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HEADQUARTERS EIGHTH AIR FORCE
AAF STATION 101
APO 634.

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| AAA OFFICER | <i>AFS</i> |
| EXECUTIVE | |
| BOMBS N | |
| FIGHTER | |
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*P.M.
G.W.J.*

INTOPS SUMMARY NO. 303

PERIOD: 0001 hours 27 February to 2400 hours 27 February 1945

A. STATISTICS

| | Total Sorties | Effective Sorties | Tonnage | Claims | E/A | AA | OT | Totals | NVR |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------|--------------------|-----|----|----|--------|-----|
| Heavy Bomber Atks. | 1107 | 1062 | 2728.7 | 0-0-0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 9 |
| Fighter Escort(a) | 704 | 649 | 0 | 2-0-0A 81-0-19G | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| Fighter Sweeps | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0-0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fighter Bombing | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0-0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Photo Recon. | 17 | 17 | 0 | 0-0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Weather Recon. | 36 | 35 | 0 | 0-0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Air/Sea Rescue | 19 | 19 | 0 | 0-0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Special Operations | 57 | 54 | 58.7 | 0-0-0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 1940 | 1836 | 2787.4 | 2-0-0A 81-0-19G | 0 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 11 |

(a) Includes the 352nd and 361st Groups based on the Continent.

B. OPERATIONAL SUMMARY1. Bomber Attacks

1107 a/c (756 B-17s, 351 B-24s) from three Air Divisions in three forces sortied against a M/Y at Halle, an aero-engine plant, traffic center, an AFV factory, two June-04 castings plants, and two M/Ys in and near Leipzig. 1062 a/c dropped 2728.7 tons (2165.7 tons GP, 563 tons IB) on Leipzig traffic center, Halle M/Y and several T/Os. Bombing on PFF. 17 a/c dropped chaff. Weather: 10/10 cloud over targets. E/A 0 position: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: 2 a/c (1 B-17, 1 B-24). NVR: 9 a/c (8 B-24s, 1 B-17).

First Force

Thirty-five squadron formations (351 B-24s - 2nd Air Division) sortied against Halle M/Y. 338 a/c effective. 332 a/c dropped 679.5 tons GP and 101.1 tons IB on assigned target and 4 T/Os at 1228-1324 hours from 20,000-24,000 feet. 6 a/c dropped chaff. All bombing on H2X. Leaflets dropped on Halle. Weather: 10/10 undercast over target area. Flak: nil to moderate, inaccurate. Battle Damage: 4 minor. E/A Opposition: nil. Claims: nil. Losses: 1 B-24 to AA. NVR: 8 B-24s, believed safe on Continent.

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Fighter Support: Five groups (197 P-51s, 18 P-47s - 215 a/c) sortied. Up 1014-1050 hours, down 1600-1700 hours. 196 effective sorties. Ground targets strafed in Nurnberg, Jena, Weimar, Erfurt, Gotha areas, also M/Y at Mingen and Reindlin, on. 60-75 e/a thoroughly strafed on Weimar/Nohra A/F. One t/o e/a destroyed while flying north towards Plauen. E/A Claims: 1-0-0 air, 45-0-3 ground. Losses: 2 P-51s (1 to M, 1 to explosion on ground). NYR: nil.

Details of bomber attacks as follows:

| <u>Assigned Target</u> | <u>Sorties</u> | <u>Effective Sorties</u> | <u>Tonrage</u> | <u>Results</u> |
|------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| | | | GP IB | |
| Halle M/Y | 351 | 314 | 625.5 | 100.5 Unobserved |
| <u>Other Targets</u> | | | | |
| Bitterfeld | | 21 | 51.0 | Unobserved |
| Idstein | | 1 | 2.2 | 5 Unobserved |
| 2 T/Os | | 2 | 3.0 | Unobserved |
| Totals | 351 | 338(+) | 679.5 | 101.0 |

(+) Includes 6 chaff a/e.

Second Force

Ten group formations (378 B-17s - 3rd Air Division) sortied against an aero-engine plant and traffic center in Leipzig and Leipzig/Engelsdorf M/Y. 358 a/c effective. 353 a/c dropped 807.7 tons GP and 214.5 tons IB - 1042.2 tons - on Leipzig Traffic Center and 3 T/Os at 1337-1353 hours from 22,200-27,000 feet. 5 a/c dropped chaff. Bombing on HZK. Leaflets dropped in Leipzig area. Weather: 10/10 in target area with tops from 8,000-10,000 feet. Flak: meager to moderate, inaccurate. Battle Damage: 3 minor, 1 cat. "E". E/A Opposition: nil. Losses: 1 B-17 to unknown causes. NYR: nil.

