

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

FIELD ORDER NO.

985

TARGETS

TACTICAL AND NORMAL TARGETS

IN FRANCE

DATE

8 AUGUST 1944

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: 2d Bomb Div
: Initials CHP
: Date 11 Sept 44

2 September 1944

SUBJECT: Tactical Report of Mission, T-28C-1 and NO. 11 T-28C-18 in MALACCA,
3 August 1944.

TO : Commanding General, Eighth Air Force, PO 550

SUMMARY OF QUESTION

1. Data

c. Date of Mission - 8 August 1944

b. Primary Targets and Order of Battle -

Will coublay - 20th "A" CG (93rd, 446th BG)
Will coublay - 20th "B" CG (446th, 460th BG)
Romilly A/F - 95th "A" CG (469th BG)
Romilly A/F - 95th "B" CG (491st BG)
La Perthe A/F - 14th "A" CG (392nd BG)
La Perthe A/F - 14th "B" CG (44th BG)
Clastres A/F - 96th "A" CG (467th, 468th BG)
Clastres A/F - 96th "B" CG (458th, 460th BG)
Mont Boissil, Vallers L'Orbital - 2nd "A" CG (369th BG)
Le Grand Vallée, La Houssaye, St. Silvestre - 2nd "B" CG (449th BG)
Bois St. Pierre, Mesnes - 2nd "C" CG (459th BG)

c. Secondary and Last Resort Targets - Any A/I, any H/I, any railroad bridge, any road bridge, any railway column or convoy on the road, any concentration of troops or equipment. All above targets must not be adjacent to a built-up area, and must be positively identified as one of the above objectives, and a visual sighting must be made.

2. Narrative

c. Planning

(1) Eighth Air Force called for a force of thirty Squadrons to visually attack four airfields and eight Toball targets in France.

b. Execution

(1) assemblies were demolished without incident.

(2) The mission was flown as planned with the following deviations:

(a) The 92nd Group, lead and Deputy Lead aircraft, abandoned the mission eight minutes after landing due to battle damage from anti-aircraft fire. The lead was assumed by the 446th Group until a point twenty miles south of primary target when the 92nd Group took over the lead.

(b) The 446th Group of the 20th "B" Combat Wing withdrew from target of opportunity, which was fifty miles northwest of Hanoi to a point twelve miles south of Lo Nang to Sincay Hill. The 446th Group of the 20th "B" Combat Wing withdrew from target of opportunity, which was sixty miles northwest of primary to Lo Transport to Be ely Road.

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(c) 10/10 clouds were encountered at the 20th Combat Wing's target (Villacoubly A/F), which it necessitated attack targets of last resort. Two A/F and a R.R. Bridge near Rouen were attacked by this unit with good results.

3. Bombing Tactics and Results

a. All units visually attacked their assigned targets except the following:

(1) The 93rd, 443 and 446th Groups, assigned Villacoubly A/F, did not attack due to cloud cover but visually attacked various targets of opportunity.

(2) One Squadron of the 491st Group did not attack its assigned target, Romilly A/F, because of interference by an unidentified Squadron that visually attacked a target of opportunity.

(3) One Squadron of the 445th and one Squadron of the 453rd Group did not attack due to cloud cover in their target areas.

b. Strike photo-radar showed the following:

Primary Targets - Tactical

Le Fort - Hits on hangars, landing ground, and taxiways.

Romilly A/F - Hits on landing ground, hangars, and other airfield buildings.

Glaciers - Hits on runways, landing grounds, taxiways, hangars and dispersal areas.

Primary Targets - Naval

Villiers L'Hotel - Four hits in target area.

Le Grand V - Hits in target area.

La Houssaye - Hits in target area.

Bois St. Pierre - Hits in target area.

Avanches Chaussée - Hits in target area.

Targets of Opportunity - Tactical

Ortignies - Hits on runways, landing ground and taxiways.

Long/Champs - Hits on runways, landing ground and taxiways.

