TH HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION APO 558 TACTICAL MISSION REPORT TARGETS DATE FIELD ORDER NO. 20 JUNE 1944 773 POLITZ OIL REFINERY OSTERMOOR OIL REFINERY ANKLAN AIRFIELD S TABLE OF CONTENTS P 2d BOLBARDMENT DIVISION A G ANNEX 1 - ROULES E ANNEX 2 - BOUBING I ANNEX 3 - ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE S ANNEX 4 - ENEMY AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERS U N ANNEX 5 - COLLUNICATIONS C L ANNEX 6 - STATISTICAL SUBJERTY OF OPERATIONS A S S I I E D COPY NO._ HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION AAF 147 APO 558 : SECRET :By auth. of C.G. :2d Bomb Division :Initials 1974 :Date 19 244944

SUBJECT: Tactical Report of Mission, 20 June 1944.

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

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- a. Date of Mission 20 June 1944
- h. Primary Targets

2nd Combat Wing - Politz Oil Refinery 14th Combat Wing - Politz Oil Refinery 20th Combat Wing - Politz Oil Refinery 96th Combat Wing - Ostermoor Oil Refinery

c. Secondary Target

All Combat Wings - Anklam Airfield

- d. Last Resort Target Any military objective positively identified as being in Germany.
- e. Units Participating 2nd CEW(389th, 445th, 453rd BG)
 14th CBW(44th, 392nd, 492nd BG)
 20th CBW(93rd, 446th, 448th BG)
 96th CBW(458th, 466th, 467th BG)
- 2. Narrative.
- a. 357 aircraft were dispatched to visually attack the oil refineries at Politz and Ostermoor. Eight H2X ships were assigned to aid navigation. Four Groups of P-51's and two Groups of P-47's provided fighter support.
- b. Assemblies were accomplished without incident and the briefed route was generally flown.
- c. Twenty-three Squadrons visually attacked the oil refinery at Politz with very good to excellent results. Hits were scored throughout the target area on storage tanks, compressor house, distilling units, gas generating and purification plant, offices, hydrogenerating stalls and all surrounding facilities. Six Squadrons visually attacked the oil refinery at Ostermoor with very good results. Hits were scored on distilling units, boiler house, storage tanks, harrel storages and surrounding installations. One Squadron failed to attack the primary target due to danger of dropping on the Squadron underneath them, and attacked Ribnitz, a target of opportunity, with unobserved results.
- d. Intense accurate gunfire was encountered at Politz and moderate accurate flak at Ostermoor. Heavy AA fire was encountered enroute at Kiel, Flensburg, Rostock, Eckernfjord, Koppeln and Schleswig. Approximately 200 twin-engine and single-engine enemy aircraft were reported in and around the target area at Politz. The enemy's technique of concentrating a large force at one point on the bomber route met with success. They first engaged the friendly support and the remaining force attacked the bombers. Twin-engine rocket-firing aircraft made successful tail-on attacks. Fighter support

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Tactical Report of Mission, 20 June 1944

was present throughout the entire mission and practically all Groups reported engaging the enemy. Losses were: eleven to flak, fourteen to enemy aircraft, seven to unknown causes, and two to accidents.

Claims were: eight destroyed, one probably destroyed and one damaged.

For the Commanding General:

CHARLES B. WESTOVER
Colonel GSC
Chief of Staff.

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 $\underline{S} \ \underline{E} \ \underline{C} \ \underline{R} \ \underline{E} \ \underline{T}$ TACTICAL REPORT OF BOUBING, MISSION - 20 June 1944 (1st Mission)

