

HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

FIELD ORDER NO.

805

TARGET

SAARBRUCKEN

DATE

28 JUNE 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 52009, 27 Sep 58

COPY NO. _____

THI

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION:
AAF 147

APO 558

: : : : : : : : : :
: S E C R E T :
: By Auth of CG :
: 2d Bomb Div :
: Initials *WLP* :
: Date *31 July 1944* :
: : : : : : : : :

27 July 1944

SUBJECT : Tactical Report of Mission, 28 June 1944.

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

1. Data.

- a. Date of Mission - 28 June 1944.
- b. Primary Target - All Combat Wings - Saarbrucken M/Y, if visual.
All Combat Wings - Center of Saarbrucken, if PFF.
- c. Secondary Target - Any military objective that can be positively identified and not near a built-up area.
- d. Last Resort Target - Any military objective that can be positively identified and not near a built-up area.
- e. Units Participating - 2nd BW (453rd, 445th, 389th BG).
14th CEW (392nd, 492nd BG).
20th CEW (446th, 448th BG).
95th CEW (491st, 489th BG).
96th CEW (458th, 466th, 467th BG).

2. Narrative.

a. 378 aircraft were dispatched to visually attack Saarbrucken. Fifteen H2X aircraft were dispatched for navigational purposes and for use in bombing if cloud cover prevented visual methods. Four Groups of P-38s and two Groups of P-51s provided fighter support.

b. Assemblies were accomplished without incident but at Control Point 1 the 96th Combat Wings "A" and "B" were behind the 95th Combat Wing instead of ahead of it. The routes were flown as briefed.

c. The target area was covered with 5/10 to 10/10 cloud, and the bombing was accomplished on H2X equipment with generally unobserved results. PRU reports show a large concentration on the marshalling yard at the south-west junction and station sidings extending eastward, blanketing the marshalling yard facilities. Several concentrations fell in the center of the city of Saarbrucken and severe damage was accomplished in adjoining districts. One Squadron of eleven aircraft did not attack the assigned target due to failure of H2X equipment but visually attacked the airfield at Florrennes, a target of opportunity, with good results.

d. Moderate to intense accurate gunfire was encountered enroute at Ghent, Charleroi, Florennes, Mons, Chievres, Venault, le Chatel and Court St. Etienne. Meager AA fire was encountered enroute at Le Culot, Soignies, Namur, Brussels, Tholm, Charleville and Huy. A few enemy aircraft were seen in the target area but no attacks were made. Friendly fighters engaged these and their support was good throughout the mission. One aircraft was lost to an unknown cause. Claims were nil.

For the Commanding General:

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

S E C R E T

T
H
I
S

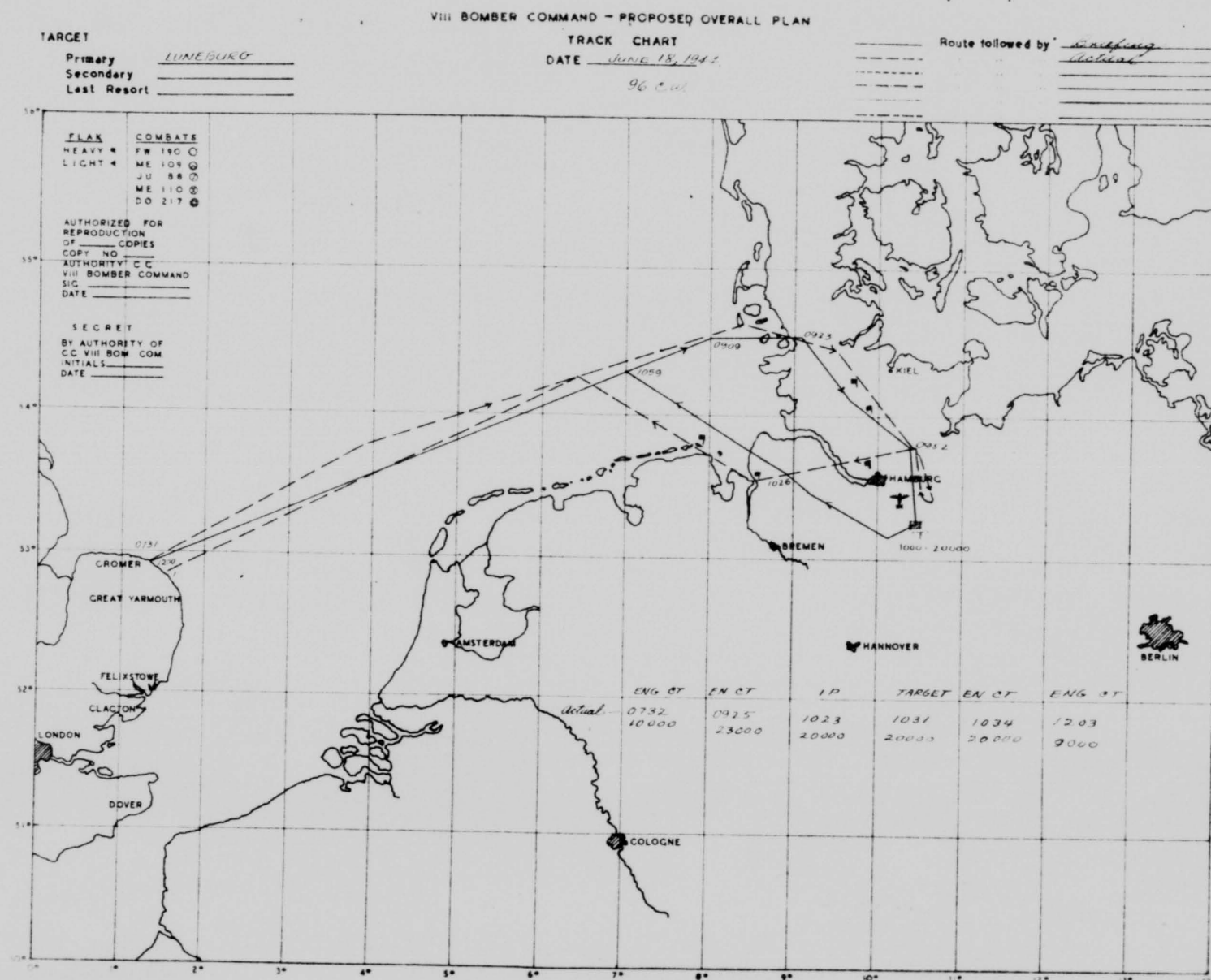
P
A
G
E

I
S

U
N
C
L
A
S
S
I
F
I
E
D

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

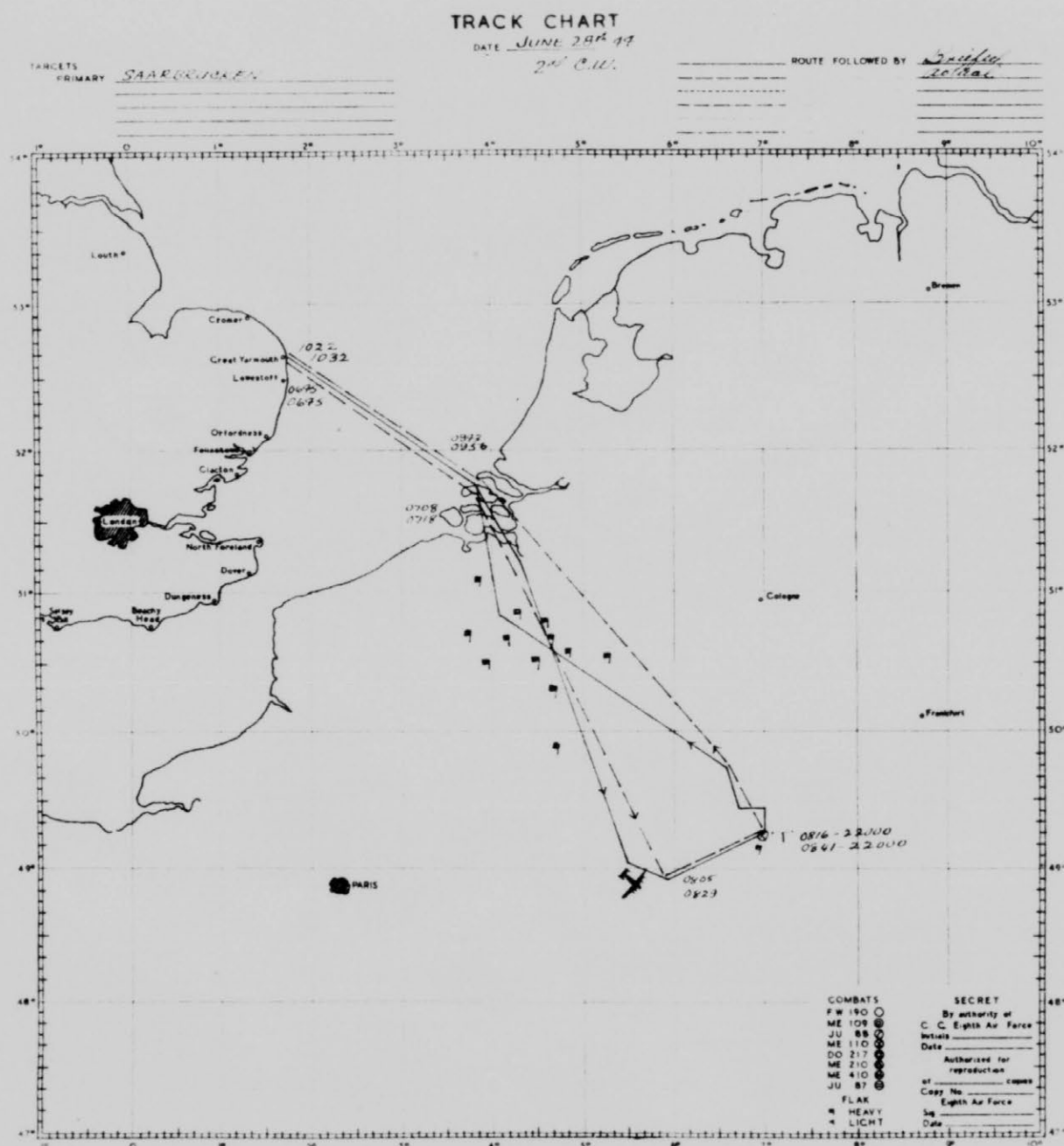
THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED



THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

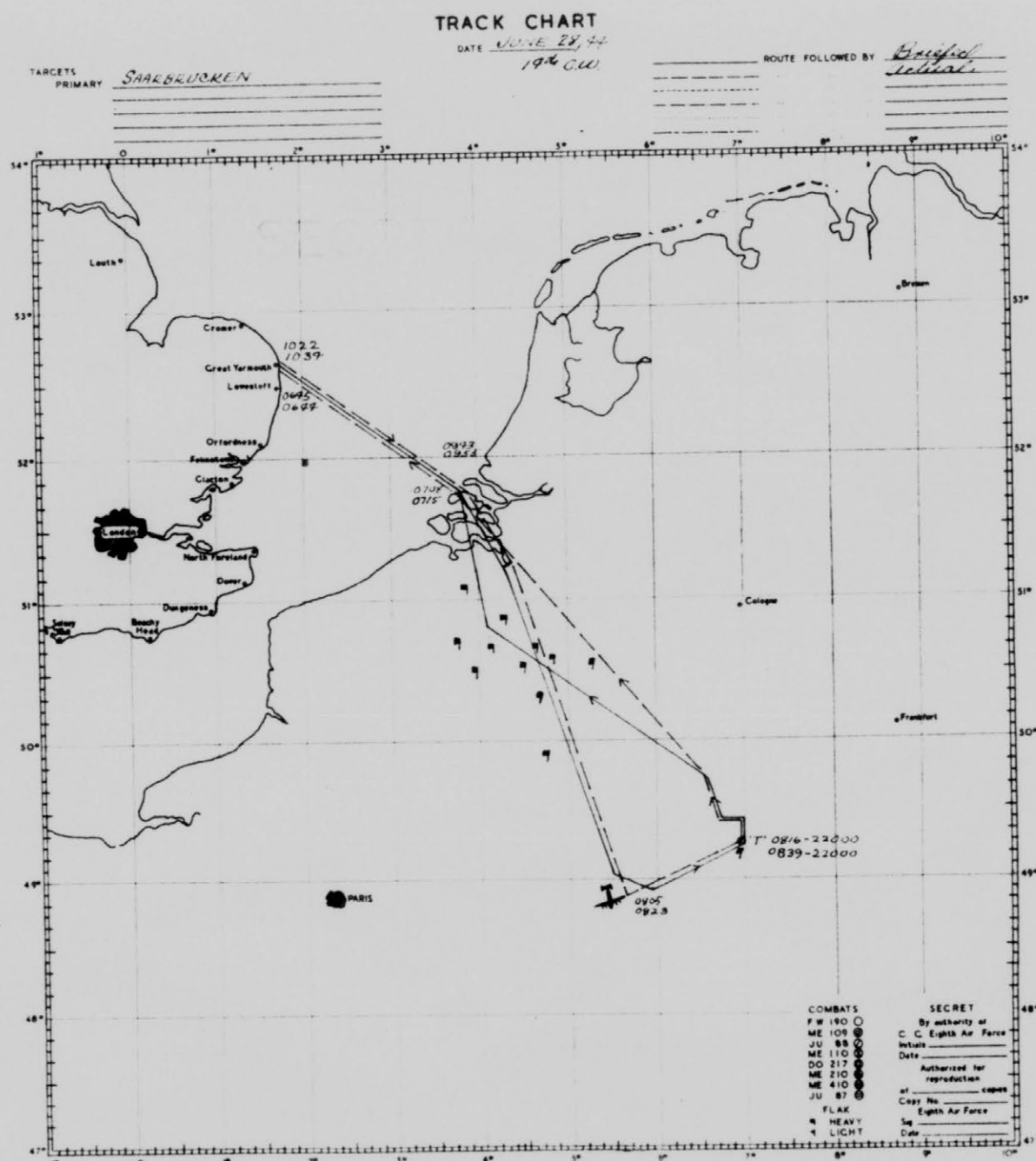
THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED



THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

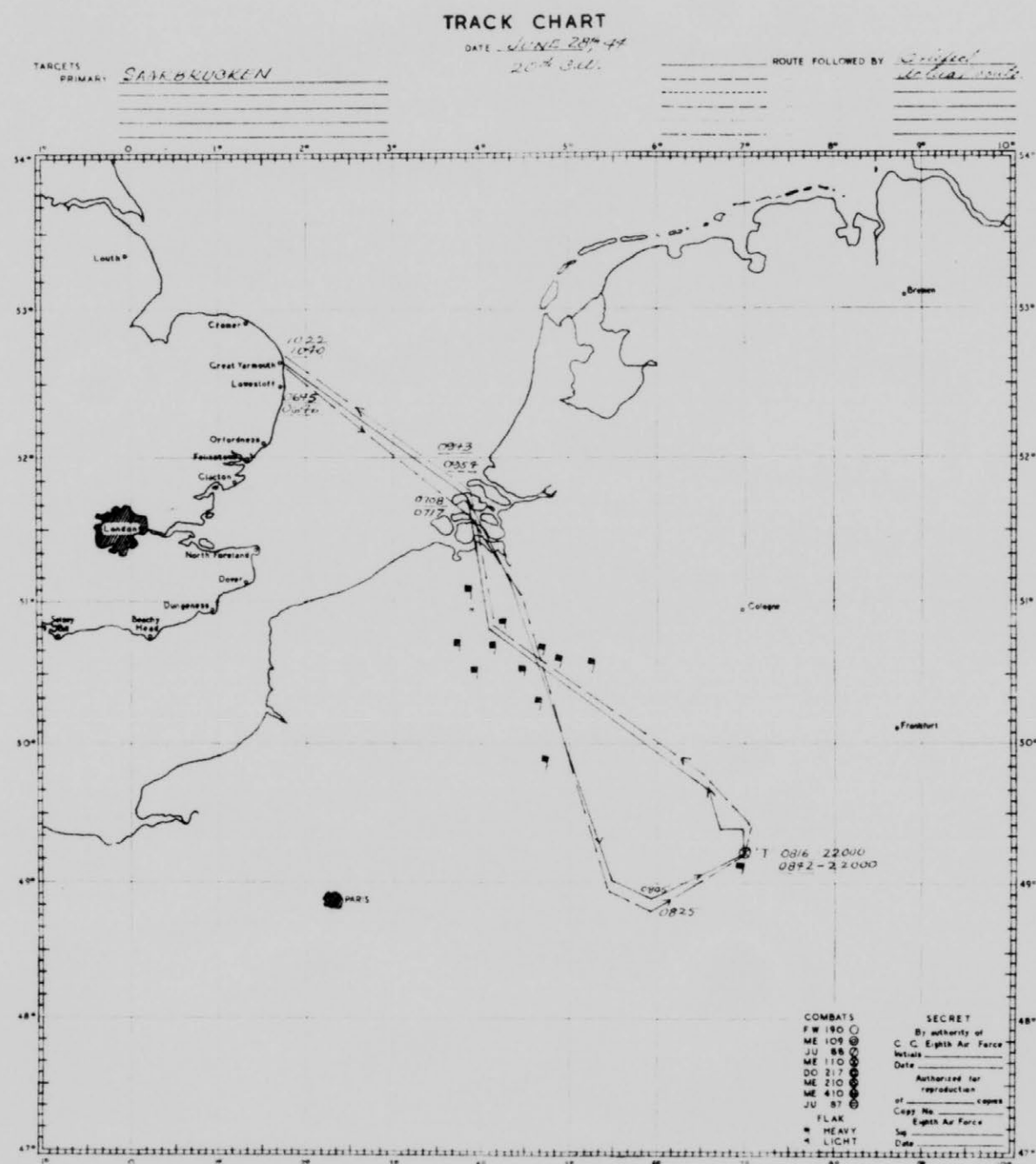
THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED



THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

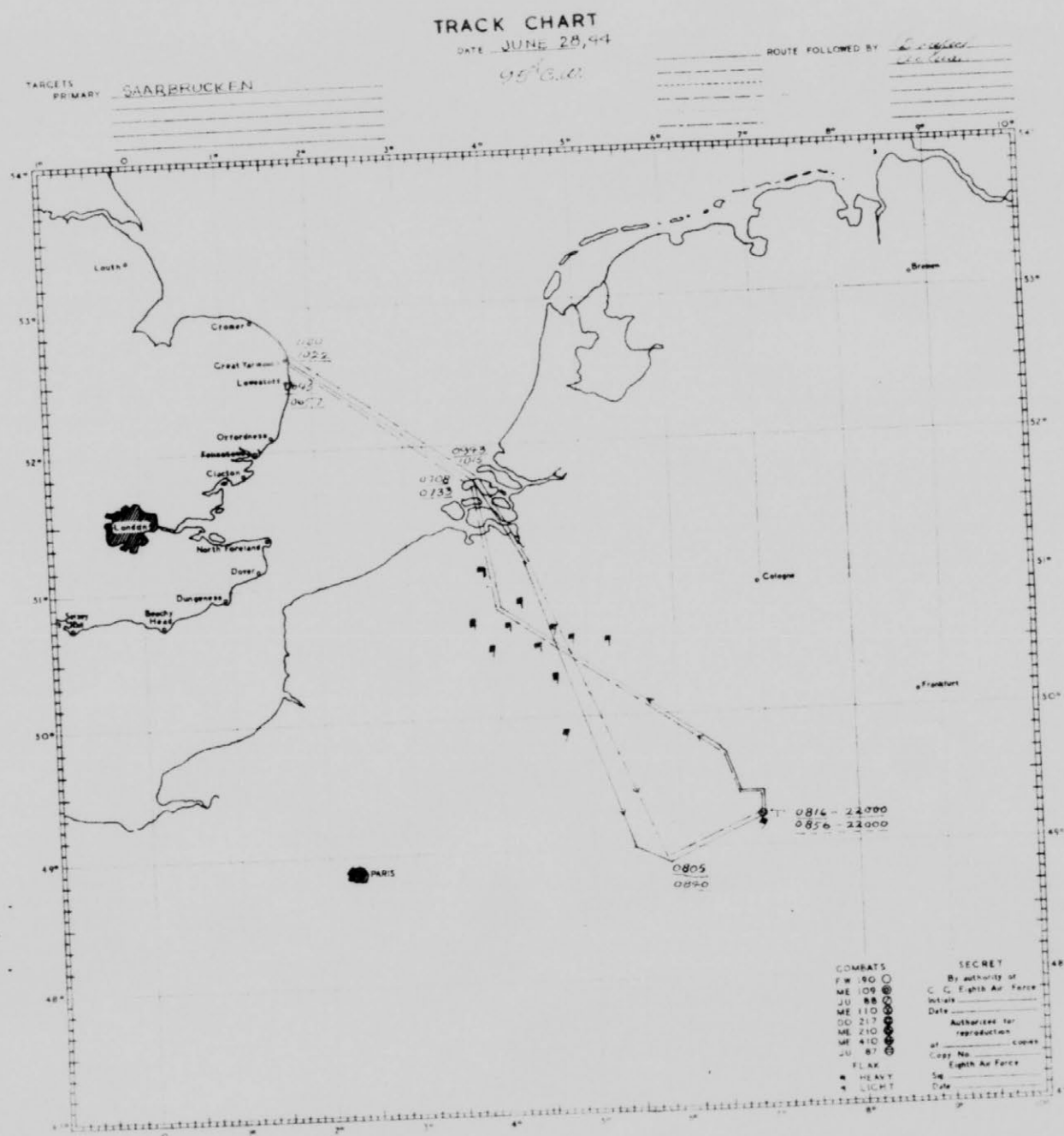
THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED



THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED



THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

S E C R E T

Tactical Bombing Report of Mission, 28 June 1944

GROUP	DIRECT OF RUN	LENGTH OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF RELEASE	FLEW AUTO PILOT	FLEW MANUAL	RANGE & DEFLECT	RANGE	NUMBER A/C BOMBING	DROPPED ON GH OR PFF
<u>SAARBRUCKEN</u>										
445	75	10 min.	22,000	0839	X				30 / 2	PFF
453	66	10 min.	22,000	0841	X				33 / 2	PFF
389	67	10 min.	23,200	0841	X		Dropped on 453rd Group		11	
389	73	10 min.	23,000	0843	X		" " 445th Group		10	
392	55	8 min.	20,800	0840	X				20 / 2	PFF
402	50		23,300	0840	X		Dropped on 392nd Group		21	
445	74	14 min.	22,000	0841	X				24 / 2	PFF
448	60	3 min.	23,000	0841	X		Dropped on Sky Markers		20	
489	75	10 min.	22,500	0842	X				34 / 1	PFF
491	48	8 min.	22,000	0848	X				37 / 2	PFF
458	64	30 sec.	22,000	0857	X				33 / 2	PFF visual
466	59		23,500	0859	X		Dropped on 458th Group		23	
467	71	12 min.	23,000	0901	X				22 / 1	PFF
<u>FLORENNES A/F</u>										
466	240	2 min.	20,300	0946	X				10 / 1	PFF visual

