

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
AAF STATION 101
APO 634

INTOPS SUMMARY NO. 301

PERIOD: 0001 hours 25 February 1945 to 2400 hours 25 February 1945.

A. STATISTICS

	Total Sorties	Effective Sorties	Tonnage	Claims	Losses			Totals	NYR
					E/A	AA	CT		
Heavy Bomber Atks.	1197	1157	3143.5	0-0-0	0	4	0	4	30(b)
Fighter Escort (a)	429	402	0	3-0-5G	0	3	1	4	4(b)
Fighter Swoops	284	262	0	21-0-44(c)1	2	3	6	0	
Fighter Bombing	0	0	0	10-0-12G	0	0	0	0	
Photo Recon.	12	12	0	0-0-0	1	0	0	1	0
Weather Recon.	44	42	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Air/Sea Rescue	26	26	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Special Operations	35	35	0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	2027	1936	3143.5	21-0-44(c)2 13-0-17G	9	4	15	34(b)	

- (a) Includes the 352nd and 361st Groups based on the Continent.
(b) Majority believed safe on Continent.
(c) Includes 7-0-0 Me-262s and 1-0-0 Ar-234.

B. OPERATIONAL SUMMARY

1. Bomber Attacks

1197 a/c (829 B-17s, 368 B-24s from three Air Divisions) sortied in three forces against tank plants, A/Fs, M/Ys and an oil storage depot in south central Germany. 1157 a/c dropped 3143.5 tons (1922.4 tons G.P. and 1221.1 tons I.B.) on assigned targets and numerous T/Os. Bombing visually; one target bombed on Gee-H. Flak: nil at most targets; moderate to intense, generally accurate at Munich; meager to moderate, generally inaccurate along route. E/a opposition: 4 FW-190s seen W-SW of Ulm. Claims: nil. Losses: 4 B-17s (to AA). NYR: 30 a/c (12 B-24s, 18 B-17s), majority believed safe on continent.

SECRET

T
H
I
S

P
A
G
E

I
S

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

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRETFirst Force

Ten group formations (377 B-17s - 1st Air Division) sortied against the Freidrichshafen-Maybach Tank Engine Plant, Munich Main Station and M/Y, and Munich Ost M/Y. 362 a/c dropped 1074.2 tons (535.2 tons G.P. and 539.0 tons I.B.) on assigned targets, Ulm M/Y (secondary), and one T/O at 1041-1151 hours from 23,500-27,200 feet; bombing Freidrichshafen-Maybach Tank Engine Plant on Gee-H and all other targets visually. Leaflets dropped on Munich. Weather: 10/10 over Freidrichshafen; 2/10 - 3/10 over Ulm; CAVU to 1/10 over Munich. Flak: nil over Freidrichshafen and Ulm; moderate and accurate over Munich. Battle damage: 102 minor, 33 major. E/a opposition: nil. Four FW-190s seen W-SW of Ulm. Claims: nil. Losses: 3 B-17s to AA. NYR: 11 B-17s (majority believed safe on continent).

Fighter Support: Three groups, including 352nd Group based on Continent, (149 P-51s) sortied. Up 0838-0915 hours, down 1333-1425 hours. 136 effective sorties. E/a opposition: nil. One u/a jet a/c seen in Saarbrücken area. Two groups strafed. E/a claims: 1-0-2 ground. Losses: 4 P-51s (3 to AA, 1 to unknown causes). NYR: 4 P-51s (believed safe on continent).

Details of bomber attacks as follows:

<u>Assigned Targets</u>	<u>Sorties</u>	<u>Effective Sorties</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>		<u>Results</u>
			<u>GP</u>	<u>IB</u>	
Freidrichshafen-Maybach Tank Engine Plant	116	63	93.0	94.5	Unobserved
Munich Main Station & M/Y	73	73	108.2	107.5	Good
Munich Ost M/Y	188	174	256.8	259.0	Good
Ulm M/Y (Sec.)		51	75.7	76.5	Good
<u>Other Targets</u>					
Kenzingen (T/O)		1	1.5	1.5	Unobserved
Totals	377	362	535.2	539.0	

Second Force

Twelve group formations (452 B-17s - 3rd Air Division) sortied against the Munich Main Station and M/Y and the Neuburg Oil Storage Depot. 437 a/c dropped 1258.1 tons (848.3 tons G.P. and 409.8 tons I.B.) on the assigned targets, Munich M/Y (the secondary), and ten T/Os at 1151-1214 hours from 21,500-26,200 feet; bombing visually. Leaflets dropped on Munich, Neuburg, and Kaufbeuren. Weather: CAVU over Munich; 1/10 to 3/10 over Neuburg. Flak: moderate to intense, fairly accurate. Battle damage: 165 minor, 32 major. E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: 1 B-17 to AA. NYR: 7 B-17s.

Fighter Support: Three groups (145 P-51s) sortied. Up 0854-0915 hours, down 1455-1525 hours. 140 effective sorties. E/a opposition: nil. Two groups strafed. E/a claims: 2-0-3 ground. Losses: nil.

