

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS31st. DECEMBER, 1943/1st. JANUARY, 1944.Mine layingSUMMARY

- 2 Stirlings laid 12 mines off the Dutch coast without incident.

WEATHER FORECAST

- Midnight frontal positions:- (1) Iceberg area from S.W. Norway - Wash.

Bases:- Variable conditions, with mist and low stratus after midnight, and 1-2,000 yards visibility. A warm front will cross bases from the N.W., causing visibility to become very bad for considerable periods. Subsequent improvement is uncertain.

Germany:- Variable strato-cumulus, tops below 10,000' in N., and below 8,000' in S. Moderate visibility. Frankfurt: probably little strato-cumulus, with patches of medium cloud above, and moderate to good visibility. Risk of large amounts of cloud. Conditions will deteriorate towards dawn.

France:- Variable strato-cumulus, base 3,000'. Moderate visibility.

SORTIES

- | | | | |
|----|-----|---|----|
| 3. | (a) | No. of aircraft despatched..... | 2 |
| | (b) | " " " laying mines in primary area..... | 2 |
| | (c) | " " " missing..... | 0 |
| | (d) | " " mines laid..... | 12 |

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

- Dutch coast:- Cloud base 900-1,000'. Poor visibility.

ENEMY DEFENCES

- No opposition was reported.

CASUALTIES

- None.

MM/JT.
BC/S. 26342/6/ORS4,
6th. March, 1944.

RECORD
1st/1st. S. Sqn, 1944

TARGET	GROUP	INCIDENT TYPE	BOATERS	CORRECTING TRACK ON		BOATERS POSITIVE		MIS-ING	DAMAGE				INTERLOCATIONS		RESULTS
				WIND	SEA	OVER E. Y.	ON SWATH		PLATE	FIGHTER	MISC. EQUIPMENT	CASUALTY	REPAIRS	REMARKS	
TRAIL	5	1st. Sqn	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12 mins

RCB/RE
 C. S. S. 3.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

1/2nd. JANUARY, 1944.

BERLIN: Hamburg: Witten: Duisburg: Cologne: Bristillerie: Leaflets:

SUMMARY

1. Berlin 421 Lancasters were despatched on the first night of the New Year to attack Berlin; the ninth of the great winter raids. The target was again covered with 10/10ths. cloud; a good concentration of flares was achieved by the primary markers, but the back-up's are less successful, and the attack soon became scattered. The German fireless admitted "large in residential quarters". A diversionary raid on Hamburg failed to distract the fighter controllers, who were never in doubt as to the identity of the main objective, and many combats occurred throughout the route. 28 bombers (6.7%) were lost. Our crews destroyed at least 6 fighters.

2. Hamburg: Witten: Duisburg: Cologne: Bristillerie. Mosquitoes carried out a diversionary attack on Hamburg, and precision raids against targets in Western Germany and on the Cherbourg peninsula, without loss.

3. Leaflets 11 Wellingtons, out of a force of 44, dispersed leaflets over France. None were lost; but one crashed on return.

WEATHER FORECAST

Midnight frontal positions:- (1) warm from 55°N. 19°E - Leipzig - 48°N. 05°E. (2) cold from 55°N. 19°E. - Berlin - N. of Cologne - Felixstowe - Birmingham, becoming (3) warm to N.W. Ireland.

Bases:- Fit all night. Variable strato-cumulus in well broken layers, base 1,500', tops 6,000', with extra layers to 20,000'. Narrow rain belt along the front. Good to moderate visibility.

Germany:- Convection cloud N. of the cold front, tops 12,000' inland, 5,000' over North Sea; towering solidly to great heights N. of 52°N. in early morning. S. of the cold front, layers of cloud at several levels. Berlin: at 0400, cloud should be thinly layered, and probably well broken above 6-8,000'. Route: mainly 10/10ths. from 1,000-2,000', with thin layers above to 20,000' and good clear breaks.

France:- Broken medium and strato-cumulus cloud.

Winds to Berlin:-	10,000'	20,000'	30,000'
Bases - 05°E.	310°/55 m.p.h.	300°/65-90 m.p.h.	310-330°/65-90mph
5 - 09°E.	310°/60-70 m.p.h.	300°/90 m.p.h.	330°/90 m.p.h.
9 - 13°E.	310°/80 m.p.h.	300°/90 m.p.h.	330°/95 m.p.h.
Berlin	310°/80 m.p.h.	320°/35 m.p.h.	330°/95 m.p.h.
3 - 09°E.	300°/70 m.p.h.	320°/75 m.p.h.	340°/90 m.p.h.
9 - 05°E.	320°/65 m.p.h.	320°/75 m.p.h.	355°/85 m.p.h.
5 E. - Bases	310°/60 m.p.h.	320°/70 m.p.h.	320-345°/70 m.p.h.

BERLIN

LINE OF ATTACK

Route (1) Cromer - 54°30'N 07°00'E - 54°13'N 10°43'E - 53°25'N 0°42'E - BERLIN - 52°10'N 13°38'E - 50°50'N 12°10'E - 50°30'N 07°20'E - 50°30'N 0°35'E - Beachy Head.

.....(2) (Alternative)

(2)(alternative) Southwold - 52°40'N. 03°30'E - 52°36'N. 04°38'E
52°50'N. 09°12'E - 53°25'N. 12°42'E - BREMEN - return as above.

6. Route-marking On the outward route, primary blind markers and blind backers-up from 97 and 156 Squadrons were each to drop yellow T.I. (LB) and green steady flare at 52°50'N. 08°50'E (16 miles S. of Bremen); and primary markers, blind backers-up and special blind backers-up from 7, 83 and 405 Squadrons were to drop yellow T.I. (L.T.) at 52°37'N. 12°20'E (18 miles N.W. of Brandenburg). On the way back, primary blind markers and blind backers-up of 97 and 156 Squadrons were each to drop one green steady flare at 51°15'N. 12°37'E. (11 miles S.W. of Leipzig); and primary blind markers, blind backers-up and special blind backers-up of 7, 83 and 405 Squadrons were to drop one green steady flare at 50°30'N. 07°20'E (14 miles N.W. of Coblenz).

7. Kind of Attack Primary blind markers were to mark the aiming-point with red T.I. dropping at the same time a bundle of release-point flares (red at 1 green star). Blind backers-up, spread throughout the attack, were to keep aiming-point marked with greens and release-point flares; special blind backers-up were to do likewise with heavier salvos. Visual backers-up were to aim green steady flares at the estimated centre of all visible reds, early in the attack; later arrivals were to bomb on the centre of greens, adding 10 knots to the W/V set on bomb-sight. In either case they were to overshoot by 2 seconds. But if clouds obscured the T.I. invisible, they were to hold their greens, and bomb the release-point flares on a heading of 171°. Supporters were to bomb blindly if possible, otherwise release-point flares or the centre of greens. Main force aircraft were to aim at the centre of greens, or at release point flares on heading prescribed for the backers-up.

8. Timing Zero hour: 0300 Duration of attack: 0258-0312

Primary blind markers: 22 Lancs. at zero - 2
Blind backers-up: 12 Lancs. at zero, zero +2, +4, +6(2), +7, +8(2), +9(2), +10 and +11.
Special blind backers-up: 5 Lancs. at zero + 1, +3, +5, +7 and +10.
Visual backers-up: 15 Lancs. from zero to zero +11 (one per min., but 2 at zero, zero+1, and zero +6)
Supporters: 33 Lancs. at zero - 2
Main Force: 117 Lancs. from zero to zero + 4.
116 Lancs. from zero + 4 to zero + 8.
115 Lancs. from zero + 8 to zero + 12
20 A.F.C. aircraft throughout the attack

Marker Loads

Primary blind markers: 1x flares (R/G stars) + 1 red T.I. (2LB) + 2 yellow T.I. (1B)
Blind backers-up: 1x flares (R/G stars) + 4 green T.I. (2LB) + 2 yellow T.I. (1B)
Special blind backers-up: 3x flares (R/G stars) + 4 green T.I. (2LB) + 2 yellow T.I. (1B)
Visual backers-up: 6 green T.I. (3LB)

N.B. All primary blind markers and blind backers-up were to carry 2 green steady flares internally.

9. WINDOW WINDOW was to be dropped at the rate of one bundle every minute to a point 40 miles from the target; 2 bundles every minute from that point to the target, and back; and one bundle every minute for the rest of the route home, until the supply was exhausted.

10. Diversions 15 Mosquitoes were to carry out a feint attack on Hamburg, dropping red and green T.I. at zero - 26(6), -27(2), -23, -22, -21, -20, -19, -18, and -17. A direct run was to be made from 52°50'N. 08°50'E to Hamburg; during which WINDOW was to be dropped at the rate of 3 bundles per minute.

a moderately good concentration of skymarker flares was maintained for the 14 minutes of the attack. There is no indication of the accuracy achieved by the aircraft which bombed blindly.

ENEMY DEFENCES

18. Ground defences The few aircraft over the target in the first 13 minutes of the raid met accurately predicted flak. Later the guns fired a to between 18,000' and 20,000', mostly around the release-point flares. Searchlights could not penetrate the cloud. Light flak was met at heights 18,000', and rocket shells up to 20,000'. Little ground opposition was met along the planned route, but straying aircraft were engaged at Bremen, Hannover, Garndlegen, Leipzig, Halle, Schweinfurt, Frankfurt, Coblenz, Bonn, Liege, Charleroi, Lille and Brussels. 9 aircraft are estimated to have been shot down from the ground en route, and 2 over the target, including one by a rocket or hostile.

19. Fighters The feint attack on Hamburg failed to confuse the enemy, who never gained in any doubt of the identity of the main target. Free-lance fighters were most active between the 2 route-markers on the outward journey, over the target and near Leipzig. F-109s and G.C.I. controlled fighters patrolled the enemy coast on both routes, and other hostiles operated over the North Sea. 48 combats were reported, including 19 attacks.

On the way out, 3 bombers were destroyed by fighters over the North Sea and the Dutch coast. 15 combats took place between 08°30'E. and 12°10'E. resulting in 8 further losses. In the target area, only 13 combats and 2 losses occurred, although the fighters reached it before the main force of bombers; 1 F-109 and one loss were reported near Leipzig, and 9 combats and 2 losses over the rest of the homeward route. Observations suggest that at least 6 enemy aircraft were destroyed.

