

HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

<u>FIELD ORDER NO.</u>	<u>TARGET</u>	<u>DATE</u>
668	Siracourt - Noball	21 MAY 1944

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2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

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HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
AAF 147 APO 558

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 : By auth. of C. G. :
 : 2d Bomb Division :
 : Initials *WHP* :
 : Date *14 June 1944* :
 : : : :
 10 June 1944

SUBJECT: Tactical Report of Mission, 21 May 1944

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

1. Data.

- a. Date of Mission - 21 May 1944
- b. Primary Target - Siracourt - Noball
- c. Secondary Target - None
- d. Last Resort Target - None
- e. Units Participating - 14th CBW (44th, 392nd, 492nd BG)
96th CBW (458th, 467th, 466th BG)

2. Narrative.

- a. Nine twelve-ship Squadrons from the 14th and 96th Wings, each led by a GH ship, were dispatched to attack the Noball installation at Siracourt. One Group of P-47's provided fighter support.
- b. Assemblies were accomplished without incident and the route was flown as briefed.
- c. All Squadrons bombed by GH through 8 to 10/10 cloud with unobserved results. GH equipment performed efficiently.
- d. No anti-aircraft fire was reported in the target area but a few rockets were seen. Meager inaccurate gunfire was encountered enroute at Lille and Hesdin. No enemy aircraft were seen and fighter support was excellent. Losses and claims were nil.

For the Commanding General:

Charles E. Meliover
 CHARLES E. MELIOVER,
 Colonel, GSC,
 Chief of Staff.

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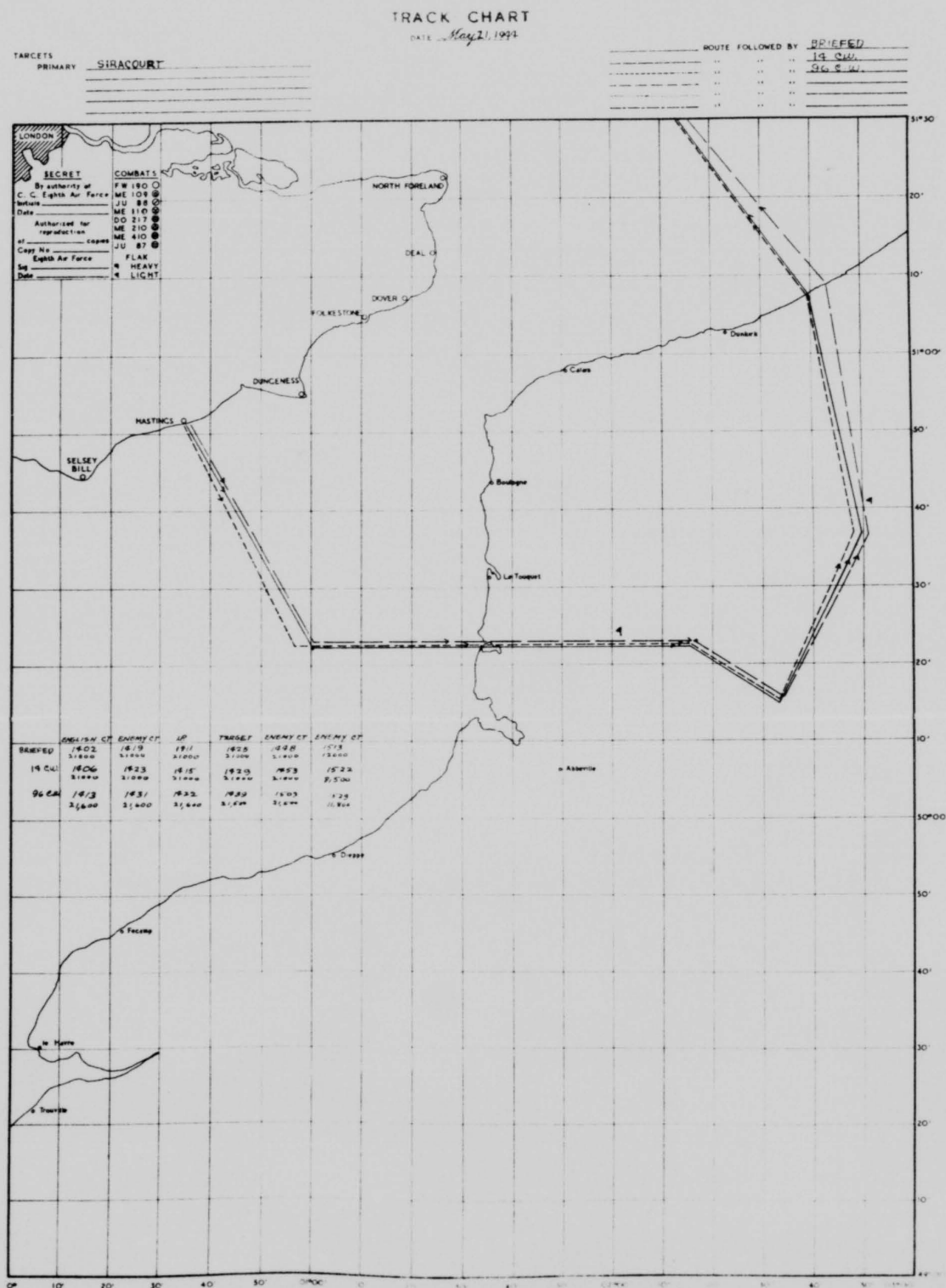
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TACTICAL REPORT OF BOMBING MISSION - 21 May 1944