Details of bomber attacks as follows:

SECRET

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

<u>Assigned Targets</u>	<u>Sorties</u>	<u>Effective Sorties</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>		<u>Results</u>
			<u>GP</u>	<u>IB</u>	
Munich M/Y	297	315	533.3	365.3	Good
Neuberg	155	88	261.0		Unobserved (Prob. Fair)
<u>Other Targets</u>					
Kaufbeuren		13	18.0	18.0	Poor
Ludwigsfeldt M/Y		12	18.0	17.5	Unobserved
Kempton		1	1.5	1.5	Unobserved
Durlendingen		2	3.0	3.0	Unobserved
Rottweil		1	1.5	1.5	Unobserved
u/i T/Os		5	12.0	3.0	Unobserved
Totals	452	437	848.3	409.8	

Third Force

Thirty-five squadron formations (368 B-24s - 2nd Air Division) sortied against the Aschaffenburg M/Y, Aschaffenburg Tank Assembly Plant, Geibelstadt A/F and Schwabisch-Hall A/F. 358 a/c dropped 811.2 tons (538.9 tons G.P. and 272.3 tons I.B.) on assigned targets and one T/O at 1201-1222 hours from 15,000 - 23,000 feet; bombing visually. Leaflets dropped on Aschaffenburg and Schwabisch-Hall. Weather: CAVU except for some ground haze at targets. Flak: generally meager and inaccurate along route, nil at targets. Battle damage: 31 minor, 1 category "E". E/a opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: nil. NYR: 12 B-24s (majority believed safe on continent).

Fighter Support: Three groups, including the 361st Group based on Continent, (135 P-51s) sortied. Up 0908-1015 hours, down 1435-1515 hours. 126 effective sorties. E/a opposition: nil. Three groups strafed. E/a claims: nil. Losses: nil. NYR: 2 P-51s (believed safe on continent).

Details of bomber attacks as follows:

<u>Assigned Targets</u>	<u>Sorties</u>	<u>Effective Sorties</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>		<u>Results</u>
			<u>GP</u>	<u>IB</u>	
Aschaffenburg M/Y	117	115	112.1	147.8	Very Good
Aschaffenburg Tank Assembly Plant	61	54	125.8		Very Good
Schwabisch-Hall A/F	93	93	160.5	48.5	Very Good
Geibelstadt A/F	97	96	140.5	76.0	Very Good
Totals	368	358	538.9	272.3	

2. Fighter Escort

Nine groups, including the 352nd and 361st Groups based on Continent, (429 P-51s) sortied in support of the three bomber forces. Up 0838 hours; down 1333-1525 hours. 402 effective sorties. E/a opposition: nil. One u/i jet

SECRET

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

seen in Saarbrücken area. Seven groups strafed ground targets. E/a claims: 3-0-5 ground. Losses: 4 P-51s (3 to AA, 1 to unknown causes). NYR: 4 P-51s (believed safe on continent).

Miscellaneous ground claims as follows:

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
Locomotives	13	8
Goods Cars	2	99
Passenger Cars	0	5
Troop Cars	0	8
Ammo Train	1	0
Motor Transport	9	8
Switch House	0	1
Buildings	1	10
Hangers	0	2
Lumber Yard	0	1
Flak Emplacements	0	9
A/C Engines	0	12
Radar Towers	0	2
High Tension Towers	4	0
Radio Tower	0	2
Observation Towers	0	2

3. Fighter Sweeps

Six groups (284 a/c - 21 P-47s, 263 P-51s) sortied, four groups as strafing forces in north central Germany and two groups as free lance support to the bomber forces. Up 0800-1441 hours; down 1301-1845 hours. 262 effective sorties. E/a opposition: encounters with 3 FW-190s (vicinity of Wittingen); 5 plus jets (vicinity of Steinhuder Lake, one of which was an Ar 234); 5 FW-190s (near Dolle-5024-1136E); 1 FW-190 (SW of Salzwedel); 30 Me-109s (Dummer Lake); 6 Me-262s (vicinity of Giebelstadt A/F); 1 Me-262 (vicinity of Leipheim A/F); 20 Me-109s (vicinity of Munster); 30 plus Me-109s (vicinity of Dube); 1 FW-190 (E of Bitterfeld); 1 Me-109 and 1 FW-190 (vicinity of Kothlen A/F). E/a claims: 21-0-4 a/c (includes 7-0-0 Me-262s and 1-0-0 Ar-234); 10-0-12 ground. One group dropping 8 tanks destroyed a wooded area containing 40 plus Ju-188s and u/i s/c planes having folded wings. All groups strafed. Losses: 6 P-51s (2 to AA, 1 to e/a, 3 to other causes); 1 P-47 category "E". NYR: nil.

Miscellaneous ground claims as follows:

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
Locomotives	47	17
Goods Wagons	34	177
Passenger Cars	2	44
Oil Cars	1	49
Ammo Trains	2	0
RR Stations	0	1
Switch Towers	1	19
Motor Transport	42	119
Barracks	0	4

SECRET

T
H
I
S

P
A
G
E

I
S

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

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

Miscellaneous ground claims (contd)

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
Factories	2	0
Generator Plant	0	1
Oil Storage Tanks	1	2
Gun Emplacements	1	1

4. Fighter Bombing

Nil.

5. Photo Reconnaissance

12 a/c (4 F-5s and 8 P-51s) sortied as follows:

2 F-5s, escorted by 4 P-51s sortied to photograph targets in southcentral Germany. All effective. E/a opposition: 18 FW-190s encountered just west of Aschaffenburg. Claims: nil. Losses: 1 F-5 to e/a.

2 F-5s, escorted by 4 P-51s, sortied to photograph targets in southern Germany. All effective. E/a opposition: four s/e o/a encountered vicinity of Tuttlingen. Escort strafed ground targets on return. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Miscellaneous ground claims as follows:

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
Locomotives	1	16
Goods Wagons	0	7
Oil Cars	0	1
Flak Cars	0	1
Motor Transport	32	17
Barges	0	3
Signal Tower	0	1

6. Weather Reconnaissance

44 a/c (34 P-51s, 4 B-17s, 6 Mosquitoes) sortied as follows:

4 B-17s completed routine weather flights to and from Azores and over the Atlantic. Losses: nil.

6 Mosquitoes completed special weather flights over UK, Atlantic, North Sea, France, Belgium, western and central Germany. Losses: nil.

