

SECRET

THI

HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

FIELD ORDER NO.

1213

TARGETS

GROGEMAU
LACHEN/SPIELBERG

DATE

3 OCTOBER 1944

T
H
I
S

P
A
G
E

I
S

U
N
C
L
A
S
S
I
F
I
E
D



TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY OF MISSION

ROUTES

LOADING

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

SECRET

COPY NO.

11

0 4 0 0

SECRET

: SECRET :

: By Auth of CH :

: 2d Bomb Div :

: Initials *YAP* :: Date *31 Oct 44* :

: : : : : :

HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
AF 147 AFO 558

26 October 1944

SUBJECT : Tactical Report of Mission, GAGGENAU AND LACHEN/SPEYERDORF,
3 October 1944.

TO : Commanding General, Eighth Air Force, AF 101, AFO 558.

SUMMARY OF MISSION

1. Data.

a. Date of Mission - 3 October 1944.

b. Primary Targets and Order of Battle -

Gaggenau

14th "A" CGW (392nd BG).

14th "B" CGW (491st, 446th BG).

20th "A" CGW (448th, 93rd BG).

Lachen/Speyerdorf

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

2nd "A" CGW (389th, 445th BG).

2nd "B" CGW (453rd BG).

20th "B" CGW (489th, 446th BG).

c. Secondary Target - None.

d. Last Resort Target - Any military objective positively identified as being in Germany and east of the Rhine.

2. Narrative.

a. Planning.

(1) Eighth Air Force called for a force of thirty-three Squadrons to attack Gaggenau Armament Factory and Lachen/Speyerdorf A/F.

(2) Planning called for each Group to be led by a CH A/C with an H2K A/C in the deputy lead position for navigation aid and to be used in case of CH failure.

b. Execution.

(1) Assemblies were accomplished without incident.

(2) The mission was flown generally as planned.

3. Bombing Tactics and Results.

a. Bombing was accomplished by visual, CH and H2K methods.

b. All units attacked their assigned target except the following:

(1) The 389th Group attacked its secondary target, Speyer A/C Factory; two Squadrons of the 443rd Group attacked its secondary target, Pforzheim H/Y; and one Squadron of the 44th Group attacked a target of opportunity, Offenburg H/Y. These units, being uncovered for a visual run, did not attack their primary targets due to cloud cover.

T
H
I
S

P
A
G
E

I
S

U
N
C
L
A
S
S
I
F
I
E
D

SECRET

-1-

0 4 0 1

SECRET

Tactical Report of Mission, 3 Oct 44 (cont'd)

TI

c. Strike photographs show the following:

Primary

Gaggenau - hits on industrial buildings, built-up business and residential area and many hits on MFI.

Lachen A/F - hits on L/G, large hangars, perimeters, machine gun range, barracks and dispersal areas.

Secondary

Speyer A/C Factory - hits on large factory buildings, bidge, embankment and roads.

Pforzheim - Unobserved.

Target of Opportunity

Offenburg M/Y - hits on railroad lines and rolling stock.

4. Anti-Aircraft Gunfire.

a. Meager, fairly accurate predictor control fire was encountered at Lachen/Speyerdorf A/F.

b. Moderate, fairly accurate predictor control fire was encountered at Pforzheim.

c. No flak was encountered at Gaggenau or Offenburg.

d. Meager to moderate heavy flak was encountered on route at Ludwigshaven, Metz, Luneville, Lachen and Schirmeck.

5. Enemy Aircraft Encountered and Fighter Support.

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

6. Losses and Claims.

a. One aircraft was lost to anti-aircraft fire.

b. Claims were nil.

