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HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558

T

War Room file

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

FIELD ORDER NO.

1006

TARGETS

PRACY SUR MERLINCON
ST. FLORENTIN
COULOMMIERS
STRASBOURG
S. LERDRUCKEN

DATE

11 AUGUST 1944

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COPY NO. 11

: S E C R E T
: By Auth of CG
: 2d Bomb Div
: Initials LMH
: Date 11 Sept 44
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7 September 1944

HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
AF 147 APO 558

SUBJECT : Tactical Report of Mission, PACY SUR ARMINCON, ST. FLORENTIN, COULOMMIERS, STRASBOURG, SARRERUCKEN, 11 August 1944.

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

SUMMARY OF MISSION

1. Data.

- a. Date of Mission - 11 August 1944.
- b. Primary Targets and Order of Battle -

1st Force

Pacy Sur Armancon, Oil Depot - 14th CBN (392nd BG).
St. Florentin, Oil Depot - 20th " " CBN (448th BG).

2nd Force

Strasbourg M/Y - 96th "A" CBW (467th, 466th BG).
Strasbourg, M/Y - 96th "B" CBW (458th, 466th BG).
Strasbourg, Fuel Dump - 2nd "A" CBW (389th BG).
Strasbourg, Fuel Dump - 2nd "B" CBW (453rd BG).
Strasbourg, Fuel Dump - 2nd "C" CBW (445th BG).
Saarbrücken M/Y - 95th "A" CBW (491st BG).
Saarbrücken M/Y - 95th "B" CBW (489th BG).
Coulamiers A/F - 20th "B" CBW (99rd, 446th BG).

c. Secondary and Last Resort Targets -

14th, 20th "A" and "B" - None
96th "A" and "B", 2nd "A", "B" and "C"; 95th "A" and "B" Combat Wings
Any M/Y, any railroad 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,
and must be positively identified as one of the
above objectives. A visual sighting must be
made.

2. Narrative.

a. Planning.

- (1) Planning called for two forces.

(a) 1st Force.

1. Eighth Air Force called for a force of six Squadrons to visually attack two oil depots.

2. One H2X aircraft was dispatched with this force for navigational purposes.

(b) 2nd Force.

1. Eighth Air Force called for a force of 18 Squadrons to visually attack the marshalling yards at Saarbrücken and Strasbourg, a fuel depot at Strasbourg and to post-hole the A/F at Coulonniers.

- with this force. 2. Eleven H2I aircraft and six GH aircraft were dispatched

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Tactical Report of Mission, 11 August 44 (cont'd)

b. Execution.

(1) 1st Force.

(a) Assemblies were accomplished without difficulty.

(b) The mission was flown as planned.

(2) 2nd Force.

(a) Assemblies were accomplished without difficulty; however, the 2nd "A", "B" and "C" Combat Wings were positioned between the 96th "A" and "B" Combat Wings.

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

1. The 2nd "A", "B" and "C" Wings made a dog-leg over the North Sea to allow the 96th Combat Wings to properly position themselves in the D.L. This maneuver caused the 2nd Combat Wings to be twenty-five minutes late at control points and target and to be last in the D.L.

2. The 95th "A" and "B" Combat Wings flew fifteen miles south of the Group IP; a 270 degree turn was made, which put the Wing three minutes west of the Group IP and the approach to the target was substantially as briefed.

3. The 95th Combat Wing led the withdrawal.

4. The lead Squadron of the 93rd Group of the 20th "B" Combat Wing did not withdraw on briefed route. Withdrawal was made thirty to sixty miles north of briefed route, leaving enemy coast thirty miles north of briefed point and entering English coast fifty miles east of briefed point.

3. Bombing Tactics and Results.

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

(1) One Squadron of the 489th Group did not attack its primary target due to a navigational error, which resulted in the bomb run being too short but visually attacked a target of opportunity, Nivelles A/F.

(2) One Squadron of the 93rd Group did not attack because of an equipment malfunction.

(3) The lead aircraft of the 2nd Squadron of the 989th Group had an accidental release just after leaving the IP and six aircraft dropped on this release.

b. Strike photographs show the following:

Strasbourg - MPI's well covered. Hits on M/Y, industrial buildings, canal installations, RR lines and built-up areas.

Saarbrücken - hits on M/Y, industrial areas, and M/Y facilities.

Nivelles A/F - hits on landing ground, taxiways.

Pacy Sur Armançon - hits on target installations, main roadway and RR.

St. Florentin - hits on target installations, town, industrial buildings, roadway and RR.

