

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

~~RESTRICTED~~

DECLASSIFIED
EOD DIR 5200.9

SG-PI-397-H1
March 45

*
* HISTORY OF THE 397TH *
* FIGHTER SQUADRON *
* INSTALLMENT XIV *
* Covering the month of *
* MARCH 1945 *
*
* First Lieutenant RICHARD H. BLICKENSBERGER *
* (Historical Officer) *
*

~~RESTRICTED~~

DECLASSIFIED
EOD DIR 5200.9

~~RESTRICTED~~

0108

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Installment XIV HISTORY OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON Section A

1. ORGANIZATION (e.g. changes effected by the transfer of the unit or new T/O's)
NEGATIVE
2. STRENGTH ON THE LAST DAY OF THE MONTH:
UNIT STRENGTH AS OF 31 MARCH 1945:

OFFICERS ASSIGNED	63
EM ASSIGNED	245
OFFICERS ATTACHED	0
EM ATTACHED	2
3. ARRIVAL AT AND DEPARTURE FROM EACH STATION OCCUPIED IN THE ETO:
NO CHANGE IN STATION.
4. LOSSES IN ACTION:
1st Lt George L. Bauer -- MIA -- 28 March 1945
5. AWARDS TO AND DECORATIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE SQUADRON:
 - 1st Lt Arledge -- Purple Heart
 - 1st Lt Arps -- Oak Leaf Cluster to DFC
 - Capt Dame -- Oak Leaf Cluster to DFC
 - 1st Lt Foltz -- DFC
 - Major Leary -- Silver Star, DFC
 - 1st Lt Olden -- DFC
 - 1st Lt Potter -- DFC
 - 1st Lt Soo -- DFC
 - 1st Lt Stoll -- DFC

0109

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Installment IX	HISTORY OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON	Section "B"
----------------	---------------------------------------	-------------

 * SECTION " B " *
 * Narrative *
 * Covering the Month *
 * of March 1945 *

SECRET

MAR 1 -- This month opened with a day of great operational activity. Seven missions of four ships and one of eight ships got off. The weather was not too good and deterioration towards the end of the day necessitated two blind bombing missions. A tabulation of the missions and their results is as follows:

1. Support for VIII Corps: Krause, Keil, Kalen, and Horowitz. 1 tank destroyed; 3 MT destroyed, 8 damaged; 30 rail cars damaged.
2. Support for VIII Corps: Clary, Buck, Sharp, and Uterhart. 6 tanks damaged; 5 MT destroyed, 6 damaged.
3. Support for VIII Corps: Horlacher, Price, Hogan, and Thornton. 1 tank destroyed, 2 damaged; troops strafed.
4. Leaflets dropped on small towns opposite 3rd Army front. Carbine, Hord, Patrick, and Hunt.
5. Support for VIII Corps: Lewis, Shepard, Frisbie, and Halpin. Both ends of a tunnel containing a train.
6. Homburg M/Y: Barker, Shea, Fauley, and Koetrach. A shed and 18 cars destroyed.
7. Blind bombing NRO. Krause, Keil, Kalen, and Horowitz.
8. Blind bombing of Pohlbach, NRO but commended by controller. Horlacher, Price, Hogan, Thornton, Clary, Koenig, Sharp, and Uterhart.

A commendation from Lt General Spaatz, CG of the US Strategic Air Forces in Europe, dated 27 February, was received by Ninth Air Force. It was passed down through the chain of command to this squadron. The commendation cites all units for their work on 22 February when the last remnants of the Ardennes bulge were being wiped up. 25 February will be remembered as one of the biggest days in the history of this squadron.

MAR 2 -- Operational activity was limited to two missions today because of poor weather. Both were very successful but unspectacular. The first concentrated on a fuel storage depot at Langenselbold which was hit with great accuracy. Carbine, Elliott, Carlson, Hunt, Hogan, Price, Lewis, Shea, Kalen, Wright, Barker, Hord, Fauley, and Arledge took part.

The second mission beat up a group of four oil tanks near Mainz as well as an MT repair depot. On this mission were: Krause, Keil, Frisbie, Halpin, Clary, Buck, Sharp, Uterhart, Lewis, Shepard, Patrick, Thornton, Barker, Koenig, Kalen, and Wright.

 * BAD DAY FOR JERRY'S RAIL * Today the squadron flew eleven four ship missions in
 * TRAFFIC 124 CARS * support of the 20th Corps, the 94th Infantry Division and
 * SHOT UP * the 10th Armcd Division. Results were good, in general, but
 * MARCH 3 * not records. A resume of the missions is as follows:

1. Krause, Keil, Kalen, and Hunt. 2 houses destroyed and 42 damaged at Grein-erth. A probable rocket launcher was destroyed.
2. Hogan, LeGrand, Patrick, and Wright. 12 rail cars destroyed, 15 damaged; 2 rail cuts.
3. Clary, Buck, Sharp, and Uterhart. 20 flat cars damaged.
4. Carbine, Deputy, Frisbie, and Thornton. 20 rail cars damaged.
5. Barker, Elliott, Fauley, and Arledge. 25 rail cars damaged.
6. Krause, Chancellor, Kalen, and Halpin. 8 buildings destroyed, 8 damaged; 1 locomotive destroyed; 8 barracks, 2 MT and 12 rail coaches damaged.
7. Hogan, Shepard, Patrick, and Hunt. 2 towns bombed.

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED

Installment IX

HISTORY OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

Section "B"

A commendation from General Vandenburg, CG of Ninth Air Force, commending maintenance personnel on establishing an 83% operation status on all aircraft throughout the winter campaign was issued today. A special endorsement from General Weyland to the 368th Group commended it on maintaining a 90% operational average; while that of XIX TAC was 88%.

MAR 9 -- The weather finally cleared up enough to allow a mission to take off this afternoon. A group of warehouses and a marshalling yard at Limburg were bombed and although fires were observed, specific damage could not be determined because of mist and smoke. Mission pilots were: Krause, Brayton, Bauer, LeGrand, Lewis, Chancellor, Frisbie, and Horowitz.

MAR 10 -- Two missions today performed armed raids in the Saar Basin. A supply depot at Vogelbach was blasted with great damage and targets in the vicinity of Dilsburg were attacked with damage to several oil tanks, a radio station and several trucks. On the first mission were: Carbine, Barco, Patrick, Mostrach, Carlson, Laubaugh, Weinstein, and Leavoy, Kerr, Deputy, Tuite, and Woodworth.

Weather closed in on the second mission forcing our planes to drop their bombs through the overcast on Neunkirchen by Radar control. Krause, Hord, Wright, Thornton, Hogan, Keil, Fauley, Uterhart, Clary, Knooihuizen, Sharp, and Horowitz took part

MAR 11 -- Bad weather held all planes on the ground today. Group Special Orders No. 25 of this date place Lt Ludwig on temporary duty for three days to assist in moving the 83rd Airdrome Sq from A 94 to Trier. By the same orders, Capt Krause and Lts Patrick, Hogan, and Arledge are sent to the Riviera for seven days. Lt Sharp is sent to the Fighter Control Center at Hq XIX Tactical Control Group for two days to visit the installations there.

MAR 12 -- All planes grounded again today due to bad weather conditions.

MAR 13 -- Horlacher, Barco, Tuite, and Horowitz flew an uneventful patrol mission in the area of Saarbrücken and Thionville this noon.

The second mission bombed the M/T Repair Shops at Friedberg. Their bombing was very effective and most of the area was left in flames. They also destroyed two locomotives, two busses and about ten motor transport. Pilots were: Kerr, Knooihuizen, Baker, Woodworth, Lewis, Brayton, Weinstein, Thornton, Bauer, Shea, Tuite, Horowitz, Barker, Chancellor, Fauley, and Leavoy.

The third mission bombed the marshalling yard at Dirmingen. 15 cars were destroyed by bombs and 50 others were damaged by strafing. On this mission were: Carbine, Deputy, Frisbie, Price, Weinstein, Fein, Koenig, Bauer, Laubaugh, Kalen, LeGrand, Carson, Barco, Baker, and Halpin.

Squadron Orders No. 3 of this date appoint Lt Gundlach Soldier Voting Officer.

Group Special Orders No. 24 of this date assign Pvt Irvin F. Mirkle and Pvt Irving Schluman to this squadron.

MAR 14 -- * * * * *
 * ONE YEAR AGO TODAY, 368TH GROUP *
 * BECAME OPERATIONAL IN UK *
 * * * * *

Today marks the first anniversary of the 368th Group as an operational unit. In celebration of this important event dances were held for both the Officers and Enlisted Men on the town of Metz.

It has been a year of very intense activity and great accomplishment, (if destruction can be thus termed) by the group. The 397th has played a very large part in these operations and leads in most of the categories of destruction. Some of the Group totals are as follows: Sorties flown: 13,418; Tons of bombs dropped: 4249; Tanks: 483 destroyed,

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Installment XIV

HISTORY OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

Section B

551 damaged; Motor transport: 5457 destroyed, 1813 damaged; Locomotives: 224 destroyed, 51 damaged; Rail road cars: 1678 destroyed, 1594 damaged; Aircraft: 114 destroyed, 16 damaged, 52 probably destroyed. There were 233 operational days during the year.

A letter of appreciation was received from the Commanding Officer of the 368th Group, Lt Col Frank S. Perego, thanking all members of the unit for their splendid cooperation in building up such an eminent organization and expressing his confidence in their continued successful efforts.

Three missions were flown today. The first mission bombed a storage area at Montabaur. The bombing was very accurate and virtually destroyed the installation. Mission pilots were: Carbine, Farco, Frisbie, LeGrand, Weinstein, Deputy, Kalen, Koenig, Lewis, Brayton, Fein, Hunt, Horlacher, Elliott, Leavoy, and Price.

Barker, Chancellor, Fauley, and Halpin dropped leaflet bombs in advance of the 3rd Army drive without incident.

 * BIG BATTLE NEAR * the 396th Squadron. While bombing, the controller called over
 * MAINZ. SCORE : * radio that the 395th Squadron was in a fight south of Mainz.
 * 6-0-1 FOR NO LOSSES * There was plenty left for our boys when they got there. They
 * * * * * tangled with the Jerries at from 12000' to 18000' altitude
 and emerged with four battle damaged only, after shooting down six enemy planes and probably destroying a seventh. Individual victories were scored by Lt Fein with one ME 109 destroyed; Lt LeGrand - one ME 109 destroyed, one ME 109 probably destroyed. Lt Barker - two ME 109's destroyed; and Lt Chancellor two ME 109's destroyed. This was our first aerial combat since the 16 January and the clear cut victory provided and added climax to our first anniversary celebration.

MAR 15 -- One mission got off about noon today and bombed a rail bridge far inside Germany. The bridge was not seriously damaged but they did clobber a train of 15 cars near the bridge. Carlson, Leubaugh, Frisbie, Halpin, Weinstein, Elliott, Sharp, Hunt, Bauer, Shepard, Kalen, Koenig, Kerr, Knooihuizen, Tuite, and Woodworth flew.

Group Special Orders No. 25 of this date restored T/Sgt Herbert D. Gray to his former rank of Master Sergeant.

MAR 16 -- Two of today's four missions were spent attacking the same rail bridge that our planes went after yesterday. On the first mission, Lt Thornton scored a direct hit which did great damage to the superstructure but failed to drop the span into the river. Carbine, Deputy, Fauley, Halpin, Lewis, Brayton, Fein, Thornton, Weinstein, Elliott, Sharp, Bauer, Horlacher, Chancellor, Leavoy, and Helliesen took part. The second mission pounded out one of the approaches but failed to damage the bridge. They destroyed 4 locomotives and forty-three rail cars, however. Mission pilots were: Kerr, Deputy, Baker, Woodworth, Clary, Buck, Arledge, Uterhart, Lewis, Leubaugh, Fein, Hunt, Baker, Shea, Sharp, and Leavoy.

Lt Col Douglas and Lts Wright, Yandel, and Halpin dropped leaflets on several towns in front of the 3rd Army drive and strafed a train of 25 cars.

The last mission was sent off in a hurry without bombs to patrol the Ramagen bridgehead over the Rhine. Lt Bauer's flight destroyed 3 halftracks, 2 large vans, 6 MT and damaged 5 tanks. Lt Weinstein tangled with a mysterious blood red P 38 over our field. It bore no markings and made a pass at Lt Weinstein's plane, but later evaded towards Nacey. Mission pilots were: Carbine, Chancellor, Kalen, Price, Weinstein, Keil, Tuite, Koenig, Bauer, Knooihuizen, Helliesen, LeGrand, Clary, Elliott, Koetrack, and Thornton.

MAR 17 -- Bad weather prevented all operations today.

1st Lt Manuel K. Soo finished his tour of duty with the 397th today and prepared to leave. He had been with the squadron exactly one year and during this time had flown 101 combat missions. Lt Soo is being transferred to the 66th Fighter Wing of the 8th

0 1 1 3

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Installation XIV

HISTORY OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

Section " B2

Fighter Command under the 8th Air Force, stationed in England. We understand that his plans for the future include marriage to his fiancée in England at the earliest possible date.

MAR 18 -- Again our first mission went out after the same railroad bridge near Sachsenhausen. This time the scored five hits of undamaged portions of the bridge and an additional hit in the existing breach. 2 locomotives were destroyed, 1 damaged and 21 cars were shot up. Pilots were: Carbine, Barco, Helliesen, Hunt, Bauer, Koenig, Yandel, LeGrand, Clary, Buck, Uterhart, Leavoy, Barker, Woodworth, Baker, and Kostrach. The second mission headed up north east of Frankfurt where they destroyed 20 box cars, 10 small warehouses and 2 administrative buildings by very accurate bombing. On this mission were: Kerr, Laubaugh, Barker, Halpin, Bauer, Deputy, Fein, Wright, Clary, Knooihuizen, Tuite, Price, Weinstein, Shea, Arledge, and Hord.

The third mission carried no bombs and went out on a strafing party on the Frankfurt Hanau area. Kerr and Barco shot up a train of 15 flat cars carrying 4 MT each as well as three oil cars. A large oil truck with Red Cross markings was strafed and burned fiercely, showing the perfidious devices to which the German army has been driven. Kerr and Barco also damaged 100 additional camouflaged vehicles. Carbine, Johnston, Fein, Wright, Barker, Elliott, Kostrach, Arledge, Horlacher, Buck, Yandel, LeGrand, Kerr, and Barco took part.

A commendation from General Weyland was subsequently received by Group for the work done today. The commendation reads in part -"your splendid accomplishments have decisively affected the ability of the enemy to prolong the uselesstruggle, and ultimate victory is nearer because of your efforts."

MAR 19 -- Today was very active with five missions going out to demoralize the enemy in front of the rapidly advancing 3rd Army.

The first mission destroyed 2 oil tanks and four tank cars at the Ebenhausen Fuel Dump, in addition to destroying 6 locomotives. Pilots were: Carbine, Elliott, Wright, Hunt, Bauer, Johnston, Baker, Leavoy, Clary, Keil, Helliesen, Price, Barker, Hord, Arledge, and Kostrach.

The second mission bombed Wendelsheim destroying eight buildings. Kerr, Knooihuizen, Yandel, Woodworth, Weinstein, Laubaugh, Tuite, and Halpin.

Carbine, Helliesen, Koenig, Uterhart, Clary, and Shea flew the third mission which destroyed 8 rail cars and damaged 10, and clobbered 50 or 40 horse drawn vehicles.

The fourth mission bombed Armcheim destroying seven buildings and knocking out a few gun positions and vehicles. Barker, Barco, Kostrach, Arledge, Tuite, Deputy, Baker, and Leavoy took part.

Flonheim was the target of the fifth mission, where three vehicles and ten buildings were destroyed. It was too dark to straf. Kerr, Buck, Wright, Hunt, Weinstein, and Keil flew.

A commendation from the historian of XIX TAC was received today by Group complimenting the three squadron historians on the excellence of their February installments.

Group Special Orders No. 27 of this date attach S/Sgt Joseph A. Cavala to this sq squadron.

MAR 20 -- As General Patton's Third Army presses on toward and across the Rhine spearhead by the Fourth Armored Division, our missions become more and more extended. 16 planes are sent out on a mission and frequently stay out over three hours. Although briefings are very early and the planes take off at dawn, three of these missions generally consume all of the daylight hours. Today's operations were typical of this phase.

The first mission bombed a supply depot near Frankfurt. Fires and explosions were caused. A great variety of targets were strafed. 5 locomotives and 10 cars were destroyed and 7 cars were damaged, 5 MT were destroyed and 5 damaged and several coal gas tanks were destroyed. Krause, Johnston, Wright, Halpin, Tuite, Knooihuizen, Yandel, Woodworth, Hogan, Keil, Patrick, Price, Clary, Buck, Helliesen, and Hord were on the mission.

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Installation XIV

HISTORY OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

Section "B"

The second mission demolished a small MT park with very accurate bombing. 12 box cars were strafed. Mission pilots were: Carlson, Johnston, Wright, Halpin, Tuite, Knooihuizen, Yandel, Woodworth, Clary, Keil, Horowitz, Price, Kerr, Deputy, Helliesen, and Hord.

The third mission bombed and strafed a motor vehicles park near Heidingsfeld. Several warehouse buildings and several vehicles were destroyed, but smoke largely obliterated the target making assessment difficult. Mission pilots: Carbine, Johnston, Wright, Halpin, Tuite, Knooihuizen, Yandel, Woodworth, ~~Clary~~, Keil, Horowitz, Price, Kerr, Deputy, Helliesen and Hord.

Clary

MAR 21 -- Three rail cutting missions north east of Frankfurt occupied the squadron today. The first mission missed the rails due to bad weather conditions but claimed a few vehicles destroyed by strafing. Pilots were: Krause, Buck, Baber, Hunt, Hogan, Elliott, Horowitz, LeGrand, Weinstein, Barco, Patrick, Uterhart, Clary, Shea, Kostrach, and Koenig. The second mission was deterred from their rail cutting assignment when they sighted thirty ME 109's over Frankfurt. They dropped their bombs on the city destroying two large buildings and cutting rails. The enemy aircraft were high above ours and managed to evade. They did not attack and by the time our planes had gained sufficient altitude they had gotten away. Pilots were: Carbine, Price, Perego, Halpin, Tuite, Laubaugh, Yandel, Woodworth, Bauer, Johnston, Wright, Leavoy, Baker, Keil, Arledge, and Hord.

High cross winds foiled the attempt by the third mission to cut the first assigned stretch of track, but the second stretch was cut in two places and a bridge destroyed. 20 rail cars were destroyed and 25 damaged by strafing. Kerr, Knooihuizen, Fein, Hunt, Hogan, Shea, Horowitz, LeGrand, Weinstein, Barco, Baker, Uterhart, Clary, Buck, Kostrach, and Koenig took part.

MAR 22 -- XIX TAC is very insistent about getting our two stretches of rail cut and two more missions were sent out after the same rail lines today. The object is to prevent the Germans from bring up reinforcements to attack the First Army bridgehead across the Rhine at Remagen. The first mission cut the first stretch in one place and the second in three places. 8 locomotives and 34 rail cars were destroyed and 30 rail cars damaged. Capt Kerr's flight did most of the strafing. Carlson, Barco, Baker, Halpin, Tuite, Knooihuizen, Patrick, Woodworth, Bauer, Shepard, Horowitz, LeGrand, Kerr, Chancellor, Fauley, and Hord.

***** The rail line was cut in one place and damaged
* LT WRIGHT GETS A BIG BANG OUT * at three other places by the second mission. In
* OF HIS WORK * the strafing which followed, Lt Wright got better
***** results than he had bargained for. He strafed a
small building in a supply depot which exploded with such force that it nearly knocked
him out of the air. His plane was badly damaged. A column of smoke shot up 6000 feet high
and some of our planes as high as 10000' were rocked by the force of the explosion. It
was thought that liquid hydrogen may have been stored in the building. Several other build-
ings as well as 20 freight cars disappeared. In addition, 12 buildings were set on fire,
35 box cars were damaged and 40 to 50 MTs were strafed and damaged. Pilots were: Carbine,
Johnston, Wright, Uterhart, Lewis, Brayton, Fein, Hunt, Weinstein, Shea, Arledge, Price,
Barker, Keil, Kostrach, and Leavoy.

***** The third mission went out without bombs to straf rail traffic
* 261 RAIL CARS * near Fulda. They inflicted terrific damage. 3 locomotives were destroyed;
* DESTROYED OR * 130 box cars were destroyed, 50 damaged; 31 oil cars were destroyed and 30
* DAMAGED ON * damaged. In addition, 11 MT were destroyed and 6 damaged. Most of the
* ONE MISSION ! * box cars contained ammunition which continued to burn and explode for some
***** time. This was our biggest day of rail traffic destruction so far
with 12 locomotives and 360 rail cars either destroyed or damaged. Krause, Barco, Baker,
Deputy, Tuite, Laubaugh, Patrick, Woodworth, Hogan, Koenig, Horowitz, LeGrand, Clary,
Buck, Fauley, and Hord flew the third mission.

Group Special Orders No. 29 of this date appoint Lt Frisbie a Class "A" Finance Officer
and assign Pvt Kenneth L. Kallenberg to this squadron.

0115

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Installment XIV

HISTORY OF THE 397th FIGHTER SQUADRON

Section B

MAR 23 -- Another big day of making life hell for the Jerries as they hastily withdraw from many square miles of the "sacred soil of the Reich" under the onslaught of the First and Third Armies. A marshalling yard was bombed near Wurzburg and great damage was caused although the results were covered by clouds of smoke and dust. By strafing, 1 MT was destroyed, 4 damaged; 64 rail cars damaged. They also strafed an airfield near Wurzburg. Barker and Chancellor destroyed a JU 88, Shea an ME 109, and Arledge an ME 109. On this mission were: Carbine, Johnston, Helliesen, Halpin, Lewis, Knooihuizen, Fein, Hunt, Bauer, Deputy, Yandel, LeGrand, Barker, Chancellor, Arledge, and Shea.

The second mission bombed two marshalling yards near Aschaffenburg. At least 18 cars were destroyed and 14 damaged. In the same yards, strafing started many fires which exploded ammunitions damaging or destroying 90 more box cars. 3 locomotives were destroyed and three damaged as well as 22 more box cars damaged. 15 barges were strafed and damaged on the Rhine. Douglas, Buck, Helliesen, Price, Lewis, Johnston, Wright, Hunt, Barker, Chancellor, Kostrach, Shea, Horlacher, Keil, Uterhart, and Horowitz flew.

***** The third mission went after the airfield near Wurzburg again. 2 planes were destroyed and 4 damaged by bombs. Lt Col Douglas destroyed an ME 262 and Lt Buck damaged an ME 262 by strafing. In addition an ammunition dump was strafed with large explosives and fire, 6 barracks, 6 trucks, and 5 rail cars were destroyed plus 2 locomotives destroyed and 15 rail cars. Lt Col Douglas, Buck, Helliesen, Price, Lewis, Johnston, Wright, Hunt, Barker, Chancellor, Kostrach, Shea, Horlacher, Keil, Uterhart, and Horowitz flew on this mission.

Group Special Orders No. 30 of this date send Lt Col Carbine and Lts Horowitz and Leavoy to the Riviera for seven days operational leave. Lt Gundlach is appointed to the Board of Officers for the purpose of reclassification of enlisted personnel.

Special Orders No. 82 of Hq Ninth Air Force of this date announce the promotion of the following officers of this squadron from Second Lieutenant to First Lieutenant: Lts Arledge, Kostrach, Uterhart, Wright, Horowitz, and Leavoy.

SECRET

***** Today saw eight, eight ship missions flown, establishing a new record in number of sorties for any one day by this squadron. * 64 SORTIES FLOWN * A NEW * All of these missions were flown without bombs, as area cover for the 12th Corps, between Weisbaden, Aschaffenburg, and Bad Nauheim. * TODAY * SQUADRON RECORD * The first mission was the only one that did any strafing. Two * MARC 24 * locomotives were destroyed and 12 cars full of troops were damaged. Krause, Brayton, Leavoy, Koenig, Weinstein, Barco, Uterhart, Horowitz, were the pilots. The seven other missions were completely uneventful.

MAR 25 -- Our long spell of good weather held today permitting three missions of sixteen ships each. They were all armed recces to Bad Kissingen and back. Two marshalling yards were bombed on the first mission, destroying two locomotives and seven cars and damaging 23 other cars. Strafing destroyed 5 locomotives and damaged 12 cars, a barge, and 4 MT. Pilots were: Krause, Laubaugh, Helliesen, Woodworth, Hogan, Keil, Patrick, Koenig, Lewis, Brayton, Wright, Hunt, Clary, Johnston, Arledge, and Kostrach.

Bombing on the second mission destroyed 2 tanks, 5 MT and 2 horse drawn vehicles. Strafing destroyed 84 MT and damaged 25. 38 horse drawn vehicles were destroyed and 12 damaged, as well as several miscellaneous targets. Kerr, Laubaugh, Dame, Koenig, Weinstein, Buck, Fein, Shea, Tuite, Barco, Yandel, Price, Barker, Chancellor, Baker, and Hord flew this mission.

The third mission of the day destroyed two oil tanks and ten rail cars. Twelve cars were damaged. Strafing damaged 2 tanks, and 4 MT. 28 MT were destroyed as well as 2 radio installations.

