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MISSION

REPORTS

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1797

## MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 1, 29 October 1944

- A. Y 21-3, RR Bridge at F-465109
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 295th Fighter Squadron  
12 P-47's dispatched Nil Abortive
- C. Time Up: 0845 TOT: 0935 LFI: 0917 LFO: 1000 TD: 1033
- D. Nil
- E. 12x3x500 G.P. Inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded. All bombs in target area. Nil Jettisoned Nil brought back to base. All bombs in target area with many near misses scored, but no observed hits on the bridge itself. Best estimate was that the bridge might have been weakened, but definitely not destroyed.
- F. Nil
- G. From the target area a high contrail was seen to be moving in level flight from the vicinity of Coblenz going west, at an altitude of about 18,000 feet. Seen from 13,000 feet Contrail appeared intermittently at about 10 second intervals.
- H. 2/10 cirrus 12-15,000 feet Visibility go d.

SUMMARY: The Mission was not particularly outstanding as it could not be registered as a resounding success. Although the target was readily identified, the pilots made no claim for hits. The best they could claim was a number of near misses. This mission varied from recent endeavors in that three (3) 500 pound bombs were carried instead of the normal loading of two (2).

ROBERT L. CLARK,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 1, 6 October 1944

- A. Y 21-7, Fighter Sweep, Cologne - Bonn area.
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
12 P-47's dispatched. 1 Abortive - Pilot sick.
- C. Time Up: 0943 TOT: 1050 Time Down: 1225
- D. Nil
- E. Nil
- F. (1) Nil  
(2) Pilots report that there is flak in the Rhur valley  
any place the enemy wants to throw it up with no specific  
pin-points.
- G. The mission was flown as briefed varying in altitudes from  
15 - 20,000 feet. No enemy activity of any kind was observed,  
either on the ground or in the air. No reports on the positions  
of our own troops. Artillery flashes seen at Aachen. Pretty  
much of a routine mission a great deal of Allied activity was  
seen in the area briefed principally divebombing by other groups  
and B-26's bombing too. A B-17 was seen to crash land near  
Genbloux which is NW of Chaleroi. Pilots report excellent  
crash landing made.
- H. Fair weather cumulus scattered visibility 15 plus miles.

THEODORE F. SKALKO,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

## MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 2, 6 September 1944

- A. Y 21-7, Fighter Sweep
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
12 P-47's dispatched "nil abortive.
- C. Time Up: 1357 TOT: 1510 Time Down: 1654
- D. Nil
- E. Nil
- F. (1) "nil  
(2) Bonn. Light, Meager, inaccurate.
- G. These were turned in as Flash Reports: 1) Barrage Ballons were seen flying at 1000' 1600 at west end of Reservoir, A-5122. 2) Barges in groups of 5 to 15 on the Rhine river moving in both directions with barrage ballons flying above them between Koln and Bonn at 1500 - 10,000 feet. 3) An airdrome observed at A-2209 with 6 plus single engine E/A on the ground. Lack of gas prevented attack. 4) Fifteen plus single e/a seen NW of Dusseldorf praked wing tip to wing tip some scattered about from an altitude of 13,000' at 1610 at F-3296.
- Our squadron picked up by Sweepstakes Charlie after being airborne about 10 minutes and vectored from there on in to where E/A were presumed to be. We were unsuccessful in locating them or contacting them. No other observations to report.
- H. Haze up to 8000'. High cirrus at 18,000 feet 1/10 cumulus below 10,000 feet. visibility 15 plus miles.

THEODORE F. SKALKO,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 1, 7 October 1944

- A. Y 21-4, Enemy Defense positions and troop concentrations at F-023141 - F-020328, and F-061327 - F-012318.
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
12 P-47's dispatched. Nil abortive.
- C. Time Up: 1016 TOT: 1050 Time Down: 1200
- D. Nil
- E. 12x3x500 G.P. Inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded. All bombs in target area. Nil jettisoned. Nil brought back to base.  
  