CASUALTIES

20.	No. of aircraft missing.....	28(6)
	" " " damaged { flak..... 13 }	
	{ fighter..... 7 }	31
	{ British incendiaries..... 3 }	
	{ other causes..... 8 }	

As stated above, 11 aircraft are estimated to have been shot down from the ground - 9 on route and 2 over the target (including one by a rocket shell, while 16 fell to fighters (11 on the way out, 2 over the target and 3 on the way home). The remaining loss was probably not due to enemy action; many crews reported that an aircraft, perhaps a Pathfinder, exploded in mid-air 50 miles E. of Bremen. 2 returning bombers were wrecked in landing accidents.

HAMBURG

21. 14 of the 15 Mosquitoes despatched on a feint raid against Hamburg attacked the city according to plan, between zero - 27 and zero - 18, dropping 100 lb. T.N. through 10/10ths. cloud. The fifteenth aircraft returned early for technical reasons. No casualties were sustained. The attack diverted few fighters from the main operation.

WITTEN

22. 11 C-109 Mosquitoes (4 Mk. I, 5 Mk. II PENWIPER and 2 Mk. II FOUNTAIN PEN) were sent against Ruhrstahl A.G. at Witten. 2 Mk. I, 1 PENWIPER and 1 FOUNTAIN PEN made successfully controlled runs. 6 other aircraft experienced OBOE failure; 4 attacked the primary on D.R., one jettisoned and one returned early. The eleventh aircraft was late, and bombed Gladbeck on D.R. All returned safely.

...../DUISBURG

DUISBURG

13. 7 Mk. I Mosquitos were despatched against Vereinigte Stahlwerke at Duisburg. 4 made successfully controlled runs, and one bombed the primary area on D.R. because of partial OBOE failure. The other 2 experienced engine trouble and jettisoned their loads. All returned undamaged.

COLOGNE

14. 1 G-H Mosquito successfully attacked Cologne by means of its precision device.

BRISTOLLENE

15. 4 Mk.I Mosquitos were detailed against the military construction at Bristolenne, on the Cherbourg peninsula. 2 made successfully controlled runs; the others did not bomb, one because of engine trouble and one because of partial OBOE failure. All returned safely.

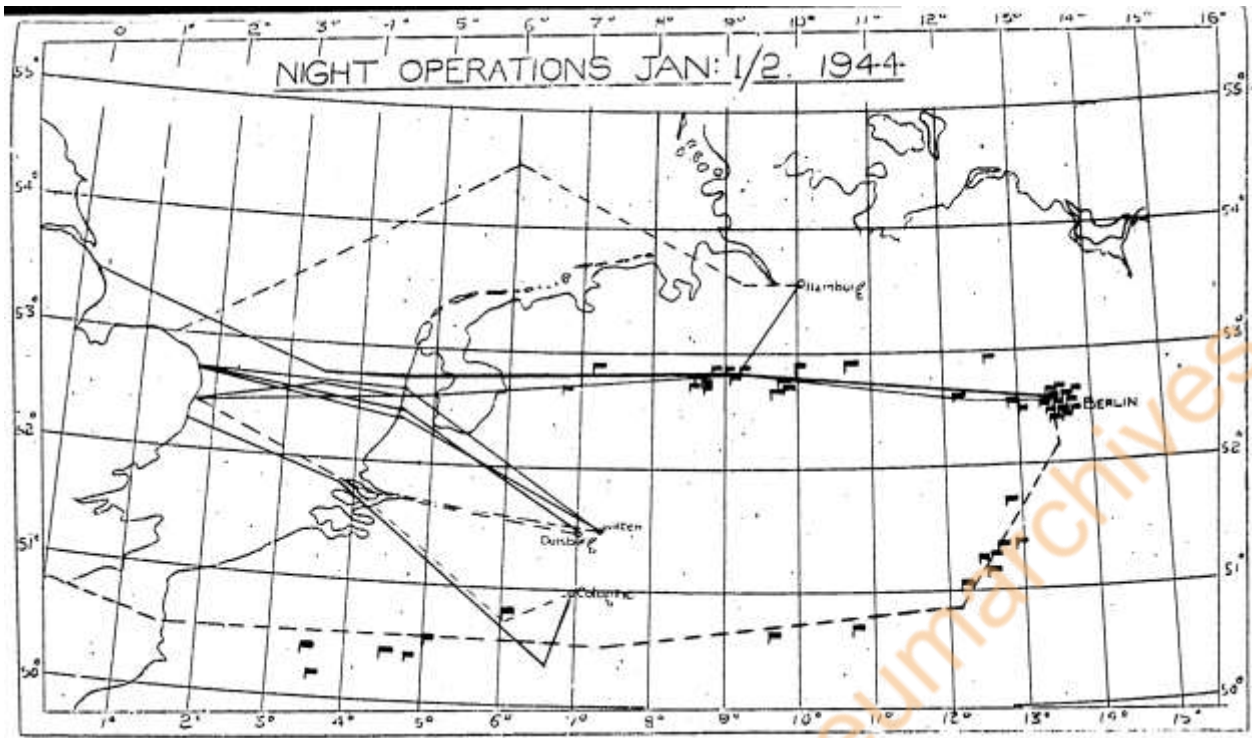
LE Mans

16. 11 Wellingtons, out of a force of 14, dispersed leaflets over N. and Central France. All returned; but one crashed because of engine failure and was wrecked.

EW/JJ.
O/S. 26342/1/OPS4,
24th. March, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	BORING	AVG BRIGHTNESS		OBOE		MISC. ENG.	MISCELLANEOUS				TOTAL			
				PERC. AMPL.	PERC. AMP.	OVER R.F.	POW OVER		PLAC.	NUMBER	MISC. IN	OBOE C. GRAB		AVG. IN	OT. WEIGHT	
BRISTOL	BFF	Lanc.III	51	40	2	-	2	7	6	1	1	1.0	5	0	P. 711.2 591.4	
		Lanc.III	30	25	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	... 10.3 4.2	
		Lanc.I	14	10	-	1	1	2	-	-	1E	-	-	-	M. 60.6 37.2	
		Lanc.III	103	91	-	2	6	4	1	1	1E	6	0	-	Heavy Bombs	
		Lanc.II	31	27	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4000	
		Lanc.I	43	36	1	1	1	4	1	1	1.0	1	1	5	P. 502	
KREUZ	TOTAL	Lanc.III	113	101	1	-	0	0	5	1	1.0+1	1.0	3	15	... 5	
		Lanc.II	31	28	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	M. 23	
			144	129	1	1	2	4	6	6	2.0+4	2.0+4	2.0+2.0+1	19	15	
LE MANS	B	Herc.IV	15	14	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 5.2 (1E)	
LE MANS	B	Herc.IV	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 3.0 (1E)	
LE MANS	B	Herc.IX	7	5	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Area 3.6 "	
LE MANS	TOTAL		11	8	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	... 1.8	
DUISBURG	B	Herc.IV	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 3.6	
DUISBURG	B	Herc.IX	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Area .9	
DUISBURG	TOTAL		7	5	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-9	
BRISTOL	B	Herc.IV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. .9	
BRISTOL	TOTAL		4	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 1.0	
BRISTOL	TOTAL		459	399	8	5	23	28	15	3.0+4	2.0+4	2.0+2.0+1	19	43		
LE MANS	91	Well.III	7	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LE MANS	93	Well.Ic	6	4	-	1	1	-	1	-	1E	-	-	-		
LE MANS		Well.X	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LE MANS	TOTAL		14	11	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	1E	-	-		
TOTAL			473	400	8	6	31	28	14	3.0+4	2.0+4	3.0+2.0+1	19	43		

EW/JJ. BRISTOL AT:- REGRS: GRUVILLAS OBOE'S: TOTTENHAM: DUNVILLE: POW: LANSBURY
O.S.S.3. TILLY: CRIB: BARRY: IS: SPENCY:



BOMB PLOT NOT AVAILABLE

BOEING COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

2/3-2. JANUARY, 1944.

BERLIN: Duisburg: Kristallberg: Hindenburg: Leaflets: Serrate:SUMMARY

- Berlin Berlin was attacked, for the second night in succession, by 234 aircraft, of a force of 33 despatched. The capital was still covered with cloud, which hid the ground markers; and the signal flare were scattered. The German wireless referred to "attacks against various residential districts of the Reich capital"; but the outcome of the raid is uncertain. Fighters were active in great strength, and 27 bombers (7.0.) were lost.
- Other targets Mosquitoes carried out precision raids against targets at Duisburg and Kristallberg; other aircraft laid mines off the Frisians and the French Atlantic ports, dispersed leaflets over France and carried out intruder patrols over Holland and Germany. All returned safely.

WEATHER FORECAST

- Midnight frontal positions:- (1) cold from 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. 10W - 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. 05W. 57N.00' - 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. 05E - tip of wave at 58N. 08E. - Copenhagen - Stettin - 51N.20E.

Bases:- Cold front will probably lie near the Humber at 2300, over N. Lines at midnight, and over the Thames estuary at 0700. Near the front there will be a narrow belt of low cloud (below 1,000') and rain. Elsewhere, broken strato-cumulus at 1,500'; moderate to good visibility. Only risk is that the front may move slowly, and give local rain and cloud below 1,000' in 3 and 8 Groups for return.

Germany:- Much strato-cumulus N. of front with a few breaks; base 1,000-1,500' in N., below 1,000' in S. North Sea: similar to bases, but cloud will increase to 10/10ths., well layered up to 20,000'. Denmark to Berlin: medium cloud will thin and break, leaving 8-10/10ths. strato-cumulus, tops 4,000', base 1,000', near target. Same for return, except that medium cloud will have thickened over the North Sea. Strong winds: about 60 m.p.h. at 20,000'.

France:- Broken strato-cumulus, with patches of medium cloud above.

BERLINPLAN OF ATTACK

- Route Southwold - 52 45'N. 03 30'E - 52 50'N. 08 50'E - 53 25'N. 12 40'E - BERLIN - 52 10'N. 13 10'E - 51 50'N. 10 30'E - 52 30'N. 08 20'E. - 52 45'N. 03 30'E - Southwold.