Fighter Support: Five groups (243 P-51s) sortied. Up 1038-1056 hours, down 1625-1715 hours. 235 effective sorties. Strafing in Nurnberg, Ansbach, Hanau, Bobenhausen, Erfurt, Mainheim, Bamberg, Donauworth, Gansberg areas. 50 plus t/o and s/o e/a strafed on Rohrensee A/F against no opposition. One Ju 88 destroyed in the air vicinity of Nurnberg. E/A Claims: 1-0-0 air, 36-0-16 ground. Losses: 1 P-51 as result of explosion of ammunition dump strafed vicinity of 5010N-1150E. 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>Tonrage</u> | <u>Results</u> |
|---|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| | | | GP IB | |
| Leipzig-Taucha D.B. Aero- Engine Plant | 121 | Did Not Attack | | |
| Leipzig/Engelsdorf M/Y | 76 | Did Not Attack | | |
| Leipzig Traffic Center | 181 | 355 | 799.6 | 214.0 Unobserved |

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| <u>Other Targets</u> | <u>Sorties</u> | <u>Effective Sorties</u> | <u>Tonnage</u> | <u>Results</u> |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | | GP IB | |
| Mulhausen | | 1 | 2.7 | Unobserved |
| Fulda | | 1 | 3.0 | Unobserved |
| T/O | — | 1 | 2.4 .5 | Unobserved |
| Totals | 378 | 358(+) | 807.7 214.5 | |

(+) Includes 5 chaff a/c

Third Force

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Bomber formations (378 B-17s - 1st Air Division) sortied against an AFV factory, two Juno-004 castings plants and a M/Y near Leipzig. 366 a/c effective, 360 a/c dropped 678.5 tons GP and 247.5 tons IB - 926.0 tons - on Leipzig Traffic Center and 3 T/Os at 1350-1406 hours from 23,800-27,000 feet. 6 a/c dropped chaff. Bombing on H2X. Leaflets dropped on Leipzig. Weather: 10/10 in target area with tops from 8,000-10,000 feet. Flak: nil to meager, inaccurate. Battle Damage: nil. E/A Opposition: nil. Losses: nil. NYR: 1 B-17, believed safe on Continent.

Fighter Support: Five groups (246 P-51s) sortied. Up 1100-1150 hours down 1630-1717 hours. 218 effective sorties. Strafing S and SE of Mannheim, in area Adelsheim to E of Heidelberg and in Sonneburg area. E/A Opposition: nil; one u/i jet sighted 30 miles E of Frankfurt. E/A Claims: nil. Losses: nil. NYR: nil.

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Details of bomber attacks as follows:

| <u>Assigned Targets</u> | <u>Sorties</u> | <u>Effective Sorties</u> | <u>Tonnage</u> | <u>Results</u> |
|------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | | GP IB | |
| Leipzig-Busing AFV Factory | 74 | Did not attack | | |
| Leipzig-Gautzsch Juno-004 Castings | 72 | Did not attack | | |
| Leipzig-Junkers Juno-004 Castings | 76 | Did not attack | | |
| Leipzig-Wahren M/Y | 156 | Did not attack | | |
| Leipzig Traffic Center (sec) | 362 | | 672.5 243.5 | Unobserved |
| <u>Other Targets</u> | | | | |
| Giessen | | 1 | 1.5 | 1.0 Unobserved |
| Rudestadt | | 1 | 1.5 | 1.0 Unobserved |
| Sangerhausen | | 1 | 1.5 | 1.0 Unobserved |
| T/O | — | 1 | 1.5 | 1.0 Unobserved |
| Totals | 378 | 366 (+) | 678.5 247.5 | |

(+) Includes 6 chaff a/c

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2. Fighter Escort

Fifteen groups (686 P-51s, 18 P-47s - 704 a/c, including 101 P-51s from two groups based on Continent) sortied. Up 1014-1150 hours, down 1600-1717 hours. 649 effective sorties. Miscellaneous ground targets strafed. Also 60-75 c/a strafed on Weimar/Nohra A/F and 50 plus c/a strafed on Rohrensee A/F. E/A Opposition: one t/c c/a attacked vicinity of Plauen and one JU-88 vicinity of Nurnberg. E/A Claims: 2-0-0 air, 81-0-19 ground. Losses: 3 P-51s. MVR: 2 P-51s, believed safe.

Ground claims as follows:

| | <u>Destroyed</u> | <u>Damaged</u> |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------|
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| Locomotives | 27 | 28 |
| Goods Wagons | 20 | 219 |
| Oil Cars | 11 | 17 |
| Trucks | 21 | 17 |
| Busses | 0 | 3 |
| Automobiles | 3 | 1 |
| Factories | 3 | 0 |
| Switch Houses | 0 | 4 |
| RR Station | 0 | 1 |
| Oil Storage Tank | 1 | 0 |
| Ammunition Dump | 1 | 0 |
| (vicinity 5010N-1150E) | | |

3. Fighter Sweeps

Nil

4. Fighter Bombing

Nil

5. Photo Reconnaissance

17 a/c (2 F-5s, 2 Spitfires, 13 P-51s as escort) sortied. The F-5s and Spitfires obtained photos in central and eastern Germany. 2 P-51 escort a/c were chased by 6 FW-190s near Kaiserslautern, but evaded.

No losses.

6. Weather Reconnaissance

36 a/c (4 B-17s, 4 Mosquitoes, 28 P-51s) sortied.