Coulommiers A/F - hits on landing ground, runways, dispersal areas.

4. Anti-Aircraft Gunfire.

a. Moderate, accurate predictor control fire was encountered by all Groups at Strasbourg.

b. Intense accurate predictor control fire was encountered at Saarbrücken.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 11 August 44 (cont'd)

c. No anti-aircraft gunfire was encountered at Pacy Sur Armancon, Coulamiers A/F or St. Florentin A/F.

d. Moderate gunfire was encountered on route at Le Culot, Liege, Thionville, Douvain and Charleroi.

e. Meager gunfire was encountered on route at Brussels, Ghent, Aachen and Walcheren I.

5. Enemy Aircraft Encountered and Fighter Support.

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

6. Losses and Claims.

a. Two aircraft were lost to anti-aircraft gunfire.

b. Claims were nil.

For the Commanding General:

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

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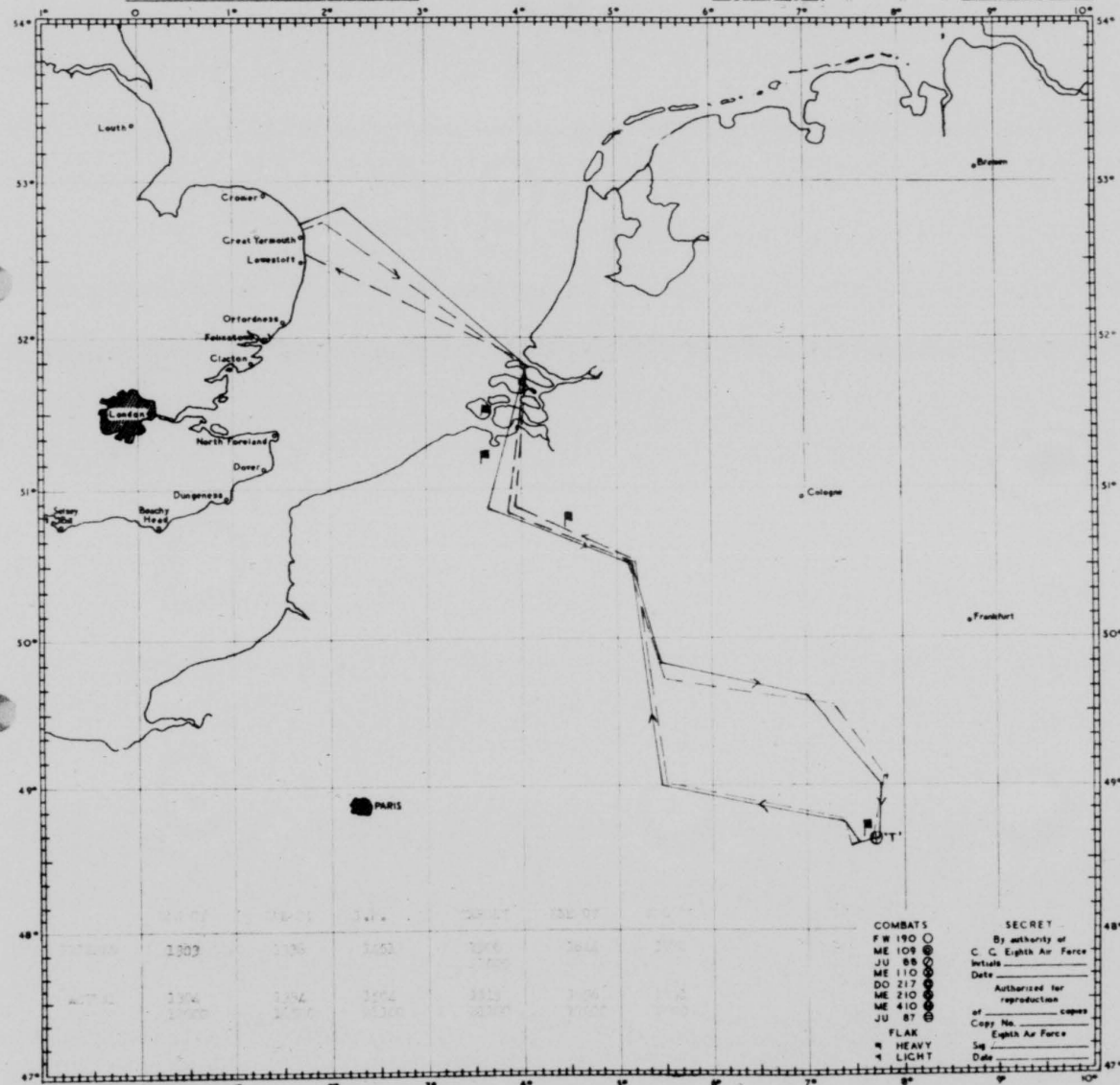
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TRACK CHART

