

# 356th FG

OIPNT V OIWITH NR OIMTS 1/24 OPOP  
OIPNT T IAH OIAWW OIAJX

FROM OIMTS 24/1840A DEC 1944  
TO OIWITH  
IAH (DIO AEAF BATTLE ROOM)  
OIPNT (ATTN A-2)  
OIAJX  
OIAWW

BT

US CONFIDENTIAL MTS D13D 24 DECEMBER 1944.  
ATTENTION A-2 MISSION SUMMARY REPORT.

- A. 356<sup>th</sup> FIGHTER GROUP, LT. COL. DONALD A. BACCUS LEADING "A" GROUP  
CAPT. BERTRUM E. ELLINGSON LEADING "B" GROUP.
- B. "A" GROUP - 35 P-51S (11-359, 24-361) UP 1157, DOWN 1635.  
"B" GROUP - 34 P51S (10-358, 24-360) UP 1205, DOWN 1636.
- C. 2 (INCLUDING 1 TO ESCORT).
- D. ESCORT TO 2<sup>nd</sup> FORCE (1<sup>st</sup> DIV B-17S), PENETRATION, TARGET,  
AND WITHDRAWAL SUPPORT, F.O. 1446-A.
- E. 1. LAST SEEN VICINITY LAACHER SEE. REASON UNKNOWN.
- F. NIL.
- G. 2<sup>nd</sup> LT. ARTHUR WONG. N.Y.R.
- H. NIL.
- I. "A" GROUP MADE R/V WITH 2<sup>nd</sup> FORCE, 1247, N. OF OSTEND, 24000  
FEET. SWEEP N. OF BOMBER TRACK, AND PATROLLED COBLENZ -  
FRANKFURT - MARBURG AREA, 1330 - 1500 HOURS. PORTION OF "A" GROUP  
PICKED UP 9 CWS OF UNESCORTED B-24S BEING TRAILED BY T/E JET,  
AND ESCORTED TO LIEGE AREA, WHERE LEFT AT 1510.  
"B" GROUP'S R/V DIFFICULT TO FIX AS ASSIGNED BOMBERS APPARENTLY  
FROM 10 TO 40 MINUTES LATE, AND WERE PICKED UP BY UNITS OF "B"  
GROUP FROM 1328 TO 1400 BETWEEN LIEGE AND NAMUR. FIGHTER COVER  
NECESSARILY THIN. ESCORTED THRU TARGET TO COAST, LEAVING BOMBERS  
1555 AT OSTEND. GROUP LEADER CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHY BOMBERS  
SHOULD BE 10-40 MINUTES LATE AND IN SUCH EXTREMELY POOR FORMATION  
IN CAVU WEATHER.

#### OBSERVATIONS:

1. NUTHOUSE CONTROL RATED AS SUPERIOR, .... US DIRECTLY TO 12-  
20 FW-190S AND MAYBE SOME 109S OVER BONN, HEADED E, AT 16,000 FT  
1530. IN COMBAT GOT 10-0-3 FOR ONE. E/A AGGRESSIVE, ONLY ONE  
SPLIT-ESSING.
2. ON WAY IN, CLOSE ESCORT FLIGHT DESTROYED BOTH OF TWO 190S  
ATTACKING ABORTING STRAGGLER NR VOGELSANG, 1345-1400, 18,000.
3. ME-262 SHADOWER 145 AT 28,000 GOING E, KOBLENZ.
4. 20 MI N OF OUR TGT, A/F CAMOUFLAGED LIKE WHEATFIELD IN WOODS HAD  
20 U/I A/C ON IT. A/F UNMOLESTED.
5. BOMB RESULTS ON HATTANROD DECLARED SPECTACULARLY GOOD, REMARKABLE  
CONCENTRATION ON L/G WITH FIVE LARGE FIRES AROUND SAME. PARKED  
A/C SEEN HIT.
6. 2 B-17S SEEN DITCHED IN CHANNEL, FIRST 1620 ABOUT 5MI OFF OSTEND,  
ASR PLANES NR, OTHER ONE 5 MINS FARTHER OUT TO SEA.
7. ONE U/I BOMBER EXPLODED 1450, 22,000, N OF DORSEL.

FLAK

MEAGRE OVER TGT, AS USUAL ALONG RHINE.

BT

MA BBBBB

TOD 2030A AG BBBK  
UOQ R.....2031A SW KK