HEADQUARTERS 2d BOWBAPDMENT DIVISION APO 558 TACTICAL MISSION REPORT FIELD ORDER NO. TARGETS DATE 656 Tutow Airfield 13 May 1944 Barth Airfield near Swalsund TABLE OF CONTENTS 2d BONBARDLENT DIVISION A G ANNEX 1 - ROUTES ANNEX 2 - BOMBING ANNEX 3 - ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE S ANNEX 4 - ENERY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS U N ANNEX 5 - COMMUNICATIONS C L ANNEX - STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS A S S F I

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HEADQUARTER: 2d BOLBARDIENT DIVISION AAF 147 APO 558

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By auth. of C.C.

Initials

Date

John Division:

2 June 1944

SUBJECT: Tactical Report of Mission, 13 May 1944

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

1. Data.

- a. Date of Mission 13 May 1944
- b. Primary Targets: Tutow Airfield All Combat Wings.
- c. Secondary Targets: Airfield at Barth near Stralsund All Combat Wings.
- d. Last Resort Targets: Any military objective positively identified as being in Germany or any airfield in occupied country not adjacent to a built-up area.
- e. Units Participating: 2nd CBW (389th, 453rd, 445th EG)
 20th CBW (448th, 93rd, 446th EG)
 14th CEW (392nd, 44th, 492nd EG)
 96th CBW (458th, 467th, 466th EG)

2. Marrative.

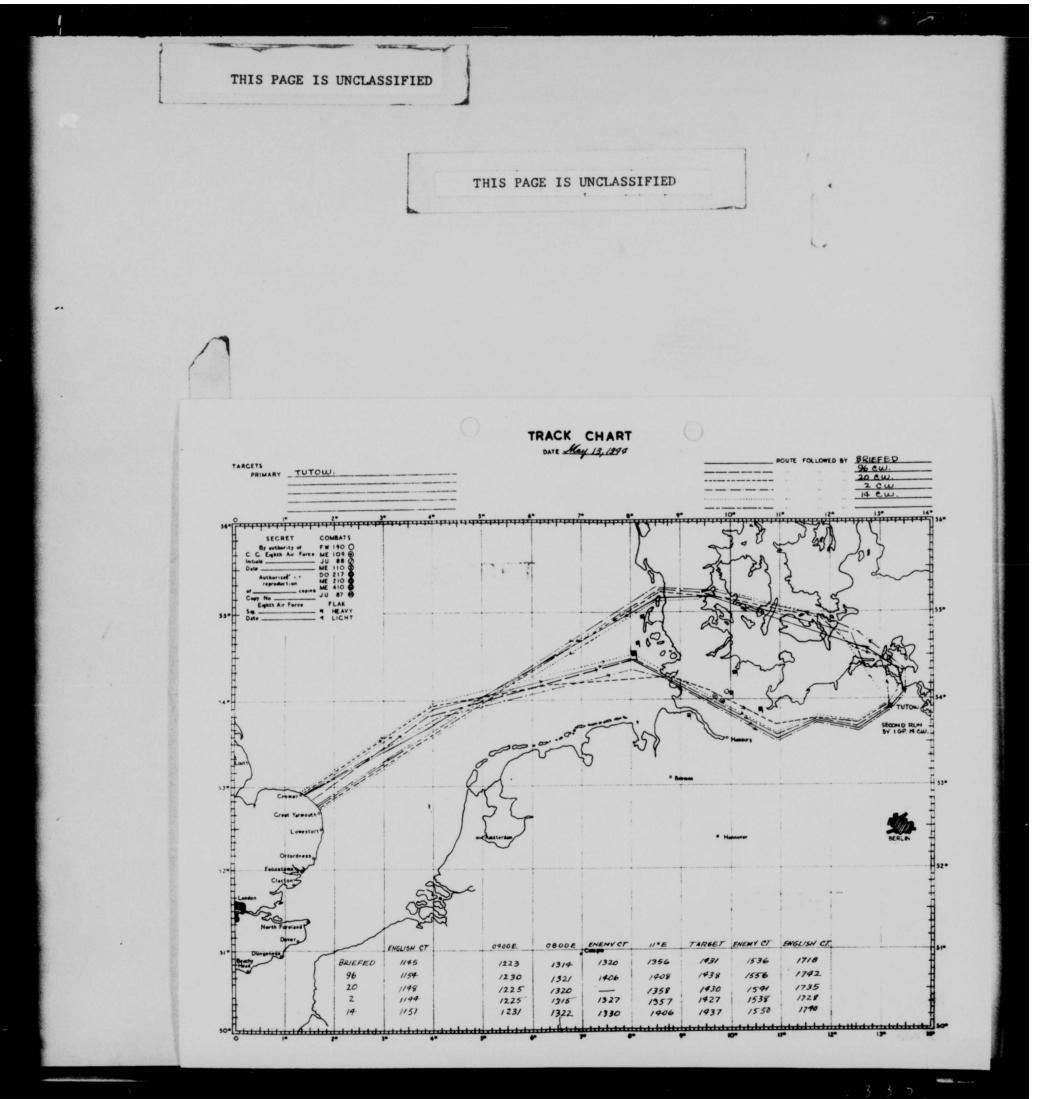
- a. 261 aircraft from four Combat Wings were dispatched to visually attack the Tutow airfield. One FIT ship was assigned to each Combat Wing for navigational purposes and to be used if the target area was completely obscured by clouds. Two Groups of P-47's, two Groups of P-51's and one Group of P-38's provided fighter support.
- b. Assemblies were accomplished without difficulty and the routes were flown as briefed.
- c. Due to patchy clouds in the target area bombing results were generally poor. Units experienced difficulty in synchronization and in picking out MPI's. One Squadron had good results, one had fair results and the results of the remaining units varied from poor to unobserved. One Squadron attacked the secondary target, Barth airfield, and another attacked a target of opportunity, Island of Sylt, with unobserved results. One Squadron failed to attack due to cloud condition and returned with its bombs.
- d. No anti-aircraft fire was encountered at the target. Intense barrages were seen over Kiel and Lubeck, but none of the units were within range of these defenses. Meager to moderate gunfire was encountered along the route at Neumunster, Sylt, Romo I, Heligoland, Amrumbank and Freiburg. Forty to sixty single-engined enemy aircraft were seen in the vicinity of Hamburg. These were engaged by the friendly fighter support and only a few were able to attack our formations. Fighter support was excellent throughout the entire mission. One aircraft was lost to enemy fighters and two enemy aircraft were claimed destroyed.