- Route marking Green flares with yellow stars were to be dropped along the route as follows:

Out: at 55 16'N. 08 33'E (N. end of Sylt) by primary blind markers and blind backers-up of 83, 97 and 156 Squadrons,

and at 53 22'N. 12 43'E (8 miles S. of Haren) by primary blind markers and blind backers-up of 7, 35 and 405 Squadrons.

Home: at 54 28'N. 12 50'E (Darssow Ort) by primary blind markers and blind backers-up of 83, 97 and 156 Squadrons.

...../Method of attack.

6. Method of attack Primary blind markers were to mark the aiming-point with red T.I., releasing at the same time one bundle each of release-point (red/green stars). Blind backers-up and special blind backers-up (the latter attacking at intervals throughout the raid) were to keep the aiming-point marked with greens and release-point flares. Visual backers-up were to aim greens at the centre of reds, if they arrived in time to see them; if later, at the centre of greens, overshooting in either case by 1 second. If the T.I. was obscured by cloud, they were to hold their greens and bomb the flares on a heading of 168°. Supporters were to bomb blindly, if possible, otherwise centre of reds or release-point flares as detailed above. Main force aircraft were to aim at the centre of greens or at release-point flares.

7. Timing Zero hour: 0245 Duration of attack: 0243 - 0256

Primary blind markers.	20 Buncs. at zero - 2
Blind backers-up.	10 Buncs. (from zero to zero + 11 (one per 3/4 minute, but 2 at zero + 3, +5, +8, +10)
Special blind backers-up.	4 Buncs. at zero +1, +3, +7, and +10.
Visual backers-up.	10 Buncs. from zero to zero +10 (one per minute)
Supporters.	35 Buncs. at zero - 2.
Main Force.	106 Buncs. from zero to zero + 3 111 Buncs. from zero + 3 to zero + 7 103 Buncs. from zero + 7 to zero + 11 15 T.O. aircraft throughout the attack.

8. Marker loads

Primary blind markers:	1x4 flares (R/G stars) + 4 red T.I. (2LB)
Blind backers-up	: 1x4 flares (R/G stars) + 4 green T.I. (2LB)
Special blind backers-up	: 5x4 flares (R/G stars) + 4 green T.I. (2LB)
Visual backers-up	: 4 green T.I. (2LB)

N.B. Primary blind markers and blind backers-up of 7, 35 and 405 Squadrons were to carry 1 green/yellow-stars flare internally; primary blind markers, blind backers-up and special blind backers-up of 83, 97 and 156 Squadrons 2 such flares internally.

9. WEDDOW WEDDOW was to be dropped at the rate of one bundle per minute to a point 50 miles from the target; then one bundle per half minute to the target and back to the same point; and one bundle per minute for the rest of route home, until the supply was exhausted.

10. Harassers 8 Mosquitoes were to make timed runs from the route-marker S. of Waren, releasing WEDDOW at the rate of 5 bundles per minute, and drop incendiary bombs on Berlin at zero - 1. After the attack had ended, 2 Mosquitoes were to bomb fires at zero + 10, and 2 more at zero + 60.

SORTIES

11.	(a) No. of aircraft despatched.....	383
	(b) " " " reporting attack on primary area.....	284 (74.2%)
	(c) " " " " " alternative area.....	11 (2.9%)
	(d) " " abortive sorties (tech. defect or manip. error...)	61 (15.9%)
		(using.....19)
		(mistakenly recalled.....14)
		(sickness of crew.....3)
		(crashed after take-off.....1)
	(e) " " aircraft missing.....	27 (7.0%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

12. Bases:- Much layer cloud at 2,000' at take-off, with local rain in northern Groups. For return, a belt of rain or drizzle about 60 miles wide lay from east to west across S. Yorks and Lincol., with cloud based at 1,500', patches below 1,000'. Visibility 2-4 miles.

...../Route:-

Route:- Thin layers of cloud, tops 5,000', to 03°E., where tops rose to 16,000', and thin layers of cirrus formed between 18-23,000'. Static and rising above 20,000'. These conditions persisted for 100 miles W. of Berlin, when cloud tops lowered to 11-16,000'. 10/10ths. layer clear for return; tops varied over North Sea.

Berlin:- 10/10ths. cloud with smooth upper surface. Early arrivals and only strato-cumulus, tops 6,000'; but during the attack a thin layer of cirrus cloud drifted over the target at about 16,000'. Thin cirrus above. Good visibility. No moon.

Winds at 20,000': 280°/75 m.p.h. to 04°E., veering and increasing to 30°/85 m.p.h. at 12°E., and to 300°/85 m.p.h. at Berlin. Similar for return.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

5. All but a few of the photographs show 10/10ths. cloud. One Pathfinder is plotted 1½ miles S. of the aiming point.

RELATIVE OF ATTACK

6. In the absence of night photographic evidence, the course of the raid cannot be precisely detailed. The T.F. were concentrated, but soon disappeared into the cloud. The sky-markers were scattered, although the timing of the blind-markers was good; and few flares were visible after zero + 6. Late squitters reported 2 main areas of fire.

GENERAL SERVICE

7. Satisfactory cover of Berlin was not obtained until the middle of January, by which time 5 more major raids had been planned by Bomber Command. Report on the damage then revealed will be included in Night Raid Report No. 50.

ALTERNATIVE TARGETS

8. 11 aircraft bombed alternative targets, in the areas of: Texel, Tegowern, Lembruck, Cloppenburg, Hoya, Elckoyl, Bremen, Enkhuizen, Berger, Appell and Wilsrode.

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT

9. H2S

	MK.	Drop-patches	SEARCHED		Miss-ing	Bombed Blindly	No. which dropped	
			H2S C.I.I.	H2S U/s.			R/P. Flares	T.I.'s
Primary	II	16	10	3	3	10	8	8
Blind Markers	III	3	2	-	1	2	2	2
Secondary	II	18	9	1	1	9	8	8
Blind Markers	III	4	2	-	1	2	2	2
Other	II	116	71	14	12	17	-	-
Patrol	III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-

The timing of the primary and secondary blind markers was good, though sky-marker flares were reported as more scattered than usual. One Mk. III aircraft took a P.P.T. photograph which has been plotted 1½ miles due south of the A.P.

DEFENSES

Ground defences The heavy guns of Berlin fired a moderate barrage throughout the attack, to heights between 17,000' and 20,000', as well as some directed anti-aircraft in the early stages. Intense light flak was hose-piped to 18,000'; and many rocket shells were seen. Searchlights could not

...../penetrate the cloud,

penetrate the cloud, but illuminated its base for the benefit of fighters. One crew reported intense red tracer from the S. of the target. At least 6 bombers, including 5 marker aircraft, fell to the ground defences of Berlin. En route, flak was met from the usual places, notably Egnond, Hannover, Usnabruck, Lauen, Magdeburg and Dessau. 2 bombers fell to flak on the return route, one 30 miles S. of Brandenburg and the other 20 miles S. of Brunswick.

19. Fighters G.C.I. and Benito patrols were comparatively inactive, and no pursuits were heard. The running commentators plotted our aircraft from G128, when they were just E. of the Zuyder Zee, and quickly guessed Berlin to be the main objective; at zero - 40, a flak ceiling of 21,000' was imposed on the guns of the capital. Fighters were assembled at a beacon between Brunen Hannover, but narrowly missed contacting our bombers as they passed; they were then ordered to fly eastwards to Berlin, but meanwhile they bombers had turned N.E., and reached the target almost unmolested. The bombers and fighters probably arrived at the target almost simultaneously. Many attacks occurred over Berlin and for the first 30 miles of the return route. Fighter flares were dropped in clusters all the way from Berlin to the Dutch coast, at approximately 10 minute intervals, with a great concentration at the turning-point at 51°50' 10"30"N., where a route marker was dropped in error. Fighters continued to follow our bombers until forced to land. Only 4 fighter successes were seen, over Berlin and 2 on the first part of the homeward route, before the route-markers were reached at Darsser Ort. 2 Lancasters claimed to have destroyed fighters, a Ju.88 and a W. 190, both over the target.

CASUALTIES

20.	No. of aircraft missing.....	27(7.3)
	" " " damaged (Flak..... 12)	}..... 28
	(fighter..... 10)	
	(non-carry action..... 6)	

The 27 missing aircraft included 6 marker aircraft and 4 supporters. Thick cloud made observation difficult, and only 12 bombers were seen to go down, 8 to flak and 4 to fighter (as stated above). The high proportion of losses over Berlin was mainly due to the poor timing of our aircraft; the concentration only once rose above 20 per minute. Most of the unobserved losses were probably caused by fighters, which were up in great strength.

One Lancaster crashed while taking-off and was wrecked. Another was thrown in a violent dive by accumulated icing, and was severely damaged.

DUISBURG

21. 8 Mk. I OBOE Mosquitoes were despatched on a precision attack against Vereinigte Stahlwerke A.G. at Duisburg. 4 made successfully controlled runs, and a fifth tracked properly but could not release its bombs. The other 3 bombed on D.R. from precision fixes, because of partial OBOE failure: 2 in the primary area, and one at Wesel. All returned safely.

BRISTILLERIE

22. 3 Mk. I Mosquitoes were sent to attack the military construction at Bristillerie, on the Cherbourg peninsula. All made successfully controlled runs and returned undamaged.

MINELAYING

23. 26 Wellingtons, Stirlings and Halifaxes were detailed to lay mines off the Frisians and the French Atlantic ports. 24 completed their sorties,

...../laying 87 mines.

laying 87 mins. All returned safely.

LEAFLETS

24. 23 Whitloys and Wellingtons, out of a force of 25, dispersed leaflets over Northern and Central France. All returned safely.