Target was short distance due east of original briefing designation. Area was in open field and the pilots were unable to observe any indications of enemy troops. The Ground Controller reported that Mortar positions were in target area. Good bombing results were achieved with good dispersal resulting.
- F. Duren, (F-1246) Heavy, Weak, Inaccurate. F-0242, Heavy, Weak, Inaccurate.
- G. Nil. many bandits were reported inachen sector, but none were seen by the squadron. R/T chatter also indicated friendly troops were being strafed by P-47's.
- H. 9/10 alta strata 13,000 feet visibility 10 miles.

ROBERT L. CLARK,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

## MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 2, 7 October 1944

- A. Y 21-5, Armed Reccy, Monschen, Weoseling, Hildorf, Area.
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
12 P-47's dispatched. Nil Abortive. Nil.
- C. Time Up: 1548 TOT: 1622 Time Down: 1755
- D. Nil.
- E. 12x2x500 G.P. Inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded. All bombs in target area. Nil Jettisoned. Nil brought back to base.

Seascout asked our Squadron to bomb a point at F-0333 where all 24 bombs were dropped. Seascout reported results were excellent without informing our pilots as to what their target was. No strafing except during the bomb run.

- F. (1) Nil.  
(2) Qulpic, F-231331, Heavy, Moderate, Inaccurate. Duren, Heavy, Weak, Inaccurate. Bruhl, Heavy, Meager, inaccurate. A three battery gun position was spotted in the woods se of Bruhl at the following coordinates. F-423476, F-424478, F-425479.
- G. Our pilots flew most of the briefed course with the exception of the northern portion for they were called by seascout. They divebombed F-0333 with excellent results without identifying their target. Although they did not see our troops it can be assumed that they are at a point slightly west of this coordinate because of the way the target was marked with red smoke. A report over the R/T indicated that P-47 with Swastika markings were divebombing our troops. 8 to 10 white bursts of smoke unidentified as to character of purpose were seen at F-0235390 by one of our pilots. No particular significance could be attached to these bursts.
- H. 6/10 cumulus 13,000 feet base no report on tops, Visibility 4 - 5 miles up sun. unlimited down sun.

THEODORE F. SKALKO,  
1st Lt., Air Corps  
Intelligence Officer.

## MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 1, 8 October 1944

- A. Y 21-2, Armed Reccy, Divebombing Aachen Area.
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
12 P-47's dispatched Nil abortive
- C. Time Up: 1300 TOT: 1330 Time Down 1600
- D. 1 Me 109 probable destroyed, Lt Caldwell. 1 Me 109 and 1 FW 190 in a dive at 1500 feet at Stolberg were encountered. The Me 109 was green in color with a Zebra spinner appeared to be a much used airplane, was carrying a belly tank. The FW 190 was a short-nosed bluish airplane carrying a belly tank. Lt. Caldwell peeled off on these two planes, combat ensuing from 1500 feet to deck for a period of six minutes many strikes on the right wing and smoke resulted from his attack. He was forced to give up combat after he exhausted all his ammo and the FW 190 was on his tail. Pilot reports that both the Me 109 and FW 190 gave evidence of using a boost of some sort for extra power. No unusual tactics observed with the exception that our P-47 seemed to overrun the enemy without water injection Lt Caldwell's gun sight was out and he fired using the iron ring and path of his tracers. He claims one Me 109 probably destroyed.
- E. 8x2x500 G.P. Inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded. All bombs in target area. Nil jettisoned. Nil brought back to base.
- Booty was contacted and he assigned several targets marking them with red smoke which could not be located. Then Booty directed Artillery fire upon these targets directing our Squadron to bomb German towns. One flight selected Marken F-075505 dropping 8 bombs on this town. Columns of smoke and dust were observed. Another flight dropped it's bombs on Inden F-029523. Reports indicate that this town was destroyed for the bombs landed in the intersection in the center of the town without doubt doing considerable damage. One flight acted as top cover.
- F. (1) 1 Me 109 and 1 FW 190 at Stolberg ,1500 feet at 1430.  
(2) K-9448, Heavy Weak, Accurate. F-075505, Heavy, Weak, Accurate.
- G. Covered under appropriate paragraphs.
- H. 2 layers of clouds 1 from 7,000 to 12,000 feet 3/10 cumulus Layer of high cirrus at 18,000 feet haze up to 4,000 feet visibility 6 - 8 miles over target area.