2 B-17s flew routing flights over Atlantic to west of England.

2 B-17s on routine flights to and from Azores.

4 Mosquitoes on special flights to central Germany and over U.K.

28 P-51s scouted weather for bomber forces.

Total effective sorties: 35 a/c.

No losses.

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7. Air/Sea Rescue

19 a/c (18 P-47s, 1 PBY) sortied on routine search and patrol missions.
Losses: nil.

8. Special Operations

57 a/c (50 B-24s, 5 Mosquitoes, 2 P-51s) sortied as follows:

12 B-24s dropped leaflets on Holland and Germany, night 26/27 February.

5 B-24s on special mission, night 26/27 February.

6 B-24s on RCM, jamming from 0742-1020 hours.

3 Mosquitoes dropped chaff for 1st Air Division.

1 Mosquito operated with 2nd Air Division.

1 Mosquito on special operation.

26 B-24s sortied against Wilhelmshaven oil storage depots. 23 a/c dropped
58.7 tons GP and IB with unobserved results.

2 P-51s and 1 B-24 as radio relays.

Total effective sorties: 54 a/c.

Losses: nil.

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C. INTELLIGENCE

1. Enemy Air Opposition

Only three e/a were sighted in the air on today's mission. One was an u/i jet a/c seen in the distance in the Frankfurt area on a southerly course at 25,000 feet. The second was a t/e a/c which was flying alone on a northerly course towards Elsen. This was destroyed by a P-51 group which had just broken escort with the First Force. The third was a Ju 88 which was observed near Nurnberg on a northerly course at 5,000 feet. A P-51 group, escorting the Second Force, attacked this e/a and watched it crash in flames on a group of factory buildings SE of Forchheim, setting them on fire.

2. Flak

Leipzig - nil to moderate, inaccurate, barrage and tracking.
Halle - nil to moderate, inaccurate, barrage and predictor.

3. Observations

Many barrage balloons on Regnitz River between Nurnberg and Bamberg.
Six dummy He 111s parked on a dummy field vic. 4900-1050E.

4. Damage to Enemy Installations

Due to 10/10 cloud coverage assessment of damage impossible.

5. Ground Situation

21st Army Group - Canadian troops advanced to E 9941 and A 0142, capturing UDEM and British troops reached E 8641 and 9339 against heavy resistance. U.S. Troops of 21st and 12th Army Groups now hold line approximately K 9473 - 9477 - F 0078 0578 - 0469 - 0868 - 1467 - 1363 - 1560. 5,800 P/Ws to date. ERKELING captured. ROER bridgehead now continuous from F 1036 to K 9473, and five to seven miles deep, with armor passing through at F 2251, 1560 and 0578. Enemy resistance somewhat disorganized.

12th Army Group - DUREN bridgehead extended to line F 1360 - 1757 - 2054 - 2052 - 1947 - 1741 - 1517 - 1036. Armor passed through to BLATZHEIM (F 2251). In the PRUM - MOSELLE - SAAR areas important advances were made against crumbling enemy resistance. In these sectors over 2,000 P/Ws were captured yesterday and leading troops reached L 1146, 1656 and Q 64. Situation fluid.

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D. OPERATIONS OF OTHER AIR FORCES

1. Tactical Air Forces

| | <u>Sorties</u> | <u>Claims</u> | <u>Losses</u> |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Ninth Air Force | 402 | 0-0-0 | 0 |
| First US T.A.F. | 180 | 2-0-0A | 0 |
| Second T.A.F. | 416 | 0-0-0 | 7 |
| R.A.F. Fighter Command | 290 | 0-0-1A | 0 |
| Totals | 1288 | 2-0-1A | 7 |

Ninth Air Force

Sorties - 151 Bombers
251 Fighters and Fighter-Bombers
402 a/c

Missions - 9th Bomb Division: 151 sorties, 126 tons dropped on Ahrweiler RR bridge; 43 tons on Glessen, 30 tons on Munster/Eifel and 7.5 tons on Monheim communication center with unobserved results. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

9th T.A.C.: 4 sorties. Leaflet missions near Cologne.

19th T.A.C.: 118 sorties. Frankfurt and Winterich bombed on PFF (41.5 tons), leaflets dropped; fighter sweeps in Weizburg, Aschaffenburg area; escort to RAF Bomber Command. E/A Claims: nil. Losses: nil. 1 fighter cat. "E".

29th T.A.C.: 129 sorties. Close air cooperation to ground forces. Fighter sweeps in Duisburg area; reconnaissance missions. E/A Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

E/A Claims - Nil.

| Other Claims | - | <u>Destroyed</u> | <u>Damaged</u> |
|---------------|---|------------------|----------------|
| Locomotives | | 7 | 0 |
| RR Cars | | 2 | 60 |
| M/T | | 23 | 32 |
| Gun Positions | | 4 | 1 |

Losses - Nil. 1 fighter cat. "E".

First US T.A.F.

Sorties - 180 a/c.

Missions - 42nd Bomb. Wing: Nil.