4. Anti-aircraft Gunfire

a. Moderate, accurate, predictor control fire was encountered at La Houssaye, Mutignies, and Villiers L'Hotel.

b. Moderate, fairly accurate, predictor control fire was encountered at La Grande Vallée and Glaciers A/F.

c. No anti-aircraft was encountered at Bois St. Pierre, Avanches Chaussée or Le Fort A/F.

d. Moderate, inaccurate, predictor control and barrage fire was encountered at Romilly A/F.

e. Moderate, accurate, predictor control fire was encountered continuously between Wre, St. Sylvain, Bratteville and Couvix.

f. Moderate gunfire was encountered en route at Soissons, Pousin, Mel, Paris area, Mont de Lancha, St. Quentin, and Compiègne A/F.

g. Moderate gunfire was encountered en route at Choivres, Lons, G. S., Bethune, L. S., Cussies, Villiers les G. S., Villacoubly A/F, Ribemont, Hulst, Soignies, Suignes A/F, Mont, Thirlefont, Bossencourt, Aubercourt, and Houdain.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 8 August 1944

b. Heavier gunfire was also encountered from the northwest tip of Overfield, but some crews believe that this was fired by ship.

5. Enemy Aircraft Encountered and Fighter Support

a. No enemy aircraft were encountered and fighter support was good to excellent.

6. Losses and Claims

a. One aircraft was lost to an unknown cause.

b. Claims were nil.

For the Commanding General:

Charles B. Westover

CHARLES B. WESTOVER
Colonel GSC
Chief of Staff

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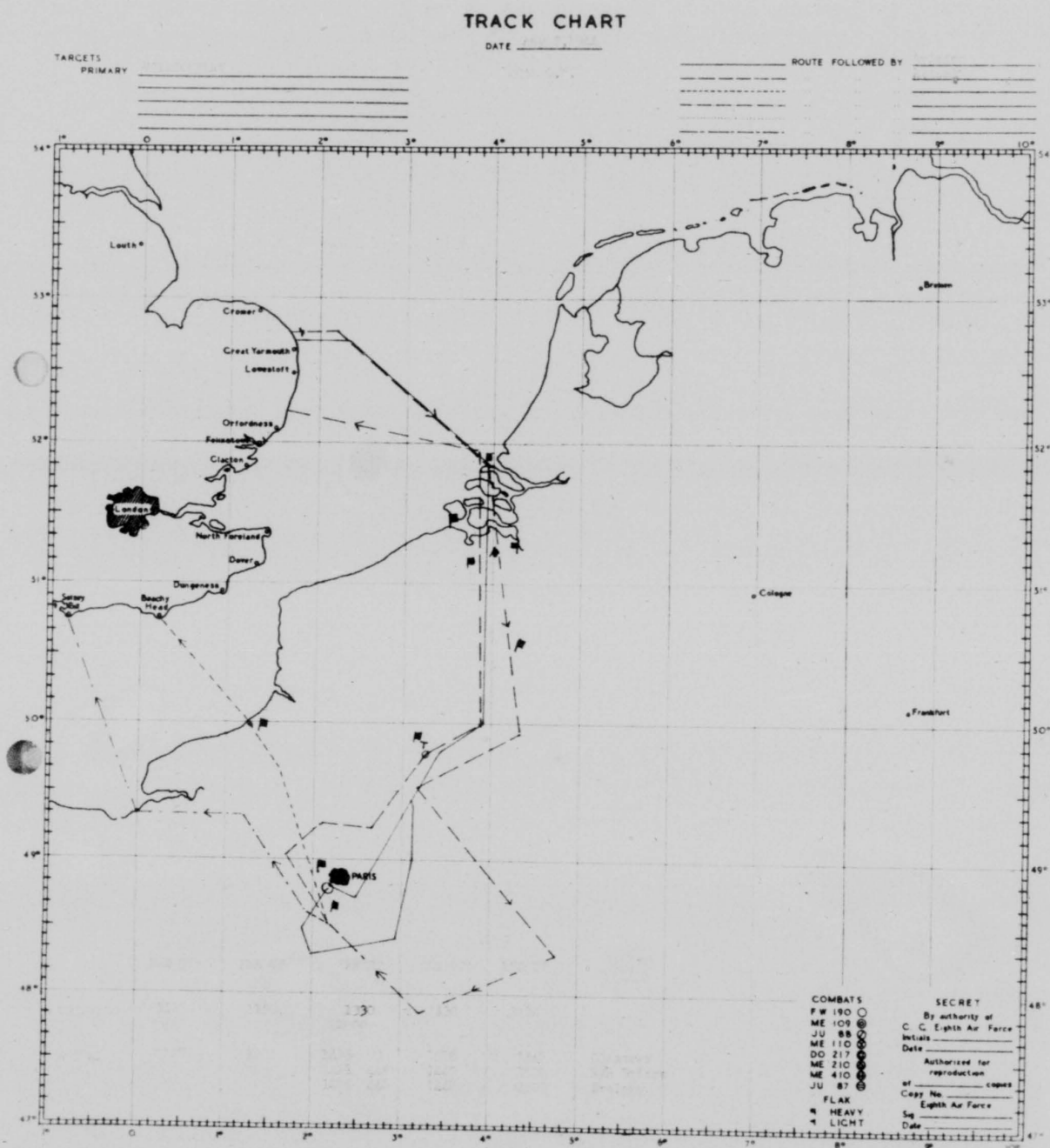
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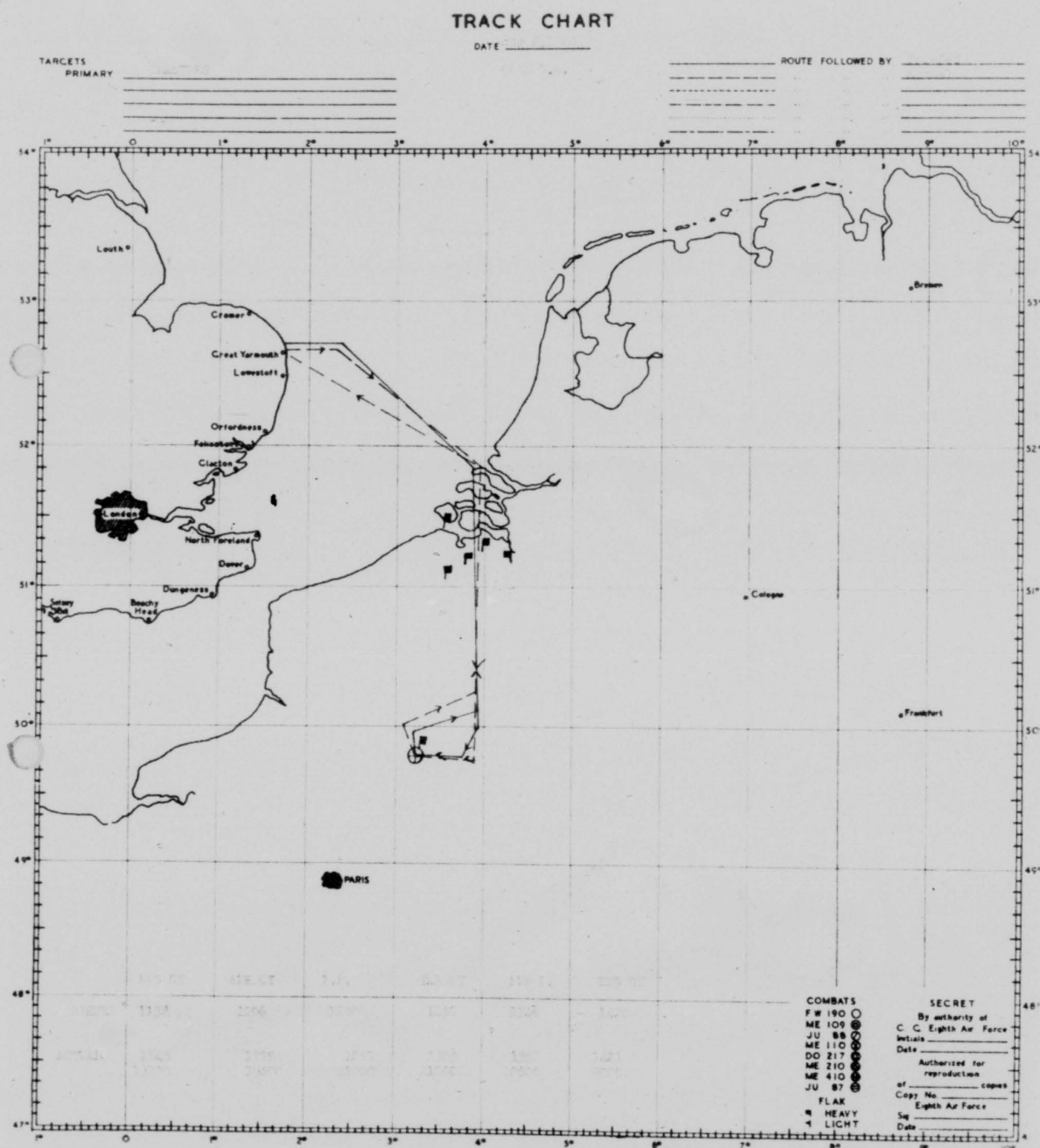
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Tactical Bombing Report of Mission, 8 August 1944