Squadron Orders No. 9 of this date state that Major Tuite has assumed command of this squadron during the temporary absence of Lt Col Carbine at the Riviera. Squadron Orders No. 10 of this date appoint Capt Johnston Inspecting Officer to investigate and check the mess

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Installation XIV

HISTORY OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

Section "B"

operation of this organization.

MAR 26 -- Bad weather this morning turned back our planes before they reached the target area. A second mission got off this afternoon and bombed a marshalling yard at Biskirchen and an oil refinery at Beienheim. The bombing destroyed 5 cars, a switch house, and a large warehouse. Several tank cars were destroyed by the bombing at the oil refinery. Strafing destroyed two oil tanks and several water tanks. The boiler house and other installations were severely injured. Krause, Elliott, Dame, Kostrach, Hogan, Keil, Helliesen, Uterhart, Lewis, Brayton, Patrick, Wright, Clary, Johnston, Arledge, and Koenig took part in this mission.

MAR 27 -- Poor weather held up operations until this afternoon. A mission finally got off in support of the VIII Corps. They bombed a refinery at Wolfersheim with excellent results and left it a burning ruin. Strafing destroyed 82 vehicles and damaged 16. Miscellaneous targets included one locomotive destroyed, one damaged; 2 unidentified buildings and 2 barracks damaged; 75 personnel and a flak position strafed.

MAR 28 -- The first mission was to have escorted medium bombers to a rail bridge far east of the Rhine, but because of unsettled weather conditions the take off was at first called off and then scheduled again. Due to the resulting delay, our planes failed to meet the bombers at the rendez-vous point and the mission was fruitless. Pilots were: Kerr, Shepard, Fauley, Hunt, Lewis, Thornton, Helliesen, Wright, Hogan, Keil, Patrick, Arledge, Barker, Chancellor, Kostrach, and Shea.

The second mission went out without bombs and did some strafing. They destroyed 118 vehicles of various types and damaged 17. They were part of the forces that the Germans are frantically withdrawing east of the Rhine. Krause, Knooihuizen, Frisbie, Deputy, Tuite, Elliott, Baker, Price, Bauer, Halpin, Uterhart, LeGrand, Dame, Buck, Yandel, Koenig, Fein and Hord took part in this great haul.

The 397th suffered the loss of its oldest and most popular pilot on this mission. Lt George L. Bauer failed to pull out of his strafing pass. His plane crashed before he had a chance to bail out. Lt Bauer had established a reputation for the the fearless tactics he displayed while on missions. His plane always seemed to bear the brunt of any battle damage sustained by the squadron. He entered the squadron on 26 June 1944, while it was stationed at Strip 3. Lt Bauer's home was Dundee, Illinois.

MAR 29 -- Rain and heavy clouds today prevented any operations against the enemy. Lt Yandel received a slipping from the "South Town Economist" of Chicago, Ill, telling of his meeting with his brother overseas. Lt Yandel's brother, Pvt William Yandel, is with a division of General Patch's Seventh Army.

Our mathematically minded Ordnance Officer, Lt Ludwig, figured out that if all of the bombs dropped by this squadron were dropped in one gigantic ~~xx~~ raid, a bomb would fall every second for two hours and fifty-five seconds.

Group Special Orders No. 32 of this date send Capt Kerr and Lts Kostrach and Wright to the Biviera for seven days leave. Pfc Willis E. Harrison is assigned to this squadron and S/Sgt Gilbert C. Loveless, who is assigned to Group Hq, is attached to this squadron for rations, quarters, and administration.

MAR 30 -- Today's only operation was an uneventful escort mission for medium bombers. Our planes rendez-voused with them at Kirn and went on deep into Germany from there. Bombing of an unknown target was done through a 10/10 overcast. Pilots of this mission were: Krause, Kostrach, Patrick, Halpin, Weinstein, Elliott, Fein, Hunt, Tuite, Shepard, Helliesen, Koenig, Yandel, Buck, Arledge, and LeGrand.

MAR 31 -- Two very long armed reconnaissance missions took up all

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Installment XIV

HISTORY OF THE 397TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

Section B

of today's operational time. Our troops have pushed eastward so quickly that the bomblines is almost at the limit of our operational range even with belly tanks. Missions are now running over three hours each.

A barracks area and a supply dump were bombed and strafed by the first mission with good results. One barracks was destroyed, five damaged. Two of the storage buildings were destroyed and thirteen additional buildings damaged. Three cars and four tanks were damaged. Carlen, Knocihuizen, Helliesen, Halpin, Sharp, Thornton, Weinstein, Busk, Fein, LeGrand, Clary, Elliott, Kalen, and Koenig flew on this mission.

The second mission carried no bombs. They strafed near Armstadt. 18 vehicles were destroyed as well as three locomotives and several box cars. Pilots were: Kerr, Brayton, Hogan, Hunt, Tuite, Laubaugh, Kostrach, Keil, Barker, Shea, Arledge, Hord, Bame, Shepard, Patrick, and Uterhart flew on the mission.

The advent of Easter will be celebrated tonight with a dance at the officers club.

SECRET

0118

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

History

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
IX TACTICAL AIR COMMAND
APO 898, U S Army

REPORT)

NUMBER) 46

CONFIRMATION OF VICTORY CREDITS BOARD-Air

7 March 1945

The "Confirmation of Victory Credits Board", as appointed by par. 8,30 36, this Headquarters dated 7 February 1945, awards victory credit claims to the following officers this command:

NAME	GROUP	SQDN	DATE	VICTORY CLAIM			CONFIRMED VICTORY			UNCONFIRMED VICTORY			E/A	PLACE	REMARKS
				D	P	DM	D	P	DM	D	P	DM			

2nd Lt Gordon L. Mongar	368	395	19-11-44	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	FW 190	Heister area	none
2nd Lt Frederick C. Stoll Jr.	368	397	21-10-44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	FW 190	Aachen area	Shared with Lt Murphy.
2nd Lt Vernon V. Murphy	368	397	21-10-44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	FW 190	Aachen area	Shared with Lt. Stoll

ELIAS H. WARREN,
Lt Col., Air Corps,
President of Board.

MEMBERS:
(SIDNEY F. BRODY, LT COL, AC _____
(JAMES A. REDDUPETH, MAJOR, AC _____
(HARRY R. JAMES, CAPT, AC _____

APPROVED:

BY command of Major General QUASADA:

A. C. KINCAID,
Brig Gen, USA
Chief of Staff.

A TRUE COPY

Morton H. Magnus
MORTON H. MAGNUS
1st Lt, Air Corps
397th S-2 Officer.

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

History

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT)
NUMBER) 47HEADQUARTERS
IX TACTICAL AIR COMMAND
APO 995, US Army

CONFIRMATION OF VICTORY CREDITS BOARD - AIR

16 March 1945

The "Confirmation of Victory Credits Board", as appointed by par 6, SO 96, this Headquarters dated 7 February 1945, awards victory credit claims to the following officers this command:

NAME	GROUP	SQDN	DATE	VICTORY CLAIM			UNCONFIRMED VICTORY			E/A	PLACE	REMARKS
				D	P	DM	D	P	DM			

Capt William R. Gibson	368	397	11/9	1	0	0	0	0	0	ME 109	Eupen	None

ELIAS H. WARREN,
Lt Col, Air Corps,
President of Board.

MEMBERS:

(SIDNEY F. BRODY, LT COL AC _____
(JAMES A. HEDGRATH, MAJOR, AC _____
(HARRY A. JAMES, CAPT, AC _____

APPROVED:

By command of Major General QUESADA:

A. C. KINCAID,
Brig Gen, USA,
Chief of Staff.

A TRUE COPY:

Morton H. Magnus
MORTON H. MAGNUS
1st Lt, Air Corps
397th S-2 Officer

CONFIDENTIAL

0120

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

COMBAT REPORT ***** 2ND LIEUTENANT CHARLES E. LEGRAND ***** O-830023

A. Type of Action : Combat
 B. Date : 14 March 1945
 C. Unit : 368th Fighter Group , 397th Fighter Squadron
 D. Time of Attack : 1516 hours
 E. Place of Attack : Area of Mainz
 F. Weather : 9/10 thin cirrostratus at 18000' visibility good
 G. Type of Target : 40 to 50 ME 109's
 H. Claims : One ME 109 destroyed, one ME 109 probably destroyed
 I. Account of Combat :

I, 2nd Lt Charles E. LeGrand, O-830023, was flying Tropic Yellow four on a Dive Bombing Mission at the town of Boppard on 14 March 1945. As we were bombing, we received a call to go to the aid of the 395th Fighter Squadron which was engaged in a fight near Mainz. We immediately headed for the fight and arrived at about 15000' altitude. My element leader, 1st Lt Vernon O. Fein, O-767175, and I broke into two ME 109's coming at us head on from 11 o'clock. I looked back and saw a single ME 109 slightly above us. He dove down between me and my element leader. I racked my plane over ~~it~~ to the right to get him into my line of sight and fired a long burst. I saw many hits on the fuselage and cowling. He went into a spin to the right and I saw the pilot bail out after about five turns.

Later, as we were headed in an easterly direction, I spotted an ME 109 on the tail of a red nosed P 47'. The E/A snap rolled to the left and then went into a spiral to the right, I dove after him and fired, I saw strikes on his fuselage and black smoke poured out. He started to spin down so I pulled up in order to rejoin my leader. I did not see him go in.

I claim one ME 109 destroyed and one ME 109 probably destroyed.

J. Ammunition expended : 380 rounds

Charles E. LeGrand
 CHARLES E. LEGRAND
 2nd Lt, Air Corps
 Pilot, 397th Ftr Sqdn

1. Combat film exists.
2. Combat film was forwarded to XIX TAC on 15 March 1945.

0 1 2 1

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

SUPPORTING STATEMENT OF FIRST LIEUTENANT VERNON O. FEIN, O-767175
FOR COMBAT REPORT OF SECOND LIEUTENANT CHARLES E. LEGRAND, O-830023

A. Type of Action : Combat
 B. Date : 14 March 1945
 C. Unit : 368th Fighter Group - 397th Fighter Squadron
 D. Time of Attack : 1615 hours
 E. Place of Attack : Area of Mainz
 F. Weather : 9/10 thin cirro-stratus at 18000' - visibility good
 G. Type of Target : 40 to 50 ME 109's
 H. Claims : Supporting the claim of 2nd Lt Charles E. LeGrand
 O-830023 to one ME 109 destroyed. (1st LeGrand also
 probably destroyed one ME 109)

I. Account of Combat :

I, 1st Lt Vernon O. Fein, ASN O-767175 was flying Tropic Yellow three on a Dive Bombing Mission at Boppard on 14 March 1945. 2nd Lt Charles E. LeGrand, ASN O-830023 was my wingman. We were called to the aid of the 395th Fighter Squadron which was engaged in a dogfight near Mainz. As we approached the area at about 15000', we broke into two ME 109's. Lt LeGrand fell back just far enough to allow another ME 109 dive between his plane and mine. The E/A apparently did not see my wingman, for it started to close in on me. Lt LeGrand was in a perfect position and quickly pulled up on the E/A. He fired a long, accurate burst. I saw strikes on the center of the fuselage and on the top part of the cowling. The pilot of the E/A hesitated for a second and then jettisoned his canopy as the plane started to spin. I saw him bail out and his chute open.

I confirm Lt LeGrand's claim to one ME 109 destroyed.

Vernon O. Fein
 VERNON O. FEIN
 1st Lt, Air Corps
 Pilot 397th Ftr Sqdn

1. Combat film exists
2. Combat film was forwarded to XIX TAC on 15 March 1945

C O N F I D E N T I A L

0 1 2 2

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

COMBAT REPORT ***FIRST LIEUTENANT VERNON O. FEIN *** O-767175

A. Type of Action : Combat
 B. Date : 14 March 1945
 C. Unit : 368th Fighter Group, 397th Fighter Squadron
 D. Time of Attack : 1615 hours
 E. Place of Attack : Area of Mainz
 F. Weather : 9/10 thin cirro-stratus at 18000' Visibility good
 G. Type of Target : 40 to 50 ME 109's
 H. Claims : One ME 109 destroyed
 I. Account of Combat :

I, 1st Lt Vernon O Fein, ASN O-767175, was flying Tropic Yellow three on a Dive Bombing Mission in the area of Boppard on 14 March 1945. We received a call to go to the area of Mainz where the 397th Fighter Squadron was engaged in combat with forty or fifty ME 109's. We finished bombing and flew to the area of the . fight. We were at about 15000'. I saw two ME 109's coming in at my wingman and me. I broke hard left to come out on their tails. The lead E/A didn't see me as I broke out of the sun. I fired a short burst at him and he went into a steep climb trying to shake me. After a few turns he again pulled into about a 70 degree climb straight ahead. I closed to 300 feet and fired a long burst. I saw many strikes on his wing roots and canopy and saw pieces fly off. Smoke poured out. He then leveled off, jettisoned his canopy and started a turn to the right. From this right turn the E/A went into a flat spin and started down leaving a heavy, black trail of smoke. My wingman and I followed him down from 16000' to the deck where he hit on a clump of woods and exploded. The pilot did not bail out.

I claim one ME 109 destroyed.

J. Ammunition expended : 350 rounds

Vernon O. Fein
 VERNON O. FEIN
 1st Lt, Air Corps
 Pilot, 397th Ftr Sqdn

1. Combat film exists
2. Combat film was forwarded to XIX TAC on 15 March 1945

C O N F I D E N T I A L

0 1 2 3

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

SUPPORTING STATEMENT OF 2ND LIEUTENANT CHARLES E. LEGRAND, ASN O-830023 FOR
COMBAT REPORT OF 1ST LIEUTENANT VERNON O. FEIN, ASN O-767175

A. Type of Action : Combat
 B. Date : 14 March 1945
 C. Unit : 368th Fighter Group, 397th Fighter Squadron
 D. Time of Attack : 1615 hours
 E. Place of attack : Area of Mainz
 F. Weather : 9/10 thin cirro-stratus at 18000' visibility good
 G. Type of Target : 40 to 50 ME 109's
 H. Claims : Supporting the claim of Vernon O. Fein, O-767175 to one ME 109 destroyed.

I. Account of Combat :

I, 2nd Lt Charles E. LeGrand, O-830023, was flying the wing of 1st Lt Vernon O. Fein, O-767175 on a Dive Bombing Mission at Boppard on 14 March 1945. We were called to the aid of the 395th Fighter Squadron which was engaged in a dogfight near Mainz. As we entered that area at about 15000', Lt Fein broke sharply to the left into two ME 109's which were closing in on us from 11 o'clock high. He got on the tail of one of the E/A and, climbing at a rather steep angle, he opened fire. I saw a number of hits on the wing roots and fuselage of the E/A, and several pieces flew off. The pilot jettisoned his canopy but did not bail out. The E/A began to smoke badly and went into a spin. I followed it as it spun down to the ground where it exploded.

I confirm Lt Fein's claim to one ME 109 destroyed.

Charles E. LeGrand
 CHARLES E. LEGRAND
 2nd Lt, Air Corps
 Pilot, 397th Ftr Sqdn

1. Combat film exists.
2. Combat film was forwarded to XIX TAC on 15 March 1945.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

0 1 2 4

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

COMBAT REPORT*****FIRST LIEUTENANT BOB V. BARKER ***** ASN O-763463

A. Type of Action : Combat
 B. Date : 14 March 1945
 C. Unit : 388th Fighter Group, 397th Fighter Squadron
 D. Time of Attack : 1015 hours
 E. Place of Attack : Area of Mainz
 F. Weather : 9/10 thin cirro-stratus Mt 18000' Visibility good
 G. Type of Target : 40 to 50 ME 109's
 H. Claims : Two ME 109's destroyed
 I. Account of Combat :

I, 1st Lt Bob V. Barker ASN O-763463, was leading Tropic Green flight on a two-squadron Dive Bombing Mission with the 398th Fighter Squadron in the vicinity of Eppard, Germany, on the afternoon of 14 March 1945. While the target was being bombed, radio conversation revealed that the 398th Fighter Squadron, on a separate mission, had encountered a great number of enemy fighters in the area south and west of Frankfurt. Bombing was quickly completed at our target, and both our squadrons set course for the vicinity of the scramble. After flying as far south as Worms, at an altitude of 15000'-16000', we turned back to the north along the Rhine River. Just west of Gersheim, my flight, flying at 18000', observed a scramble taking place a few hundred feet above us. We immediately climbed in the direction of the two ME 109's which were flying west and were being tailed by two P 47's. However, believing they were well taken care of, I broke off pursuit and followed another ME 109 which was turning east. As I closed on him, he began a turn to the right. I fired two or three bursts from about 300 yards without observing results. With the following burst, from an angle of about 90 degrees, same range, I observed a flash of fire on the right wing root of the E/A. He rolled into a spin, and I maintained my altitude observing his fall. About 2000' below, he recovered and began a gentle climb. I dived in pursuit and again closed to firing range. With deflection of about 15 degrees, at 200 yards, I observed hits in the fore part of the fuselage. The E/A began to burn and to smoke profusely, and went into a violent spin. Several pieces flew off the E/A. I watched him spin down apparently out of control, for perhaps 5000'. I saw no parachute.

I then climbed in pursuit of another ME 109 a few hundred feet above me. I closed to about 400 yards in a very steep climb, and believing that he might outdistance me in that attitude, I fired a couple of short bursts, I observed no strikes, but the pilot kicked his ship into a hammer-head turn to the right. When he was at a point of about 20 degrees head-on, I fired again observing no hits, and as he passed me in a dive, I rolled onto his tail as he began his pull-out. He began a series of evasive rolls, and I fired several short bursts from maximum range. He went into a sort of flat spin, and, diving steeply above him, I fired a long burst as I closed to approximately 75 yards. As a flash of flame covered the E/A, my first tracers showed. I initiated a recovery from my dive and watched him roll over on his back, as his prop ^{stopped and continued to spin to about 1800 feet}. I watched him spin downward for two or three turns. I then climbed ^{scared about to stop} ~~then climbed~~ ^{without losing} ~~without losing~~. I was unable to contact the enemy again.

Cloud cover was thin cirro-stratus above 18000' --about 9/10. Visibility was good at altitude.

I claim two ME 109's destroyed.

J. Ammunition expended : 1640 rounds

Bob V. Barker
 BOB V. BARKER
 1st Lt, Air Corps
 Pilot 397th Ftr Sqdn

1. Combat film exists.
2. Combat film was forwarded to XIX SAC on 15 March 1945.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

0 1 2 5

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

SUPPORTING STATEMENT OF SECOND LIEUTENANT JAMES W. CHANCELLOR, ASN O-822129
FOR COMBAT REPORT OF FIRST LIEUTENANT BOB. V. BARKER, ASN O-763463

A. Type of Action : Combat
 B. Date : 14 March 1945
 C. Unit : 368th Fighter Group, 397th Fighter Squadron
 D. Time of Attack : 1615 hours
 E. Place of Attack : Area of Mainz
 F. Weather : 9X0 thin cirro-stratus at 18000' -- visibility good
 G. Type of Target : 40 to 50 ME 109's
 H. Claims : Supporting the claim of 1st Lt Bob V. Barker, ASN O-763463 to one ME 109 destroyed. (Lt Barker also destroyed one additional ME 109)

I. Account of Combat :

I, 2nd Lt James W. Chancellor, O-822129, was flying the wing of 1st Lt Bob V. Barker, ASN O-763463 on a Dive Bombing Mission at Boppard, Germany on 14 March 1945. We were called to the aid of the 395th Fighter Squadron which was engaged in combat in the vicinity of Mainz. We arrived in the area at approximately 15000' and began searching for the fight. My leader, Lt Barker, sighted a single ME 109 and gave chase. We closed rapidly and Lt Barker started firing. The E/A broke right and Lt Barker fired again. There was a flash of flame near the right wing root. After about 90 degree of turn the E/A snapped into a spin and fell about 2000'. He recovered and started a slow climb, so Lt Barker and I went down after him again. Lt Barker closed in and fired again. There were many hits on the fuselage and the planes burst into flames. Several small pieces flew off the E/A as it went into a spin. I watched it spin down in flames nearly to the ground leaving a trail of heavy black smoke.

I support Lt Barker's claim to one ME 109 destroyed.

James W. Chancellor
 JAMES W. CHANCELLOR
 2nd Lt, Air Corps
 Pilot, 397th Ftr Sqdn

1. Combat film exists.
2. Combat film was forwarded to XIX TAC on 15 March 1945.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

SUPPORTING STATEMENT OF MAJOR JOHN J. TUITE, JR, ASN O-424795 FOR THE
COMBAT REPORT OF FIRST LIEUTENANT BOB. V. BARKER, ASN O-763463

A. Type of Action : Combat
 B. Date : 14 March 1945
 C. Unit : 368th Fighter Group, 397th Fighter Squadron
 D. Time of Attack : 1615 hours
 E. Place of Attack : Area of Mainz
 F. Weather : 9/10 cirro thin stratus at 18000' visibility good
 G. Type of Target : 40 to 60 ME 109's
 H. Claims : Supporting the claim of 1st Lt Bob V. Barker, ASN O-763463, to one ME 109 destroyed. (Lt Barker also destroyed one additional ME 109)

I. Account of Combat :

I, Major John J. Tuite, Jr, ASN O-424795, was flying Tropic Blue three on a Dive Bombing Mission on 14 March 1945. As we approached the area south of Mainz, our flight was attacked by approximately eight ME 109's. My wingman and I broke right to evade the attack. Shortly afterward, a single ME 109 made a pass at my element, and after evading, I started a climb after him. About this time, I observed two other P 47's, later identified as 1st Lt Bob V. Barker, ASN O-763462 and his wingman, attacking him. I continued my efforts to intercept this ME 109 and saw him do a steep wingover into the two P 47's behind him. This permitted Lt Barker to get on his tail and to fire upon him. The E/A took evasive action by doing rolls and then went into a spin. At this point I was directly over the spinning ME 109 and I pushed into a vertical dive after him. Before I had the opportunity of firing on the E/A, I observed many strikes hitting his fuselage and saw small parts of his aircraft flying off. I fired a short burst at this E/A and pulled out. I did not press my attack as I felt certain that he was finished. When I last saw this E/A he was going down in a flat spin.

I confirm Lt Barker's claim to one ME 109 destroyed.

John J. Tuite, Jr.
 JOHN J. TUITE
 Major, Air Corps
 Pilot, 397th Ftr Sqdn

1. Combat film exists
2. Combat film was forwarded to XIX TAC on 15 March 1945.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

0 1 2 7

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

COMBAT REPORT *** SECOND LIEUTENANT JAMES W. CHANCELLOR *** O-822129

A. Type of Action : Combat
 B. Date : 14 March 1945
 C. Unit : 368th Fighter Group, 397th Fighter Squadron
 D. Time Of Attack : 1615 hours
 E. Place of Attack : Area of Mainz
 F. Weather : 9/10 thin cirro-stratus at 18000' -- visibility good
 G. Type of Target : 40 to 50 ME 109's
 H. Claims- : Two ME 109's destroyed
 I. Account of Combat :

I, 2nd Lt James W. Chancellor, O-822129 was flying Tropic Green two on a two squadron Dive Bombing Mission on 14 March 1945. Tropic Green was flying top cover. The low squadron, Serum, had just started to bomb the town of Boppard, when Flapper Squadron called for help from the area of Mainz. We arrived in the area at about 15000'. My flight leader 1st Lt Bob V. Barker O-763463 sighted one lone ME 109 heading east and gave chase. We closed rapidly and Lt Barker fired. The E/A turned right and after about 90 degrees of turn he snapped into a spin. He recovered about two thousand feet below us and began to climb. Again Lt Barker closed in on him and fired. The E/A burst into flames and spun down out of control. We headed for another fight, but I lost my leader. I was searching for Lt Barker at about 15000' when I saw four P 47's chasing an ME 109. He was in a tight turn to the right. The E/A hit a high speed stall and snapped down to the right. He apparently didn't see me before trying this maneuver, as he came directly in front of me. I gave him a one second burst as he snapped, and he exploded. He burst into flames and headed down in a spin. I did not see the pilot bail out.

I then spotted another ME 109 being chased by five or six P 47's directly in front of me. The E/A went into a turn to the right, and I lined up for a shot, cutting across the circle instead of following him in an arc. The other P 47's were not firing but were trying to get a lead on him. He then tried the same maneuver as the previous ME 109, a snap down to the right. Again I was in the right position and fired on him as he snapped. I saw strikes on him and smoke poured out. He went into a spin. I did a wing over and followed him down. I pulled out at 1000' and watched him crash into the Rhine River. Again the pilot did not bail out.

I claim two ME 109's destroyed.

J. Ammunition expended : 1000 rounds

James W. Chancellor
 JAMES W. CHANCELLOR
 2nd Lt, Air Corps
 Pilot, 397th Ftr Sqdn

1. Combat film exists
2. Combat film was forwarded to XIX TAC on 15 March 1945.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

SUPPORTING STATEMENT OF SECOND LIEUTENANT WILLIAM A. SHEPARD, ASN O-830342 FOR
 COMBAT REPORT OF SECOND LIEUTENANT JAMES W. CHANCELLOR, ASN O-822129

A. Type of Action : Combat
 B. Date : 14 March 1945
 C. Unit : 368th Fighter Group, 397th Fighter Squadron
 D. Time of Attack : 1615 hours
 E. Place of Attack : Area of Mainz
 F. Weather : 9/10 thin cirro-stratus at 18000' visibility good
 G. Type of Target : 40 to 50 ME 109's
 H. Claims : Supporting the claim of 2nd Lt James W. Chancellor,
 O-822129 to one ME 109 destroyed. (Lt Chancellor also
 destroyed one additional ME 109)
 I. Account of Combat :

I, 2nd Lt William A. Shepard, ASN O-830342, was flying Tropic Yellow two on a Dive Bombing Mission at Boppard, Germany on 14 March 1945. We were called to the aid of the 397th Fighter Squadron which was engaged in a dogfight just south of Mainz. We were approaching Mainz at about 15000' when we were attacked by several ME 109's. Together with three other P 47's I gave chase to an ME 109. The E/A tried to evade us by making a tight turn to the right. He stalled out on the turn and snapped down to the right, 2nd Lt James W. Chancellor, ASN O-822129, who was flying below and in front of me, fired a high deflection burst at the E/A. I saw the ME 109 explode and burst into flames. I watched him spin down burning. The pilot did not bail out.