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First US T.A.F. (cont'd)

Missions (cont'd) - 12th T.A.C.: 24 sorties. Armed reconnaissance in Saverne, Landau, Guebwiller, Heidelberg, Baden-Baden areas. E/A Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

- 1st French TAC: 153 sorties. Armed reconnaissance in Freiburg, Donaueschingen, Puttlingen, Sigmaringen, Hedingen, Rottweil, Zillingen, Broisach, Hansach areas; fighter sweeps in Freiburg, Mulhouse, Donaueschingen areas; reconnaissance. E/A Claims: 2-0-0 air. Losses: nil. 1 a/c cat. "E".

Western French Air Force: 3 sorties. Reconnaissance and shipping patrols. Losses: nil.

E/A Claims - 2-0-0 air

| P A G E | Other Claims | <u>Destroyed</u> | | <u>Damaged</u> | |
|--|---------------|------------------|---------|----------------|-----|
| | | Locomotives | RR Cars | M/T | HDV |
| I S | Gun Positions | 5 | 19 | 0 | 4 |
| U N C L A S S I F I E D | Rail Cuts | 5 | 10 | 1 | 0 |
| | Losses | 12 | 1 | 12 | 0 |
| | | 27 | | | |

Losses - Nil. 1 a/c cat. "E".

Second T.A.F.

Night - 26/27 February

Sorties - 97 a/c

Missions - Rail targets in N, NE and SE Ruhr attacked; 24 Mosquitoes dropped 11.5 tons on Xanten ammunition dump with unobserved results; interception patrols in Utrecht, Nijmegen, Roermond areas.

Claims - Nil.

Losses - 1 a/c.

Day - 27 February

Sorties - 319 a/c

Missions - 49 B-25s dropped 53 tons on Marienbaum, 25 A-20s dropped 40.5 tons on Sonsbeck, 12 of 13 a/c dropped 24 tons on Dunkirk - all results unobserved; 8 a/c on armed reconnaissance; 35 a/c attacked Winnenden (E9934) with unobserved results; 40 a/c on escort to bomber; 30 a/c on uneventful interception patrols; 67 a/c on reconnaissance; 52 a/c on abortive targets.

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Claims - Nil

Losses - 6 a/c.

R.A.F. Fighter Command

Night - 26/27 February

Sorties - 8 a/c on Offensive and Interception Patrols.

Claims - 0-0-1 air

Losses - Nil.

Day - 27 February

Sorties - 4 Offensive Patrols
42. Fighter-Bombers
233 Escort to R.A.F. Bomber Command
1 Air/Sea Rescue
282 a/c

Missions - Rocket and rail targets in The Hague area attacked.

Claims - Nil

Losses - Nil

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2. Fifteenth Air Force

Day - 27 February

306 B-24s, 168 B-17s, with 78 P-51s and 77 P-38s as escort, sortied against Augsburg M/Y. 289 B-24s and 163 B-17s, escorted by 70 P-51s and 61 P-38s, dropped 1096 tons of 1000-lb. RDX bombs on primary, photos showing heavy concentration on M/Y; 21 tons on Jenbach M/Y, with unobserved results; 23 tons on various T/Os. Claims: nil. Losses: 5 a/c (2 B-17s, 2 B-24s, 1 P-38). NNR: 11 a/c (9 B-24s, 2 B-17s).

107 B-24s, with 50 P-51s as escort, sortied against Salzburg M/Y. 105 B-24s, escorted by 44 P-51s, dropped 201 tons on primary with unobserved results and 43 tons on Linz M/Y with good results. Claims: nil. Losses: nil.

18 B-24s and 1 B-17 sortied on supply mission to Italy. 11 B-24s and 1 B-17 dropped 35 tons of supplies successfully without incident.

11 P-38s photographed targets in Germany, Italy, Austria, Yugoslavia and Hungary without incident. 18 P-51s provided uneventful escort.

6 P-38s successfully completed weather reconnaissance missions.

NARRATIVE

Intense, accurate AA fire, including rocket flak, was experienced at Augsburg. Heavy ground haze, bomb smoke and 6/10 cloud cover made visual bombing difficult, although four groups were able to bomb visually. Several small groups of o/a were seen between Udine and Bolzano but did not attack.

Bombers

Sorties : 600 a/c (431 B-24s, 169 B-17s)
Effective Sorties: 569
Tonnage : 1389
Claims : Nil
Losses : 4 a/c (2 B-17s, 2 B-24s)
NNR : 11 a/c (9 B-24s, 2 B-17s)

Fighters

Sorties : 222 a/c (128 P-51s, 94 P-38s)
Effective Sorties: 192
Claims : Nil
Losses : 1 P-38
NNR : Nil

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3. R.A.F. Bomber Command

Day - 27 February

| | <u>Targets</u> | <u>Losses</u> |
|-----------------|---|---------------|
| 140 Lancasters | Gelsenkirchen (Alma-Pluto Benzol Plant) | 1 |
| 311 Halifaxes | Mainz | 1 |
| 151 Lancasters | | 0 |
| 18 Mosquitoes | | 1 |
| 1 Mosquito | Weather Reconnaissance | 0 |
| 610 a/c - Total | | 3 |

