

TF

HEADQUARTERS  
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION  
APO 558

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

FIELD ORDER NO.

682

TARGETS

BELFORT M/Y  
TROYES M/Y  
MULHOUSE M/Y

DATE

25 MAY 1944

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

- ANNEX 1 - ROUTES
- ANNEX 2 - BOMBING
- ANNEX 3 - ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE
- ANNEX 4 - ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS (NONE)
- ANNEX 5 - COMMUNICATIONS
- ANNEX 6 - STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

DECLASSIFIED  
DOD DIR 5200.9, 27 Sep 38

12 JUL 1944  
A-3  
EIGHTH

COPY NO. 3

: S E C R E T  
: By Auth of CG  
OM 2d Bomb Div  
8: Initials G.P.  
: Date 30 June 64

APO 558: Initials GLP

Date 30 June 14

SUBJECT : Tactical Report of Mission, 25 May 1944.

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

1. Data.

- a. Date of Mission - 25 May 1944.

b. Primary Targets:

Belfort M/Y - 14th Combat Wing  
Troyes M/Y - 2nd Combat Wing  
Mulhouse M/Y - 20th and 96th Combat Wings

c. Secondary Targets:

Dijon M/Y - 14th Combat Wing  
Bretigny M/Y - 2nd Combat Wing  
Dole Tavaus M/Y - 20th and 96th Combat Wings

- d. Last Resort - Any airdrome in occupied territory not dangerously close to built-up areas.

- c. Units Participating - 14th CBW (392nd, 44th, 492nd BG).  
2nd CBW (453rd, 389th, 445th BG).  
20th CBW (446th, 93rd, 448th BG).  
96th CBW (458th, 466th, 467th BG).

## 2. Narrative.

- a. Planning called for the 14th Combat Wing to attack the Belfort Marshalling Yards; the 2nd Combat Wing the Marshalling Yards at Troyes; and the 20th and 96th Combat Wings the Mulhouse Marshalling Yards. Fighter support was provided by four Groups of P-51s; three Groups of P-38s, one Group of P-47s and one Group of RAF Mustangs.

- b. On assembly, some difficulty was encountered when the 96th Combat Wing was forced off the Division Assembly line prior to departure, causing the Wing to be eleven minutes late enroute. Routes were flown generally as planned to and from the target area.

- c. The Belfort Marshalling Yards bombing was fair, with the southern half of the yards blanketed by hits, and many bombs placed in the locomotive shed, repair shops and in the carriage and wagon repair shop. The first Squadron of the 453rd Group, leading the 2nd Combat Wing, missed the IP because of ground haze and bombed the Marshalling Yards at Tonnerre with poor results, mistaking it for Troyes due to a similarity of check points. The formations in trail realized the mistake and went on to attack the Bretigny Airfield as a last resort target with good results. Bombs were placed in the hangar area, numerous repair shops, workshops and sheds. There were many good hits on the runways and landing grounds. Mulhouse Marshalling Yards were bombed with fair results. Bombs were placed on the locomotive sheds, repair shops, trans-shipment sheds and tracks servicing this area. Damage was done to the roundhouse and roundhouse turn table and the sidings received a large number of hits, destroying many wagons.

- d. No anti-aircraft fire was encountered at either Belfort or Mulhouse. Meager to moderate inaccurate predictor control fire was encountered at Bretigny A/F. Losses were two aircraft to unknown causes. No claims were made and fighter support was very good.