For the Commanding General:

Charles B. Westover, Colonel, GSC, Chief of Staff.

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TACTICAL BOLTING REPORT HISSION - 13 May 1944

GROUP	DIR. CF RUN	DENGT": OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF RELEASE	FLEW AUTO- PILOT	PLUM MAUWAL	RAJGE & DEPLEC.	RA ME	AUGU ER A/C BOYLED
					TUTOW				
389	720	50 sec.	16,000!	1426	X		2	2	24 / 1 PFF A/C
445	800	25 sec,	17,5001	1427	X		1	1	13
453	700	2 min.	15,000'	1425	X		1	1	1.4
448	74°	l min.	14,400	1429		X	1	2	25 / 10 A/C of 93rd
44,6	400	45 sec.	15,000:	1430		Х	2	4	21 / 11 1/0 of 93rd
392	900	30 sec.	15,000'	1444	Х		2	2	1) / 6 a/C of 44th /
492	300	ly min.	17,5001	1437	X		2	2	25
44	650	4 min.	14,200:	1435	X		1	î	11
458	700	20 sec.	14,8001	1438	Х		1	1	9 / 5 A/C of 466th
455	640	35 sac.	19,000!	1/41	Х		1	2	13
467	700	· 2 min.	17,0001	1438	X		1	1	17

- 1. The antigned primary target for this mission was Tutow, Germany.
- 2. The target was attacked by twelve groups bombing by squadrons. Each Combat Wing had a FFF ship out bombing was done visually.
- 3. One squadron, due to cloud cover at the primary and secondary, bombed the island of Sylt. The Deputy Lead of one squadron had an accidental release and 11 k/C dropped on this release and one A/C failed to bomb due to a rack malfunction.
- 4. The results of bombing were poor due mostly to cloud condition in the target area, causing difficulty in synchronization and picking out MPI's.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 13 May 1944