Night - 27/28 February

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| 55 Mosquitoes (1st attack) | Berlin | 0 |
| 41 Mosquitoes (2nd attack) | Berlin | 0 |
| 6 Mosquitoes | Promen-Deschimng Shipyard | 0 |
| 32 Mosquitoes | Bomber Support | 0 |
| 26 Halifaxes | | 0 |
| 11 Fortresses | | 0 |
| 8 Liberators | | 0 |
| 4 Stirlings | | 0 |
| 3 Mosquitoes | Signals Investigation Patrols | 0 |
| 7 Halifaxes | | 0 |
| 57 Lancasters | Diversionary Sweep | 0 |
| 25 Halifaxes | | 0 |
| 2 Liberators | | 0 |
| 1 Fortress | | 0 |
| 1 Mosquito | Weather Reconnaissance | 0 |
| 279 a/c Total | | 0 |

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

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

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

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:Auth: Dir. of Int. :
:Initials..... :
:Date 4 March 1945 :
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D-V-11

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4 March 1945

SUBJECT: AA Report, 2d Air Division, No. FLO/2AD/497

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

1. GENERAL: TARGET : (a) Halle (B) Bitterfeld
DATE : 27 February 1945
CONDITIONS : 10/10ths cloud
ROUTE ORDERED : 51°13'N, 02°55'E - 50°05'N, 06°00'E -
50°05'N, 07°00'E - 50°13'N, 08°15'E -
50°50'N, 10°02'E - 51°22'N, 10°08'E -
51°47'N, 10°58'E - Targets -
51°38'N, 12°45'E - 51°10'N - 12°55' E -
50°39'N, 12°12'E - 50°23'N, 08°45'E -
50°13'N, 08°15'E - 50°05'N, 07°00'E -
50°05'N, 06°00'E - 51°13'N, 02°55'E
ALTITUDE ORDERED : 22,500 ft.
AXIS OF ATTACK ORDERED : 110°
FORECAST WIND : 70 m.p.h. from 300°

2. NARRATIVE OF OPERATIONS: The targets were attacked by means of H2X equipment. Both targets were attacked in squadron formation with the exception of the 44th, 392nd and 458th Groups which bombed in group formation. A chaff Screening Force preceded the main force over the target by approximately 14 minutes. Allied artillery engaged enemy flak positions in the battle area both during penetration and withdrawal.

3. FLAK: Enroute, moderate inaccurate flak was encountered from the northern edge of the Wiesbaden defenses. No flak was encountered in the vicinity of the battle line. The defenses at Halle were very late in opening fire, and neither the Screening Force nor the first two Groups were engaged at all. The first formation to be engaged was the last squadron of the 445th Group, and all the following Groups were also engaged. The flak was moderate to intense but very inaccurate, and owing to the wildness of the fire it was impossible to determine the attempted method of fire control. Most of the flak tended to be too low. No flak was encountered at Bitterfeld. It is unlikely that the Screening Force gave any protection to the main force on this occasion as they flew over the target too early. It is therefore very hard to understand why the defenses were so late in opening fire. The artillery barrage in the battle area appears to have been successful as no flak was encountered in this area. One aircraft of the 445th Group blew up over the target, and it is presumed that it was hit by flak by what must have been a very lucky hit as only one other aircraft in the squadron was damaged.

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SORTIES : 344

A/C LOST TO FLAK: 1 (.3%)

A/C DAMAGED BY FLAK: 4 (1.2%)

D. J. H.
LT. COLONEL, R.A.

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

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TARGET: Halle EFFECTIVE NUMBER OF GUNS: 60

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| CW | GROUP | SORTIES | DAMAGED | | A/C LOST | | | | Axis Attack | Axis Withdrawal | T.O.T. | Altitude |
|--------------|-------|---------|---------|------|----------|-----|-----|------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | | | Sli. | Ser. | Flak | E/A | Acc | Unkr | | | | |
| 2 | 453rd | 6 | - | - | - | - | - | - | screemang | fprce | 1246-1249 | 237000 ft |
| 2 | 389th | 31 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 95°-110° | 65° | 1302- 1303 | 22000-23500 |
| 2 | 453rd | 22 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 95°-100° | 80° | 1303 | 23000-23500 |
| 2 | 445th | 42 | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | 55°-115° | 90° | 1305- 1306 | 22000-25000 |
| 14 | 491st | 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 60°-70° | - | 1306- 1307 | 22000-23500 |
| 14 | 392nd | 31 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 100°-105° | 70° | 1308 | 22000-23000 |
| 96 | 458th | 29 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 100°-110° | 85° | 1310- 1311 | 22000-23000 |
| 96 | 466th | 23 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 90°-120° | 80° | 1312- 1313 | 22500-23000 |
| 96 | 467th | 28 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 105° | 85° | 1313- 1316 | 23000-24000 |
| 20 | 93rd | 22 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 95°-110° | 80° | 1317 | 22500-23000 |
| 20 | 446th | 31 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 80°-110° | 80° | 1318- 1320 | 23500-24500 |
| 20 | 448th | 32 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 80°-95° | 105° | 1323 | 21500-24000 |
| TOTALS: | | | 322 | 4 | - | 1 | - | - | 55°-115° | 65°- 105° | 1302- 1323 | 21500-25000 ft |
| PERCENTAGES: | | | | 1.2% | | .3% | | | 63% | | | |