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

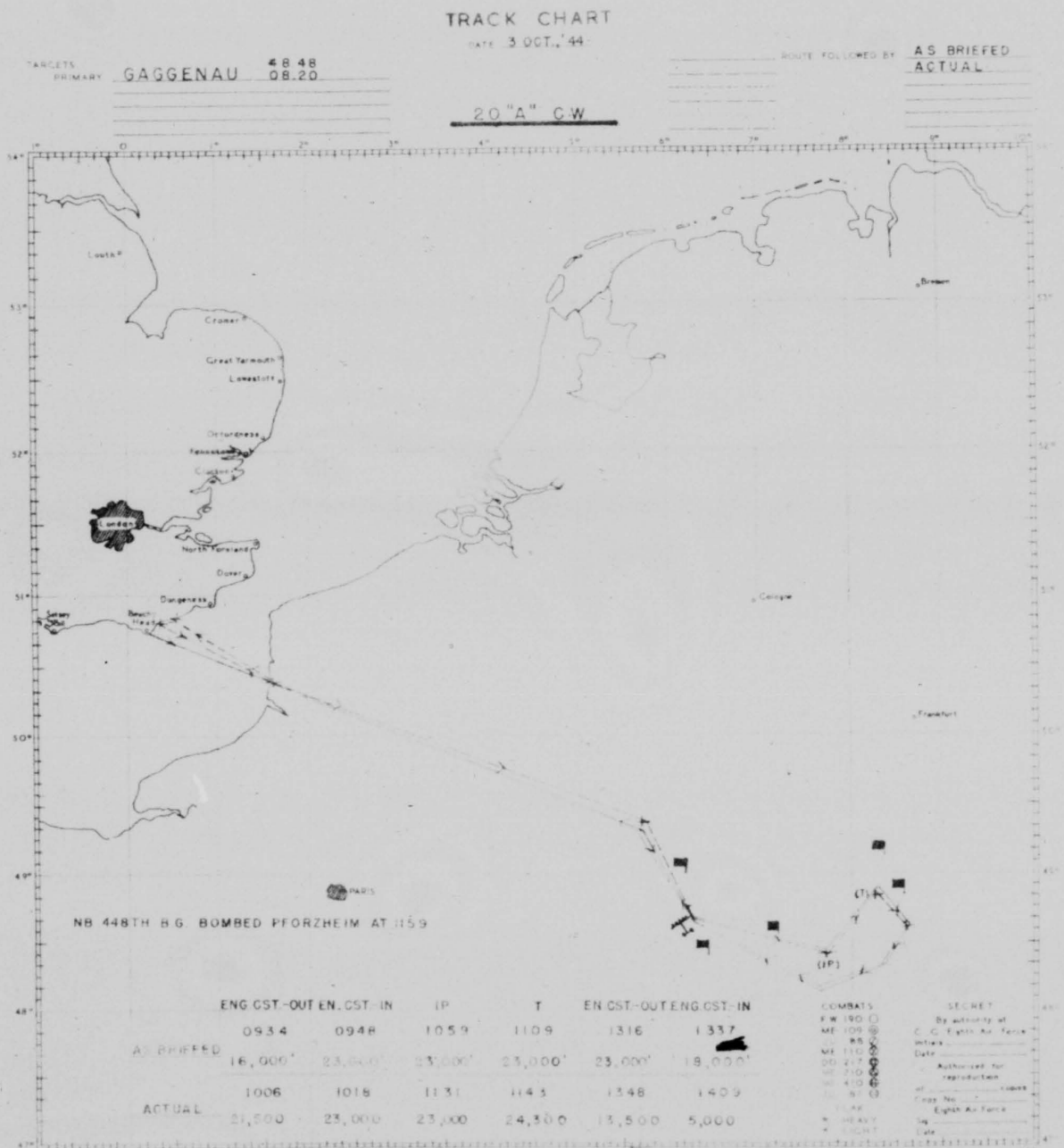
J. E. Kephner
J. E. KEPNER
Major General, U.S.A.
Commanding