For the Commanding General:

CHARLES B. WESTOVER  
Colonel CSC  
Chief of Staff

S E C R E T

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

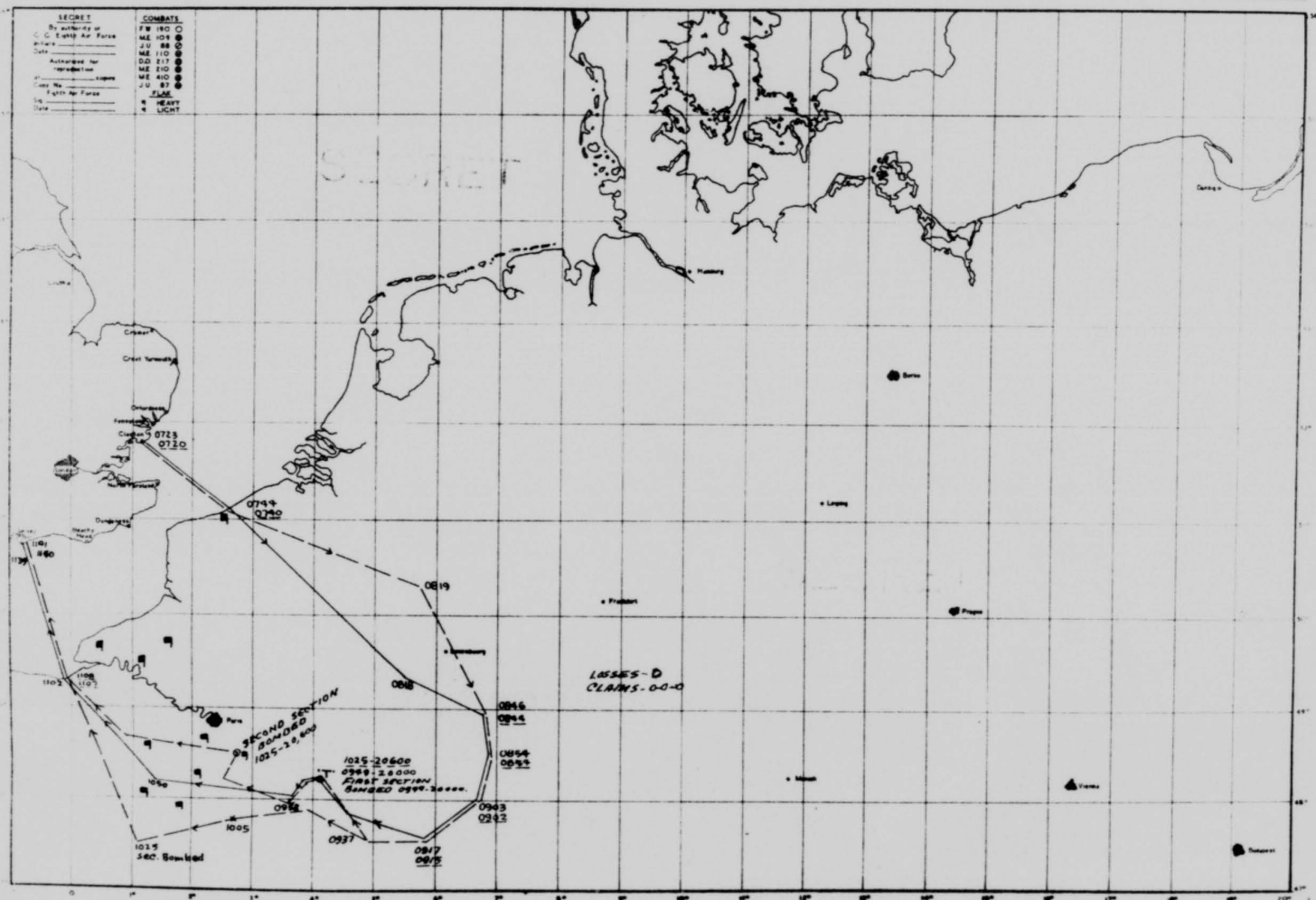
THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

TARGETS  
PRIMARY TROYES

## TRACK CHART

DATE May 25, 1944  
270. W.