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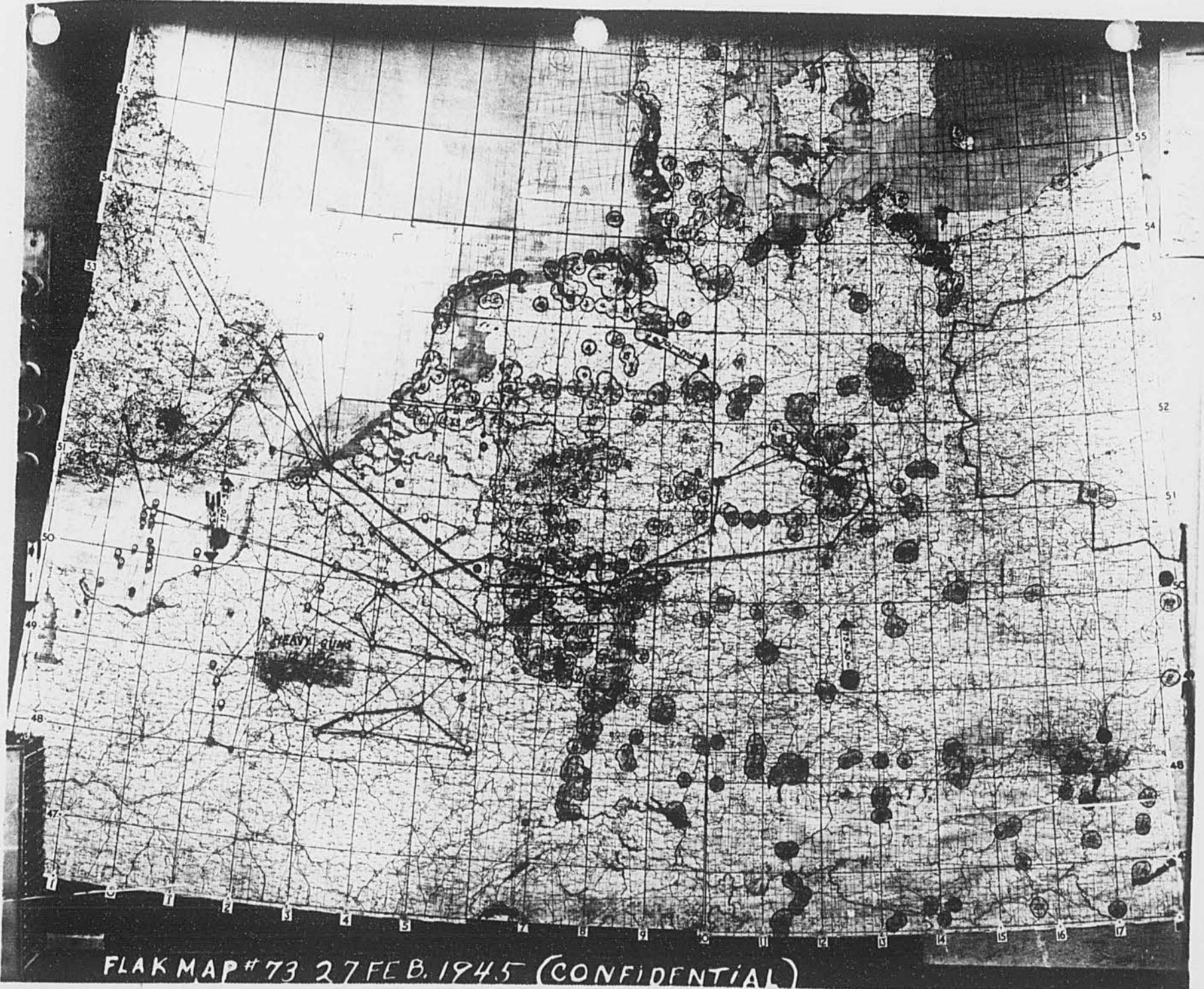
TARGET: Bitterfeld EFFECTIVE NUMBER OF GUNS: 40

| CW | GROUP | SORTIES | DAMAGED | | A/C LOST | | | | Axis Attack | Axis With- Drawal | T.O.T. | Altitude |
|--------------|-------|---------|---------|------|----------|-----|-----|------|----------------|-------------------------|--------|----------------|
| | | | Sli. | Ser. | Flak | E/A | Acc | Unkr | | | | |
| 14 | 44th | 22 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 45°-50° | 110° | 1308 | 22000-23000 ft |
| TOTALS: | | 22 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 45°-50° | 110° | 1308 | 22000-23000 ft |
| PERCENTAGES: | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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0617

Group 458th

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS
(Part 1)