William A. Shepard

WILLIAM A. SHEPARD
 2nd Lt, Air Corps
 Pilot, 397th Ftr Sqdn

1. Combat film exists.
2. Combat film was forwarded to XIX TAC on 15 March 1945

C O N F I D E N T I A L

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L397th FS Rpt of Close Support and Dive Bombing Mission Sqn Miss No. 420.

- A - Ops Ord No. _____ Miss No. FKP-1 1 March 45 Miss for Day: 1
support for FEELSPARE (VIII Corps) at 27570. Divebombing.
- B - 368 FG, 397 FS. 4 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 0907, Gr BL in 0959, TOT 0945, Gr BL out 1050, Down 1106.
- D - Nil
- E - 4x2x500 RBX bombs. Inst, 1/40. 8 bombs in tgt area.
Planes contacted FEELSPARE who tried to relay them to LAMPHOOD, but they could not establish contact with LAMPHOOD until later on. RIFSAW 3 gave them L168850 as the location of a train, but there was no train or tracks at that point. They looked over all rail lines in that vicinity but found no trains. 2 bombs were dropped on a M/Y near Felm, L255880. 8 flak guns were mounted on a hill overlooking the M/Y. The bomb run was very high. Both bombs missed. There was an engine not in steam under an overpass in the M/Y. 50 to 60 cars were present, half of which were damaged. They were not attacked because of flak. 6 bombs were dropped on a M/Y at Rengen, L360812. The bomb run was also high due to flak. All bombs missed. MRO. 8 MT's were strafed and damaged by Capt Krause and Lt Keil at L15646. 1 tank was destroyed and 3 MT's destroyed at L1569 by Lt Kalen. Capt Krause strafed a mound which was a possible ammo dump immediately W of Halbergweich, L145625.. Small red fires were seen.
- F - Very int acc lt flak at L255880
Mod acc hvy flak at L255880
Int acc lt flak at L360812
Mod acc lt flak at L1695
- G - Nil
- H - 10/10 alto-cumulus in a thin layer base 5500' to 4500'. 3 to 5/10 scud from 1500 to 2500'. Vis varied from good to poor between scud and overcast.
- I - Code not used.
- J - RIFSAW 3 was inaccurate in placing position of planes.

Krause, Keil, Kalen, Morowitz.

C o n f i d e n t i a l

0 1 3 0

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

597th Ftr Sqdn S-2 Rpt on a Close Support and Dive Bombing -- 1 March 1945 -- Sqdn
Mission No. 421

- A.- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. FKA-1 -- Mission No. for day: TWO -- 1 March 45 --
Support for VIII Corps (Fieldfare) at L 7570. Dive Bombing and Strafing --
- B.- 568th Ftr Grp -- 597th Ftr sqdn -- 4 A/C Miss -- No Aborts --
- C.- UP: IS 0950 -- TOT: 1045 -- DOWN: 1142 --
- D.- Nil
- E.- 4 x 2 x 500lb HX Bombs -- Inst, 1/40 -- 3 bombs in tgt area.
Our planes contacted Fieldfare, he sent them to L 2494, a tgt which they couldn't find
because of wea. They found Tropic Red bombing at L 1775, slightly west of Murlenbach.
They bombed after Tropic Red. 3 bombs were skapped aimed at one tank and three MT.
No results.
- Strafing: Lts Clary and Buck damaged one tank at the bombing place. Lt Buck damaged
one house at the bombing place. Lt Sharp damaged three MT at L 1670, slightly west of
Bensborn. Lt Sharp destroyed three MT at L 1669 near Neuweilenbach, he damaged two
or three tanks at the same place. Lt Uterhart damaged two tanks and three MT and
destroyed two MT at Neuweilenbach.
- F.- Nil
- G.- There are about forty tanks in woods in the area of L 1668 slightly east of Balse-
feld. It is recommended that these tanks be attacked by rockets instead of bombs
because the clouds are too low to permit bombing. Strafing would not be effective
against these tanks. Planes sent against them would have to hunt them out on little
roads with ever hanging trees.
- H.- tgt area: very poor wea -- solid overcast at 5000 to 6000' scattered clouds at 3000' -
- I.- ~~XXXXXXXX~~ sqdn code not used
- J.- Ground control was satisfactory
- ALL BOMBS: CLARY BUCK RD SHARP UTERHART

CONFIDENTIAL

0131

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

597th Ftr Sqdn S-2 Rpt on a Close Support and Dive Bombing Mission -- 1 March 45 --
Squad Mission No. 422

- A.- Opns O No _____, Mission No. FKA-1 -- Mission No. for day; TRUSE -- 1 March 45
Support for VIII (Fieldfare) at F 7570 -- Dive Bombing and Strafing
- B.- 368th Ftr Gp -- 597th Ftr Sqdn -- 4 A/C Siap -- No Aborts --
- C.- UP: 1000 -- CR S/L in at 1025 -- TOT: 1100 -- CR S/L out 1110 -- DOWN 1122
- D.- ~~4~~ 1-A-C-Flak
- E.- 4 x 2 x 500lb BAK Bombs -- Inst 1/40 -- 2 bombs in tgt area /
Our planes contacted Fieldfare, he told them to bomb Gerolstein at L 255810.
Our planes could not bomb here because the sea was on the deck. Then Fieldfare
told our planes to attack enemy activity at Warlenbach at L 1975. Our planes could
not bomb here because of the presence of US troops in the town and on the other
side of it. After they themselves noticed this they were warned about it by a
ground controller whose name was Horse or a similar name. Then our planes went south and
found Serus sqdn bombing at Kyllburgweiler at L 220625. There were five tanks
there and two were on fire as the result of an attack by a US column coming down
the road. 8 bombs were dropped here and one tank was destroyed and one damaged.
No fires resulted.
Strafing: Lt Price damaged one tank at the bombing place. Capt Harlacher strafed
soldiers in black uniforms at the bombing place.
- F.- while Serus was bombing we they were subjected to weak inacc light arm fire at
the bombing tgt.
Fairly inten fairly acc light flak at L 2550
- G.- Nil
- H.- Tgt area: a cloud layer (10/10 coverage) - stratus clouds - 500' thick) at about
4000' to 4500'. Good visibility
Area of Gerolstein: a cloud layer 300 or 400' thick at 2000' -- No haze --
visibility good below the clouds
- I.- Sqdn code not used
- J.- Ground control good except for Fieldfare's mistake in regard to Warlenbach .

ALL BOMBS: HARLACHER PRICE HOGAN TRUNTON

CONFIDENTIAL

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

597th Ftr SqdnS-2 Rpt on a Leaflet Dropping Mission -- 1 March 45 -- Sqdn Miss No. 423

- A.- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. 423-1 -- Mission No. for day: FOUR -- 1 March 45
Leaflet dropping at Marlenbach(L 1973), Gerolstein(L 2361), Budeansin(L 1680), and
Stadtkyll(L 1495).
- B.- 597th Ftr Sq -- 597th Ftr Sqdn -- 4 A/C Miss -- no aborts --
- C.- CP: 1202 -- TO: 1255 to 1245 -- WWS 1529
- D.- Nil
- E.- 2 4 x 2 x 20 61 bombs -- 4 x 1 x 20 61 bombs -- 4 x 1 x 20 64 bombs -- 4 x 1 x 20 112 bombs -- 4 x 2 x frontpost bombs -- 28 bombs in tgt areas --
Each of the four towns received seven bombs, as briefed. Ripsaw two directed our
planes to release bombs as they passed over the assigned towns. Throughout the
mission our planes were controlled by Ripsaw two.
No strafing.
- F.- Nil
- G.- Nil
- H.- 10/10 cloud coverage - our planes were flying above the clouds at 5500' or 6000' -
- I.- Sqdn code not used.
- J.- Ground control by Ripsaw two was very good
- ALL BOMBS: CAROLINE HOWE PATRICK HUNT

CONFIDENTIAL

0133

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

397th Ftr Sqdn S-2 Apt on a Dive Bombing Mission -- 1 March 45 -- Sqdn Mission No. 424

- A.- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. FKA-1 -- Mission No. for day: FIVE -- 1 March 45 --
 NIKK Support for VIII Corps (Fieldfare) at L 7570 -- Dive Bombing.
- B.- 368th Ftr Gp -- 397th Ftr Sqdn -- 4 A/S Bisp -- No Aborts --
- C.- UF: 1206 -- Cr S/L in 1250 -- TOT: 1240 -- Cr S/L out 1410 -- DOWN 1428 --
- D.- Nil
- E.- 4 x 2 x 500 RDX Bombs - Inst nose, 1/40 tail -- 3 bombs in tgt area --
 The Sqdn worked with Ripsaw three who vectored them to L 2657 where a train was
 said to be in a tunnel. Both entrances to the tunnel were bombed. Most of the bombs
 landed on hill sides above the tunnel entrances. There were two near misses, one at
 each end of the tunnel which scattered considerable debris on the tracks. There were
 then vectored north to a concentration of tanks at L 2548. They could not find the tanks
 because of a solid low undercast. They continued north and strafed some bundles of
 logs which they mistook for tanks in a woods in the area of L 3571.
- F.- Mod acc light at L 3571
 One light gun at Trier
- G.- A zig-zag contrail, a possible Y-2 was seen ascending vertically at a great distance
 by the pilots as they returned home. It was estimated to be in the vicinity of Cochem
 or beyond, our troops were seen at L 2015 south of Trier and east of Saarburg.
- H.- Tgt area: 10/10 cumulus - base 4700 top 6000' --
 North of tgt area: there was also a layer of 5/10 alto stratus at 9000' -- vis-
 ibility below lowest layer good betw layers -
- I.- Sqdn code not used
- J.- Ground control good

ADDENDA: G: About one or two miles east of the strafing area (L3571) a cluster of five
 circular forts or underground installations was seen on the top of a hill.
 Each was estimated to be about 50 yards in diameter.

ALL BOMBS: LEWIS SHEPARD FRISBE HALPIN

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th Ftr Sqdn B-2 Rpt on a Dive Bombing Mission -- 1 March 45 -- ~~sqdn~~ Mission No. 425

- A.- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. FIF-1 -- Mission No. for day BIA -- 1 March 45 --
Dive Bombing of Marshalling Yard at Rosburg at Q 7280.
- B.- 366th Ftr up -- 397th Ftr Sqdn -- 4 A/C Disp -- No Aborts --
- C.- UP: 1231 -- Or B/L in 1310 -- TOT: 1330 -- Or B/L out 1340 -- DOWN 1405
- D.- Nil
- E.- 4 x 2 x 500lb ARA bombs--Inst 1/40 -- 6 bombs in tgt area --
Our planes flew up to about the area of P 8252 expecting to undertake a mission in support of Fieldfare. Nipsaw three told our planes to disregard Fieldfare and to bomb the R/Y at Neunkirchen at Q 5884, where there were AA cars, but no engines. Partly because of the cloud cover and partly because of poor vectoring our planes bombed the R/Y at Rosburg (Q 7280 instead. There were three hundred assorted cars in the western part of the yard. Many were goods cars. There was a line of about ten oil cars. 6 bombs were dropped here. One shsd AA was destroyed. There was one black oil fire. Eighteen cars were destroyed. Many cars are left and another bombing of the R/Y is suggested. No locos were seen. There were only a few cars in the R/Y at St. Ingbert at Q 5576. All our pilots did excellent work in the bombing.
No strafing.
- F.- Nil
- G.- There was little activity (a few vehicles) on roads in the area of Q 5079.
- H.- Tgt area: poor wea 10/10 cloud cover -- base 4500 to 5500' - top 6000' to 6500' -- visibility good below and above clouds -- 5/10 cloud coverage at 3000' -- The two cloud layers tended to merge.
- I.- sqdn code not used.
- J.- ground control - poor in failing to direct our planes to the Neunkirchen R/Y. Nipsaw three had difficulty in picking up the flight leader on the canary
- AL⁴ bombs; Barker STEA PAULI ROSTRACH

CONFIDENTIAL

0135

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th Ftr Sqn S-2 Rpt on a Fox Hunt Blind Bombing Mission -- 1 March 45 -- Sqn
Mission No. 426

- A.- Opns C No. _____, Mission No. FEV-1 -- Mission No. for Day: SEVEN -- 1 March 45 --
Fox Hunt (Blind Bombing Mission under control of Jumpbox)
- B.- 368th Ftr Gp -- 397th Ftr Sqn -- 4 A/C Disp -- No aborts --
- C.- Of: 1525 -- Gr B/L in 1545 -- TOT: 1430 -- Gr B/L out 1445 -- DOWN 1505
- D.- Nil
- E.- 4 x 2 x 500lb ABX Bombs - Instnose, 1/40 tail -- 8 bombs in tgt area --
Our planes flew below the overcast as far as MAX, where they attempted to contact
Fieldfare. Ripsaw three told them that wea conditions made it necessary for them to
go on a Fox Hunt and he turned them over to Jumpbox. Jumpbox vectored them to
an unknown tgt, where they dropped 8 bombs. While flying under Jumpbox's control
they were above the overcast and they released their bombs on orders from Jumpbox
while above the overcast.
No strafing
- F.- Nil
- G.- All planes in the tgt area seemed to be lost.
- H.- poor wea - ceiling ranges from 4500' down to much lower altitudes -- the we is sfo
so poor that some missions are on fox hunts while others which have been working on
tanks have had to abandon their work
- I.- Sqn code not used
- J.- Ground control satisfactory
- ALL BOSBS: KRAUSE KEIL KALAN KRONITZ

0136

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

397th Ftr Sqdn S-2 Rpt on a Fox Hunt Blind Bombing Mission -- 1 March 45 -- Sqdn Miss No. 427

- A.- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. FKA-1 -- Mission No. for day: EIGHT -- 1 March 45
Fox Hunt Blind Bombing Mission under the control of ~~Sunbox~~ Jumpbox. Tgt was Fohlbach
at L 3847.
- B.- 368th Ftr Sq -- 397th Ftr sqdn -- 4 B A/C disp -- No Aborts --
- C.- UF: 1455 -- Or B/L in 1510 -- TOT: 1550 -- Or B/L out 1610 -- DOWN 1650
- D.- Nil
- E.- 8 x 2 x 500lb RBX Bombs - Inst 1/40 -- 15 bombs in tgt area -- One bomb dropped on
runway on take off.
On the way out our planes contactd Ripsaw three and Serus to find out whether they
should undertake a close support mission or a fox hunt. Both Serus and Ripsaw three
told them to undertake a fox hunt. They were turned over to Jumpbox who sent them to
bomb Fohlbach at L 3847. 15 bombs were dropped here on orders of Jumpbox. He told our
planes that they had done good work.
No Starving
- F.- Nil
- G.- Nil
- H.- Solid overcast with base at 4000' and top at 12000' - stratús clouds - visibility good
above and below clouds except in rain. There was rain over the field. Some ice at 6000'
or 7000'.
- I.- Sqdn code not used.
- J.- Ground control by Ripsaw three and Jumpbox was very good.

ALL BOMBS:	HURLACHER	FRIDE	HOGAN	THORNTON
	CLARY	KERNIG	N B BRANT	VERBART

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

397th Ftr Sqdn B-2 Kpt on a Dive Bombing and Armed Recon Mission -- 2 March 1945 -- Sqdn
Mission No. 428

- A.- Opns C No. _____, Mission No. J29-6 -- Mission No. for day: 045 -- 2 March 1945 --
Dive Bombing of Langenselbold fuel storage depot at M- 958747. Armed Recon in area of
Langenselbold, Friedberg (M 7494), Giessen (G 6722), Limburg and Koblenz.
- B.- 368th Ftr Gp -- 397th Ftr Sqdn -- 14 A/C Disp -- 2 A/C abortive (one pilot developed gas
pains when he was nearly up to the Rhine River and he and an escorting pilot returned
to base)
- C.- UF: 0955 -- TOT: 1050 -- Gr b/line out at 1140 -- SQDN: 1159
- B.- Nil
- E.- 10 x 2 x 500lb HX Bombs inst 1/40 -- 20 bombs in tgt area -- 4 planes used as escort -
The assigned tgt was bombed and considerable damage was done. One explosion was seen.
17 or 18 bombs dropped right on the tgt and two or three were very close.
No Strafing
- F.- Sipsaw three called in enemy aircraft over Koblenz and Frankfurt. Our planes saw none.
6 to 8 bursts of inacc avy flak in the southeastern part of the air field northwest of
the tgt.
- G.- The RR yard at Giessen is 50 to 40 % filled with cars. At least 2 locos were seen. A
loco was seen going toward the east on the RR north of the tgt. On the air field
mentioned in F there were many bomb craters. No aircraft were seen there. 2 or 3 burning
cars were seen on the RR south of Bamstadt. Our pilots think that this was the work of
a sqdn which they saw returning to base.
- H.- 7/10 to 8/10 cloud cover - cumulus and strato-cumulus clouds - base 5000' top 8000' -
visibility below clouds poor - visibility just above clouds not very good. There was
much haze into the sun. At the time of the landing of our planes the cloud cover in the
tgt area was estimated to be 10/10 with breaks.
- I.- Sqdn code not used
- J.- Ground control satisfactory.

BOMBS: GARBINE ELLIOTT CARLSON RUBY
HUGHAN FINCH
LEWIS BREA KALAN WRIGHT
ESCORT: BARKER HORS (ABORT) FAULEY (ABORT) ANLEBOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L

0 1 3 8

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

597th Ptr Sqdn 5-2 Spt on a Dive Bombing and Armed Recon Mission - 2 March 45 - Sqdn
Mission No. 429

- A.- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. J 29-12 -- Mission No. for day: TWO -- 2 March 1945 -
Dive Bombing of Motor Depot at M 552570 and Armed Recon to Limberg, and Andernach.
- B.- 568th Ptr Gp -- 597th Ptr Sqdn -- 16 A/C Miss -- No Aborts -
- C.- OF: 1540 -- or B/L in 1550 -- TOT: 1415 -- or B/L out 1510 -- BOMB 1530
- D.- Nil
RAX
- E.- 12 x 2 x 500lb MF Bombs - Inst, 1/40 - 24 bombs in tgt area - 4 A/C used as escort -
16 bombs were dropped on a group of four plus oil tanks at M 550965 about 4 miles
southwest of Mainz. There was one direct hit which resulted in a fire and several close
misses which probably caused damage to the remaining tanks. The planes then flew
northeast to the assigned tgt but had great difficulty locating it because of heavy
camouflage. 8 bombs were dropped on the eastern edge of the woods which was believed to
conceal the assigned tgt, a Motor MT repair depot at M 552570. NO results could be
seen of the bombing.
No strafing.
- F.- Inten very acc hvy at M 552570.
Mod inacc light at M 552570.
An inten hvy flak barrage was thrown up from the city of Frankfurt as our planes
approached south of their assigned course. They turned north before reaching the city.
- G.- No RR, road, or river traffic was observed in the area.
- H.- 7/10 to 8/10 cumulus cloud cover in tgt area. base 2500' top 11000' - visibility good
above fair below -
- I.- Sqdn code not used
- J.- Ground control good except that Pipeaw two had a bad squeal in his transmitter.

BOMBS:	KRAUSE	KILL	FRISSE	SALPIN
	GLANT	BUCK	SHARP AB	UTERHANT
	LEWIS	SHEPARD	PATLOCK	LEWISTON THURNTON
ESCORT:	BARKER	KOENIG	KALSH	WRIGHT

C O N F I D E N T I A L

0 1 3 9

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

397th Ftr Sqdn S-2 Apt on a Dive Bombing and Close Support -- 3 March 1945 -- Sqdn
Mission No. 430

- A.- Opns No. _____, Mission No. 430-1 -- Mission No. for day 430 -- 3 March 1945
Support for 20th Corps (Shotsilk) at Thonville and 94th Inf Div (Default) and 10th
Arm Div (Redpipe) at Saarburg - Dive Bombing and Strafing.
- B.- 368th Ftr Gr -- 397th Ftr Sqdn - 4 w/c Wisp -- No Aborts --
- C.- OF: 0814 - TOT: 0845 - SOAN: 0928 -
- D.- Nil
- E.- 4 x 2 x 500lb MKX Bombs - Inst nose, 1/40 tail -- 3 bombs in tgt area
Our planes contacted Shotsilk, who turned them over to BlueJack, who had no tgt for
them. Then they were turned over to Default, who told them to bomb Grimsmerth at L 259-
076. 3 bombs were dropped here. There was one direct hit. Two houses were destroyed
and all other houses (28) were damaged. No fires seen.
Strafing: Default told our planes to look for a rocket launcher in the woods at L 240-
082. They found what seemed to be a rocket launcher (a tin gadget in the form of a tank
standing up). Capt Krause and Lt Neil destroyed it. Personnel on the edge of the woods
were strafed by Capt Krause and Lt Neil. Lt Kalen hit all fourteen houses in the
main street of the town. MKX.
- F.- Mod inacc light flak at L 2499
- G.- The bombed town had been hit by artillery. The trees around it were all cut up.
- H.- Poor weather - ceiling 5500' to 6000' - cumulus clouds - visibility fairly good - cloud
at 2000' - a few rain showers and snow showers from 5500' down.
- I.- Sqdn code not used.
- J.- Ground control not very good. Shotsilk and Default were hard to understand.

all STAFF: KRAUSE NEIL KALEN RAY

C O N F I D E N T I A L

0140

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C O N F I D E N T I A L

597th FS #2 Rpt on a Dive Bombing and Close Support Miss - 3 March 45 - Sq Miss No. 431

- A. Opns # No. _____, Miss No. 394-1 - Miss No. for day Two - 3 Mar 45 - support for XI Corps (Shotalk) at Thionville and 94th Inf Div (default) and 10th Arm Div (Redpipe) at Saarburg - Dive Bombing and Strafing -
- B.- 597 FS - 368 FS - 4 A/C miss - No aborts
- C.- UP: 0852 - Gr E/L in 0905 - TOT 0920 - Gr E/L out 0945 - SOA 1054
- D.- One of our A/C damaged by enemy flak Cat "A"
- E.- 4 x 2 x 500lb MK bombs - Inst 1/40 - 8 bombs in tgt area
- Our planes contacted Shotwell who tried to relay them to Brinsy. They then contacted Bluejack who sent them northeast of Trier to check rail traffic. Four bombs were dropped on a train of 25 cars without loco at L 345455. There was one direct hit in the center of the train and two very near misses. They estimate six cars destroyed and ten damaged. The direct hit caused a fire. There were two cuts in the rails. Lt Leonard scored the direct hit. Four bombs were dropped on a train of fifteen cars without loco at L 3242. Lt Wright scored a direct hit and a near miss. Lt Patrick scored two near misses. They estimate six cars destroyed and five damaged. There was one rail cut.
- F.- Very intense acc light flak at L 345455.
" " " " " L 3242
- G.- A few scattered enemy vehicles were seen in the area. A convoy of about 50 of our trucks were seen immediately northeast of Trier *between L 2514 & L 2514.*
- H.- In tgt area 3/10 stratus cloud cover - base 5500' top unknown - visibility good ranging to poor toward the south.
- I.- Sqdn code not used
- J.- Bluejack good - could not contact Brinsy

ALL BOMBERS: Hogan LEONARD PATRICK WRIGHT

0141

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th FG S-2 Rpt on a Dive Bombing and Close Support Miss - 5 Mar 45 - Sq Miss No. 452

- A. One S-2, Miss No. 385-1 -- Miss No for day 18888 - 5 Mar 45 - Support for XX Corps (shotsilk) at Unionville and 94th Inf Div (Default), and 10th Armd Div (redpipe) at Bearburg - Dive Bombing and Strafing.
- B. 36880 - 397 FB - 4 A/C Miss - No Aborts -
- C. - 48:0916 - E/L in 0930 - 107:0945 - E/L out 1050 - down 1055
- D. 4 x 2 x 500lb M61 bombs - Inst 1/40 - 8 bombs in tgt areas
- Enil. Our planes contacted shotsilk who told them to go to L 2805 and contact Default. They went to this point, which is slightly north of Losheim and were told to bomb HT and tanks there. Default marked the area north of the town with smoke. They bombed what they thought were two HT or two tanks, which were well camouflaged. The ground around seemed to be camouflaged. Two bombs dropped - short and near misses - no damage - then they dropped six bombs at L 2801 slightly southeast of Hausbach. They bombed at least 20 flat cars half of which were camouflaged. All bombs short - no damage - no engines seen. Strafing: They flakht damaged all 20 flat cars mentioned above.
- F. Very weak very inten light flak in the area of the flat cars mentioned above.
- G. - No activity no movement seen in tgt area.
- H. - Tgt area: five to six tenths cloud coverage - scattered to broken scud and strato-cumulus clouds. Base 5000' top 5000' to 6000' - visibility good - above and below clouds.
- I. sqdn code not used
- J. - ground control good.