34 P-51s sortied as weather scouts for bomber operations. 32 effective sorties. Losses: nil.

7. Air/Sea Rescue

26 a/c (24 P-47s, 2 PBYS) sortied on routine search and patrol missions. All a/c effective. Losses: nil.

SECRET

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

8. Special Operations

35 a/c (12 P-51s, 19 B-24s, 4 Mosquitoes) sortied as follows:

12 P-51s sortied as airborne radio relays. All a/c effective.

7 B-24s sortied on ROM missions, jamming from 0552-0830 hours. All a/c effective.

12 B-24s sortied to drop leaflets over Holland and Germany. 12 effective.

1 Mosquito completed special flight in connection with 2nd Air Division mission.

3 Mosquitoes completed chaff dispensing mission in support of 1st Air Division.

No losses.

T
H
I
S

P
A
G
E

I
S

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

SECRET

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRETC. INTELLIGENCE1. Enemy Air Opposition

Only one e/a was sighted by fighters on close escort of the bombers. This was an u/i a/c which was seen 10 miles ahead of the First Force, but which made no attempt to attack.

One P-51 group on free-lance patrol in the Neuburg area sighted a formation of Me 262s circling Gabelstadt A/F below 1,000 feet. Seven of these jets were destroyed and also one of the two Me 109s which came in to land at the same A/F. The group also destroyed another Me 262 at Leipzig.

Although fighter groups strafing in NE Germany had combats with e/a, none of these appear to have been the result of any organized attempt at interception by the enemy. One group which had just finished strafing Duben (E. of Bitterfeld) was bounced by 30 Me 109s which came in from the NE - e/a, however, made a 180 degree turn and did not fire. It seems probable that these e/a were returning from tactical operations in the eastern front.

The same group also destroyed a lone Fw 190 east of Bitterfeld, another over Kothlen A/F and damaged an Me 109 E of Kothlen.

Another group destroyed two and damaged one of 5 Fw 190s taking off from an A/F near Dolla (5024N-1136E), although one P-51 was lost in this engagement. The same group also destroyed a lone Fw 190 SW of Salzwedel. 6 P-51s of the same group ran into 30 Me 109s in Dummer Lake on withdrawal. E/a were flying on a southwesterly course at 5,000 feet and split up when attacked. Four were destroyed and one damaged for no losses.

An early returning P-51 which had destroyed an Me 109 on the ground E of Munster pulled up to 4-6,000 feet and found himself in the middle of 20 Me 109s. E/a were very aggressive but the P-51 after destroying one evaded into the clouds.

One squadron of another group engaged 3 Fw 190s near Wittingen, destroying 2 and damaging the third. Five plus Ar 234s which were preparing to land on an A/F SW of Steinhuder Lake were engaged in combat from 300 feet to the deck by a second squadron of the same group. One Ar 234 was destroyed.

2. Flak

Munich - moderate to intense, generally accurate, tracking.
S of Strasbourg - meager and inaccurate.

3. Observations

Ottingen A/F (44T-0540) contained approx. 150 s/e, t/e and u/i planes.
Deiningen A/F (44T-0635) contained approx. 150 s/e, t/e and u/i planes.
Lechfeld A/F contained 8/10 jets west of road on W of field and 1 jet north of field S of woods.

Schongau A/F contained 10/15 jets west of field.

Fassburg A/F contained 75 plus planes, mostly in wooded dispersal area.

Wetzlar A/F (5033N-0827E) contained 30 plus s/e and t/e.

SECRET

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

Forest N. Schweinfurt (5020-1005) believed to contain ammo dump. Train on siding strafed here, blew up with flames up to 1,000 feet and smoke to 5,000 feet. Numerous sidings and tracks going into forest.

Heavy barge and road traffic most of which was headed south observed in area S of Bremen

Heavy road traffic headed west N of Munich.

Heavy traffic, road and rail, in Hildesheim area mainly moving towards Magdeburg from W, N and S.

Much RR activity in Dummer Lake area moving SW

4. Damage to Enemy Installations

Munich Main M/Y (attack by 1st Division) - Good Results.

Target is the Main M/Y situated in western outskirts of Munich. Two complete and three partial concentrations of GP bombs could be seen bursting in and adjacent to the extreme eastern portion of the target area. The area between the carriage sidings and the passenger station was completely blanketed. At least 56 direct hits are seen on rail lines between these two points. Direct hits are seen in a number of installations.

Additional concentrations of GP bombs could be seen bursting in a compact residential area 40 percent to 70 percent built-up, approximately 1400 yards N-NW of the passenger station. Sundry bombs could be seen bursting in the M/Y and in the residential areas surrounding it. Many fires were started and severe damage should result to residences and to installations in the M/Y.

Attack by 3rd Division - Good Results

Bombed by 22 squadrons carrying 500 GP and IB bombs. Most of the patterns fell on or near the M/Y, but exact interpretation is impossible after the first half dozen patterns due to heavy smoke from the incendiaries. One pattern is known to have dropped across the locomotive depot area and there were probably hits on the two road-over-rail bridges in the eastern part of the yards. One squadron dropped across sidings in a suburb north of Munich. Three squadrons bombed the city on PFT and another squadron dropped in the river east of the center of the city. The yards were observed to be lightly loaded.

Munich Ost M/Y - Good Results.

