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HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

FIELD ORDER NO.

TARGETS

DATE

L. LOUVIERE
TERTRE
WILLESBOECK
LIEGE

25 AUGUST 1944

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: S E C R E T

: By Auth of GC

: 2d Bomb Div

: Initials *MB*

: Date 17 Sept 44.

Date 7/2/90 44

HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
AF 147 APO 558

14 September 1944

SUBJECT : Tactical Report of Mission, LA LOUVIERE, TERTRE, WILLESBOECK, LIEGE,
25 August 1944.

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

SUMMARY OF MISSION

1. Data.

a. Date of Mission - 25 August 1944.

b. Primary Targets and Order of Battle -

Tertre and La Louviere - 96th CDM (458th BG).

Tortre and La Louviere - 2nd CB/ (389th, 453rd BG).

Liege and Willesbroeck - 20th CBW (93rd BG).

c. Secondary and Last Resort Target - None.

2. Narrative.

a. Planning.

(1) Eighth Air Force called for a force of seven Squadrons to visually attack four targets (chemical works) in the Liege area.

b. Execution.

(1) Assemblies were accomplished without difficulty.

(2) The mission was flown as briefed with the following deviation:

(a) the 96th Combat Wing entered enemy coast seven miles south of briefed point.

3. Bombing Tactics and Results.

a. Bombing was effected visually by flights of six aircraft each. All units attacked their assigned targets except the following:

(1) One flight of the 453rd Group did not attack due to cloud cover and returned its bombs.

(2) One flight of the 93rd Group did not attack its assigned target due to cloud cover but visually attacked a target of opportunity, St. Trond A/F.

b. Stike photographs show the following:

Primary Targets -

La Louviere - hits on large factory building and marshalling yard.

Tortre - hits on target and adjacent buildings.

Willesbroeck - hits on sulphate factory and ammonia tanks.

Liege - target area well blanketed, direct hits on processing buildings.

Target of Opportunity -

St. Trond A/F - hits on runways and landing ground.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 25 August 44 (cont'd)

4. Anti-Aircraft Gunfire.

- a. Moderate to intense and accurate predictor control fire was encountered at Liege.
- b. Meager, inaccurate predictor control fire was encountered at Tertre.
- c. No anti-aircraft fire was encountered at La Louviere or Willebroeck.
- d. Meager, generally accurate gunfire was encountered on route at Namur, Charleroi, Antwerp, the Roosendaal/Bergen Op Zoom area, Louvain and Brecht. The anti-aircraft, though meager, was particularly accurate in the Roosendaal area, and although crews' reports are somewhat conflicting, it seems certain that there is at least one gun position sited somewhere between Roosendaal and Bergen Op Zoom.

5. Enemy Aircraft Encountered and Fighter Support.

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

6. Losses and Claims.

- a. Losses and claims were nil.

For the Commanding General:

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

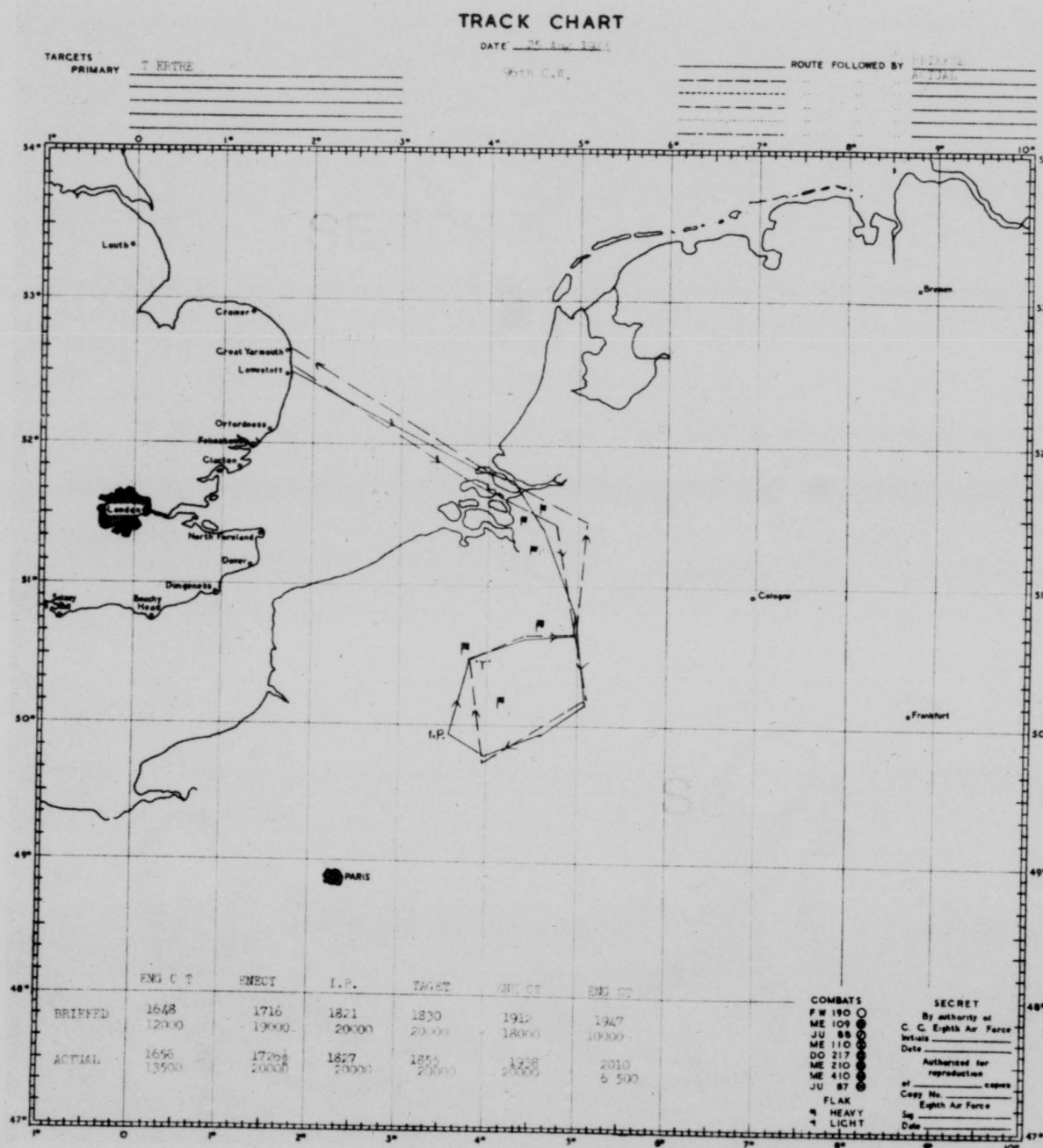
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Tactical Bombing Report of Mission, 25 August 1944

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GROUP	DIRECT OF RUN	LENGTH OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF RELEASE	PILOT	FLEW AUTO MANUAL	RANGE & DEFLECT RANGE	TOTAL BOMBS & TYPE	NO. A/C BOMBING	DROPPED ON H2X OR GH	VISUAL
453	40		19,000	1833	X		<u>LA LOUVIERE</u>	<u>H.E.</u>			
453		Did not attack due to clouds					1 1	60x500	5		X
389	15	3 min.	19,500	1855		H	1 1	60x500	5		X
389	29	7 min.	20,800	1840	X		<u>TERTRE</u>				
453	20	1 1/2 min.	20,000	1855	X		1 1	60x500	5		X
453	150	4.0 sec.	19,500	1849	X		1 1	36x500	3		X
							1 1	60x500	5		X
93	85	1 min.	21,000	1828	X		<u>WILLESTROECK</u>				
93	10	1 min.	19,000	1825	X		1 1	72x500	6		X
93	120	30 sec.	19,000	1831	X		1 1	72x500	6		X
							1 1	72x500	6		X
93	20	2 min.	21,000	1819	X		<u>LIEGE</u>				
93	10	1 1/2 min.	19,000	1817		X	1 1	72x500	6		X
							1 1	72x500	6		X
93	310	7 min.	21,000	1824	H		<u>ST. TROND A/F (TO)</u>				
							1 1	48x500	4		X

- a. The assigned primary targets for this mission were chemical plants at La Louviere, Tertre, Willesbroeck, and Liege, Belgium.
- b. Bombing was done visually by flights. Cloud cover caused many of the flights to make second runs on the assigned primary targets, one flight did not bomb due to clouds and another flight attacked the A/F at St. Trond due to the same difficulty.
- c. One A/C did not bomb due to personnel error and another A/C attacked a T/O, railroad tracks at 5112N-0442E, dropping 12x500 HE bombs.
- d. Results of bombing:
- | | | |
|---------------|-----------|--|
| La Louviere | Good | Hits on large factory building and marshalling yard. |
| Tertre | Good | hits on target and adjacent buildings. |
| Willestroek | Good | hits on sulphate factory and ammonia tanks. |
| Liege | Very good | hits on processing buildings. |
| St. Trond A/F | Good | hits on runways and landing ground. |

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S E C R E T

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

26 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 25 August 1944 (#2).

