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HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

<u>FIELD ORDER NO.</u>	<u>TARGETS</u>	<u>DATE</u>
913	ST. LO AREA	24 JULY 1944

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2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

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 : By auth of C. G. :
 : Hq 2d Bomb Division:
 : Initials.....
 : Date... 17 Aug 1944 :
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 17 August 1944

HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
 AAF 147 APO 558

SUBJECT: Tactical Report of Mission, 24 July 1944

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

1. Data.

- a. Date of Mission - 24 July 1944
- b. Primary Targets - St. Lo Area
- c. Secondary Target - None
- d. Last Resort Targets - Any A/D, any M/Y, and R.R. Bridge, any Road Bridge, any enemy column or convoy on the road, any concentration of troops or equipment. All above targets must not be adjacent to a built-up area, must be positively identified as one of the above objectives, and must not be inside the current bomb line and a visual sighting must be made.

- e. Units Participating -
 - 2nd CBW "A" - 445th BG
 - 2nd CBW "B" - 389th BG
 - 2nd CBW "C" - 453rd BG
 - 14th CBW "A" - 44th BG
 - 14th CBW "B" - 492nd BG
 - 14th CBW "C" - 392nd BG
 - 20th CBW "A" - 93rd BG
 - 20th CBW "B" - 448th BG
 - 20th CBW "C" - 446th BG
 - 95th CBW "A" - 491st BG
 - 95th CBW "B" - 489th BG
 - 95th CBW "C" - 489th BG
 - 96th CBW "A" - 467th BG
 - 96th CBW "B" - 458th BG
 - 96th CBW "C" - 466th BG

2. Narrative.

- a. 564 aircraft were dispatched to visually attack the area centered around St. Lo. Area fighter support was provided for this operation.
- b. Assemblies were accomplished without difficulty and the route was flown as briefed.
- c. A 10/10 cloud cover in the target area made it impossible for any units to attack their primaries. One Group attacked a Railroad Inter-section at 4850N-0130W, a target of opportunity, with poor results. Damage was accomplished on a main roadway and minor roadways. Two aircraft of another Group jettisoned their bombs in open fields - one at 4850N-0115W and the other at 4805N-0112W. The remaining aircraft returned to base with their bombs.

d. Meager and generally inaccurate predictor control "unseen" fire was encountered by most Groups in the target area, although a few formations were not engaged at all. Meager and moderate gunfire was encountered enroute at Granville, Coutances and south of Lessay. No enemy

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Tactical Report of Mission, 24 July 1944 (Continued)

aircraft were encountered and fighter support was good. One aircraft was lost to enemy anti-aircraft fire. Claims were nil.

For the Commanding General:

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

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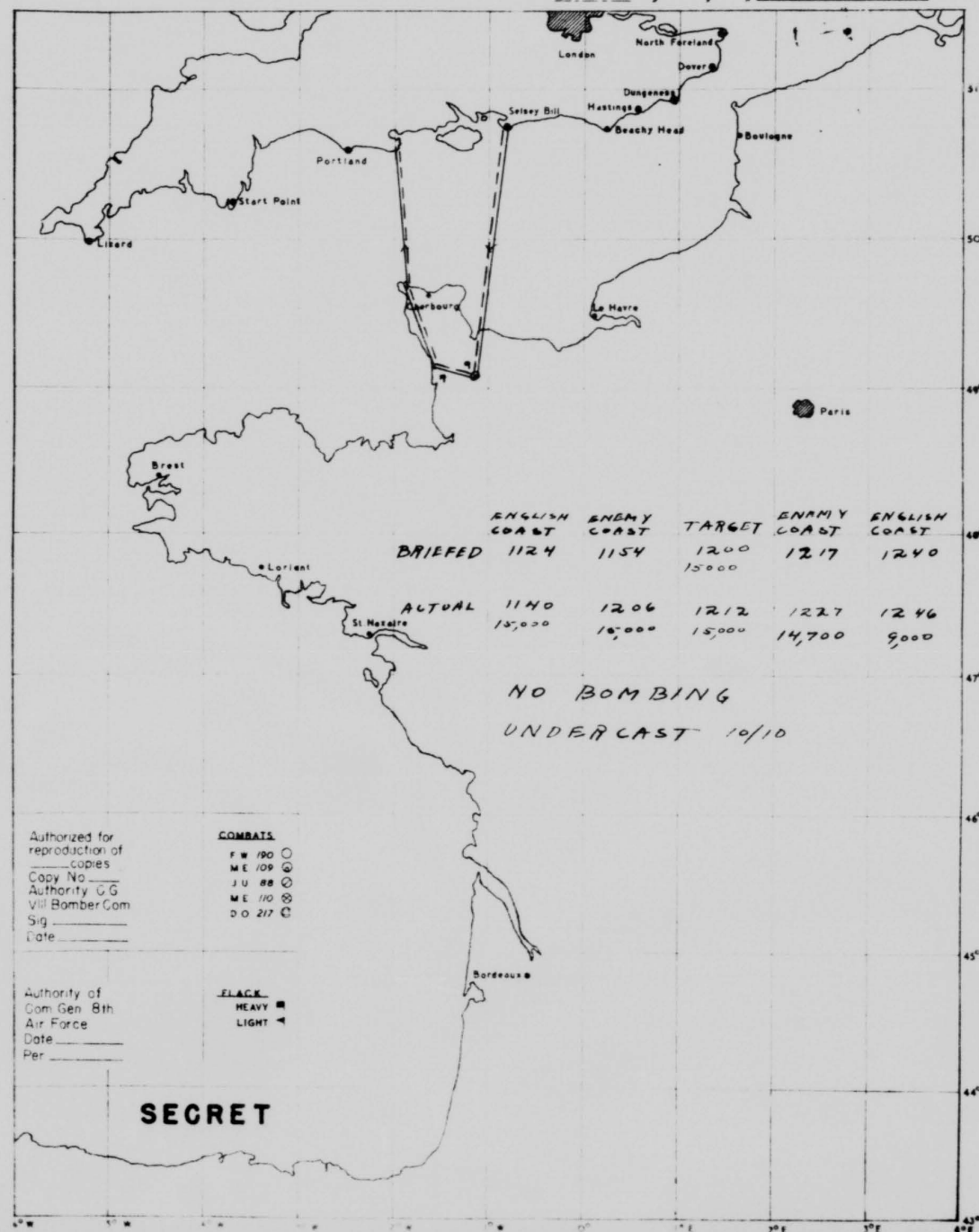
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SECRET**TRACK CHART**
 TARGET
 Primary GROUND SUPPORT
DATE JULY 24
 Route followed by BRIEFED
96 G.B.V.



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TACTICAL REPORT OF BOMBING, MISSION 24 July 1944.

GROUP	DIR. OF RUN	LENGTH OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF RELEASE	FLEW AUTO-PILOT	FLEW MANUAL	RANGE & DEFLEC. RANGE	TOTAL BOMBS AND TYPE	NO A/C BOMBING	DROPPED ON H2X OR GH	VISUAL
R. R. JUNCTION 4850N-0130W (Near Granville)											
446	282°	1 min.	14,800'	1220	X		1 2	1368x100GP	35		X

1. The assigned primary target for this mission was an area south of the St. Lo-Pierers road in support of ground forces.
2. Fourteen Groups participated in the mission. The 446th Group was the only group to bomb. The balance of the force returned their bombs due to clouds preventing visual bombing in the assigned target area.
3. One A/C of the 489th Group jettisoned 52x100 GP bombs at 4850N-0115W and another A/C of the 489th Group jettisoned 36x260 Frag. bombs at 4805N-0112W.
4. Results of bombing of the 446th Group were poor. Bombfall on main roadway, small village, minor roadway and open areas.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 24 July 1944.

3. Anti-Aircraft Fire.

- a. Target - Troop concentrations 3 to 7 miles West North West of St. Lo.
- b. (1) Meager and generally inaccurate predictor control "unseen" fire was encountered by most Groups in the target area although a few formations were not engaged at all.
- (2) Meager to moderate Gunfire was also encountered at Granville, Coutances and south of Lessay.
- (3) One A/C of the 489th was shot down in the vicinity of Coutances at 14,000 ft.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 24 July 1944

5. Communications.

- a. Use of VHF channel was unsatisfactory during the assembly due to interference between users. Six carpet blinker equipped A/C were dispatched. RCM window was used in the target area.