- 3. Anti-Aircraft Fire.
 - a. Tutow A/F
 - (1) No AA fire was encountered at the target.
 - (2) Intense fixed barrages were observed at Kiel and Luback, but none of the Groups were within range of these defences.
 - (2) Meager to moderate grafire was encountered at Neumanater, Sylt, Romo I, Heligoland, Amrumbank, and Freiburg. A gun position was pinpointed on Romo I due west of Kirkely.
 - (4) Several rockets were seen in the target area and at various other places on route.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 13 May 1944

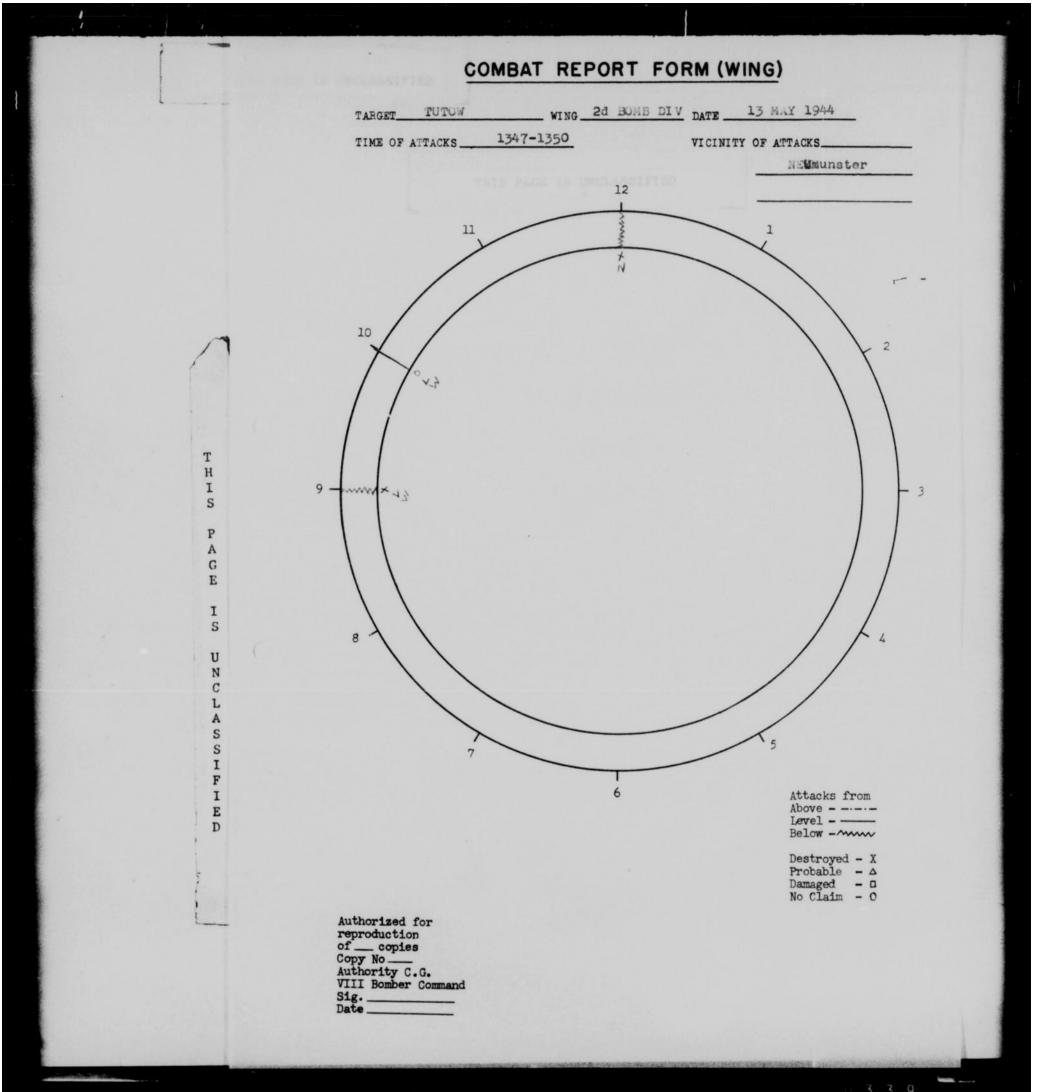
4. Enemy Aircraft Encounters.