Target was railway traffic in Munich Eastern outskirts of town. 10 concentrations of mixed GP and IB could be seen bursting in and near the target area. Six of these concentrations are plotted adjacent to the sorting sidings in the eastern portion of the yard while the locomotive depot and the station area were both blanketed by two concentrations each. Smoke covered the target area early in the attack making it impossible to pinpoint all bursts. However, direct hits could be seen in a number of installations.

IB bombs could be seen blanketing installations throughout the area and fires are seen burning late in attack. Damage to portions of the M/Y should be severe. Approximately 70 bursts could be seen in a small residential area about 1000 yards south of the yards. An additional concentration of bombs fell into residential area approximately 2,000 yards W-SW of the passenger station.

SECRET

T
H
I
S

P
A
G
E

I
S

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

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

Ulm M/Y (Secondary) - Good Results.

Two concentrations of GP and IBs could be seen bursting in and near the southern part of the M/Y in the immediate vicinity of the fire fighting equipment works of Klockner Humbolt Deutz A.G. Smoke and debris covered the target early in the attack making it impossible to pinpoint all strikes. However, it was possible to see at least 15 bursts on the line to the yard, five of which were near the southern choke point. One explosion could be plotted in the carriage siding station just west of the passenger station. In the Klockner Humbolt Works the large work shop in the northern part of the plant received one direct hit. The assembly and dispatch building - 2 possible direct hits and administration buildings 1 direct hit. A long rectangular building south of the plant area is damaged by one direct hit. A third concentration could be seen in the heavily built-up area 1500 feet east of the passenger station. The majority of these bombs fell into smoke and only a few small portions of the concentration could be seen. Some damage should result to business and residential properties in this area.

Friedrichshafen Tank Assembly Plant - Unobserved Results.

10/10 cloud cover prevents damage assessment.

Neuberg Oil Storage Depot - Unobserved but probably fair.

Attacked by two groups carrying 1000 lb. GP bombs. Three patterns are observed through cloud cover to be on the target area. A stray burst from a fourth pattern may have hit parts of the target. Two patterns are seen in the woods and fields 1 and 1/2 miles southeast and east of the target.

Aschaffenburg M/Y - Very Good Results.

Hit by 11 squadrons. M/Y is well blanketed with hits on rolling stock and M/Y auxiliary buildings. Also some bursts in adjacent industrial and city area.

Aschaffenburg Armed Vehicle Works - Very Good Results.

Bombed by five squadrons. Target blanketed. A few bursts in adjacent fields.

Giebelstadt A/F - Very Good Results.

Bombed by nine squadrons. MPIs well blanketed. Bursts on hangars, work shops, dispersal area, barracks, taxi-ways and other installations.

Schwabisch-Hall A/F - Very Good Results.

10 squadrons bombed. MPIs well blanketed. Bursts on hangars, radio station, barracks, work shops, field and taxi-ways and other installations.

Kaufbeuren (4751-1038E) - T/O - Poor Results.

Pattern of 500 lb. GP and IB seen blanketing a small suburb and what appears to be a gravel pit about 8 to 10 miles NE of railroad station in town, apparently the target.

SECRET

T
H
I
S

P
A
G
E

I
S

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

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

5. Ground Situation

- 21st Army Group - Canadian troops south of Emmerich repulsed two counter-attacks and attacked towards Weeze. 9th U.S. Army has elements on line F-1341-1343. Duren now almost cleared after stiff resistance. Also on line F-1448-1349 and 1544-1546. Half of Merzenich cleared.
- 12th Army Group - Considerable advances in salient P 95 - P-96. Forward line now I-0052-0253-0156-P9854-9754-9552-9255-9356-9856-9659-9961-I0263-0065.
- 6th Army Group - Fighting continues in Forbach. Patrol activity in Rhine sector.

Miscellaneous

German G-2 makes an appraisal of our intentions.

An officer PW affirmed that it was his belief, based on discussions with other staff officers and material received from higher Hq, that future Allied action in the west would take the form of continuous pressure all along the front, rather than a main effort in any particular sector. Such a line of action, he states, could be expected because of the Allied policy of winning victories by overcoming German resistance through the immense superiority in supplies, material and men, rather than by bold and brilliant tactical strokes. When quizzed further on this point, he admitted that the Normandy landings were a combination of exceptionally good intelligence work (a feature well known among Germans as one of the strongest spots in the Allied armor) and a concentration of overwhelmingly strong forces on one of the weakest points in the German defensive system. The break-through at Avranches, as well, was brilliantly conceived and boldly executed. But with these two operations he believes Allied brilliancy was exhausted. Since then, he thinks, our victories were designed rather to spare men than to crush the enemy. PW says that once more, at Arnhem, the Allies had a bold plan, but this time it was foiled and ever since then we have been trying to beat the German Army in the west by smothering it through our superiority, rather than stab it in the heart with a bold stroke. Local actions, at times, were exceptions, like the stand at Bastogne and the relief of the encircled garrison, but these were improvisations rather than parts of an over-all plan of operations.

SECRET

T
H
I
S

P
A
G
E

I
S

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

SECRETD. OPERATIONS OF OTHER AIR FORCES1. Tactical Air Forces

	<u>Sorties</u>	<u>Claims</u>	<u>Losses</u>
Ninth Air Force	1891	6-5-19A	11
RAF Fighter Command	222	2-0-0	1
First US T.A.F.	977	1-1-0 A, 0-1-2G	8
Second T.A.F.	1348	16-0-8	18
Totals	4438	25-6-27 A, 0-1-2G	38

Ninth Air ForceNight - 24/25 February

Sorties - 69 a/c (12 bombers, 57 fighters)

Missions - Bombed Borgheim, Lippe, and Medrath; intruder patrols in Coblenz-Trier areas. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Day - 25 February

Sorties - 1822 a/c

Missions - 9th Bomb Division: 472 sorties against RR bridges, M/Ys, and communication centers in Western Germany. Claims: nil. Losses: 1 a/c.

