

Mission Narrative

KHI 14CBW V SHP NR 8 -P P-

FROM SHP 241940A DEC 44

TO KHI
14CBW

CONFIDENTIAL BT

44BG D-210-D

44th BOMBARDMENT GROUP MISSION NARRATIVE
TACTICAL TARGETS IN TRIER AREA, 24 DECEMBER 1944.

1. NIL
2. HI RITE 392- EXCELLENT
HI RITE 491- FAIR
LEAD 44- BOMB GP. POOR
LO 44- BOMB GP. EXCELLENT
HI 44- BOMB GP. GOOD
3. MIL
4. NO FLAK AT ELLER (TARGET NO.4)
MODERATE ACCURATE FLAK AT PFALZEL (TARGET NO.2)
MODERATE ACCURATE TRACKING FLAK AT WITTLICH (TARGET NO.3)
5. CLEAR OVER CONTINENT, UNLIMITED VISIBILITY TARGET AREA WITH 2/10
HIGH CLOUD ABOVE 25,000
6. MUCH ACTIVITY SEEN IN M/YARDS. AT 500LN 0708E. AT 1435 HOURS.

LARGE EXPLOSION IN CITY OF NAMUR WITH HEAVY BLACK SMOKE UP TO 1500
AT 1340.
7. A/C NYR: BAR N 894 REPORTED ON W/T LANDING AT BRUSSELS.

FIGHTER SUPPORT VERY GOOD.

DIVISION LEAD A/C LEADING 392NG BOMB GROUP TURNED BACK AT
1342, NORTH OF NAMUR, BELGIUM DUE TO ENGINE FAILURE.

- - - SNAVELY - - -

BT 241940A DEC 44

AS

-RFB- STNS AS FOR R

14CBW R...24/1959A R.E.Z. S. (AR)

KHI R.....24/1955A JT L AR ??

TELETYPE REPORT:

PNT V KHI SHP NRL2 -D D-
KHI T. PNT

FROM SHP 242015A DEC44
TO KHI
PNT
INFO 14CBW
CONFIDENTIAL BT

44BG D-214E ATTENTION DIVISION BOMBARDIER
LEAD BOMBARDIER'S AND NAVIGATOR'S TELETYPE REPORT - F.O.554.
14th COMBAT WING - 44th BOMB GROUP
DATE OF OPERATION - 24 DECEMBER 1944
PRIMARY TARGET - TRIER AREA
TARGET 1 - ROWER
TARGET 2 - PFALZEL
TARGET 3 - WITTLICH
TARGET 4 - ELLER
392nd GROUP A - LD SQDN BOMBARDIER - 1st LT. E.F. KASMIRZAK (23-4)
392nd GROUP A - LD SQDN GH NAVIGATOR - 1st LT. R.H. HESTER (20-10)
392nd GROUP A - LD SQDN DR NAVIGATOR - 1st LT. E.B. AURACHER (15-1)
392nd GROUP B - LD SQDN BOMBARDIER - 1st LT. D.G. KIRKPATRICK (28-13)
392nd GROUP B - LD SQDN H2X NAVIGATOR - 1st LT. E.W. DAIL (23-10)
392nd GROUP B - LD SQDN GH NAVIGATOR - 1st LT. C.E. DOUCETTE (28-8)
44th HR ON 392nd B - LD SQDN BOMBARDIER - 1st LT. K.R. POULSEN (20-2)
44th HR ON 392nd B - LD SQDN H2X NAVIGATOR - 1st LT. E.J. WILKINS (22-6)
491st GROUP C - LD SQDN BOMBARDIER - 1st LT. W.E. LOFLIN (14-11)
491st GROUP C - LD SQDN GH NAVIGATOR - 1st LT. W. FREEBOROUGH (13-2)
491st GROUP D - LD SQDN BOMBARDIER - 2nd LT. M.R. SALVATORE (28-13)
491st GROUP D - LD SQDN GH NAVIGATOR - 1st LT. C.A. SALZMAN (28-11)
44th HR ON 491st D - LD SQDN BOMBARDIER - 1st LT. J. LYONS (28-18)
44th GROUP E - LD SQDN BOMBARDIER - 1st LT. J.R. SUTTON (22-8)
44th GROUP E - LD SQDN GH NAVIGATOR - 1st LT. R.M. COHEN (24-3)
44th GROUP E - LD SQDN BOMBARDIER - CAPTAIN L.A. ARMS (21-8)
44th GROUP E - HR SQDN BOMBARDIER - 1st LT. R.E. KENNEDY (23-2)
44th GROUP E - HR SQDN H2X NAVIGATOR - 1st LT. W.R. PARTRIDGE (31-22)

