

HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

FIELD ORDER NO.

697

TARGET

ROTENBURG A/F
OLDENBURG A/F
ZWISCHENHAHN A/F

DATE

30 MAY 1944

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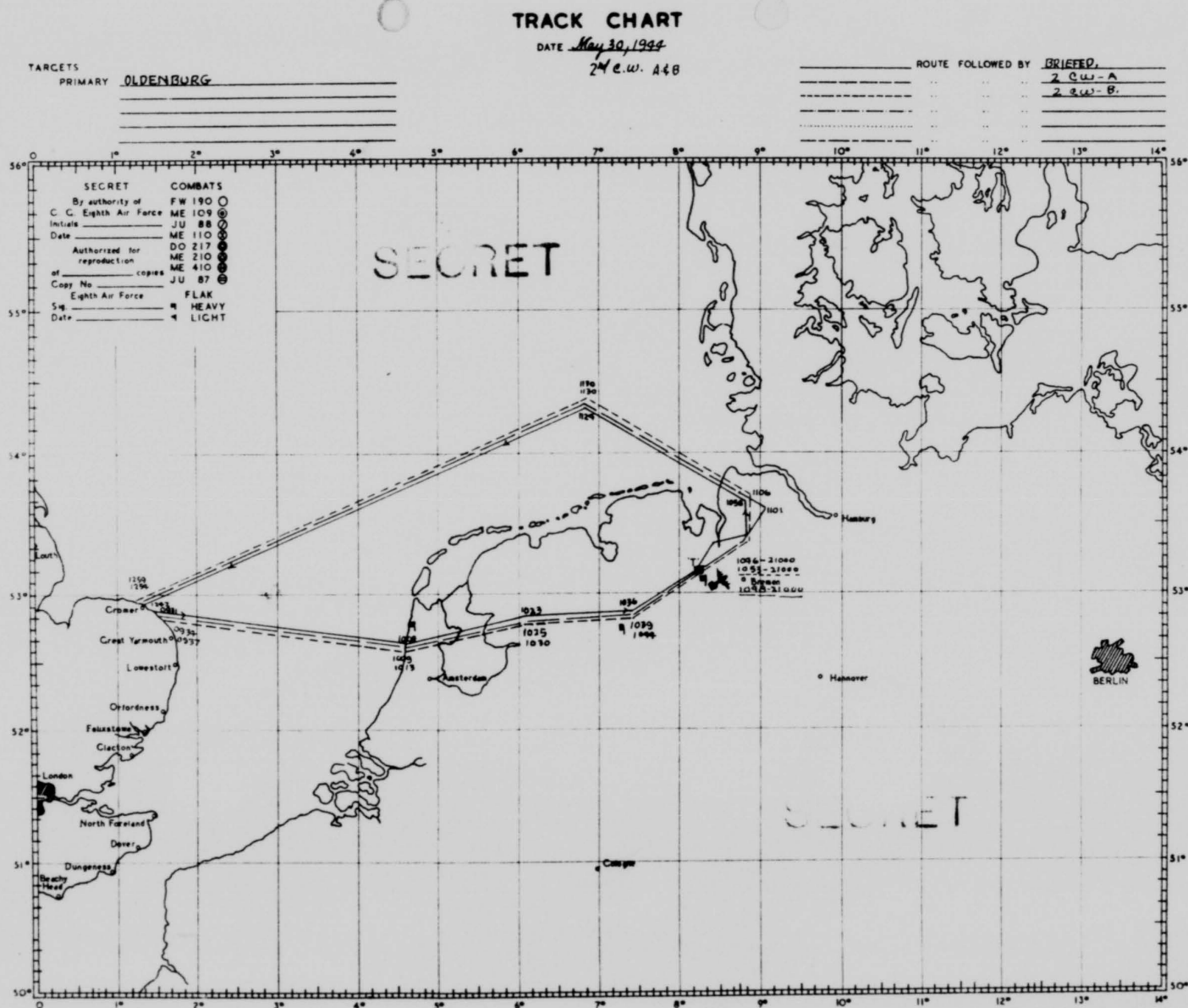
Charles B. Westover
Colonel GSC
Chief of Staff