GROUP	DIRECT OF RUN	LENGTH OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF ELEM. INTO RELEASE	PILOT	MANUAL DEFLECT RANGE	ELEM. RANGE & H.E.	TOTAL BOMBS AND TYPE	NO. A/C DROPPED ON BOMBING	H2K OR GH	VISUAL
392	328	3 min.	20,000	1344	A-5	2	2	283x500; 52x100	24	1 A/C of 491st	X
44	321		20,450	1345	A-5	2	2	1232x100	25		X
489	297	3 min.	22,000	1326	C-1	3	3	1281x100	27	1 H2K	X
491	290	3½ min.	21,500	1329	C-1	2	2	1228x100	25		X
491	295	2 min.	21,900	1332	C-1	1	1	625x100	13		X
457	278	6 min.	21,000	1305	A-5	1	1	612x100	13		X
457	275	6 min.	20,500	1305½	A-5	1	1	120x250	6		X
458	283	2½ min.	20,700	1307	C-1	1	1	536x100	12		X
458	285	2 min.	19,900	1308	C-1	1	1	345x250	15		X
456	275	2½ min.	22,500	1305	X	1	2	501x100	12		X
456	260	1 min.	22,000	1308	A-5	1	2	287x250	12		X
93	33	1 min.	22,700	1433	C-1	1	1	1028x100	21		X
446	350	2 min.	22,000	1402	X	1	2	248x250	11		X
446	40	30 sec.	21,700	1433	A-5	1	2	252x250	11		X
448	320	2 min.	20,500	1421	C-1	1	1	640x100	13		X
339	310	4 min.	21,000	1315	C-1	1	1	272x250	12		X
339	302	4 min.	21,400	1316	C-1	1	1	272x250	12		X
445	310	1 min.	21,000	1331	A-5	1	1	264x250	12		X
445	124	30 sec.	21,600	1337	C-1	1	1	144x500	12		X
445	Did not bomb due to clouds					ST. SYLVESTRE					
453	310	45 sec.	21,200	1326	A-5	1	1	228x250; 24x500	12		X
453	310	2 min.	22,000	1337	A-5	1	1	228x250; 16x500	12		X
452	Did not bomb due to clouds					DOIS DE QUEUE COMTESSE					

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Tactical Bombing Report of Mission, 8 August 44 (cont'd)

