

S E C R E T

44-1937

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HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558

DECLASSIFIED
Authority <u>NND 745005</u>
By <u>60</u> NARA Date <u>6/13/10</u>

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

FIELD ORDER NO.

331

TARGETS

ST. LAURENT
VIRE
COUTENANCES
PONTABULT

DATE

6 JUNE 1944

COPY NO. 21

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Authority NND 745005

By W NARA Date 5/13/10

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT
AAF 147

DIVISION
APO 558

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: S E C R E T :
: Ly Auth of CG :
: 2d Bomb Div :
: Initials AK :
: Date 4 July 1944 :
: : : : :

3 July 1944

SUBJECT : Tactical Report of Mission 6 June 1944 - F.O. 331.

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

Force:

2nd Combat Wing

445th Group - St. Laurent
453rd Group - St. Laurent
389th Group - St. Laurent

14th Combat Wing

44th Group - Vire
392nd Group - Vire
492nd Group - Vire

20th Combat Wing

93rd Group - Coutenances
448th Group - Coutenances
446th Group - Coutenances

95th Combat Wing

389th Group - Coutenances
491st Group - Coutenances

96th Combat Wing

467th Group - Pontabault
466th Group - Pontabault
458th Group - Pontabault

1. Planning.

a. 297 aircraft from the 95th and 20th Combat Wings were dispatched to bomb Coutenances; the 2nd Combat Wing St. Lo; the 14th Combat Wing Vire; and the 96th Combat Wing Pontabault. Bombing was done on H2X.

2. Assembly.

a. The assembly was partially completed because of weather conditions. Clouds, dense contrails and poor visibility caused some units to fly over clouds at 24,000 feet. Other units assembled above the low clouds with less difficulty.

3. Route In.

a. Generally as planned.

4. Difficulties on Bombing Run.

a. Meager Flak.

5. Bombing.

a. See attached form.

6. Route Out.

a. Generally as planned.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Tactical Report of Mission 6 June 1944 (cont'd), F.O. 331

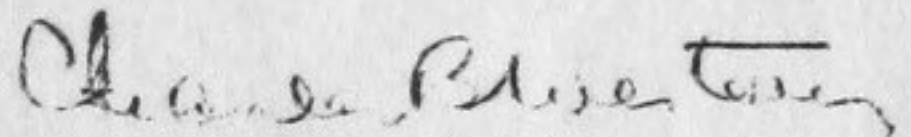
7. Enemy Action Encountered.

a. Meager flak was encountered at Pointe de la Percee, Guernsey, Jersey and St. Malo.

8. Losses and Claims.

a. There were no losses or claims.

For the Commanding General:



CHARLES B. WESTOVER
Colonel GSC
Chief of Staff

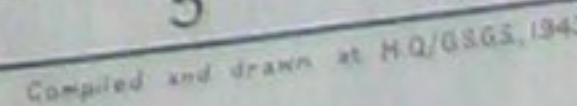
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Bombing - Tactical Report of Mission 6 June 1944, F.O. 331

<u>Target Assigned</u>	<u>Target Bombed</u>	<u>Force Employed</u>	<u>Method of Bombing</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Altitude</u>	<u>Results</u>
Pontabault	Primary	467th (2 Squadrons)	H2X	2024	15,000	Unobserved
	Primary	466th (2 Squadrons)	H2X	2006	16,300	Poor
	Primary	458th (1 Squadron)	H2X	2008	16,400	Poor
Vire	T.O. Pontabault	44th (1 Squadron)	H2X	2008	19,000	Unobserved
	(1 Squadron)					Did not bomb - equipment failure
	Primary	392nd (2 Squadrons)	H2X	1950	16,000	Unobserved
	Primary	492nd (2 Squadrons)	H2X	1951	15,000	Unobserved
St. Laurent	Primary	445th (1 Squadron)	H2X	2000	15,000	Fair
	Primary	(1 Squadron)	H2X	2000	15,000	Unobserved
	Primary	453rd (1 Squadron)	H2X	2020	14,500	Unobserved
	Primary	389th (1 Squadron)	H2X	2025	15,000	Unobserved
Coutenances	Primary	93rd (1 Squadron)	H2X	2025	15,000	Good
	Primary	448th (1 Squadron)	H2X	2027	15,400	Fair
		446th (1 Squadron)				Did not bomb - equipment failure
		489th (1 Squadron)				Abandoned - weather
	Primary	491st (1 Squadron)	H2X	1937	22,000	Unobserved
		(1 Squadron)				Abandoned - weather

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Authority NND 745005

By W NARA Date 5/13/10

HEADQUARTERS
STATION 123 APO 558
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

7 JUNE 1944

SUBJECT: S-2 REPORT, MISSION 6 JUNE 44, #3 (PONTAUBAULT)
TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, AAF 123, APO 558.