	DIR. CF	LENGTH		TIME OF	FLEW AUTO-	FLEW	RANGE &		UMBER A/C
ROUP	RUN	OF RUN	ALTITUDE	RELEASE	PILOT	MANUAL	DEFLEC.	RANGE	BOLEED
				PO	LITZ				. , ,
1.1.	2630	2 min.	21,0001	0945	X		2	2 See Not	
44	260°	2 min.	23,5001	0947	. Х		3	6	35
92	260° 260°	12 min.	21,2001	0951	X		2	2 See Not	e 31 / 2 PFF
16	2680	3 min.	23,0001	0952		X	2	4	22
03	2760	3 min.	21,0001	0954	χ		2	2 See Not	e 32 ≠ 1 PFF
45 93 48 89	2680	2 min.	22,0001	0959	X		2	4	28 / 2 PFF
40	2760	10 min.	22,000'	1003	Ϋ́		1	1 See Not	
59	260°		22,000	1004	х.		2	2	22
45		4 min.	22,000	1004	Y .		2	2	21
53	270°	2 min.	23,000		TERMOOR		~		_
	Oppo	rt	20 0001	0913	IBREEOOR	y	1	1 See Not	e 21 / 1 PFF
58	277°	5 min.	20,000!			X	i	1 See Not	
66 67	2710	4 min.	22,000	0916	v	Α	1	1	
67	280°		20,500	0913	X		1	i	13 13
67	285°		22,000	0918	TOTTO O		-		
		-1			BNITZ		1	2	10
46	305°	la min.	18,3001	1021	4		1	4	10
No	ote: Does no	ot include P	FF A/C sight	ing for rang	e and deflection	n.			

- 1. The assigned primary targets for this mission were the oil refineries at Politz and Ostermoor, Germany.
- 2. Politz was attacked by nine Groups and Ostermoor by three Groups. Bombing was done by Squadrons under visual conditions. PFF A/C were dispatched as a navigational aid.
- 3. One Squadron attacked a target of opportunity due to interference on the run into the primary. The lead PFF A/C in the 392nd Group dropped its bombs when purring the select lever into select and this Squadron dropped on this release short of the target.
- 4. Results of hombing at Politz were very good to excellent. Hits were scored throughout the target area on storage tanks, compressor house, distilling units, gas generating and purification plant, offices, hydrogeneration stalls and all surrounding facilities. Results at Ostermoor were very good. Hits on distilling units, boiler house, storage tanks, barrel storages, and surrounding installations.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 20 June 1944.

3. Anti-Aircraft Fire.

- a. Targets
 - (1) Politz
 - (2) Brunsbuttel (Ostermoor)
- b. (1) All Groups encountered very intense and accurate fire at Politz.

 Most of this fire appears to have been in the form of very accurately placed fixed barrages which were approximately 2000 ft in depth but had very little width. A small amount of predictor control fire was also reported, probably from outlying sites.
 - (2) Moderate and fairly accurate predictor control fire was encountered by all Groups at Brunsbuttel. Ships in the river also engaged our A/C at this target.
 - (3) Rockets were also encountered at both targets.
 - (4) Heavy Gunfire was encountered on route at Kiel, Flensburg, Rostock, Eckernfjord, Kappeln, and Schleswig.
 - (5) The ten A/C lost to AA Fire were all hit at Politz.
- c. Anti-Aircraft Officer's Comment.
 - (1) The AA Fire losses at Politz amounted to 3.7% which is the highest loss from this cause that this Division has ever sustained. It is interesting to note that all the Groups attacked the target in trail with a 20° arc. Although this indicates excellent navigation, it probably assisted the enemy to place his barrages more accurately on this occasion. If the enemy persists in using this type of fire, it may become necessary to spread slightly the headings of the Wings into the target by using different IP's.