- a. The assigned primary targets for this mission were the airfields at Le Perthe, Remilly Sur Seine, Clastres, and Villacoublay and Noball targets at Haut Maisnil, Villers L'Hopital, Le Grand Vallee, La Houssaye, St. Sylvestre, Bois St. Pierre, Avesnes Chaussey and Boix de Queue Carresse.
- b. Bombing was done visually by Squadrons. The 93rd, 443th and 446th Groups assigned to Villacoublay could not bomb the primary due to clouds in the target area. The lead and deputy lead of the 93rd Group aborted and two Squadrons combined and bombed together. One Squadron of the 491st could not bomb the primary due to interference.
- c. Two A/C did not bomb and 2 A/C jettisoned due to mechanical failures. 1 A/C jettisoned its long delay fuzed bombs when the Squadron did not bomb.

d. Results of bombing:

	<u>Tactical</u>	
La Perthe	Good to very good	Hits on hangars, landing ground and taxiways.
Remilly Sur Seine	Very good	Hits on landing ground, hangars and other airfield buildings.
491st Unidentified	Poor	Hits on village, minor roadways and wooded areas.
Clastres	Good	Hits on runways, landing grounds, taxiways, hangars and dispersal area.
Eretigny	Good	Hits on runways, landing ground and taxiways.
Laon/Lathies	Good	Hits on runways, landing ground and taxiways.
RA Bridge 5019-0351E	Very good	Hits on bridge, RR line, partially built-up area.

	<u>Noball</u>		<u>Accuracy</u>
Haut Maisnil	Poor	Hits on minor roadway and open fields.	Gross error
Villers L'Hopital	Fair	Few hits in target area	Excellent
Le Grande Vallee	Good	Hits in target area	Excellent
La Houssaye	Good	Hits in target area	Good
Bois St. Pierre	Fair	Edge of pattern in target area	Very good
Avesnes Chaussey	Very good-	Hits in target area	Excellent

S E C R E T

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

10 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 8 August 1944.

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

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

	<u>Main Formation</u>	<u>With 467th Gp</u>
A. Group	458	458
B. Division F.O.	426	426
C. Date of Operation	8 August	8 August
D. Ordered Primary Target.	Clastre A/F	Clastre A/F
E. A/C Airborne.	24	3
F. A/C Sorties	24	3
G. A/C Attacking	24	3
H. A/C Not Attacking	Nil	Nil
I. A/C Attacking Primary Tgt	24 - 586 X 100 GP 274 X 250 GP (6 #100 jett'd)	3 - 71 X 250 GP (1 bomb jettisoned)
J. A/C Attacking Secondary Tgt	Nil	Nil
K. A/C Attacking Last Resort Tgt	Nil	Nil
L. A/C Attacking Opportunity Tgt	Nil	Nil
M. A/C Lost - Flak	Nil	Nil
N. A/C Lost - Flak and E/A	Nil	Nil
O. A/C Lost - E/A	Nil	Nil
P. A/C Lost - Accident	Nil	Nil
Q. A/C Lost - Cause Unknown.	Nil	Nil
R. Time of Take Off.	1011	1010
S. Average Time of Flight.	4:29	4:28
T. Comments: 3 A/C this Group flew low left element, low left Sqdn of 467th. Bombed visually.		

For the Commanding Officer:

JOSEPH S. WILLIAMS
1st Lt, AC
Statistical Officer

S E C R E T

153

MISSION #153

FORMATION PLAN

8 August 1944

"B" GROUPLEAD SQUADRON

52 X 100# GP NO NOSE 1/100

LAMERS-JAMISON

25 : 0516B

K-22

BLUM-KUHN

J3 : 907D

THOMPSON

7V : 942U

K-20

GIAGOLA

J3 : 120M

ANDREW

J4 : 1408D

K-21

HAUSER

J3 : 179P

FLOYD

J3 : 320W

COOK LDF

25 : 163K

LEHR

7V : 219W

HAYNES

7V : 179X

CANADY

25 : 276G

HELFBRECHT

25 : 018J

K-21

LOW LEFT

24 X 250# GP NO NOSE 1/40 T

ROBERTS-WOODWARD

7V : 499F

LOY

7V : 314L

NEILSON

25 : 070E

K-21

DANE

25 : 768A

PISKIN LDF

J4 : 273T

ASH

7V : 352K

K-21

WARNER

7V : 340N

K-22

MARTIN

J3 : 097T

FUSON

J4 : 288E

DAVIDSON

J4 : 201N

K-20

FREDERICK

J3 : 288L

MORRIS

J3 : 425D

K-21

12 X 250# GP

LOW LEFT ELEMENT-LOW LEFT SECTION-467THKRAMER

J4 : 141U

WINTERS

J4 : 285H

K-22

ALVESTAD

J4 : 431B

467th467th467th467th467th467th467th467thWEST
DISPSHIP

NO.

