

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558



TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

<u>FIELD ORDER NO.</u>	<u>TARGET</u>	<u>DATE</u>
1219	HAMBURG (GLINDE) ORDNANCE DEPOT HAMBURG (AIR ARMAMENT) HARBURG OIL REFINERY WENZENDORF A/F (AIR ARMAMENT)	6 OCTOBER 1944

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HEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
AAF 147

APO 558

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 : S E C R E T :
 : By auth, of: G.G. :
 : Hq 2d Bomb Division: :
 : Initials: :
 : Date: 31 Oct 44 :
 : : : : : : : : :
 29 October 1944

SUBJECT: Tactical Report of Mission, HAMBURG, WENZENDORF, HARBURG,
6 October 1944.

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

SUMMARY OF MISSION

1. Data

- a. Date of Mission - 6 October 1944
- b. Primary Targets and Order of Battle -
 - Hamburg (Glinde) Ordnance Depot
2nd CBW (445th, 389th, 453rd BG)
 - Hamburg Air Armament
14th CBW (392nd, 44th, 491st BG)
 - Harburg Oil Refinery
20th CBW (489th, 446th, 448th, 93rd BG)
 - Wenzendorf A/F, Air Armament
96th CBW (466th, 467th, 458th BG)
- c. Secondary Target -
 - If PFF - Lubbeck/Blankensee A/F, 2nd, 14th CBW's
Harburg Oil Refinery, 20th CBW
Stade A/F, 96th CBW
- 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-six Squadrons to visually attack two air armament factories, an ordnance depot and an oil refinery in the Hamburg area.

(2) Due to heavy AA defenses at the targets assigned to the 14th and 20th Combat Wings, planning called for these Wings to attack in Sections of six A/C.

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 and H2X methods.

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

(1) Three sections of the 93d Group and two sections of the 448th Group attacked a target of opportunity, Harburg (Deutsche-Werfte), due to cloud cover at the primary.

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Tactical Report of Mission, 6 October 1944 (Contd)

(2) Three Squadrons, one of the 466th Group, one of the 467th and one of the 458th Group attacked their assigned secondary target due to an effective smoke screen at the primary.

c. Strike photographs show the following:

Primary

Hamburg (Glinde) - Hits covered target area on large ordnance buildings.

Hamburg (Air Armament) - Hits on test beds, storage buildings, machine shops, industrial buildings throughout target area, railway lines and roadways.

Wenzendorf A/F - Hits on landing Ground, dispersal areas, assembly shops, hangars, perimeter strips, and A/F buildings

Harburg (Oil Refinery) - Bombfall on lightly built up areas.

Secondary

Stade A/F - Hits on barracks, hangars, landing ground.

Target of Opportunity

Deutsche Werfe (U-boats) - Hits on docks, slips, heavy assembly shops, metal shops and railways and roadways.

4. Anti-Aircraft Gunfire

a. The first two Groups of the 2nd Wing encountered moderate and accurate predictor control fire at the end of their bombing runs, but the last Group of this Wing does not appear to have been directly engaged.

b. Owing to an error in navigation, the leading Group of the 14th Wing approached the target on the wrong heading and encountered intense and accurate heavy flak. The second Group of this Wing also encountered intense and accurate heavy flak. The last Group encountered intense but generally inaccurate fire.

c. The first two Groups of the 20th Wing bombed in Group formation and encountered intense and accurate flak. The last two Groups of this Wing broke up into Squadrons and encountered intense but less accurate fire.

d. The method of fire control appears to have been primarily predictor control although some reports of fixed barrage fire were also received.

e. No flak was encountered at Wenzendorf A/F. One Group reported encountering meager flak driving their bombing runs on Stade A/F, but as they were approaching this target from the southeast, the fire was almost certainly coming from the outer defenses of Hamburg.

f. Meager heavy flak was encountered on route at Wesermunde, Cuxhaven, Wangerooge, Alte Mellun I, Neuwerk I, and Scherhorn I. Many Groups also reported encountering meager flak in the gap between Wesermunde and Cuxhaven.

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.