GROUP	D.R. OF RUN	LENGTH OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF RELEASE	FLEW AUTO-PILOT	FIRE MANUAL	RANGE & DEFUSE	RANGE	NUMBER A/C BOMBED
				SINGAPORE					
44	80°	16 min.	21,000'	1429		X	Dropped on Lead GH A/C		9 / 1 GH A/C
44	89°	8 min.	21,600'	1431	X		" " " "		5 / 1 GH / 5 of 392nd
392	92°	15 min.	21,600'	1432		X	" " " "		11 / 1 GH A/C
492	87°	14 min.	21,900'	1434		X	" " " "		8 / 1 GH A/C
492	30°	10 min.	22,700'	1434½		X	" " " "		11 / 1 CH A/C
458	80°	20 min.	21,600'	1437		X	" " " "		10 / 1 GH A/C
458	80°	6 min.	21,500'	1438		X	" " " "		10 / 1 GH A/C
467	80°	20 min.	21,500'	1439		X	" " " "		11 / 1 GH A/C
466	82°	25 min.	21,900'	1444		X	" " " "		10 / 1 GH A/C

1. The assigned primary target for this special mission was Siracourt, France.
2. The target was attacked by nine Squadrons, each Squadron led by a GH A/C bombing through 8/10 to 10/10 undercast.
3. Two A/C failed to bomb due to bomb bay door malfunctions, another A/C did not bomb due to rack malfunction and one A/C did not bomb due to electrical failure and selector rod malfunction.
4. The results of bombing of three Squadrons was fair but due to 10/10 undercast, the results of the remaining six Squadrons was unobserved.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 21 May 1944

3. Anti-Aircraft Fire.

a. "Noball" No. 7

- (1) No AA fire was encountered in the target area, but a few rockets were seen here.
- (2) Meager and inaccurate gunfire was encountered on route at Lille and Hesdin.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 21 May 1944

5. Communications.

a. W/T and R/T channels were very satisfactory. Three aircraft reported radio compass trouble on the frequency of buncher beacon 15. All aircraft discharged "window" in the target area. The initial operational use of "Carpet-blinker" RCM equipment was made. Two aircraft were dispatched from the 44th Bomb Group. Operators reported apparently successful jamming on several enemy radar stations. GH equipment was used for bombing through overcast. All sets performed efficiently.

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FORM V-11

SIRACOURT

21 May

1944

UNIT		2BD	44	392	492	458	466	467	93GH
AIRCRAFT	NO. A/C TAKING OFF	110	16	17	22	22	12	12	9
	NO. A/C DISPATCHED	110	16	17	22	22	12	12	9
	NO. A/C ATTENDING	99	14	16	19	20	11	10	9
	NO. A/C NOT ATTENDING	11	2	1	3	2	1	2	-
	NO. A/C SORTIES	106	16	17	21	21	12	10	9
BOBS	NO. A/C	99	14	16	19	20	11	10	9
	NO. & TYPE	20x500GP 720x1000GP	112x1000GP	128x1000GP	152x1000GP	140x1000GP	77x1000GP	69x1000GP	20x500GP 42x1000GP
	TONNAGE	365	56	64	76	70	38.5	34.5	26
	TARGET	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NO. OF A/C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NO. & TYPE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TONNAGE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOT. TONNAGE ALL TARGETS	365	56	64	76	70	38.5	34.5	26
	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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CASUALTIES-KILLED, WOUNDED	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	SERIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, KIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
RESULTS	CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PROB., DUB., NO CLAIM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C BATTLE DAMAGE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TACTICAL REPORT OF LOSS
6 STATISTICAL SECTION OF OPERATIONSPREPARED BY:
STATISTICAL CONTROL
2d BOB DIVISION