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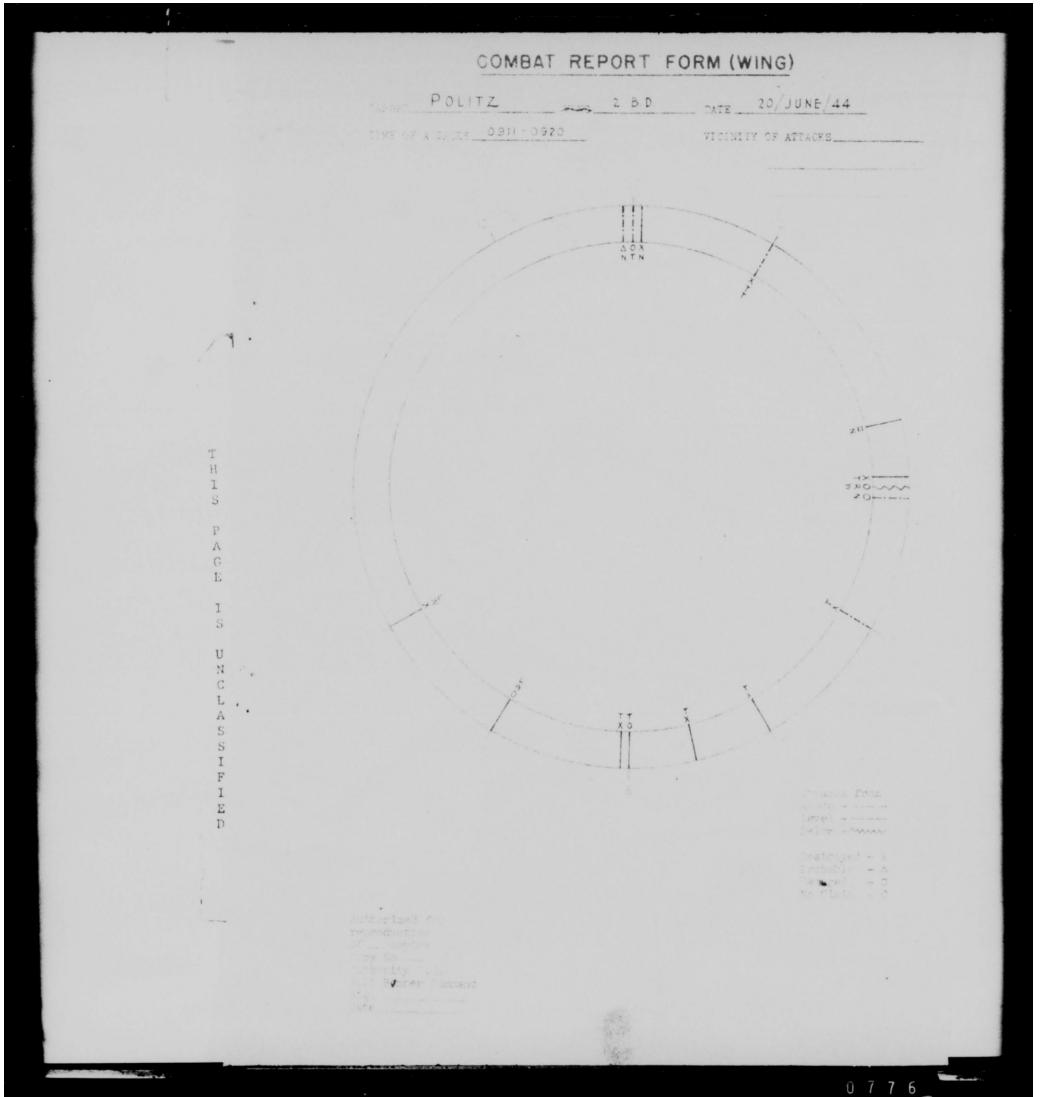
Tactical Report of Mission, 20 June 1944. - Politz