W. E. KEPNER,
Major General, U.S.A.,
Commanding.

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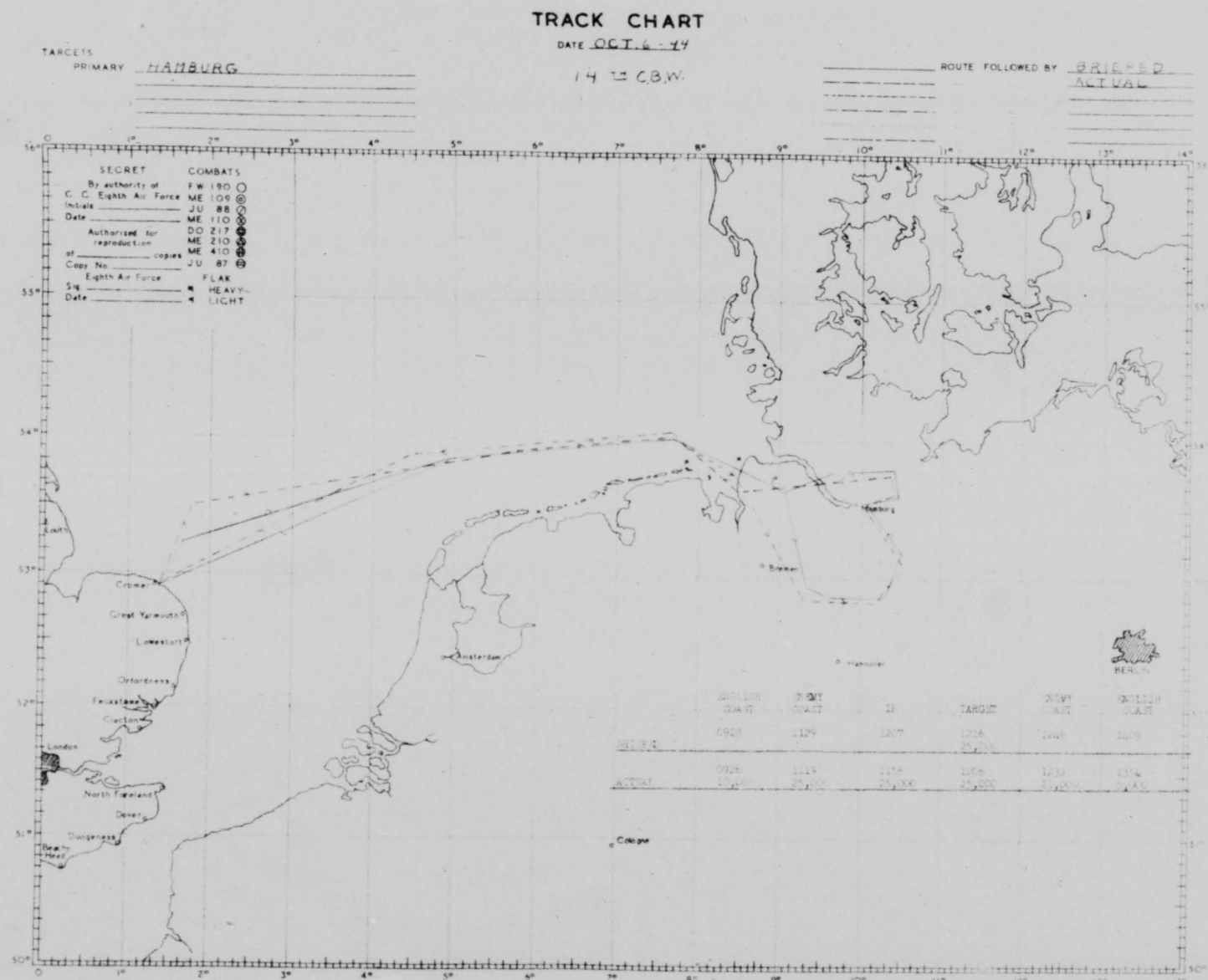
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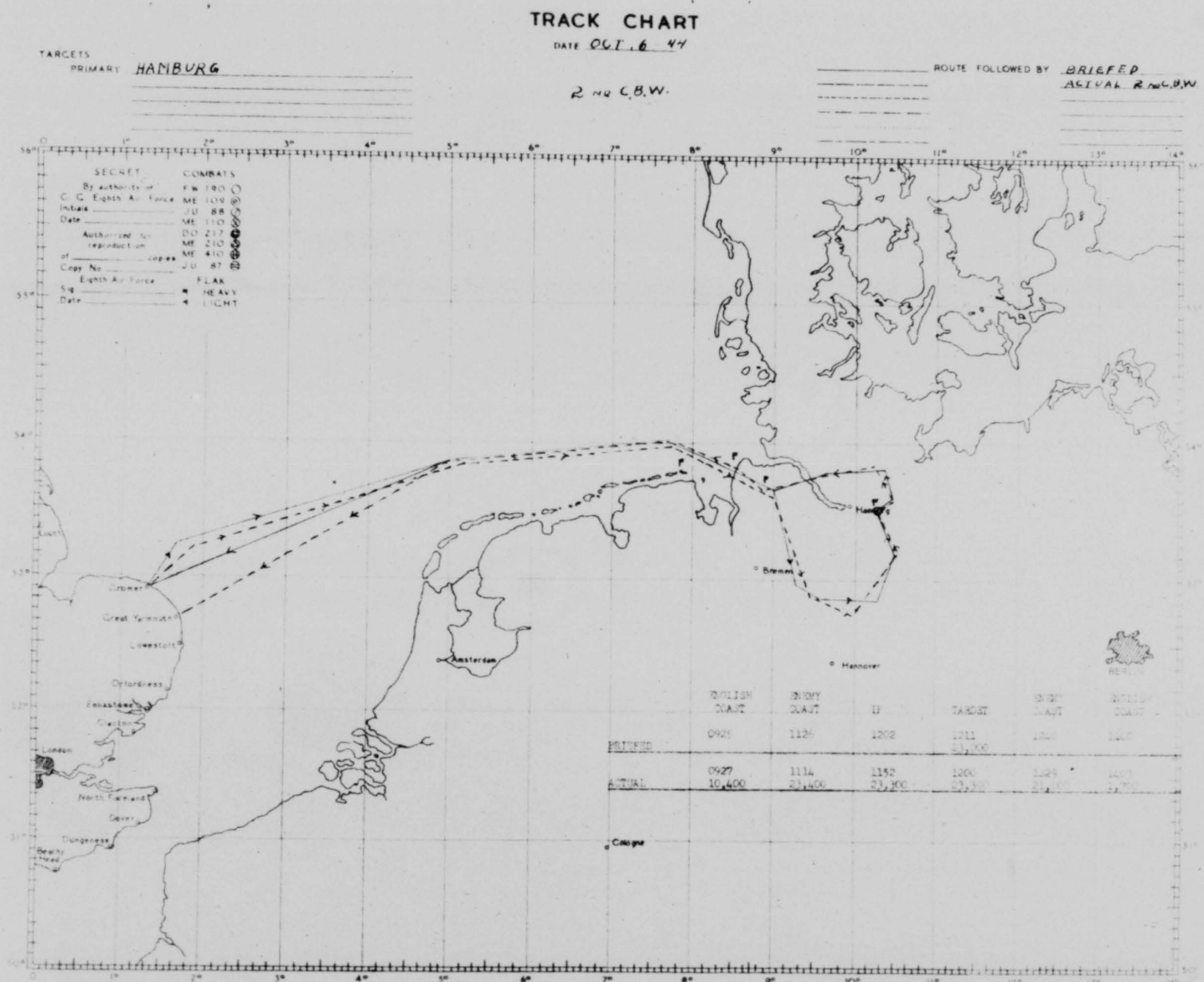
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TACTICAL REPORT OF BOMBING, MISSION 6 OCTOBER 1944