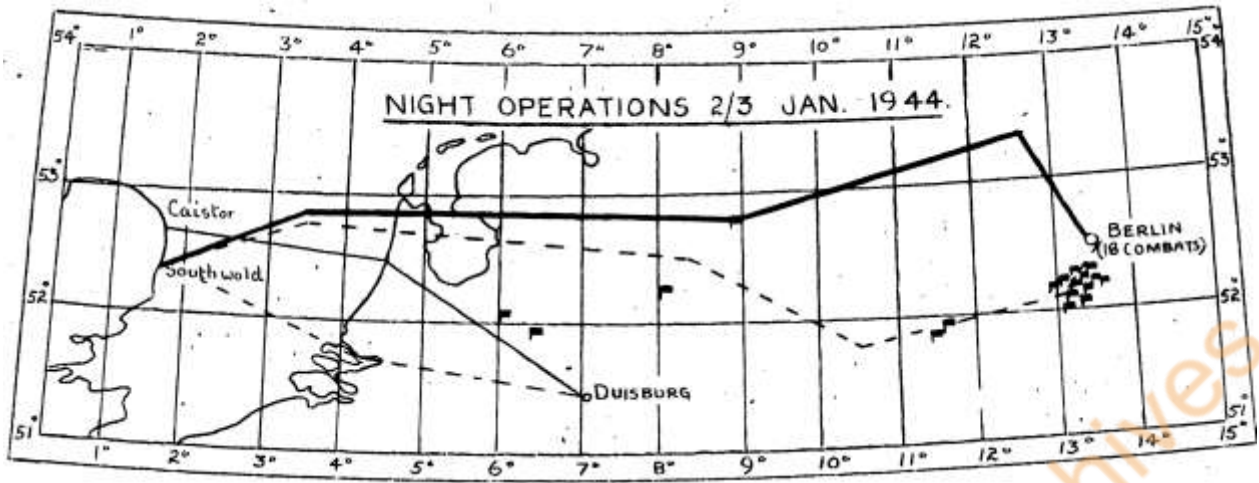
SE RATE

25. 2 Beaufighters of 100 Group completed offensive patrols over Holland and Germany without sighting any hostile aircraft.

101/57.
B/S. 26342/1/ORS4.,
25th. March, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	NO. OF MACHINES	ATTACK ON		AIRCRAFT DESTROYED		TOTAL	RESULTS				TOTAL	NO. OF BOMBS		
				PRINC. AREA	SEC. AREA	BY GUN	BY FIRE		BY GUN	BY FIRE	BY GUN	BY FIRE			BY GUN	BY FIRE
BERLIN	B	Hal.	9	5	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,589.3	425.2	
	FPF	Lanc. III	41	31	-	-	4	6	1+1.0	1.0	-	1.0	5	7	21.9	18.1
	B	Hoq. IV	12	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	69.2	32.7
	H.F.	Lanc. III	33	20	2	2	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	Lanc. I	9	6	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	Lanc. III	107	77	2	4	20	4	3	-	1B	1B+2.0	2	5	3.7	24.9
	3	Lanc. II	25	19	1	2	2	1	2	1	-	-	3	2	1.1	9
	5	Lanc. I	35	27	2	-	5	1	1	1	1.0	-	3	7	11.1	26
6	Lanc. III	84	67	2	1	7	7	2	2+2.0	-	-	6	21	-	-	
6	Lanc. II	28	21	2	-	2	3	1	1B+1.0	-	-	3	7	-	-	
BERLIN TOTAL			383	284	11	11	50	27	1.0+11	1B+4.0	1B+1.0	1B+3.0	22	49	-	-
DUISBURG	B	Hoq. IX	5	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.6	
	B	Hoq. IV	3	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1.8	
DUISBURG TOTAL			8	6	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	.9	
BOCHUM	B	Hoq. IV	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.7	
	B	Hoq. IV	26	23	12	12	50	27	1.0+12	1B+1.0	1B+1.0	1B+3.0	22	49	-	-
BOCHUM TOTAL			29	26	12	12	50	27	1.0+12	1B+1.0	1B+1.0	1B+3.0	22	49	-	-
MIDDELAND	1	Well. X	3	3	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	6 mins	
	1	Well. X	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10 mins	
	3	Stir. III	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17 mins	
	3	Stir. III	8	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22 mins	
	6	Hal. III	4	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32 mins	
MIDDELAND TOTAL			26	23	-	-	2	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	17 mins	
LEAFLETS	91	Whit.	9	9	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	92	Well. X	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	93	Well. X	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	93	Well. III	8	6	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEAFLETS TOTAL			25	23	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SERVICES			100	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			447	342	12	12	54	27	2.0+14	1B+4.0	1B+1.0	1B+3.0	22	49	-	-

NO. OF MACHINES DESTROYED: 100. TOTALS: 447. RESULTS: 342. BOMBS: 49. TOTAL BOMBS: 49. TOTAL BOMBS: 49.



BOMB PLOT NOT AVAILABLE

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

3/4th. JUNE, 1944.

Solingen: Essen:

MISSION

1. Solingen 6 OBOE Mosquitos (3 Mk.I and 3 Mk.II FOURMILE-PEW) were dispatched against the factory of J. L. Henschels Metallwerke at Solingen. One attacked on OBOE; 4 experienced technical failures and landed on D.R., 3 in the primary area and one near Cologne, and the other 2 returned early with engine trouble. No casualties were sustained.

2. Essen 2 Mk.II PERMIEP Mosquitos left to attack Krupp's works at Essen. One bombed on OBOE; the other attacked on D.R. for technical reasons. One was badly damaged in a taxiing accident on return.

WEATHER FORECAST

1. Midnight frontal positions:- (1) cold from 55N. 12E. to Helder to Yarmouth
(2) cold from 52N. 20E. to Hannover to Calais to Portsmouth to 51N. 10W.

Bases:- Broken cloud with good visibility N. of front 1; showers in frontal zone; layers of cloud near front 2.

Continent:- In vicinity of front 2, and to the N., there will be layers of cloud, solid to 12-15,000'. S. of the same front, general cover of strato-cumulus, base mainly 1,000' but locally below. Convection cloud to great heights over E. North Sea, with high level, light and heavy snow or sleet showers. Continuous strato-cumulus along W. coast of France.

SORTIES

4.	(a)	No. of aircraft dispatched.....	3
	(b)	" " " reporting attack in primary area.....	5
	(c)	" " " " " alternative area.....	1
	(d)	" " abortive sorties (tech. defect).....	2
	(e)	" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

5. Ruhr:- 8-9/10ths. strato-cumulus, tops 20,000'.

KEY REFERENCES

6. Nothing of interest was reported.

CASUALTIES

7. All our aircraft returned safely. One was badly damaged in a taxiing accident on return.

APPENDIX

8. One Mosquito carried out a net. recon. flight, and one U.S. Fortress bombed Yesel; both without incident.

LEM/JY.
EC/S. 26342/6/ORS4,
9th. March, 1944.

1/23th. J. 1944.

UNIT	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	% REPORTING		% DIVERSE		TWO- D.C.	DAMAGE				EXPERIENCES		RESULTS	
				PRIME AREA	2ND AREA	OVER R.T.	NOT O'K'd R.T.		FLX	PASSENGER	DECK IN FLIGHT	OTHER DAMAGE	ATTACK- ED	NOT ATTACK- ED	Tons of Bombs H.E.	
SOLIDER	8	Moag-IV	6	3	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. area 2.7 H.E. .4
BISSE	8	Moag-IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1B	-	-	-	P. area .9 H.E. .9
*WRECK	BASIC	Portress	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
1ST. DECO	8	Moag.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			9	5	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1B	-	-	-	

* Not included in Grand Total.

DCB/JT.
O.R.S. 3.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT OF NIGHT OPERATIONS

4/5th. APRIL, 1944.

Pas de Calais: Brastillerie: Berlin: Cologne: Krefeld: Minelaying: etc.

SUMMARY

1. Small forces of Lancasters and Stirlings, led by Mosquitoes, attacked military targets in the Pas de Calais and at Brastillerie. Other Mosquitoes raided Berlin, Cologne and Krefeld; mines were laid in the Bay of Biscay, and leaflets were dispersed over Northern France. None of the 148 aircraft involved was lost, but one Stirling was wrecked in landing.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Fit all night. Well broken strato-cumulus, and moderate to good visibility. Wintry showers in E.

Germany:- Much convection cloud to 20,000' over North Sea. By midnight convection cloud will have reached the Middle Rhine, with tops to 15,000' and good clearances, moving southwards to the Alps. Further S., strato-cumulus with good clearances. Berlin: variable strato-cumulus, even chance of clear sky. Stuttgart at 0330: 5/10ths. cumulus, tops 15,000'.

France:- Broken strato-cumulus with good clearances in N. Little cloud in S. Lilleville: one-third covered. Calais: 5/10ths. Dieppe: 1/10ths. All mining areas:- less than 5/10ths. strato-cumulus, base 2,000' or higher.

SORTIES

		France	Germany	Minelaying	Losses
3.	(a) No. of aircraft dispatched.....	80	18	40	8
	(b) " " " reporting attack on primary area..	79	12	38	7
	(c) " " " " " alt. " " "	0	3	0	0
	(d) " " abortive sorties (tech. defect).....	1	3	2	0
	(e) " " aircraft missing.....	0	0	0	0
	(f) " " mines laid.....			86	

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

4. Pas de Calais:- Patchy cloud, 4-6/10ths., tops 5,000' at Lille, 10-12,000' at Preval. Clear sky at Bois des Hauts. Bright moonlight. Excellent visibility.

Brastillerie:- No cloud. Excellent visibility.

Berlin:- 5/10ths. cloud, tops 5,000'.

Cologne:- 8-10/10ths. cloud, tops 6-12,000'. Moderate to good visibility.

Krefeld:- 2/10ths. cloud, tops 8,000'. Good visibility.

Bay of Biscay:- Variable strato-cumulus, generally 4-7/10ths. Bright moonlight. Good visibility.