HEADQUARTERS
STATION 123 APO 558
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

22 MAY 1944

SUBJECT: S-2 REPORT, MISSION 21 MAY 44, (ST. POL, SIRACOURT)
TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, AAF 123, APO 558

ENEMY AIRCRAFT OPPOSITION

1. NO E/A ENCOUNTERED.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE

2. NO AA FIRE, BUT ROCKETS OBSERVED TO RIGHT OF FORMATION IN TARGET AREA. NO BATTLE DAMAGE SUFFERED.

OBSERVATIONS

3. NO OBSERVATIONS REPORTED.

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

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

SECRET

AUTH *C042866*
INITIALS *per*
DATE *22 May*

22 May 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 21 May 1944.

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

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A. Group	458
B. Division F.O. No.	303
C. Date of Operation	21 May 1944
D. Ordered Primary Target.	No Ball - Siracourt
E. A/C Taking Off.	22
F. A/C Dispatched.	21
G. Sorties	21 20 <i>per</i>
H. A/C Attacking	20
I. A/C Not Attacking	2
J. A/C Attacking - Primary Target.	20 7 X 1000 GP (140 bombs)
K. A/C Attacking - Secondary Target.	N11
L. A/C Attacking - Last Resort Target.	N11
M. A/C Attacking - Opportunity Target.	N11
N. A/C Lost - Flak	N11
O. A/C Lost - Flak and E/A	N11
P. A/C Lost - E/A.	N11
Q. A/C Lost - Accident	N11
R. A/C Lost - Cause Unknown.	N11

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

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

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AUTH CO 4286PINITIALS amDATE 22 May

22 May 1944.

SUBJECT: Operations Officer's Report, Mission of 21 May 1944.

TOP Commanding Officer, 458th Bombardment Group (H).

1. General Narrative - See the enclosed Command Pilot's narrative.
2. Aircraft Not Attacking - Twenty two (22) aircraft took off and left our base in the formation shown in the enclosed formation diagram. One (1) aircraft, 41-28709, returned to base before becoming dispatched. Twenty one (21) aircraft were dispatched.
3. Of the twenty one (21) aircraft dispatched, all remained with the formation until it reached the enemy coast. All received sortie credit.
4. One (1) aircraft, 42-50320, left the formation five minutes before reaching the target and is not credited with an attack. Twenty (20) aircraft did attack.
5. All twenty (20) aircraft attacked the primary target, a No Ball at Biracourt.
6. A detailed explanation of reasons for failure to attack is given in the enclosed report on aircraft not attacking.
7. Lost Aircraft - None of our aircraft were lost. All returned safely to base.

Charles H. Booth
CHARLES H. BOOTH
Capt, MC
Asst Gp Opns Officer

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SECRET:
 AUTH: C04586P
 INITIALS: W
 DATE: 22 May

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

22 May 1944

SUBJECT: Lead Pilot's Narrative, Mission of 22 May 1944.

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

Take off was accomplished on time, and the climb to assembly altitude of 21,000 feet by the instrument plan was without event. The assembly was difficult for the first section because radio contact could not be made.

The formation was fair upon leaving Splasher 5--however, it was five (5) minutes late. The enemy coast was penetrated eight (8) minutes late at 21,000 feet, and no flak was encountered. The bomb run was led by a GH ship and violent turning during the entire run caused a poor formation over the target. The bomb strike was not seen because of cloud coverage.

No flak was seen on the entire mission, and no enemy fighters were encountered. Few friendly fighters were seen. Instrument let-down over Splasher 5 was made, and the landing was accomplished without incident.