4. Enemy Aircraft Encounters.

- a. The lead Group of the leading Combat Wing, 14A, report approximately 60 S.E. and T.E. E/A at 5440N 1310E at 0910 hours. Weak tail attacks were experienced by about 7 Me 110's and 410's. The Group flying echeloned left report heavy attacks at 0920 hours at 5430N 1400E by 20-30 Me 410's and 2 JU 88's. Attacks were from 2 to 3 o'clock high and from 6 to 8 o'clock low. These attacks occurred simultaneously and were executed by from 5 to 10 T.E. from each direction. The E/A circled and repeated the attacks. Those attacking from the rear went through the formation. Three Me 109's were observed at the time flying parallel to the bombers acting as decoys and making feints. Some Me 410's attacking from the rear fired rockets then closed in firing 20 mm cannon. Assimilated bomber formations were employed prior to the rear rocket attacks. In the opinion of the crews the E/A pilots were experienced. Fourteen B-24's were lost by this Group either directly or indirectly due to E/A action.
- b. The Group making up the 14B Combat Wing report 40-50 FW 190's and Me 109's and 50-60 Me 410's at 0910 hours at about 5420N-1400E. Attacks were mainly concentrated on a Group ahead. The following observation is of interest: Prior to a rocket attack from the rear the Me 410's were observed flying about six in trail. Leader would then waggle wings and the E/A would come up into line abreast and fire rockets.
- c. One Group flying low left spot of the 20B Combat Wing report 20 FW 190's at 1007 hours at 5334N-1525E. These E/A did not attack. The 20A, 2nd, and 96th Combat Wings report nil E/A opposition.
- d. E/A opposition on this mission was considerable. It is estimated that enemy reaction against units of this Division totaled 200 A/C. Nearly half of these were T.E. type, mostly Me 410's. The majority of E/A were seen in an area about 40 minutes before the target. Escorting fighter Groups' sightings in the Stettin Area, after the target, were sizeable but bomber crews report only 20 S.E. E/A seen after the target. The enemy's technique of concentrating at some point on the bomber route, a large number of fighters again met with success. He was able to tie up our fighter escort with part of his concentration and attack the bombers with the remainder. Some interesting observations were made by combat crews on this mission. One concerning the E/A leader's signal to form up for rear rocket attacks has already been mentioned. Another is the apparent capability of the Me 410 to execute maneuvers usually credited only to S.E. E/A. The fact that some crews report the Me 410's as continuing through the formation, after attacking; and making simultaneous attacks from different clock positions all point to the high performance characteristics of this T.E. E/A

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Tactical Report of Mission, 20 June 1944

5. Communications.

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a. Unusual range was obtained by the VHF relay aircraft. Most distant two-way contacts were distance of 520 miles from ground station, with relay aircraft about 350 miles from the formation at 20,000 feet. Relay aircraft received interplane transmissions at the target, a distance of about 400 miles; no two-way transmissions were made at this point. Two "carpet-blinker" equipped aircraft were dispatched for radar counter-measure purposes, "window" was also used. Twelve H2X equipped aircraft were dispatched. Two H2X aircraft were lost, one bombed by grid system, all others bombed visually. Equipment malfunctions were reported to be serious in two aircraft, minor in

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V-11	Politz								20 June	1944
	UNIT	2ED	389	389PFF	. 445	453	. 44	44PFF	392	492
IC.	A/C TAKING CFF	357	21.	8	23	24	. 34	4	33	35
WO.	A/C DISPATCHED	357	21	8	23	24	34	4	33	35
	A/C ATTACKING	328	18	8	22	21	34	4	31	25
ic.	A/G NOT ATTACKING	29	3		, 1	3			2	10
0.	A/C.SONTELS	346	20	8	23	22	: 34	. 4	32	35
T	10. A/C	316	18	8	. 22	21	: 34	4	. 31	. 25
RG	NO. & TYPES	4764x100CP 2164x500GP	180x500GP	20x100GP 12x500GP	220x500GP	210x500GP	877x100GP 144x500GP	40x1.00GP 4x500GP	572x100GP 240x500GP	776x100GF
T	TOINAGE	779.2	45.0	4.0	55.0	52.5	79.9	3.0	88.6	68.5
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R	NC. OF A/C	12				1	-			egar - morte to to the
GET	NO. & TYPE	492×100GP	e de la companya de l	Self-color Color Color	-	·				
8	TONNAGE	24.6		personal Transport		parameters at the interest of	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
OTAL	L TONNAGE ALL TARGETS.	803.8	45.0	4.0	55.0	52.5	79.9	3.0	88.6	68.5
/c :	LOST TO FLAK	11	-	-		1	, 1	-	4	The same of same time to
	LOST TO E/A	-	_	-	-	-	-			
	LOST TO FLAK - E/A	14	Consisted anyon opposit		-			on temple and tones		
/q .1	LOST TO ACCIDENT	2	2	and the state of t	I amount of the same			Language of the State	1 045 100 kg = 100 (100 (100 (100 (100 (100 (100 (10	We will have street
/c. 1	LOGI UNANCAN	7	2	1 1991 (401) 97777 (401)	L surres of more					in the same and the section
3 H	LITIAS-KILLED, WOUNDED	2-3-2-338	0-0-0-40	0-0-0-23	i	0-0-0-11	0-0-0-9	4	0-0-1-37	0-0-0-139
LAI	NS - E/A DESTROYED,	8-1-1-5			-		3-0-0-0	Control Same	2-1-0-3	3-0-1-2
/C I	BATTLE DALLGE	198-39-1-0	3-1-0-0	2-1-0-0	21-1-0-0	14-3-0-0	9-5-0-0	3-0-0-0	12-3-0-0	8-7-0-0