- The assigned primary target for this mission was Saarbrucken, Germany.
- Twelve Groups were assigned to this target. Bombing was done in Group formation on PFF leaders through 7/10 to 10/10 cloud cover.
- One Squadron attacked a target of opportunity, the airfield at Florennes, Belgium, when the PFF equipment went out at the primary. One A/C did not bomb the primary and made an individual sighting operation on a railroad bridge at Gizit. Twelve A/C did not bomb and returned early due to mechanical difficulties. One A/C did not bomb due to a rack and bomb bay door malfunction and another A/C did not bomb due to an A-2 release malfunction.
- Results of bombing at Saarbrucken were good from a damage standpoint. Many hits in marshalling yards and built-up areas of the city. Results at Florennes A/D were good with hits on operations area and NW section of the field.

S E C R E T

TH

S E C R E T

Tactical Report of Mission, 28 June 1944.

3. Anti-Aircraft Fire.

- a. The first eight Groups over the target attacked within four minutes in a 30° arc. The fire encountered by these formations was only moderate in intensity and consisted of both predictor control and barrage fire which was accurate for some Groups but inaccurate for others. One formation encountered no AA fire until after bombs were released, and the enemy defenses appear to have been fairly well saturated. The 491st Group attacked the target alone and encountered moderate but accurate predictor control fire. The 96th Wing attacked the target 9 minutes later, and the first two Groups encountered only fixed barrages, but the last Group encountered some predictor control fire as well. Several rockets were seen in the target area, some of which resembled PFF smoke bombs. A few green AA fire bursts were also seen in the area.
- b. Moderate gunfire was encountered on route at Ghent, Charleroi, Cosselies, Florennes, Mons, Chievres, Venault le Chatel and Court St. Etienne. A few green bursts were seen at Florennes.
- c. Meager gunfire was encountered on route at Le Culot, Soignies, Namur, Brussels, Tholoh, Charleville and Huy.
- d. Phenomena.
 - (1) An AA fire burst was seen at Charleroi which emitted a mass of wires. Each wire was 20 to 30 yards long and they all appeared to be joined at a central point. These wires appeared to emanate from an ordinary AA fire burst, but it is more probable that the projectile was fired by means of a rocket.

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

0 8 / 1

S E C R E T

Tactical Report of Mission, 28 June 1944

5. Communications.

- a. Communication facilities satisfactory. 15 H2X aircraft led formations. Five sets failed to function properly; others were satisfactory for bombing.

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

0 8 7 2

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

FORM N-11		28 June 1944								
UNIT		2BD	389	389PFF	445	453	44PFF	392	492	446
A I R C R A F T	NO. A/C TAKING OFF	378	24	9	34	34	6	22	24	33
	NO. A/C DISPATCHED	378	24	9	34	34	6	22	24	33
	NO. A/C ATTACKING	343	21	9	30	33	6	20	20	25
	NO. A/C NOT ATTACKING	25	3	-	4	1	-	2	4	8
	NO. A/C SORTIES	348	22	9	30	33	6	21	21	27
B O M B S	NO. A/C	321	21	9	30	33	5	20	20	24
	NO. & TYPES	434x300GP 1148x250GP 1257x500GP	420x300GP	14x300GP 4x500GP	720x250GP	276x500GP	32x250GP 4x500GP	480x250GP	478x250GP	576x250GP
	TONNAGE	922.9	62	3.1	90	99	5	60	59.8	72
	TARGET						LR-Florennes A/D			LR-JURE-Giel
	NO. OF A/C	12					1			1
	NO. & TYPE	106x500GP 24x250GP					4x500GP			24x250GP
	TONNAGE	29.5					1			3
	TOTAL TONNAGE ALL TARGETS	952.4	62	3.1	90	99	6	60	59.8	75
	A/C LOST TO FLAK									
	A/C LOST TO E/A									
R E S U L T S	A/C LOST TO FLAK - E/A									
	A/C LOST TO ACCIDENT									
	A/C LOST UNKNOWN	1	1							
	CASUALTIES-KILLED, WOUNDED									
	SERIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, MIA	0-2-2-10	0-0-0-10					0-0-2-0		
	CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED,									
	PROB., DAM., NO CLAIM									
S C A T	A/C BATTLE DAMAGE									
	CAT A-AC-B-E	42-6-2-0		0-1-0-0	1-1-0-0	2-1-0-0		7-0-0-0	0-1-0-0	

TACTICAL REPORT OF ACTION
6. STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONSPrepared by:
STATISTICAL CONTROL
24 Bombardment Division