All Bombs: 0845 3000 4 5 3888 018888

0142

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397 FS B-2 Rpt on a Dive Bombing and Close Support Miss - 3 Mar 45 - Sq Miss No. 453

- A. Opns @ No. _____, Miss No. BME-1 - Miss No. for day FOUR - 3 Mar 45 - Support for XX Corps (Shorsilk) at Rhionville and 94th Inf Div (Default) and 10 Arad Div (Redpipe) at Saarburg - Dive Bombing and strafing -
- B.- 397 FS & 368th FS - 4 A/C Miss - No Aborts -
- C.- OF: 1017 - B/L in TOT: 1045 - B/L out 1050 - DOWN 1115 -
- D.- Nil
- E.- 4 x 2 x 50lb BEX Bombs - inst 1/40 - 3 bombs in tgt area - Our planes contacted Shorsilk who gave them stgt and also told them to contact Default. Default also had a tgt but Shorsilk was given priority. 3 bombs were dropped on Shorsilks tgt, a train about 2 miles west of Logheim at L 2701 - there were 20 cars no loco - All bombs misses due to a high wind but there may have been damage from sharpnel. They then strafed and damaged all of the cars.
- F.- Nil
- G.- Nil
- H.- 6/10 cumulus and cumulus stratus - base 2000' top 6000' - visibility good above and below
- I.- code not used
- J.- Ground control good.

All bombs : CARBONS DEFUTY PRIMEB THURSTH

0143

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Confidential

597 FS B-2 Rpt of Dive bombing and Close Support Mission- 3 Mar 45. See Miss No 424.

- A - Ops Ord No. _____ Miss No. ~~XXX~~ SWE-1 Miss for Day: 5 3 Mar 45.
Support for SROTSILK (XX Corps) at Thionville, and BEPAULT (94th Inf Div) and
REDFIRE (10 Armd Div) at Saarburg - Dive bombing and strafing.
- B - 568 FG, 397 FS. 4 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 1105, Gr BL in 1120, TOT 1125, Gr BL out 1210, Down 1226.
- D - Nil
- E - 4x2x500 MKX bombs. Inst 1/40. 8 bombs in tgt area.
Our planes contacted SROTSILK, who turned them over to BEPAULT. BEPAULT told
them to bomb a train on a track slightly W of Loehain, LZ85015. They found
the train at LZ61009. There were 25 flat cars but no locomotives. The cars
were not loaded. There were some camouflaged. 6 bombs were dropped - all
misses - wind blew them south - no damage. BEPAULT also told them to bomb
Loehain itself. 2 bombs were dropped here on the NE side of the RR track.
4 buildings were destroyed.
Strafing: Lts Barker and Elliot hit all the RR cars mentioned above - no
results.
- F - Nil
- G - There were six to eight cars in the RR yard at Loehain itself. These may
have been tank cars.
- H - Tgt area: 8/10 coverage on arrival, 10/10 coverage on departure - cumulus -
base 4000' - top 8000 to 9000' - Vis good.
- I - Code not used.
- J - Ground control satisfactory.

Barker, Elliott, Fauley, Arledge.

0144

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

597 FS 8-2 Rpt on a Dive Bombing and Strafing Mission -- 3 Mar 45 - 84 Miss No. 425

- A. Opns & Ac. _____, Miss No. 522-1 - Miss No. for day 512 -- 3 Mar 45
Support for XX Corps (Motelik) at Thionville and 94th Inf Div (default) and 10 Arad
Div (Redpipe) at Saarburg. - Dive Bombing and Strafing
- B. 568th FS - 597 FS - 4 A/C Miss - No Aborts -
- C. Cr: 1141 - Cr 2/L in 1200 - Tr: 1210 - 2/L out 1255 - DOWN 1310 -
- D. Nil
- E. 4 x 2 x 500lb MBR - Inst 1/40 - 3 bombs in tgt area
Our planes contacted "hotsilk" who tried to relay them to Briny but were unable to. They
then contacted default who sent them to Kell at L 340156. Eight bombs were dropped on the
north side of the town. 7 or 8 buildings were destroyed and 7 or 8 damaged. The town
was thought to contain a division HQ. They then went to Losheim at L 285015, where
motor trucks were reported in woods north of the town. They were not seen. Eight barracks
were strafed on the edge of a woods east of Losheim at L 270015. Two vehicles were
strafed and damaged in this MBR area. 12 AA coaches were strafed and damaged in the town
of Losheim. There was a building with tracks leading into it and steam coming out next
to the coaches which was thought to contain a loco. It was well strafed. A small
switch engine was strafed and destroyed.
- F. Nil
- G. An area extending about 50 miles north of Losheim was checked for strafing tgts, but
none were found. The only activity was seen at Worschels L 3707 where civilians were
seen in the streets.
- H. 13/10 cover base 3500' top 5000' - visibility poor - almost continuous rain
- I. Radn code not used
- J. Ground control OK except that Briny could not be contacted and default's range seemed
very limited.

ALL MEMS: KRAUSE CHANCELLOR KALSH RALPH

0145

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397 FS B-2 Rpt on a Dive bombing and strafing mission - 3 Mar 45 - Sqdn Miss No. 426

- A. Opns No. _____, Miss No. 524-1 -- Miss for day SEVEN - 3 Mar 45
support for AA corps (shotsilk) at Unionville and 94th Inf Div (Default) and 10 Armd Div
(Redpipe) at Dearburg. Dive bombing and strafing
- B. 368 FS 397 FS 4 A/W Miss -- No starts -
- C. OF: 1214 - Or BL in 1220 - Tot: 1320 -- Or BL out 1350 - SWM 1345
- D. Nil
- E. 4 x 2 x 500lb RBX - inst 1/40 - 8 bombs in tgt areas
Our planes contacted shotsilk, who turned them over to Bluejack, who had no tgt for them.
They were then turned over to Redpipe, who asked them to bomb the Konweiler #1 at L 450-
125. The clouds were from 1500' to 2000' above the ground in this area and there fore to
low to permit bombing. The tgts bombed were selected by the flight. Two bombs were drop-
ped on the outside of Bekond at L 529555. Two bombs were dropped on Irevenich at
L 520625. Two buildings were destroyed. Two bombs were dropped on a RR track at L 524450.
Two near misses - no results. Two bombs were released accidentally on a river bank at
L 550555. There was nothing there.
No strafing
- F. Mod acc light flak in the area of Fehren, L 503405.
- G. Nil
- H. Tgt area: 10/10 cloud cover - stratus clouds - base 2000' in showers - 4000 to 5000'
elsewhere - top unknown - visibility poor in showers - good elsewhere - there were many
showers in the area.
- I. Sqdn code not used.
- J. Ground control satisfactory.

ALL BOMBS: BOLAN GIBBONS PATRICK HUPT

0146

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th FS S-2 rpt on a Dive Bombing and Close Support Mission - 3 Mar 45 - message No. 457

- a. Opns O No _____, Miss No. 397-1 - Mis for day EIGHT - 3 Mar 45
Support for XX Corps (shotsilk) at Thionville and 94th Inf Div (Default) and 10 Armd
Div (Redpipe) at Saarburg. Dive Bombing and Strafing
- b. 568 FS 397 FS - 4 A/C Miss - No Aborts
- c. Op' No 1242 - B/L in 1310 - 1401; 1390 - ~~xxxxxx~~ or B/L out 1410 - 1455
- d. Nil
- e. 4 x 2 x 500lb HX - Inst 1/40 - 8 bombs in tg area -
Flames contacted shot silk who tried to relay theme Default. They could not contact
Default and were relayed to Redpipe., who sent them on a route northeast of Trier.
They dropped three bombs on what they thought were camouflaged tanks in a woods at
L 2742 240 - Five bombs were dropped on the town of Arns at L 345499. They saw
possible camouflaged vehicles in town. Ten buildings were destroyed but damage to
vehicles could not be estimated because smoke and debris.
- f. Nil
- g. Friendly artillery barrage was seen in woods from about L 3090 to L 3247.
- h. Snow rain and sleet 10/10 cover with breaks - base 3000' to 3000' - top 3000' to 2000' -
visibility poor
- i. Sqdn code not used
- j. Ground control good except that Shotsilk's transmitter had a bad squeal.

ALL BARRS CLAY 2511 A 3 397 EIGHT

0147

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C o n f i d e n t i a l

397th FS S-2 Apt of Dive bombing and Close Support Mission 3 Mar 45 -
 666 Sqn Miss No. 438:

- A - ops ord No _____ Miss No BWE-1 Miss for Bay: 9 3 Mar 45
 Support for XX Corps (SHOTSILK) at Thionville, and 94th Inf Div (M-FAULT)
 and 10th Arm Div (BBSIFB) at Saarburg. Dive bombing and strafing.
- B.- 398 FS - 397 FS - 4 A/O Miss - No Aborts
- C.- Op: 1525 - or BL in 1549 - TOT: 1550 - BL out 1650 - seen 1648
- D.- Nil
- E.- 4 x 2 x 500lb MKA - Inst 1/40 - 8 bombs in tgt area -
 F Our planes contacted Shotsilk, who turned them over to Defalt, who turned them over
 to Redpipe. Redpipe told them to bomb the Nonnweller A/Y at L 4412. They dropped
 8 bombs on this yard and on a curved track very close to it. In the yard were 100
 beaten up goods cars. 53 bombs were dropped here, there were two cuts on tracks in the
 yard and three cars were destroyed. 3 bombs were dropped on a made up train of 20
 cars on the curved track. Seven cars were destroyed or damaged and there were two cuts
 on the track. There was no loco on the train and no locos were seen in the yard. In
 general the results of the bombing were excellent, to good. The whole flight is to
 be commended.
 Strafing: There were more than forty vehicles on the road betw Nonnweller and
 Hermeskeil L 43 450176. Our flight destroyed or damaged 40 MT.
- F.- Nil
- G.- In Hermeskeil there was a hospital and there were 20 white hospital vehicles with
 red crosses lined up in a parking lot joining the hospital. The same is true for a
 place slightly southeast of Hermeskeil except that there were fifteen hospital
 vehicles there.
- H.- 10/10 cloud coverage with breaks - stratus and cumulo-stratus clouds - base 3000'
 and 2000' in snow storms - top unknown - visibility ten miles and zero in snow
 storms - general snow storms in the tgt area.
- I.- Sqn code not used
- J.- Ground control by Redpipe not strong/^{signal}enough. Kipsaw three was very good.
- ALL BOMBS; CAABDE KOENIG FRISBIE UTERHART

0148

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

597th Ftr Sqdn S-2 Rpt on a Close Support and Dive Bombing Mission - 3 Mar 45 - Sqdn
Mission No. 459

- A.- Same as No. _____, Miss No. 585-1 -- Miss No. for day TBR -- 3 Mar 45 -
Support for XX Corps (shotsilk) at Thionville and 94th Inf Div (default) and 10th
Arm Div (Redpipe) at Saarburg. - Dive bombing and strafing.
- B.- 368th FG - 597th FS -- 4 A/C Disp -- No Aborts --
- C.- OF: 1620 - or 3/4 in 1655 - TOT: 1640 - or 3/4 out 1720 - WOOD 1755
- D.- Nil
- E.- 4 x 2 x 500lb BXX Bombs - Inst 1/40 - 8 bombs in tgt area -
Our planes contacted shotsilk, who turned them over to Redpipe. Redpipe told them
to bomb vehicles on the road betw Nonweiler L 4512 and Hermannsweiler L 4513. They
bombed 20 assorted MT and smaller vehicles in an area extending 1/4 of a mile north
and 1/4 of a mile south of L 455155. Ten vehicles were damaged. Some couldn't be seen
because they were under over hanging trees.
Strafing: (Bombing area) Lt Barker destroyed two vehicles (two fires started) and dan-
aged six or seven other vehicles. Lt Fries destroyed two vehicles (started two fires)
and damaged two or three vehicles. Lt Fauley damaged three vehicles. Lt Arledge dan-
aged two vehicles. All these vehicles were stationary. Lt Barker destroyed one little
yard engine at L 4213. It was steaming and steamed more noticeably after the strafing.
It was stationary.
- F.- Nil
- G.- The two hospitals mentioned mission report No. 9 of Mar 3 were seen on this mission
to. Dragonsteeth were seen at Bierfeld L 4512. Many parked vehicles were seen at
Gottbillsmitte 4 5599. 55 cars were seen in the AM yards at Saarfald Buschfeld at
L 5700.
- H.- 9/10 to 10/10 cloud cover - cumulus clouds - base 4000' top unknown -- visibility
poor in storm good elsewhere. General sleet and snow storms in the area.
- I.- Sqdn code not used
- J.- Ground control good.

ALL SIGNED: SAMUEL SWICE FAULEY ANLEDE

0148

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th FS S-2 Rpt on a Close Support and Dive Bombing - 5 Mar 1945 - Sq Mission No. 440

- A. Opns No. _____, Miss No 348-1 -- Miss No for day ELEVEN -- 5 Mar 45 -
Support for IX Corps (Shotalk) at Thionville and 94th Inf Div (default) and 10th
Armed Div (Redpipe) at Saarburg. - Dive bombing and strafing.
- B.- 368th FS - 397th FS -- 4 A/C Miss -- No Aborts -
- C.- Cr: 1641 - Cr B/L in 1650 - 1st: 1710 - Cr B/L out 1750 - down 1808 -
- D.- Nil
- E.- 4 x 2 x 500lb AKA -- inst 1/40 --- 8 bombs in tgt area -
Our planes contacted Shotalk, who turned them over to Redpipe. Redpipe told them
to undertake an armed recon of the river beginning at a point 7 miles north of Trier
and working all the way up. Our planes asked for a tgt to be attacked before they
undertook the recon. Redpipe gave them Thalfang L 462285. He told them to hit the
southeast part of the city. All eight bombs dropped in the area. The results were
very good. ~~xxxx~~ Hot wires must have been knocked down for sparks were seen.
Several buildings were destroyed. All our pilots did excellent work in the bombing.
Strafing (by Capt Krause) : A tower damaged at L 490274. There may have been an
antenna on top but no house or cave was seen on top. The building was well hit
on the bottom. A barracks was damaged by one pass. Barracks located on edge of ~~xxx~~
woods at L 490282.
- F.- Fairly intense not very acc light flak at L 370558
- G.- After the bombing and strafing our planes set out on the assigned armed recon. Short-
ly afterwards ~~xxxx~~ three interposed and assigned a tgt at L 4629. Shortly
thereafter ~~xxxx~~ three heard Rabbi Blue (P 51's slightly northwest of Wittlich at
L 3659) directing A/C to a concentration of tanks and MI at L 370558. He told our
planes to disregard the tgt which he had assigned and to go after these tanks and
MI. Our planes flew to the Rabbi Blue area and found that another group of planes
were going after these tanks and MI. Therefore our planes abandoned the attack.
- H.- There was a hole in the clouds north of Trier and the wea was not bad there.
Tgt area: Cumulus clouds - with base at 4000' or lower top unknown --- visibility
bad in rain showers fair elsewhere. Rain showers were general throughout the tgt area.
- I.- Sqdn code not used
- J.- Ground control good.

ALL BOMBS: KRAUSE BUCK KALIN HALPIN

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Confidential

397 Aft of weather recon mission . . . 2 Mar 45 . . . Radn Miss No 441

- A - Opns Ord No. _____ Miss No. _____ Miss for Day : 1 2 Mar 45
Weather recon in area of Trun, Herzig, and Trier.
- B - 368 F4, 397 F4. 2 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 0756, or BL in 0745, or BL out 0810, down 0836.
- D - Nil
- E - Planes worked with AIRSAS 3. Flew N to Trun, then to Herzig, and back to the area S of Trier, thence back to base.
- F - Nil
- G - Nil
- H - 10/10 overcast throughout the entire area. Cumulus base 5700' top 7000'.
Vis 4 mi in the S part of recon. In area W of Trier there was an additional overcast 4 to 5/10 cover base 2000' top merging with bottom of upper layer (5700'). Light clear ice in the lower clouds. Light rim ice in the upper layer.
- I - Radn code not used.
- J - ground control good.

Barker, Frisbie.

Confidential

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

D-8-4

397th B-2 Spt on a Armed Recce and Dive Bombing Mission -- 10 March 1945 -- Sgdn
Mission No. 449

- A.- Opns O No. _____, Mission No. 429-3 -- Mission No. for day -- 088 -- 10 Mar 45
Armed Recce and Dive Bombing Mission in area of Remscheid, Ronsberg, Kaiserlauter,
Eugen, Bad Kreuznach, Kirn, and Nonfelden. Alternate tgt Vogelbach Supply Depot,
at 786673.
- B.- 398th Ftr Sgdn -- 397th Ftr Sgdn -- 12 A/C Miss. No Aborts --
- C.- In: 1128 -- Or 2/4 in 1215 -- Out: 1230 -- Or 2/4 out 1318 -- 088: 1407
- D.- One of our A/C damaged by enemy flak at 786673
- E.- 12 x 1 x 500lb B -- Inst 1/40 -- 12 bombs in gt area
The acdn contacted Kirn saw five but used his very little for control. They dropped
12 bombs on the supply depot at Vogelbach, 786673. All were well concentrated on
the tgt which consisted of piles of supplies and sheds. Small fires and a great
deal of smoke were seen. Sparks believed caused by electrical wiring were seen after
the bombing. They then completed the armed recce, they saw nothing on the rail line
betw Kirn and Bad Kreuznach. Clouds prevented examination of rail line to Eugen.
They strafed several tgts at Eilsberg 418010. A radio station north of the town
was strafed thoroughly and burned for a short time. Storage tanks in the town were
strafed and burned, warehouses were strafed too. One was destroyed and one damaged.
Two B-1 were destroyed at Wambollenbach 74224.
- F.- Had very acc hvy flak at 786673
Inten Inacc light flak at 7987
- G.- Many rail cars and several made up trains were seen in a marshalling yard at 7987.
Four pillboxes with artillery MG's, seen at 7417. Many cars were seen in a marshalling
yard at 7987.
- H.- Weather: 10/10 niabo-stratus - base 3500 - top 6000 - visibility ten miles below
overcast
- I.- Sgdn code not used
- J.- Ground control satisfactory

ALL Sgds: CARBINE BARCO PATRICK RESTRACK
CARSON LAUSCHER WINSTON BRYAN
SMITH SMITH SMITH SMITH

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

1 127th Ftr Sqdn B-2 RPT on a Foxhunt Blind Bombing Mission -- 10 March 1945 --
Sgdn Mission No. 444

- A. Opns No. _____, Mission No. J 29-B -- Mission No. for day Ten -- 10 March 1945
Mission was to have been an armed recon in the area of Weiskirchen, Homburg, Weiskirchen, Bingen, Bad Erbach, Kirn, and Nohfelden. Sea conditions made the execution of this mission impossible and a fox hunt was undertaken instead. The tgt was the town of Weiskirchen at L 3407.
- B. 368th Ftr Sq -- 397th Ftr Sqdn -- 12 A/G Miss -- No Aborts --
- C. -08: 1908 -- Gr E/L in 1925 - TOT: 1610 -- Gr E/L out --1615 --- EOM: 1622
- D. One A/G damaged by enemy flak - Cat "A"
- E. 12 x 1 x 500lb GP bombs - 1st 1/40 - 12 bombs in tgt area -
On the way to Weiskirchen our planes went through a hole in the clouds at an altitude of 1900' then in level flight at 2500' they flew into the clouds. Here they encountered solid icing, then they descended to 2500', where they flew below the clouds. When they were in the area of Q 3000 they called Rip saw and asked for a fox hunt. He told them to go to "C" Channel and call Sawmill. As they called they flew westward to the area of Q 0585. Here Rip saw sent them north to the area of L 0915 to effect a rendez-vous with Sawmill. Sawmill vectored them to the town of Weiskirchen, at L 3407 and directed them to drop their bombs. All 12 bombs were dropped here. EAC - Complete cloud coverage. After the bombing our planes were given a heading home by Rip saw. The assigned armed recon was not accomplished. On orders from Sawmill the bombing was done on "D" Channel.
No strafing
- F. Weak and small area fire in the area of Q 3072
- G. At a point which our pilots thought was at Q 4989 they saw a marshalling yard blowing away. There was a big ramp on the side of the yard in which there were at least three or four fires. The ramp was filled with unspecified material. It seemed to our pilots that the yard had not been bombed, but had been deliberately destroyed by the Germans.
- H. Area of Q 4989: Ceiling of 3000' (lower in some places) - top 7000 to 7500' (little variation in altitude of top) - very bad visibility - 10/10 cloud coverage - Cumulus and also stratus clouds - The coverage above 3000' was solid.
Area farther west: ceiling a little higher - our planes broke through a hole at 6000' and came out on top of the clouds at 7500'.
- I. Sgdn code not used
- J. Ground control was fairly good.

ALL BOMB:	KRAUSE	RAID	WELSH	ERSTON
	ROGAS	REIL	YARLEY	STANLEY
	CLARY	STOCHERMAN	R E SHAW	ROBERTS

CONFIDENTIAL

0154

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

227th B-2 Bpt of Alert Patrol Flight 12 March 45 Sgdn Miss No 445

- A - Up Ord No. _____ Miss No _____ Miss for Day : 1 12 March 45
Alert Patrol Flight in area of Saarbrucken and Thionville.
- B - 568 FD, 597 FD. 4 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 1122, 1129, Down 1229.
- D - Nil
- E - Our planes were controlled throughout by KINGAN 5 on C channel. At first they had some difficulty in contacting him. He gave them a heading of 140 deg which they flew for 11 min. Then he gave them a heading of 230 deg to Saarbrucken. After that he sent them to check two unidentified planes which they recognized as US liaison planes. Then he sent them home on a heading of 270 deg. Before reaching home they were sent to Thionville to check for bogies but none were found. Then they came home. Shortly after taking off they were told that there were bandits just N of the field.
- F - Nil
- G - Big explosion was seen in the Kaiserslautern area.
- H - Excellent weather. Vis somewhat restricted upsun. In the Saarbrucken-Kaiserslautern area an 8/10 cloud coverage was building up with top at 1000'.
- I - Code not used.
- J - Ground control excellent.

Morlacher, Berco, Tuitt, Morowitz.

