

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION
APO 558

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

FIELD ORDER NO.

1237

TARGETS

VARRILBUSCH A/F
VECHT A/F
ACHILLER A/F
RHEINE A/F

DATE

12 OCTOBER 1944

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COPY NO. 4

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: S E C R E T

: By Auth of CG

2d Bomb Div

Initials

Date 3 Nov. 1961

68-1987

3 November 1944

SUBJECT : Tactical Report of Mission, VARRELDUSCH, WECHTA, ACHMER, RHETTIE A/T's,
12 October 1944.

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

SUMMARY OF MISSION

b. Data.

- a. Date of Mission - 12 October 1944

- b. Primary Targets and Order of Battle -

Varrelbusch A/F

96th CBI (466th, 458th, 467th BG)

Vechta A/F

2nd CDW (445th, 389th, 453rd BG)

Achmer A/F

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

Rhine A/F

20th "A" CBW (93rd BG)

20th "B" CBW (489th, 446th BG)

- c. Secondary Target - If PFF, Osnabruck M/Y, all units

- 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 twenty-eight Squadrons to visually attack four A/F's in the Osnabruck area.

- 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 secondary target due to 10/10 cloud in the primary target areas except the following:

- (1) The lead A/C of one Squadron of the 458th Group lost an engine just prior to the target, causing the remainder of the Squadron to straggle. Due to being out of formation, this Squadron did not attack.

- c. Strike photographs show the following:

- (1) The results of bombing were good. Much damage was done to the M/ adjacent industrial areas, main city area, the Klockner Werke A.G. and built-up areas near M/Y.

S E C R E T

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Tactical Report of Mission, 12 October 1944

4. Anti-Aircraft Gunfire.

a. Moderate, very accurate, predictor control fire was encountered at the target by the 466th Group which led the Division, the other two Groups in the 96th Wing encountering considerable less accurate fire. Both the 2nd and 14th Wing encountered moderate predictor control and fixed barrage fire at the target which was, however, generally inaccurate. There was then an interval of seven minutes before the 20th Wing attacked the target, and the 93rd Group which led this Wing encountered accurate predictor control fire but the other Group, following very closely behind, encountered only meager and inaccurate fire.

b. Several aircraft were damaged over the target by incendiary pellets, almost all of which had detonated. Comparatively little damage was done by them to the aircraft, and three detonated pellets were found inside a petrol tank which had failed to ignite the petrol.

c. A number of smokeless M fire bursts were seen at the target. Only the flash of the explosion was seen. Although it has not been possible to tie these bursts up with the aircraft which were damaged, they were probably the incendiary pellets detonating after leaving the shell.

d. No M was encountered on route.

5. Enemy Aircraft Encountered and Fighter Support.

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

b. Two A/C were lost to M fire.

6. Losses and Claims.

a. Two A/C were lost to M fire.

b. Claims were nil.

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W. E. Keener
W. E. KEENER
Major General, U.S.A.
Commanding