- a. The Group flying low left of the leading Combat Wing report several A/C in the Kiel and target areas but no positive identification was reported. The high right Group report 5 FW 190's at 1405 hours at about 5350 - 1200E in the Butzow area. No attacks were made. The lead Group report no sightings.
- b. The composite lead Group of the next Combat Wing report no attacks but sighted about 60 Me 109's and FW 190's at 1350 hours in the Lubeck area. These were being engaged by our fighter escort. On the bembing run 2 Me 109's and 4 FW 190's were observed. At 1515 hours in the Kiel area on the return trip 10 FW 190's were seen.
- c. The composite lead Group of the third Combat Wing report 40 50 S.E. E/A at about 1350 hours in the area North of Hamburg. They were immediately engaged by friendly fighters but 5 to 7 Me 109's managed to make one head on low attack on the high element of the lead Squadron. Twelve to fifteen FW 190's attempted a massed attack from eleven o'clock low in the area Northwest of Hamburg but the enemy formation broke away : and did not attempt to go through the formation. Five of the Me 109's were observed to be black in color. The Group flying echeloned right on the lead report some sightings but no attacks. About 12 FW 190's, 1 JU 88 and 3 JU 87's were seen in the area North of Hamburg at about 1400 hours and about 25 to 30 S.E. E/A, most Me 109's, were seen in an area generally East of Balung on the route in. This Group also reported a black A/C with a zepplin shaped fuselage at a point about half way across Donmark on the return trip, and two other A/C between Malchiner and Tutow which were thought to be jet propelled. These A/C were too far away to identify correctly and the impression that they were jet propelled came from the smoke trails which stood out behind them. The crews reporting the observations state that they believed the smoke to be that and not contrail.
- d. The composite lead Group of the last Combat Ming report 30 to 40 FW 190's and Mc 109's at 1350 hours North of Hamburg. Coordinated stacks by E/A coming in from two o'clock high and eleven o'clock high ware reported. Another attack by one E/A at twelve o'clock high followed by 5 FW 190's in a massed attack cost the Group one bomber. The attack was directed against the low left element of the low left Squadron. Another attack from three o'clock lew by 3 FW 190's at 1418 hours in an area East of Hamburg. The composite Group flying high right report essentially the same information as above. They further report that E/A attempted to use cloud below the formation to mack their movements prior to attacks but that friendly fighters kept them below the level of the bombers.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 13 Lay 1944