ENEMY AIR OPPOSITION

1. NO E/A ENCOUNTERED.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE

2. NO FLAK ENCOUNTERED.

OBSERVATIONS

3. ONE LARGE LINER AT ANCHOR, FOUR TRAMP STEAMERS AND OTHER SMALL VESSELS TOTALING 12-14 IN ST. MILO INLET, (4835-0200) AT 2030 FROM 16,500 FEET.

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

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Authority NND 745005

By W NARA Date 6/13/10

STATION WEATHER OFFICE
AAF STATION 123
APO 558

6 JUNE 1944

GROUP SUMMARY OF WEATHER ENCOUNTERED ON ³~~4~~ OPERATIONAL MISSION
OF 6 JUNE 1944.

A. BASE AT TAKEOFF - (1658 HOURS) 9/10 STRATOCUMULUS
WITH BASE AT 1500 FT AND TOPS AT 6000 FT. 10/10 ALTOCUMULUS
WITH BASE AT 8000 FT AND TOPS AT 10000 FT. VISIBILITY 5 MILES.
SURFACE WIND WNW AT 20 MPH.

B. ROUTE IN TO TARGET - 10/10 LAYERED STRATOCUMULUS WITH
TOPS AT 10000 FT BECOMING 6-8/10 STRATOCUMULUS WITH TOPS AT
8000 FT OVER SOUTH ENGLAND AND 4-6/10 OVER CHANNEL INCREASING TO
7-9/10 OVER TARGET AREA WITH TOPS AT 7-8000 FT. 9-10/10 ALTO-
STRATUS WITH BASE AT 12000 FT BECOMING 3-5/10 ALTOCUMULUS WITH
BASE AT 15-16000 FT OVER LONDON AND SOUTH ENGLAND AND NIL OVER
CHANNEL AND CONTINENT. VISIBILITY UNRESTRICTED AT FLIGHT LEVEL
AND 15-20 MILES DOWNWARD OVER CHANNEL AND CONTINENT. MODERATE
RIME ICE ABOVE 7500 FT OVER ENGLAND.

C. TARGET - (2008 HOURS) ARRANCHES. 7-8/10 STRATOCUMULUS
AND CUMULUS WITH TOPS AT 7-8000 FT. VISIBILITY 20 MILES DOWN-
WARD AND UNRESTRICTED AT ALTITUDE.

D. RETURN ROUTE - 7-9/10 STRATOCUMULUS AND CUMULUS WITH
TOPS AT 7-9000 FT BECOMING 4-6/10 OVER CHANNEL AND INCREASING
TO 10/10 LAYERED STRATOCUMULUS OFF ENGLISH COAST WITH BASE AT
2000 FT AND TOPS AT 10000 FT. CLOUD BASES LOWERING OVER ENGLAND
TO 800-1000 FT IN SHOWERS. VISIBILITY UNRESTRICTED BECOMING
2-3 MILES OVER ENGLAND IN DRIZZLE AND LIGHT RAIN.

E. BASE ON RETURN - (2241 HOURS) 10/10 STRATOCUMULUS WITH
BASE AT 700 FT. CONTINUOUS LIGHT RAIN. VISIBILITY 3900 YDS.
SURFACE WIND WNW AT 7 MPH.

F. WINDS AND TEMPERATURES - AS BRIEFED.

REMARKS: NIL CONTRAILS EXCEPT FOR DENSE PERSISTENT CONTRAILS
OBSERVED FROM FORTRESSES AT 22000 FT OVER ENGLAND.