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

FORM V-11

28 June 1944

6. STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

UNIT

UNIT	448	489	491	450	166	467
AIRCRAFT						
NO. A/C TAKING OFF	23	37	39	34	34	25
NO. A/C DISPATCHED	23	37	39	34	34	25
NO. A/C ATTACKING	20	33	37	33	33	23
NO. A/C NOT ATTACKING	3	4	2	1	1	2
NO. A/C SORTIES	20	33	37	33	33	23
NO. A/C	20	33	37	33	24	22
NO. & TYPES	239x500GP	772x250GP	443x500GP	646x250GP	130x500GP 204x250GP	261x500GP
TONNAGE	59.7	96.5	110.8	80.7	58	65.3
TARGET					IR-Florennes A/D	IR-Florennes A/D
NO. OF A/C					9	1
NO. & TYPE					90x500GP	12x500GP
TONNAGE					22.5	3
TOTAL TONNAGE ALL TARGETS	59.7	96.5	110.8	80.7	80.5	68.3
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						
CASUALTIES-KILLED, WOUNDED				0-0-1-0	0-1-0-0	0-1-0-0
SERIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, MIA						
CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED,						
PROB., DAM., NO CLAIM						
A/C BATTLE DAMAGE						
CAT A-AC-B-E	12-0-0-0	9-0-0-0	9-0-2-0	1-0-1-0	1-2-0-0	

Prepared by:
STATISTICAL CONTROL
24 Bombardment Division

HEADQUARTERS
STATION 123 APO 558
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

28 JUNE 1944

SUBJECT: S-2 REPORT, MISSION 28 JUNE 44 (SAARBRUCKEN)
TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, AAF 123, APO 558.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT OPPOSITION

1. NO E/A ENCOUNTERED.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE

2. NO AA WAS ENCOUNTERED ENROUTE TO TARGET. ACCURATE, INTENSE, NON-VISUAL AND VISUAL AA OF THE BARRAGE TYPE WAS ENCOUNTERED OVER SAARBRUCKEN. SIX TO TEN ROCKETS CAME UP IN-ACCURATELY AT SAARBRUCKEN. ENROUTE HOME, THE AA ENCOUNTERED WAS MEAGER, INACCURATE OF FLAK, AT HUY (5031-0514).

SIXTEEN OF OUR A/C RECEIVED MINOR BATTLE DAMAGE.

OBSERVATIONS

3. A/D AT CHARLEROI REPORTED REPAIRED WITH FLAK POSITIONS BELIEVED ON WEST SIDE OF THE FIELD.
NEW A/D NORTH OF DOUAI AT 5025-0305, REPORTED WITH THREE PLANES BELIEVED ON FIELD.
EXTENSIVE CONSTRUCTION AND EXCAVATION GOING ON JUST EAST OF CHARLEROI.
LARGE EXCAVATIONS, THE AREA OF A CITY BLOCK, REPORTED SIX MILES NE OF RETHEL AT 4936-0426.
M/Y'S AT TRIER, FULL OF TRAINS AT 0915. MUCH ACTIVITY IN CHARLEROI M/Y'S AT 0850.
NO SMOKE SCREEN AT SAARBRUCKEN.

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

S E C R E T

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

28 June 1944

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 28 June 1944.

TO: Commanding General, 2d Bombardment Division.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A.	Group	458	
B.	Division F.O. No.	373	
C.	Date of Operation	28 June 1944	
D.	Ordered Primary Target.	Saarbrücken Marshalling Yard	
E.	A/C Dispatched.	34	
F.	A/C Sorties	33	
G.	A/C Attacking	33	
H.	A/C Not Attacking	1	
	(3) Mechanical and Equipment.	1 - 41-28682 - 2 turbos	
I.	A/C Attacking Primary Target.	33 - 646 X 250 GP	
		12 X 250 GP jettisoned - 42-50320	
		22 X 250 GP returned	
J.	A/C Attacking Secondary Target.	Nil	
K.	A/C Attacking Last Resort Target.	Nil	
L.	A/C Attacking Opportunity Target.	Nil	
M.	A/C Lost	Nil	

For the Commanding Officer:

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

S E C R E T

114

28 JUNE 44

Mission File

114

Section I

Lead Sqdn "A" Group

-LaRoche

TV : PFF

Walker

7V:340N

Correll

7V:050J

Slaton-Poeth

K21 J3:059E

McArdle

J3:008R

Warner

7V:709I

Monohan

K21 7V:117M

LeBeuf

K21 25:018J

Raurk

K20 J3:300Y

Quirk

J3:342

Armour

25:596R

Nelson

K22 25:116V

Section II

Low Left Sqdn "A" Group

Roubal - Chamberlain

K21 7V:812D

Bradley

25:096F

Newell

25:276G

Larsen

25:362A

Zimmerman

7V:110P

Hooven

K21 25:108M

Judge

25:095Q

Gibson

K20 J3:179P

Thompson

7V:179X

Robert

K21 7V:45

Boyle

J3:735V

Houser

J3:183U

Section III

Lead Sqdn B Group

Bergman

TV: PFF

(Hannam)