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FORM V-11

24 July 1944

UNIT		210	389	389TF	445	453	44	392	492	93
AIRCRAFT	NO. A/C TAKING OFF	564	34	1	47	51	38	48	36	39
	NO. A/C DISPATCHED	564	34	1	47	51	38	48	36	39
	NO. A/C ATTACKING	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NO. A/C NOT ATTACKING	527	34	1	47	51	38	48	36	39
	NO. A/C SIGHTED	564	34	1	47	51	38	48	36	38
BOMBERS	NO. A/C	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NO. & TYPES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TONNAGE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TARGET	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NO. OF A/C	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NO. & TYPE	1420x100GP 36x280FB	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BATTLE	TONNAGE	75.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL TONNAGE ALL TARGETS	75.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
REMARKS	A/C LOST TO FLAK	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST TO E/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST TO FLAK - E/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST TO ACCIDENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C LOST UNKNOWN	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
STATISTICS	CASUALTIES-KILLED, WOUNDED	0-0-0-11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	SERIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, MIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED, PROB., DAM., NO CLAIM	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	A/C BATTLE DAMAGE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CAT. A-AC-B-E		9-2-0-0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Tactical Report of Mission
6. STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONSPrepared by:
STATISTICAL CONTROL
2d Bombardment Division

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FORM V-11 Page 2

24 July 1944

UNIT		446	448	489	491	458	466	467
A I R C R A P T	NO. A/C TAKING OFF	47	39	43	37	36	30	38
	NO. A/C DISPATCHED	47	39	43	37	36	30	38
	NO. A/C ATTACKING	35	-	2	-	-	-	-
	NO. A/C NOT ATTACKING	12	39	41	37	36	30	38
	NO. A/C SORTIES	47	38	43	37	36	29	38
B O M B S T A R G E T S	NO. A/C							
	NO. & TYPES							
	TONNAGE							
	TARGET	LR-R/R Inter. Granville		LR-4850N, 0115W -4903N, 0112W				
	NO. OF A/C	35		2				
	NO. & TYPE	1368x100GP		52x100GP 36x260FB				
	TONNAGE	68.4		7.3				
	TOTAL TONNAGE ALL TARGETS	68.4		7.3				
	A/C LOST TO FLAK			1				
	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							
	CASUALTIES-KILLED, WOUNDED SERIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, MI.			0-0-0-11				
	CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED, PROB., DAM., NO CLAIM							
	A/C BATTLE DAMAGE CAT. A-AC-B-F		9-2-0-0					

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

25 JULY 1944

SUBJECT: S-2 REPORT, MISSION 24 JULY 44 (TACTICAL TARGET
NEAR ST. LO, FRANCE)

TO : COMMANDING OFFICER, AAF 123, APO 558.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT OPPOSITION

1. NO E/A ENCOUNTERED.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE

2. OUR FORMATION ENCOUNTERED FLAK OVER THE TARGET WHICH WAS MODERATE AND OF FAIR ACCURACY OF THE CF, NON-VISUAL TYPE.

3. ELEVEN OF OUR A/C SUFFERED MINOR BATTLE DAMAGE AND ONE A/C IN THE CATEGORY AS MAJOR.

OBSERVATIONS

4. NO OBSERVATIONS REPORTED DUE TO 10/10THS UNDERCAST.

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

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

24 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 24 July 1944.

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

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A. Group	458
B. Division F.O. No.	407
C. Date of Operation	24 July 1944
D. Ordered Primary Target.	St Pol Area
	Map 4902W - Print D22 and E22
	Map 4250 - Series 5F2 and 6E2
E. A/C Airborne.	36
F. A/C Sorties	36
G. A/C Attacking	Nil
H. A/C Not Attacking	36
I. A/C Attacking - Primary Target.	Nil
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 - 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
R. Time of Take Off.	0917
S. Average Time of Flight.	5:00
T. Comments: A/C went over target area in formation but did not bomb due to 10/10 overcast of clouds.	

For the Commanding Officer:

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

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MISSION OF 24 JULY 1944

FORMATION PLAN

52 X 1004 G.P.

LEAD SQUADRON

GLENN-JAMISON

C J3 : 133B

ASH

7V : 352K

HOOVEN

25 : 108M

K-21

HEIRICH-GRIFFITH

J3 : 425D

LUFT

J4 : 134R

ALVESTAD

J4 : 273T

ANDREW

J4 : 201T

WARNER

7V : 340N

K-22

COYLE K-21

7V : 709I

GLASS

J3 : 097T

EYENCH

J3 : 719Q

RUARK

J3 : 441I

LOW LEFT SQUADRON

MCCOULLOUGH-FREEMAN

C 7V : 118E

EVANS

J4 : 275L

BOYLE

J3 : 359J

K-21

ROBERTS

: 311A

JUDGE

25 : 116V

MCCORMICK

J4 : 287J

FUSON

J4 : 288S

WALKER

7V : 314L

NELMAN

25 : 596R

BARNHART

25 : 018J

K-21

T. JENKINSON

J4 : 408D

BROWN

J4 : 431B

K-22

HIGH RIGHT SQUADRON

ROBAL-BOOTH

C 7V : 812D

BRADLEY

25 : 276G

SULLIVAN

7V : 4550

K-21

HANCOCK

J3 : 184F

MARTIN

J3 : 288L

NELSON

J4 : 305N

NEWELL

25 : 366B

SPEED

J4 : 285H

K-22

PREVOST

J4 : 264K

HOUSER

J3 : 179P

K-21

MORFORD

J4 : 163M

K-20

MATZE

J4 : 281Q

TAKE CARE OF YOUR SHIPS--THEY BRING YOU HOME!

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
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	ALVESTAD	97	18			44-40273	273	T	J4	5	HOWLING BANSHEE	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	ANDREW	97	24			44-40201	201	N	J4	4	SILVER CHIEF	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	ASH	97	4			41-29352	352	K	7V	40	WOLVE'S LAIR	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	BARNHART, E	97	1			42-95018	018	J	Z5	27	OLD DOC'S YACHT	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	BOYLE	97	11			41-29359	359	J	J3	50	TAIL WIND	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	BRADLEY	97	16			41-29276	276	G	Z5	19	URGIN VIRGIN/The ROTTEN SOCK	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	BROWN, W	97	7			42-100431	431	B	J4	29	BOMB-AH-DEAR	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	COYLE	97	12			41-28709	709	I	7V	27	LUCKY STRIKE	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	EVANS	97	9			44-40275	275	L	J4	5	SHACK TIME	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	FRENCH	97	14			41-28719	719	Q	J3	40	PADDLEFOOT	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	FUSON	97	8			44-40288	288	S	J4	7	BAD GIRL	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	GLASS	97	2			42-51097	097	T	J3	33	UNKNOWN 022	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	GLENN	97	31	JAMISON	L1	42-100433	433	B	J3	34	BIG DICK HARD TO HIT	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	HANCOCK	97	16			42-110184	184	F	J3	16	GWEN	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	HAUSER	97	19			42-51179	179	P	J3	22	DUSTY'S DOUBLE TROUBLE	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	HEMRICH	97	17	GRIFFITH	D1	42-100425	425	D	J3	20	THE BIRD	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	HOOVEN	97	7			42-95108	108	M	Z5	25	ENVY OF 'EM ALL II	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	JUDGE	97	26			42-95116	116	V	Z5	25	JUNIOR	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	LUFT	97	2			44-40134	134	R	J4	5	UNKNOWN 039	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	MARTIN, L	97	14			41-29288	288	L	J3	39	BIG-TIME OPERATOR	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	MATZE	97	8			44-40281	281	Q	J4	7	A DOG'S LIFE	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	McCOLLOUGH	97	32	FREEMAN	L2	42-95118	118	E	7V	12	ALFRED V (Trnsf to 392 nd BG)	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	McCORMICK	97	8			44-40287	287	J	J4	5	BACHELOR'S BEDLAM	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	MORFORD	97	9			42-110163	163	M	J4	13	TIME'S A WASTIN	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	NELSON	97	10			41-29305	305	N	Z5	31	I'LL BE BACK/HYPOCHONDRIAC	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	NEUMANN	97	2			41-29596	596	R	Z5	30	HELL'S ANGEL'S	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	NEWELL	97	15			42-100366	366	B	Z5	35	MIZPAH	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	PREVOST	97	4			44-40264	264	K	J4	5	KISS ME BABY	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	ROBERTS, J	97	18			42-100311	311	A	7V	38	YOKUM BOY	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	ROUBAL	97	31	BOOTH	L3	42-109812	812	D	7V	32	UNKNOWN 016	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	RUARK	97	15			42-52441	441	I	J3	42	LAST CARD LOUIE	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	SPEER	97	10			44-40285	285	H	J4	15	TABLE STUFF	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	SULLIVAN, E	97	4			42-52455	455	O	7V	46	PLUTOCRAT	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	THOMPSON	97	25			42-100408	408	D	J4	23	BEASTFACE	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	WALKER	97	18			42-50314	314	L	7V	39	ETO PLAYHOUSE	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD
24-Jul-44	ST. LO AREA	WARNER	97	19			41-29340	340	N	7V	39	YANKEE BUZZ BOMB	DID NOT BOMB - 10/10 CLOUD