GROUP	DIR. OF RUN	LENGTH OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF RELEASE	FLEW AUTO-PILOT	FLEW RANGE & DEFLEC. RANGE	TOTAL BOMBS AND TYPE	NO A/C BOMBING	DROPPED ON H2X OR GH	VIS.
445	13°	5 min.	23300'	1200	X	HAMBURG (GLINDE)	HE			
389	25°	1½ min.	23500'	1203	X	3 3	307x500	29		X
453	346°	2 min.	25200'	1205	X	3 3	98x500	30		X
						3 3	232x500	30		X
491	30°	2 min.	25000'	1200	X	HAMBURG (AIR ARM)				
392	325°	2 min.	24000'	1205	X	4 4	261x500	24		X
44	09°	2 min.	25000'	1207	X	5 5	383x500	34		X
						4 4	236x500	21		X
446	11°	4 min.	26000'	1202	X	HARBURG (OIL REF)				
489	354°	4 min.	24100'	1204	X	1 1	361x500	31/1	H2X	
93	25°	10 min.	26500'	1211	X	1 1	395x500	35	H2X	
448	14°	2 min.	25300'	1207	X	1 1	112x500	11	H2X	
						1 1	211x500	18/1	H2X	
93	10°	2 min.	25800'	1212	X	HAMBURG (DEUTSCHE-WERFTE) T/O				
448	Sighting Operation Unknown. Two 6 A/C sections attacked.					1 3	240x500	20		X
							142x500	12		X
466	20°	---	21000'	1157	X	WENDENDORF A/F				
467	50°	1 min.	21000'	1201	X	2 2	120x500	20		X
458	20°	30 sec.	21000'	1201	X	1 1	208x500	19		X
						2 2	152x500	15		X
466	325°	3 min.	21000'	1204	X	STADE A/F (SECONDARY)				
467	50°	1 min.	21200'	1203	X	1 1	92x500	9		X
458	30°	2½ min.	21600'	1201	X	1 1	17x500	12		X
						1 1	36x500	11		X