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TRACK CHART

DATE 12 OCTOBER 1944

TARGETS

PRIMARY

RHEINE

2nd BB

20th CBW

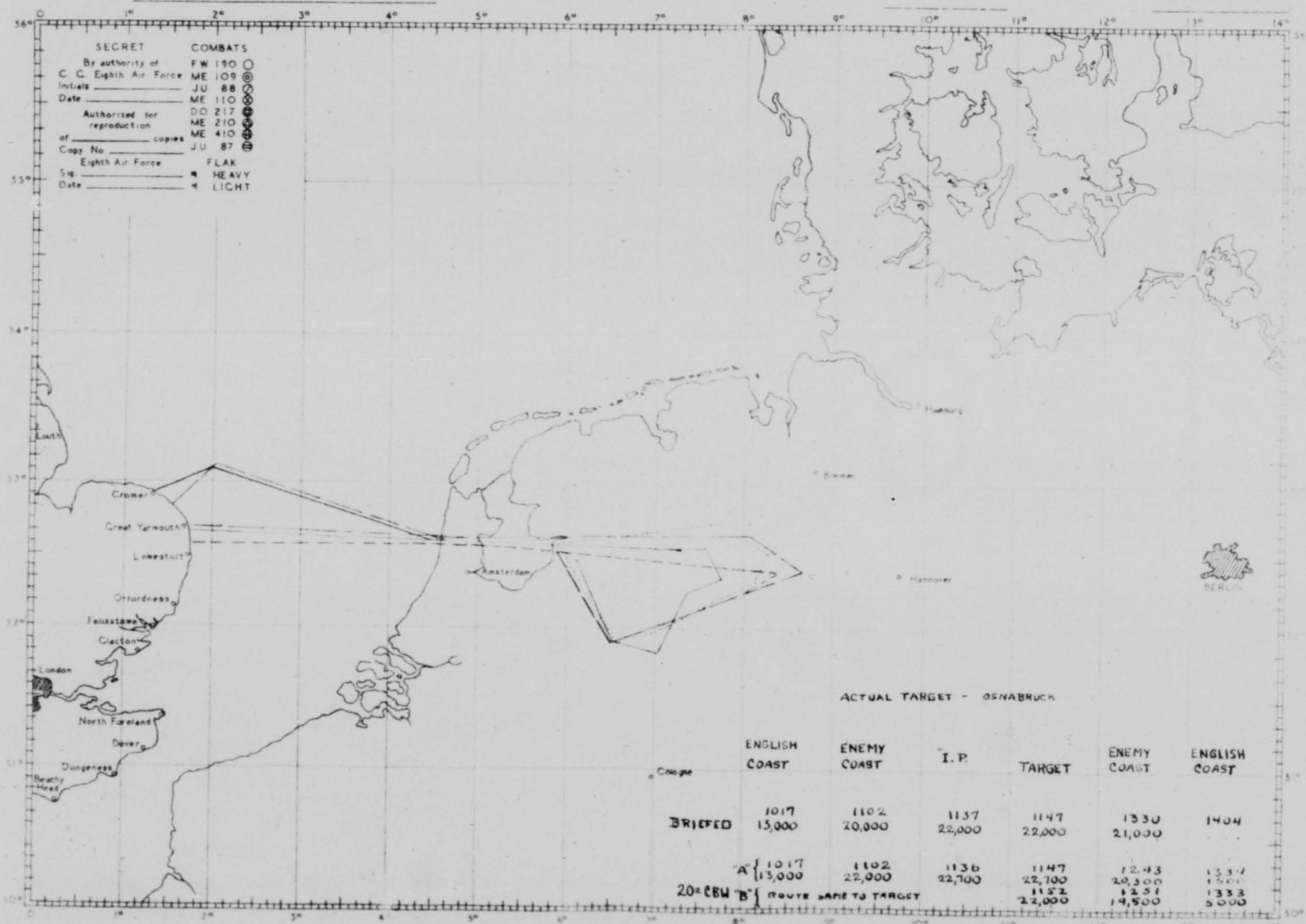
ROUTE FOLLOWED BY

BRIEFED

20th CBW

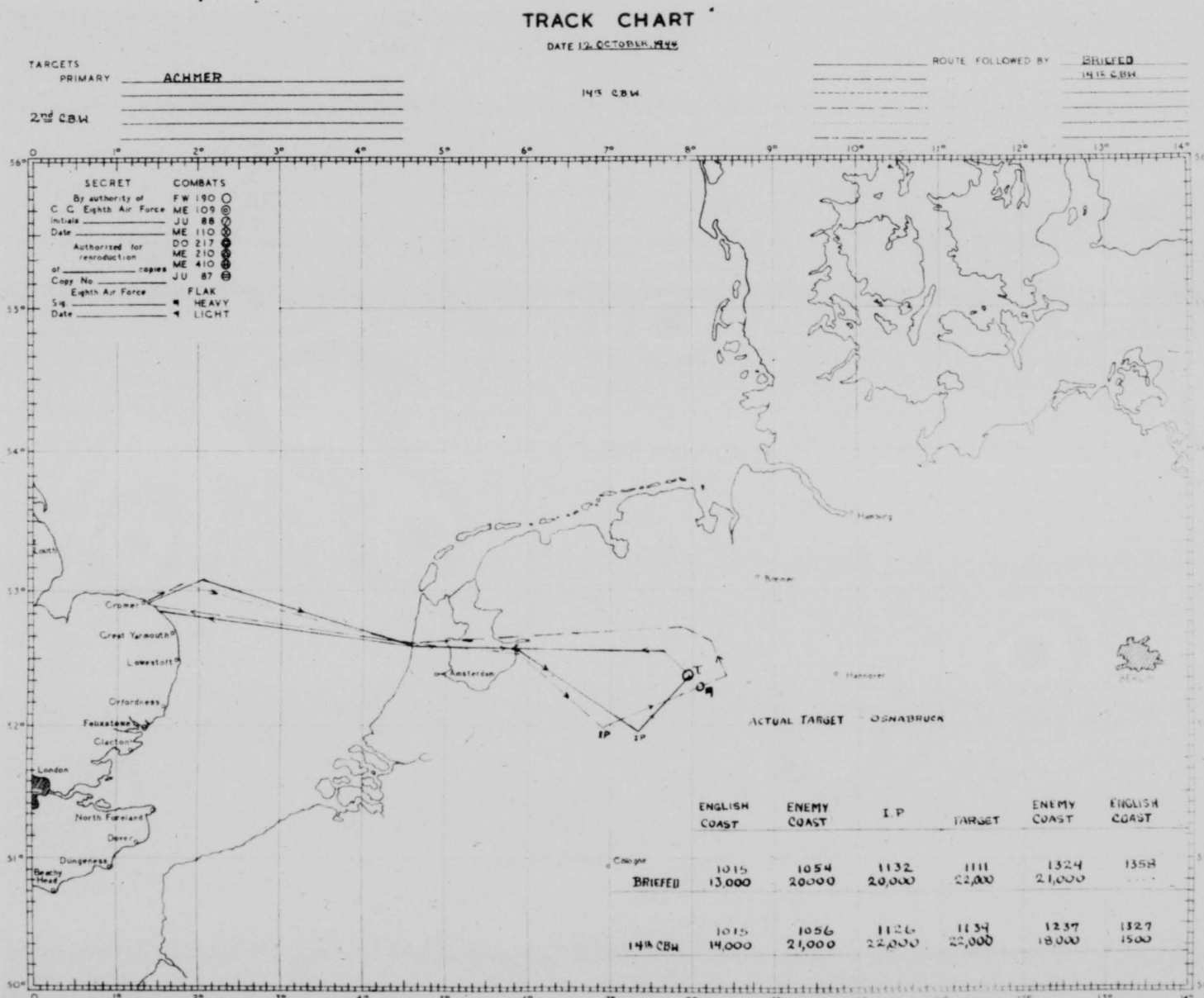
20th CBW 3 WING

BRIEFED SECONDARY



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Tactical Bombing Report of Mission, 12 October 1944

GROUP	DIRECT OF RUN	LENGTH OF RUN	ALTITUDE	TIME OF FLEW RELEASE	PILOT	AUTO FLEW RANGE & M/L DEFLECT RANGE		TOTAL BOMBS & TYPE		NO. A/C BOMBING	DROPPED ON	
						OSNABRUCK M/Y		H.E.	INCEND.		H2X OR GH	VISUAL
466	70		22,000	1134	X		1	926x100		20	H2X	
467	60	4 min.	23,000	1135	X		1	2x500 836x100		19	H2X	
458	No attack					HR on 466						
458	82		24,000	1135	X	HR on 467	0	466x100		9		X
445	80	8 min.	21,000	1135	X		1	200x500	120x500	30	H2X	
453	74	4 min.	21,000	1136	X		1	220x500	122x500	31	H2X	
389	55	30 sec.	22,200	1136	X		1		122x500	11	H2X	X
389	70	2 min.	21,800	1137	X		1		122x500	11	H2X	X
392	65	14 min.	22,000	1139	X		1	236x500		21	H2X	
491	81	1 min.	22,000	1138	X		1	2x500 833x100		19	H2X	
44	68	2 min.	23,650	1139	X	HR on 392	1	487x100		10		X
44	101	2 min.	23,000	1138	X	HR on 491	1	436x100		9		X
93	88	8 min.	22,600	1146	X		1	1180x100		24	H2X	
489	80		22,000	1152	X		1	508x100 124x500		22	H2X	
446	85		22,400	1152	X		1	239x500	108x500	29 1/2	H2X	

- The assigned visual primary targets for this mission were airfields at Varrelbusch, Vechta, Achmer, and Rheine, Germany. Due to 10/10 Cloud over primaries, the PFF secondary, the M/Y at Osnabruck was attacked.
- Bombing was done in Group formation on H2X equipment except in the five cases stated above, which were H2X assisted by visual range corrections for three and entirely visual for the 44th Group.
- One Squadron of the 458th did not bomb due to losing the rest of the formation. The lead A/C of this Squadron lost an engine and could not stay with the formation. One A/C did not bomb due to a rack malfunction.
- The results of bombing were good. Much damage was done to the M/Y, adjacent industrial areas, main city area, the Klockner Werke A.G. and built-up areas near M/Y.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

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

13 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Statistical Summary of Operations, Mission of 12 October 1944.