A. POSITION ON BOMBING RUN

1. LEAD 392 A ND B
HIGH 491 C AND D
LOW 44 E

2. YES

B. HOW FORMATION BOMBED

1. SQUADRONS
2. LEAD-FIRST, HIGH-SECOND, LOW-THIRD
3. NIL

C. TARGET BOMBED

1. YES
2. ONE AIRCRAFT BOMBED T.O. AT BOLLENDORF, GERMANY
3. ONE

D. AIRCRAFT OVER THE TARGET

1. 44th LD E GP - 11, 44th HR E GP - 11, 44th LL E GP - 11, 392nd GP B HR - 10,
491st GP D HR - 11, 392nd GP A LD - 2, 392nd GP B LD - 1, 491st GP C LD - 1,
491st GP C LD - 1, 491st GP D LD - 1.
2. 392nd GP A - 500, 392nd GP B - 250, 491st GP C - 1000, 491st GP D - 1000, 44th GP E - 1000
3. MINIMUM
4. TWO
5. EARLY RETURNS
6. NO

E. AIRCRAFT BOMBING WITH OTHER GROUP

1. 503, 823, 582, 594. HIGH RIGHT SQUADRON OF 392nd. HIGH RIGHT SQUADRON OF 491st
2. 503 - 491st C GROUP - RUWER
823 - 392nd B GROUP - PFALZEL
582 - 491st C GROUP - WHITTLICH
594 - 491st D GROUP - WHITTLICH
11 A/C FLEW AS HIGH RIGHT SQUADRON OF 491st D GROUP
10 A/C FLEW AS HIGH RIGHT SQUADRON OF 392nd B GROUP

F. SIGHTING OPERATION

1. VISUAL
2. 392nd GROUP A - 22000 - 21400, 392nd GROUP B - 23500 - 22900
44th WITH 392nd B GROUP - 24500 - 23300
491st GROUP C - 22800 - 21800, 491st GROUP D - 22000 - 21200
44th WITH 491st GROUP D - 23000 - 22000

3. 44th GROUP E LD - 22000 - 21700, HR - 23000 - 23400, LL - 21000 - 20500
 392nd GROUP A - 86 - 79, 392nd GROUP B - 92-85
 44th WITH 392nd GROUP B - 92 - 86
 491st GROUP C - 85 - 73, 491st GROUP D - 85 - 76
 44th WITH 491st GROUP D - 85 - 73
 44th GROUP E LD - 82 -95, HR - 91 -84, LL -80 - 72.
4. APPROXIMATELY 3 MINUTE
5. ALL NORDEN
6. ONE AIRCRAFT PER AIR SQUADRON
7. 392nd GROUP A - C-1 OUT
 491st GROUP C - C-1 OUT
 44th WITH 491st GROUP D - C-1 OUT
 ALL OTHERS USED.
8. 392nd GROUP A - 1423, 392nd GROUP B - 1427, 44th WITH 392nd GROUP B - 1430, 491st GROUP C - 1428, 491st GROUP D - 1430, 44th WITH 491st GROUP D - 1432, 44th GROUP E LD - 1439, HR -1439 PLUS, 44th HR - 1440
9. BRIEFED AIMING POINT IN ALL CASES
10. NIL.
11. 392nd GROUP A - 130 KNOTS, 392nd GROUP C - 129 KNOTS, 44th WITH 392nd GROUP C - 144 KNOTS. 491st GROUP C - 140 KNOTS, 491st GROUP D - 139 KNOTS, 44th WITH 491st GROUP D - 140 KNOTS. 44th GROUP E LD - 165 KNOTS, HR - 140 KNOTS, LL - 130 KNOTS
12. 60 KNOTS
13. 110 DEGREES

G. DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED ON THE BOMB RUN.

1. 392nd GROUP A - C-1- OUT, 392nd GROUP B - RACKS HUNG - ONE SKYMARKER AWAY.
 44th ON 392nd GROUP B - RACKS HUNG NO HARM DONE, 44th LEAD GROUP E. RBR INOPERATIVE, 44th HR - RBR OUT- RACKS HUNG.
2. SLIGHT HAZE IN ALL TARGET AREAS
3. BOMB SMOKE - MEAGRE
4. NIL
5. MODERATE ACCURATE FLAK
6. LEAD OF 44th HR SQUADRON ON 491st GROUP D DID NOT CHECK BOMB SIGHT THOROUGHLY AFTER TAKE-OFF. DIRECTIONAL ARM LOCKING PIN OUT ON BOMB RUN.
7. NIL

H. H2X NOTES - NIL

I. GH NOTES

1. 392nd GROUP A LD 392nd GROUP B LD 491st GROUP C LD 491st GROUP D LD 491st GROUP E
1. HESTER 20-10 DOUCETTE 28-8 COHEN 24-3 FREEBOROUGH 13-2
2. 3 8 1 2
3. 160-222 160-227 160-221 160-222
4. -31 -37 -33 -31
5. TDA .44 TDA .32 TDA .46 TDA .36
6. YES YES YES YES
7. NIL NIL NIL NIL
8. 115-4/1 115-4/1 1 115-2/1 115-4/1
 144-4/1 114-4/1 14-2/1 114-4/1
9. NIL NIL NIL NIL
10. NIL NIL NIL NIL
11. NIL NIL NIL NIL
1. SALZMAN 28-11
2. 11
3. 160-223
4. -33
5. TDA. 34
6. YES

- 7. NIL
- 8. 115-4/1
114-4/1
- 9. NIL
- 10. NIL
- 11. NIL

J. FORTY FOURTH BOMB GROUP DISPATCHED 5 SQUADRONS AND 4 GH AIRCRAFT LEADS WITH OTHER GROUPS IN THIS WING. FORTY FOURTH GROUP FLEW HIGH DQUADRON ON THE 392^o GROUP AND ONE HIGH SQUADRON ON THE 491^o GROUP. THESE ARE REFERRED TO AS 44^o ON 392^o AND 44^o ON 491^o IN THIS REPORT. BOMBING WAS GENERALLY EXCELLENT ALTOUGH THE FORTY FOURTH LEAD SQUADRONS BOMBING WAS FAIR TO GOOD. ALTOUGH BOMBS WERE NOT ON MPI TRACKS WERE CUT IN SEVERAL PLACES. RBR WAS USED IN ALL BUT HIGH RIGHT SQUADRON ON THE 491^o GROUP.

K. NAVIGATION NOTES

- 1. 1140 - BUNCHEM 21 - 11000
1144 - KINGS LYNN - 11000
1205 - 52-50N 01-22E - 11000
1210 - ENGLISH COAST OUT - 52-43N 01-40E - 11000
1224 - 52-40N 02-30E - 11000
1257 - BELGIUM COAST IN - 41-12N 02-50E - 20000
1307 - 51-00N 03-08E - 20000
1333 - 50-58N 04-34E - 20000
1340 - 50-58N 04-30E - 20000
- 2. 1404 - I.P. 49-45N 05-40E - 2000
1439 - BOMBS AWAY - MH 82 - IAS 160 - 20000 - TARGET ELLER
- 3. 1443 - RP 50-00N 07-22E - 20000
1456 - 49-36N 06-42E - 20000
1502 - 49-55N 06-42E - 20000
1542 - BELGIUM COAST OUT - 51-10N 02-48E - 12000
1609 - ENGLISH COAST IN - 52-18N 01-40E
1624 - BASE

---SNAVELY---

BT 242015A DEC 44
AS
JH BBBB
JH AR
PNT R.....25/0448A ID AR