DATE _____

TARGETS
PRIMARY

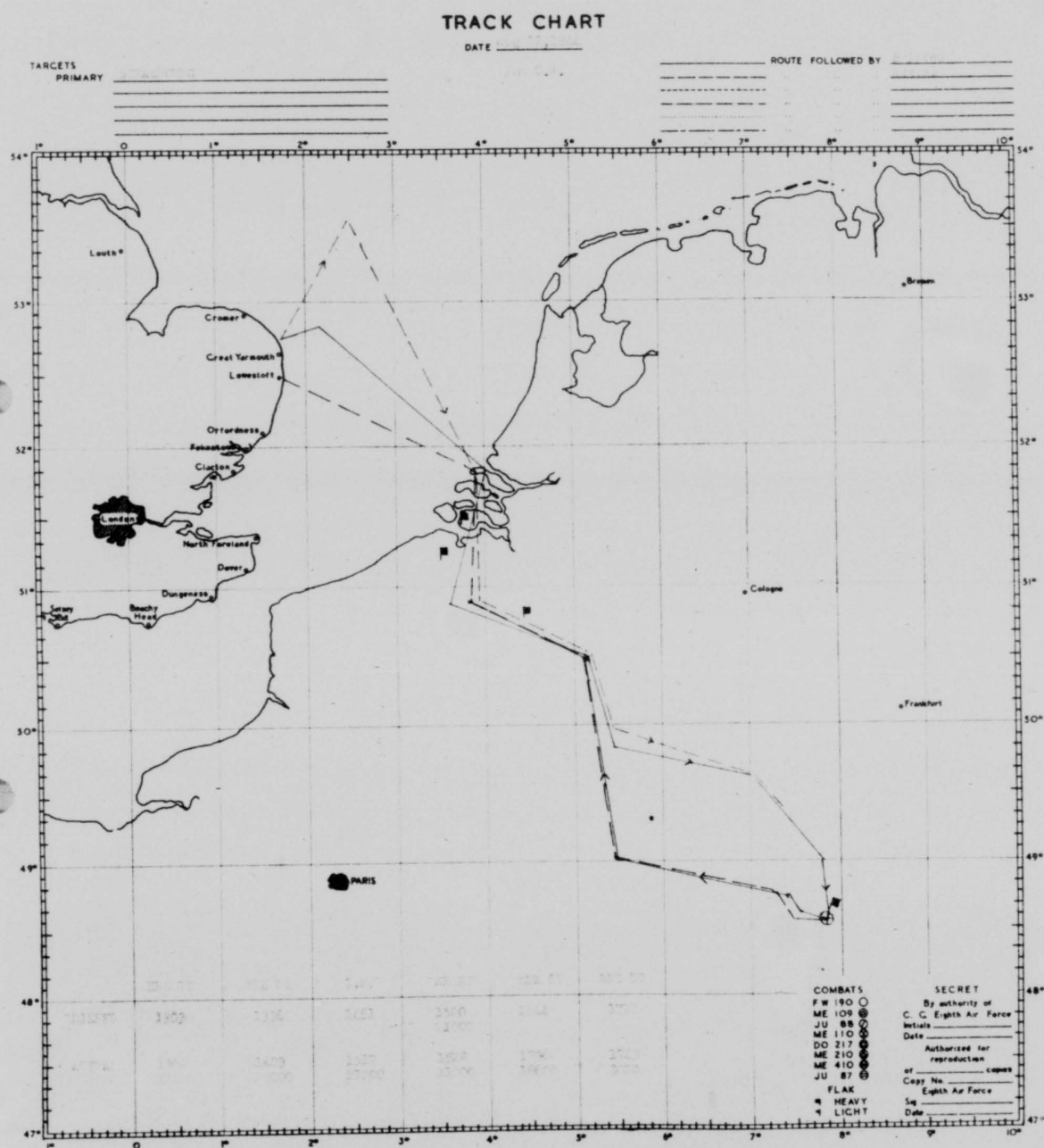
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Tactical Bombing Report of Mission, 11 August 1944

