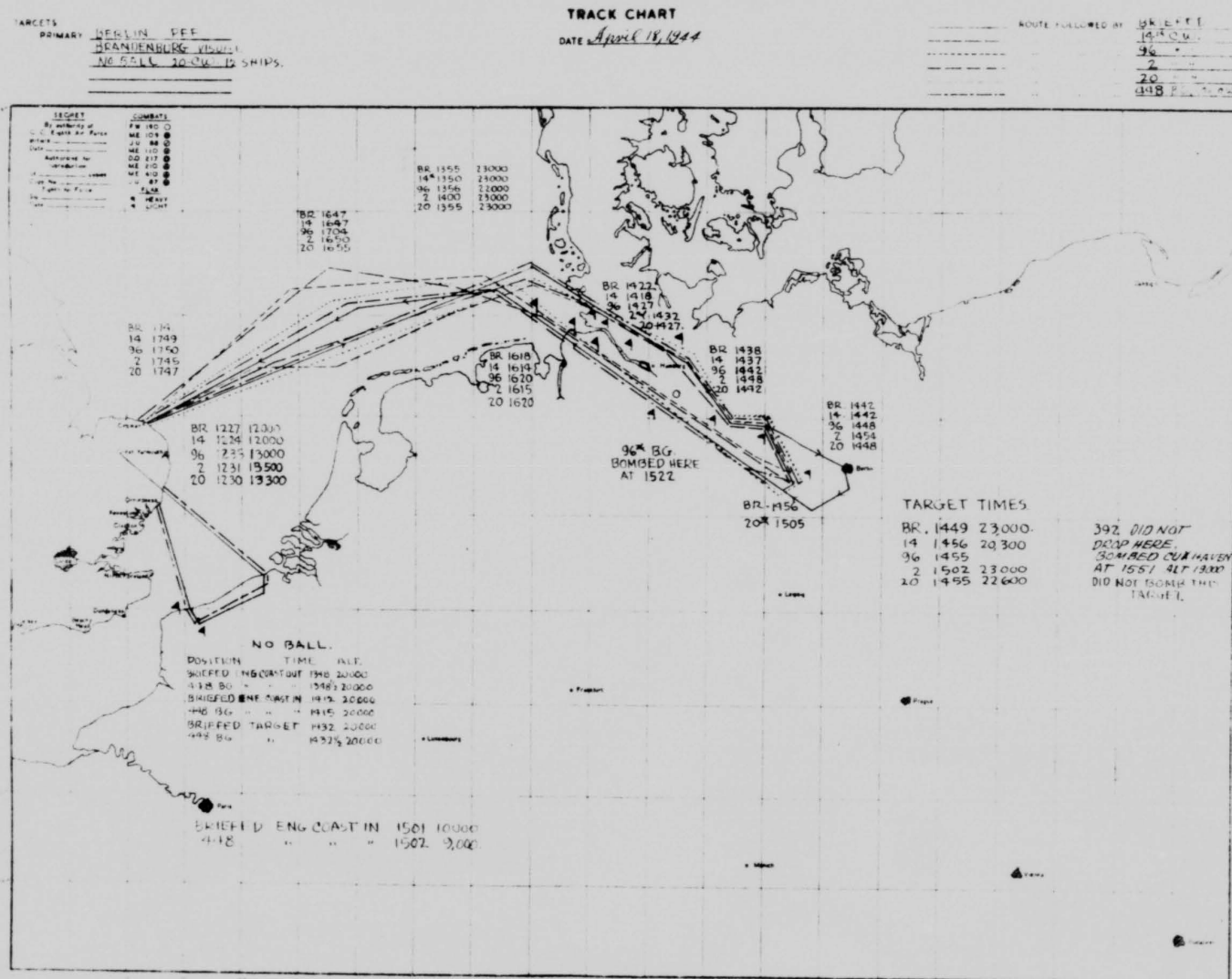
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Tactical Bombing Report of Mission, 18 April 1944