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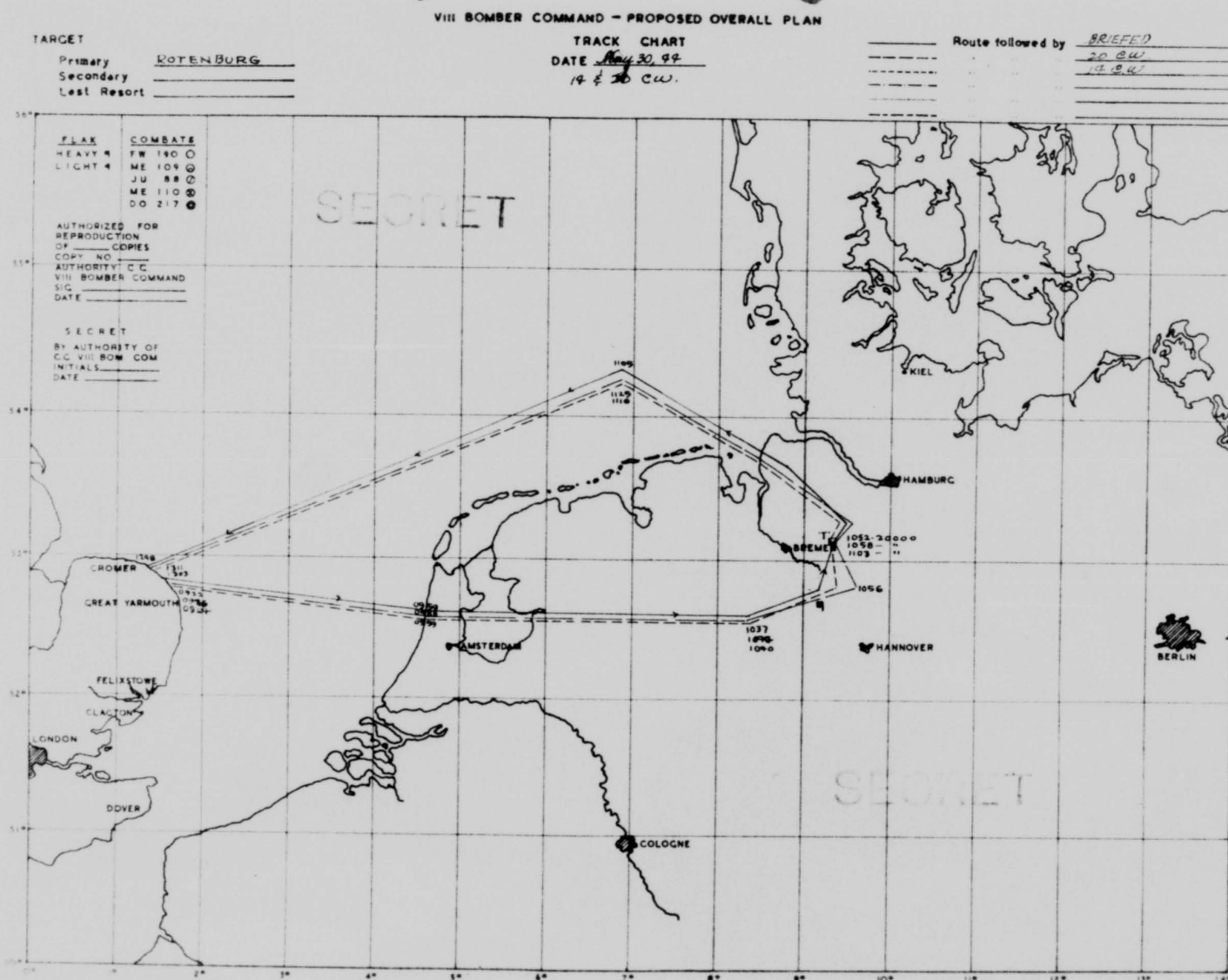
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