...../NARRATIVE OF ATTACK.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

5. Villy-le-haut-clocher 3 Mosquitoes, operating on Channel, dropped red T.I. within a few minutes of their appointed times at 0408, 0418 and 0434. All the 29 Stirlings attacked, from heights between 8,000' and 11,000', dropping a total of 604 bombs. At least 13 bombed on the first salvo of markers, and 7 on the second. The ground stations considered all runs good, especially that of the first Mosquito. The attack was centred $\frac{1}{2}$ mile S. of the aiming-point.
6. Bois des Huit Lacs The Mosquitoes dropped T.I's at 0332, 0343, and 0351 and all 23 Stirlings bombed from heights between 11,000' and 16,000', bombing on the first salvo of markers. 2 rods of this salvo have been plotted $\frac{1}{2}$ mile N. and S. of the aiming-point, and a third 1 mile S. 16 sticks of bombs have been plotted, scattered within a mile of the aiming-point to the W.
7. Preval The first Mosquito failed for technical reasons, but the other released at 1910 and 1921. Owing to the unexpectedly high tailwind, the ground stations had difficulty in giving the release signal at the right time, and the last Mosquito was estimated to have overshoot by 3-4 miles. 2 T.I. have been plotted, one $\frac{1}{2}$ mile W.S.W. and the other $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.W. 8 Lancasters bombed the first marker down and 3 the second.
8. Bristillerie 3 Mosquitoes made successfully controlled runs against the military construction at Bristillerie.
9. Berlin 8 of the 13 Mosquitoes despatched attacked the capital, bombing on timed runs from the Haritz Sec. Some crews claimed to have identified the built-up area. 3 aircraft attacked targets in the areas of Texel, Meggen, and Tjeuke Meer; 2 abandoned their task.
10. Cologne 2 G-H Mosquitoes bombed Cologne by means of their special equipment.
11. Krefeld One of the 3 Mosquitoes sent to Krefeld attacked on OLCB. One attacked the city area on D.L., because of OLCB failure, and the bombs of the other hung up over the target.
12. Minelaying 40 Stirlings, Halifaxes and Wellingtons were sent to the Bay of Biscay. 38 reached their targets, laying 86 mines.
13. Leaflets 7 Wellingtons dispersed leaflets over Northern France; one eighth abandoned its task.
14. One Mosquito carried out a successful noct. reconnaissance flight.

DAY EXERCISES

15. Villy-le-haut-clocher Between 24th. December and 7th. January, in a number of small-scale attacks, severe damage was caused to two skis and to village buildings near the target area.
16. Bois des Huit Lacs Heavy shadows made the interpretation of photographs difficult; but many craters were seen in the target area, including a direct hit and a near miss on one ski.
17. Preval No fresh damage was visible at this target.
18. Bristillerie As the result of several small raids before the 5th. January, hits were scored on one ski and a track between the ski buildings, and numerous craters were caused in the target area.

ENEMY DEFENCES

19. Several fighters were seen over France, especially in the Pas de Calais

....but none behaved in a

but none behaved in a hostile manner. Little ground opposition was met from any target.

RESULTS

10. No aircraft was lost. One Stirling was wrecked in a landing accident, and 3 aircraft sustained slight flak damage.

U.S.F.C.

11. 4 Fortresses scattered leaflets over Northern France without loss.

EX/JT.

2/S. 26342/3/CkS4,

5th. April, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	J/C REPORTING TRACK ON SORTIES				MIS-INT	MIS-INT				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS Tons of Bombs H.R.
				PHI-REL.	L.T. REL.	OVER R.T.	NOY OVER R.T.		FLX	PERCENT	MISC. IN FLIGHT	OTHER CLASSES	TRACK-ED	NOT TRACK-ED	
MINE	BFF	Msg. IX	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	148.2
		Str. III	29	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE TOTAL			32	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE	BFF	Msg. IV	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	147.1
		Str. III	26	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE TOTAL			31	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE	BFF	Msg. IV	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59.8
		Lanc. I	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE TOTAL			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE TOTAL			14	13	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE TOTAL			3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE TOTAL			80	79	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE TOTAL			13	8	3	-	2	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	1.1 2.7
MINE TOTAL			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.8
MINE TOTAL			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.8
MINE TOTAL			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE TOTAL			2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.8
MINE TOTAL			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE TOTAL			3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE TOTAL			98	91	3	2	2	-	1.0+2	-	1	-	-	1	

...../over.

GENERAL TARGET AREA I, II, III, AND IV: MINE, COLOGNE, KREFELD, BOBBIG, 1/5th, 10/11/44.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	J/C REPORTING TRACK ON SORTIES				MIS-INT	MIS-INT				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS
				PHI-REL.	L.T. REL.	OVER R.T.	NOY OVER R.T.		FLX	PERCENT	MISC. IN FLIGHT	OTHER CLASSES	TRACK-ED	NOT TRACK-ED	
MINE TOTAL			98	91	3	2	2	-	1.0+2	-	1	-	-	1	
MINE	1	Well.X	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 mines
MINE	1	Well.X	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 mines
MINE	3	Str. III	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	30 mines
MINE	3	Str. III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12 mines
MINE	6	Hal.	12	10	-	1	1	-	-	-	1.0	-	1	-	20 mines
MINE	6	Hal.	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12 mines
MINE TOTAL			40	38	-	1	1	-	-	-	13+1.0	-	1	-	86 mines
MINE TOTAL			91	84	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE TOTAL			92	84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE TOTAL			8	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
MINE TOTAL			2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE TOTAL			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINE TOTAL			148	137	3	2	5	-	1.0+2	-	1	13+1.0	-	2	

* NOT INCLUDED IN TOTAL

LAFLATS AT: ANNEVILLE; WINGS; TOLLS; S. FLICHE; BOIS; WINGS;

8th. US. B.C. AT: ORLEANS; ROUEN; LORIENT; TOURS;

BCB/ST.
O.R.S.3

RAID TRACKS AND BOMB PLOTS NOT AVAILABLE

BOEMER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

5/6th. JANUARY, 1944

STETTIN: Berlin: Solingen: Essen: Arefeld: Bristillerie: Mineslaying: etc.

DIARY

333 heavies, nearly all Lancasters, gave Stettin its first heavy raid for months. The attack started accurately, in clear conditions, but subsequent overshooting drew the weight of the bombing away to the west of the town. The central district, however, was heavily damaged by fire, and a number of factories were hit. A diversionary attack on Berlin distracted the fighters, who allowed our aircraft to reach the target almost unmolested. and altogether, only 5 trucks were reported by our returning crews. 27 bombers (4.2%) were lost.

Mosquitoes carried out a feint attack on Berlin, and precision raids against targets in Western Germany and the Cherbourg peninsula; Lancasters laid mines off Swinemunde; and other aircraft completed intruder patrols and meteorological reconnaissance flights. One Mosquito crashed with the loss of its crew.

WEATHER FORECAST

Midnight frontal positions:- wave from Oslo - Wash - Lizard.

Bases:- Much low cloud at 1,000' in frontal zone, with poor visibility and some fog. Ahead of the front, variable strato-cumulus and moderate to poor visibility. Bases should be fit for take-off shortly before midnight, except for low stratus and 1,000 yards visibility in 1 and 5 Groups. For return, winds down, 1 and 5 Groups will have 1-2,000 yards visibility; elsewhere 300-2,000 yards.

Germany:- Unsystematic strato-cumulus; large amounts in N. (W. of 11°E). Good breaks in S.E. and central areas. Average thickness 10,000'. Stettin: well broken and well spaced layers of medium cloud between 10,000' and 20,000'; little or no strato-cumulus. Various layers of cloud over whole route, thickening towards Denmark but with good clear lanes, especially above 15,000' and W. of 03°E.

France:- Well broken strato-cumulus, dispersing to small amounts in S., increasing in N. late in night.

Kattegat:- 10/10ths. stratus, tops 2-3,000'.

	10,000'	20,000'	30,000'
Bases - 04 E.	280-290/40-45 m.p.h.	290-310/50 m.p.h.	290-340/55-70mph.
04 - 08 E.	290/45 m.p.h.	310/50 m.p.h.	360/75 m.p.h.
08 - 13 E.	290/50 m.p.h.	310/60 m.p.h.	360/85 m.p.h.
13 E - Stettin	300/45 m.p.h.	330/60 m.p.h.	010/85 m.p.h.
Stettin - 13 E	295/45 m.p.h.	330/60 m.p.h.	010/85 m.p.h.
13 - 08 E.	280/60 m.p.h.	300/75 m.p.h.	010/85 m.p.h.
08 - 04 E.	230/60 m.p.h.	300/70 m.p.h.	350/80 m.p.h.
04 E - bases	280-290/45-50 m.p.h.	270-290/50-70 m.p.h.	270-310/55-85mph.

...../STETTIN.

STETTINPLAN OF ATTACK

4. Route 56 00'N. 06 00'E - 56 00'N. 13 00'E - 54 05'N. 13 23'E - STETTIN
- 53 25'N. 14 50'E - 55 00'N. 15 05'E. - 56 00'N. 13 00'E - 56 00'N. 06 00'E.

5. Route marking En route to the target, green flares with yellow stars were to be dropped at 56 00'N. 11 13'E. (Sejero Bay) by primary blind markers and blind backers-up of 7 and 35 Squadrons. Yellow T.I. (1B) were to be released at 54 05'N. 13 23'E. (64 miles N.W. of Stettin) by primary blind markers and blind backers-up of 83, 97, 156 and 405 Squadrons. On the way home, green flares with yellow stars were to be dropped at 55 00'N. 15 05'E. (110 miles N.N.E. of Stettin) by primary blind markers and blind backers-up of 7 and 35 Squadrons.

6. Method of attack Primary blind markers were to mark the aiming-point with green T.I., also releasing either white or release-point flares, according to the weather found over the target. If there was less than 7/10ths. cloud and conditions seemed favourable for a NEWELIVE attack, they were to drop white flares and green T.I. (the first bundle of flares 45 seconds before the T.I. and the rest at 10 second intervals thereafter). But if conditions were such that the visual markers would be unable to identify the aiming-point, one release-point flare was to be dropped with each salvo of greens. Visual markers were to use the greens only as a guide, marking the exact aiming-point with reds after definite visual identification, and using white flares if necessary. Visual backers-up were to aim greens at reds early in the attack, later at the estimated centre of all earlier greens. If the early visual backers-up found no reds burning, they were to aim their greens at the estimated centre of all greens dropped by the primary blind markers. If cloud hid the T.I., they were to hold their greens and bomb release-point flares on a heading of 143°M. Blind backers-up, spread through the attack, were to drop release-point flares on H2S if cloud prevented a NEWELIVE raid; otherwise to hold their flares and join the main force. Supporters were to bomb blindly if possible, otherwise at the centre of greens or at release-point flares as detailed above. Main force aircraft were to bomb the centre of greens or (according to cloud conditions) release-point flares on a heading of 135°M.