ROUTE FOLLOWED BY BRIEFED  
ACTUAL ROUTE







THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

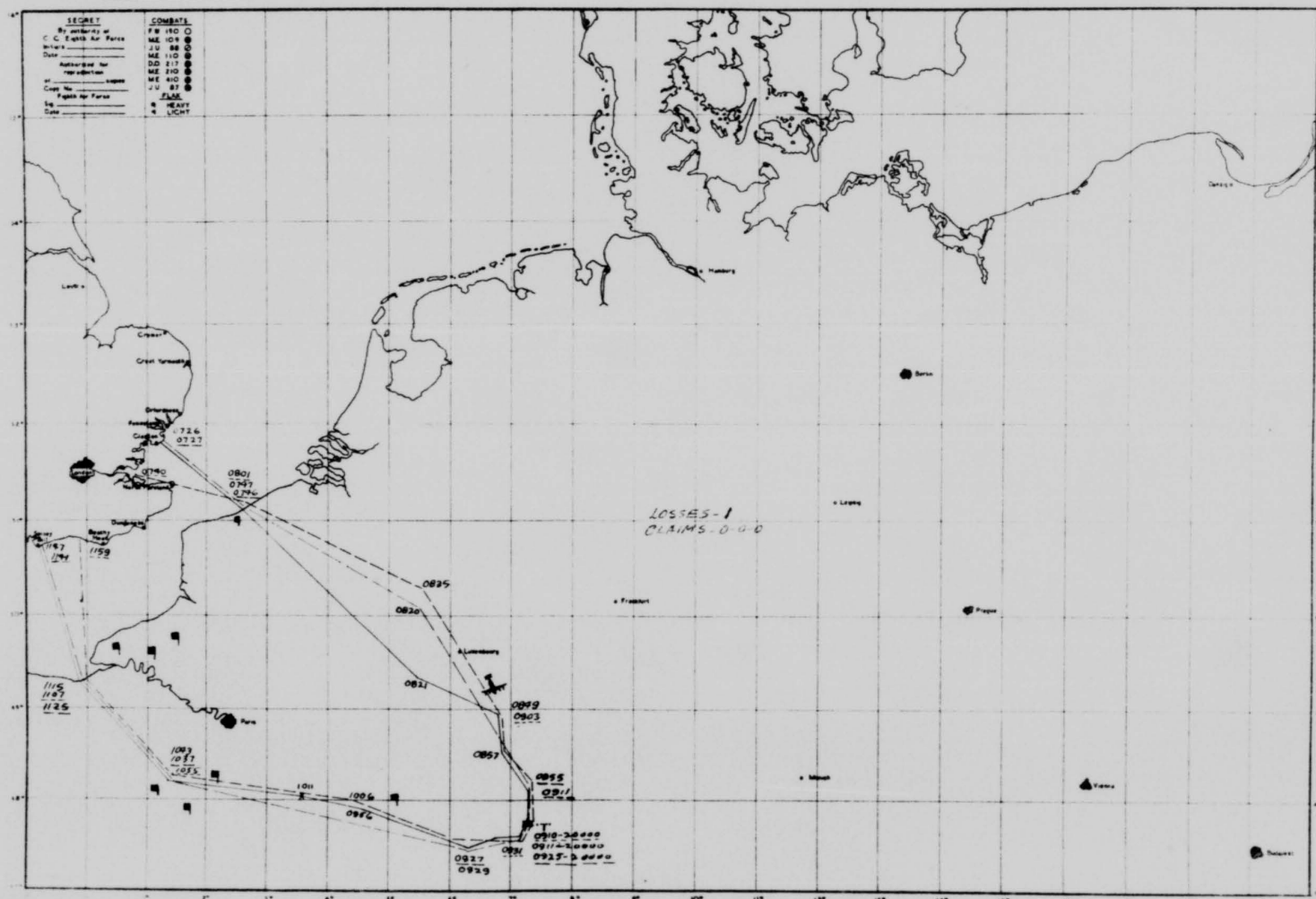
THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

TARGETS  
PRIMARY MULHOUSE

### TRACK CHART

DATE May 25, 1948.  
96<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> C.W.