5. Communications.

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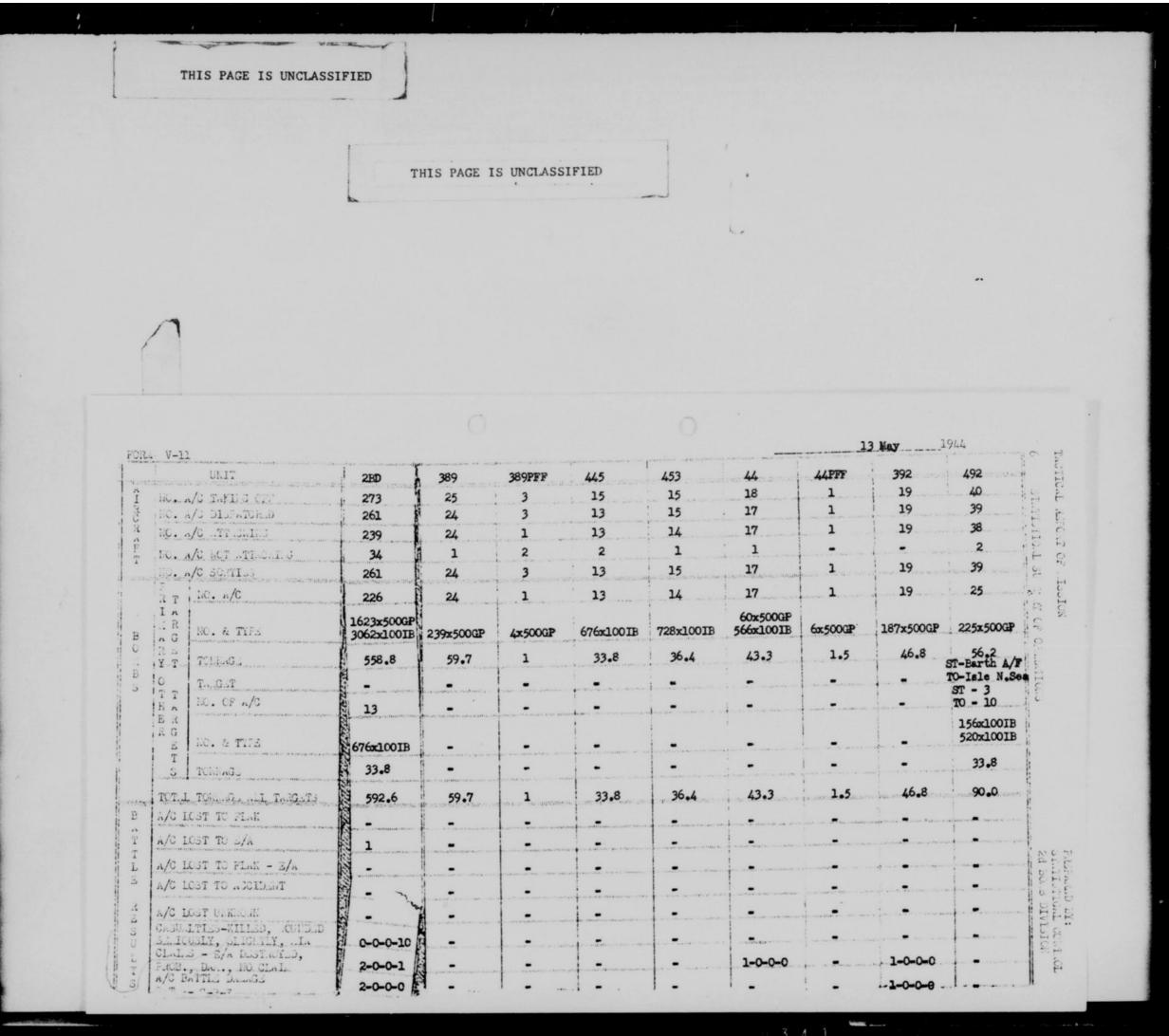
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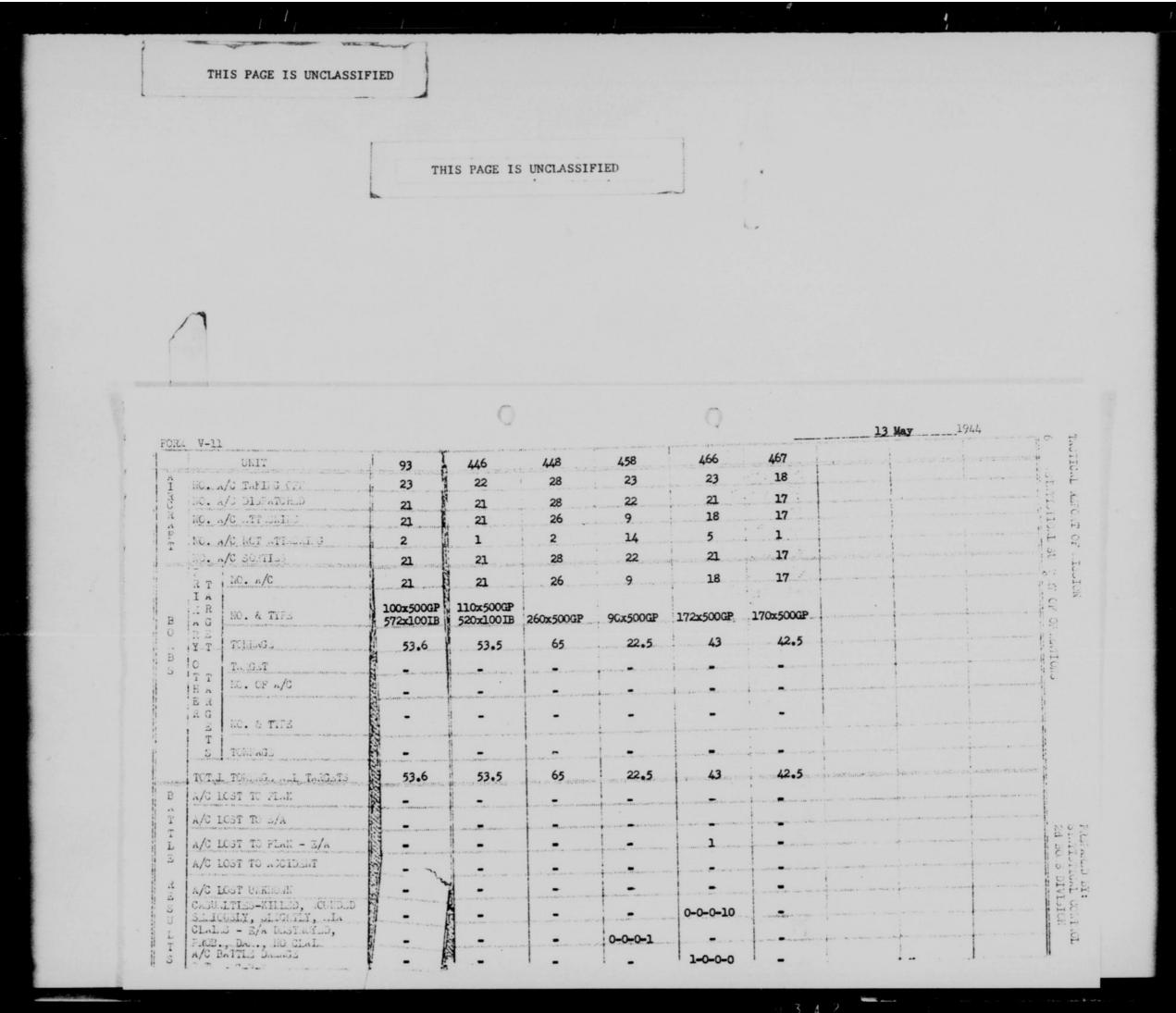
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a. Interference from both friendly and enemy sources was more evident than usual on both W/T and R/T channels. The northeastern Gee chain on Carolina frequency was placed into operation for the first time. Navigators using reported fixes from 0500E to 0700E, as compared with the normal ranges of 0300E to 0400E or eastern chain, Wyoming frequency. One of four H2X equipped aircraft failed because of range unit malfunction.