9th T.A.D.: 398 sorties. Armed reconnaissance in Stockholm area; air cooperation with 1st U.S. Army. Claims: 2-3-7 air. Losses: 3 a/c.

19th T.A.C.: 507 sorties. Armed reconnaissance in Cologne, Coblenz, and Frankfurt area. Air cooperation with 3rd U.S. Army. Claims: nil. Losses: 1 a/c.

29th T.A.C.: 445 sorties. Armed reconnaissance in Neuss-Roermond-Krefeld areas; rail cutting between Neuss and Grevenbroice; air cooperation with 9th U.S. Army; interception patrols. Claims: 4-2-12 air. Losses: 6 a/c.

Ground claims as follows:

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
Locos	41	29
RR cars	488	704
Motor Transport	172	105
AFV	50	54
Rail Cuts	133	
Road Cuts	10	
Gun positions	1	3

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

R.A.F. Fighter Command

Night - 24/25 February

Sorties - 20 a/c
Missions - Intruder and interception patrols in NW Germany.
Claims: 2-0-0 air. Losses: nil.

Day - 25 February

Sorties - 202 a/c
Missions - Attacked targets in Holland; photo and weather reconnaissance. Claims: nil. Losses: 1 a/c.

First US T.A.F.

Night - 24/25 February

Sorties - 7 a/c
Missions - Intruder and interception patrols in southwestern Germany. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Day - 25 February

Sorties - 970 a/c
Missions - 42nd Bomb Wing: 148 sorties against Danaueschingen and dumps in SW Germany.
Claims: nil. Losses: 1 a/c.

12th T.A.C.: 710 sorties against RR bridges, railway guns, MZIs, and dumps in SW Germany; armed reconnaissance in Homburg, Landau, Karlsruhe areas; air-cooperation with 7th U.S. Army. Claims: 1-1-0 air; 0-0-2 ground. Losses: 6 a/c.

1st French T.A.C.: 110 sorties on fighter sweeps in Freiburg area; armed reconnaissance in battle area; rail facilities. Claims: nil. Losses: 1 a/c.

Western French Air Force: 2 sorties on operations for Coastal Command. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

Ground Claims as follows:

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
Tanks	3	7
Locos	9	33

SECRET

T
H
I
S

P
A
G
E

I
S

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

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

Ground claims (contd)

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
RR cars	229	353
MT	40	67
Guns	0	8
Bridges	0	4
AFV	1	2
Rail cuts	58	

Second T.A.F.

Night - 24/25 February

Sorties - 144 a/c
Missions - Attacked road and rail movement in Cologne - Liblar area, M/Ys in western Germany. Claims: 1-0-0
air. Losses: 1 a/c.

Day - 25 February

Sorties - 1204 a/c
Missions - Attacked communication centers in northwestern Germany. armed reconnaissance in Dülmen area. Claims: 15-0-8
air. Losses: 17 a/c.

Ground claims as follows:

	<u>Destroyed</u>	<u>Damaged</u>
Motor Transport	73	95
Locos	15	71
RR cars	36	166
Horse Drawn Vehicles	4	2
Rail Cuts	59	

SECRET

T
H
I
S

P
A
G
E

I
S

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

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

2. Fifteenth Air Force

Day - 24 February 1945 (not included in Intops Summary No. 300, 24 Feb.)

56 B-24s sortied. 53 B-24s dropped 104.5 tons GP on Verona Porto Nuova Main Station M/Y. Losses: nil.

51 B-24s sortied. 43 B-24s dropped 82.25 tons G.P. on Verona Loco Repair Depot. Losses: nil.

46 P-38s sortied. 42 P-38s provided penetration, target and withdrawal escort for B-24s attacking Verona. Losses: 1 P-38.

167 B-17s and 53 P-38s sortied. 69 B-17s dropped 195 tons on Grox M/Y. 45 B-17s dropped 130 tons on Klagenfurt. 26 B-17s dropped 76 tons on Ferrara. 1 B-17 dropped 3 tons on Feldkirchen. 32 P-38s provided escort. 15 P-38s dropped bombs. Losses: Nil.

303 B-24s and 164 P-51s sortied. 26 B-24s dropped 51.5 tons GP on Udine M/Y, 8 B-24s dropped 16 tons on Padua M/Y, 16 B-24s dropped 32 tons on Klagenfurt M/Y, 6 B-24s dropped 12 tons on Sattendorf. 154 P-51s provided escort. Losses: nil.

BOMBERS

Sorties	:	582 (415 B-24s, 167 B-17s)
Effec. Sorties:	:	293 (141 B-17s, 152 B-24s)
Tonnage	:	702.2
Claims	:	0-0-0
Losses	:	Nil

FIGHTERS

Sorties	:	263 (164 P-51s, 99 P-38s)
Effec. Sorties:	:	243 (154 P-51s, 89 P-38s)
Claims	:	0-0-0
Losses	:	1 P-38

Night - 24/25 February

13 B-24s sortied. 6 B-24s dropped 17 tons of supplies and leaflets in northern Italy. Losses: nil.

Day - 25 February

113 B-17s, 162 B-24s, 105 P-38s and 151 P-51s sortied.

88 B-17s and 129 B-24s dropped 492 tons GP on Linz South Main M/Y. 28 B-24s dropped 53 tons on Villach. 1 B-24 dropped 2 tons on Klagenfurt M/Y. 97 P-38s and 135 P-51s provided escort. Losses: 3 B-17s and 2 B-24s.

