

SECRET

TH

HEADQUARTERS  
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION  
APO 558

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

FIELD ORDER NO.

1126

TARGET

KARLSRUHE

DATE

8 SEPTEMBER 1944

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HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION  
AF 147 APO 558

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 : S E C R E T :  
 : By Auth of CG :  
 : 2d Bomb Div :  
 : Initials *gmp* :  
 : Date *10 Oct 44* :  
 : : : : : : : : : :

6 October 1944

SUBJECT : Tactical Report of Mission, KARLSRUHE, 8 September 1944.

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

SUMMARY OF MISSION1. Data.

a. Date of Mission - 8 September 1944.

b. Primary target and Order of Battle -

Karlsruhe M/Y

14th CBW (44th, 491st, 392nd BG).

96th CBW (467th, 458th, 466th BG).

20th CBW (448th BG).

2nd CBW (453rd, 445th, 389th BG).

c. Secondary Target -

If PFF - Karlsruhe M/Y - All Combat Wings

d. Last Resort Target - None.

2. Narrative.

a. Planning.

(1) Eighth Air Force called for a force of twenty-nine Squadrons to attack visually or by use of H2K equipment the M/Y at Karlsruhe.

(2) Nine H2K aircraft were dispatched for this operation.

b. Execution.

(1) Assemblies were accomplished with some difficulty due to a middle cloud layer at assembly altitudes.

(2) The mission was flown as planned with the exception that frontal weather was encountered in the Paris area on penetration and withdrawal, resulting in slight deviation south of the briefed route.

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

### 3. Bombing Tactics and Results.

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

(1) One Squadron of the 453rd Group did not attack because it became separated from the formation due to adverse weather conditions at the target.

(2) One Squadron of the 445th Group did not attack due to cloud cover in the target area. This Squadron jettisoned its bombs at 4837N-0733.

b. Strike photographs show many hits in marshalling yard and adjacent area, city, industrial, built-up and residential areas.

### 4. Anti-Aircraft Gunfire.

a. Moderate, fairly accurate predictor control fire was encountered by all Groups at the Target, and a small amount of fixed barrage fire was also reported.

b. Meager gunfire was encountered on route at Strasbourg, Pforzheim, Rastatt and Forbach. Meager anti-aircraft fire was encountered at 3500 feet in the Boulogne area by some aircraft which were returning singly.

### 5. Enemy Aircraft Encountered and Fighter Support.

a. No enemy aircraft were encountered and fighter support was good along the entire route.

### 6. Losses and Claims.

a. One aircraft was lost to anti-aircraft fire and three to unknown causes.

b. Claims were nil.

For the Commanding General:

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

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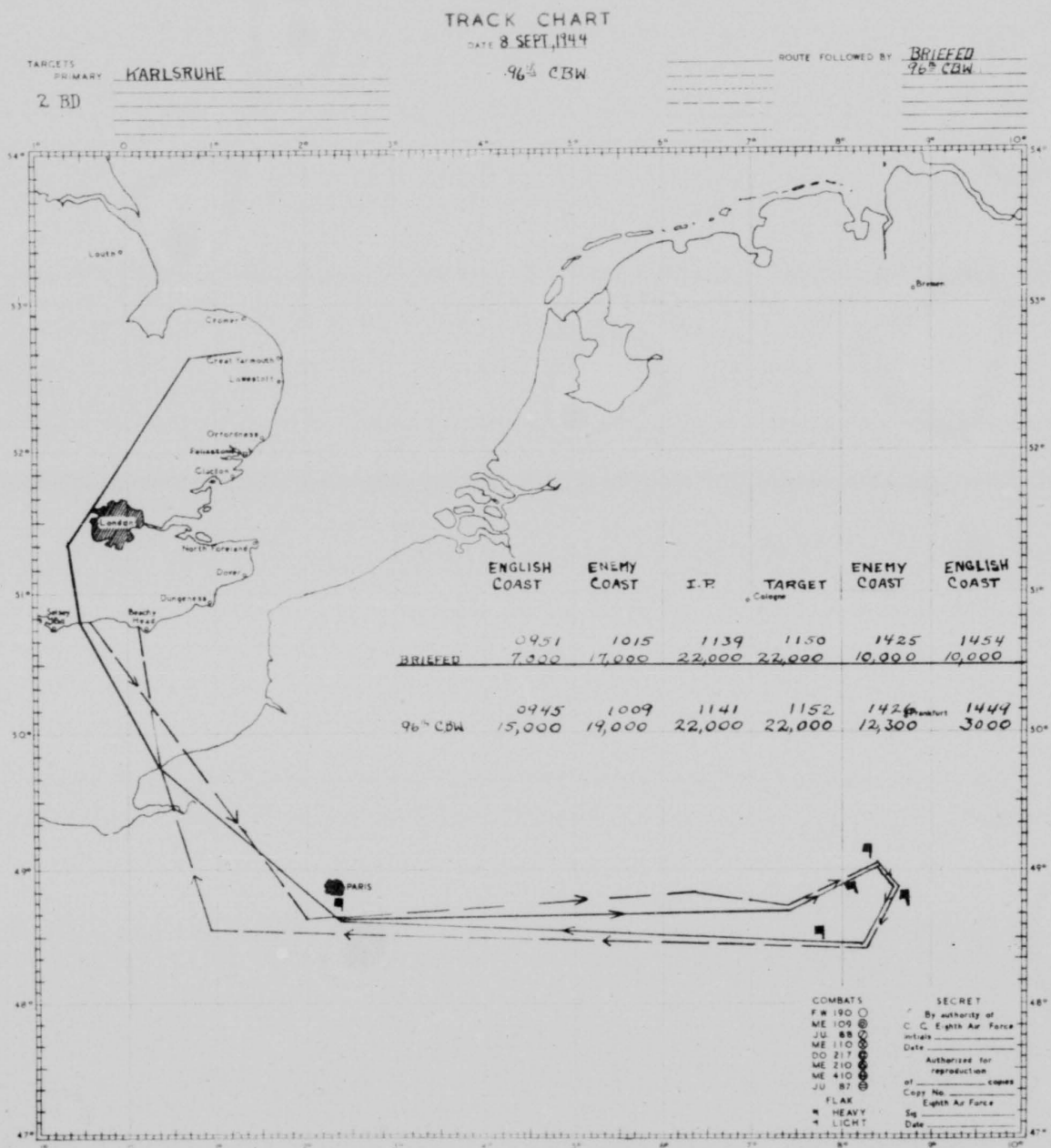
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## S E C R E T