CONFIDENTIAL

0155

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

597th Ftr Sqdn 2-2 Rpt on a Dive Bombing and Armed Recce -- 15 Mar 45 - Sq Miss No 446

- A. Opns C No _____, Mission No. J29-7 -- Miss No for day : TWO -- 15 Mar 45 - Dive Bombing of AF repair shops at Friedberg, # 725925 - Armed Recce - Friedberg, to Giessen to Koblenz to base.
- B. 568th Ftr Gp - 597th Ftr Sqdn -16 A/C Disp - No Aborts
- C. GP: 1336 - Cr B/L in 1330 - TOT 1425 - Cr B/L out 1535 - DOWNS: 1605
- D. Nil
- E. 16 x 2 x 500lb GP bombs - Inst 1/40 - 52 bombs in tgt area
On the way out our planes contacted Ripsaw five. When the reached Wiesbaden he said that they were very faint. He gave them several bogies which turned out to be little friend and a few bogies southeast of the tgt which were not seen. 52 bombs were dropped on the tgt. There were two near misses and one bomb dropped among buildings in the western tip of the tgt. 29 bombs dropped on the briefed part of the tgt. There were several burning buildings on the west side of the tgt and there was one in the northeast corner and another in the northwest corner. These fires were caused by the bombing. After the bombing, our planes undertook the assigned armed recce.
Strafing: (Lts Bauer and Shea): in area of G 665045, Butzbach:
One loco destroyed
Strafing (Area of G 1802 slightly north of Dietz)
Lts Bauer and Shea destroyed one loco, one half track, carrying an AA gun, two buses (probably passenger busses), and one MI. Lt Weinstein destroyed three MI. Lt Morowitz destroyed one truck and attached trailer. Major Tuite destroyed one MI and one car.
- F. Med light flak of unknown acc on southeast edge of Limburg (this flak was firing at another sqdn)
Weak inacc light flak at tgt (bombing)
- G. PW camps were seen at Metzlar and Limburg. The camp at Metzlar was marked "P of W" The word "of" was very small. One steaming loco was seen at Limburg. Our planes did not attack it because another sqdn was working on the marshalling yard in which it was seen. In a little town near Limburg civilians were seen waving white flags apparently in an effort to prevent our planes from attacking them. At least 20 barges, probably US, were seen on the Rhine River at F 7012. One A/C was seen flying low at this place. No panels were seen. Much smoke was seen over the Rhine River in the Remagen bridgehead area. A bridge on the Moselle River was seen smoking.
- H. Ceiling unlimited - visibility ten miles in tgt area - haze layer at about 5000'
- I. Sqdn code not used
- J. Ground control was good

ALL BOMBS:	KERR	KOONHUISEN	BAKER	WOODWORTH
	LEWIS	BRAYTON	WEIBELIN	THORNTON
	BAKER	SHEA	TUITE	MOROWITZ
	BAKER	GRANDELLER	FAULSTY	LEAVOY

CONFIDENTIAL

0156

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

A. 397th Ftr Sqdn S-2 Rpt on a Dive Bombing Mission - 13 Mar 45 - Sq Miss No. 447

- A. Opns O No. _____, Miss No. J 29-7 - Miss No. for day: THREE - 13 Mar 45
Dive bombing of W/Y and train in area of Birmingen, Q 4791. - Strafing.
- B. 368th Ftr Gp- 397th Ftr Sqdn - ~~15~~ 15 A/C Disp - Lt Elliott who was to have flow could not take off therefore Lt Koenig had to return after taking off.
- C. UP: 1702 - Cr B/L in 1720 - TOI: 1740 - Cr B/L out 1800 - DOWN 1847
- D. Nil
- E. 15 x 1 x 500lb GP Bombs - Inst 1/40 - 14 bombs in tgt area - 1 bomb returned to base.
The mission was to have been the dive bombing of the MI repair shops at Friedberg, ~~XXXXXX~~ W 725923. This was to have been followed by an armed recon from Friedberg to ~~XXXXXX~~ Giessen to Koblenz to home. On the way out our planes were told by Nipsaw five to disregard this mission and to bomb a small W/Y and a train protruding from a tunnel at Birmingen, Q 4791. In the W/Y there were sixty goods cars and flat cars but no locos. The train consisted of 20 goods cars without a loco. There were two direct hits on a train in the W/Y and there was one cut on tracks in the W/Y. There were two hits on the train of 20 cars. All together, 15 cars were either destroyed or damaged by the bombing.
Strafing: The sqdn damaged all the other cars at the bombing place (65 in all)
- F. Nil
- G. The town of Birmingen had been badly hit when our planes arrived there.
- H. Smoke and haze up to 3000' to 4000' - visibility 1/4 mile or less -
- I. Sqdn code not used
- J. Ground control was satisfactory

ALL BOMBS:	CARBINE	DEPUTY	FRISBIE	TRICE
	WEINSTEIN	FEIN	KOENIG (RETURNED EARLY)	
	BAUER	LAUBAUH	KALSH	LE GRAND
	CARLSON	BARCO	BAKER	HALPIN

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th B-2 Spt on a Dive Bombing and Armed Recce Miss - 14 Mar 45 - Sqdn Miss No. 448

- A. Opns O No. _____, Miss No. J29-647 (This was the mission number assigned to the 397th and the other sqdn in the group on the mission. The special number of the 397th was J 29-6 and the special number of the other squadron was J29-7) Mission no. for day: 005 - 14 March 1945.
Dive Bombing of area "A" of Montabaur storage area at O 077058 - Armed recce from Montabaur to Harburg to Leaspne (G 4056) to Rosswach (F 7819 to Koblenz to home.
- B. 368th Ftr Sq - 397th Ftr Sqdn - 16 A/C Disp - No Abortives-
- C. WP: 1116 - TWT 1200 - Cr B/L out 1300 - DOWN 1340
- D. Nil
- E. 16 x 1 x 500lb #76 incendiary bombs - Inst nose and tail - 16 bombs in tgt area - On the way out our planes contacted Hipeaw five but proceeded to the tgt independently. There were ten or eleven hits on the tgt. There was one direct hit on a building. The bombing resulted in much smoke and several fires. Another bombing attack on this tgt is not considered necessary.
- F. No strafing.
- G. Mod inacc light flak in the tgt area. Mod inacc hvy flak in tgt area
- H. At 1259 a V2 was seen taking off in an area with a radius of ten miles and with center at Machenburg, O 0629. The V2 went straight up. One of our pilots tried to take a picture of it but could not because its speed was too great. A second V2 was seen taking off from the same place ten minutes later. Barges were seen on the Rhine in the area of Pilsen L 9082. Three or four trains were seen in the w/i at Harburg. There were 50 cars in all and three locos. The locos were at the southern end of the marshalling yard. Much smoke was seen on the Moselle River south of Koblenz. As our planes approached the base bandits were called in in the tgt area and armed recce area.
- I. Tgt area; A thin layer of clouds with base at 12000' or 13000'. This layer did not cover the tgt. Visibility good.
Armed recce area: A thin layer of clouds with base at 12000' or 13000' - cloud cover 7/10 or 8/10 - visibility good -
- J. Sqdn code not used.
- K. Ground control satisfactory on way out. There was no ground control on the way home.

ALL BOMBS: CARBINE BARCO FRISBIE LE GRAND
WEINSTEIN BRADY KALLEN KUBER
LEWIS BRAYTON FEIN HUNT
HORNACKER ELLIOTT BEAVER PRICE

CONFIDENTIAL

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

377th Ftr Sqdn SA Apt on a Dive Boat & Arged Recce - 14 Mar 45 - Sq Miss No. 449

A. Opns O No. _____, Miss No. J29-647 - Miss No. for day OE -

[Faint, mostly illegible typed text, possibly a report or log entry, containing several paragraphs and possibly a list or table of data.]

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th FtrSqn B-2 rpt on a Leaflet Dropping Mission - 14 Mar 45 - Sqn Mission ~~449~~ ⁴⁴⁹

- A. Opns No _____, - Mission No. PMP - Mission for day TWO --
Leaflet dropping at Simmern 8554, Boppart 8981, Nieder Lahnstein 9190, and
Waldesch 8686.
- B. 368th Ftr Sq - 397th Ftr Sqn - 4 A/C Disp - No Aborts
- C. Op: 1129 - Cr S/L in at 1145 - TOT: 1159 to 1210 - Cr S/L out 1235 - DOWN 1255
- D. Nil
- E. 4 x 5 x Front Post bombs - 4 x 1 x CG 118 bombs - 4 x 1 x CG 112 bombs - 4 x 1 x
CG 115 bombs - 4 x 1 x CG 93 bombs -
Leaflet bombs were dropped on all four targets as briefed. It is certain that the
leaflets landed in Waldesch. The wind may perhaps have somewhat blown them away
from Simmern, Boppart, and Nieder Lahnstein.
- F. Nil
- G. Much smoke on Moselle river in areas of L 5246 and Traben, L 5650.
- H. In general: ceiling unlimited - visibility up sun restricted in some places, par-
ticularly on Moselle, to three miles. - Visibility down sun: about unlimited, at
least ten miles.
Koblenz area: over the northern half of Koblenz there was strato-cumulus clouds
of unknown base and top and 10/10 coverage - visibility over Koblenz restricted
by smoke to three miles.
- I. Sqn code not used
- J. Ground control was satisfactory.

ALL LEAFLET BOMBS: BARKER ORANGELAN FAUCET HALPIN

CONFIDENTIAL

0160

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Confidential

307th B-2 Bat of Dive Bombing Mission - 14 March 45 450
648

- A - Ops Ord No. _____ Miss No J29-6 and 7 (J29-6 for 307th and J29-7 for 306th) (Miss for Day: 14 March 45).
Dive bombing of dump at Roppard, 450779.
- B - 368 PG, 597 PG. 16 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Op 1455, Cr HL in 1552, TOI 1550, Cr Eb out 1635, Down 1700.
- D - 3 a/c dnm by s/a - 2 cat "AC" and 1 cat "A".
- While our planes were bombing at Roppard, they heard glimmer and engaged in a fight with s/a in the area of *Worms*. *Worms* was bombed, *our plane flew to assist glimmer and on their arrival at Bingel; they were joined by 4 yellow-nosed P-47's from the 35th FG and 10 planes joined combat. Intense air fighting but all 20 a/c were engaged in combat.*
- The fight took place at about 1610 in the main area - west of main, south of main, and over the A/D in that town. The battle took place at altitudes ranging from 12,000' to 18,000'. At main dest 1 1610. At Lebrand dest 1 1610 and prob dest 1 1610. At Barker dest 2 1610's. At Chancellor dest 2 1610's.
- E - 12 x 1 x 500 175 incendiary bombs, inst nose and tail. 11 bombs in tgt area. One bomb dropped in enemy territory SE of Roppard. 4 a/c used as escort.
Our planes bombed the assigned tgt at Roppard. 11 bombs were dropped in the area. 20.
No strafing.
- F - Int inacc, 11 flak at the tgt.
- G - 20 to 25 barges were seen on the N side of the Rhine near Roppard, and 6 to 10 were seen on the S side of the river at the same place. Two fires were seen in Waldesch, 18606. At Chancellor, who was flying at Barker's wing, lost the latter after the fight. A P-47 camouflaged with green paint, joined Lt Chancellor as wingman. This plane was smoking and could not stay with Lt Chancellor. It joined 3 B-24 a/c.
- H - much haze. Tgt area: high cirrus with base at 16,000'. Main area: high cirrus base 19,000'. Vis downum very good. Vis upum 6 mi.
- I - sqdn code not used.
- J - ground control fairly good.

Bombs: Kerr, Knoelmaizen, Fauley, Woodworth.
Bauer, Shepard, Fein, Lebrand.
Lewis, Lambaugh, Suite, Thoraton.
No bombs: Parker, Chancellor, Morowitz, Halpin.

Confidential

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th FS B-2 Rpt on a Dive Bombing Mission -- 15 March 1945 -- Sqdn Miss No 451

- A. Opns O No. _____, Miss No. JEAB-2 -- Miss No for day 08 - 15 Ser 45
Dive bombing of RR bridge at 925944.
- B. 368 FS 397 FS - 16 A/O Disp - No Aborts
- C. Or: 0948 - Or 8/1 in 1010 - Tgt: 1050 - Or 1/1 out 1200 - Done 1226
- D. Nil
- E. 16 x 2 x 500lb air bombs - 1/10 nose, 1/100 tail - 50 bombs in tgt area - one bomb dropped arced on a woods at 9 5050 - one bomb dropped arced on the town of Vohl at 9 8590 -
- On the way out our planes contacted Ripon five, who called them when he could no longer see them. They flew directly to the RR bridge at 9 925924 and dropped 50 bombs. There were three cuts on RR track at the eastern approach to the bridge. There were many near misses on the south side of the bridge. The bridge was not seriously damaged and the pilots suggested another bombing attack on it.
- at Capt Carlson destroyed an engine by strafing at 9 899961. The engine was attached to 19 box cars and the train was moving toward the west.
- F. At 1150, while our planes were flying at 12000', they saw three AA 109 in the area of 9 8604. These AA were flying at 20000'. One dove down at our planes and then flew away as one of our planes turned into it. No flak.
- G. A gas was seen at the lake just south of the tgt 9 9050. The area of Koblenz was completely covered by smoke. Our pilots do not know whether this was due to war conditions or to an attempt to conceal the city by means of a smoke screen. Fires were seen in many towns along the southern part of the Moselle river in an area extending ten miles back from the river bank. Two barrage balloons were seen at 9 958. One was on the ground and the other was flying at 900'. They were not elevated at the approach of our planes. Ten balloons were flying over the lake at 9 9050. There was much AA activity in the tgt area. Five engines were seen and it is believed that the general direction of movement was toward the north.
- H. A haze layer at 4000' - visibility almost unlimited -
- I. Sqdn code not used
- J. Ground control was good.

ARR BOMBS: CARLSON LARBAUGH FRISBIE WAGNER
WINGSTEIN BELLWITZ R D SHAW HUNT
LT SAUER BRILLARD RALPH KURTZ
KERR KROGMEIDER TUTE WOODBATH

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

327th Fir Sqdn 9-2 Mt on a live bombing mission - 16 Mar 52 - Sqdn - 1st Lt. 492

- A. Opns No. _____, Miss No. 327-2 -- Miss for day 100 - 16 Mar 52
- B. Live bombing of rr bridge at G 922944.
- C. 360 - 397 W - 16 W/A Miss - no aborts -
- D. 1500 - or W/A in 1430 - 1st 1500 - or W/A out 1600 - down 1700
- E. Nil
- F. 16 x 2 x 500lb or bombs - 16 bombs fused inst, 1/100 - 16 bombs fused 1/10, 1/100
32 bombs in tgt area
The sqdn used Alpsaw five as its controller. 32 bombs were dropped at the assigned
tgt a rr bridge at G 922944. At least one hit and possible more hits a complete
breach in the bridge over a row of piers near the center. The superstructure was
cut for the entire width of the bridge, but neither arch collapsed. At Thornton
scored a direct hit. No other new damage was inflicted on the bridge or its ap-
proaches.
- G. Nil
- H. Large fires were seen burning in Neunkirchen, Beerbrücken and Sulzbach which cast
a pall of smoke for 75 miles. 50 plus barges were seen on the main south of
Kappeln.
- I. A layer of haze from the deck to 6000' or 7000' - visib visibility 5 to 6 miles down
sun - nil upsun
- J. Sqdn 4 code not used
- K. Alpsaw five at first had a bad squeal in his transmitter then a great deal of cross
talk. It was considered likely that he was being jammed by the enemy.

ALL BOMBERS	CONTROL	CONTROLLER	REMARKS
327TH	327TH	327TH	1/100
327TH	327TH	327TH	1/10
327TH	327TH	327TH	1/100

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th S-2 Spt on a Dive bombing mission -- 16 Mar 45 - Sq Miss No. 455

- A. Opns - No _____, Miss No. KARRIA 3848-3 - Miss for day 082 - 16 Mar 45
Dive bombing of rr bridge at G 925944.
- B. 368 PG 397 PG - 16 A/U Miss - no aborts - 00
- C. SR: 0743 - Or S/L in 0815 - TOT 0850 - Or S/L out 1041 - Down 1037
- D. Nil
- E. 16 x 2 x 500lb GP - Inst 1/40 - 32 bombs in tgt area -
Sqdn worked with Hipsaw two and five. They bombed the assigned rr bridge and saw several near misses which grazed the ~~W~~ sides. Smoke and dust obscured the results. They thought that they scored several new hits on the east approach which is very badly pulverized. They saw one hole clear through the bridge over across a row of piers which resulted from yesterday's bombing.
Capt Kerr and Lt Deputy strafed a train of ten cars headed northwest at Netze G 9595. The loco was destroyed and ten cars damaged. They strafed a train of twelve cars headed southeast at G 9094 destroying the loco and damaging the twelve cars. Lt Barker's flight strafed and destroyed a loco and ten cars headed south at Welda 89619. The cars burnt intensely with white smoke. Lt Barker's flight strafed and destroyed 20 cars at S 9618. They burnt fiercely with black smoke. Lt Shea destroyed a loco and one car of a train of twelve cars headed east at G 6052.
- F. weak fairly acc light flak at S 9619.
- G. A 7 2 was seen from a distance at about G 1050. Intense fires were seen burning a Oberneisen 2473. Ten barrage balloons were seen over the lake immediately south of the assigned tgt, and ten more around the edges of the lake. Altitude 500' to 1000'. 40 barges were seen on the Rhine at S 9475.
- H. 2/10 alto-cumulus -13500' to 14000' - vis 3 miles approx - good down-am. scattered very high cirrus.
- I. Sqdn code not used
- J. ground control good.

ALL BARR:	DEAN	DEPUTY	BARKER	WOODBRIN
	C. ARI	BOCK	ANDERSON	PISCHART
	DEWIS	BAUGENBACH	FEIN	HUNT
	BARKER	SHEA	SHAW	LEAVEL

0164

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

387th ABN B-2 rpt on a leaflet dropping mission - 16 Mar 45 - sdn Mission No. 454

- A. Opns O No. _____, Miss No. 1242 - Miss for day TWO - 16 Mar 45
 Leaflet dropping mission at Morbach L 5634, Hammerath L 5739, Hockscheid L 6242,
 and Borkenfeld L 5816.
- B. 358 PG - 397 PG - 4 A/G Miss - No Aborts -
- C. Or: 1259 - Or B/L in 1400 - Or B/L out 1425 - down 1446.
- D. Nil
- E. 4 x 7 leaflet bombs - each plane: 3 Front Posts, 1 CG 90, 1 CG 113, 1 CG 112, and 1 CG 118.
 The leaflet bombs were dropped at the assigned tgts without incident. On the way
 back the planes strafed 25 goods cars at 07977. All were damaged but there were no
 fires. Slightly north of this location another train had ~~gone~~ into a tunnel leaving
 two rear cars exposed. These were strafed and damaged. /pulled/
- F. Nil
- G. Nil
- H. 6/10 cumulus cloud cover - base 5000' top 8000' - vis good -
- I. No sqdn code
- J. No ground control

All Bombs: 300000 WRIGHT 124500 HAVEL

0165

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C o n f i d e n t i a l

597th FS S-2 Rpt of Patrol Mission. 15 March 45 Sgdn Miss No. 499.

- A - ops ord no. _____ Miss No 3848-5 16 Mar 45 Miss for Day 3
 B - 565 FS, 577 FS. 16 a/c disp. 80 aborts.
 C - 1410, Or 31 in 1500, 241 Or 2.2 out 1619, Down 1729.
 D - All
 E - no bombs.
 Sgdn worked with Herite as controller. They patrolled an area N and S of the bridgehead. Lt Bauer's flight did all of the strafing. It was in a wooded area extending about 5 mi S and W of F8149. Their totals were: 5 halftracks dest, 2 large vans dest, 6 AI dest, and 7 tanks dest.
 F - WX inacc lt flak at F8041
 G - A PZ was seen at 1540 hrs fired near Gachenburg, 00629, needed W.
 A great deal of heavily camouflaged armor or vehicles was seen in the area from F72 to F70, and from F49 to F40. Lt Weinstein encountered # 8 a red P50 in the vicinity of F65. It bore no markings. The P50 made a pass at Lt Weinstein's plane without firing. Lt Weinstein made a pass at the P50 and fired a short burst. He chased the P50 to Nancy but being low on gas, he broke off and returned to base.
 H - Heavy haze and smoke up to 5000'. Broken layers at 16000' to 17000'. High cirrus at 20000 to 22000'. Vis very poor in haze.
 I - Sgdn code not used.
 J - ground control good.

Carbine, Chancellor, Eaton, Rice.
 Weinstein, Weil, White, Koenig.
 Bauer, Anselmizen, Hollieson, Wehrand.
 Clary, Elliott, Kestrich, Thornton.

C o n f i d e n t i a l

0166

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C o n f i d e n t i a l

597th B-2 Spt of Five Bombing and Armed Recce Mission - 18 Mar 45 -
Squad sigs No. 457--

- A - Ops ord. No. _____ Miss No. 427-6 18 Mar 45 Miss for Day: Two
Five bombing of Frankfurt supply dump #660740, and Armed Recce in area
Frankfurt, Hanau, Friedburg, Idstein, Wiesbaden.
- B - 500 sq, 597th FS. 16 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Op 1505, Or B. in 1540, Or 1645, Or B. out 1505, down 1544.
- D - Nil
- E - 16x2500 lb bombs. Inst. 1/40. 52 bombs in tgt area.
Squad worked with all 32 lb. They found Frankfurt completely socked in.
They flew N to Nor Wollstedt at 47307 where sixteen bombs were dropped
on 60 box cars on a double track. There were ten hits on the trains.
Twenty cars were destroyed. All were box cars, no locomotive. The
remaining six bombs fell on a group of small warehouses immediately E of
the tracks. Ten were destroyed. Sixteen bombs were dropped near
Badingen, on a group of barracks and administration buildings. Two
administration buildings were demolished. They also strafed the buildings
in the area. All pilots did very well in the bombing.
- F - Int track lt flak at 47307.
- G - Many slit trenches were seen near the second bombing area (45740).
- H - 910 strato-cumulus base 4500' top 6000'. Moderate haze. Vis 1 mi below
overcast; 2 mi above.
- I - Squad code not used.
- J - Ground control very good.

Kerr, Lambauge, Kasser, Kalpin.
Bauer, Deputy, Pein, Wright.
Clary, MacCallumson, Ruite, Price.
Weinstein, Shea, Arledge, Nord.

C o n f i d e n t i a l

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Confidential

327th a-2 det of Armed Recon Recon 18 March 45 Sqdn Miss No. 428.

- A - Ops Ord. No. _____ Miss No. 328-6 18 Mar 45 Miss# for Day: TAMES
Armed Recon to Frankfurt, Hanau, Friedberg, Idstein, and Wiesbaden.
- B - 360th PG, 327th PG. 16 a/c dispatched. 2 abortives. Lt Woodworth's
radio went out. Maj Ruite accompanied him to base.
- C - Up 1645, or 16 in 1720, attacked tgts from 1735 to 1810, or 18 out 1830,
Down 1917.
- D - 2 a/c dwn by flak cat "A".
- E - No bombs.
- F - Sqdn used AIRMAN 1. They flew to Frankfurt then due N. At #415665
they attacked a train of 15 flat cars carrying 4 MI's each, and 10 oil
tank cars. Capt Kerr and Lt Barco strafed and set afire three tank cars
and damaged all the MI's. No locomotive. At #43665 Lt Fein destroyed a
large oil truck carrying Red Cross markings. It burned fiercely. Capt
Kerr strafed a possible oil storage depot consisting of several sunken
tanks and several sheds all very heavily camouflaged. He claims two
tanks damaged, no fires. Located at #5557. A very large concentration
of camouflaged MI's was attacked in a woods at #5559, by Capt Kerr and Lt
Barco. They claim approximately 100 damaged. They saw a great deal of
smoke but no fires from their strafing. At Sonnenland Lt Fein destroyed an
oil truck and trailer (#5265). At Hannelburg, #5471, Lt Fein damaged three
camouflaged MI's.
- G - One enemy was encountered at 1810 hrs at #5471 flying at 2000'. The
A/c made a quick pass and fired at Lt Wright without causing damage. He
evaded toward the N.
- H - No acc lt flak at #4266.
- I - No acc lt flak at #4165.
- J - A very heavy artillery barrage was seen at St. Ingbert.
- K - 10,000 stratus base 3000' top 6000' for the entire route except for a hole
over the tgt area. Vis good above, one mile below.
- L - Sqdn code not used.
- M - Sqdn could get no reply from AIRMAN and 2222222222 while in tgt area,
although they could hear 22222222.

Carbine, Johnston, Fein, Wright.
Barker, Elliott, Rostrach, Sledge.
Morischer, Buck, Yandel, Lebrand.
Kerr, Barco, Ruite, (abort); Woodworth (abort).

Confidential

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Confidential

577th B-2 Gpt of Nine bombing and Armed Recon mission - 17 March 45 -
 Opdn List No. 428

- A - Ops ord No. _____ Miss No. 229-3 17 March 45 Miss for Day: 045
 Nine bombing of Ebenhausen Fuel Storage Dump, #708737, and Armed Recon
 to Schlueten, #2777, Lamsau, Weissenburg, #0193.
- B - 363 #0, 397 #0. 10 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 0740, or 08 in 0800, 1st 0830, or 08 out 1010, down 1030.
- D - 2 a/c damaged by flak. Cat "A".
- E - 10x20 27 frags. 1st fuzing. 30 bombs in tgt area.
 32 bombs were dropped on the assigned tgt, the Ebenhausen Fuel Storage
 Dump, at #708737. One tank in the wooded area was destroyed and
 burned. There were four fires caused by hits on possible tank cars
 outside the wooded area, and one additional tank destroyed.
 Lt Clary, #011, #011000, and #1000 each destroyed a locomotive at
 Weissenburg, #/1 at #0477. Also one car was destroyed, five damaged,
 one building destroyed, and one damaged. Heavy loading in #/1.
 Two locomotives headed by were destroyed near Nieder Rodenbach, one at
 #0072, and one at #0070.
- F - Had acc lt ad hvy flak at #7174.
 Had very acc hvy flak at #6965.
 Had very acc lt flak at #0477.
 Had to wk inacc hvy flak at #083 9265.
 Had inacc lt flak at #0774.
 Had inacc hvy flak at #6553.
- G - The following rail traffic was seen: Locomotive in steam at #7366.
 Long train headed N at #0010. Six trains headed E and W at Gerststadt.
 Two trains headed E and W at Lamsau. Medium sized train headed E at
 Weissenburg, #7957. Large train headed W at #0460.
 There was a very heavy bill of smoke rising from Lamsau and covering an area
 of 200 sq mi to the E. 14 balloons were seen at Worms; 5 at 2000'
 and 9 at 5000'.
- H - Heavy smoke and scattered stratus at 5000' in tgt area. Cirrus at 10000'.
 Vis good above, poor below.
- I - Sqdn code not used.
- J - Ground control good.

Carbine, Elliott, Wright, Hunt.
 Bauer, Johnston, Baker, Leavy.
 Clary, Weil, Hellesen, Price.
 Barker, Nord, Arledge, Koetrach.

Confidential

0170

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C o n f i d e n t i a l

597th S-2 Spt of Dive bombing and Armed Recon Mission - 19 March 45 -
Squad Mission No. 460.

- A - Ops ord No. _____ Miss No. J-27-6 Miss fr Day: TWO 19 March 45
Armed Recon - Mainz, Worms, Alzey - Dive bombing of Wendelsheim at
#185255.
- B - 568 PB, 597 PB. 8 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 1150, TOT 1245, Down 1402.
- D - Nil
- E - 4x1x500 GP's. Inst 1/40 fuzing. 4 bombs in tgt area.
Our planes attempted unsuccessfully to contact SSAS0001 and 0000000000.
They called WILDBORN and he told them to bomb the town of Wendelsheim,
at #185255. Nothing was seen there in the way of troops or vehicles.
Eight buildings were destroyed by four bombs, and three fires were seen.
Capt Kerr and Lt Knochenhauer, Fandel, and Woodworth did excellent work
in the bombing.
Capt Kerr and Lt Knochenhauer strafed camouflaged woodpiles in the bombing area
and at #1819. WND.
- F - Nil
- G - An abandoned airfield was seen at #305550. Our pilots noted only
wreckage on the field and from that fact concluded that it had been ab-
andoned. No troop movements seen. Many hospitals were seen in the
bombing and strafing areas, and almost every town in those areas seemed
to be a hospital town. A German civilian hospital was seen at #180195.
- H - Wazy. Vis 5 to 5 mi.
- I - Sqn code not used.
- J - Ground control fair but not good.