ROUTE FOLLOWED BY			
10	11	12	20 CW
13	14	15	26 CW
16	17	18	
19	20	21	
22	23	24	
25	26	27	





S E C R E T

TH

Tactical Report of Mission, 25 May 1944

3. Anti-Aircraft Fire.

## a. Targets:

Belfort M/Y  
 Mulhouse M/Y  
 Bretigny A/F

- (1) No AA fire was encountered at either Belfort or Mulhouse.
- (2) Meager to moderate inaccurate predictor control fire was encountered at Bretigny A/F.
- (3) Moderate gunfire was encountered from south of Paris, Oisemont, Neufchatel, Saumuray A/F and Nogent.
- (4) Meager gunfire was encountered from Reuon, Chateaudun, Orleans/Bricy A/F, Forges, Fourcarmont, Dreux, Pithiviers A/F and Ostend. Accurate gunfire was also encountered from five barges off Nieuport.
- (5) Gun positions were seen SE, NW and SW of Saumuray A/F.
- (6) Gun positions were also pinpointed at the SE corner of Orleans/Bricy A/F, and on the SW edge of Pithiviers A/F.
- (7) Approximately 10 red bursts were seen 1 mile behind a formation in the Remiremont area, but no enemy fighters were observed.

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

S E C R E T

SECRET

Tactical Report of Mission, 25 May 1944

T

5. Communications.

- A. Considerable interference was experienced on one base HF/DF channel and on VHF R/T channels. "Window" and carpet blinker RCM devices were used. Blinker indicated a concentration of enemy radars in 550 to 570 mc. band, and some frequency shifting when enemy radars were jammed.

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

FORM V-11 Belfort - Troyes - Mulhouse

25 May

1944

UNIT		2ED	389	445	453	44	392	492	93	146
A I R C R A F T	NO. A/C TAKING OFF	307	26	26	26	26	28	30	24	36
	NO. A/C DISPATCHED	307	26	26	26	26	28	30	24	36
	NO. A/C ATTACKING	259	12	13	24	24	26	26	21	32
	NO. A/C NOT ATTACKING	48	14	13	2	2	2	4	3	4
	NO. A/C SORTIES	294	25	26	26	25	27	27	22	34
B O M B S	NO. A/C	210	-	-	-	24	26	26	21	32
	NO. & TYPES	2297x500GP	-	-	-	288x500GP	312x500GP	312x500GP	210x500GP	373x500GP
	TONNAGE	574.3	-	-	-	72	78	78	52.5	93.3
	TARGET	-	ST-Bretigny	ST-Bretigny	ST-Bretigny	-	-	-	-	-
	NO. OF A/C	49	12	13	LR-Tonnere	-	-	-	-	-
	NO. & TYPE	260x250GP	120x500GP	260x500GP	113x500GP	-	-	-	-	-
	TONNAGE	353x500GP	120x500GP	260x500GP	120x500GP	-	-	-	-	-
	TONNAGE	120.8	30	32.5	58.3	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL TONNAGE ALL TARGETS	695.1	30	32.5	58.3	72	78	78	52.5	93.3
	A/C LOST TO FLAK	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B A T T L E	A/C LOST TO E/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST TO FLAK - E/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST TO ACCIDENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST UNKNOWN	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
	CASUALTIES-KILLED, WOUNDED	0-0-0-20	-	-	-	0-0-0-10	-	-	-	0-0-0-10
	SERIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, MIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	PROB., DAM., NO CLAIM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C BATTLE DAMAGE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CAT. A-AC-P-E	13-4-0-0	0-2-0-0	-	6-0-0-0	-	3-0-0-0	4-2-0-0	-	-

TACTICAL REPORT OF MISSION  
6. STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONSPrepared by:  
STATISTICAL CONTROL  
2d Bombardment Division