GROUP	DIRECT OF RUN	LENGTH OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF RELEASE	FWLW AUTO PILOT	FWLW MANUAL	RANGE & DEFLECT	RANGE	NUMBER A/C BOMBED
<u>BRANDENBURG</u>									
466	150°	1 min.	23,000 ft	1458	X		1	1	12
467	180°	3 min.	22,000 ft	1500	X		2	2	21
<u>RATHENOW</u>									
445	150°	6 min.	23,000 ft	1500		X	Dropped on	Lead PFF A/C	22 2 PFF
453	164°	1½ min.	22,600 ft	1501	X		1	1	23
44	120°	65 sec.	20,000 ft	1505		X	1	1	10
93	170°	4 min.	21,500 ft	1455		X	2	2	23
448	170°	2 min.	20,000 ft	1456		X	2	2	20
389	120°	2 min.	23,000 ft	1504	X		1	1	11
<u>CUXHAVEN</u>									
392	330°	2 min.	18,500 ft	1550	X		Dropped on	Lead PFF A/C	10 1 PFF
<u>DOBERITZ</u>									
446	150°	2 min.	23,000 ft	1455	X		Dropped on	Lead PFF A/C	22 1 PFF
389	120°	2 min.	18,300 ft	1500		X	1	1	9
<u>SALZWEDEL M/Y</u>									
458	300°	1 min.	20,000 ft	1522	X		Dropped on	Lead PFF A/C	2 1 PFF
<u>WITTENBURGE</u>									
458	310°	1 min.	20,000 ft	1524		X	1	1	7
<u>SALTAU</u>									
466	285°	2 min.	20,000 ft	1548	X		1	1	6

- a. The assigned primary targets for this visual mission were Rathenow and Brandenburg.
- b. Brandenburg was attacked by a Group and one Squadron. Rathenow was attacked by four Groups and by two Squadrons. One Group attacked Cuxhaven and various other targets of opportunity due to weather conditions at the primary. Another Group attacked Rathenow and targets of opportunity due to weather conditions at their primary of Brandenburg. Doberitz was attacked by a Group and a Squadron that encountered clouds at the primary. One Group attacked Wittenburge and various other targets of opportunity due to undercast at the primary. Saltau was also attacked by a Squadron that could not bomb the primary because of clouds.
- c. 2 A/C failed to bomb due to battle damage. A deputy lead A/C that had taken over the lead had the bombsight freeze during the last 30 sec. of the run and bombing was accomplished by a fixed angle approximation. One A/C had an accidental release when bomb doors were opened.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 18 April 1944

3. Anti-Aircraft Fire.

- a. (1) Neither the 448th Group nor the 93rd Group encountered any AA fire at Rathenow, but the 446th Group encountered meager and fairly accurate predictor control fire during their bombing run. Four red parachute flares were seen in the target area.
- (2) Neither the 445th Group nor the 453rd Group encountered any AA fire at Rathenow, but the 389th Group encountered very meager and inaccurate gunfire during their bombing run.
- (3) Neither the 392nd Group nor the 44th Group encountered any AA fire at Rathenow.
- (4) The 466th Group encountered moderate and fairly accurate gunfire at Brandenburg which appeared to commence in the form of a predicted concentration and then continued in the form of a fixed barrage. The 467th Group made their bombing run at the same time and were not engaged. The 458th Group were engaged by both predictor control fire and also a fixed barrage of fair accuracy.
- (5) Various types of rockets were seen at both targets, and scare-crow flares were seen at Werben.
- (6) Moderate gunfire was encountered on route at Cuxhaven, Nordholz A/F, Lubeck, Meldorf, Stade, Wesermunde, Itzehoe, Neuhaus and Wenzendorf A/F.
- (7) Meager gunfire was encountered on route at Luchow, Elmshorn and from ships between Scharhorn and Heligoland.
- (8) Balloons were seen at Wittenberge (53°00'N 11°45'E).
- b. Phenomena.
- (1) At Cuxhaven AA fire bursts were seen which emitted red objects which appeared to burst again.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 18 April 1944

5. Communications.

a. Channels.

- (1) W/T and VHF R/T channels were satisfactory. Some interference was experienced on the Division W/T channel.

b. Navigational Aids.

- (1) GEE operated satisfactorily. Jamming was experienced from enemy coast inland. Six A/C obtained seven fixes from assigned MF D/F section.

c. Equipment Failures and Performance.

- (1) Equipment reported unserviceable in part or in whole was the following: VHF (8), Command set R/T MF (2), Liaison W/T (5), Interphone (31), Compass (3), GEE (2).

d. Radar and Radio Countermeasures.

- (1) All A/C carried 480 units of "Window" chaff for discharging in target area.

e. Pathfinder Equipment and Performance.

- (1) H2X equipped A/C from 564 Sqn were assigned to fly as follows: two with the 445th BG, two with the 392nd BG, two with the 458th BG, and one with the 446th BG. Landmarks were recognizable with fair to excellent recognition. Bombing was done visually.