SECRET

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

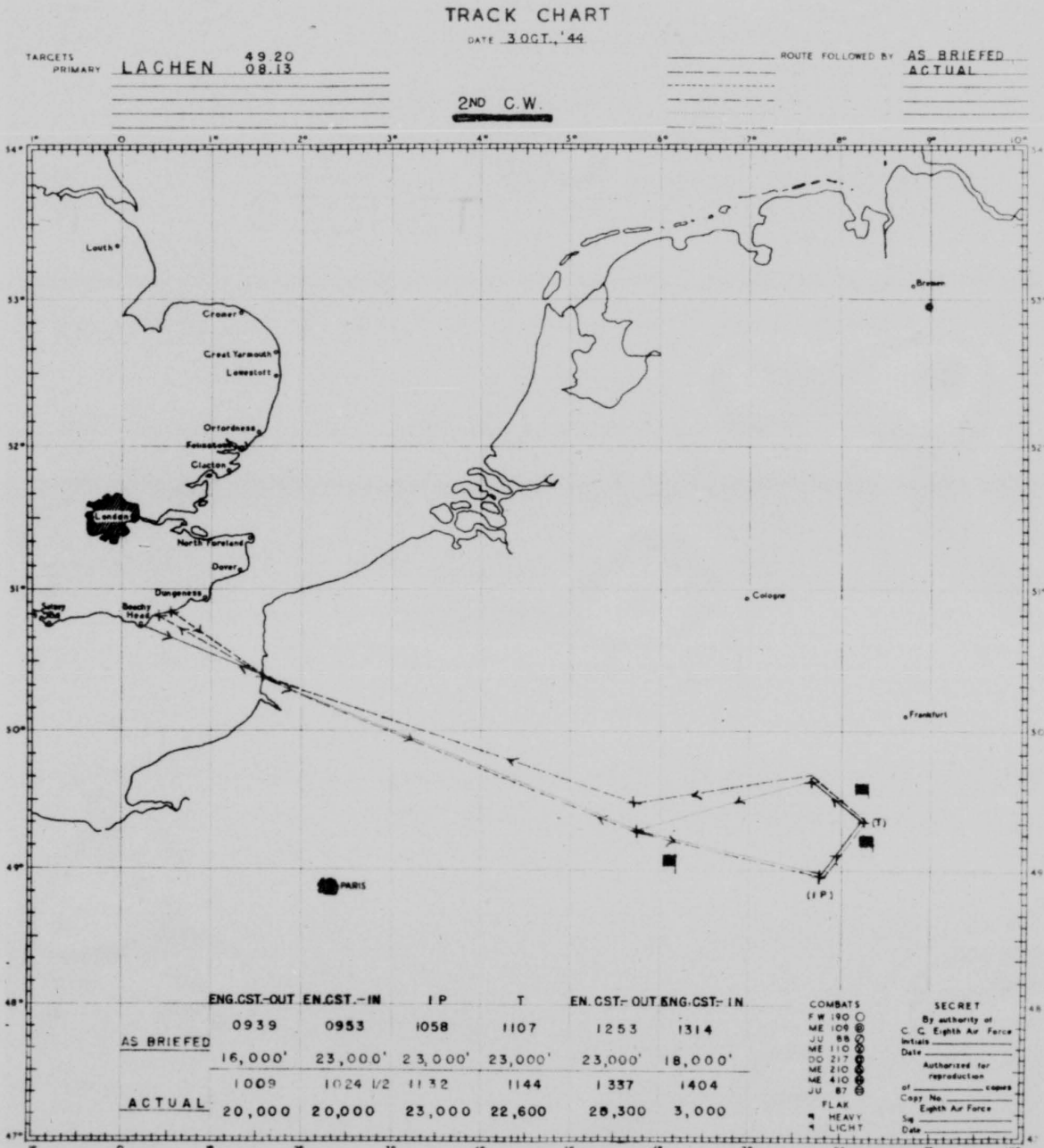
THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED



THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

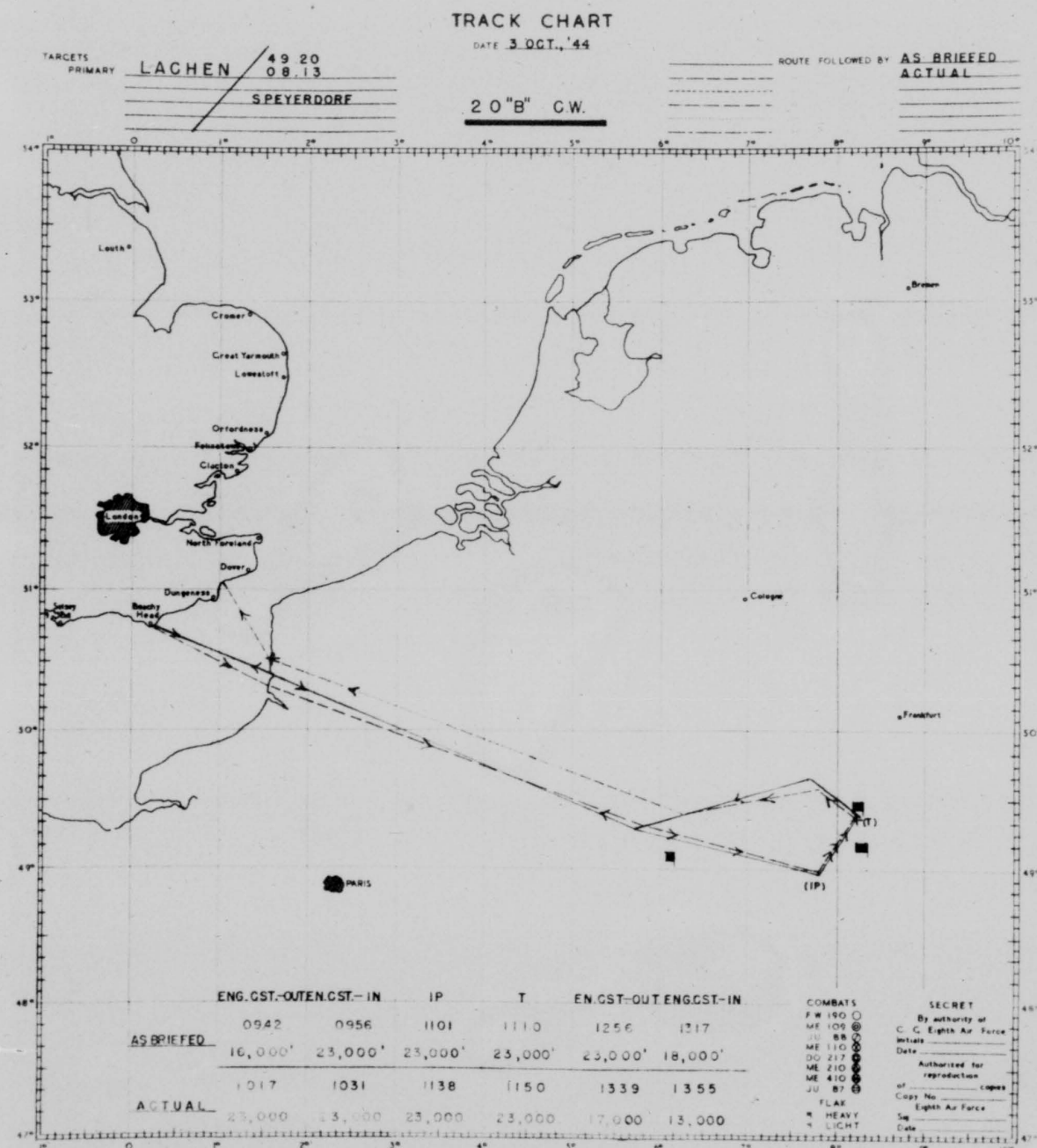
THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED



THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

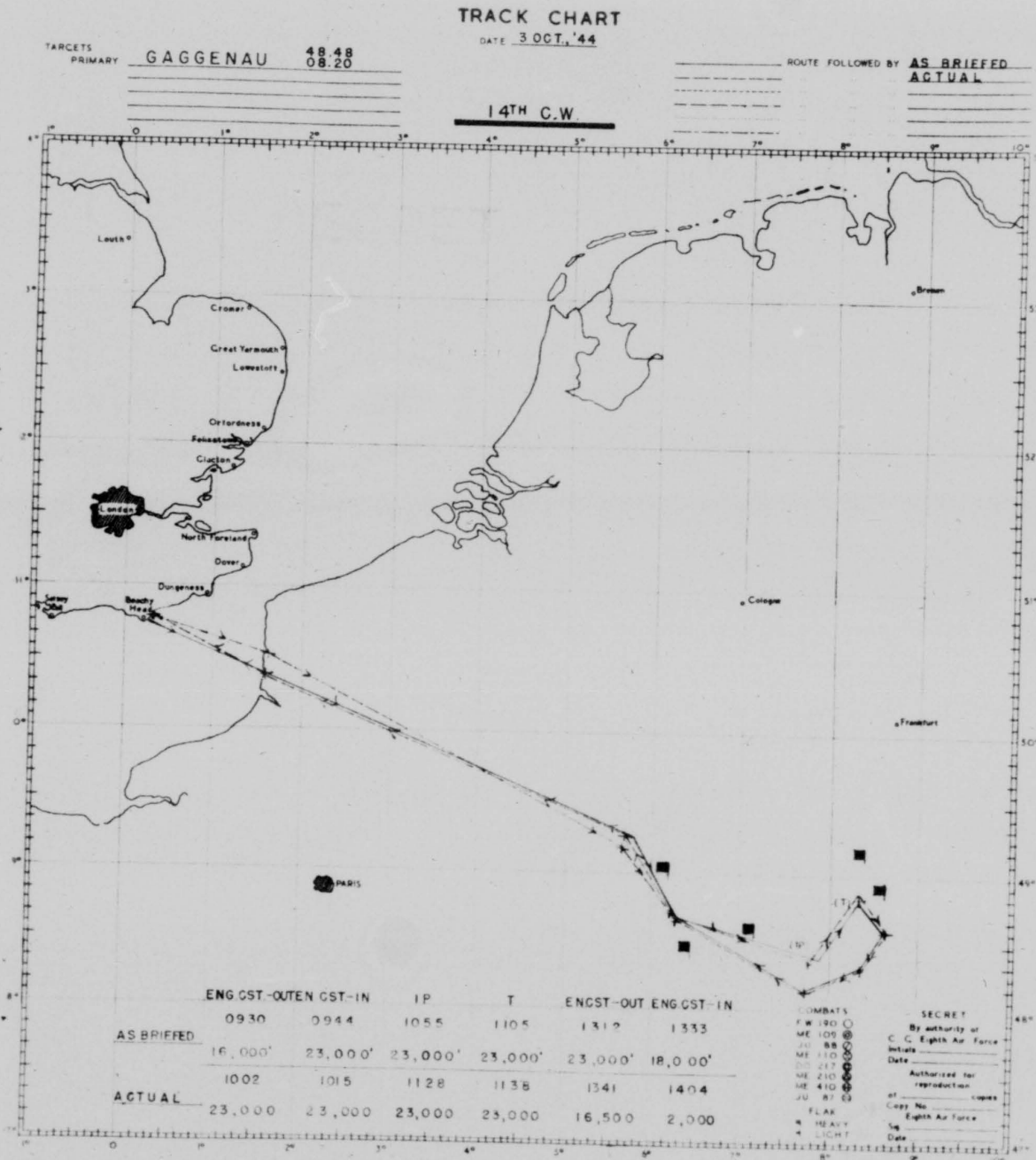
THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED



THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED



THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

S E C R E T

Tactical Bombing Report of Mission, 3 October 1944

GROUP	DIRECT OF RUN	LENGTH OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF RELEASE	PILOT	DEFLECT	RANGE & RANGE	TOTAL BOMBS & TYPE	NO. A/C BOMBING	DROPPED ON H2X OR CH	VISUAL	
							<u>GAGGENAU</u> H.E.	<u>INCEND.</u>				
392	31	3 min.	23,000	1138	X	1	1	218x1000	37 / 2	GH	X	
491	355	10 min.	23,000	1139	X	1	1	176x1000	30 / 1	GH	X	
44	23		24,700	1145	X	1	1	54x1000	9		X	
467	45	10 min.	23,000	1145	Unknown	1	1	2x500	12 / 1	GH	X	
466	37		22,000	1148		X	0	0	110x500	11	467th Flares	
458	30	4 min.	23,800	1146		X	1	1	106x500	10		X
448	50	2 min.	23,500	1142		X	0	1	128x500	11		X
93	31	2 min.	23,500	1144	X	1	1	144x1000	19		X	
							<u>SPREYER A/C FACTORY (Secondary)</u>					
389	46	5 min.	22,600	1144	X	9	3	283x500	30		X	
							<u>LACHEN</u>					
445	13	10 min.	23,000	1145	X	1	1	262x500	27 / 1	GH	X	
453	25	3 min.	23,000	1145	X	1	3	272x500	28 / 1	GH	X	
489	15	8 min.	22,800	1150		X	1	3	82x500	29 / 1	GH	X
446	18	2 min.	23,000	1151		X	1	1	130x500	15 / 1	H2X / 1 CH	X
446	02	4 min.	22,500	1152	X	1	1	104x500	9		X	
							<u>OFFENBURG M/Y</u>					
44	290		23,000	1157	X	1	1	110x1000	19		X	
							<u>PFORZHEIM M/Y (Secondary)</u>					
443	22	1 min.	22,800	1200	X	1	1	184x500	16 / 1	GH / 1 H2X		