THEODORE F. SKALKO,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 1, 12 October 1944

- A. Y 21-4, Divebombing in support of Booty, Aachen Area.
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
12 P-47's dispatched. Nil abortive
- C. Time Up: 1005 TOT: 1030 Time Down: 1209
- D. Nil
- E. 8x2x500 G.P. Inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded. All bombs in target area. Nil Jettisoned. Nil brought back to base.  
  
The target was assigned by Booty as K-845437 a wooded area. At the same time 5 other Groups were working this same target over. Our pilots report that they thought their bombing results were good - we are not exactly sure as to what they were aiming for.
- F. (1) Nil
- G. Two P-51's with D-Day markings were spotted in the vicinity of Aachen at 1145 and looked over by our pilots. + received no report as to the position of our troops. After the bombing the pilots flew a fighter sweep eastward towards Koln but did not find any ground activity of any kind. The same spiral of smoke which has appeared on several other occasions was seen again today north of Aachen at about the same time that enemy planes were reported in the vicinity.
- H. High cirrus at 18,000 CAVU.q

THEODORE F. SKALKO,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

## MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 2, 12 October 1944

- A. Y 21-4, Divebombing (Booty, South of Aachen)
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
12 P-47's dispatched. Nil abortive
- C. Time Up: 1437 TOT: 1500 Time Down: 1628
- D. Lt Clarence E. Allen has not returned from this mission as the time of this report.
- E. Lt Garry claims 1 destroyed ME 109 east of Dusseldorf. The pilot was seen to bail out between 2-3,000 feet. Lt Dale Jewkes claims 1 probably destroyed JU 87 and 1 damaged ME 109. The JU 87 had large pieces blown off its tail and wing and was smoking badly at 50 feet when Lt Jewkes ran out of ammo. These two combats raged from 10,000 feet to the deck at about 1500 in the vicinity of Dusseldorf. Lt William J. Wayland claims 1 destroyed ME 109 and 1 damaged ME 109. The destroyed ME 109 was a flamer and was seen to crash into the ground. The damage to the ME 109 were strikes evident on the fuselage and wings. Captain Mazur claims a destroyed ME 109 and 1 damaged ME 109's. The destroyed ME 109 was witnessed by Lt Gianetti who states that this plane flamed and crashed. This combat took place north of Aachen at about 1500 hours at about 10000 feet.  
  
Lt Clarence E. Allen has not as yet returned from this mission. Reports indicate that a P-47 was seen to crash in the vicinity of the dogfight for the present he is being carried MIA.
- E. 16x500 G.P. inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded, and 4 leaflet bombs. The bombs were dropped upon engagement in combat on the eastern side of the bomb line.
- F. (1) 20 plus aircraft ME 109's and 1 JU 87 were encountered at 10,000 feet and deck at a point near Aachen and Dusseldorf between 1400 and 1530.  
(2) Nil
- G. The JU 87 was painted a brown color. The ME 109's were greyish black in color. Due to the combat our pilots took no interest in ground activity. They contacted Booty upon their arrival in the area and he did not respond so Sweepstakes assigned them to Brightside. While waiting for a target they observed a dog-fight going on to the north of them and from this dog-fight ensued the above claims. No other information to report.
- H. There was a low and high overcast in this area, one at 1500 feet the other at 3000 feet. Visibility 10 plus miles.