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

FORM V-11

25 May1944

6. STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

TACTICAL REPORT OF DIVISION

AIRCRAFT	UNIT		448	458	466	467
	NO. A/C TAKING OFF		14	24	23	24
	NO. A/C DISPATCHED		14	24	23	24
	NO. A/C ATTACKING		13	23	21	24
	NO. A/C NOT ATTACKING		1	1	2	-
BOMBERS	NO. A/C SCHEDULED		14	23	21	24
	NO. A/C		13	23	21	24
	NO. & TYPES		128x500GP	224x500GP	210x500GP	240x500GP
	TONNAGE		32	56	52.5	60
	TARGET					
OTHER	NO. OF A/C					
	NO. & TYPE					
	TONNAGE					
	TOTAL TONNAGE ALL TARGETS		32	56	52.5	60
BATTLE	A/C LOST TO FLAK					
	A/C LOST TO E/A					
	A/C LOST TO FLAK - E/A					
	A/C LOST TO ACCIDENT					
	A/C LOST UNKNOWN					
RESULTS	CASUALTIES-KILLED, WOUNDED					
	SERIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, MIA					
	CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED,					
	PROB., DAM., NO CLAIM					
	A/C BATTLE DAMAGE					
CAT. A-AC-B-E						

Prepared by:  
STATISTICAL CONTROL  
2d Bombardment Division

## 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
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	BRAUER	47	22			41-28682	682	I	Z5	29	UNKNOWN 003	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	CURTIS	47	11			42-95316	316	N	J3	4	PRINCESS PAT	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	GENTRY	47	14			42-51097	097	T	J3	8	UNKNOWN 022	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	GLENN	47	21	HENSON	L2	42-100433	433	B	J3	23	BIG DICK HARD TO HIT	NAV - DALY
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	HANSEN	47	3			42-50279	279	T	Z5	14	ENVY OF 'EM ALL	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	HATHAWAY	47	4			42-52455	455	O	7V	29	PLUTOCRAT	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	HAYDON	47	5			41-28721	721	V	7V	24	DOWNWIND LEG	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	HEMRICH	47	1			41-29470	470	O	J3	3	UNKNOWN 013	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	LOBO	47	1			42-50320	320	W	J3	14	UNKNOWN 018	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	McCOLLOUGH	47	22			42-109812	812	D	7V	19	UNKNOWN 016	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	McNAMARA	47	15			42-95183	183	U	J3	6	BRINEY MARLIN	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	MELTON	47	24			42-95159	159	P	J3	7	ROUGH RIDERS II	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	NYMAN	47	20			42-95219	219	W	7V	6	PATCHIE	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	OLNEY	47	18			41-29359	359	J	J3	32	TAIL WIND	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	SCHAAF	47	25			42-95179	179	X	7V	2	HERE I GO AGAIN	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	SIMES	47	12			42-95005	005	H	Z5	10	UNKNOWN 034	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	STEWART	47	24			42-100407	407	A	J3	18	LITTLE LAMBSY DIVEY	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	STILSON	47	18	KLOHE	D2	42-110070	070	E	Z5	1	ELMER / LADY LUCK	KLOHE (CMD P or LEAD NAV??)
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	STOUT	47	12			42-95050	050	J	7V	12	GAS HOUSE MOUSE	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	THOMPSON	47	ABT			42-94946	946	R	7V	--	THE CAT'S (ASS)	ABORT - CO-PILOT BECAME ILL
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	WATSON	47	27			42-95163	163	K	Z5	7	DIXIE BELLE	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	WEBER	47	22			42-100311	311	A	7V	23	YOKUM BOY	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	WELLS	47	27			42-95120	120	M	J3	8	HOOKEM COW / BETTY	
25-May-44	MULHOUSE M/Y	ZIMMERMAN	47	19			42-51110	110	P	7V	4	TOP O' THE MARK	