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UNIT		-----2d Combat Wing-----					----14th Combat Wing--		---20th CEW-----	
A I R C R A F T	NO. A/C TAKING OFF	292	24	7	26	26	26	26	26	24
	NO. A/C DISPATCHED	272	21	6	24	25	24	25	24	22
	NO. A/C ATTACKING	247	20	5	22	23	21	24	24	22
	NO. A/C NOT ATTACKING	45	4	2	4	3	5	2	2	2
	NO. A/C SORTIES	258	20	6	23	23	24	24	24	22
B O M B S	NO. A/C	167	20	2	22	23	-	-	23	22
	NO. & TYPE	6232x100IB 1788x100GP	1038x100IB	40x100GP	878x100GP	1196x100IB	-	-	1181x100IB	870x100GP
	TONNAGE	401.0	51.9	2.0	43.9	59.8	-	-	59.0	43.5
	TARGET	TO	-	TO's	-	-	TO's	TO	TO-Salzpedel	-
	NO. OF A/C	80	-	3	-	-	21	24	1	-
	NO. & TYPE	1612x100IB 1888x100GP	-	50x100GP	-	-	1092x100IB	958x100GP	52x100IB	-
	TONNAGE	175.0	-	2.5	-	-	54.6	47.9	2.6	-
	TOTAL TONNAGE ALL TARGETS	576.0	51.9	4.5	43.9	59.8	54.6	47.9	61.6	43.5
	A/C LOST TO FLAK	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST TO E/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B A T T L E R E S U L T S	A/C LOST TO FLAK-E/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST TO ACCIDENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST UNKNOWN	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	CASUALTIES - KILLED, WOUNDED SER., SGT., MIA	0-0-1-20	-	-	-	-	-	0-0-0-10	-	-
	CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED, PROB., DMR., NO CLAIM	0-0-0-1	-	-	-	-	-	0-0-0-1	-	-
	A/C BATTLE DAMAGE CAUSE - AC-B-E	11-7-1-0	-	0-1-0-0	-	-	0-1-0-0	3-1-0-0	-	1-1-0-0

18 April 1944

TACTICAL COMMANDER'S REPORT
6. STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONSPREPARED BY
STATISTICAL CONTROL
2d FOWB DIVISION

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FORM V-11

18 April 1944

UNIT		448BG	458BG	466BG	467BG
AIRCRAFT	NO. A/C TAKING OFF	26	28	27	26
	NO. A/C DISPATCHED	23	26	26	26
	NO. A/C ATTACHED	20	22	20	24
	NO. A/C NOT ATTACHED	6	6	7	2
	NO. A/C SCRAPPED	20	24	22	26
BOMBERS	RT NO. A/C	20	-	12	23
	NO. & TYPE	997x100IB	-	624x100IB	1196x100IB
	TONNAGE	49.9	-	31.2	59.8
	TARGET	-	TO's	TO's	TO-Heligoland
	NO. OF A/C	-	22	8	1
	NO. & TYPE	-	880x100GP	416x100IB	52x100IB
	TONNAGE	-	44.0	20.8	2.6
	TOTAL TONNAGE ALL TARGETS	49.9	44.0	52.0	62.4
	A/C LOST TO FLAK	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST TO E/A	-	-	-	-
RESULTS	A/C LOST TO FLAK - E/A	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST TO ACCIDENT	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST UNKNOWN	-	1	-	-
	CASUALTIES-KILLED, WOUNDED, SERIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, IN CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED, PROB., DUB., NO CLAIM	-	0-0-0-10	-	0-0-1-0
	A/C BATTLE DAMAGE	2-1-1-0	-	3-1-0-0	2-1-0-0

Tactical Group of Bombers

FALL 1944
STANDARD REPORT
24 NOV 44 DIVISION

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

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AUTH CO 43868
INITIALS gws
DATE 19 Apr.

19 April 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 18 April 1944.

TO: Commanding Officer, 458th Bombardment Group (H).

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A. Group	458	
B. Division F.O. No.	263	
C. Date of Operations.	18 April 1944	
D. Ordered Primary Target.	Brandenburg - Arade A/C Factory	
E. A/C Taking Off.	28	
F. A/C Dispatched.	26	
G. Sorties	24	
H. A/C Attacking	22	
I. A/C Not Attacking	6	
J. A/C Attacking - Primary Target.	Nil	
K. A/C Attacking - Secondary Target.	Nil	
L. A/C Attacking - Last Resort Target.	Nil	
M. A/C Attacking - Opportunity Target.	22	1 - Petrau 40 X 100 GP
		1 - Albersdorf 40 X 100 GP
		7 - Wittenberge 280 X 100 GP
		2 - Brandenburg 80 X 100 GP
		1 - Carlstorf 40 X 100 GP
		1 - Kellehne 40 X 100 GP
		2 - Havelburg 80 X 100 GP
		1 - Ahrensburg 40 X 100 GP
		2 - Salzwedel 80 X 100 GP
		1 - Luckenwalde 40 X 100 GP
		1 - Friesack 40 X 100 GP
		1 - Werbig 40 X 100 GP
		1 - Unidentified 40 X 100 GP
N. A/C Lost - Flak	Nil	
O. A/C Lost - Flak and E/A	Nil	
P. A/C Lost - E/A.	Nil	
Q. A/C Lost - Accident	Nil	
R. A/C Lost - Cause Unknown.	1	