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED FORM V-11 A NO. A/C TAKING CIF R NO. A/C DISPATCHED R NO. A/C ATTACKING NO. A/C NOT ATTACKING 1, NO. A/C SONTELLS This NO. A/C 10 416:d00GP 880x100@P 1163x100@P 252x500@P 264x500@P 300x500@P NO. & TYPES 219x5000P 58.1 75.6 IR-54301-1325E LR-Ribnitz IR-Harmover T TARGET ., NO. OF A/C 52:100@ 40:100@ 40:100@P T NO. & TYPE TOTAL TOWARD ALL TARGETS A/C LOST TO FLAK A/C LOST TO:E/A L A/C LOST TO FLAK - E/A A/C LOST TO ACCIDENT A/C LOST UNKNOWN CASULITIES-KILLED, MOUNDED SERIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, MIA 0-1-1-20 2-2-0-0 CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYAD, PROB., DAM., NO CLAIM A/C BATTLE DAMAGE CAT A-AC-B-E 8-1-1-0 4-0-0-0 1 1-13-0-0 5-1-0-0

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HEADQUARTERS STATION 123 APO 558 OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

20 JUNE 1944

SUBJECT: S-2 REPORT, MISSION 20 JUNE 44 (MINERALOL WKS. AT

OSTERMOOR)

TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, AAF 123, APO 558.

- ENEMY AIRCRAFT OPPOSITION

1. NO-E/A ENCOUNTERED.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE

2. IN THE TARGET AREA, AA WAS MEAGER TO MODERATE AND FAIRLY ACCURATE OF A CONTINUOUS FOLLOWING VARIETY ON FIRST SECTION. AA AT TARGET WAS MODERATE AND ACCURATE ON SECOND SECTION. CREWS ALSO REPORT AA FROM BARGES OR DESTROYER AT MOUTH OF ELBE RIVER IN TARGET AREA. ENROUTE TO TARGET, MODERATE, ACCURATE AA OF CF VARIETY WAS ENCOUNTERED AT ECKENFORDE ON FIRST SECTION; BUT NOT AIMED AT SECOND SECTION.

FOUR A/C SUFFERED MINOR BATTLE DAMAGE AND ONE MAJOR DAMAGE.

OBSERVATIONS

3. SMOKE SCREENS AT ECKENFORDE, KIEL (PUT UP BY SHIPS IN WATER), HAMBURG.

A/F NOT ON MAP AT NEUWERK ISLAND (5355-0830) WITH BARRACKS BEING CONSTRUCTED.

LARGE A/F 3 MILES SOUTH OF SHLESWIG WITH AT LEAST 9 PLANES VISIBLE.

A/F NOT ON MAP AT 5355-0945.

MILITARY CAMP IN WOODS AT 5456-1012.

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

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

23 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 20 June 1944 (#1).