7. Timing Zero hour: 0345 Duration of attack: 0339 - 0357

Primary blind markers.	16 Lancs.	} at zero - 6
	4 special Lancs.	
Visual markers.	2 Halbs.	} to arrive at zero - 4 and bomb as soon as possible.
	5 Lancs.	
Visual backers-up.	4 Lancs.	at zero - 1
	15 Lancs.	from zero to zero + 11 (one per min., 2 at zero, zero +5, +6, +7)
Blind backers-up.	6 Halbs.	from zero - 1 to zero + 11 (one per min., 2 at zero +5, +7, +9.)
Supporters.	30 Lancs.	at zero - 2.
Main Force.	104 Lancs.	from zero to zero + 4
	102 Lancs.	from zero + 4 to zero + 8
	102 Lancs.	from zero + 8 to zero + 12.
	13 A.T.C. Lancs.	throughout the attack.

8. Marker loads

Primary blind markers:-	13 a/c:	6x4 white flares + 3 green T.I. (1LB) + 1 yellow T.I. (1B) + 1 flare R/G stars internally.
	7 a/c:	6x4 white flares + 4 green T.I. (2LB) + 2 flares G/Y stars + 1 flare R/G stars internally.
Visual markers:	7 a/c:	1x4 white flares + 8 red T.I. (4LB)
Visual backers-up:	20 a/c:	4 green T.I. (2LB)
Blind backers-up:	10 a/c:	3x4 flares V/G stars + 2 flares G/Y stars internally.
	6 a/c:	3x4 flares V/G stars + 1 yellow T.I. (1B)
	/9. Diversions.

salvoes fell close to the aiming-point, and should have centred the subsequently bombing on the reds of the visual markers. In fact, however, the main force at having been instructed to aim at the centre of all visible greens, were distracted by T.I. Dropped short of the target by the primary blind markers. By zero + 4, the T.I. of the primary blind markers had burnt out, and thereafter the main force bombed on those of the visual markers-up. 10 of the latter attacked before zero + 21, and all the 4 which have been plotted undershot considerably. By zero + 6, the target area was covered with smoke from the fires burning, and no more photos were plotted on the built-up area; but the bombing appears to have spread still further westwards.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

16. Most of the damage resulting from this attack was caused in the town centre, which suffered heavily from fire. Industrial property was most severely hit in the Silbersee District on the S. bank of the river Oder, where Rübenzucker Fabriken G.m.b.H. (sugar refineries), and Pommerscher Industrie-Verein (Portland cement) were affected. The buildings of the main railway station were almost entirely gutted, and scattered incidents occurred in the dock area, involving the Gross Kraft Werke II Stettin A.G. (power station) and the main goods station.

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT

17. H2s

	Pk.	Des-patched	Released		Miss-ing	Bailed Blindly	No. which dropped	
			H2s C.I.	H2s W/A			R/P Flares	T.I.
Blind Marker	II	15	13	1	-	12	7	12
Illuminators	III	5	3	1	-	3	2	3
Secondary Blind Markers	II	16	11	3	2	8	3*	-
Other								
Sortics	II	117	61	25	6	14	-	-

* Dropped release point flares.

The timing and accuracy of the blind markers was excellent, so that the aiming-point was well illuminated for the visual markers. The secondary blind markers, which carried R/P flares for emergency skimming, were not required and most of them dropped H.E. only. One No. III H2s photograph has been plotted 7 miles /287° from the target.

ENEMY DEFENCES

18. Ground defences The heavy guns of Stettin fired a loose barrage of light to moderate intensity, bursting at heights between 15,000' and 20,000'. Moderate light flak was encountered below 10,000'; and multiple-bursting rock were observed. No predicted flak was reported, and searchlights were ineffective despite the clear weather. En route, the defences of Politz and Swinemünde were active; and opposition was met from Swedish guns, which fired light flak (including much self-destroying red tracer) to 10,000' and heavy flak to 25,000'. At least 7 bombers, including one marker, were shot down by the target guns; none was lost on the way out, but one was destroyed near the coast on the first leg of the return journey.

19. Fighters The faint attack on Berlin surprised the fighter controllers who, after assembling their aircraft over Rugen at zero - 60, ordered them to the capital at zero - 25. The fighters must have then flown parallel to the course of the bombers between Rugen and the routemarkers at 54 05' N. 13 25' E., but too early to contact them. Some saw the attack commence at Stettin, and proceeded there uninstructed. Many fighter flares were seen in lanes from Greifswald to Berlin, but none were dropped over Stettin until the last stages of the raid.

...../Only 3 encounters and one

ly 3 encounters and one loss occurred on the last leg of the outward journey; attacks and 12 other combats, resulting in 2 losses, were reported over the target; and one attack, 2 other combats and 2 losses on the first (overland) leg of the homeward route. A 5 Group Lancaster collided with a Ju.88 which subsequently crashed in flames. No other victories were claimed.

CASUALTIES

10. No. of aircraft missing..... 15 (4.2.5)
 " " " damaged (flak..... 3)
 (fighter..... 3).... 10
 (non-enemy action..... 4)

As stated above, 8 aircraft were seen shot down by flak and 5 by fighters; 10 of these losses occurred over the target. Nothing is known of the fate of the other 2 missing aircraft. One Lancaster came down in the sea on return, after its compass had failed; and another was badly damaged in a taxiing accident.

3 RLE

11. 10 of the 13 diversionary Mosquitoes despatched to Berlin completed their task, dropping red and green T.I. and H.E. between zero - 23 and zero - 13. The capital was still covered with 10/10ths. cloud. One aircraft jettisoned its bombs over Schleswig, and one returned early (both for technical reasons); the thirteenth aircraft crashed soon after taking-off with the loss of both its crew. No other casualties were sustained. The attack succeeded in diverting the greater part of the enemy's fighter strength.

SOLINGEN

12. 7 OBOE Mosquitoes (3 Mk.I, 4 Mk.II FORMER: P1) were despatched against F.A. Henckels Zwillingswerke at Solingen. 2 FORMER: P1 aircraft made successfully controlled runs; one abandoned its task because of engine trouble; and the remaining 4 experienced OBOE failure and bombed on D.R. from GEE fixes, 5 in the Cologne area and one near the primary. All returned undamaged.

ESSEN

13. 4 Mk.II PENWIPER Mosquitoes were sent against Krupp's works at Essen. All experienced OBOE failure and bombed the primary area on D.R., 2 from precision and 2 from GEE fixes.

KREFELD

14. 11 Mk. I Mosquitoes were detailed against Deutsche K&S Stahlwerke at Krefeld. 8 made successfully controlled runs; one had engine trouble over its base and abandoned its task; and the other 2 experienced OBOE failure and bombed on D.R. from precision fixes, one near Krefeld and one near Wesel. All returned undamaged.

FRISTILLERIE

15. 3 Mk. I Mosquitoes left to attack the military construction at Fristillerie. All made successfully controlled runs, and returned safely.

SWINCUNDE

16. 5 Lancasters each laid 5 mines off Swincunde; a sixth returned early. One fighter was seen, but no combats occurred, and no casualties were sustained.

SECRET

27. One Beaufighter completed an offensive patrol over enemy territory without sighting any hostile aircraft.

DET. 15005.

28. One Mosquito carried out a net. recon flight without incident.

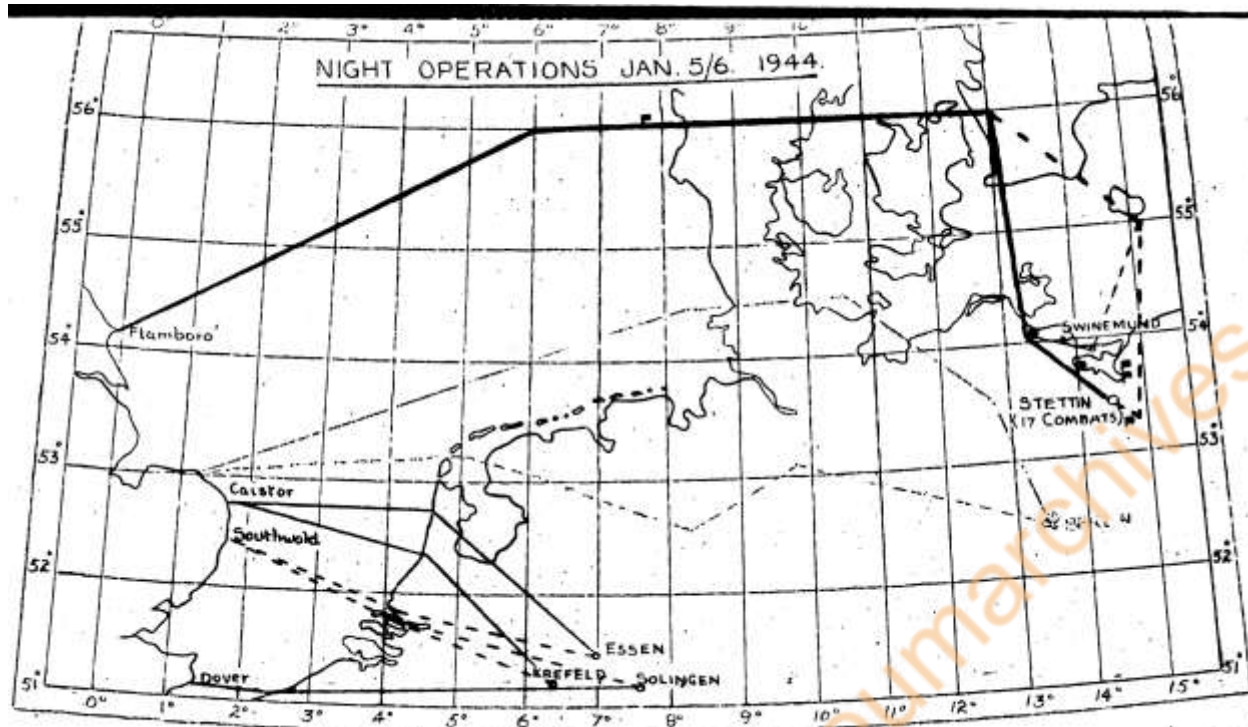
MLP/JT.
EC/S. 26342/1/ORS4,
27th. March, 1944.

5/6th. MARCH, 1944.

