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HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

<u>FIELD ORDER NO.</u>	<u>TARGETS</u>	<u>DATE</u>
678	Orly Airfield Melun Airfield Creil Airfield	24 MAY 1944

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2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

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 By auth. of C. G.
 2d Bomb Division
 Initials *Ch.B.*
 Date *20 June 1944*
 17 June 1944

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HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
 AAF 147 APO 558

SUBJECT: Tactical Report of Mission, 24 May 1944

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

1. Data.

- a. Date of Mission - 24 May 1944
- b. Primary Targets:
 Orly Airfield - 2nd and 20th Combat Wings
 Melun Airfield - 96th and 14th "A" and 14th "B" Combat Wings
- c. Secondary Target:
 Creil Airfield - All Combat Wings
- d. Last Resort Target - Any airdrome in occupied territory not dangerously close to built-up area.
- e. Units Participating - 2nd CEW (445th, 453rd, 389th BG)
 20th CEW (93rd, 446th, 448th BG)
 96th CEW (466th, 467th, 458th BG)
 14th "A" CEW (392nd, 492nd BG)
 14th "B" CEW (44th, 492nd BG)

2. Narrative.

- a. 386 aircraft from four Combat Wings were dispatched to visually attack the airdromes at Orly and Melun. Five Groups of P-47's provided fighter support.
- b. Assemblies were accomplished without incident and the route was flown generally as briefed.
- c. Three Groups attacked the A/D with excellent results and six Groups the A/D at Melun with good results. One Group was unable to pick out the assigned MPI due to haze and bombed the secondary target, the A/D at Creil, with good results. One Squadron did not release on the primary target due to danger of dropping on planes beneath and failed to attack the secondary because of a bomb-sight malfunction.
- d. Moderate accurate flak was encountered at Orly A/D and at Melun A/D. Heavy gunfire was encountered at Nogent, Neufchatel, Ascheres le Marche, and Meaux; meager gunfire was encountered at Beauvais, Orleans-Eric, Chateaudun, Abancourt area, southeast of Caen, southeast of Dieppe, Campigne and Fontaine-bleau. No enemy aircraft were seen and fighter support was good throughout the mission. Losses and claims were nil.

For the Commanding General:

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

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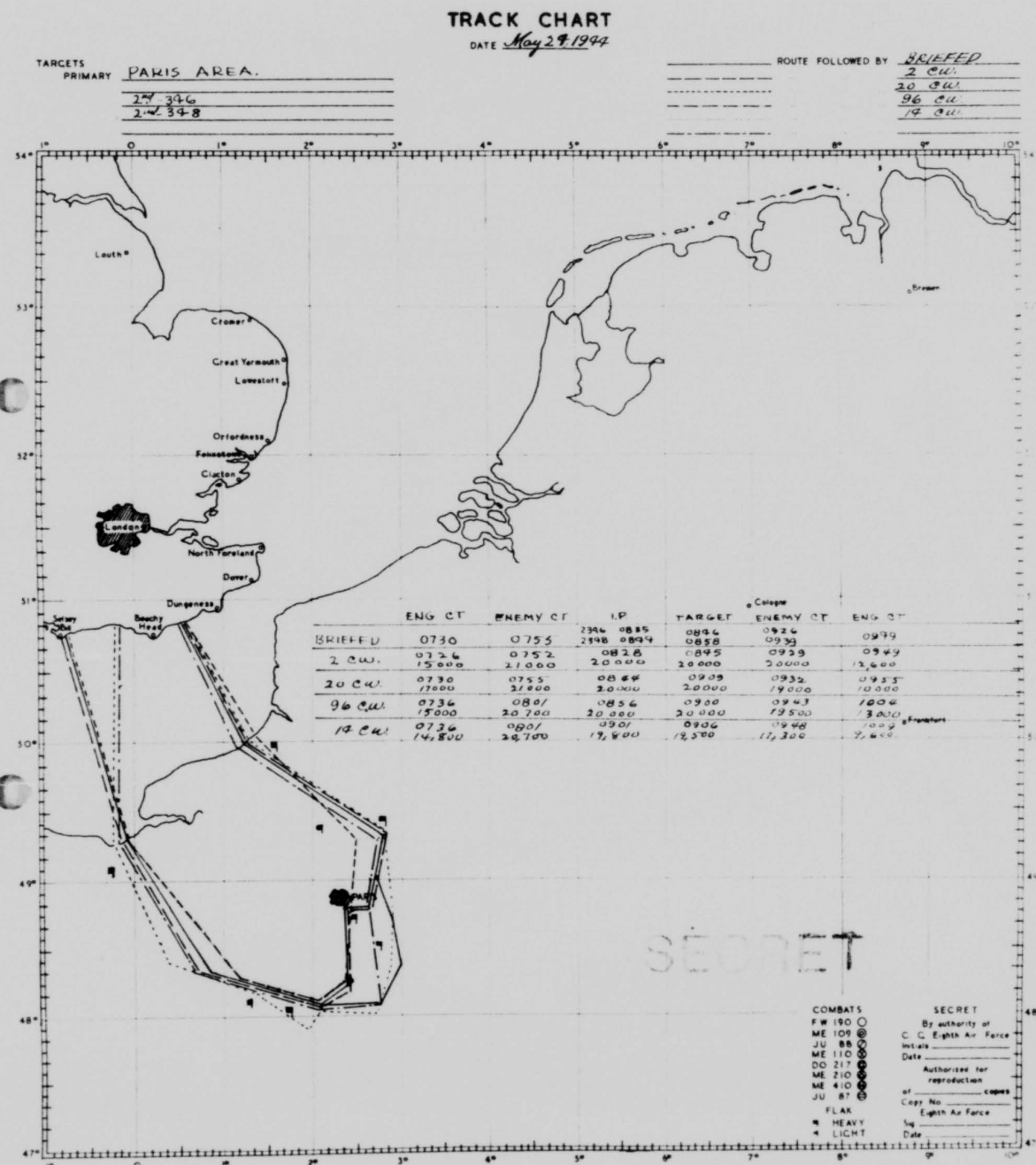
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SECRETTACTICAL REPORT OF BOMBING MISSION - 24 May 1944