GROUP	DIRECT OF RUN	LENGTH OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF FLEW AUTO RELEASE	PILOT	FLEW RANGE & MANUAL DEFLECT RANGE	TOTAL BOMBS AND TYPE	NO. A/C DROPPED ON BOMBING	H2K OR GH	VISUAL
<u>STRASBOURG M/Y</u>										
467	204	3 min.	21,000	1514	A-5	2 2	262x500	22 / 2	H2K	X
458	204	7 min.	21,600	1518	C-1	2 2	252x500	21 / 2	H2K	X
466	215		22,000	1515	A-5 High on 467	1 1	90x500	9		X
466	225		23,000	1519	A-5 High on 458	1 1	100x500	10		X
<u>STRASBOURG F/D</u>										
389	175	3 min.	21,000	1527	C-1	2 2	432x250	18 / 2	H2K	X
453	184	2 min.	22,500	1529	C-1	2 2	504x250	21 / 1	H2K	X
441	178	4 min.	21,000	1530 1/2	A-5	2 2	552x250	23 / 1	H2K	X
<u>SAARBRUCKEN M/Y</u>										
491	103	2 min.	21,300	1509	C-1	3 3	408x500	34 / 2	H2K	X
489	140	1 min.	22,000	1510	C-1	2 2	276x500	23 / 1	H2K	X
<u>NIVELLES A/F</u>										
489	290	1 min.	21,200	1520	A-5	1 1	120x500	10		X
<u>REY SUR ARMANCON (OIL DEPOT)</u>										
392	323	5 min.	12,000	1050	A-5	1 2	259x250	12		X
392	320	2 min.	12,000	1052	A-5	1 2	286x250	12		X
392	320	1 min.	12,700	1055	A-5	1 2	277x250	12		X
<u>ST. FLORENTIN (OIL DEPOT)</u>										
443	315	2 min.	12,000	1053	C-1	1 1	240x250	12 / 1	H2K	X
448	318	1 min.	11,400	1047	K	1 1	200x250	10		
448	315	1 min.	12,500	1048	C-1	1 1	220x250	11		
<u>COULOMMIERS A/F</u>										
93	Did not attack due to GH equipment being out and navigational error									
93	247	5 min.	24,300	1213	C-1	1 1	353x100	7 / 1	GH	X
93	241	6 min.	24,600	1214	K	1 1	409x100	8 / 1	GH	X
446	250	3 min.	24,000	1205	K	1 1	440x100	11 / 1	GH	X
446	240	7 min.	24,600	1206 1/2	K	1 1	320x100	8 / 1	GH	X
446	230	2 min.	24,300	1207	A-5	1 1	360x100	9 / 1	GH	X

- a. The assigned primary targets for this mission were the M/Y's at Strasbourg and Saarbrucken, fuel depots at Rey Sur Armancon and St. Florentin, and the A/F at Coulommiers.
- b. Bombing was done visually by Squadrons. Eight Squadrons being led by H2K A/C and five Squadrons led by GH A/C bombing visually.

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Tactical Bombing Report of Mission, 11 August 44 (cont'd)

- c. One Squadron of the 489th Group could not attack the primary due to a navigational error bringing them in on the wrong heading causing the bomb run to be too short for good synchronization. The lead A/C in the second Squadron of the 389th Group had an accidental release just after leaving the IP and 6 A/C dropped on this release. Two A/C did not bomb due to rack malfunctions, one due to a bomb bay door malfunction, 3 A/C jettisoned due to engine failures and 5 A/C did not bomb due to mechanical failures.

d. Results of bombing:

Strasbourg	Very good	MFI's well covered. Hits on M/Y, industrial buildings, canal installations, RR lines and built-up areas.
Saarbrücken	Good	Hits in M/Y, industrial areas, and M/Y facilities.
Nivelles A/F	Fair	Hits on landing ground, taxiways, apron, open fields.
Pacy Sur Armançon	Good	Hits on target installations, main roadway and railroad.
St. Florentin	Good	Hits on target installations, town, industrial buildings, roadway and RR.
Coulamiers A/F	Very good	Hits on landing ground, runways, dispersal areas.

e. Disposition of bombs by H2K A/C:

Strasbourg	3 A/C	32x500 HE
Saarbrücken	3 A/C	6x500 HE
St. Florentin	1 A/C	4x250 HE

f. Disposition of bombs by GH A/C:

Coulamiers	5 A/C	180x100 HE
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S E C R E T

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

12 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 11 August 1944.