THEODORE F. SKALKO,  
1st Lt., A.C. S-2

## MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 1, 13 October 1944

- A. Y 21-5, Divebombing in support of Organ
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
12 P-47's dispatched Nil abortive.
- C. Time Up: 0722 TOT: 0800 Time Down: 0949
- D. Lt Marcus L. Aldridge joined the squadron led by Col Meyers and has not returned to this base.
- E. 24x500 G.P. Inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded. All bombs in target area. Nil Jettisoned. Nil brought back to base.

Two flights bombed in turn a bridge and an overpass with NRO results. One flight bombed a marshalling yards hitting a string of goods wagons among which were several red cross wagons indicating that this train was possibly used as a hospital train. The resulting explosions would indicate that the goods wagons were loaded with ammunitions of fuel thereby making the hospital train fair game. As per my telephone conversation our pilots could not pin point the target area because of the extremely difficult weather conditions.

- F. (1) Nil
- (2) Coblenz, light, heavy, Intense, Inaccurate.
- G. Due to the poor weather conditions our squadron did not bomb the assigned targets. Organ was contacted and he stated that there was an overcast of a thousand feet in the target area. Therefor apparently upon Col Meyers orders the Group attack these targets. No pertinent information to report other than noted above.
- H. Going out an overcast of cumulus from 2500 to 4000 feet 9/10 cirrus at 12,000 feet 3/10 visibility 4 -5 miles.

THEODORE F. SKALKO,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

## MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 2, 13 October 1944

- A. Y 21-8, Divebombers mission for Mortmire, Aachen area.
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
9 P-47's dispatched, Nil abortive.
- C. Time Up: 1354 TOT: 1430 Time Down: 1605
- D. Three P-47's have not returned from this mission at the time of this report. It is presumed that enemy aircraft is the only responsible source.

1 FW 190 destroyed, 1 ME 109 damaged. Captain Henry J. Mazur is claiming these.

Three pilots have not returned from this mission yet. 1st Lt. Marion W.L. Willott, 2nd Lt. J.D. McMillan and Captain N.E. Schulte. Captain Schulte was seen to bail out over Geilenkirchen at about 1510.

- E. 16x500 GP inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded. All bombs jettisoned east of the bomb line when E/A were encountered.
- F. (1) 10 plus ME 109's and FW 190 were encountered over Geilenkirchen at 1500 hours who were apparently at an altitude of 19,000 feet.  
(2) Nil
- G. Our flight contacted Marmite upon reporting in this area but were not given any assignment. While looking the area over for possible targets flying at an altitude of 10,000 feet they were bounced by 10 plus enemy aircraft. In the combat which ensued Captain Schulte was shot down but was seen to bail out safely and none of the pilots can seem to account for Lts McMillan and Lt Elliott. Two tactics displayed by the E/A noted here are the roll pass in which the German E/A flying straight and level rolls over and from this position continues firing breaking away for the deck after the attack. This is the same technique they used against heavy bombers. The other pass was a technique of diving through Allied ships shooting all the while and hitting for the deck only a very few remaining for a dogfight. Too the enemy pilots all seem to use extremely high deflection shots which they seem to score all their damage. Our panels seen at K-9246.
- H. Cumulus up to 3,000 to 4500 feet 6/10 High cirrus layer at 13,000 visibility 10 plus miles.

THEODORE F. SKALKO,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 1, 19 October 1944

- A. Y 21-7, Divebombing RR bridges Hamm Area.
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
12 P-47's dispatched Nil Abortive.
- C. Time Up: 0938 TOT: Nil Time Down: 1122
- D. Nil
- E. 12 x 2 x500 G.P/ 8-15 delay bombs loaded. Allbombs returned to base.
- F. Nil
- G. Nil
- H. Going our was 700 to 1700 feet with cumulus nimbus building up. Top 55-6,000 feet. Over Aachen base 9,000 feet ~~strata~~ cumulus East of Aachen 9/10 strata cumulus base 1,000 tops 6,000 feet.

SUMMARY:

Major Sparks was leading the Group mission and decided to return to base in view of the unfavorable weather condition encountered.

ROBERT L. CLARK,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
intelligence Officer.

MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 1, 20 October 1944

- A. Y 21-4, Close Support for 9th Infantry Division, 7th Corps, S.E. of Aachen.
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
12 P-47's dispatched. Nil abortive. Nil
- C. Time Up: 0705 TOT: 0740 Time Down: 0915
- D. Nil
- E. 8x2x500 G.P., inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded. All bombs in target area. Nil nettisoned Nil brought back to base.  
Target # 1 F-010297 marked with red smoke. A good concentration of bombs was achieved. The target was described as being dug-in tanks and mortars.  
  
STRAFING: The town of Vossenback F-0383 was strafed on orders of the Ground Controller. Red Panels at F-024327 was strafed, same vicinity, on order of Ground Controller.
- F. Kornelimunsten K-9038 Heavy Moderate Inaccurate.
- G. Red Panels observed just east of bomb line. Ground Controller reported that no friendly units in that position and told squadron to work it over. They did?
- H. 9/10 strato layers of 300-400 feet in depth between 7 and 9,000 feet. Visibility good over target.

ROBERT L. CLARK,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO, 2, 20 October 1944

- A. Y 21-4, Colse support for 9th Infantry Division S.E. of AACHEN
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
11 P-47's dispatched. Nil abortive Nil
- C. Time UP: 1130 E/T 1205 TOT 1210 1235 Out Time Down: 1319
- D. 2 P-47's Cat "A", Heavy AA.
- E. 7x2x50 G.O. Inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded. All bombs intertarget area. Nil dettisoned. Nil brought back to base. Seascout marked F-032352 target 8 and all 14 bombs went into this area. The pilots report that there weren't any direct hits but the nearest hits were only 30 feet away. The Pilots strafed on their bombing run and after completing this run strafed this target again in order to set fire to a house at this point.  
  
The town of Hurtgen at F-039355 was given a good working over by strafing and Captain Mumaw strafed a radar station at F-051365.
- F. (1) Nil  
(2) Eschweiler K-9648, Heavy, Moderate, Accurate.
- G. Our troops or our ourpanels were non-observed at any time. Seascout was contacted and later called in. Indications would point to the fact that results on target 8 could be called good. No other information of importance to report.
- H. Cloud base at 10,000 feet visibility 15 plus miles.

THEODORE F. SKALKO,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

## MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 1, 21 October 1944.

- A. Y 21-7, Armed Reccy, 7th Division Cover.
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
12 P-47's dispatched. Nil abortive. Nil
- C. Time Up: 1533 TOT 1645 Time Down: 17 40 (LFI LFO 1615-1705)
- D. Nil
- E. 8x2x500 G.P. Inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded. All bombs in target area. Nil jettisoned. Nil brought back to base.  
  
8 bombs on target lighted by white smoke at K-9361. Area was field supposed to contain gun positions. 2 bombs on gun position in vilage at K-9660 silenced the gun. 6 bombs on factory at K-9868 2 hits observed.
- F. K-9766 Linnich, Lingt & Heavy, Intense, Accurate.
- G. Squadron was ordered by Decline to fly a 170 degree course. After several minutes, the Squadron Leader called for further information and was told that the deal was off and for them to return. Murphy told the squadrom to bomb a target 4 miles east of Geilenkirchen. The smoke was to be three shells in sequence of white- red- white. The target was lighted with three white puffs. The squadron bombed and was immediately told they had bombed out own troops. The target was again lighted with white smoke, but the Squadron did not bomb again. The second flight went on to bomb the factory area indicated under (E) above.
- H. 10/10 stratus. 7,000 - 9,000 feet. Visibility 15 plus miles.

