

381st BG

General narrative

SUBJECT: Operations report for mission of 24 December 1944.

TO: Commanding officer, 1st combat bombardment wing, APO 557.

1. Summary of operations.

(1) Date of mission: 24 December 1944.

(2) Target: Ettinghausen landing ground, Germany
Kirch Gons landing ground, Germany

(3) Units participating: Fifty-one A/C of this group were scheduled and took off. Twelve plus one PFF formed the lead squadron of the "A" group of the 1st CBW. Eleven plus one spare plus one PFF formed the high squadron of the "A" group of the 1st CBW. Eleven plus one spare plus one PFF formed the high squadron of the "C" group of the 1st CBW.

(a) Returned early: A/C 42-107100. Returned early due to internal failure of No.2 engine.

A/C 43-37561. Spare A/C

(b) Lost: None.

2. Narrative.

Take-off and assembly were made without incident. The course to the target was flown as briefed. Excellent weather conditions prevailed all the way to the target. Bombing was visual with very excellent results.

Flak was generally meagre and inaccurate except at St. Vith and Stavelot. Route in and route out, where fairly accurate fire was encountered.

No enemy A/C were encountered. Friendly fighter support was excellent.

Communications were good.