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THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED SECRET HEADQUARTERS 21 BOWDARDMENT DIVISION RELATIVE EFFECTIVENESS OF GUN POSITIONS - E-24's 13 May 1944 No Claim of Des-Total Des-Prob. Dam. Prob. Dam. Claim Total troyed troyed Nose T Top T. H Ball T. Tunnel Waist A G R. Waist E Tail T. I Other S TOTAL U 0 0 N C L A VULNERABILITY OF E/A S S I No No Claim 10 Des-Des-Prob. Total Claim Total troyed I E D 2 109 190 TOTAL 0 0

- HEADQUARTERS STATION 123 APO 558 OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

14 MAY 1944.

SUBJECT: S-2 REPORT, MISSION 13 MAY 44. (TUTOW A/F)

TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, AAF 123, APO 558.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT OPPOSITION

1. THIRTY TO FORTY E/A, FW 190'S AND ME 109'S WERE SEEN TO ATTACK OTHER GROUPS (N HAMBURG AREA AT 1350, ALTITUDE 18000. E/A WERE ATTACKING AT 10 0'CLOCK LEVEL AND CAME ON THROUGH FORMATION, BREAKING AWAY JUST AS THEY APPROACHED THIS GROUP AT A DISTANCE OF ABOUT 500 YARDS. SEVERAL BURSTS WERE MADE BY A/C #340.