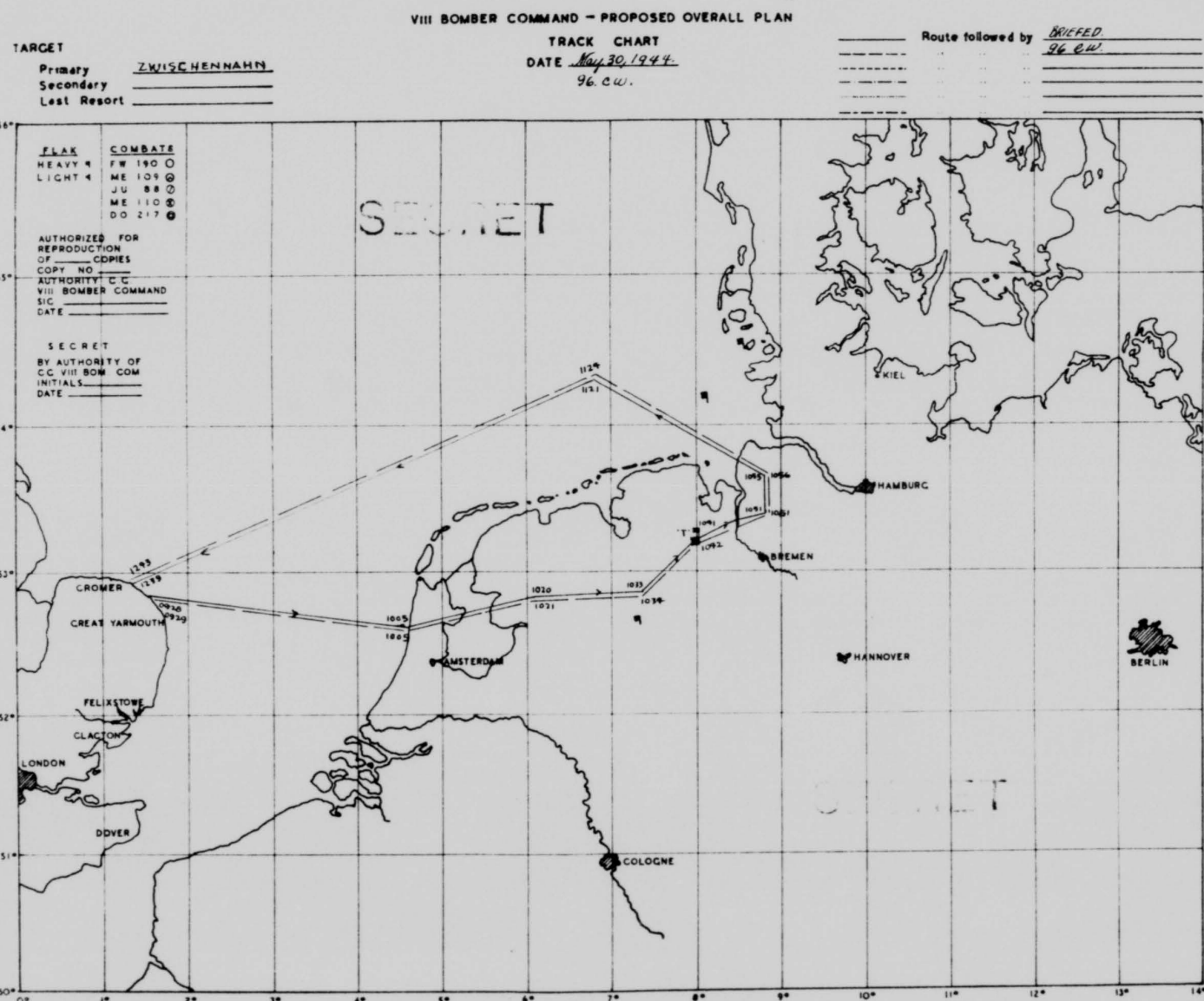
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SECRETTACTICAL BOMBING REPORT MISSION 30 May 1944