SECRET

T
H
I
S

P
A
G
E

I
S

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

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

56 B-17s and 140 B-24s sortied. 49 B-17s and 126 B-24s dropped 362 tons GP on Linz North Main M/Y. 2 B-17s and 4 B-24s dropped 12 tons on T/Os. Losses: 2 B-17s and 2 B-24s.

56 B-24s sortied. 27 B-24s dropped 53 tons GP on Linz Benzol Plant. 26 B-24s dropped 51 tons on Salzburg. Losses: nil.

56 B-24s sortied. 51 B-24s dropped 100 tons on Linz Ordnance Depot. Losses: nil.

45 P-51s sortied. 37 P-51s strafed Munich-Salzburg area rail line. Top cover by 6 P-51s. Losses: 3 P-51s.

8 P-38s sortied. 4 P-38s successfully completed weather reconnaissance missions. Losses: nil.

14 Photo P-38s, 10 P-38s and 23 P-51s sortied. 13 Photo P-38s escorted by 10 P-38s and 21 P-51s covered targets in south and southeast Europe.

BOMBERS

Sorties : 583 (169 B-17s, 414 B-24s)
Effec. Sorties: 547 (154 B-17s, 393 B-24s)
Tonnage : 1125
Claims : 0-0-0
Losses : 9 (5 B-17s, 4 B-24s)

FIGHTERS

Sorties : 356 (137 P-38s, 219 P-51s)
Effec. Sorties: 327 (199 P-51s, 128 P-38s)
Claims : 0-0-0
Losses : 3 P-51s

3. R.A.F. Bomber Command

<u>Day - 25 February 1945</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Losses</u>
153 Lancasters	Kamen Syn. Oil Plant (nr. Dortmund)	1
<u>Night - 25/26 February</u>		
63 Mosquitoes	Erfurt	0
10 Mosquitoes	Berlin	0
10 Mosquitoes	Mainz	0
6 Mosquitoes	Bremen/Doschimag Ship Yard	0
10 Halifaxes	Minelaying	1
23 Mosquitoes	Bomber Support	0
4 Stirlings	" "	0
4 Halifaxes	" "	0
17 Stirlings	Special Operations	0
3 Hudsons	" "	0
150 a/c - Total		2

NOTE: The foregoing is based on preliminary reports and is not to be used for record purposes.

SECRET

CHARLES Y. BANFILL,
Brig. General, U.S.A.,
Director of Intelligence.

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS 2d AIR DIVISION
Office of the Director of Intelligence
APO 558

SECRET
Auth: Dir. of Int.
Hq. 2d Air Division
Initials
Date 2 Mar 45
D-V-11

373.91

2 March 1945

SUBJECT: AA Report, 2d Air Division, No. FLO/2AD/495.

TO : Director of Intelligence, Headquarters Eighth Air Force, AAF 101,
APO 634, Attention: AA Officer.

1. GENERAL: TARGET

: (a) Aschaffenburg, (b) Giebelstadt/
Würzburg A/F (c) Schwabisch/Hall A/F
25 February 1945

DATE

CONDITIONS

: Clear

ROUTE ORDERED

: 50°15'N, 00°15'E - 50°04'N, 01°24'E
48°38'N, 06°30'E - 48°24'N, 07°20'E
(a) 48°07'N, 08°15'E - 49°25'N, 09°23'E
Aschaffenburg - 50°03'N, 09°26'E -
49°25'N, 09°23'E - 48°07'N, 08°15'E -
48°24'N, 07°20'E - 51°13'N, 02°55'E
(b) 48°07'N, 08°15'E - 47°58'N, 08°50'E -
49°05'N, 10°03'E - Würzburg - 49°42'N,
09°40'E - 48°07'N, 08°15'E - 48°24'N,
07°20'E - 51°13'N, 02°55'E.
(c) 48°07'N, 08°15'E - 47°58'N, 08°50'E -
48°35'N, 09°38'E - Hall - 49°15'N, 09°35'E -
49°14'N, 09°14'E - 48°07'N, 08°15'E -
48°24'N, 07°20'E - 51°13'N, 02°55'E

AAA OFFICER	
EXECUTIVE	
BOMB	
FIGHTER	HE
	W. G.
	R. M.
A	

ALTITUDE ORDERED

: 22,000 ft.

AXIS OF ATTACK ORDERED

: (a) 335° (b) 350° (c) 10°

FORECAST WIND

: 40 mph from 350°

2. NARRATIVE OF OPERATIONS: All targets were attacked visually by Squadrons.

3. FLAK: On route considerable difficulty was found in negotiating the gap to the south of Strasbourg, and meagre to moderate accurate predictor control fire was encountered north of Freiburg. Meagre flak was also encountered by a few Groups from the outskirts of Karlsruhe and Stuttgart, and also from the vicinity of Heilbronn (B). No flak was encountered at any of the targets. Practically all the battle damage sustained during this operation occurred in the vicinity of the Rhine. A few red bursts were also seen in this area.