Bombs: Kerr, Knochenhauer, Fandel, Woodworth.
No Bombs: Weinstein, Haubaugh, Rute, Halpin.

C o n f i d e n t i a l

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Confidential

307th S-2 Spt of Dive bombing and Armed Recon Mission - 19 Mar 45 -
Squad Mission No. 461

- A - Ops Ord No. _____ Miss No. J29-6 Miss for Day. 19 Mar 45
Armed Recon Mainz, Worms, Alzey.
- B - 36889, 30778. 6 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 1222, Or 85 in 1245, 101 1310, Or 85 out 1445, Down 1524.
- D - 2 a/c damaged by flak 341 One Cat "A", one Cat "10".
- E - 3x1500 lbs. 1nat, 1/40. 3 bombs in tgt area. 3 a/c used as escort.
A 151 vectored our planes to the area of Neunkirchen, but no attacks
were made due to the close proximity of our troops. 30778 then sent
them to Frankfurt where they patrolled for one half hour. They dropped
three bombs on the Frankfurt r/fi destroying eight cars. The r/fi was 30%
loaded. No locomotives were seen in steam. 30778 released them
and 30778 told them to recon an area near Schiesheim, 42000, for
enemy artillery. None was seen. They were vectored to a road near
Alzey, but saw no traffic. They strafed personnel running into a building
at Albig, 42351, no claims. Ten passenger cars were strafed and damaged in this
area. 30 to 40 horse drawn vehicles were strafed in a woods S of Neunkirchen
at 3005. Six fires resulted and the majority of the vehicles were
damaged. Two #1 were destroyed and one was damaged near this area.
- F - Had very acc hvy flak at Frankfurt.
Had acc hvy flak at 44752.
Got fairly acc lt flak at 44278.
- G - Approx 5 mi NE of Alzey a rocket was seen to burst at 6000' leaving a
cable dangling in the air. Seen at 1400 hrs.
- H - 10/10 cover over Frankfurt base 13000' top 14000'. Size up to 7000',
in recon area. Vs very poor.
- I - Sqdn code not used.
- J - Ground control good.

Bombs: Carbine, Mellisen, Roenig.
No bombs: Osterhart, Gary, Chen.

Confidential

0172

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C o n f i d e n t i a l

397th B-2 Rpt of Dive bombing and Armed Recon Mission - 19 March 45 -
 Sqn Miss No. 462.

- A - Ops Ord No. _____ Miss No. J29-6 Miss for Day: Four 19 March 45
 Armed Recon Mainz, Worms, Alzey. Dive bombing of Arnheim, #2554 -
 Strafing.
- B - 360 sq, 397 sq. 8 ad disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 1520, TOT 1620, Down 1722.
- D - Nil
- E - 4x1000 lb's. Inst. 1/40. 4 bombs in tgt area.
 Our planes contacted #17342 who told them to check activity in the
 area of Oppenheim, #4540. They were told to look for a ferry carrying
 German troops. No ferry was seen. They saw several boats on the river
 and the remains of an old bridge, on the E side of the river jutting out
 about half the way across. Our planes then flew back to Sulzheim, #2550,
 where they contacted #00000000. #00000000 told them to bomb Arnheim,
 #2554, especially on its SE side. Four bombs were dropped and seven
 buildings were destroyed. Lt Barker, Arledge, and Kotrach did excellent
 work in the bombing.
 Lt Barker strafed what looked like a barracks at Arnheim. In addition
 he strafed what looked like vehicles, but turned out to be a road block
 in the middle of Schinheim, #256555. #00. Lt Barco dest or damaged
 two light MG's and a 20 mm gun in Arnheim. On orders from #00000000,
 Lt Barker strafed in Flonheim, #216520. He fired at what seemed to be
 about 150 oil drums. #00. Lt Barco strafed houses in Flonheim. #00
 Lt Barker damaged a vehicle in the area of Flonheim. Lt Kotrach and
 Arledge strafed in Arnheim and started a fire that gave off a large volume
 of smoke.
- F - Two inacc lt MG's and 1 inacc 20 mm gun at Arnheim.
 1 acc 20 mm gun at Arnheim.
 Int very inacc lt flak on a barge at #4854. (the fire was of the barrage type)
- G - Another sqdn strafed Flonheim and started fires there. 14 balloons were
 seen at Worms flying at 3000'. On the river in the Oppenheim area about
 20 barges were seen. A boat pulling 3 barges was seen at #4854. About
 10 min after the bombing an explosion in a building was seen in the W part
 of Arnheim.
- H - Base. Via upsun 5 mi. Downsun 8 mi.
- I - Sqn code not used.
- J - Ground control was good.

Notes: Barker, Barco, Kotrach, Arledge.
 Tuite, Deputy, Baker, Leavy.

C o n f i d e n t i a l

0173

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED

Confidential

397 S-2 Rpt of Armed Recon and Dive bombing mission - 19 March 45 -
 Sqn Mission No. 467.

- A - Ops Ord No. _____ Miss No. 029-6 Miss for Day: FIVE 19 March 45.
 Armed Recon Mainz, Worms, Alzey. Dive bombing of Flonheim, M2252.
 B - 568 FG, 397 FG. 6 a/c disp. No aborts.
 C - Up 1525, TOT 1725, Down 1850
 D - Nil
 E - 4x12500 G's. Inst nose 1/40 tail. 4 bombs in tgt area.
 2A planes used as escort.

Our planes contacted 3340001 when they were at Bad Kreuznach, M2780.
 He turned them over to 3118001, who told them to check the road from
 Mendelsheim, M1990, to Flonheim, M2252. Nothing was seen. Mendelsheim
 had been well hit and there were a few vehicles in Flonheim. At about
 this time 3118001 died out and our leader called 33001, who asked them
 to get permission to work with him. There was too much radio chatter
 to make the necessary radio procedure possible. Then our planes contacted
 33001. He gave them permission to bomb Flonheim. There were six
 M's and a little activity in the town. Three vehicles clustered in the
 E part of the town were the tgt for four bombs. All three vehicles and
 ten buildings along the main street were destroyed. Three fires were
 started.

It was too dark and hazy to make strafing possible. All potential tgts
 turned out to be carrying panels.

- F - At 1715 an F190 was seen flying at 11000 or 12000'. This plane dove
 down out of the S and immediately flew up into the clouds.
 We tracked by flak at Worms. M2752
 We tracked by flak at Flonheim.
 G - The S terminus of an autobahn which was given on the map as 075942 is
 actually 08792. Just a little S of this point three US vehicles covered
 by one red panel were seen moving S. Our troops were seen shelling
 Kaiserslautern. Five balloons were seen shot down at Worms. US troops were
 seen near Mainz, at ~~Worms~~ many M47's were in the area. Many fires were
 seen. At M1926 a bellied M47 was seen. It was silver in color and
 seemed to be in good shape.
 H - Much haze and smoke. Vis poor - probably three miles.
 I - Sqn code not used.
 J - Ground control was poor especially on S channel (too much radio chatter on
 S channel).

Bombs: Kerr, Buck, Wright, Hunt.

Weinstein, Neil.

Confidential

0174

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

597th Ftr Sq S-2 rpt on a Armed Recon and Dive Bombing - 23 March 1945 - Sq. Ltr No 464

- A. Opns O No. _____, Miss No. J 29-8 - Miss for day ONE - 23 March 1945
 Dive Bombing of Frankfurt Supply Depot at N 653613 - Armed recon from target to Die-
 tshelm N 77694 to Friedburg to Bad Lang to Singen.
- B. 563th Sq - 597th Sqdn - 16 W Miss - No Aborts
- C. In: 0715 - Cr 3/4 in 0722 - Out: 0805 - Cr 1/4 out 0910 - Bomb 0951 -
 D. Nil
- E. 15 x 2 x 500lb GP bombs - 1/10 nose 1/100 tail - 30 bombs in tgt area - 2 bombs
 dropped armed on gravel pits at N 65360 (water in the vicinity) - 2nd
 Miss saw two controlled our planes throughout the mission. 30 bombs were dropped on
 the assigned tgt. One explosion was seen in the southeastern corner of the tgt.
 Heavy columns of black smoke which lasted for some time resulted from the bombing.
- Airraiding:
- Capt Krause and Lt Johnston: One loco and three box cars possibly damaged in the
 bombing area. The train was moving north. A loco pulling fourteen or fifteen
 flat cars south was seen at N 660505 near Langen. The loco and three cars were
 destroyed. Three vehicles and a concret mixer on the train were destroyed. Four
 yellow objects (possibly guns) on the train were damaged. At N 754540 near Urber-
 ach a loco was seen pulling ten pass cars east. The loco was destroyed. Two big
 artificial gas tanks were destroyed at Urberach. Three air sprayed north. One
 big artificial gas tank was destroyed at N 6655 a fire was seen. Four vehicles
 were damaged at N 6656.
- Capt Krause: One filling station and one car damaged at N 6654 near Langen.
- Lt Wright and Halpin: Two cars on the train at N 660505 mentioned above were de-
 stroyed. Two fires were seen. One car was destroyed at N 675540. A small vehicle
 about the size of a jeep was destroyed at N 6554. At N 65610 a loco pulling
 ten cars (half box and half flat) northeast was seen. The loco and three cars
 were destroyed.
- Major Ruite and Lt Knochenmizer: At N 645445 near Bernstadt a loco pulling seven pass
 cars into Bernstadt was seen. The loco was destroyed and seven cars were da-
 maged. A loco and three box cars moving east in the N at Bernstadt were damaged.
- F. Interfaced by flak at bombing tgt
 Inten Insec light flak at bombing tgt (barrage fire)
 Med Insec light flak in the air field at N 6161
 Ten bursts of sec hvy flak in the air field at N xx 6161
 Inten fairly acc light flak in the Bernstadt N/I north of the city
- G. Many trains which should be strafed were seen in the tgt area. At N 415540 a barge
 on the river was seen moving south. Several barges were seen tied up at N 3957. Two
 or three barges were seen tied up at N 1855. US troops and red panels were seen power-
 ing through Weiserslautern. Much activity was seen in the two Bernstadt N/I 's
 Bern was bombed there. Many US MI's were seen on the autobahn north of Weiserslautern.
 moving to the east of the city.
- H. The sea was good as our planes flew out to the tgt area and while they were in the
 area - 10/10 cloud coverage - alto cumulus xxxdix clouds - base xxxxx 12500' - top
 unknown - visibility satisfactory.
 Sea during return to base: 6/10 cloud coverage alto cumulus clouds - base xxx' 5000'
 top 4000' to 4500' - visibility not very good below clouds - 1
- I. Sqdn code not used.
- J. Ground control satisfactory

ALL BARBS : KRAUSE JOHNSTON WRIGHT HALPIN RUIE KNOCHENMIZER FANDEL
 WOODWORTH HUGHAN MISS PATRICK KRICE CURRIE BOCK HEMMINGWAY BIRD

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

327th Stg Sq - 2 sqdn on a Dive Bombing and Armed Recon Miss - 20 March 1945 - Sq No 455

- A. Ops No. _____, Miss No. 329-10 - Miss for day Two - 20 March 1945
Dive Bombing of Mt Park at N 600876., and armed recon to Gleason, Bad Ass, and Ringen.
- B. 365th FG - 377 FS - 16 1/2 Miss - 40 shorts
- C. 08:1119 - Cr 1/2 in 1150 - 101: 1200 - Cr 1/2 out 1245 - 08:11349
- D. Nil
- E. 15 x 2 x 500lb GP - 1/10, 1/100 - 50 bombs in tgt area
Sqdn worked with Hipsaw two. They dropped 50 bombs on the assigned tgt and Mt Park at N 600876. All of the buildings were completely shattered and one was demolished. No activity was seen in the area. No fires were caused. Two bombs were dropped on the H/I at Saingsa N 5793. Both missed. A string of 12 box cars was strafed and damaged. They then flew to Wejalar back to Bad Ass and home. Sta Barker, Arledge and Kastrach did very good work in the bombing.
- F. Weak Inacc light at N 5595.
- G. Sautehlein, slightly east of Alzey, and Kornigshelm at N 565305 were seen burning. An elaborate barracks area was seen south of Wejalar at N 5517. Another 47 sqdn was seen strafing motor traffic southeast of Alzey at N 1952. A large car camp was seen on the south edge of Winberg.
- H. 3/10 to 4/10 cumulus over tgt area. base 4000' top 7000' - becoming denser towards the east. 1/10 at 10000'. Cirrus at 19000' - visibility good -
- I. Sqdn code not used
- J. Ground control good.
- ALL BOMBS: CARLSON JOHNSON WRIGHT HARTIN
TOLIN KNOXWORTH YANKEE WOODSORTH
QUARTERMAN KORNIGSHELM
KORNIGSHELM

CONFIDENTIAL

0176

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

297th FS 52 Sgt on a Dive Bombing Mission -- 20 March 1945 -- Sgdn Miss No. 466

- A. Opco 9 No. _____, Miss No. J 27 -15 - Miss for day THREE - 20 Mar 45 -
Dive Bombing of Weidingsfeld Air Base at W 207322 (Photograph section No. 4)
- B. 360th FS 297th FS - 15 A/C Miss - no aborts
- C. Out 1552 - Or 5/1 in 1555 - 101: 1615 - 5/2 out 1725 - 300: 1815
- D. One A/C damaged by flak cat "A"
- E. 15 x 2 x 500lb G. bombs - Inst 1/40 - 29 bombs in tgt area - 2 bombs were dropped
aimed at or in the area of W 5027. They had hung up at the tgt. there were no results.
One bomb was dropped on a factory building at W 227350 and blew up the factory.
29 bombs were dropped in the tgt area. The tgt area had already been hit and it was
rather hard to see. Our bombs fell on buildings all around the tgt area. Some of them
may have been big warehouses. There was one possible rail cut and one train was
possibly damaged. There was much bomb smoke. A cluster of buildings southwest of
the southeastern corner of the tgt was well hit. The tgt was strafed but there were
no claims.
- F. Weak smoke wvy flak at the Diebelstadt air base.
"light" at the bombing tgt.
mod fairly acc wvy flak at Mannheim
Weak very acc wvy flak at Heustadt
mod acc wvy flak at Worms
One puff of red smoke was seen just north of Mannheim
- G. There was much activity on the Diebelstadt air field. Many barges were seen on the
Rhine and Moselle rivers. No buses were seen, only one two motor cars were seen.
There were four balloons over the bridge at Worms. There three or four balloons
over the factory area just south of the bridge. These balloons were flying at 500'
or 1000'. The factory had a strip which may possibly be used for airplanes. There are
seven bridges at Weidelsberg and five of them are serviceable. Boats were seen around
Mannheim, and they were thought to be little friends. Four vehicles and panels
were seen on the road just east of Weidelsberg moving east. Many US troops were seen
in the Weidelsberg area. Barges were seen on the main river.
- H. The front is now south of us. There was a overcast at 15000'. There were clouds
yielding a coverage of three or four tenths with base at 3000' and top 10000'.
- I. Sgdn code not used
- J. Ground control was satisfactory

ALL BOMBS: CARRIERS COMBUSTION WRIGHT BOMBERS
TYPE: 2000LBS 1000LBS 500LBS
CHAR: 500 1000 2000 5000
RANK: 1000 2000 5000 10000

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

527th Ftr Sq B-2 Bpt on a Rail cutting mission - 21 Mar 45 - Sqn Missio No. 469

- A. Opn C No ____, Miss No. 329-7 - Miss for day Thres - 21 Mar 45 -
Rail cutting of track from N 1411 to N 1519 (stretch seven) and of track N 2292 to
N 2696) (stretch eight)
- B. 368th FS - 397th FS - 16 A/C Disap - No A borts
- C. UP: 1717 - Cr B/L in 1615 TWT: 1630 and 1640 - Cr B/L out 1703 - Down 1752 -
- D. Nil
- E. 1 x 2 x 500lb GP bombs 1/10 1/100 - 15 x 1 x 1000lb GP bombs - 1/10 1/100 -
1 bomb dropped unaimed on field on take off - 16 bombs in tgt areas -
Eight were dropped on stretch seven. They were all near misses on the east side of
the track in the area of N 1417. There was too high a cross wind to make accuracy
possible. No cuts no damage. Eight bombs were dropped on stretch eight. A bridge
was destroyed at N 2394. There were two rail cuts at N 2394. In a small marshalling
yard at Schluchtern, N 2655 there were forty box, flat and oil cars - no loco. Lt
Weinstein and Barco strafed and destroyed 20 cars and damaged ten. One box car
was set on fire. From the way in which it burned it is thought that there may have
perhaps have been ammunition in the cars. Lt Hogan and Shea strafed a small A/Y at
Steinau, N 2292. There were 20 goods cars there and 15 were damaged.
- F. Weak very acc hvy flak at a A/Y in Darmstadt, N 6642.
Very inten acc light flak at N 8760.
Very weak inacc hvy flak at N 8759.
- G. Burets of US Artillery were seen on the east side of the river near Mannheim at
N 5501. The town of Sandhofen at N 3205 was seen burning. Several buildings were
burning in Frankfurt at N 7571.
- H. Tgt area: 7/10 cloud coverage - cumulus clouds - base 3000' top 6000' - visibility
very poor below clouds -
- I. Sqn code not used
- J. Ground control by wipsaw five was good.

ALL BOMBS: KEIR ANCOINIZEN FEIN HUNT
HOGAN SHEA HOROWITZ LEONARD WEINSTEIN BARCO BARRON UTHMART
CLARY BUCK ROETRACH ROENIG

CONFIDENTIAL

0180

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

227th Ftr Sq B-2 BPT in a Rail Cutting Mission - 22 March -- Sqdn Mission No. 470

- A. Opns 0800, Miss No. J 29-5 - Miss for day 04E - 22 Mar 45
 Rail cutting of stretch seven (N 1411 to N 1519) and stretch eight (N 2292 to N 2696). -
 strafing.
- B. 568 P - 597 P - 16 A/U dis; - 30 aborts
- C. UP: 0640 - B/L in 0700 - 101: 0730 and 0745 - B/L out 0830 - DOWN 0914 -
 D. Nil
- E. 15 x 1 x 1000lb of bombs - 1/10 1/40 - 15 bombs in tgt areas - 1 bomb cut a rail
 (probably) at N 1586.
 6 bombs were dropped on stretch seven and there was one rail cut at N 142132.
 7 bombs were dropped on stretch eight and there were three rail cuts at N 213920,
 and out of 55 box cars and two locos constituting two trains at that place, one
 loco and two box cars were destroyed. There were two near misses at N 210920 and
 the enhancement was badly damaged. Capt. Carlson and Herr and Wt. Shepard and Lt
 Bauer especially distinguished themselves in the bombing.
 strafing: Capt Herr's flight destroyed four locos and damaged 30 box cars in the
 area of Red soden, N 1639. Lt Chancellor deserves special mention in connection
 with this strafing. Lt Chancellor damaged a factory building at stinau - 2594.
 Capt Carlson and Lt Berco saw two locos and 40 box cars, all stationary at N 3304.
 They destroyed two locos and damaged 20 box cars. They saw 10 tank cars, five box
 cars, and one loco, all stationary, on the western edge of the airfield at N 9076.
 They destroyed the loco and two tank cars and damaged ten tank cars.
- F. saw fairly acc light flak at the airfield at N 9878.
 did see navy flak at Nanau, N 8572.
 did see navy flak at N 6557
- G. There was a great deal of rail traffic in the area east of Nanau. In woods at
 N 11410 there were three rail road siding. Each siding contained ten to 15 box
 cars made up in a train. No loco was seen. There were many buildings in the area,
 and the whole looked like a depot. There was some camouflage in the area. A convoy
 of 12 to 15 trucks with an interval of 500 yards between successive trucks was seen
 moving west in the area of Steinau. Our planes did not have sufficient gas to permit
 strafing.
- H. A haze layer at 9000' - light fog in valleys visibility seven miles downsun -
 and four miles upsun.
- I. south of tgt area' 16/10 cloud coverage - base 7000' top 8000' - in general,
 visibility was poor on the deck.
- J. Sqdn code not used.
- K. SEARCH control by Ripew five was good.
- ALL NAMES: CARLOS BARGO BAKER HALLER
 TUTE WOODRISER PATRICK WOODSWORTH
 BAUER SHEPARD ELROWITE SHERRARD
 HERR CHANCELLOR FAULST HERR.

CONFIDENTIAL

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

297th FS - 2. Cont. on a rail cutting mission - 22 March 1945 - 471 mission No. 471

- A. Ops C. W. _____, Miss No. 129-5 - miss for day Two - 22 March 45
Rail cutting fra # 1411 to # 1519 and from # 2292 to # 2596.
- B. 30870 - 59770 - 16 A/C disp - no aborts
- C. OP 1023 - FAL in 1130 - TOT 1120 - 3 / Lopt 1250 - DOWN 1509
- D. Use of our aircraft by ground explosion at # 1211 - Cat "A"
- E. 15x 1 x 1000lb GP bombs - 1/10 1/40 - 15 bombs in tgt area. one used as escort.
Our planes worked ripsaw five. They dropped 15 bombs on the tgt No. seven, the rail line betw # 1411 and # 1519. Lt Price scored a hit at # 141100. There were three other hits on the embankment which bent the rails betw # 1513 and # 1514. Lt Weinstein strafed and destroyed a loco at # 144104 it was camouflaged. Lt Wright strafed a building at # 1211. It was part of a large military supply depot. The building exploded violently, sending up a column of brown smoke 6000' high and rocking our planes as high as ten thousand feet. This building and several others were completely wiped out and 20 box cars near by were destroyed. In addition two buildings containing oil or pitch were set on fire. Two similar buildings were left smoking, ten storage huts left blazing, 50 box cars damaged, 40 to 50 camouflaged HT were damaged. In addition a gas truck and two other HT were damaged all in the same area (# 1211).
- F. One AC 109 was sighted ten miles southeast of the tgt area on the deck at 1130 it was being chased by German squadron. No flock
- G. In the strafing area, # 1211 piles of cream colored incendiary clusters were seen. They were hit by strafing but did not explode. No paratroop bridge was seen at Singen. 5 plus motor trucks were seen on the autobahn entering Frankfurt. Other 47's were attacking them.
- H. ORVD tgt area
- I. Sqdn code not used
- J. Ground control not used.
- K. Radice were jammed from 1125 to 1135 in the tgt area.

ALL BOMBS: CARRINE JOHNSTON WRIGHT UFFHART
LEWIS BRANTON FEIN RUNT
WEINSTEIN BREA ARLENGE PRICE
BARKER KOSTRACH BERTON
ESCOURT: KEIL

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

297th FS - 2 sent on a rail cutting mission - 22 March 1945 - Sqdn Mission No. 47A

- A. Ops Cdr. _____, Miss No. 129-5 - miss for day Tue - 22 March 45
Rail cutting fra H 1411 to H 1519 and from H 2292 to H 2596.
- B. 5000 - 37770 - 16 A/J disp - no aborts
- C. SP 1023 - 574 in 1100 - TOT 1120 - 2 /Lopt 1250 - Down 1509
- D. One of our aircraft by ground explosion at H 1211 - Oct "40"
- E. 15 x 1 x 1000lb SP bombs - 1/10 1/40 - 15 bombs in tgt area. one used as escort.
Our planes worked ripsaw five. They dropped 15 bombs on the tgt No. seven, the rail line betw H 1411 and H 1519. Lt Price scored a hit at H 141100. There were three other hits on the embankment which bent the rails betw H 1513 and H 1514. Lt Weinstein strafed and destroyed a loco at H 146104 it was camouflaged. Lt Wright strafed a building at H 1211. It was part of a large military supply depot. The building exploded violently, sending up a column of brown smoke 6000' high and rocking our planes as high as ten thousand feet. This building and several others were completely wiped out and 20 box cars near by were destroyed. In addition two buildings containing oil or pitch were set on fire. Two similar buildings were left smoking, ten storage huts left blazing, 20 box cars damaged, 40 to 50 camouflaged MI were damaged. In addition a gas truck and two other MI were damaged all in the same area (H 1211).
- F. One MI 109 was sighted ten miles southeast of the tgt area on the deck at 1150 it was being chased by series squadron. No file.
- G. In the strafing area, H 1211 piles of cream colored incendiary clusters were seen. They were hit by strafing but did not explode. No patrol bridge was seen at Bingen. 3 plus motor trucks were seen on the autobahn entering Frankfurt. Other P 47's were attacking them.
- H. OAVU tgt area
- I. Sqdn code not used
- J. Ground control not used.
- K. Radio were jammed from 1125 to 1135 in the tgt area.