GROUP	DIR. OF RUN	LENGTH OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF RELEASE	Flew AUTO-PILOT	Flew MANUAL	RANGE & DEFLEC.	RANGE	NUMBER A/C BOMBED
<u>ROTENBURG</u>									
44	330°	2 min.	20000'	1057	X		2	2	26
392	334°	1½ min.	20000'	1100	X		2	2	25
492	340°	2 min.	21000'	1308	X		2	2	26
446	340°	2 min.	20000'	1103	X		2	4	24
448	330°	3 min.	22000'	1106	X		2	4	23
93	343°	6 min.	20500'	1105	X		1	1	12
93	308°	3 min.	22100'	1107		X	1	1	11
<u>ZWISCHENAHN</u>									
467	55°	4 min.	21000'	1042	X		2	4	24
466	30°	1½ min.	22800'	1044	X		2	4	22
458	50°		23000'	1043	X		2	4	24
<u>OLDENBURG</u>									
389	89°	2 min.	21000'	1043	X		2	2	27
453	70°	2 min.	22300'	1049	X		3	3	34
445	64°	2 min.	21000'	1053	X		3	3	34
489	60°	1½ min.	19500'	1050	X		3	3	39

1. The assigned primary targets for this mission were the A/F at Rotenburg, Zwischenahn and Oldenburg, Germany.
2. Rotenburg was attacked by six groups, Zwischenahn by three groups, and Oldenburg by four groups. Bombing was done in squadron formation.
3. One A/C attacked the A/F at Nordholz due to a rack malfunction at the primary and 4 A/C failed to bomb due to rack malfunctions.
4. The results of bombing at Rotenburg was very good. Damage was done to hangars, barracks and all adjacent facilities. The results of bombing at Zwischenahn were very good with hits on hangars, barracks, dispersal areas and landing ground.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 30 May 1944.

3. Anti-Aircraft Fire.

a. Targets - Rotenburg A/F
Oldenburg A/F
Zwischenahn A/F

- (1) No AA fire was encountered at Rotenburg A/F.
- (2) All Groups encountered moderate and accurate predictor control fire at both Oldenburg A/F and Zwischenahn A/F.
- (3) Meager to moderate Gunfire was encountered on route at Nordholz A/F, Neuenwalde, Wesemunde, Alte Mellum, Diepholz A/F, Vechta A/F, Heligoland, Nienburg, and Schillig.
- (4) Balloons were seen at Heligoland.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 30 May 1944

5. Communications.

- a. W/T and R/T communications channels were satisfactory. VHF relay aircraft relayed one message from an aircraft about 300 miles from base. Some interference on Division W/T channel was reported by three Groups. Excellent results were obtained on Northeastern GEE chain. Carpet blinker RCM equipment was dispatched. Frequencies jammed ranged from 492 to 575 mc., with greatest concentration between 550 to 570 mc. Successful jamming was indicated by frequency changes and cessation of operation of enemy radars.

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FORM V-11 Rotenburg-Oldenburg-Zwischenan		30 May 1944								
A I R C R A F T	UNIT	2PD	389	445	453	44	392	492	93	446
	NO. A/C TAKING OFF	369	29	36	36	26	26	28	24	25
	NO. A/C DISPATCHED	369	29	36	36	26	26	28	24	25
	NO. A/C ATTORNING	353	27	34	34	26	25	26	23	25
	NO. A/C NOT ATTORNING	16	2	2	2	-	1	2	1	-
B O M B S	NO. A/C SORTIES	358	27	36	34	26	25	27	23	25
	NO. A/C	352	27	34	34	26	25	26	23	24
	NO. & TYPE	440x250GP 2947x500GP 4236x100IB	323x500GP	144x500GP 1144x100IB	144x500GP 1144x100IB	312x500GP	300x500GP	1340x100IB	267x500GP	288x500GP
	TONNAGE	1003.6	80.7	93.2	93.2	78	75	67	66.8	72
	TARGET	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	IR- Nordholz
	NO. OF A/C	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	NO. & TYPE	12x500GP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12x500GP
	TONNAGE	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
	TOTAL TONNAGE ALL TARGETS	1003.6	80.7	93.2	93.2	78	75	67	66.8	75
	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	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CASUALTIES-KILLED, WOUNDED SERIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, IN CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED, PROB., DALL., NO CLAIMS	1-1-1-9	-	-	0-1-1-0	-	-	-	-	-
R E S U L T S	A/C BATTLE DAMAGE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		29-6-1-0	2-3-0-0	4-1-0-0	-	-	1-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	-	-