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

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

A. Group	458	
B. Division F.O.	484	
C. Date of Operation	12 October 1944	
D. Ordered Primary Target.	Varrelbusch - A/F	
E-1 A/C Airborne.	20	
E-2 A/C Airborne Less Unused Spares	20	
F. A/C Sorties	20	
G. A/C Attacking	9	
H. A/C Not Attacking	11	
I. A/C Attacking - Primary Target.	Nil	
J. A/C Attacking - Secondary Target.	9	- 466 X 100 M-30 Osnabruck - M/Y 204 bombs jettisoned 362 bombs returned
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.	0831	
S. Average Time of Flight.	5:00	
T. Comments	Bombed visually.	

For the Commanding Officer:

JOSEPH S. WILLIAMS
1st Lt, AG
Statistical Officer

S E C R E T

12 October 1944

HIGH RIGHT SQUADRON - "A" GPHANSEN-SPEER

Z5 : 587F

POLIARD
J4 : 118S

K-22

MORAN
7V : 504DDEWRE

J4 : 134R

FUSON

J4 : 980V

WARRELL K-21

J4 : 449W

HOEY

J4 : 141U

HATHORN

J4 : 153K

K-21

AKIN

J4 : 289I

BECHTEL

J4 : 201N (Spare)

HIGH RIGHT SQUADRON - "B" GPBLUM-CLAGGETT

J3 : 864B

KENYON

J3 : 475D

K-22

KIUSMYER

J3 : 740F

CLAGOLA

J3 : 215T

BOYLE

K-21:206S

CHIMPLES
7V : 165L

K-21

FRENCH

J3 : 316N

SEALY

Z5 : 126L

K-20

J3

HADDEN

7V : 179X

SLEWERTSON

Z5 : 199U

UNASSIG NED SPARES: 018J-25-7
110M-7V-34
596R-25-3

ORDER OF TAKE OFF

WEST DISP	A/C	Run. 23 or 05 A/C	EAST DISP
12	578F	1	
23	504D	2	
		3	118S
		4	980V
		5	134R
		6	289I
		7	133K
		8	141U
		9	449W
		10	201N
22	864B	11	
17	740F	12	
16	475D	13	
13	206S	14	
18	215T	15	
		16	179X Hang 1
8	126L	17	
20	316N	18	
30	165L	19	
		20	199U 2

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
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	AKIN	132	2			44-40283	283	I	J4	8	LASSIE COME HOME	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	BECHTEL	132	5			44-40201	201	N	J4	19	SILVER CHIEF	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	BLUM	132	16	CLAGGETT	L2	42-50864	864	B	J3	8	JOLLY ROGER (11?)	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	BOYLE	132	23			42-51206	206	S	7V	5	THE PIED PIPER	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	CHIMPLES	132	4			42-95165	165	L	7V	38	COOKIE	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	DWYRE	132	15			44-40134	134	R	J4	24	UNKNOWN 039	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	FRENCH	132	23			42-95316	316	N	J3	47	PRINCESS PAT	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	FUSON	132	24			41-28980	980	V	J4	3	UNKNOWN 009	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	GLAGOLA	132	26			42-51215	215	T	7V	3	UNKNOWN 024	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	HADDEN	132	3			42-95179	179	X	7V	47	HERE I GO AGAIN	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	HANSEN	132	24	SPEER	L1	42-50578	578	F	Z5	14	SKY ROOM	TYPO AS 587F
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	HATHORN	132	4			42-95133	133	K	J4	3	LADY JANE	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	HOEY	132	2			42-110141	141	U	J4	20	BREEZY LADY / MARIE / SUPERMAN	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	KENYON	132	20			44-40475	475	D	J3	5	JOLLY ROGER	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	KLUSMEYER	132	7			42-50740	740	F	J3	3	OUR BURMA	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	MORAN	132	5			42-50504	504	D	7V	6	UNKNOWN 019	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	POLLIARD	132	2			44-40118	118	S	J4	10	WE'LL GET BY	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	SEALY	132	3			44-40126	126	L	Z5	25	SPITTEN KITTEN / SKY TRAMP	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	SIEVERTSON	132	5			42-51199	199	U	Z5	4	UNKNOWN 023	
12-Oct-44	OSNABRUCK	WARRELL	132	3			42-50449	449	W	J4	3	HEAVENLY HIDEAWAY	