2. CLAIMS ARE O-1-1.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE

8. NO FLAK WAS ENCOUNTERED BY OUR FORMATION ALTHOUGH SOME INTENSE FLAK WAS NOTED OFF COURSE NORTH OF HAMBURG AT 1350. NONE OF OUR A/C RECEIVED BATTLE DAMAGE.

OBSERVATIONS

4. FIFTEEN BARRAGE BALLOONS SEEN ABOUT FIFTEEN MINUTES AFTER CROSSING ENEMY COAST. ABOUT TWENTY-FIVE TWIN ENGINE A/C PARKED ON A/D AT BARTH. TEN TO FIFTEEN SHIP CONVOY IN KIEL BAY AT 1524 HEADED NORTH. ONE SHIP LOOKED LIKE AN AIR-CRAFT CARRIER. A LANDING STRIP WAS SEEN AT VOJENS (5515-0928) BUT NO A/C SEEN ON STRIP.

JOHN H. DAVIS, CAPT. AC, GROUP S-2 OFFICER

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

S-E-C-R-E-T

AUTH CO 45XOF INITIALS 2000 DATE 15 VAGY

15 May 1944

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 13 May 1944.

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

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

Ao	Group							•458
B.	Division F.O. No				*		4	.294
G.	Date of Operation							
D.	Ordered Primary Target							
E.								
F.								
G.	Sorties							
H.	A/C Attacking							
	A/C Not Attacking							
	A/C Attacking - primary to							
	A/C Attacking - ascendary							
	A/C Attacking - last reson							
	A/C Attacking - opportuni							
No.	A/C Lost - Flak							Nil
	A/C Lost - Flak and E/A .							
Pe	A/C Lost - E/A							Wil
	A/C Lost - Accident							
	A/C Lost - Cause Unknown.							
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For the Commanding Officer:

JOSEPH S. WILLIAMS. 1st Lt., Air Corps. Group Stat Officer.

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HEADQUARTERS 458TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) AAF 123 APO 558 SECRET
AUTH CO45860
INITIALS SOU
DATE 15 Years

15 May 1944.

S UBJECT: Report of the Operations Officer, Mission of 13 May 1944.

TO: Commanding Officer, 458th Bombardment Group EH).

- 1. General Marrative See the enclosed Command Pilot's Narrative.
- Aircraft Not Attacking Twanty three (23) aircraft took off and
 1 eft out base in the formation shown in the enclosed formation diagram.
 0 ne aircraft, 41-29489, left the formation before becoming dispatched.
 Thus, twenty two (22) aircraft were dispatched.
 - 3. All twenty two (22) aircraft dispatched received sortie credit.
- 4. Of the twenty two (22) aircraft receiving sortic credit, all went over the target. Thirteen (13) aircraft did not let their bombs go away because of complete undercast obliterating the target. Thus, nine (9) aircraft dropped on the target with unobserved results and are c redited with an attack.
 - 5. All nine (9) aircraft dropped on the primary target, Tutow airfield.
- A detailed description of reasons for failure to attack is given in the enclosed report on aircraft not attacking.
- Lost Aircraft None of our aircraft were lost. All returned safely to base.

CHARLES H. BOOTH go

Asst Gp Opns Officer

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AUTH: 10 448 60 INITIALS: SAU
DATE: 15 HAY

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

15 May 1944

SUBJECT: Command Pilot's Narrative of Mission of 13 May 1944.

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

AAF 123, APO 558

- 1. The 458th Bombardment Group took off at 1015 with 23 eircraft on the Operational Mission of May 13, 1944. Our Group was to lead the 96th Combat Wing to bomb the airfield and factory at Tutow, Germany.
- Our Group and Wing assembly was good, departing Splasher #5 on time and assemblying with the Division in good order and in proper position.
- 3. Our course was flown as briefed to target area and the uncover at the I.P. was accomplished satisfactorily. While approaching the I.P., the weather was somewhat doubtful as to whether it would be overcast or visual bombing, because of the scattered cloud conditions. However, Bourbon Leader, who was leading the Division, announced over VHF that it looked pretty good for visual bombing. With this information and the fact that it was broken over the target area we elected to go in on a visual run. The bombardier had the target in his sight, but a pproximately 40 seconds before bomb release, slouds obscured the target and he did not drop. We then headed for the secondary and rather than chance it another time on a visual run, I turned the lead over to the PFF ship, who was flying deputy lead. We made a visual run on the target but the PFF ship did not drop, because of the shortu run. We then headed back on Cours e and joined the division in the proper position. We looked for airfields on the way home to bomb, but none were sighted. The second squadron of this Group dropped on the primary.
- 4. The route was flown as briefed, except for a slight deviation of about ten (10) miles north of course on the return trip.
- 5. No flak was observed near our formation. Sixty or seventh enemy fighters were observed below the clouds north of Hamburg. Two FW 190's made one pass at our second squadron and shot down one B=24 from the 466th Group. Fighter suppost was excellent and the weather was not as briefed in the target area. Scattered broken clouds were encountered.