ALL BOMB: CARBINE JOHNSTON WRIGHT UTERRAST
LEWIS BRANTON FEIN MUNT
WEINSTEIN SENA ARLEND PRICE
BARKER KOSTRACH LEVAY
ESCUORT: KILL

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

297th Ftr Sq 2-2 Sgt on a Armed Recce without bombs - 22 Mar 45 - Sq Miss No. 472

- A. Opns O No. _____, Miss No. J 29-9 -- Miss for day TRISA - 22 Mar 45
Armed Recce without bombs against rail traffic at Fulda, H 5818. Our planes were also to have followed a rail road track to Hersfeld, H 4054; but there was so much strafing at Fulda that they returned home directly from Fulda.
- B. 368th FG - 597th FS - 16 A/C Disp - No Aborts
- C. UP: 1503 - Or B/L in 1625 - Or B/L out 1720 - DOWN 1804
- D. One A/C damaged by explosion of about seven rr cars loaded with what was probably dynamite - Cat "AD"
- E. Our planes flew to Fulda, H 5818 and strafed in that area. The results were:
30 box cars loaded with ammo destroyed; 40 box cars damaged; 30 oil cars damaged;
100 box cars destroyed (some of these were loaded with ammo); 31 oil cars destroyed;
6 autos on a train destroyed; 6 MI on a train damaged; 3 locos destroyed; 10 rr cars loaded with A/C parts damaged and a/c parts badly damaged; 5 MI on the road destroyed. The explosion which damaged the a/c mentioned above rose to 5000'.
2 trains continued to explode, to burn, and to throw forth ammo for some time.
Many fires were started. The strafing took place on rails south and west of Fulda.
- F. weak inacc light flak at Fulda.
 avy flak near Frankfurt.
- G. All the trains mentioned above were stationary, and the locos were not steaming until strafed and then they blew up.
- H. Visibility three miles upsun - satisfactory otherwise.
- I. Sqn ^{code} ~~control~~ not used.
- J. Ground control good.
- K. No R/T jamming

NO BOMBS: HARVEY BARDY BARRY DEPUTY
TOMMY LANSBACH FRITZICK WOODBURN
RAGAN ROLAND HERRICK LEONARD
CLAY BOCK FABLEY HOWE

CONFIDENTIAL

0184

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Confidential

327th B-2 Spt of Armed Recon Mission: 25 March 49; Recon Miss No. 472:

- A - Ops Ord. No. _____ Miss No. 329-2 Miss for Day; CMC. 3 March 49.
Armed Recon in area of Aschaffenburg, Würzburg, and Weidmann, N1911.
(Area 43). - Strafing.
- B - 368 PG, 397 PG. 16 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Op 0719, or BL in 0740, 101 0750 and 0810, or BL out 0930, down 1010.
- D - 2 a/c dms by flak cat "A".
- E - 16x2x2500 NDA frag bombs. Inst nose, non-delayed tail. 52 bombs in
tgt area.
- Our planes accomplished the assigned A/A. 8 bombs were dropped on 4 to 10
MI's and a forest lodge at Mohrbrunn, N1943. 4 MI's were damaged. No fire
was seen in the lodge. 24 bombs were dropped in a A/I at N5457 near
Würzburg. This yard was 90% filled. There was one yard N of it and 2 yards
S of it. All three yards were well filled. In one of the yards to the S
there were four locomotives. The A/I bombed was the widest of the four yards.
The bombing caused continuing explosions prolonged for some time and expanding
fires. Bombs probably hit cars loaded with ammo. One big red brick
building, probably a warehouse, was damaged. One switching house was hit.
The bombing caused a big cloud of smoke which was 1/2 mi in extent at that time
and which probably grew later.
- Strafing: Lt Lewis' flight strafed 1 trailer truck, 1 transport truck, and
2 MI's at N6755. 1 vehicle was dest, and 3 were dnm. Lt Bauer's flight
dest 1 locomotive and dnm 2 pass cars at N67092. The train was stationary
and headed S. Col Carbine's flight and Lt Fain strafed and dnm a radio
station at N6734. It had 4 waste surrounding buildings. The station had
previously been badly damaged. Lt Bauer's flight strafed a A/I at N6755.
They dest 1 locomotive and dnm 2 spaces on 25 to 30 boxcars and oilcars.
All were damaged. The boxcars were in one row and the oilcars, which were
camouflaged in green, were in another. There were some MI's on the boxcars.
At least 1 was dnm. Lt LeGrand dnm 25 boxcars near this place. Lt Barker
and Lt Chancellor probably dest 1 Ju88 on the ground at A/D at N6134.
Lt Shea dest one Me109 on the ground at the same A/D. Lt Ariedge dest an
Me109 on the ground here. Col Carbine's flight dest 1 locomotive at N6726
near Miltenberg. Lt Lewis' flight dest 2 locomotives in a A/I at N6824
near Miltenberg. Lt Lewis' flight dnm 2 locomotives at N6736 near Würzburg.
- F - Int acc 30 cal flak at the A/D at N6134. Mod acc 20 cal flak at A/D N6134,
1 puff of inacc hvy flak just S of worm. Int inacc lt flak at A/I which
was bombed.
- G - Many civilians in horse-drawn vehicles were seen in the area of N6755 on the road
leading S out of Würzburg toward Kitzingen, N7408. On the N side of the A/D
which was strafed there was a hangar area containing 5 Me109's and 1 Ju88. On
the S side of the field 1 twin engine plane was seen. On the E of the field
there was an orchard extending about 150 yds back from the edge of the field.
In this orchard there were at least 25 Me109's dispersed but lined up. They
had camouflage of the desert type. In the middle of the A/D at Wertheim, N6730,
there were 8 or 9 dark spots on grass and cement. 5 old locomotives previously
hit at Miltenberg. At the same place 35 barges seen on main. Several dug
in positions were seen near Würzburg.
- H - Clear. Base at 5000 or 6000'. Vis 10 mi. 1 - Nil
- J - Ground control good. K - Nil
- Carbins, Johnston, Melleson, Malpin, Lewis, Snoohuizen, Fain, Hart, Bauer, Deputy,
Zindel, LeGrand, Barker, Chancellor, Ariedge, Shea.

Confidential

0185

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th Ftr Sq 3-2 Rpt on a Armed Recon Mission - 25 March 1945 - Sq Miss No. 474

- A. Ops O No. _____, Miss No. J25-2 - Mar 25 -- Miss for day 100 -
Armed recon - area 3 - Aschaffenburg to Wurmberg to Walldurn, # 1911, to
Aschaffenburg ---- Strafing -
- B. 368PS - 397FS - 14 A/C Disp - No aborts -
- C. Gr: 1245xxxix 1146 - Gr 3/4 in 1215 - 101: 1330 - Gr 1/4 out 1345 - Down: 1425
- D. Nil
- E. 14 x 1 x 260lb MXX Frag bombs - Inst none, non delayed tail - 20 bombs in tgt areas.
3 bombs dropped armed at # 0755 near Aschaffenburg. (There was a false report of
bandits)
16 bombs were dropped on a w/i at # 0855 slightly southwest of Aschaffenburg. In
the yard there were 150 cars in three or four rows. No locos were seen. There was
one big explosion followed by much flame and fire and light brown smoke. A smoke
ring was seen. It is possible that gasoline was hit. Eight cars were destroyed and
four were damaged. Four bombs were dropped on a small w/i at # 0856 slightly north-
east of Aschaffenburg. In the yard our pilots saw one small yard engine and 50
box cars, oil cars, flat cars, and coal cars. Ten cars were destroyed and ten were
damaged.
- Strafing: (area of # 075500, on a rr track northeast of Aschaffenburg, one bus
destroyed. The general target of the strafing was the 50 rr cars in the w/i mention-
ed above. Two fires resulting from two explosions similar to the explosion mentioned
above were caused by the strafing. One explosion occurred beside a saw mill (the
place were the four bombs mentioned above dropped) in the fire areas red dust was
seen on the ground and in the smoke caused by the fires - three or four box cars
were destroyed. All other cars except those destroyed or damaged by the bombing in
this area were damaged by strafing. The two fires caused by the strafing were still
burning when our pilots left the area. At Laufach # 105575, four locos were seen.
Three were damaged and one was destroyed. Two other locos were destroyed close to
this place. These locos were just outside of a house that looked like a repair house.
There were several locos in this house and these were strafed - etc. In the same
area seven box cars were damaged. Three flat cars were seen here and they seemed to
be carrying belly tanks. In the pen of # 2032 20 barges were seen. 15 were damaged.
No fires. These 20 barges were tied up on both sides of the river. One barge which
was at first seen going east was later seen stationary. These barges seemed to be
empty but some of them had flat tops and may have been carrying cargo. At # 2155,
15 box cars were damaged. No fires were seen. This was near the town of Wondfeld.
At the same place five MI were damaged.
- F. Red insec light flask in a w/i at # 9955 - weak insec light flask at # 0352 -
- G. The fire started this morning in the w/i near Wurmberg at # 5457 was still burning
while our pilots were in the area. In a w/i at # 6845 there area 300 to 400 cars.
On a track stretching from # 715575 to # 785420 there was one long line of oil cars,
broken only at # 786570. In a w/i at Obernburg, # 025581 there were 200 box cars.
- H. Visibility five miles into the sun very good otherwise. Visibility in the base area
was worse than in the tgt area.
- I. Sqdn code not used.
- J. Ground control was good.
- K. No A/T jamming.

ALL BOMBS: KRAUSE BRAYTON LEAVOY KOSHIG TOTTIE LAUBAUGH PATRICK WOODSWORTH
BRINSTEIN BAROU CHARLIE BUCK FAURET BARR

CONFIDENTIAL

0186

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Confidential

227th A-2 Unit of Armed Recon Mission: 22 March 45: Sqdn Miss No. 475.

- A - Opn Ord No. _____ Miss No. 5222 J29-2 23 Mar 45 Miss for Day: THREE
Armed Recon: Area #3 Ashaffenburg, Wurzburg, Weilsbunn, M1911. - Strafing.
- B - 500 PG, 527th PG. 16 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 1600, or 3L in 1645, 1A 1710, or 20 out 1810, down 1856.
- D - 1 ad dam by bomb blast out "ad".
- E - 16x2x250 lb HAA frag bombs, inst nose, non-delayed tail. 32 bombs in
tgt area.
- The bombing tgt was the airfield at Wurzburg, M134. There were 15 to 18
a/c, apparently He109's, dispersed on the field. There were three direct
hits on a hangar on the N side of the field. Six planes were hit, two
burned and two smoked, 4x33A - four destroyed, two damaged.
- Strafing - The sqdn strafed an ammo dump at M7049. There were many little
piles of stuff there, some in a big row. Six barracks buildings were
destroyed. All were on fire. Two big fires were started in the big row.
There was a terrific explosion. When they left there were 15 fires.
- Then they strafed a r/r in the vicinity. Five cars were destroyed,
set on fire. Two locomotives, previously damaged, were further damaged.
15 boxcars were damaged. Five or six trucks were destroyed. Then they
strafed an r/r at M8054. M1252 was destroyed ^{by Lt. Douglas} and exploded. There
were many jet jobs in the woods at the field. *Lt. Bush damaged on the 26.*
- F - put inaco it fire at the r/r at Wurzburg. Put acc it fire at the r/r at
M8054.
- G - 15 a/c were seen at the r/r at Wertheim, M2750. Col Douglas requested
permission to attack this field on the morning of 24 March 45.
- H - Weather on way out was good. On the way back there was haze and fog
at 6000 ft. Vis 2 or 3 mi between 4000 ft and 6000 ft. Vis bad below
3000 ft.
- I - sqdn code not used.
- J - ground control good.
- K - No r/r jamming.

Col Douglas, Bush, Killison, Rice,
Lewis, Womston, Ficht, Hunt,
Barker, Chancellor, Rostrach, Jones
Korlacher, Keil, Stohart, Horowitz.

Confidential

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

327th Ftr Sq B-2 Apt on a Area cover mission - 24 Mar 45 - Sqdn mission No. 470

- A. Spns O No. _____, Miss No. PFV-2 - Rise for day 0800 - 24 Mar 45
Area cover for 12th Corps (xxxx Coolbreeze) - Wiesbaden (N 5665) to Bad Nauheim (N 7296)
to Aschaffenburg to Wiesbaden (Area 3) - Strafing
- B. 568 PG - 597 PG - 8 A/C Disp - No xxx Abortives.
- C. SF: 0665 - S/L in 0700 - Or S/L out 0850 - DOWN 0905
- D. Nil
- E. Our planes made to circuits of the assigned sweep at 7000 to 10000' - they flew back from Aschaffenburg instead of from Wiesbaden. They were controlled by Wipsaw Five. They had no contact with Coolbreeze or Daynurse, 9th Inf Div.
- F. Strafing: Capt Acouse and Lt Brayton saw two troop trains at 080550 near Weilhausen. One train consisted of seven pass cars and a loco. This train was stationary and headed south. The other train consisted of five pass cars and a loco. This train was stationary and headed north. The two locos were destroyed and all cars were damaged.
- F. Weak inaco light flares at the strafing places.
Three or four bursts of acq wvy flar at 0800
- G. In the woods at 0850 in the area of the trains mentioned above there was a troop concentration. Troops may have camped there. Little uncamouflaged were seen on the west side of the track. At 0854 10 previously destroyed locos were seen. There were many locos in the 1st area. At 0941 an explosion and crystal-like flares were seen. This place was evidently being attacked. There may have been P 47's in the area. On the west side of Frankfurt, perhaps in a rr yard, there were an explosion and mounting flares. No A/C were seen there. There were several fires in a /I at 085465. This /I was 10 to 13 rails wide. Several days ago the sq observed 1000 cars there. Fewer cars were seen today. No 47 troops were seen.
- H. The wea was satisfactory - visibility was slightly restricted.
- I. Sqdn code not used.
- J. Ground control by Wipsaw Five was satisfactory.
- K. No A/Y jammer.

NO BOMB: CROSS BRAYTON DAYNURSE
WIPSAW FIVE BAYNURSE WIPSAW FIVE

CONFIDENTIAL

0188

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th Ftr Sq 8-2 Apt on a Area cover mission - 24 Mar 45 - No Mission No. 477

- A. Opns No. _____, Miss No. 477-2 - Miss for day TWO - 24 Mar 45
Area cover for All Corps (Coolbreeze) - (Area 3) - Wiesbaden (X 7293), to Bad Nauheim (X 7293) to Aschaffenburg to Wiesbaden. Strafing.
- B. 358 FS - 397 FS - 8 A/C Disp - No aborts -
- C. Hr: 0745 - 8/L in 0815 - 8/L out 1025 - 0000: 115 -
- D. Nil
- E. Our planes flew the assigned sweep. They were control by Wipsaw five. They contacted Coolbreeze every fifteen minutes but he had no target for them. They did not contact Wymore. Wymore was out there and he said that he would stand by on 28X "B" channel to give them any target which he picked up. But he had no target for them.
Strafing: Lt O'Leary destroyed one empty oil tank at A 7547. This oil tank was going east.
- F. Nil
- G. At Dieburg, X 75452 and at Gr. Bismarck, X 75420 there were many oil moving in and out. There was no traffic going both ways between Darmstadt and Aschaffenburg. It was dispersed, and each sighting consisted of from one to three vehicles. It was one of these oil tanks that was strafed. The nature of the mission and the gas shortage excluded general strafing. Squadrons in the area were asked to attack 800 Germans at X 7550. There were two oil tanks west of Aschaffenburg. In a woods at X 75047 there was big explosion and black smoke was seen. There were no planes in the area. At X 7546 a burning train moving east was seen. It consisted of 20 or 30 cars. The oil in the oil tanks were full. On a track stretching from X 71557 to X 75420 there was one long line of oil cars broken only at X 75570. There was another long line of oil cars stretching south from X 75570 to Bismarck, X 6251. It is not known whether these cars have been attacked. Yesterday the line from X 71557 to X 75420 was seen. There were more cars on this line yesterday than today.
- H. Good weather - a haze layer toward the west up to 5000' - visibility up to five miles down sun 10 miles.
- I. Squad code not used.
- J. Ground control satisfactory.
- K. At 0930 while our planes were in the Darmstadt area there was RFI jamming on "A" channel which lasted for 1 minute. The noise was like that of an engine or perhaps an electric razor. It seems as if the Germans were trying to jam and then for some reason had to abandon the attempt.

NO GAMES: OGANI BOCK FALLENY DEAD
TUIYS SAUBACH PATRICK WOODROWTH

CONFIDENTIAL

0186

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

207th S-2 Spt of Area Cover Mission: 24 March 49: Sqdn Miss no. 478:

- A - Opd ord no. _____ Miss no. 877-2 Miss for Day: 24 March 49.
Area Cover for XII Corps (0000000000) to Weisbaden, 890000; to Bad Nauheim, 872000; to Aschaffenburg, Area #3.
- B - 300 PB, 307th PB. 3 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Op 0957, Or 8L 1025, Or 8L out 1220, down 1251.
- D - All
- E - No bombs.
- Sqdn worked with 817525 and also contacted 000000, but received no hits. They flew the armed recce as assigned without incident and returned to base.
- F - Had acc hvy flak at 00101 (A/B).
- G - At 00109 a large explosion was seen indicating possible demolition. Two bridges were seen at the bridgehead across the Rhine at 0042. A single locomotive with several cars was seen headed S at 0100. Four a/c were seen on the A/B at 0440. All were twin engine. One was identified as a Ju88. Another had been damaged. The planes were in the open with no tracks around them. Thought to be possible decoys. One single engine a/c was seen on the A/B at 00101. Our pilots gathered from radio conversation the German had strafed it. A few scattered hits were seen in the recce area.
- H - Rose up to 11,000 ft. via 5 and upson. Unlimited downson.
- I - Sqdn code not used.
- J - At 00105 was weak and hard to contact from the 1st area.
- K - No A/I jamming.

Carbine, Johnston, Melliesen, Shea.
Lewis, Rice, Wright, Amt.

CONFIDENTIAL

0190

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th FS B-2 APT on m Area cover mission -- 24 Mar 45 -- sqdn Mission No. 479 --

- A. Opns No. _____, Miss No. PF4-2 -- miss ion for day PGM - 24 Mar 45
Area cover for All Corps (Jochbrunn - Area 3) - Weisbaden, N 5665 to Bad Nauheim N 7298
to Eschaffenburg, to Weisbaden -- Strafing.
- B. 368 W - 397 W - 0 A/U Disp - No aborts -
- C. Up 1459 or 2/14 1230 - cr h/1 out 1400 - down 1441
- D. Nil
- E. Our planes flew the assigned sweep uneventfully. On several occasions they contacted Daymares.
No strafing.
- F. Two puffs of innoc hv/ flak at the airfield at Langendiebach X 8875.
Weak fairly acc hv/ flak at X 2164.
- G. There were fifteen beaten up a/c on the ground at the a/f at X 9975. There were five a/c or dummy a/c on the ground at the a/f at X 8888. There was depot observed at X 7951 spec buildings and some activity were seen. There was varied traffic moving southeast in Bad Homburg at X 6981. Vehicular traffic was seen moving east at X 8074 northwest of Hannau. A fire was seen in woods at X 6455. It flared in such a way as to suggest that some had been hit. There was a smoking train at X 8846. It was composed of 100 cars which were stationary. Apparently they had been hit. Fire was seen in rr cars at X 7548. Much smoke was seen over one of our bridges at X 8444. There were several boats crossing the river to the east at this point apparently they were carrying our troops. About five or six boats were seen. Three long rectangular objects that looked like trailers were seen moving in Bad Homburg. They were not attached to a truck, and there was no visible agency of movement.
- H. Base - via up sun two miles - down sun ten miles - the vis point was out to half mile toward Weisbaden.
- I. Sqdn code not used.
- J. Ground control good
- K. R/T jamming: Time - 1500; place - tgt area; duration - 15 minutes; type - noise like a sweeper on a radio.
"A" and "B" channels and perhaps "C" channel - time - 1500; place - tgt area; duration - 15 minutes; type - noise like sweeper on a radio.
All this R/T jamming produced a noise different from the noise heard in the past. It had a much stronger effect on R/T, and R/T was very weak.

NO B GMB: BARKER CHARLTON BARKER HANSEN
HUGHAN RUTH TANDEL KOSTRACH

CONFIDENTIAL

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

597th B-24 Det on a Area Cover mission - 24 March 45 - 24 Miss No. 430

- A. Opns No. _____, Miss No. B-24 - Miss for day FIVE - 24 Mar 45
Area cover for III Corps (Coolbroeck-Area 5) - Weisbaden, Bad Nauheim,
Aschaffenburg. Strafing.
- B - 563 Mi, 597 Ps. 8 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 1335, BL in 1405, BL out 1600, Down 1620.
- D - Nil
- E - Our planes were controlled by RIFSW 5. They reported their presence in the
area to COOLBROECK and BAIRSON. They flew the assigned sweep.
Strafing. Area of W1245; Capt Carlson dest 1 MI and Lt Brayton dest 1 MI.
- F - One burst of fairly accurate hvy flak at W2477.
- G - There was a pontoon bridge at W2444. There were many US troops in the areas
of W2444 and W2440. Many US vehicles with red panels in area of W2444. On
the A/D at Wertheim, W2750 there were 12 camouflaged dummies in the middle of the
field. The camouflage was dark green or light green. It was out out in the
shape of an a/c. There may have been an airplane underneath. The bridges at
Frankfurt and the autobahn 8 of the city are intact. There is much smoke W
of Weisbaden. There are many M47s working in that area. There was a stationary
burning oil barge at W2650.
- H - None. Scattered clouds at 5000 to 6000 ft and at 10000 at the Rhine.
Vis downsun good. Upsun bad.
- I - Code not used.
- J - Ground control good.
- K - No R/T jamming.

Carlson, Brayton, Cass, Connig.
Hurlacher, Laubaugh, Patrick, Woodworth.

Confidential

0102

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C o n f i d e n t i a l

597th S-2 Apt of Area Cover Mission: 24 March 45; Sqdn Miss No. 481;

- A - Ops Ord No. _____ Miss No. PFV-2 : 24 Mar 45 : Miss for Day: SIX.
Area Cover for XII Corps (GOULBRUNN) Area #3 - Wiesbaden, Bad Nauheim,
Aschaffenburg.
- B - 568 FB, 597 FB. 8 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 1915, BL in 1945, BL out 1735, Down 1815.
- D - Nil
- E - Our planes were controlled by HIGGS 3. They reported their presence in the
area to GOULBRUNN, who had nothing for them. They performed the assigned
sweep four or five times. The mission was uneventful.
No strafing.
- F - Mk fairly acc hvy flk at the A/D at #8876.
Mk inacc hvy flk at #6775.
- G - On the A/D at #8884 there were three single engine a/c parked on the S side
of the field. There were three or four revetments stretching S from the
field into the woods. Some a/c were parked in the woods near the edge of the
field. There were no a/c on the A/D at #9588. At 1725 while our planes were
flying at 14000 ft they saw 20 streams of smoke coming out of woods and issuing
in flares in the area of HIGGS. Our planes were SA of these flares. They
were like those seen over Cologne in the past. About four planes were in the
area covered by the flares.
- H - Base. Via had S of Frankfurt.
- I - Sqn code not used.
- J - Ground control good.
- K - No R/T jamming.
- Krause, Buck, Pauley, Nord, Weinstein, Barco, Leavoy, Morowitz.

C o n f i d e n t i a l

0 1 0 3

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C o n f i d e n t i a l

327th S-2 Apt of Area Cover Mission: 24 March 45: Sqdn Miss No. 4821

- A - Ops Ord No _____ Miss No FVV-2: 24 Mar 45: Miss for Day: SEVEN.
Area Cover for XII Corps (COULBRIDGE) Area 15 - Wiesbaden, Aschaffenburg,
Bad Nauheim. No strafing.
- B - 368 FD, 397 FD. 8 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 1657, BL in 1750, BL out 1850, Down 1909.
- D - Nil
- E - Our planes reported to RIFSAW 5 and COULBRIDGE. COULBRIDGE said that
he would listen in. The assigned sweep was performed. BROWN told
Serus that there were bandits in the Darmstadt area. Our planes and
Serus planes covered the area, but not together, no bandits were seen.
- F - Two puffs of insec hvy flak at N1968 (this may have been test fire).
Int fairly acc hvy flak at N085775 (barrage fire directed at two flights
of another sqdn).
- G - Haze to 10000 ft. Very difficult to see ground. Therefore no observations.
- H - See sect G above. Vis upsun very poor, downsun poor, 1 to 2 mi.
- I - Sqdn code not used.
- J - Ground control good.
- K - No A/T jamming.

Clary, Johnston, Wright, Shea; Lewis, Rice, Hollison, Hunt.

Note: A big explosion rising to 3000 ft was seen at N6142. No idea
as to circumstances.

C o n f i d e n t i a l

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED

Confidential

527 B-2 Spt of Area Cover Mission: 24 March 45: Sqdn Miss No. 405:

- A - Ops Ord No. _____ Miss No. 527-2: 24 March 45: Miss for Day: Night Area Cover for XII Corps (GOMMUNIST) area 05 -iesbaden, Bad Neuenahr, Aschaffenburg.
- B - 568 PG, 597 PG. 8 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 1749, SL in 1815, SL out 1845, Down 1919. / U- Mil
- D - Planes contacted RIFSAW 5 and COOLBANKS but were given no tgts. They completed the armed recce as assigned except for digressions after bogies reported W of Frankfurt and S of Barmstadt. None were seen. No strafing.
- E - Nil
- F - A pontoon bridge under construction was seen partially screened by smoke at 04740. A bridge on the W outskirts of Frankfurt was seen being shelled by artillery (06266). At 06450 in a woods large explosions possibly caused by burning ammo dumps were seen.
- G - Very hazy to 6000 ft. Vis poor.
- H - Code not used.
- I - Ground control good.
- J - No 1/1 jamming.

terr, weil, Rein, Kastrach, Tuits, Chancellor, Baker, Friedge.