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

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A.	Group	458
B.	Division F.O.	442
C.	Date of Operation	25 August 1944.
D.	Ordered Primary Target.	Terte Belgium Synthetic Ammonia and Benzol Plant
E.	A/C Airborne.	12
F.	A/C Sorties	12
G.	A/C Attacking	9
H.	A/C Not Attacking	3
I.	A/C Attacking - Primary Target.	8 - 96 X 500 GP
J.	A/C Attacking - Secondary Target.	1 - 12 X 500 GP R.R. Tracks - 5112N, 0442E (36 bombs jettisoned)
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.	1541
S.	Average Time of Flight.	5:00
T.	Comments:	Bombed visually.

For the Commanding Officer:

JOSEPH S. WILLIAMS
1st Lt, AC
Statistical Officer

S E C R E T

165

Blum-Jamison

864- J3-B

Bradley
070 Z5-K

K21

Dave

768 Z5-A

K20

Bower

237 J4-J

Curland

K21

Bachtel

066 J4-Y

285 J4-H

SECOND FLIGHT

Horrich

907 J3-D

Haynes

K21

Stoesser

340 7V-N

812 7V-V

Glagola

120 J3-A

French

K22

Stonburner

316 J3-N

320 J3-N

West	Disp	ORDER OF TAKE OFF	Disp	East
864-B	22	1		
768-L	9	2		
070-K	6	3		
		4	49	287-J
		5	39	285-H
		6	40	066-Y
907-D	26	7		
812-V	33	8		
340-N	27	9		
120-M	15	10		
320-W	11	11		
		12	H-2	316-N
SPARES				
288-L	11			
431-B	37			
705-A	36			

RUNWAY 23

EQ. PS: 12 X 500 GP

FUEL: 1/10 H, 1/100 T

GAS MARK: 2000 GALS

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
25-Aug-44	TERTRE	BECHTEL	119	1			44-40285	285	H	J4	32	TABLE STUFF	
25-Aug-44	TERTRE	BLUM	119	13	JAMISON	L1	42-50864	864	B	J3	5	JOLLY ROGER (I1?)	ECHOLS & DRENTH WIA
25-Aug-44	TERTRE	BOWERS	119	1			44-40287	287	J	J4	13	BACHELOR'S BEDLAM	
25-Aug-44	TERTRE	BRADLEY	119	27			42-110070	070	K	Z5	32	ELMER / LADY LUCK	HYDRAULICS AND NOSE WHEEN SHOT UP BY FLAK B4 TGT
25-Aug-44	TERTRE	CURLAND	119	1			44-40066	066	Y	J4	4	S.O.L.	MAJOR GAS LEAK IN MAIN TANKS BY FLAK B4 TGT
25-Aug-44	TERTRE	DANE	119	11			42-50768	768	A	Z5	9	ARISE MY LOVE AND COME WITH ME	HYDRAULICS SHOT OUT BY FLAK B4 TGT
25-Aug-44	TERTRE	FRENCH	119	21			42-95316	316	N	J3	41	PRINCESS PAT	
25-Aug-44	TERTRE	GLAGOLA	119	22			42-95120	120	M	J3	41	HOOKEM COW / BETTY	
25-Aug-44	TERTRE	HAYNES	119	7			41-29340	340	N	7V	50	YANKEE BUZZ BOMB	
25-Aug-44	TERTRE	HEMRICH	119	23		L2	42-50907	907	D	J3	5	LILY MARLENE	
25-Aug-44	TERTRE	STOESSER	119	5			42-109812	812	V	7V	40	UNKNOWN 016	
25-Aug-44	TERTRE	STONEBURNER	119	1			42-50320	320	W	J3	41	UNKNOWN 018	