Tactical Bombing Report of Mission, 8 September 1944

| GROUP | DIRECT OF HIT                                                        | LENGTH OF RUN | ALTITUDE | TIME OF RELEASE | FLEW AUTO PILOT | FLEW RANGE & MIN. DEFLECT RANGE |      | TOTAL BOMBS & TYPE | NO. A/C BOMBING | DROPPED ON H2X OR GH | VISUAL |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------|
|       |                                                                      |               |          |                 |                 | KARLSRUHE                       | H.E. |                    |                 |                      |        |
| 467   | 100                                                                  | 1 min.        | 20,000   | 1152            | X               | 3                               | 3    | 203x1000 4x500     | 36 / 2          | H2X                  | X      |
| 466   | 100                                                                  | 10 min.       | 26,000   | 1154            | X               | 2                               | 2    | 63x1000 80x500     | 21 / 2          | H2X                  | X      |
| 458   | 72                                                                   | 4 min.        | 24,000   | 1153            | X               | 1                               | 1    | 57x1000            | 10              |                      | X      |
| 458   | 88                                                                   | 2 min.        | 25,000   | 1154            | X               | 1                               | 1    | 110x500            | 11              |                      | X      |
| 44    | 56                                                                   | 11 min.       | 24,700   | 1149            | X               | 3                               | 3    | 196x1000           | 34 / 2          | H2X                  | X      |
| 491   | 80                                                                   | 2 min.        | 26,000   | 1150            | X               | 3                               | 3    | 196x1000 2x500     | 35              |                      | X      |
| 392   | 70                                                                   | 3 min.        | 24,500   | 1150            | X               | 2                               | 4    | 344x500            | 30              |                      | X      |
| 453   | 90                                                                   | 2 min.        | 25,300   | 1155            | X               | 2                               | 2    | 82x1000            | 18              |                      | X      |
| 453   | Did not attack - lost formation due to bad weather                   |               |          |                 |                 |                                 |      |                    |                 |                      |        |
| 445   | 75                                                                   | 2 min.        | 24,200   | 1156            | X               | 2                               | 2    | 94x1000            | 20              |                      | X      |
| 445   | Did not attack primary due to bad weather, jettisoned at 4837N-0733E |               |          |                 |                 |                                 |      |                    |                 |                      |        |
| 339   | 90                                                                   | 5 min.        | 26,000   | 1159            | X               | 2                               | 2    | 77x1000            | 18 / 3          | H2X                  | X      |
| 339   | 93                                                                   | 2½ min.       | 26,500   | 1200½           | X               | 1                               | 1    | 60x500             | 6               |                      | X      |

- The assigned primary target for this mission was the marshalling yard at Karlsruhe, Germany.
- Bombing was done by Squadrons visually, five Squadrons being led by H2X A/C.
- One Squadron did not attack when they lost their formation due to bad weather, and one Squadron failed to attack the primary due to bad weather but jettisoned a total of 84x500 M-17 incendiary bombs at the above listed coordinates. Three A/C did not bomb due to rack malfunctions.
- Results of bombing were good, hits in marshalling yard and adjacent area, city area, industrial area, and built-up areas and residential areas.
- Disposition of bombs by H2X A/C: Karlsruhe - 9 A/C - 18x1000 HE
- Disposition of leaflet bombs: Karlsruhe - 3 A/C - 30 Leaflet bombs.