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

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A. Group	458
B. Division F.O.	430
C. Date of Operation	11 August 1944
D. Ordered Primary Target.	Strasbourg - M/Y
E. A/C Airborne.	22
F. A/C Sorties	22
G. A/C Attacking	21
H. A/C Not Attacking	21
I. A/C Attacking Primary Target.	21 - 252 X 250 GP
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.	1132
S. Average Time of Flight.	6:23
T. Comments: Formation bombed visually although equipped for PFF.	

For the Commanding Officer:

JOSEPH S. WILLIAMS
1st Lt, AC
Statistical Officer

S E C R E T

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MISSION # 155

11 AUG 1944

FORMATION PLANLEAD SQUADRON

12 X 500# GP's .50M - .01T

WILLIAMSON

C : PFF

Z. MARTIN

J3 : 120M

FREDERICK

J3 : 184F

GORRELL

: PFF

BARNHART

Z5 : 165S

FRENCH
J3: 4250

K-21

KENYON
J3: 316N

K-20

GIBNEY
7V : 340NDWYRE
Z5 : 682IHELFDRICK
Z5 : 110P
K-21SMITH
7V : 219W

K-22

STOESEER
7V: 179XLOW LEFTURBANIAK-CLAGGETT

C 7V : 499F

COOK

Z5 : 596R

WALKER

7V : 314L

GABRIEL

Z5 : 578F

MCARDLE

J3 : 342S

NEWELL
Z5 : 276GBRADLEY
Z5 : 305N
K-20NELSON
Z5 : 070K

K-22

RUARK
J3 : 407R
K-21HAUSER
J3:179PLEHR
7V : 812V
K-21HOOVEN
Z5 : 108M
K-21ORDER OF TAKE OFFRUNWAY 23WESTDISPSHIPNO.SHIPEASTDISP

24

184F

1

23

499F

2

3

578F

12

32

314L

4

27

340N

5

15

120M

6

7

165S

5

29

179X

8

31

219W

9

18

316N

10

20

4250

11

12

110P

7

13

682I

5

14

070E

3

15

596R

3

17

342S

16

17

108M

4

19

812V

18

19

305N

10

20

276G

1

16

179P

21

22

407R

22

SPARES:

288L-J3-11

303H-7V-34

705N-J4-36

721G-J4-49

487B-7V-21 (Jay)

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
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	BARNHART, E	110	10			42-95165	165	S	Z5	24	COOKIE	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	BRADLEY	110	21			41-29305	305	N	Z5	34	I'LL BE BACK/HYPOCHONDRIAC	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	COOK	110	13			41-29596	596	R	Z5	40	HELL'S ANGEL'S	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	DWYRE	110	7			41-28682	682	I	Z5	52	UNKNOWN 003	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	FREDERICK	110	2			42-110184	184	F	J3	19	GWEN	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	FRENCH	110	20			42-100425	425	O	J3	24	THE BIRD	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	GABRIEL	110	10			42-50578	578	F	Z5	8	SKY ROOM	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	GIBNEY	110	6			41-29340	340	N	7V	46	YANKEE BUZZ BOMB	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	GORRELL	110	--			UNK		--	--	--		NO SERIAL LISTED - PFF
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	HAUSER	110	26			42-51179	179	P	J3	30	DUSTY'S DOUBLE TROUBLE	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	HELFRECHT	110	3			42-51110	110	P	Z5	33	TOP O' THE MARK	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	HOOVEN	110	13			42-95108	108	M	Z5	31	ENVY OF 'EM ALL II	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	KENYON	110	14			42-95316	316	N	J3	35	PRINCESS PAT	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	LEHR	110	6			42-109812	812	V	7V	35	UNKNOWN 016	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	MARTIN, L	110	21			42-95120	120	M	J3	35	HOOKEM COW / BETTY	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	McARDLE	110	22			41-29342	342	S	J3	40	ROUGH RIDERS	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	NELSON	110	19			42-110070	070	K	Z5	29	ELMER / LADY LUCK	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	NEWELL	110	23			41-29276	276	G	Z5	23	URGIN VIRGIN/The ROTTEN SOCK	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	RUARK	110	21			42-100407	407	R	J3	39	LITTLE LAMBSY DIVEY	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	SMITH, WF	110	1			42-95219	219	W	7V	25	PATCHIE	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	STOESSER	110	1			42-95179	179	X	7V	34	HERE I GO AGAIN	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	URBANIAK	110	21	CLAGGETT	L2	42-50499	499	F	7V	6	COOKIE/OPEN POST	
11-Aug-44	STRASBOURG	WALKER	110	26			42-50314	314	L	7V	46	ETO PLAYHOUSE	