Confidential

0105

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C o n f i d e n t i a l

37th A-2 apt of dive bombing and armed recon mission: 25 March 45:
 Sqdn Mission No. 484:

- A - Ops Ord No. _____ Miss NO. 027-0: 25 March 45: Miss for Day: 011
 Armed recon and dive bombing to Bad Dissingen with examination of Lohr,
 Aschaffenburg, and Lamsstadt.
- B - 368 W, 397 W. 16 a/s disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 0656, or RL in 0700, or out 0900, Down 0958.
- D - Nil
- E - 16x2x250 RDX Frag bombs. Init nose, nondelayed tail. 32 bombs in
 1st area.
 Blance worked with AIRMA-5. 8 bombs were dropped in a 4/1 at 0955.
 A very large explosion sending up a ball of fire was seen. At least
 8 cars destroyed and five damaged. Still burning two hours later. 8
 bombs dropped on 4/1 at 0955. Several fires and explosions were seen
 causing black smoke from possibly oil to rise 5000 ft. Loco and 7 cars
 dest, 7 cars damaged. 15 bombs were dropped at Gsmunden 4/1 0416.
 Track was cut. 2 locos and six cars were damaged.
 Strafing: Barge damaged at 0405. Loco dest and 3 cars damaged at 0574.
 Headed N. Four cars dam at 0537. Loco and other cars hidden in tunnel.
 Loco of train of 15 cars dest at 0747. Loco dest, 3 cars dam at 0808.
 Headed N. Loco and five cars out of 15 damaged at 0452, headed S.
 Loco dest at 0757. 30 cars with red cross markings not attacked.
 Headed S. 4 W damaged, 0757.
- F - Int acc lt flak at 0403.
 Mod acc lt flak at 0747.
 Int inscc lt flak at 0452.
- G - Large armed attacks were being carried on for the towns of Bamern, 0742,
 and Weinhain, 0757. Great activity was seen at Oranbach, 0717, where
 a covered section of the 4/1 was crisscrossed with rail cars. There were also
 several camouflaged fuel storage tanks in the vicinity. Many rail cars were
 seen near town of Dieburg, 0804. A train of 20 cars headed S seen at
 0456, was backed into tunnel at our approach.
- H - Haze to 12,000 ft. Vis very poor.
- I - Sqdn code not used.
- J - Ground control good.
- K - No 4/1 jamming.

Krause, Laubaugh, Hellesen, Woodworth,
 Hogan, Neil, Patrick, Rosenig,
 Lewis, Brayton, Wright, Hunt,
 Clary, Johnston, Arledge, Kostrach.

C o n f i d e n t i a l

0 1 0 6

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Confidential

277th ~~...~~ of ~~...~~ and ~~...~~ mission: 25 Mar 45; Agdn Miss No. 485.

- A - Ops rd No. _____ Miss No. 429-6: 25 March 45; Mission for Day: Two. Armed recon and Dive bombing to Bad Miesingen with special attention to Lohr, Aachaffenburg, and Sarstedt - bombing and strafing.
- B - 368 PG, 397 PG, 16 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Op 1122, or 31 out 1215 and crossed back immediately thereafter, TOT 1240, down 1442.
- D - 2 a/c gas flak; one cat "A", ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~. 2 a/c damaged by deliberate midair collision designed to shake loose a bomb on one a/c - ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ 1 "A", 1 "AC".
- E - 16x2x250 mm frag bombs, inst nose, non-delayed tail. 29 bombs in tgt area. - 2 bombs dropped on town of Beccasarn, 4355. Several buildings destroyed. - 1 bomb ret to base.
- Our planes contacted ~~...~~ who turned them over to ~~...~~ on 8 channel. ~~...~~ asked them to check several places for enemy troops and vehicles, but they saw only no troops and vehicles. No bandits were reported. 2 bombs were dropped on a road in the woods at 436443. Our planes had a mission from ~~...~~ to bomb here. The road was loaded with ~~...~~, horse-drawn wagons, passenger cars, and staff cars. Results were perfect. 2 tanks destroyed, 2 horse-drawn vehicles dest, 3 ~~...~~ dest. All our pilots are to be commended, especially Lt Jandel, who destroyed 2 tanks and 1 horse-drawn vehicle.
- Strafing (area of 43641, Molligen): Capt Kerr and Lt Laubaugh dest 21 horse-drawn wagons, 20 passenger cars and staff cars, 11 cargo ~~...~~, 5 gas trucks, 3 armored trucks, and 20 personnel. They dest 1 ~~...~~, 13 horse-drawn vehicles, and 12 ~~...~~. Capt Bane and Lt Koenig dest 15 ~~...~~, 3 horse-drawn wagons, 4 armored cars, 6 small autos, 1 big trailer truck, 1 flak pos of 2 guns, and 15 personnel. They dest 7 ~~...~~, an armored car, and some arty pieces. Lt Barker and Chancellor dest 5 horse-drawn vehicles, 2 ~~...~~, and 2 ~~...~~. They dest 2 horse-drawn vehicles, 3 ~~...~~, and 2 tracked vehicles. Lt Weinstein and Buck dest 13 horse-drawn vehicles and 6 ~~...~~. They dest 13 horse-drawn vehicles. Lt Fein and Shea dest 5 ~~...~~. Maj Tuite's flight dest 16 misc vehicles (some of them halftracks), 5 houses in which there may have been some troops. They started a fire among the vehicles.
- F - 4 positions fairly acc lt flak and one at 43140. Int acc lt flak at 43254.
- G - 1x inacc mv flak at 43140. 1 puff of inacc lt flak at 43147.
- H - At 1219 the lead tank of a column turned the road into Niedernburg, 43147, and entered the town. ~~...~~ told our planes that Lt Kirkland of the 371 PG was safe with them and that they might bring him back. There was a big explosion involving 5 vehicles at 43641. There were many German Red Cross vehicles at 43436. Some were stopped in a nearby town and some were heading toward the Main Riv. German troops and vehicles were heading ~~...~~ parallel to the Main Riv. To the N of them US troops were along the Main Riv. There were 5 pontoon bridges covered by smoke across the Rhein at the place of the original 3rd Army crossing. The bridge at 43239 is in good shape. There was an explosion rising to 1300 ft near an ammo dump at 43147. A ferry was seen at Niedernburg.
- I - An overcast of haze and smoke in the area of Frankfurt and Sarstedt.
- J - Sqdn code not used.
- K - Ground control good except that on one occasion ~~...~~ died out.
- L - No A/I jamming.

Kerr, Laubaugh, Bane, Koenig; Weinstein, Buck, Fein, Shea.
Tuite, Barker, Jandel, Price; Barker, Chancellor, Baker, Ford.

Confidential

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C o n f i d e n t i a l

327 B-2 Apt of Dive bombing and Armed Recon Mission: 25 Mar 45; Sqdn Miss No. 486.

- A - Ops Ord _____ Miss No J29-6: 25 March 45; Miss for Day: 1st. Armed Recon to Bad Rissingen, with attention to Aschaffenburg, Bamstadt, and Lohr. Dive bombing.
- B - 368 PG, 327 PG. 14 a/c disp. No aborts.
- C - Up 1547, CR BL in 1610, CR BL out 1805, Down 1847.
- D - Nil
- E - 14x2x260 HXA Frags. Inst non-delayed. 26 bombs in tgt area. Planes worked with WIPSAW 5. Green and Blue flights dropped 16 bombs on 8 cylindrical tanks. They claim at least two destroyed with moderate fires but much smoke. They were at N6777. Lt Wright cut RR tracks near this point. Red and Yellow flights dropped 12 bombs on the Orlenbach #1 at N7174. They claim at least ten cars destroyed and 12 damaged. All pilots did very accurate bombing. Strafing was done by Red Yellow, and Green flights in a small area in the vicinity of N2255. Their totals were 1 tank damaged, 28 MIs destroyed, 4 MIs damaged, 2 personnel on bicycles killed. All pilots participated equally in the strafing. Two radio installations on hills at Gotherbrunn, N1955, were strafed by these three flights and destroyed. They consisted of antennae and small camouflaged operational buildings.
- F - Red acc lt and hvy flak at N7274. Sk acc lt flak at N1457.
- G - Our troops were seen bivouaced near the SW outskirts of Aschaffenburg, N2651.
- H - Haze of unknown altitude. Vis poor.
- I - Sqdn code not used.
- J - Ground control good.
- K - No N/I jassing.

Krause, Sternart: Hogan, Sell, Patrick, Woodworth.
 Lewis, Johnston, Kostnach, Wright: Clary, Elliott, Fein, Arledge.

C o n f i d e n t i a l

0108

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th Ftr Sq B-2 Rpt on a Armed Recon Mission - 26 March 1949 - Sqdn Mission No. 487

- A. Opns O No. _____, Miss No. J 29-2 - Miss for day 08A - 26 March 1949
 Miss was to have been an armed recon in area 2 directed against rail and road traffic
 -- Limbourg - Siesse - and Bad Neuhburg. weather prevented execution of mission.
- B. 368th FA - 397th FA - 16 A/C Miss -
- C. Up: 0750 - Down: 0919
- D. Nil
- E. 16 x 2 x 250lb M4X Frag bombs - 1st nose - non-delayed tail -- 32 bombs jettisoned at
 established place for jettison.
 Our planes flew out on course then because of weather conditions they flew toward
 the north to the Mayen area; then wsa conditions forced them to return to base.
- F. Nil
- G. Nil
- H. mv rail showers - base 3000 to 3000' top unknown - visibility below overcast unaffected
 by showers - two to four miles
- I. sqdn code not used
- J. Ground control good
- K. No radio jamming.

ALL BOMBS: CARTRIDGE MOUNTED BOMBS
 100% SUCROFI LAMPS
 WINDMILL BOMB FUSE
 BOMBS CRASHED ON ROADSIDE

CONFIDENTIAL

0100

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th Ftr Sq 8-2 apt on a Armed Recce and Div Bombing - 26 Mar 45 - Sq Miss No. ⁴⁸⁸~~488~~

- A. Opn O No. _____, Miss No. J29-2 - miss for day TWO - 26 Mar 45
Armed recce area 2 - for rail and road traffic in area of Limburg, Giessen, and Bad
namburg.
- B. 366FU - 397FU - 16 A/C Diep - No aborts
- C. up 1546 - cr b/1 in 1425 - cr b/1 out 1515 - down 1503
- D. One of our A/C damaged by enemy flak. Cat "A"
- E. 16 x 2 x 250 lb ADA Frags - Inst - undelayed - 52 bombs in tgt area
Planes worked with Ripsaw two. They flew to Limburg then to Weilburg 35810 where 15
bombs were dropped on the w/y. There was light loading. Five cars des 10 daz - Capt
Dane cut the tracks -- 5 bombs were dropped on a small w/y Biskirchen 4015. Lt Wright
des five cars, Lt Patrick cut the tracks. a switch house was des. and one large build in t
the town. 9 bombs were dropped at Beienheim, W 7797 on an oil refinery. All bombs hit
on the north side of the plant where it is believed several tank cars may have been des.
At this refinery Capt Krause and Lt Elliott each des a loco by strafing. Capt Dane and
Lt Elliott des two large oiltanks which burned and des several water tanks. The boiler
house was strafed by Capt Krause and severely dam as steam erupted from it. The main
entire installation was thoroughly raked by strafing and bellie was put out of commis-
sion. Ripsaw five then called in 40 plus bandits near Frankfurt. Our planes searched for
them without avail.
- F. weak inacc light at Wetzlar 35410 weak ecc hvy at W 8571
- G. No traffic of any description was seen in tgt area.
- H. large thunderhead west of Frankfurt from deck to over 22000' - almost clear south and
east of Frankfurt -- visibility good
- I. Sqdn code not used
- J. Ground control good
- K. No A/T jamming

ALL BOMBS: KRAUSE ELLIOTT DANE ROBTARD
DANE ABIL ROBTARD STEWART
LEWIS STRAFER PATRICK BRIGGS
CLAY JOHNSTON ARLEDOE KORNIG

CONFIDENTIAL

0200

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th Ftr Sqd 2-2 rpt on a Dive Bombing and Armed Recon Mission - 27 Mar 45 ---
Squad Mission No. 482

- A. Spns No. _____, Miss No. 397-2 -- Miss for day ONE - 27 Mar 45
Support for VII Corps, Frankness, at Simmern - Armed recon - Bingen to Limburg to
Bad Homburg to Bingen to home. Dive Bombing and strafing.
- B. 368th 397th Ftr - 16 A/O Miss - no aborts
- C. up 1300 b/l in 1550 - tot 1400 - cr b/l out 1505 - down 1550
- D. Nil
- E. 15 x 2 x 250 lb HX frag bombs - inst nose non-delayed tail - 32 32 bombs in tgt
area -
Our planes contacted Aipsaw two and then Frankness. Frankness had no tgts for them
at first and told them to stand by. When Aipsaw two gave them a tgt and Frankness
said that it was alright for them to go ahead and attack this tgt. The tgt was at
07040, they could not attack because they had no map coverage for that place.
Then Aipsaw two gave them a concentration of 100 plus MI in the area of, Langer-
heim, N 6596. They could not attack because a thunderhead above made a good bomb
run impossible. They finally chose as their tgt a refinery or factory at Wolfers-
heim, N 7700. This refinery, which was strafed yesterday and left with several fires
going was still steaming away today. 32 bombs were dropped there and the results
by all pilots were excellent. A big cloud of dust was left, and the factory, a cluster
of buildings was badly damaged.
- F. Strafing: (area of Langerheim, N 6596) - Capt Krause and Lt Barco destroyed 10 MI
at Weinstein and truck des 1 loco (1) cars attached - loco stationary under bridge
pointing north. They also damaged a lone loco. Lt Weinstein's flight destroyed 10 MI.
Capt Dams and Yandel (Lt) des 31 misc vehicles and 70 personnel, half of whom
wore blue civilian clothing. Lt Yandel strafed two camouflaged netting structures.
One end of each was on a road and each one extended 300 feet back from the road. Each
one was fifty feet wide, and the two were separated by a clearing. No fire, only
smoke, was observed. Lt Barco strafed and damaged armored oil tank at
N 6596 without results. Lt Johnston des 2 MI. Lt Arledge des 6 MI and dam 4. Lt Shea
des 3 MI and dam one. He also des the flak position of one gun. Major Tuite's
flight strafed and badly dam 2 large barracks south of Butzbach, N 6604. They also
des 15 MI and dam 3. In addition they des 1 horse drawn vehicle.
- G. Six inacc light guns at N 6597
weak inacc light flak at N 6499
- H. Many of the MI strafed seemed to be loaded. The strafing results show this. One
strafed red cross vehicle exploded and there was a high fire remaining when our
pilots left. There was a column of 50 or vehicles at N 6590 stretching back northwest
on a road section ending at this point. In the area of N 6600 a formation of 50 to
70 marching civilians were seen. North of Butzbach there were three groups of such
civilians fifteen in a group. There were several civilian hospitals in this area.
- I. There was a big thunderhead from 10000' or 12000' down to 1500' or 2000' --
Vie under thunderhead very poor - vis away from thunderhead 10 miles -- ceiling
away from thunderhead 10000'
- J. Sqdn code not used
- K. Ground control good
- L. No R/T jamming
- ALL BOMBS: KRAUSE BARCO DAMS YANDEL
TUIE SELLGOTT BAKER PRICH
WEINSTEIN BUCK FEIN HORN
BURLACHER JOHNSTON ARLEDGE SHEA

0201

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

327th B-24pt on a Bomber Escort mission --- 28 Mar 45 - Sqdn Mission No. 491

- A. Opns 080. ____ , Miss No 0000-1 - Miss for day 001 - 28 Mar 45
Medium bomber escort mission - RV point Kinn(0 0002) to tgt at 0 0042 -and return -
- B. 0600 - 097 F3 - 16 A/C disp - no aborts
- C. up 0930 - cr h/1 in 1055 - out 1120 - down 1202
- D. Nil
- E. No bombs - 16 A/C used as escort -
Due to a delayed take-off one plane reached the RV point at 1015 instead of the scheduled time, 0954 - the bombers had left. Our planes contacted Jampost who gave them a heading out to the tgt - they proceeded to the tgt area where they picked up two of the medium bombers headed home. They could not contact Quickstart (Medium bombers) - over the r/t because Quickstart's transmission was garbled and he could not receive our planes. Our planes escorted two of the mediums back to the RV point where they sighted several others. Then returned home.
- F. Nil
- G. Nil
- H. 10/10 cloud cover base 2000' top 5000' - 5/10 cloud cover base 14000' top 12000' -- other scattered layers between - vis fair to good - front part of tgt area was deteriorated to the south and east -
- I. Bomb code not used
- J. Ground control good.
- K. No r/t jamming but excessive chatter on "C" channel -

BT TO HQ: 0000 0000 0000 0000
0000 0000 0000 0000
0000 0000 0000 0000
0000 0000 0000 0000

CONFIDENTIAL

0202

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

C o n f i d e n t i a l

527th B-2 Apt of Armed Recon Mission - 26 March 45 - Sqdn Mission No. 491.

- A - Ops Ord No. Miss No. J29-7. Miss for Day Two 26 March 45.
Armed recon without bombs - Kassel to Fulda to base - Directed against AI movements on rds.
- B - 508 RS, 597 RS. 16 ad disp, plus 2 spares. No aborts.
- C - Up 1540, BA in 1630, BA out 1745, down 1844.
- D - Lt George L. Bauer went in on a strafing pass at 070500. ^{at 1720.} The wreckage of his plane was seen on the ground.
- E - No bombs.
- Strafing: (area of Wilsberg, 09560) Lt Bauer and Halpin dest 3 Mls. Lt Uterhart and LeGrand dest 12 Mls. Maj Tuite flight dest 25 Mls and down 4 Mls. They dest 3 horsedrawn veh. Capt Krause flight dest 15 Mls. Lt Yandel dest 14 Mls, 1 radio truck, 4 staff cars, and 1 halftrack, and down 1 Ml. Lt Koenig dest 7 Mls and 1 horsedrawn veh. Lt Buck dest 10 Mls and 1 halftrack. Capt Lane dest 15 Mls, 7 armored cars, 1 bus, 1 88 mm gun, 2 jeeps, and 2 houses. 3 of the AI dest were gas trucks. One down 7 Mls.
- F - No inacc lt flak at 09560.
- G - Many US troops and veh seen in area of 07547. 50 horsedrawn veh which may have been carrying civilians were seen going - at 087000. Many people were standing around watching them.
- H - Very poor weather.
- I - Code not used.
- J - Almost no ground control.
- K - No A/I jamming.

Krause, Snoohuizen, Frisbie, Deputy; Tuite, Elliott, Baker, Price.
Bauer, Halpin, Uterhart, LeGrand; Lane, Buck, Yandel, Koenig.
Sparcs: Fein, Nord.

C o n f i d e n t i a l

0 2 0 3

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

197th Ftr Sqdn B-2 Spt on a Medium Bomber Escort - 30 Mar 45 - 2d Mission No. 422

- A. Opns No. _____, Miss No. JSM-1 - Miss for day 088 - 30 March 1945
 Escort for one box of B-26's. Appointed rendez-voos at F 6701 (Actual rendez-voos about five miles south of here) - tgt was Ebenhausen Fuel dump at N 7074.
- B. 368FU - 397FU - 16 A/C Miss - No Aborts
- C. up 1431 - tot 1640 - down 1708
- D. Rendez-voos was effected on time about five miles south of appointed rendez-voos place, F 6701. Our planes and the bombers were flying at 15000' at this time. In general, the bombers flew the mission at 15000', while our planes were a little higher. The bombers flew south of the briefed courses on headings close to those given to our pilots. Over the tgt the bombers was 15000' in an overcast and blind bombing was necessary. They dropped their bombs here. Our planes left the bombers at 1630 at Wirmz, N 8050. No strafing.
- E. All area of A 9040
- F. Explosions were seen ~~at 9040~~ ^{hi} it was thought by one pilot that some of the bombers escorted by our squadron may perhaps have jettisoned their bombs here. Air to air control was fairly good. Explosions were seen on the southern edge of Aschaffenburg, N 0254.
- G. Base at 15000' - layers of clouds above and below base. At the tgt there was an overcast at 15000' -
- H. Sqdn code not used
- I. Ground control good
- J. No AT Jamming

ESSENT: BRADY, ROYAL PATRICK HADIN
 BRIDGEMAN, RICHARD PAUL HUNT
 TURTLE, SHEPARD WILLIAM RUDIG
 FANDEL, BUCK ARTHUR WARD

CONFIDENTIAL

0204

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

397th Ftr Sq 8-2 Apt on a Armed Recce and Dive Bombing - 31 Mar 45 - Sq Miss No. 492

- A. Opns 0 no. _____, Miss No. J 29-4 -- Miss for day 000 - 31 Mar 45
Armed recce and dive bombing mission (Area 3) to Fulda to Schweinfurt to Bamberg to
Nurnberg to Wurzshurg to home.
- B. 368 Fg - 597Fg - 15 A/W deep - two aborts - Lt Hogan had prop trouble - Lt Keil
escorted him back -
- C. up 0757 - or b/l in 0830 - tot 0845 - out 0950 - down 1040
- D. One of a/c damaged by enemy flak - Det "A"
- E. 15 x 2x 250lb ADA Frag bombs - inst nose - non-delayed tail - 25 bombs in tgt area.
Four jettisoned by aborts at designated field. ~~xxxxx~~
Our planes worked with success. 12 bombs were dropped on a possible barracks or
storage area on southwest edge of Munnerstadt N 7586. One building was destroyed, 5
others were strafen. 15 bombs were dropped on a possible ammo dump or supply dump,
in woods at N 7402. Two buildings were destroyed by Lts Wainstein and Fein, three was
damaged. Lt Clary's flight strafed at the same location, damaging 8 to 10 more
buildings. Lt Clary strafed a train of which 15 cars were protruding from a tunnel,
at N 7585. Three cars damaged. Train headed north. 10 tanks were attacked by Capt
Carlson and Lt Knoohuizen at N 7575. 4 were damaged.
- F. Not fairly see evy flak at N 7575. 4 were damaged.
Very inten see evy flak at N 7565
- G. Our troops were seen at Koenigsheim N 5414. An ammo dump was seen at N 6751.
30 to 40 a/c the majority of which were twin engine (possible AD 111's) were seen
Schweinfurt airbase N 7565. Fires were seen in Wurzshurg w/y N 5439. Two single engine
a/c seen at a/d N 5929. 5 unidentified a/c seen at C 5204.
- H. 7/10 strao-cumulus -- base 15000' top 14000' -- 1/10 to 2/10 at 10000' -- west of
Rhine 7/10 to 8/10 -- base N 2500' top 10000' -- visibility good.
- I. Sqdn code not used
- J. Ground control good
- K. No RT jamming

ALL BOMBS: CARLSON KNOOZHEIM HELLINGER HARPIN
HOGAN (ABORT) KEIL (ABORT) GRAMP THAWTON
WAINSTEIN BOCK FEIN LEBRAND
CLARY SPICHTY KALLEN KORNIS.

CONFIDENTIAL

0205

THIS PAGE IS DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

297th Ftr Sq B-2 Rpt on An Armed Recce without bombs -- 31 Mar 45 - Sq Miss No. 494

- A. Opns O No. _____, Miss No. J29-4 - Miss for day TWO - 31 Mar 45
Armed recce without bombs - area 3 - Fulda to Schweinfurt - Bamberg (O 2649) to
Nurnburg to Nurnburg -
- B. 368FA - 397FA - 16 A/C Disp - No Aborts
- C. up 1225 - or b/l in 1315 - or b/l out 1500 - down 1609
- D. One A/C damaged by flak Cat "A"
- E. Our planes were controlled by Gunpost on the way in and by Pipeaw two on the way back.
Our planes flew to Fulda as briefed. Then they found a hole to the east and strafed there.
They could not undertake the assigned armed recce further south because there was a ten
tenths coverage there. They flew directly back from this area.
The strafing was done in the area of Arnstadt, J 2654. The tgtes were scattered RT,
most of which were moving south. Capt Kerr and Lt Brayton destroyed 12 RT, 1 horse drawn
vehicle and one auto. Major Tuitt and Lt Leubaugh destroyed five RT. Lt Barker des 2 locos.
Lt Shea des 1 loco and one box car and damaged 1 box car. Two of the des locos were
attached to opposite ends of a train of 15 box cars. This train was stationary. The third
loco was attached to a train of 20 box cars which was moving south and which stopped
when attacked.
- F. 1xk inacc light flak at X J 1365
Inten fairly acc light flak at J 200455
- G. At J 2146 a depot 1xk associated with a rr was seen. There was much activity there. The
rr was cut deeply into the ground. The area was newly camouflaged. On the top of a hill
in woods there were buildings in process of construction. There were many trenches in
the area of J 1460. On the a/1 1xk at Erfurt some planes were seen. They were not fighters.
A big depot was seen at J 255555 north of Arnstadt. There was much activity there.
- H. Tgt area: 10/10 overcast with a few breaks in spots. - cumulo-stratus clouds - base 4500'
top 7500' to 8000' - visibility good below cloudspeer above.
- I. Sqdn code not used
- J. Ground control good
- K. No RT jamming

NO BOMB: KEAR BRAYTON KEAR SMITH
KERR
TUITT LEUBAUGH ROOSTRACH AXIL
BARKER SHEA ARLEIGH HARR
SHEA SHEPARD PATRICK UFFERT

CONFIDENTIAL

0206