- The assigned primary targets for this mission were the Glinde Ord. Depot, and Klockner Air Armament factory at Hamburg, the Rhenania Ossag Oil Refinery at Harburg and the A/F at Wenzendorf, Germany. Stade A/F was an assigned secondary target.
- Bombing was done visually by Squadrons by the 2nd and 96th Wings and by 6 A/C sections in the 14th Wing and 93rd and 448th Groups. The 489th and 446th attacked Harburg Oil Refinery on H2X equipment in Group formation. Due to confusion and weather conditions in the target area, the 93rd and 448th had part of their formations attack a T/O in the dock area of the city. Three Squadrons of the 96th Wing attacked their assigned secondary due to poor visibility and interference at the primary.

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TACTICAL REPORT OF BOMBING, MISSION 6 OCTOBER 1944 (Contd)

3. The lead A/C of the 467th Group had an accidental release due to a select lever malfunction and nine A/C dropped before reaching the target. Two other A/C did not bomb due to rack malfunctions.

4. Results of bombing:

Hamburg (Glinde)	Very Good	Hits covered target area on large ordnance buildings.
Hamburg (Air Arm.)	Very Good	Hits on test beds, storage buildings, machine shops, industrial buildings throughout target area, railway lines and roadways.
Wenzendorf A/F	Good	Hits on landing ground, dispersal areas, assembly shops, hangars, perimeter strips, and small A/F buildings.
Stade A/F	Good	Hits on barracks, hangars, landing ground.
Harburg (Oil Ref.)	Poor	Bombfall mostly in open areas and lightly built up areas.
Deutsche Werke (U-Boats)	Very good	Hits on docks, slips, heavy assembly shops, metal shops and railways and roadways.

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

7 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 6 October 1944.

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

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A. Group	458
B. Division F.O.	478
C. Date of Operation	6 October 1944
D. Ordered Primary Target	Wenzendorf A/F
E. A/C Airborne.	29
F. A/C Sorties	26
G. A/C Attacking	26
H. A/C Not Attacking	3
I. A/C Attacking - Primary Target.	15 - 14 - 152 X 500 GP 1 - 12 X 500 M17 12 GP returned 12 GP jettisoned 12 M17 returned
J. A/C Attacking - Secondary Target.	11 - 8 - 96 X 500 M17 3 - 36 X 500 GP Stade A/F
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.	0800
S. Average Time of Flight.	6:05
T. Comments.	Nil

For the Commanding Officer:

JOSEPH S. WILLIAMS
1st Lt, AG
Statistical Officer

SECRET

7 Oct 1944

754th - LEAD SQUADRON - 12 X 500# GP's .10N-.01T

VERMEIREN-JANISON

C	7V : 270W		
<u>CANADY</u>	Scoops	<u>HALE-SPEER</u>	
25 : 018J		7V : 610D	<u>WILLIAMS</u>
K-22		Scoops K-24	25 : 366H
	<u>SIARTZ</u>		<u>KLEIN</u>
	25 : 608W		25 : 296E
<u>COOK</u>		<u>HESS</u>	<u>DAHM</u>
25 : 596R		25 : 070K	25 : 199U
K-20		K-21	

755th - HIGH RIGHT SQUADRON - 12 X M-17's

HAYZLETT-WILLIAMSON

C	7V : 499F		
<u>MITCHELL</u>	K-22	<u>MORAN</u>	
J3 : 206S		7V : 502A	<u>BOYLE</u>
			J3 : 196Q
	<u>McGOUGH</u>	<u>CHIMPLES</u>	<u>PERRY</u>
	J3 : 215T	J3 : 407R	J3 : 183U
<u>SEALY</u>	K-21	<u>E'SERT</u>	K-21
J3 : 179P		J3 : 120M	
K-20			