SHIPDISP

40

37

37

5

697Z

4

8

0516B

5

26

907D

6

408D

35

499F

23

9

768A

9

4

070E

10

6

163K

11

15

120M

12

942U

28

7

018J

14

3

276G

15

11

320W

16

ORDER OF TAKE OFF
RUNWAY 05WEST
DISPSHIP

17

179P

18

179X

19

219W

20

314L

21

273T

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

288E

28

340N

352K Hngr.

201N

288E

38

38

EAST
DISP

29

31

32

42

27

27

27

27

27

27

27

27

27

27

27

27

27

27

27

SPARES:

407A-J3-22 Bombs: 52X100

342E-J3-17 52X100

311A-7V-26 24X250

721G-J4-49 24X260

303H-7V-34 24X250

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
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	ALVESTAD	108	23			42-100431	431	B	J4	35	BOMB-AH-DEAR	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	ANDREW	108	29			42-100408	408	D	J4	26	BEASTFACE	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	ASH	108	10			41-29352	352	K	7V	47	WOLVE'S LAIR	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	BLUM	108	10	KUHN	D1	42-50907	907	D	J3	2	LILY MARLENE	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	CANADY	108	4			41-29276	276	G	Z5	22	URGIN VIRGIN/The ROTTEN SOCK	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	COOK	108	12			42-95163	163	K	Z5	37	DIXIE BELLE	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	DANE	108	9			42-50768	768	A	Z5	5	ARISE MY LOVE AND COME WITH ME	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	DAVIDSON	108	21			44-40201	201	N	J4	10	SILVER CHIEF	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	FLOYD	108	5			42-50320	320	W	J3	38	UNKNOWN 018	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	FREDERICK	108	1			41-29288	288	L	J3	45	BIG-TIME OPERATOR	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	FUSON	108	14			44-40288	288	S	J4	14	BAD GIRL	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	GLAGOLA	108	20			42-95120	120	M	J3	34	HOOKEW COW / BETTY	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	HAUSER	108	25			42-51179	179	P	J3	29	DUSTY'S DOUBLE TROUBLE	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	HAYNES	108	3			42-95179	179	X	7V	32	HERE I GO AGAIN	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	HELFRECHT	108	1			42-95018	018	J	Z5	35	OLD DOC'S YACHT	SPELLED: HELFBRECT
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	KRAMER	108	5			42-110141	141	U	J4	12	BREEZY LADY / MARIE / SUPERMAN	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	LAMERS	108	15	JAMISON	L1	42-50516	516	B	Z5	2	STARDUST	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	LEHR	108	4			42-95219	219	W	7V	23	PATCHIE	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	LOY	108	21			42-50314	314	L	7V	44	ETO PLAYHOUSE	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	MARTIN, L	108	20			42-51097	097	T	J3	38	UNKNOWN 022	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	MORRIS, F	108	1			42-100425	425	D	J3	23	THE BIRD	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	NELSON	108	17			42-110070	070	E	Z5	27	ELMER / LADY LUCK	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	PISKIN	108	12			44-40273	273	T	J4	13	HOWLING BANSHEE	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	ROBERTS, J	108	19	WOODWARD	L2	42-50499	499	F	7V	4	COOKIE/OPEN POST	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	THOMPSON	108	27			41-28942	942	U	7V	25	HEAVENLY BODY	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	WARNER	108	25			41-29340	340	N	7V	44	YANKEE BUZZ BOMB	
08-Aug-44	CLASTRES	WINTERS	108	5			44-40285	285	H	J4	25	TABLE STUFF	