GROUP	DIR. OF RUN	LENGTH OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF RELEASE	FLEW AUTO-PILOT	FLEW MANUAL	RANGE & DEFENS.	RANGE	NUMBER A/C LOADED
				<u>ORLY A/D</u>					
445	10°	45 sec.	20,000'	0843	X		3	3	35
453	05°	2 min.	20,000'	0846	X		3	3	32
389	06°	2 min.	20,000'	0847	X		3	3	27 + 1 A/C of 445th
				<u>MELUN A/D</u>					
446	11°	2 min.	19,100'	0855		X	3	3	34
443	354°	5 min.	20,500'	0858	X		2	4	22
466	0°	1 min.	20,000'	0900	X		2	4	26 + 12 A/C of 467th
455	334°	1 min.	19,800'	0902	X		1	1	21 + 8 A/C of 467th + 2 A/C of 466
				<u>OREIL A/D</u>					
93	321°	4 min.	20,000'	0908		X	1	1	23

1. The assigned primary targets for this mission were the A/D at Orly and Melun, France.
2. Orly was attacked by 3 Groups bombing by Squadrons and Melun was attacked by 6 Groups bombing by Squadrons.
3. One Group did not bomb the primary due to haze and smoke but attacked the secondary. One Squadron did not bomb due to a bombight malfunction. There were two cases of accidental releases before reaching the target. On one, the lead A/C accidentally released and 3 A/C dropped. On the other, one A/C accidentally released and 6 other A/C dropped on this release. One A/C failed to bomb due to a rack malfunction.
4. The results of bombing at Orly A/D were good and results at Melun were good.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 24 May 1944

3. Anti-Aircraft Fire.

- a. All Groups encountered moderate and fairly accurate predictor control fire during the bombing run on Orly A/F, which was almost certainly coming from Bretigny. Gunfire was meager in the target area and became more intense while the formations were turning away from bombing. It seems probable that there were no guns in the target area, but crews estimated that they were engaged by 12 to 16 guns from the South East side of Paris whilst they were leaving the target.
- b. No Gunfire was encountered at Melun A/F.
- c. The 93rd Group, which attacked Oriel A/F, approached the target from the South East and encountered no Gunfire. However, shortly after leaving the target area meager Heavy Gunfire was encountered which was believed to have come from the vicinity of Clermont.
- d. Moderate Heavy Gunfire was encountered on route at Nogent, Neufchatel, Ascheres le Marche and Meaux.
- e. Meager Heavy Gunfire was encountered on route at Beauvais, Orleans/Bricy, Chateaudun, Abancourt Area, SE of Caen, SE of Dieppe, Compiègne, and Fontainebleau.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 24 May 1944.