ROBERT L. CLARK,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

## MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 1, 21 October 1944

- A. Y 21-7, Armed Recon, 7th Division, Major Sparks Leading.
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
12 F-47's dispatched, Nil abortive Nil
- C. Time Up: 1105 LFI: 1141 LFO 1245 TOT: 1215 TIME DOWN: 1317  
D. Nil
- E. 8x2x500 G.P. Inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded. (One flight top cover)  
All bombs in target area. Nil jettisoned. Nil brought back to base.  
One flight dropped it's bombs at F-149519 on a train of 20 goods wagons heading towards Duren. I could not Pin-Point any definite claims from these pilots as to the amount of damage except that they feel that they hit within 50 feet of the target. The other flight dropped it's bombs at F-185524 damaging at least 15 goods wagons while one man dropped his bombs and strafed a locomotive at F-165512. Sum total on this mission would indicate two loco's damaged and 15 goods-wagons damaged. The flight that acted as top-cover could not give me any information because they were checking on 15 plus bogies. The strafing was done in conjunction with the bombing.
- F. (1) Nil  
(2) F-185525, Light, Intense, Inaccurate. Gladbach, F-0939 heavy, Meager, Inaccurate.
- G. Neither our troops or our panels were seen at any time. Decline was contacted as well as the controller who was designated as planter. It appears as the Germans disconnect their locomotives from the rest of the train as soon as they spot Allied planes. No other information to report.
- H. 6/10 stratus-cumulus from 4-800. Another thin layer at 13,000. High cirrus at 17,000 Overall visibility at 8 miles.

THEODORE F. SKALKO,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer

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MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 2, 28 October 1944

- A. Y 21-3, Radar Calibration flight, AACHEN , CLADBACH, DAUN, PRUM, ST. VITY, MALMEDY, 17,000 feet.
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
4 P-47's dispatched, Nil abortive.
- C. Time Up: 1340 LFI 1443 LFO: 1515 TOT: 1402 Time Down: 1551
- D. Nil
- E. Nil
- F. Nil
- G. At approximately 1500 hours a white contrail was seen wiggling to an altitude of about 20,000 feet. Appeared to be in the vicinity of Coblenz and was seen from a point about 20 miles east of Liege.
- H. 10/10 cumulus base 1200 tops 5-70,000 feet Visibility unlimited on top.

ROBERT L. CLARK,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

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## MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 1, 28 October 1944

- A. Y 21-2, Rail Cutting mission, Duren Area.
- B. 368th Fighter Group 395th Fighter Squadron.  
12 F-47's dispatched. Nil abortive. Nil
- C. Time Up: 0922 TET: 0949 TOT: 0952 SCH: 1016 Time Down: 1123
- D. Captain Mazur damaged classified as Cat "A" due to Heavy AA.  
Lt Wayland Cat A, Heavy AA. Lt Williams Cat "A" Heavy AA.
- E. 36x500 G.P. inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded. All bombs target area.  
Nil jettisoned. Nil brought back to base.

Major Hendricks called in that the bridge was destroyed and directed our Squadron to rail cutting. Our Squadron reports cutting track at only two points, F-160555 and F-168582. Most of the rest of the bombs landed to the east of the tracks with poor results. Between the points F-176602 and F-163560. The pilots said that the closest hits were some 50 yards away doing damaged to nothing but the ground in this area. Several bombs fell in a factory at F-172571. Nil strafing.

- F. (1) an Undetermined E/A E/A were thought to be seen at 1045 from an altitude of 10,000 feet strafing a R/R at K-4145, but by the time our squadron got over there they could not be located.  
(2) F-105, heavy, moderate, Accurate. F-2058, Light & Heavy moderate, Accurate.
- G. A number of fires seen on the ground in the area NE of Duren. I did not get any reports on the position of our troops or canals. All other information covered un appropriate headings.  
Our Pilots reported that the bridge briefed was not the one bombed in that it was not at the briefed location. Advisable to check Major Hendricks on this point.
- H. Strato cumulus 6 - 8000 feet 5/10, Haze up to 7,000 feet, High thin cirrus at about 18,000 feet Visibility 15 plus miles.