6 STATISTICAL SECTION OF OPERATIONS

PREPARED BY:
STATISTICAL CONTROL
2d BOB DIVISION

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FORM V-11

30 May 1944

UNIT		448	489	458	466	467
AIRCRAFT	NO. A/C TAKING OFF	24	42	24	24	25
	NO. A/C DISPATCHED	24	42	24	24	25
	NO. A/C ATTACKING	23	39	24	22	25
	NO. A/C NOT ATTACKING	1	3	-	2	-
	NO. A/C SUNK	23	41	24	22	25
BOMBERS	NO. A/C	23	39	24	22	25
	NO. & TYPES	276x500GP	450x500GP	24x500GP 608x100IH	440x250GP	299x500GP
	TONNAGE	69	112.5	66.4	55	74.8
	TARGET	-	-	-	-	-
	NO. OF A/C	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER	NO. & TYPE	-	-	-	-	-
	TONNAGE	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL TONNAGE ALL TARGETS	69	112.5	66.4	55	74.8
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	-	1	-	-	-
SUN	CASUALTIES-KILLED, WOUNDED	-	1-0-0-9	-	-	-
	SERIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, E/A	-	-	-	-	-
	CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED, PROB., D.M., NO CLAIM	-	-	-	-	-
STAT	A/C BATTLE DAMAGE	-	12-1-1-0	1-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	7-1-0-0
	LOST A-C-B-E	-	-	-	-	-

Tactical Report of Mission
6. Statistical Summary of OperationsPrepared by:
Statistical Control
2d Bombardment Division

HEADQUARTERS
STATION 123 APO 558
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

31 MAY 1944

SUBJECT: S-2 REPORT, MISSION 30 MAY 44 (ZWISCHENAHN A/F)
TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, AAF 123, APO 558.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT OPPOSITION

1. NO E/A ENCOUNTERED.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE

2. NO AA ENCOUNTERED ENROUTE TO TARGET. IN THE TARGET AREA, AA WAS FROM MODERATE TO INTENSE, ACCURATE AND OF A CONTINUOUS FOLLOWING AND BARRAGE VARIETY. ENROUTE BACK FROM TARGET, MODERATE INACCURATE FBAAK WAS ENCOUNTERED AT WESERMUNDE.

OBSERVATIONS

3. SMOKE SCREENS AT WILHEMSHAVEN AND BREMERHAVEN.
FIVE SHIP CONVOY HEADING EAST INTO MOUTH OF ELBE RIVER AT 1105 HOURS.
BALLOON BARRAGE AT ZWOLLE AT 1019 HOURS.
CONSTRUCTION WORK TAKING PLACE AT A/D LOCATED AT 5245-0616.
A/D JUST WEST OF NORDHOLZ A/D WITH MUCH CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY AND MANY REVETMENTS, BUT NO A/C SEEN.

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

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

SECRET
AUTH 004866
INITIALS
DATE 31 May

31 May 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 30 May 1944.

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

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A. Group	458	
B. Division F.O. No.	313	
C. Date of Operation	30 May 1944	
D. Ordered Primary Target.	Zwischenan Airdrome	
E. A/C Taking Off.	24	
F. A/C Dispatched.	24	
G. Sorties	24	
H. A/C Attacking	24	
I. A/C Not Attacking	Nil	
J. A/C Attacking - Primary Target.	24	11 - 12 X 500 GP 1 - 11 X 500 GP (143 GP bombs) 9 - 52 X 70 M47 1 - 40 X 70 M47 1 - 35 X 70 M47 1 - 13 X 70 M47 (556 M47 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, AG
Group Statistical Officer

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SECRETHEADQUARTERS
458TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H)
AAF 123 APO 558SECRET
AUTH 004286P
INITIALS gib
DATE 31 May

31 May 1944.

SUBJECT: Operations Officer's Narrative, Mission of 30 May 1944.

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

1. General Narrative - See the enclosed Command Pilot's narrative.
2. Aircraft Not Attacking - Twenty four (24) aircraft took off and left our base in the formation shown in the enclosed formation diagram. All aircraft were dispatched, received sortie, and made an attack.
3. All aircraft attacked the primary target, Zwischenan Airdrome.
4. Lost Aircraft - None of our aircraft were lost. All returned safely to base.

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

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SECRET:
 AUTH: C04380P
 INITIALS: RMJ
 DATE: 1 June

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

31 May 1944

SUBJECT: Command Pilot's Narrative, Mission of 30 May 1944.