Joseph S. Williams
JOSEPH S. WILLIAMS
1st Lt, AC
Group Statistical Officer

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18 April 1944

PFF - Feiling - Lawrence

C

:

Claggett

PFF - Freeman - Lane

K21 A : 311

D

:

Manker

K20 P : 738

Spaven

L : 721

Schuman

K21 A : 341

Davidson

S : 735

Uphrey

Q : 273

Alvestad

K21 F : 706

Taylor

M : 718

Zimmerman

G : 457

Combr - Jackson - K20

C

K21 A : 332

Schulze

Woodward-Hinchley

K21 R : 335

K21 B : 366

D

Burtis

K21 J : 359

Stewart

S : 342

Malton

G : 719

Brauer

K20 I : 682

Goldsmith

C : 733

Kingsley

H : 305

Briggs

K20 E : 059

Stallson

N : 406

Wells

K21 I : 441

Roubel

K20 H : 303

Robeson

H : 705

Davis

N : 340

458th Pilots and Aircraft as listed on Formation Plans

Date	Target	Pilot	458th Msn	Pilot Msn	Cmd Pilot	Ld	Serial	Last 3	RCL	Sqdn	A/C Msn	A/C Name	Comments
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	ALVESTAD	22	10			41-28706	706	F	J4	8	DREAM BOAT/SPARE PARTS	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	BRAUER	22	12			41-28682	682	I	Z5	17	UNKNOWN 003	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	BRUDOS	22	13			42-110059	059	E	J3	6	UNKNOWN 056	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	BURTIS	22	11			41-29359	359	J	J3	14	TAIL WIND	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	CLAGGETT	22	5			42-100311	311	A	7V	11	YOKUM BOY	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	COMBS	22	8	HENSON	L	42-100341	341	A	J4	10	SATAN'S MATE	LtCol HOGG also listed
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	DAVIDSON	22	7			41-28735	735	S	J4	11	UNKNOWN 005	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	DAVIS	22	11			41-29340	340	N	7V	5	YANKEE BUZZ BOMB	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	DeNEFFE	22	10			41-29300	300	M	J4	17	LORELEI	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	GOLDSMITH	22	9			41-28738	738	O	Z5	8	MEAT AROUND THE CORNER	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	KINGSLEY	22	6			41-29305	305	N	Z5	10	I'LL BE BACK/HYPOCHONDRIAC	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	MANKER	22	10			41-28733	733	P	J4	15	RHAPSODY IN JUNK	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	McCOLLOUGH	22	9			41-29352	352	K	7V	12	WOLVE'S LAIR	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	MELTON	22	12			41-28719	719	Q	J3	13	PADDLEFOOT	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	NEDROW	22	5			41-29302	302	P	7V	11	NOKKISH	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	NYMAN	22	6			41-28709	709	I	7V	10	LUCKY STRIKE	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	ROBESON	22	14			41-28705	705	H	J4	16	YE OLDE HELLGATE	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	ROUBAL	22	14			41-29303	303	H	Z5	15	LIBERTY LIB	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	SCHULZE	22	14			42-52335	335	R	Z5	18	ADMIRABLE LITTLE CHARACTER	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	SCHUMAN	22	FTR		L2	42-52382	382	A	7V	18	WURF'LESS	SHOT DOWN FIGHTERS
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	SPAVEN	22	10			41-28721	721	L	J4	14	DOWNWIND LEG	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	STEWART	22	11			41-29342	342	S	J3	5	ROUGH RIDERS	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	STILSON	22	9			42-52404	404	Q	Z5	9	BELLE OF BOSTON	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	TAYLOR, O	22	13			41-28718	718	M	7V	19	BO	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	UMPHREY	22	14			41-29273	273	Q	J4	18	FLAK MAGNET	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	WELLS	22	11			42-52441	441	I	J3	15	LAST CARD LOUIE	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	WOODWARD	22	9	HINCKLEY	D2	42-100366	366	B	Z5	10	MIZPAH	
18-Apr-44	BRANDENBURG	ZIMMERMAN	22	6			42-52457	457	Q	7V	13	FINAL APPROACH	