Perkinson

J3:425D

McNamara

J3:184F

Glagola

J3:320 W

Haydon

K20 7V:455-0

Kenyon

J3:163K

Martin

25:705V

Middleton

7V:314L

Evans

K21 J4:163M

Davidson

25:682I

Loy

7V:352K

Rew

K21 7V:721V

ABANT

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
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	ARMOUR	81	11			41-29596	596	R	Z5	27	HELL'S ANGEL'S	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	BOYLE	81	6			41-28735	735	V	J3	30	UNKNOWN 005	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	BRADLEY	81	6			42-95096	096	F	Z5	20	BOMBS AWAY	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	DAVIDSON	81	ABT			41-28682	682	I	Z5	--	UNKNOWN 003	ABORT - TURBOS FROZEN COULD NOT KEEP FORM
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	EVANS	81	2			42-110163	163	M	J4	3	TIME'S A WASTIN	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	GIBSON, S	81	16			42-51179	179	P	J3	13	DUSTY'S DOUBLE TROUBLE	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	GLAGOLA	81	8			42-50320	320	W	J3	25	UNKNOWN 018	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	GORRELL	81	10			42-95050	050	J	7V	24	GAS HOUSE MOUSE	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	HANSEN	81	14			42-110070	070	--	Z5	14	ELMER / LADY LUCK	SPARE LEAD CREW
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	HAUSER	81	9			42-95183	183	U	J3	15	BRINEY MARLIN	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	HAYDON	81	14			42-52455	455	O	7V	37	PLUTOCRAT	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	HOOVEN	81	4			42-95108	108	M	Z5	18	ENVY OF 'EM ALL II	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	JUDGE	81	17			42-51095	095	Q	Z5	18	SHOO SHOO BABY	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	KENYON	81	2			42-95163	163	K	Z5	20	DIXIE BELLE	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	LARSON	81	16			42-100362	362	A	Z5	11	SWEET LORRAINE/BOOMERANG	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	LeBEUF	81	13			42-95018	018	J	Z5	24	OLD DOC'S YACHT	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	LOY	81	8			41-29352	352	K	7V	32	WOLVE'S LAIR	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	MARTIN, L	81	5			41-28705	705	W	Z5	36	YE OLDE HELLGATE	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	McARDLE	81	11			42-95008	008	R	J3	20	UNKNOWN 035	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	McNAMARA	81	24			42-110184	184	F	J3	9	GWEN	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	MIDDLETON	81	11			42-50314	314	L	7V	28	ETO PLAYHOUSE	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	MONAHAN	81	14			42-95117	117	M	7V	25	YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	NELSON	81	3			42-95116	116	V	Z5	16	JUNIOR	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	NEWELL	81	9			41-29276	276	G	Z5	13	URGIN VIRGIN/The ROTTEN SOCK	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	NEWMARK	81	MSHL			--		--	--	--		MARSHALING CHIEF
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	PERKINSON	81	1	HANNAMAN	L	42-100425	425	D	J3	14	THE BIRD	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	QUIRK	81	8			41-29342	342	S	J3	26	ROUGH RIDERS	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	REW	81	8			41-28721	721	V	7V	34	DOWNWIND LEG	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	ROBERTS, J	81	11			42-52457	457	Q	7V	34	FINAL APPROACH	SERIAL FROM MARSHALING
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	ROUBAL	81	29	CHAMBERLAIN	L2	42-109812	812	D	7V	29	UNKNOWN 016	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	RUARK	81	7			41-29300	300	Y	J3	33	LORELEI	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	SLATON	81	26	BOOTH	D1	42-110059	059	E	J3	24	UNKNOWN 056	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	STANHOPE	81	--	FREEMAN	L3	41-28788	788	F+	QK	--	44BG/66SQ	44BG PILOT
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	STILSON	81	ASSY			41-28697	697	Z	Z5	A2	SPOTTED APE	ASSEMBLY CREW
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	THOMPSON	81	19			42-95179	179	X	7V	22	HERE I GO AGAIN	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	UGARTE	81	--	LaROCHE	L1	41-28794	794	G+	QK	--	44BG/66SQ	NOT 458TH SHIP or PLT
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	WALKER	81	10			41-29340	340	N	7V	30	YANKEE BUZZ BOMB	
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	WARNER	81	11			41-28709	709	I	7V	24	LUCKY STRIKE	SHOT UP - LAND IPSWITCH
28-Jun-44	SAARBRUCKEN	ZIMMERMAN	81	31			42-51110	110	P	7V	18	TOP O' THE MARK	