S E C R E T

SECRET

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

9 September 1944.

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

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

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

|    |                                             |                  |                                                                                                                |
|----|---------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A. | Group . . . . .                             | 458              |                                                                                                                |
| B. | Division F.O. No. . . . .                   | 453              |                                                                                                                |
| C. | Date of Operation . . . . .                 | 8 September 1944 |                                                                                                                |
| D. | Ordered Primary Target. . . . .             | Karlsruhe M/Y    |                                                                                                                |
| E. | A/C Airborne. . . . .                       | 24               |                                                                                                                |
| F. | A/C Sorties . . . . .                       | 22               |                                                                                                                |
| G. | A/C Attacking . . . . .                     | 21               |                                                                                                                |
| H. | A/C Not Attacking . . . . .                 | 3                |                                                                                                                |
| I. | A/C Attacking - Primary Target. . . . .     | 21               | 110 X 500 M17<br>57 X 1000 GP<br>10 X 500 M17 - Returned<br>6 X 1000 GP - Jettisoned<br>7 X 1000 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 - 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. . . . .                   | 0741             |                                                                                                                |
| S. | Average Time of Flight. . . . .             | 8:26             |                                                                                                                |
| T. | Comments:                                   | Bombed visually  |                                                                                                                |

For the Commanding Officer:

JOSEPH S. WILLIAMS  
1st Lt, AC  
Statistical Officer

SECRET

MISSION # 173

8 Sept. 1944

HIGH HIGH RIGHT - 7TH - "A" GROUP

BOMB LOAD: 6 X 1000 GP'S  
SHIPS WITH BALL TURRETS  
CARRY 5 X 1000 GP'S

**ABORT**

|                                   |                             |                                          |                            |                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| <u>FLOYD</u><br>J3 : 183U<br>K-21 | <u>MCGOUGH</u><br>J3 : 407R | <u>LANE'S BOOTH</u><br>K-22<br>Z5 : 516E | <u>UPBANK</u><br>7V : 487B | <u>LIVER</u><br>7V : 455C         | <b>ABORT</b> |
| <u>RUAPE</u><br>J3 : 316N         | <u>HAUSER</u><br>J3 : 179P  | <u>SWANIZ</u><br>Z5 : 108M               | <u>SMITH</u><br>7V : 457Q  | <u>CRICE</u><br>7V : 352K<br>K-21 |              |
|                                   | <u>NELSON</u><br>Z5 : 276G  | <u>HESS</u><br>Z5 : 059T<br>K-20         |                            |                                   |              |

HIGH HIGH RIGHT - 466TH - "B" GROUP

BOMB LOAD: 10 X M-17  
INCENDIARIES

**ABORT**

|                           |                                 |                               |                              |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <u>LOY</u><br>7V : 311P   | <u>DESTIAN</u><br>Z5 : 596R     | <u>MCAROLE</u><br>J3 : 602A   | <u>WILLIAMS</u><br>Z5 : 018J |
| <u>COYLE</u><br>7V : 050J | <u>WALKER</u><br>7V : 314L      | <u>GLAGOLA</u><br>J3 : 120M   | <u>DWYER</u><br>Z5 : 216L    |
|                           | <u>STONEDURNER</u><br>J3 : 342S | <u>STEVERSON</u><br>7V : 303H | <u>SKIDMORE</u><br>Z5 : 366H |

ASSEMBLY SHIP: 733P  
LTS. PLANKIN-RODESCON

ORDER OF TAKE OFF  
RUNWAY 05

| WEST | SHIP | NO. | SHIP | EAST   |
|------|------|-----|------|--------|
| DISP |      |     |      | DISP   |
| 2    | 697Z | 1   |      |        |
| 8    | 516B | 2   |      |        |
|      |      | 3   | 487B | 34     |
| 14   | 407R | 4   |      |        |
| 18   | 183U | 5   |      |        |
|      |      | 6   |      |        |
|      |      | 7   | 4550 | 28     |
|      |      | 8   | 108M | Hgr #2 |
|      |      | 9   | 352K | Hgr #5 |
|      |      | 10  | 457Q | 29     |
| 10   | 059T | 11  |      |        |
| 1    | 276G | 12  |      |        |
| 16   | 179P | 13  |      |        |
| 20   | 316N | 14  |      |        |
| 26   | 907D | 15  |      |        |
| 24   | 602A | 16  |      |        |
| 3    | 596R | 17  | 311P | 29     |
|      |      | 18  |      |        |
| 7    | 013J | 19  |      |        |
| 15   | 120M | 20  |      |        |
| 10   | 366H | 21  |      |        |
| 8    | 126L | 22  | 903H | Hgr 1  |
|      |      | 23  |      |        |
| 7    | 342S | 24  | 314L | 32     |
|      |      | 25  | 050J | 33     |