GEORGE A. LONG
2ND LT, AIR CORPS
ASST STATION WEATHER OFFICER

Mission #3 of 6 June 1944

FORMATION PLAN

SQUADRON I

LAMB-LAROCHE
: PFFM

STILSON
: 165S

GORRELL
: 219W

ROUBAL-WRIGHT
K-20 : 365B

SCHAAF
K-20 : 314L

GULIG K
K-20 : 340N

JONES
: 095Q

NYMAN
: 942U

CRAGUN
K-21 : 117M

URBANIAK
K-21 : 050J

GIBSON
: 305N

ZIMMERMAN
: 116P

HATHAWAY
: 303H

SQUADRON II

SCHOTT-HINCKLEY
: PFF

DAVIS
: 108M

STEWART
: 316N

HANSEN
: 070E

JARSON
K-21 : 106L

VERMEIREN
: 596K

SLIMES
K-21 : 018J

HOPKINS
: 096P

LOCKRIDGE
K-20 : 116J

HEINRICH
K-21 : 359J

BRUDOS
: 179P

HANCOCK
: 719Q

JUDGE
: 163K

ORDER OF TAKE-OFF
RUNWAY 23

<u>WEST</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>EAST</u>
33 PFF N	1	
29 365B	2	
34 219W	3	
	4	165S 5
34 942U	5	
29 314L	6	
XX	7	095Q 8
30 340N	8	
31 050J	9	
31 117M	10	
32 303H	11	
15 305N	12	
30 110P	13	
	14	PFF 0 6
	15	070E 4
	16	316N 13
	17	108M 4
	18	018J 7
	19	1179P 20
	20	596R 5
	21	106L 1
	22	116U 10
	23	096F 9
	24	719Q 13
	25	359J 16
	26	163K 3

SPARES: 682I 15
276T 17
425D 11

SECRET

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

7 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 6 June 1944 (#3).

TO: Commanding General, 2d Bombardment Division.
Attention: Statistical Control.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A.	Group	458	
B.	Division F.O. No.	330	
C.	Date of Operation	6 June 1944	
D.	Ordered Primary Target.	Pontaubault R.R. Junction	
E.	A/C Dispatched.	26	
F.	A/C Sorties	19	
G.	A/C Attacking	19	
H.	A/C Not Attacking	7	
	1. Weather	* 5	
	2. Personnel	Nil	
	3. Mechanical.	* 2	
	4. E/A	Nil	
	5. Formations.	Nil	
	6. Other	Nil	
I.	A/C Attacking Primary Target.	17	16 - 12 X 500 GP 1 - 4 X 500 GP (196 bombs)
J.	A/C Attacking Secondary Target.	Nil	
K.	A/C Attacking Last Resort Target.	Nil	
L.	A/C Attacking Opportunity Target.	2	1 - 12 X 500 GP (Penterson R.R.) 1 - 12 X 500 GP (Vire R.R. - with 45th 445th)
M.	A/C Lost - Flak	Nil	
N.	A/C Lost - Flak and E/A	Nil	
O.	A/C Lost - E/A.	Nil	
P.	A/C Lost - Accident	Nil	
Q.	A/C Lost - Cause Unknown.	Nil	

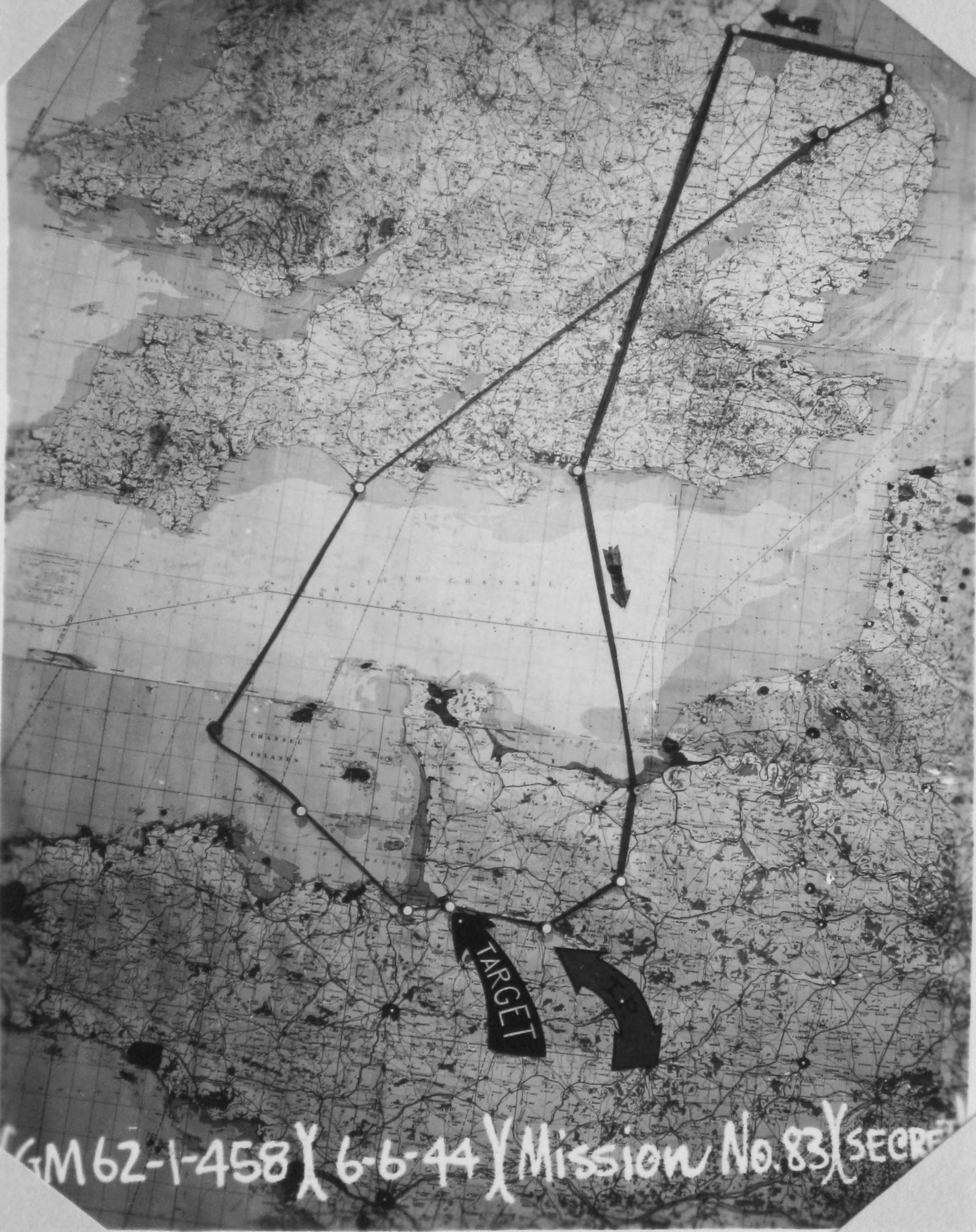
F or the Commanding Officer:

P44- weather
217- weather
095- weather
096- weather
682- Mainfold pressure
163- Landing gear wouldn't retract
096- weather

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

SECRET

(83)



GM 62-1-458 X 6-6-44 X Mission No. 83 X SECRET

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
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	BRUDOS	58	28			42-51179	179	P	J3	5	DUSTY'S DOUBLE TROUBLE	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	CRAGUN	58	32			42-95117	117	M	7V	13	YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	DAVIS	58	30			42-95108	108	M	Z5	9	ENVY OF 'EM ALL II	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	GIBSON, S	58	ABT			41-29305	305	N	Z5	--	I'LL BE BACK/HYPOCHONDRIAC	ABORT - MSN #3 - ??
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	GORRELL	58	ABT			42-95219	219	W	7V	--	PATCHIE	ABORT - MSN #3 - WEATHER
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	GULICK	58	27			41-29340	340	N	7V	26	YANKEE BUZZ BOMB	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	HANCOCK	58	6			41-28719	719	Q	J3	32	PADDLEFOOT	
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	HANSEN	58	9			42-110070	070	E	Z5	6	ELMER / LADY LUCK	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	HATHAWAY	58	8			41-29303	303	H	Z5	29	LIBERTY LIB	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	HEMRICH	58	8			41-29359	359	J	J3	37	TAIL WIND	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	HOPKINS, H	58	ABT			42-95096	096	F	Z5	--	BOMBS AWAY	ABORT - MSN #3 - WEATHER
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	JONES, E	58	ABT			42-51095	095	Q	Z5	--	SHOO SHOO BABY	ABORT - MSN #3 - WEATHER
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	JUDGE	58	ABT			42-95163	163	K	Z5	--	DIXIE BELLE	ABORT - MSN #3 - LANDING GEAR WOULDN'T RETRACT
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	LAMB	58	ABT	LaROCHE	L1	41-28778	778	N	YO	--	389BG/564SQ	ABORT - MSN #3 PFF - WEATHER
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	LARSON	58	8			42-95106	106	L	Z5	8	MISS PAT	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	COASTAL AREAS	LOCKRIDGE	58	3			42-95116	116	V	Z5	5	JUNIOR	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	NYMAN	58	25			41-28942	942	U	7V	7	HEAVENLY BODY	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	ROUBAL	58	24	WRIGHT	D1	42-100365	365	B	7V	31	WOLFGANG	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	SCHAAF	58	32			42-50314	314	L	7V	19	ETO PLAYHOUSE	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	SCHOTT	58	--	HINCKLEY	L2	41-28792	792	O	YO	--	389BG/564SQ	MSN #3 PFF
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	SIMES	58	19			42-95018	018	J	Z5	13	OLD DOC'S YACHT	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	STEWART	58	29			42-95316	316	N	J3	14	PRINCESS PAT	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	STILSON	58	24			42-95165	165	S	Z5	13	COOKIE	MSN #3
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	URBANIAK	58	6			42-95050	050	J		19	GAS HOUSE MOUSE	
06-Jun-44	PONTAUBAULT	ZIMMERMAN	58	25			42-51110	110	P	7V	10	TOP O' THE MARK	MSN #3