Date of Operation 27 February 1945Division Field Order No. 613Primary: Halle M/Y Vis.Ordered Targets: Secondary: Halle M/Y H2X

| Squadron | Sorties | | Credit | Effect | Non | No. | Type | Name of Target | Number and Type of Bombs on Targets | Aircraft Lost | | | | | Time of Take off | Total Time of Mis'n | Comments | |
|---------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|---------------|-----------|------------------|---|---------------|----------|------------|----------|----------|------------------|---------------------|------------|----------|
| | Total | Less Unused Spares | Sort- ies | ive Sort- ies | Effect- ives | A/C Bomb- ing | | | | To- tal | Flak | Flak & E/A | E/A | Acc | U N K | | | |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 25 | 27 | 40 |
| 1d | 9 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 8 | ST | Halle M/Y | 120 250 M57 12 M17 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0915 | 224 | - |
| 2 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | * | 9 | ST | Halle M/Y | 153 250 M57 18 M17 2 M47 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 3 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 1 | 8 | ST | Halle M/Y | 130 250 M57 14 M17 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Comp. | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | ST | Halle M/Y | 18 M57 (250) 2 M47 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTALS | 30 | 30 | 29 | 26 | 4 | 26 | ST | Halle M/Y | 421 250 M57 46 M17 2 M47 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0915 | 224 | - |

NON-EFFECTIVE SORTIE SUMMARY (Part 3)

| Total Non Eff Sorties | Causes of Non-Effectives | | | | | | Incidents of Mechanical and Equipment Failures | | | | | | | | | | | | Comments | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|-------|--|------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|--------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|----|
| | Weather | Personnel | Enemy Action | Other Non Mech. | Mech. & Equip. | Total | Engine | Oil System | Fuel System | Super charger | Propeller & Governor | Communication System | Guns & Turrets | Bomb Release | Bomb Doors | Electrical System | Instruments | Oxygen System | Bomb-sights | A/C in general | |
| 46 | 47 | 48 | 49 | 50 | 51 | 52 | 53 | 54 | 55 | 56 | 57 | 58 | 59 | 60 | 61 | 62 | 63 | 64 | 65 | 66 | 67 |
| 4 | - | - | - | - | - | 4 | 4 | 2 | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Footnote 1 | N11 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Footnote 2 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Footnote 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

42-51199

41-29305

44-40118

42-100425

FORMATION PLAN458TH "A" GROUP - LEAD 96TH WINGLEAD SQUADRONBENO-WILLIAMSON

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| J3 : 669J | 8 AF Cent. | PERRY |
| <u>CHIMPLES-WILLIAMS</u> | <u>Scope</u> | <u>CAVEN</u> |
| J3 : 837L | RGM-2 AD | 7V : 4574 2 AD |
| Scope-K-20 | LEHAR | K-21 HINER K-21 |
| 2 AD Cont. | 7V : 110M | 2 AD 7V : 316H |
| <u>JOSEPHSON</u> | K-21 | <u>BARNHART</u> |
| 7V : 206S | | 7V : 340N |

2ND SQUADRONEISERT-BLACK

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| J3 : 939G | 2 AD | 8 AF |
| <u>WILLIAMS-DK</u> | <u>Scope</u> | <u>SEALY</u> |
| J3 : 516V | 8 AF | 25 : 298E 2 AD |
| | BECKSTROM | K-21 WARRELL K-22 |
| RGM | Z5 : 768Y | 2 AD J4 : 163M |
| McCORMICK | K-21 | KELLY J4 : 277P |
| J4 : 287J | | |

3RD SQUADRONMITCHELL-BRECKENRIDGE

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| J3 : 743F | RGM | RGM |
| <u>POLLARD</u> | <u>Scope</u> | <u>HESSE</u> |
| J3 : 618T | 2 AD | 25 : 1964 8 AF Z5 : 126L RGM-8 AF |
| K-20 | SKIDMORE | BESTEN K-21 TARPLEY |
| 8 AF | 25 : 120M | Z5 : 179P Z5 : 456D |
| KROGH | K-21 | HODGE Z5 : 018J |
| Z5 : 199i | | |
| K-21 | | |

COMPOSITE SQUADRON - 458TH FLYING LOW TRAIL ELEMENT WITH 466TH

| | | | | | |
|-----------|--------|-----------|-------------|-----------|------|
| 466th | | 466th | | 466th | |
| T9 : 4914 | | 6L : 353R | | 6L : 448H | |
| 466th | | 2 AD | | 6L : 235T | |
| 6L : 625N | 2 AD | Z5 : 578F | 2 AD | J4 : 118S | K-21 |
| 466th | PATAK | K-21 | EIDLERSBERG | | |
| 6L : 194J | SPRATT | Z5 : 305N | J4 : 118S | | |
| | | | | | |

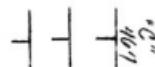
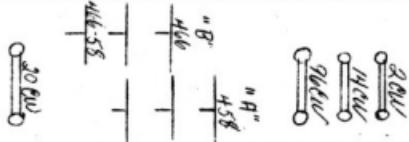
SPARES: 602P-J3-Rwy 28

No assembly aircraft to be flown.