THEODORE F. SKALKO,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 2, 2 September 1944

- A. Y 21-9, Rail Cutting, Divebombing Aachen - Duren Area.
- B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
12 P-47's dispatched, Nil abortive Nil
- C. Time U : 1409 TOT: 1500 Time Down 1600
- D. 1 P-47 Cat "A", Heavy AA.
- E. 24x500 G.P. Inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded. All bombs dropped in target area. Nil Jettisoned. Nil brought back to base.  
  
Target G. RR Lines were cut at F-162559  
Target H. RR Lines cut at F-212539, F-215514 and several hits on both sides of the track.  
Target I. RR lines cut at F-253536, F-242530, F-235524
- F. (1) Nil  
, (2) Heavy, moderate, accurate at Duren and Heavy, Weak, Inaccurate at F-268538.
- G. No observations of any kind reported.
- H. Average 8/10 strato cumulus base 3500 tops 12,000 feet visibility  
Up sun 5 miles, 15 miles out of sun.

THEODORE F. SKALKO,  
1st Lt., Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 1, 2 October 1944

- A. Y 21-6, Escort-Divebombing mission - Breitscheid Airborne Fighter Sweep, Munster-Bindhoven-Base.
- B. 368th Fighter Squadron, 325th Fighter Squadron
- C. Time Up: 0840 TOT: 1025 Time Down: 1225
- D. Nil
- E. Escort - no bombs approximately 8 hits were seen on double-track R/A about 6 miles due NE of scheduled target.
- F. (1) Nil  
(2) A few bursts of heavy flak were seen exploding at about 12,000 feet in Rhur section. A group of three (3) smoke spirals were seen about 10 Miles north of target area. Nine (9) others were seen in same area as the above mentioned flak. Cloud cover made it difficult to place the exact location of the flak
- G. A PW enclosure was seen near the target area. Four buildings were plainly marked on the roofs with large white letters POW.
- H. 9/10 stratus top 6 - 8000 feet visibility 10 miles.

ROBERT L. CLARK,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 1, 3 October 1944

A. Y 21-4, Rail Cutting.

B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron  
12 P-47's dispatched. Nil abortive Nil.

C. Time UP: 0723 TOT; Nil Time Down 0830

D. Nil

E. 4x2x500 G.P. 8/11 sec delay bombs loaded Nil in target .  
all bombs returned to base.

F. Nil

G. Nil

H. 5,000 foot base cumulus Visibility fair.

SUMMARY: Mission was called back on account of prohibitive  
weather. All bombs returned to base.

ROBERT L. CLARK,  
Captain, Air Corps,  
Intelligence Officer.

## MISSION REPORT

OPS FLASH NO. 3, 28 October 1944

A. Y 21-2, Divebombing, Bridge at F-268573 and Rail cutting at F-1350 and F-2757, Leaflets at K-9454, K-9147, F-0344, F-0636

B. 368th Fighter Group, 395th Fighter Squadron.  
12 P-47's dispatched, Nil abortive Nil

C. Time UP; 1420 TI: 1451 TOT 1530 TOT: 1444

D. Nil

E. 4x2x500 G.P. Inst 1/40 tail bombs loaded, All bombs in target area. Nil cottisoned Nil brought back to base.

Bridge bombed and rail cutting NFO  
All leaflets were dropped on assigned targets in divebombing runs.

F. Usual flak activity over the principal Rhine cities. Many A/C in vicinity seemed to be keeping the defense active.

G. A P-47 was seen to hit the ground and explode at 1500 hours at F-2757. One of our pilots heard someone say "Better Bail out, Oley." No chute was seen to leave this aircraft.

H. 2/10 cumulus building up to 4/10 at the target. Solid to the south. Nearing the home base the ceiling came down to 900 feet with rain. Visibility over the target was very good. Bottom 2,000 feet with top at 5,000-7,900 feet.

NARRATIVE: The mission was uneventful with w flights top cover for the other two squadrons who were bombing a bridge and cutting rails. One flight dropped leaflet bombs and observed that all the bombs were dropped in the assigned areas. A divebombing approach was used with the leaflets.

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