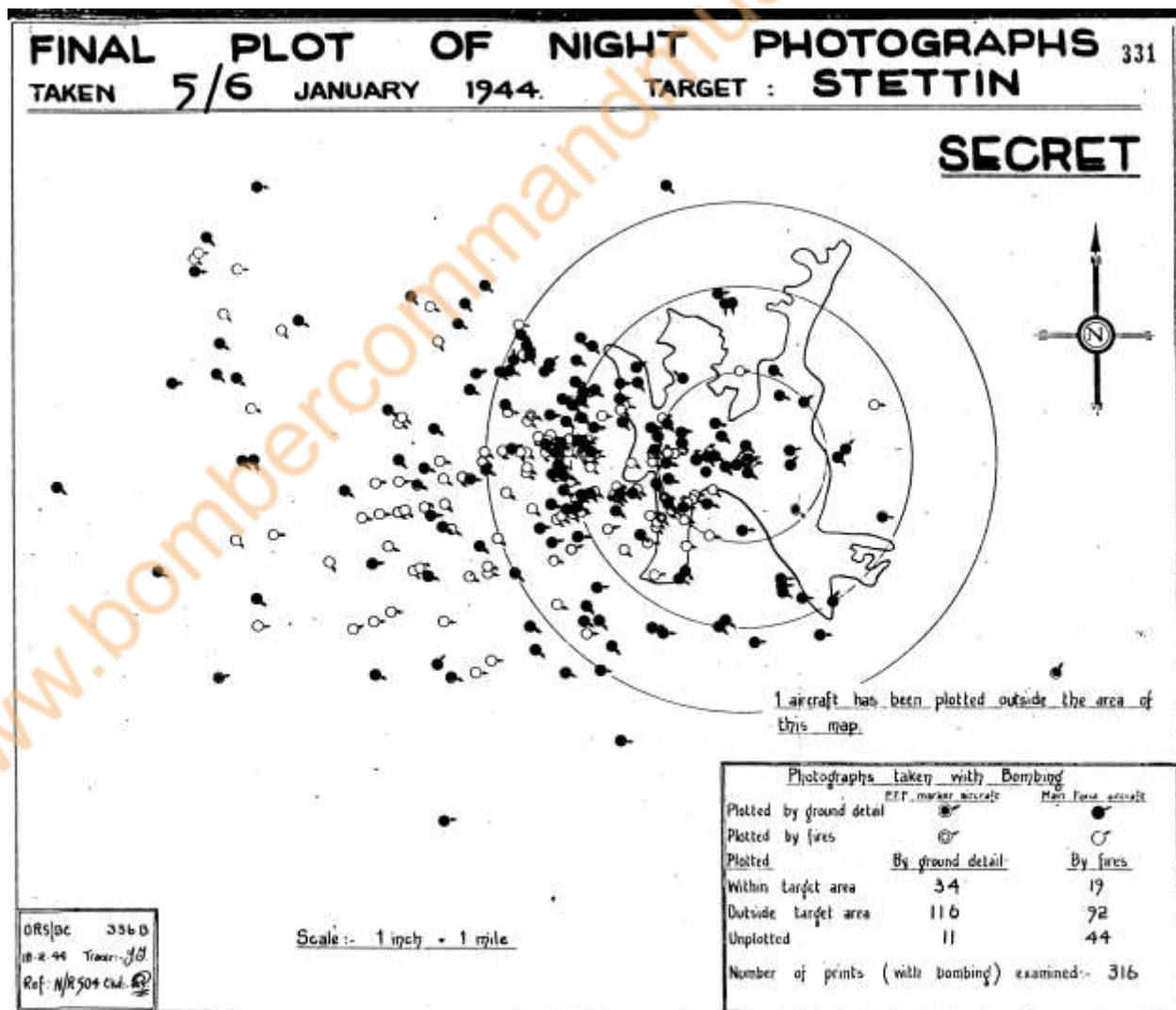
TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	W/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		SIGHTING SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE		DIVERSE		RESULTS		
				PRIN. WEAP.	ALT. WEAP.	O.F.T. K.T.	NOT OVER H.T.		FLAK	PIGMENT	RESC. II FLIGHT	OTHER CHASSE	RESC. II	NOT RECORDED	Time of Month
STREETS	B	Hal.	10	7	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 608.3 469.2
	PPP	Lanc. III	52	50	-	2	-	-	1.0	-	-	1B	2	8	" - -
	890	Lanc. III	28	26	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	M. 24.8 20.5
	1	Lanc. I	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1E	-	-	Heavy bombs
		Lanc. III	101	92	-	-	1	5	-	-	1	-	1	4	4000 3000
	5	Lanc. I	35	33	-	-	1	1	1	1	1.0	-	-	2	P. 187 -
6	Lanc. III	65	61	-	-	-	4	1	1.0	-	-	2	10	" - -	
6	Lanc. II	35	32	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	M. 5 -	
STREETS TOTAL			358	333	-	3	7	15	3	2.0+1	1.0+1	1B+1E	5	27	
LORRAINE	B	Wing. IX	5	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 4.5 (HE)
		Wing. IV	8	6	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1E	-	-	" 4 (HE)
LORRAINE TOTAL			13	10	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1E	-	-	
SOLDIER	B	Wing. IX	6	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 2.5 (HE)
		Wing. IV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	" 2.7 (HE)
SOLDIER TOTAL			7	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
KOPPEL	B	Wing. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 3.0 (HE)
		Wing. IV	7	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	" 7 (HE)
KOPPEL TOTAL			11	9	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ESSEY	B	Wing. IX	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.6 (HE)
SPECIAL TARGET	B	Wing. IV	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.7 (HE)
TOTAL TOTAL			396	362	5	3	11	15	3	2.0+1	1.0+1	2E+1B	5	27	
MINE FIELD															
SWINE REE	5	Lanc. III	6	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	25 mins
BEAUFIGHTER	100	Beaufighter	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DET. 15005	8	Mosq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			404	369	5	4	11	15	3	2.0+1	1.0+1	2E+1B	5	28	

K. 2. 3. 3.

* COLLIDED WITH B/...



330



BOMBER COMMAND REPORT OF NIGHT OPERATIONS

6/7th. JANUARY, 1941.

Duisburg: Dortmund: Solingen: Bristillerie: Minelaying: Leaflets:

OPERATIONS

1. Duisburg 6 OBON Mosquitoes (2 Mk. I, 2 Mk.II PEWEEPER and 2 Mk.II FOUNTAIN-PEE) were despatched against Vereinigte Stahlwerke at Duisburg. 4 aircraft (2 Mk.I, 1 FOUNTAIN-PEE and 1 PEWEEPER) made successfully controlled runs; the others experienced GBOE failure and bombed the primary area on D.R.
 2. Dortmund 1 G-H Mosquito attacked Dortmund by means of its precision device.
 3. Solingen 1 Mk.II FOUNTAIN-PEE Mosquito was sent to J... Henckels willingswerke at Solingen; but its device failed, and it bombed Dusseldorf on D.R.
 4. Bristillerie 2 Mk.I Mosquitoes were despatched against a constructional works at Bristillerie; both made successfully controlled runs.
- All the Mosquitoes returned undamaged.
5. Minelaying 67 Stirlings, Halifaxes and Wellingtons were detailed to lay mines off the French Atlantic ports, Le Havre, the Dutch coast and the Frisians. 65 completed their task, laying 164 mines. All returned safely.
 6. Leaflets 10 Wellingtons dispersed leaflets uneventfully over N.France.

WEATHER FORECAST

7. Bases:- After dusk, a cold front will hit from N. Ireland across Northern Groups to Denmark. The total width of this front will probably not exceed 100 miles. 1, 4, 5 and 6 Groups will have large amounts of strato-cumulus, based mainly at 1,500', with patches at 1,000' in local showers. 3, 8 and 100 Groups will have variable amounts of strato-cumulus, mainly 1-5/10ths., based at 1,500' or above. Moderate visibility.

Germany:- Much low cloud between 51 N. and 52 N., base 600-800', visibility 1,500-2,000 yards; tops 10-20,000', but higher in frontal zone. Much strato-cumulus S. of 51 N. between 1,500' and 5,000', dispersing to small amounts S. of 49 N. Moderate to good visibility. Local valley fog late in night.

France:- Variable strato-cumulus. Small amounts over W. and N.W. coasts. Moderate visibility.

Frisians:- Much strato-cumulus, base 1,000-1,500', tops 8,000', with thin layers above. Conditions will deteriorate as the cold front approaches.

Dutch coast:- 10/10ths. at 0700, base 1,500'. Moderate visibility. Slight rain.

Skaggerak:- Broken convection cloud. Good visibility.

SORTIES

			<u>Bomb- ing</u>	<u>Mine- laying</u>	<u>Le le</u>
8.	(a)	No. of aircraft despatched.....	20	67
	(b)	" " " reporting attack on prim. area 12.....		65
	(c)	" " " " " alt. " 1.....	1	0
	(d)	" " abortive sorties (tech. defect).....	1	2
	(e)	" " aircraft missing.....	0	0
	(f)	" " mines laid.....		164

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

9. Ruhr:- 10/10ths. strato-cumulus, average tops 12,000'. Good visibility.
- W. France:- No clouds. Bright moonlight. Excellent visibility.
- Frisians:- 7-10/10ths. strato-cumulus, tops 5,000'. Poor visibility.
- Dutch coast:- 5-10/10ths. stratus at 1-2,000'. Moderate visibility.

ENEMY DEFENCES

10. Fighters were active in the Brest area; 3 combats were reported, one with a Me. 109 at Brest, and 2 with a Fw. 190 and a Ju.38 off the Ile Douessa. 3 other single engined fighters were seen in the same area. 2 fighters were observed near Duisburg, but they made no interceptions. Flak was reported from the Ruhr targets, and from known defended points in mining areas.

CASUALTIES

11. All aircraft returned safely. 2 were hit by flak.

APPENDIX.

12. 1 B Group Mosquito carried out a net. recon flight, and 5 U.S. Fortresses dispersed leaflets over northern and central France; all without incident.

MM/JT.

EC/S. 26342/6/ORS4,
10th. March, 1944.