SECRET

T
H
I
S

P
A
G
E

I
S

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

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

SORTIES: 359

A/C LOST TO FLAK: NIL

A/C DAMAGED BY FLAK: 31 (8.6%)

As King
LT. COLONEL, R.A.

cc: D of I, 1st and 3rd Air Divisions
Attn: AA Officers
M.I.15, War Office, Whitehall, London



T
H
I
S

P
A
G
E

I
S

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

SECRET

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

TARGET: SCHWABISCH/HAIL A/F EFFECTIVE NUMBER OF GUNS: NIL

CW	GROUP	SORTIES	DAMAGED		A/C LOST				Axis Attack	Axis With- Drawal	T.O.T.	Altitude
			Sli.	Ser.	Flak	E/A	Acc	Unkr				
96	466th	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	345°-05°	310°	1203- 1204	29,500-22,000
96	467th	29	2	-	-	-	-	-	330°-350°	290°	1205- 1206	21,000-22,500
96	458th	27	4	-	-	-	-	-	335°-05°	310°	1207- 1209	22,000-23,000
TOTALS:		92	6	-	-	-	-	-	330°-05°	290°- 310°	1203- 1209	20,500-23,000
PERCENTAGES:												

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

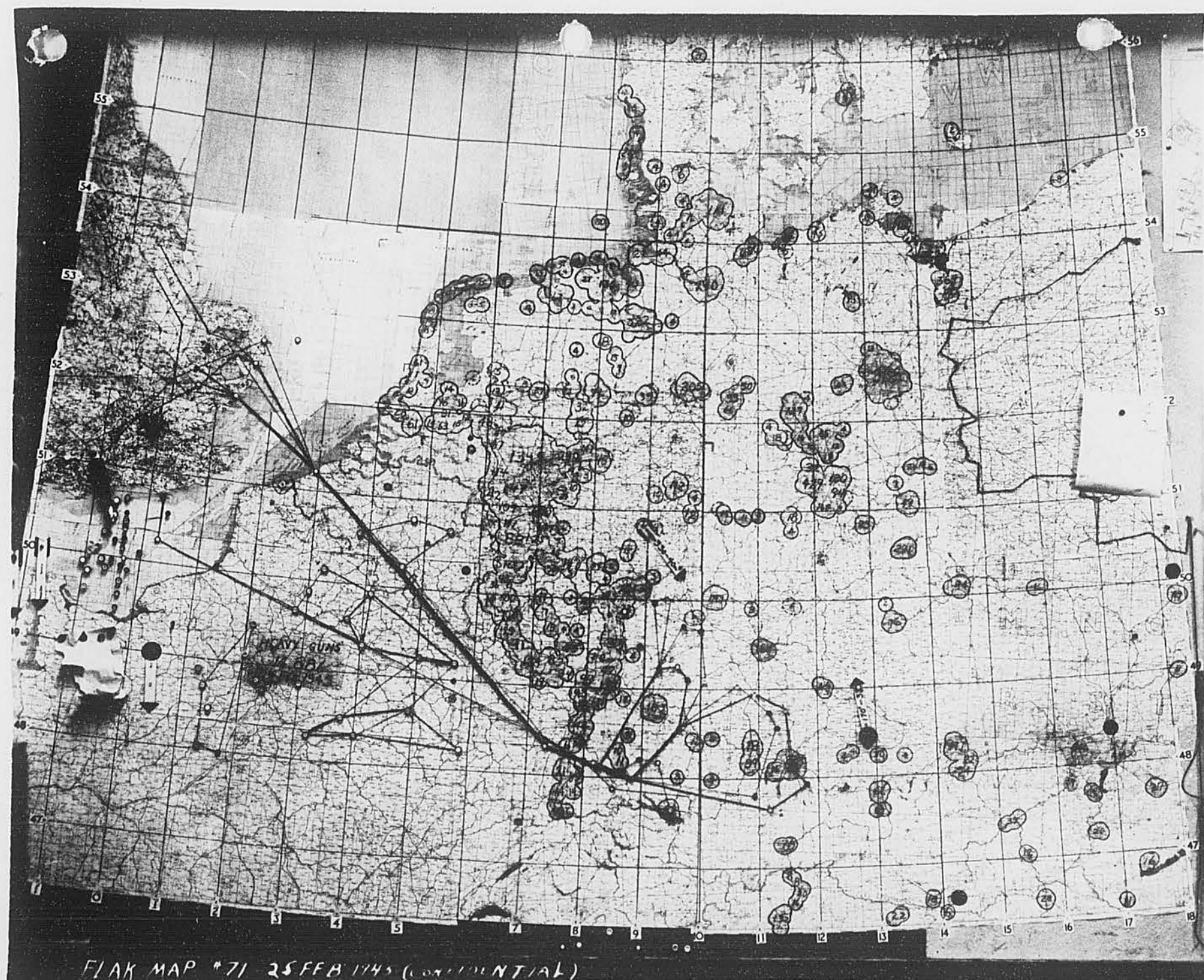
TARGET: GIEBELSTADT/WURZBURG A/F EFFECTIVE NUMBER OF GUNS: NTL

CW	GROUP	SORTIES	DAMAGED		A/C LOST				Axis Attack	Axis With- Drawal	T.O.T.	Altitude
			Sli.	Ser.	Flak	E/A	Acc	Unkr				
2	445th	31	5	1	-	-	-	-	310°-15°	245°	1218- 1220	16,500-17,500
2	453rd	31	7	2	-	-	-	-	315°-330°	240°	1218- 1221	16,500-18,000
2	389th	34	7	1	-	-	-	-	325°-340°	235°	1220- 1222	16,000-18,000
TOTALS:		96	19	4	-	-	-	-	310°-15°	235°- 245°	1218- 1222	16,000-18,000
PERCENTAGES:												

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED



0 5.6 2

OFF

OFF

LEAD SQUADRONBowers - RCM

J3 : 544E RCM

K-20

8AF (Cont)

Saidmore

Z5 : 456D

K-22

8AF

Bester

Z5 : 199A

Hathorn - QUINN

J3 : 669J

Scope

2AD

Everett

Z5 : 298E

Herdtt

Z5 : 126L

K-21

2AD (Cont)