752nd - LOW LEFT SQUADRON - 12 X 500# GP's .10N-.01T

HATNALGAY-MARTIN

C	7V : 504D		
<u>TREBS</u>	K-21	<u>MATZE</u>	
J4 : 273T		J4 : 275L	<u>STOEISSER</u>
			J4 : 431B
	<u>COYLE</u>	<u>SMITH</u>	<u>VERSLAGE</u>
	7V : 177X	J4 : 285H	J4 : 163M
<u>LEHR</u>	K-21	<u>JOSEPHSON</u>	
J4 : 277P		7V : 457Q	
K-20			

SPARE 3: 316N-J3-20-12 X M-17's

134R-J4-47-12 X 500#

141U-J4-40-12 X 500#

281Q-J4-43-12 X 500# (Spare Loss)

ASSEMBLY CREW: LT HEINRICH-755th

ORDER OF TAKE OFF

<u>WEST</u>		<u>RUNWAY 05</u>		<u>EAST</u>
<u>DISP</u>	<u>SHIP</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>SHIP</u>	<u>DISP</u>
2	697Z	1		
		2	557E	25
		3	610D	21
7	018J	4		
9	608W	5		
6	070K	6		
3	596R	7		
10	366H	8		
4	199U	9		
5	298E	10		
		11	499F	23
		12		

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
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	BOYLE	129	22			42-51196	196	Q	J3	2	THE GYPSY QUEEN	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	CANADY	129	8			42-95018	018	J	Z5	47	OLD DOC'S YACHT	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	CHIMPLES	129	2			42-100407	407	R	J3	50	LITTLE LAMBSY DIVEY	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	COOK	129	24			41-29596	596	R	Z5	56	HELL'S ANGEL'S	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	DAHM	129	2			42-51199	199	U	Z5	2	UNKNOWN 023	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	EISERT	129	ABT			42-95120	120	M	J3	--	HOOKEM COW / BETTY	ABORT - #4 ENG OLI LEAK; #1 SUPER CHG INOP
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	HALE	129	1		D1	42-95610	610	D	J3	1	UNKNOWN 037	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	HATHAWAY	129	23	MARTIN, C	L3	42-50504	504	D	7V	4	UNKNOWN 019	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	HAYZLETT	129	20	WILLIAMSON	L2	42-50499	499	F	7V	11	COOKIE/OPEN POST	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	HEMRICH	129	ASSY			41-28697	697	Z	Z5	A18	SPOTTED APE	ASSEMBLY CREW
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	HESS	129	7			42-110070	070	K	Z5	37	ELMER	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	JOSEPHSON	129	5			42-52457	457	Q	7V	58	FINAL APPROACH	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	KLEIN	129	7			44-40298	298	E	Z5	2	THE SHACK	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	LEHR	129	ABT			44-40277	277	P	J4	--	MISS USED	ABORT - #3, 4 TURBOS RAN AWAY
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	MATZE	129	20			44-40275	275	L	J4	16	SHACK TIME	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	McGOUGH	129	8			42-51215	215	T	7V	2	UNKNOWN 024	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	MITCHELL	129	6			42-51206	206	S	J3	2	THE PIED PIPER	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	MORAN	129	4			42-50502	502	A	7V	7	LARRUPIN' LINDA	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	PERRY	129	1			42-95183	183	U	J3	44	BRINEY MARLIN	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	SEALY	129	1			42-51179	179	P	J3	38	DUSTY'S DOUBLE TROUBLE	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	SMITH, WF	129	8			44-40285	285	H	J4	37	TABLE STUFF	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	STOESSER	129	10			42-100431	431	B	J4	40	BOMB-AH-DEAR	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	SWARTZ	129	5			42-50608	608	W	Z5	1	FILTHY McNAUGHTY	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	TEBBS	129	3			44-40273	273	T	J4	24	HOWLING BANSHEE	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	VEHSLAGE	129	5			42-110163	163	M	J4	26	TIME'S A WASTIN	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	VERMEIREN	129	22	JAMISON	L1	42-95557	557	E	7V	3	LADY PEACE	
06-Oct-44	WENZENDORF	WILLIAMS, E	129	ABT			42-100366	366	H	Z5	--	MIZPAH	ABORT - #2 ENG MANI PRES; #4 BOOSTER OUT