STONEDURNER

287J-J4-49

1A: 5 X 1000#

735V-J4-39

1A: 5 X 1000#

735V-J4-27

285H-J4-35

1A: 10 X M-17's

340N-J4-27

1A: 10 X M-17's

## 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-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | BESTEN      | 123       | 5         |           |    | 41-29596  | 596    | R   | Z5   | 51      | HELL'S ANGEL'S               | SPELLED: "BESTIAN"                           |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | BLUM        | 123       | 14        | BREVAKIS  | L2 | 42-50907  | 907    | D   | J3   | 8       | LILY MARLENE                 |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | COYLE       | 123       | 22        |           |    | 42-95050  | 050    | J   | 7V   | 44      | GAS HOUSE MOUSE              |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | DWYRE       | 123       | 13        |           |    | 44-40126  | 126    | L   | Z5   | 23      | SPITTEN KITTEN / SKY TRAMP   |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | FLOYD       | 123       | 11        |           |    | 42-95183  | 183    | U   | J3   | 39      | BRINEY MARLIN                |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | GLAGOLA     | 123       | 24        |           |    | 42-95120  | 120    | M   | J3   | 43      | HOOKEM COW / BETTY           |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | GRICE       | 123       | 2         |           |    | 41-29352  | 352    | K   | 7V   | 52      | WOLVE'S LAIR                 |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | HAUSER      | 123       | 30        |           |    | 42-51179  | 179    | P   | J3   | 35      | DUSTY'S DOUBLE TROUBLE       | ABORT - SORTIE #4 SUPER CHG INOP             |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | HESS        | 123       | 4         |           |    | 42-110059 | 059    | T   | Z5   | 37      | UNKNOWN 056                  |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | LAMERS      | 123       | 19        | BOOTH     | L1 | 42-50516  | 516    | B   | Z5   | 6       | STARDUST                     |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | LEHR        | 123       | ABT       |           |    | 42-52455  | 455    | O   | 7V   | --      | PLUTOCRAT                    | ABORT - COULD NOT KEEP UP w/FORMATION AT ALT |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | LOY         | 123       | 30        |           |    | 42-100311 | 311    | P   | 7V   | 48      | YOKUM BOY                    |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | McARDLE     | 123       | 25        |           |    | 44-10602  | 602    | A   | J3   | 5       | TEN GUN DOTTIE               |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | McGOUGH     | 123       | 5         |           |    | 42-100407 | 407    | R   | J3   | 45      | LITTLE LAMBSY DIVEY          |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | NELSON      | 123       | 23        |           |    | 41-29276  | 276    | G   | Z5   | 30      | URGIN VIRGIN/The ROTTEN SOCK |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | PISKIN      | 123       | ASSY      | ROBESON   |    | 41-28697  | 697    | Z   | Z5   | A14     | SPOTTED APE                  | ASSEMBLY CREW                                |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | RUARK       | 123       | 27        |           |    | 42-95316  | 316    | N   | J3   | 44      | PRINCESS PAT                 |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | SIEVERTSON  | 123       | 3         |           |    | 41-29303  | 303    | H   | Z5   | 39      | LIBERTY LIB                  |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | SKIDMORE    | 123       | 4         |           |    | 42-100366 | 366    | H   | Z5   | 47      | MIZPAH                       |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | SMITH, WF   | 123       | 7         |           |    | 42-52457  | 457    | Q   | 7V   | 57      | FINAL APPROACH               |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | STONEBURNER | 123       | ABT       |           |    | 41-29342  | 342    | S   | J3   | --      | ROUGH RIDERS                 | ABORT - RADIO COMPASS INOP                   |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | SWARTZ      | 123       | 4         |           |    | 42-95108  | 108    | M   | Z5   | 37      | ENVY OF 'EM ALL II           |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | URBANIAK    | 123       | 24        |           |    | 44-10487  | 487    | B   | 7V   | 8       | Girl on surfboard (no name)  |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | WALKER      | 123       | 28        |           |    | 42-50314  | 314    | L   | 7V   | 53      | ETO PLAYHOUSE                |                                              |
| 08-Sep-44 | KARLSRUHE | WILLIAMS, E | 123       | 6         |           |    | 42-95018  | 018    | J   | Z5   | 43      | OLD DOC'S YACHT              |                                              |