5. Communications.

- a. W/T and R/T channels were satisfactory although excessive interference was reported on the base HF/DF channels of two groups. "Window" was discharged by designated groups in the target area. Carpet-blinker equipment was used with apparent success. Operators reported enemy radars changing frequencies when jammed, reverting from tracking to searching and in some cases enemy radar transmissions were shut off completely.

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FORM V-11		Only A/F Melun A/F					24 May		1944	
A I R C R A F T	UNIT	2BD	389	445	453	44	392	492	93	446
	NO. A/C TAKING OFF	386	32	37	33	36	33	36	30	35
	NO. A/C DISPATCHED	386	32	37	33	36	33	36	30	35
	NO. A/C ATTACHED	342	27	36	32	35	32	32	23	34
	NO. A/C NOT ATTACHED	44	5	1	1	1	1	4	7	1
B O O B S	NO. A/C SORTIES	372	27	36	33	36	32	34	30	34
	NO. A/C	342	27	36	32	35	32	32	23	34
	NO. & TYPE	2125x100IB 1507x300GP 1891x500GP 553x1000GP	96x500GP 133x1000GP	432x500GP	384x500GP	780x300GP	727x300GP	383x500GP	183x1000GP	237x1000GP
	TONNAGE	1081.6	90.5	108	96	117	109	95.8	91.5	118.5
	TARGET	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B A T T L E R E S U L T S	NO. OF A/C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NO. & TYPE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TONNAGE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL TONNAGE ALL TARGETS	1081.6	90.5	108	96	117	109	95.8	91.5	118.5
	A/C LOST TO FLAK	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R E S U L T S	A/C LOST TO E/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST TO FLAK - E/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST TO ACCIDENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST UNKNOWN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CASUALTIES-KILLED, WOUNDED SILICIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, IA CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED, PROB. DATA, NO CLAIM A/C BATTLE DAMAGE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A/C T - 3-2-3		27-3-0-0	2-0-0-0	7-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	4-0-0-0	7-1-0-0	9-0-0-0	1-2-0-0

TACTICAL REPORT OF LOSS
STANDARD 130 8 00 00 00 00 00REMARKS:
TACTICAL CONTROL
24 30 00 DIVISION

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FORM V-11

24 May 1944

UNIT		448	458	466	467
AIRCRAFT	NO. A/C TAKING OFF	38	23	28	25
	NO. A/C DISPATCHED	38	23	28	25
	NO. A/C HIT SHIPS	22	21	28	20
	NO. A/C NOT ATTACKING	16	2	-	5
	NO. A/C SUNK	35	22	28	25
BOMBERS	RT NO. A/C	22	21	28	20
	NO. & TYPE	1137x100IB	572x100IB 118x500GP	334x500GP	416x100IB 144x500GP
	WEIGHT	56.9	58.1	83.5	56.8
	TARGET	-	-	-	-
	NO. OF A/C	-	-	-	-
	NO. & TYPE	-	-	-	-
	WEIGHT	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL WEIGHT ALL TARGETS	56.9	58.1	83.5	56.8
	A/C LOST TO FLAK	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST TO E/A	-	-	-	-
A/C LOST TO FLAK - E/A	-	-	-	-	
A/C LOST TO ACCIDENT	-	-	-	-	
RESULTS	A/C LOST UNKNOWN	-	-	-	-
	CASUALTIES-KILLED, WOUNDED SERIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, IN CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED, PROB., D.A., NO CLAIM	-	-	-	-
	A/C BATTLE DAMAGE	0-0-0-0	0-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	1-0-0-0

Tactical Report of Action
6th Bomber Division
24 May 1944

HEADQUARTERS
STATION 123 APO 558
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

25 MAY 1944

SUBJECT: S-2 REPORT, MISSION 24 MAY 44 (MELUM & VILLAROCHE)
TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, AAF 123, APO 558/

ENEMY AIRCRAFT OPPOSITION

1. NO E/A ENCOUNTERED.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE

2. NO FLAK IN TARGET AREA. MEAGER TO MODERATE FLAK
ENCOUNTERED AT CHATEAUDUN AND NEUFCHATEL.

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 *C 42868*

INITIALS *gaw*

DATE *25 May*

25 May 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 24 May 1944.

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

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A. Group	458	
B. Division F.O. No.	306	
C. Date of Operations.	24 May 1944	
D. Ordered Primary Target	Villaroche-Melun Airfield	
E. A/C Taking Off.	23	
F. A/C Dispatched.	22	
G. Sorties	22	
H. A/C Attacking.	21	
I. A/C Not Attacking.	2	
J. A/C Attacking - Primary Target	21	11 - 52 X #70 M47 (572 bombs) 9 - 12 X #500 GP 1 - 10 X #500 GP (118 bombs)
K. A/C Attacking - Secondary Target.	Nil	
L. A/C Attacking - Last Resort Target	Nil	
M. A/C Attacking - Opportunity Target	Nil	
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	Nil	