TO: Commanding General, 2d Bomberdment Division.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

2.	Group 458
B.	Division F.O. No
G.	Date of Operation 20 June 1944
	Ordered Primary Target Ostermoor Refinery
亚。	A/C Dispatched 23
	A/C Sorties
	A/C Attacking 21
	A/C Not Attacking 2
	(3) Mechanical
	42-52455 Oil leak 7
I.	A/C Attacking Primary Target 21 252 X 500 GP
	A/C Attacking Secondary Target Nil
	A/C Attacking Last Resort Terget Nil
	A/C Attacking Opportunity Target Nil
	A/C Lost Nil
	,

For the Commanding Officer:

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

Formation for Mission of 20 June 19/4. Mission No. 102



	Warner 4550 7V ABOUT
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Marshalling and Take-off Order

Runway 05 (if 23, reverse E and W)

	-			
Disp 2	Ship 697Z	T.O.	Disp	Ship
٤.	0)14	2	21	118E
			32	110P
16	108M	4		
16	359J	3456	- 00	1.570
_		7	33	457Q
7	018J 705H	8		
15	120M	9		
20	OCSR	10		
		11	30	352K
		12	27	709I
		13	24	433B 184F
	682I	14	24	1045
5	183J	16		
11	1000	17	29	314L
13	274H	18		
20	316N			
14	441I	20		
		21	34	1550
	096F	22	31	1174
16	7357			

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
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	BRADLEY	73	4			41-28735	735	V	J3	25	UNKNOWN 005	MSN #1 MF/DF
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	BRAUER	73	29			41-28682	682	I	Z 5	37	UNKNOWN 003	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	COYLE	73	3			42-95117	117	М	7V	20	YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	DAVIS	73	34			42-95108	108	М	Z 5	13	ENVY OF 'EM ALL II	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	GIBSON, S	73	11			41-29359	359	J	J3	46	TAIL WIND	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	GLENN	73	ABT	OLLUM	L2	42-100433	433	В	J3		BIG DICK HARD TO HIT	ABORT - MSN #1 OIL LEAK #1 ENG FEATHERED
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	HANNAMAN	73	8			42-95120	120	М	J3	15	HOOKEM COW / BETTY	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	HAUSER	73	5			42-95008	800	R	J3	15	UNKNOWN 035	MSN #1 D-CHNL
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	HAYZLETT	73	5			41-29352	352	K	7V	29	WOLVE'S LAIR	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	HEMRICH	73	12			42-110184	184	F	J3	6	GWEN	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	HOOVEN	73	1			42-95018	018	J	Z 5	20	OLD DOC'S YACHT	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	McCOLLOUGH	73	27	WILLIAMS	D1	44-40126	126			6	SPITTEN KITTEN / SKY TRAMP	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	NEWELL	73	5			41-28705	705	Н	J4	34	YE OLDE HELLGATE	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	QUIRK	73	5			42-52441	441	1	J3	34	LAST CARD LOUIE	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	REW	73	4			41-28709	709	I	7V	22	LUCKY STRIKE	MSN #1 MF/DF
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	ROBERTS, J	73	7			42-52457	457	Q	7V	30	FINAL APPROACH	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	ROWLAND	73	4			42-95316	316	N	J3	23	PRINCESS PAT	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	URBANIAK	73	13			42-50314	314	L	7V	24	ETO PLAYHOUSE	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	VERMEIREN	73	14			42-95096	096	F	Z 5	15	BOMBS AWAY	MSN #1 D-CHNL
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	WAGNER	73	4			42-95183	183	J		10	BRINEY MARLIN	RCL COULD BE "U"
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	WALKER	73	8			42-51110	110	Р	7V	14	TOP O' THE MARK	MSN #1
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	WARNER	73	10			42-52455	455	0	7V		PLUTOCRAT	MSN #1 ABT-SORTIE CREDIT
20-Jun-44	OSTERMOOR	WATSON	73	28			42-52274	274	Н	J3	8	UNKNOWN 029	MSN #1