- a. The assigned primary targets for this mission were a Naval Armament Factory at Gaggenau and the A/F at Lachen/Speyerdorf, Germany.
- b. Bombing was done visually by Groups on all primary targets except for 489th Group which dropped on GH equipment. The 389th Group bombed the secondary target visually by Squadrons. The 443th Group made 2 runs on primary using GH equipment. One Squadron of this Group was synchronizing for range and dropped bombs on the first run. The rest of the formation continued on to the secondary target and dropped on H2X equipment.
- c. One A/C jettisoned 8x500 HE bombs at 4903N-0720E to keep up with formation and two A/C released at IF due to a rack malfunction.

S E C R E T

SECRET

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

4 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 3 October 1944.

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

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A.	Group	458	
B.	Division F.O.	475	
C.	Date of Operation	3 October 1944	
D.	Ordered Primary Target.	Karlsruhe <i>H/r Gaggenau Ord. Fact.</i>	
E.	A/C Airborne.	12	
F.	A/C Sorties	10	
G.	A/C Attacking	10	
H.	A/C Not Attacking	2	
I.	A/C Attacking - Primary Target.	10	- 106 X 500 M17 (Plus 2 M47 Smoke bombs) 24 bombs 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.	0754	
S.	Average Time of Flight.	7:15	
T.	Comments	Nil	

For the Commanding Officer:

JOSEPH S. WILLIAMS
1st Lt, AC
Statistical Officer

SECRET

MISSION OF 2 OCTOBER 1944

MISSION # 179

HIGH RIGHT S-DM

VANWERTIN-CLAGGETT

557 : 7V-E K-24

K-24

STOESSER

090: 7VJ

BLUM

864: J3B

HELFRECHT

126: 25-L

K-21

FUSON

277: J4P

K-21

DWYER

070: 25-K

SKIDMORE

366: 25H

BECHTEL

201: J4N

FIELDS

287: J4J

MCGOUGH

407: J3R

K-22

MITCHELL

179: J3P

LEHR

179: 7VX

K-20

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
03-Oct-44	GAGGENAU	BECHTEL	127	4			44-40201	201	N	J4	17	SILVER CHIEF	
03-Oct-44	GAGGENAU	BLUM	127	15			42-50864	864	B	J3	6	JOLLY ROGER (II?)	
03-Oct-44	GAGGENAU	DWYRE	127	14			42-110070	070	K	Z5	35	ELMER	
03-Oct-44	GAGGENAU	FIELDS	127	2			44-40287	287	J	J4	16	BACHELOR'S BEDLAM	
03-Oct-44	GAGGENAU	FUSON	127	22			44-40277	277	P	J4	11	MISS USED	
03-Oct-44	GAGGENAU	HELFRECHT	127	ABT			44-40126	126	L	Z5	--	SPITTEN KITTEN / SKY TRAMP	ABORT - R/O GOT SEVERE CASE OF THE BENDS AT 20,000FT
03-Oct-44	GAGGENAU	LEHR	127	ABT			42-95179	179	X	7V	--	HERE I GO AGAIN	ABORT - ENG RPT OXYGEN LEAK
03-Oct-44	GAGGENAU	McGOUGH	127	7			42-100407	407	R	J3	49	LITTLE LAMBSY DIVEY	
03-Oct-44	GAGGENAU	MITCHELL	127	5			42-51179	179	P	J3	37	DUSTY'S DOUBLE TROUBLE	
03-Oct-44	GAGGENAU	SKIDMORE	127	6			42-100366	366	M	Z5	50	MIZPAH	
03-Oct-44	GAGGENAU	STOESSER	127	9			42-95050	050	J	7V	47	GAS HOUSE MOUSE	
03-Oct-44	GAGGENAU	VERMEIREN	127	20	CLAGGETT	L1	42-95557	557	E	7V	1	LADY PEACE	