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

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24 May 1944

ORDER OF T.O. : RUNWAY 05

Ship	EAST Disp	T.O.	WEST		Disp
			Ship	Disp	
314L	30	7	059E	26	
		8	433D	24	
		9	318N	20	
		10	169S	5	
		11	159P	18	
		12	005H	2	
		13	357P	16	
097T	Hg 3	14	719Q	13	
163K	44	15	108M	4	
117M	31	16	366B	10	
110P	33	17			
179Q	33	18			
219W	29	19	682I	3	
		20	455 O	22	
352K	26	21	0507	19	
489I	34	22	128K	14	
		23			
Spares:					
		407A	Disp 22	500 G.P.	
		516K	Disp 18	500 G.P.	
		457Q	Disp 31	487's I.B.	

Simes
K21: 682 I
Watson D
K21: 163 K
Robeson
K22: 108 M
Wells
K20: 316 N
Glenn-Ollum-Craig
K21: 433 B
Stillson
K20: 165 S
Olney
K21: 359 J
Schaaf
: 314 J
Woodward-Swartz-Cain
K21: 366 B
Zimmerman
K20: 110 P
Uphrey
K21: 117 M
Taylor
K20: 179 X
Hayden
K21: 352K
Hathaway
K21: 455 O
Vogel
: 159 P
Gentry
: 097 T
Melton
K20: 719 Q
Nyman
: 219 W
Alvestad
: 489 T
 Spare Ships:
 407; 516; 457

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
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	ALVESTAD	46	15			41-29489	489	T	7V	6	UNKNOWN 014	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	BRAUER	46	21			41-28682	682	I	Z5	28	UNKNOWN 003	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	GENTRY	46	13			42-51097	097	T	J3	7	UNKNOWN 022	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	GLENN	46	20	OLLUM	D1	42-100433	433	B	J3	22	BIG DICK HARD TO HIT	CRAIG (LEAD NAV)
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	HATHAWAY	46	3			42-52455	455	O	7V	28	PLUTOCRAT	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	HAYDON	46	4			41-29352	352	K	7V	21	WOLVE'S LAIR	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	McNAMARA	46	14			42-95120	120	M	J3	7	HOOKEM COW / BETTY	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	MELTON	46	23			41-28719	719	Q	J3	27	PADDLEFOOT	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	NYMAN	46	19			42-95219	219	W	7V	5	PATCHIE	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	OLNEY	46	17			41-29359	359	J	J3	31	TAIL WIND	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	ROBESON	46	28			42-95108	108	M	Z5	3	ENVY OF 'EM ALL II	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	SCHAAF	46	24			42-50314	314	J	7V	10	ETO PLAYHOUSE	MARSHALLING SHOWS RCL "L"
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	SIMES	46	ABT			42-95005	005	H	Z5	--	UNKNOWN 034	ABORT - LOST #4 ENG BUNCHER 21 (407A WRITTEN IN)
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	STILSON	46	17			42-95165	165	S	Z5	7	COOKIE	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	STOUT	46	11			42-95050	050	J	7V	11	GAS HOUSE MOUSE	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	TAYLOR, O	46	29			42-95179	179	X	7V	1	HERE I GO AGAIN	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	UMPHREY	46	27			42-95117	117	M	7V	8	YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	VOGEL	46	25			42-95159	159	P	J3	6	ROUGH RIDERS II	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	WATSON	46	26			42-95163	163	K	Z5	6	DIXIE BELLE	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	WELLS	46	26			42-95316	316	N	J3	3	PRINCESS PAT	
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	WHITLOW	46	18	FEILING	L1	42-110059	059	E	J3	14	UNKNOWN 056	KING (LEAD NAV)
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	WOODWARD	46	19	SCHWARTZ	L2	42-100366	366	B	Z5	20	MIZPAH	CAIN (LEAD NAV)
24-May-44	VILLEROCHE, near MELUN	ZIMMERMAN	46	18			42-51110	110	P	7V	3	TOP O' THE MARK	