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

1. Take off as scheduled at 0725 was normal with Group assembly at 17,000 feet on time at Splasher 5. We were flying high right section of twelve ships on the 466th Group. The Wing and Division assemblies were normal except for a two minute delay at King's Lynn and the turning point north of Cambridge.
2. Section departed English coast two minutes late, on course with a good formation at which point our climb was begun. Enemy coast was reached on time by 2,000 feet above briefed altitude. I reminded the leader of this fact several times but no let down was made.
3. At the Wing Uncovering Point, we uncovered and attempted to set up the C-1, but were unsuccessful due to the necessity for maneuvering. However, we succeeded at the Group I.P. At this point the 466th Group two sections made too wide a turn and did not come over the Group I.P. on the correct heading into the target. We turned as briefed and came over the Group I.P. on course which brought about the fact that we bombed between the first and second sections instead of the last. No danger was involved and bombs went away in a good pattern.
4. Our rallies were as briefed and we regained our position immediately after bombs away.
5. Over the target and rally points, we were subjected to moderate flak which was rather inaccurate as we were still at 23,000 feet.
6. Let down was begun at the enemy coast and we broke formation upon return to the English coast and made an uneventful landing. All ships returned safely and with no damage.
7. It is recommended that the lead sections maintain more satisfactory airspeed as it was extremely difficult to fly the proper formation throughout the entire mission.

Robert Freeman
 ROBERT FREEMAN
 Captain, Air Corps
 Command Pilot

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Mission of 30 May 1944

FORMATION PLAN

OVER TARGET & DEPARTING ENGLISH COAST
(Remains same)

1st SECTION

McCOULLOUGH-FREEMAN

J : 812D

SCHAA F
: 314L

UMPHREY
: 219W

TAYLOR
: 279X

HYMAN
: 942U

STOUT
: 05 OJ

WALKER
: 489T

CRAGUN
: 118M

THOMPSON
: 721V

GULICK
: 340N

URBANIAK
: 097P

MONAHAN
: 457Q

2nd SECTION

SCHULZE-HINCKLEY

J : 366B

MELTON
: 320W

ROBESON
J : 108M

HANSEN
J : 070E

VERMEIREN
: 596R

CURTIS
: 316N

WELLS
: 008R

OLNEY
: 359J

JUDGE
: 163K

HOPKINS
: 096P

GIBSON
: 095Q

HANCOCK
: 4700

NOTE: A ll B-24's which are J's are so designated. All others are B-24 H's.

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
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	CRAGUN	51	28			44-40118	118	M	7V	--	WE'LL GET BY	108M? Ops Rpt 44-40118
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	CURTIS	51	14			42-95316	316	N	J3	8	PRINCESS PAT	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	GIBSON, S	51	3			42-51095	095	Q	Z5	4	SHOO SHOO BABY	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	GULICK	51	23			41-29340	340	N	7V	22	YANKEE BUZZ BOMB	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	HANCOCK	51	2			41-29470	470	O	J3	4	UNKNOWN 013	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	HANSEN	51	6			42-110070	070	E	Z5	4	ELMER / LADY LUCK	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	HOPKINS, H	51	3			42-95096	096	F	Z5	3	BOMBS AWAY	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	JUDGE	51	3			42-95163	163	K	Z5	10	DIXIE BELLE	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	McCOLLOUGH	51	23	FREEMAN	L1	42-109812	812	D	7V	21	UNKNOWN 016	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	MELTON	51	26			42-50320	320	W	J3	18	UNKNOWN 018	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	MONAHAN	51	3			42-52457	457	Q	7V	22	FINAL APPROACH	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	NYMAN	51	21			41-28942	942	U	7V	3	HEAVENLY BODY	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	OLNEY	51	20			41-29359	359	J	J3	34	TAIL WIND	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	ROBESON	51	29			42-95108	108	M	Z5	5	ENVY OF 'EM ALL II	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	SCHAAF	51	28			42-50314	314	L	7V	14	ETO PLAYHOUSE	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	SCHULZE	51	24	HINCKLEY	L2	42-100366	366	B	Z5	23	MIZPAH	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	STOUT	51	15			42-95050	050	J	7V	15	GAS HOUSE MOUSE	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	TAYLOR, O	51	31			42-95179	179	X	7V	5	HERE I GO AGAIN	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	THOMPSON	51	5			41-28721	721	V	7V	25	DOWNWIND LEG	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	UMPHREY	51	29			42-95219	219	W	7V	8	PATCHIE	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	URBANIAK	51	4			42-51097	097	P	J3	12	UNKNOWN 022	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	VERMEIREN	51	7			41-29596	596	R	Z5	12	HELL'S ANGEL'S	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	WALKER	51	4			41-29489	489	T	7V	9	UNKNOWN 014	
30-May-44	ZWISCHENAHN A/F	WELLS	51	29			42-95008	008	R	J3	8	UNKNOWN 035	