Wilfred F. Tooman

WILFRED F. TOOMAN
 1st Lt, Air Corps
 Lead Pilot

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Mission of 21 May 1944

FORMATION PLAN

SQUADRON I

		<u>GREIL</u> : GH				<u>SCHAAZ</u> : 7VL	
<u>NEDROW</u> : 7VV		<u>UMPHREY</u> : J4I	<u>TOOLMAN-MOORE-HIGGINS</u> K-21 : J4B				
D	<u>STOLT</u> K-20: 7VJ ME/DF	<u>TAYLOR</u> K-21: 7VS	<u>ROBESON</u> : J4H	<u>CRAGUN</u> K-21: 7VM	<u>HAYDON</u> K-20: 7VK		
		<u>DEWETTE</u> K-21: J4M	<u>McGARTHY</u> K-20: J4P				

SQUADRON II

		<u>HENSLER</u> : GH				<u>BURTIS</u> K-20 : J3T	
<u>WATSON</u> K-21: 25K		<u>McMURRAY</u> K-2 : J3M	<u>SLATON-CRAIG</u> K-21 : J3A				
D	<u>BRAUER</u> : 25S	<u>HANSON</u> : 25R	<u>SHAW</u> : J4U	<u>VOGEL</u> : J3B	<u>OLNEY</u> : J3J		
		<u>DAVIS</u> K-20 : 25T	<u>DAVIDSON</u> K-22 : J4J				

ORDER OF TAKE OFF

RUNWAY 65		EAST		DISP	
DISP	WEST	NO.	NO.	NO.	NO.
6	127Z	1	431H	37	
		2	489I	36	
		3	705H	38	
		4	314L	30	
		5	219N	29	
		6	733P	49	
		7	300M	38	
		8	352K	29	
		9	117M	33	
		10	177S	21-23	
		11			
		12			
		13			
		14			
		15			
		16			
		17			
		18			
		19			
		20			
		21			
		22			
		23			
19	050J				
22	427A				
14	120M				
14	097I				
4	163K				
1	279T				
16	359P				
18	159P				
3	596R				
5	165S				
SPARES: 341A 39					
709I 27					
272X 96					
316N 20					

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
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	BRAUER	44	19			42-95165	165	S	Z5	5	COOKIE	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	BURTIS	44	25			42-51097	097	T	J3	6	UNKNOWN 022	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	CRAGUN	44	24			42-95117	117	M	7V	6	YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	DAVIDSON	44	ABT			42-50320	320	J	J4	--	UNKNOWN 018	ABORT - LOST ALL ELEC - SUPER CNG WIRING BURNED OUT
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	DAVIS	44	25			42-50279	279	T	Z5	13	ENVY OF 'EM ALL	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	DeNEFFE	44	23			41-29300	300	M	J4	26	LORELEI	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	HANSEN	44	2			41-29596	596	R	Z5	7	HELL'S ANGEL'S	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	HAYDON	44	2			41-29352	352	K	7V	19	WOLVE'S LAIR	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	McCARTHY	44	2			41-28733	733	P	J4	28	RHAPSODY IN JUNK	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	McNAMARA	44	12			42-95120	120	M	J3	5	HOOKEM COW / BETTY	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	NEDROW	44	19			42-95219	219	W	7V	3	PATCHIE	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	OLNEY	44	15			41-29359	359	J	J3	29	TAIL WIND	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	ROBESON	44	26			41-28705	705	H	J4	29	YE OLDE HELLGATE	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	SCHAAF	44	ABT			42-50314	314	L	7V	--	ETO PLAYHOUSE	ABORT - \$2.4 SUPER CHG (OPS 41-28709)
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	SHAW, C	44	22			42-110141	141	U	J4	1	BREEZY LADY / MARIE / SUPERMAN	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	SLATON	44	15	CRAIG?	L	42-100407	407	A	J3	17	LITTLE LAMBSY DIVEY	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	STOUT	44	9			42-95050	050	J	7V	9	GAS HOUSE MOUSE	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	TAYLOR, O	44	27			42-95177	177	S	7V	8	BO II	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	TOOMAN	44	15	MOORE	L	42-100431	431	B	J4	20	BOMB-AH-DEAR	HIGGINS (LEAD NAV?)
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	UMPHREY	44	25			41-29489	489	I	J4	5	UNKNOWN 014	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	VOGEL	44	23			42-95159	159	P	J3	4	ROUGH RIDERS II	
21-May-44	SIRACOURT	WATSON	44	24			42-95163	163	K	Z5	4	DIXIE BELLE	