Marshalling Chief: Lt Montgomery - 753rd

Marshalling Crews: Lt O'Reagan - 752

Lt Johnson - 753

BATTLE ORDER2nd AIR DIVISION96th COMBAT WING

ORDER OF TAKE-OFF ON REVERSE SIDE.

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 |
|-----------|--------|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|----|-----------|--------|-----|------|---------|--------------------------------|--|
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | BARNHART, L | 191 | 13 | | | 41-29340 | 340 | N | 7V | 64 | YANKEE BUZZ BOMB | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | BECKSTROM | 191 | 28 | | | 42-50768 | 768 | Y | J4 | 34 | ARISE MY LOVE AND COME WITH ME | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | BENO | 191 | 12 | WILLIAMSON | L1 | 42-51669 | 669 | J | J3 | 13 | UNKNOWN 026 | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | BESTEN | 191 | 32 | | | 42-51179 | 179 | P | Z5 | 65 | DUSTY'S DOUBLE TROUBLE | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | BOUCEK | 191 | 27 | | | 44-40273 | 273 | T | J4 | 40 | HOWLING BANSHEE | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | CHIMPLES | 191 | 23 | WILLIAMS | D1 | 44-48837 | 837 | L | J3 | 11 | UNKNOWN 041 | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | CRAVEN | 191 | 22 | | | 42-52457 | 457 | Q | 7V | 93 | FINAL APPROACH | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | EIDELSBERG | 191 | 18 | | | 44-40118 | 118 | S | J4 | 43 | WE'LL GET BY | ACCIDENTAL REL by NAV - COMPOSITE SQDN w/466 |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | EISERT | 191 | 22 | BLACK | L2 | 42-51939 | 939 | G | J3 | 20 | UNKNOWN 028 | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | HESS | 191 | 34 | | | 42-51196 | 196 | Q | J3 | 38 | THE GYPSY QUEEN | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | HINER | 191 | 8 | | | 42-95316 | 316 | H | 7V | 83 | PRINCESS PAT | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | HODGE | 191 | 6 | | | 42-95018 | 018 | J | Z5 | 83 | OLD DOC'S YACHT | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | HODGES | 191 | 30 | | | 44-40126 | 126 | L | Z5 | 58 | SPITTEN KITTEN / SKY TRAMP | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | JOHNSON, C | 191 | MSHL | | | -- | | -- | -- | -- | | MARSHALING CHIEF- 753RD |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | JOSEPHSON | 191 | 28 | | | 42-51206 | 206 | S | 7V | 43 | THE PIED PIPER | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | KELLY | 191 | 8 | | | 44-40277 | 277 | P | J4 | 45 | MISS USED | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | KROGH | 191 | ABT | | | 42-51199 | 199 | A | Z5 | -- | UNKNOWN 023 | ABORT - #3 ENG FAILED |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | LEHR | 191 | 32 | | | 42-51110 | 110 | M | 7V | 78 | TOP O' THE MARK | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | MCCORMICK | 191 | 30 | | | 44-40287 | 287 | J | J4 | 42 | BACHELOR'S BEDLAM | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | MITCHELL | 191 | 21 | BRECKENRIDGE | L3 | 42-51743 | 743 | F | J3 | 16 | UNKNOWN 006 | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | MONTGOMERY | 191 | MSHL | | | -- | | -- | -- | -- | | MARSHALING CHIEF- 753RD |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | O'REGAN | 191 | MSHL | | | -- | | -- | -- | -- | | MARSHALING CHIEF- 752ND |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | PATAK | 191 | 15 | | | 42-50578 | 578 | F | Z5 | 35 | SKY ROOM | COMPOSITE SQDN w/466 |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | PERRY | 191 | ABT | | | 42-100425 | 425 | O | 7V | -- | THE BIRD | ABORT - #2, 3 ENG RUNNING ROUGH |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | POLLIARD | 191 | 15 | | | 44-10618 | 618 | T | J3 | 5 | UNKNOWN 038 | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | SEALY | 191 | 25 | | | 44-40298 | 298 | E | Z5 | 33 | THE SHACK | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | SIMPSON | 191 | ABT | | | 41-29352 | 352 | K | 7V | -- | WOLVE'S LAIR | ABORT - GAS FUMES AT ALT |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | SKIDMORE | 191 | 32 | | | 42-95120 | 120 | M | Z5 | 74 | HOOKEM COW / BETTY | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | SPRATT | 191 | ABT | | | 41-29305 | 305 | N | Z5 | -- | I'LL BE BACK/HYPOCHONDRIAC | ABORT - #3 ENG FAILED COMPOSITE SQDN w/466 |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | TARPLEY | 191 | 3 | | | 42-50456 | 456 | D | Z5 | 35 | DOROTHY KAY SPECIAL | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | WARRELL | 191 | 24 | | | 42-110163 | 163 | M | J4 | 60 | TIME'S A WASTIN | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | WILLIAMS, DG | 191 | 16 | | | 44-40285 | 285 | H | J4 | 67 | TABLE STUFF | |
| 27-Feb-45 | HALLE | WILLIAMS, DK | 191 | 11 | | | 42-50516 | 516 | V | J3 | 23 | STARDUST | |