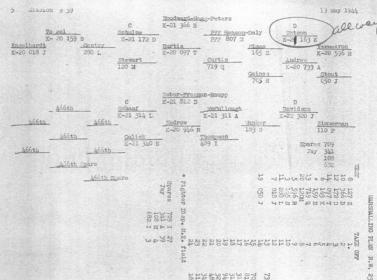
6. All of our aircraft returned safely, landing at base around 1745.

JAMES A. HOOO Lt Col, ACCREC Command Pilot

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T H I S G E T S N C A S S T F T E

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100 by 11 by 12 by

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458th Pilots and Aircraft as listed on Formation Plans

Date	Target	Pilot	458th	Pilot	Cmd Pilot	Ιd	Serial	Last 3	RCI	Sadn	A/C	A/C Name	Comments
Date	raiget	i not	Msn	Msn	cina i not	Lu	Jeriai	Last 5	KOL	Squii	Msn	A/ C Name	Comments
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	ANDREW	41	16			41-28733	733	Α	J4	27	RHAPSODY IN JUNK	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	BURTIS	41	23			42-51097	097	Т	J3	3	UNKNOWN 022	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	CURTIS	41	8			41-28719	719	О	J3	24	PADDLEFOOT	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	DAVIDSON	41	13			42-50320	320	J	J4	11	UNKNOWN 018	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	ENGLEHARDT	41	9			42-95018	018	J	Z5	10	OLD DOC'S YACHT	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	GAINES	41	20			41-28705	705	Ι	J4	27	YE OLDE HELLGATE	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	GENTRY	41	9			41-29288	288	٦	J3	18	BIG-TIME OPERATOR	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	GULICK	41	20			41-29340	340	Ν	7V	18	YANKEE BUZZ BOMB	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	MANKER	41	18			42-95183	183	0	J4	3	BRINEY MARLIN	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	McCOLLOUGH	41	19			42-100311	311	Α	7V	22	YOKUM BOY	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	NEDROW	41	17			42-94946	946	R	7V	5	THE CAT'S (ASS)	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	SCHAAF	41	21			42-50314	314	٦	7V	7	ETO PLAYHOUSE	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	SCHULZE	41	21			42-110172	172	D	Z5	7	UNKNOWN 017	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	SIMES	41	8			42-95165	165	S	Z 5	3	COOKIE	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	STEWART	41	22			42-95120	120	М	J3	4	HOOKEM COW / BETTY	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	STOUT	41	7			42-95050	050	J	7V	7	GAS HOUSE MOUSE	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	THOMPSON	41	ABT			41-29489	489	1	J4		UNKNOWN 014	ABORT - GAS LEAK DUE TO LOOSE FILLER CAP
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	VERMEIREN	41	1			41-29596	596	R	Z5	4	HELL'S ANGEL'S	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	VOGEL	41	21			42-95159	159	В	J3	1	ROUGH RIDERS II	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	WATSON	41	22			42-95163	163	K	Z5	1	DIXIE BELLE	
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	WEBER	41	20	FREEMAN	L	42-109812	812	D	7V	16	UNKNOWN 016	RAUPP (LEAD NAV?)
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	WOODWARD	41	17	HOGG	L	42-100366	366	В	Z 5	17	MIZPAH	PETERS (LEAD NAV?)
13-May-44	TUTOW A/F	ZIMMERMAN	41	16			42-51110	110	Р	7V	1	TOP O' THE MARK	