Rosen

Z5 : 578F

K-21

RCM

Rhoades

Z5 : 196Q

K-21

Krogh

Z5 : 018J

SECOND SQUADRONMitchell - WILLIAMS

J3 : 740Q

K-22

8AF

Lehr

7V : 502E

K-20

2AD

Josephson

7V : 206S

Hoffman

J3 : 487L

8AF RCM

Barnhart

7V : 270A

K-21

8AF

Craven

7V : 475D

K-21

2AD RCM

Ferriell

7V : 110M

K-21

Ferry

7V : 4250

2AD

Spratt

7V : 340M

THIRD SQUADRONChimble - GOODFRIEND

J3 : 939G

Scope K-20

8AF

LaJeunesse

J4 : 141U

2AD

Beckstrom

J4 : 277R

Dahm

J3 : 516V

K-21

2AD

Warrell

J4 : 163M

8AF

Wilburn

J4 : 768Y

2AD

Eidelsberg

J4 : 118S

K-21

8AF

Heey

J4 : 285H

2AD

Hood

J4 : 408I

K-21

8AF RCM

Boucek

J4 : 273T

K-21

SPARE	DISP	LOAD
J3 261A GH	17	500 GP's
J3 628K PFF	11	500 GP's
J3 602P VIS R/W	28	500 GP's
J3 5750 VIS	20	M-17's

NOTE: Bomb Load: 1st & 2nd Squadrons 10x500 GP's 1/100N 1/100T

3rd Squadron 755th 10x500 M-17's Mark 12 35.3 Fusing.

Marshalling Chief: Capt LAWERS Marshalling Crews Lt Tarpley 754-Lt Moran 755th.MARSHALLING PLAN

R/W 23

All Aircraft will Marshall to the East

T.O.	A/C	DISP	T.O.	A/C	DISP
1	544E	14	15	270A	51
2	669J	13	16	206S	46
3	456D	6	17	340M	44
4	298E	3	18	4250	37
5	199A	12	19	110M	39
6	018J	10	20	475D	46
7	196Q	7	21	141U	40
8	578F	4	22	163M	43
9	126L	8	23	277P	43
10	740Q	18	24	408I	42
11	487L	Man 5	25	285H	49
12	939G	14	26	118S	40
13	516V	15	27	768Y	Man 1
14	502E	51	28	273T	38

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-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	BARNHART, L	189	12			42-51270	270	A	7V	14	MY BUNNIE II	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	BECKSTROM	189	27			44-40277	277	P	J4	43	MISS USED	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	BESTEN	189	31			42-51199	199	A	Z5	28	UNKNOWN 023	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	BOUCEK	189	26			44-40273	273	T	J4	39	HOWLING BANSHEE	LANDED A-74 SHORT ON FUEL
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	BOWERS	189	21	RUE	L1	44-49544	544	E	J3	3	OH MONA!	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	CHIMPLES	189	22	GOODFRIEND	L3	42-51939	939	G	J3	18	UNKNOWN 028	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	CRAVEN	189	21			44-40475	475	D	7V	25	JOLLY ROGER	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	DAHM	189	23			42-50516	516	V	J3	22	STARDUST	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	EIDELBERG	189	17			44-40118	118	S	J4	41	WE'LL GET BY	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	EVERETT	189	13			44-40298	298	E	Z5	31	THE SHACK	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	FERRIELL	189	13			42-51110	110	M	7V	77	TOP O' THE MARK	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	HATHORN	189	22	QUINN	D1	42-51669	669	J	J3	11	UNKNOWN 026	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	HERDTI	189	6			44-40126	126	L	Z5	56	SPITTEN KITTEN / SKY TRAMP	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	HOEY	189	24			44-40285	285	H	J4	65	TABLE STUFF	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	HOFFMAN	189	11			44-10487	487	L	J3	33	Girl on surfboard (no name)	TYPO (S/B 487R?) 575 WRITTEN ON ONE FORM PLAN
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	HOOD	189	26			42-100408	408	I	J4	44	LADY LUCK / THE BEAST	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	JOSEPHSON	189	27			42-51206	206	S	7V	41	THE PIED PIPER	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	KROGH	189	6			42-95018	018	J	Z5	82	OLD DOC'S YACHT	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	LaJEUNESSE	189	15			42-110141	141	U	J4	44	BREEZY LADY / MARIE / SUPERMAN	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	LAMERS	189	MSHL			--		--	--	--		MARSHALING CHIEF- 755TH
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	LEHR	189	ABT			42-50502	502	E	7V	--	LARRUPIN' LINDA	ABORT - #4 FROZE UP ON T/O
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	MITCHELL	189	20	WILLIAMS	L2	42-50740	740	Q	J3	24	OUR BURMA	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	MORAN	189	MSHL			--		--	--	--		MARSHALING CHIEF- 755TH
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	PERRY	189	25			42-100425	425	O	7V	59	THE BIRD	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	RHOADES	189	13			42-51196	196	Q	J3	36	THE GYPSY QUEEN	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	ROSEN	189	6			42-50578	578	F	Z5	33	SKY ROOM	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	SKIDMORE	189	31			42-50456	456	D	Z5	34	DOROTHY KAY SPECIAL	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	SPRATT	189	11			41-29340	340	M	7V	62	YANKEE BUZZ BOMB	RCL TYPO (S/B 340N)
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	TARPLEY	189	MSHL			--		--	--	--		MARSHALING CHIEF- 754TH
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	WARRELL	189	23			42-110163	163	M	J4	58	TIME'S A WASTIN	
25-Feb-45	SCHWABISCH-HALL	WILBURN	189	12			42-50768	768	Y	J4	32	ARISE MY LOVE AND COME WITH ME	