5/7th. JANUARY, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	LIBERATION TYPE	SORTIES	NO RECORDS		ADVERSE SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				INTERDICTIONS		RESULTS Tons of Bombs H.E.
				PHIL. ISLES	IND. ARE.	OVER S.T.	NOT OVER S.T.		PLX	FIGHTER	MISC. IN FLIGHT	OTHER C. INDS	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED	
DUBOING	B	Mong. IX Mong. IV	5 11	5 10	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	P. 12.0
DUBOING TOTAL			16	15	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DOMYUO	B	Mong. IV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. .9
DOMYUO	B	Mong. IX	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. .9
DOMYUO TOTAL	B	Mong. IV	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 1.8
DUBOING TOTAL			20	18	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
HONGKONG															
LEUNG	1	Well. X	6	6	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	12 mines
CHONG	5	Stir. III	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	36 mines
BONG		Stir. III	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15 mines
ST. JOHN de LUZ		Stir. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12 mines
L. HONG		Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12 mines
S. HONG		Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	11 mines
YONG	4	Hal.	7	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	12 mines
YONG		Hal. III	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12 mines
L. HONG		Hal.	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20 mines
BONG	6	Hal.	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12 mines
S. HONG		Hal.	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12 mines
HONGKONG TOTAL			67	65	-	-	2	-	1+1.0	-	-	-	2	1	164 mines
LEUNG	93	Well. III Well. X	1 9	1 9	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	
LEUNG TOTAL			10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
IND. RECCO	8	Mong.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WELLPLANS	8	Fortress	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			98	94	1	1	2	-	1+1.0	-	-	-	2	1	

RCD/JT
O.S.S.S.

* NOT INCLUDED IN TOTAL

LEUNG: ST. JOHN de LUZ: CHONG: BONG: YONG: ST. JOHN de LUZ: ST. MARTIN:
8th. RECCO: ST. JOHN de LUZ: BONG: YONG: ST. JOHN de LUZ: ST. MARTIN:

www.bombercommandmuseum.com

BOEMER COMBINED REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

7/8th. JUNE, 1944.

Krefeld: Duisburg: Leaflets:

SUMMARY

1. Krefeld 6 Mk.I OBOE Mosquitoes were despatched against Deutsche Edelstahlwerke at Krefeld. 3 made successfully controlled runs; the other 3 experienced OBOE failure and bombed the primary area on D.R. All returned undamaged.
2. Duisburg 5 Mk.I OBOE Mosquitoes were sent to attack Vereinigte Stahlwerke at Duisburg. 4 made successfully controlled runs; the other experienced partial OBOE failure and bombed the primary area on D.R. All returned; - but one undershot and crashed on return.
3. Leaflets 14 Wellingtons and Whitleys dispersed leaflets without incident over N. France.

WEATHER FORECAST

4. Bases:- Much strato-cumulus, base 1,500-2,000', with patches at 1,000' in slight rain. All fit at least until midnight.

Continent:- Mainly cloudy, with cloud base nowhere below 600-1,000' except very locally, and visibility everywhere better than 1,500 yards. Strato-cumulus tops 8,000' over Central Germany, 5,000' in N. and S. Ruhr:- 10/10ths.

SORTIES

		<u>Bomb-</u> <u>ing</u>	<u>Leaf</u>
5.	(a) No. of aircraft despatched.....	11	14
	(b) " " " reaching primary area.....	11	14
	(c) " " " missing.....	0	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. Ruhr:- Very variable strato-cumulus; reports varied from nil to 10/10ths.

ENEMY DEFENCES

7. Nothing of interest was reported.

CASUALTIES

8. All aircraft returned; but one undershot and crashed, because of low cloud over its base. No other damage was sustained.

APPENDIX

9. 5 U.S. Fortresses dispersed leaflets without incident over N. and Central France.

HEM/JT.
EC/C. 26342/6/ORS4,
9th. March, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	DESCRIPTION TYPE	SAFETY	A/C REPORTING		POSITIVE		MISS- ING	DAMAGE				DAMAGE TO		RESULTS Type of Bomb H. K.
				PREL. RE.	ACT. RE.	OVER R.T.	NOT OVER R.T.		BLK.	WALLS	DO. IN	OTHER DAMAGES	ATLAK- ED	NOT ATLAK- ED	
KREIFELD	8	Koag. IX Koag. IV	3 3	3 3	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	P. 5-6
KREIFELD TOTAL			6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DUISBURG	6	Koag. IX Koag. IV	2 3	2 3	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	1E	-	-	P. 4-5
DUISBURG TOTAL			5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1E	-	-	
BOESING TOTAL			11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1E	-	-	
LA.FLINS	91	Whit. Well. III Well. X	6 1 7	6 1 7	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	
LA.FLINS TOTAL			14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
M(L)FLINS	BIS/C	Fortress	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			25	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1E	-	-	

* NOT INCLUDED IN TOTAL.

DCI/JT.
C. H. S. J.

LA.FLINS AT:- ORLEANS: BOESING: BOESING: BOESING: BOESING: BOESING: BOESING: BOESING: BOESING: BOESING:

BIS/C AT:- PARIS: CULTE/MOVA: CULTE/MOVA: CULTE/MOVA:

www.bombercommandmuseumarchives.ca

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

8/9th. JANUARY, 1944.

Solingen: Aachen: Frankfurt: Dortmund:

SUMMARY

1. Solingen 8 OBOE Mosquitoes (2 Mk.I, 3 Mk.II FOUNTAIN-PEN and 3 Mk.II PENWIPER) were despatched against J... Henckels Zwillingswerke at Solingen. None made controlled runs; one abandoned its task because of generator trouble, and the other 7 experienced partial OBOE failure and bombed areas in the Ruhr on E.L. All returned undamaged.
2. Aachen 3 Mk.I Mosquitoes attacked Aachen successfully on OBOE. All returned undamaged.
3. Frankfurt 10 Mosquitoes, not equipped with precision devices, were sent to Frankfurt. 6 bombed the primary on E.L.; 2 attacked Karlsruhe and one Heidelberg; and one was lost. One other ditched on return.
4. Dortmund 2 G-H Mosquitoes successfully attacked Dortmund by means of their special equipment. Both returned undamaged.

WEATHER FORECAST

5. Bases:- A depression over N. Scotland is moving E.S.E. towards Denmark. A cold front associated with this depression will affect bases, giving 10/10ths cloud at 1,000' or below, freezing level 3,000', and slight rain. This front will reach the Wash at about 2300. Poss diversions S. of front; much low cloud in S.W. and Training Groups.

Continent:- 10/10ths strato-cumulus, with varying amounts of medium cloud above except in S. Tops to 20-25,000' in frontal zone near N.W. German coast. Cloud will become well broken in France S. of 49°N., dispersing to small groups, probably nil, in S. Moderate visibility at Liege.

SORTIES

6.	(a)	No. of aircraft despatched.....	23
	(b)	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	13
	(c)	" " " " " alternative area.....	8
	(d)	" " abortive sorties (tech. defect).....	1
	(e)	" " aircraft missing.....	1

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

7. German targets:- 10/10ths.

ALTERNATIVE TARGETS

8. 5 Mosquitoes on Solingen bombed alternative targets, in the areas of Aachen, Dusseldorf (2), and Cologne (2). 2 aircraft detailed for Frankfurt bombed Karlsruhe, and one Heidelberg.

ENEMY DEFENCES

9. No fighters were seen. Accurate heavy flak was met from Solingen, Lachen, Dortmund, Luren, Bonn and Coblentz, at heights up to 32,000'; but the only damage was sustained over Frankfurt, where 4 aircraft were hit, although the flak there was described as moderate and inaccurate.

CASUALTIES

10. One Mosquito was lost without trace on Frankfurt; and another returning from the same target ditched in the North Sea. The pilot was rescued. 4 aircraft were hit by flak, none seriously.

APPENDIX

11. 5 U.S. Fortresses dispersed leaflets without incident over towns in Belgium and N. France.

DCB/JT.
IC/3. 26342/6/OZSL,
9th. March, 1944.

Command Museum Archives

8/9th. MARCH, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTINGS	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		EJECTIVE SORTINGS		LOSS- ES	DAMAGE		INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS Tons of bombs H.K.
				PRIM. AREA	SEC. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	PISTON	MISC. IN FLIGHT	OTHER CLAIMS	
SOLINGEN	8	Moq. IX	7	2	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	F. 1.8
		Moq. IV	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	F. 4.5
SOLINGEN TOTAL			8	2	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
DORTMUND	3	Moq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	F. 1.8
		Moq. IV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DORTMUND TOTAL			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LACHEN	8	Moq. IV	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	F. 2.7
FRANKFURT	8	Moq. IV	10	6	3	-	-	1	1	-	12	-	F. 2.7
W. BELGIUM	BUSDC	Fortress	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			23	13	8	-	1	1	4	-	12	-	

* NOT INCLUDED IN TOTAL

LEAFLETS 107- JETONS: BOMBERS: 10700: 10700: 10700: 10700

DCB/JT.
O.L.S. 3.

BOMBING COORDINATE REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

10/11th. JANUARY, 1944.

Berlin: Solingen: Coblenz: Krefeld:SUMMARY

1. Berlin 10 Mosquitoes, not equipped with precision devices, were detailed on a harassing raid against Berlin. 8 attacked the primary, and the other 2 bombed Baden. All returned safely.
2. Solingen 7 Mk.II C/OE Mosquitoes (4 PERSUADER and 3 FOUNTAIN-PEN) were despatched against J.A. Henckels Zwillingwerke at Solingen. 2 PERSUADER and 1 FOUNTAIN-PEN aircraft made successfully controlled runs; the others experienced C/OE failure, and bombed on D.K., 2 in the area of the primary and 2 in that of Cologne. All returned safely.
3. Coblenz 2 G-H Mosquitoes were sent to Coblenz. Both attacked the primary, one by means of its precision device and one on D.K. Both returned safely.
4. Krefeld 1 Mk.II C/OE Mosquito was despatched against Deutsche Edelstahlwerke at Krefeld; but its equipment failed and it bombed the primary on D.K. It returned undamaged.

WEATHER FORECAST

5. Bases:- Fit all night, with variable, mainly small, amounts of cumulus and strato-cumulus. Wintry showers near east coast. Visibility mainly good.

Germany:- Much tall convection cloud over North Sea, and N.W. Germany, tops 15-20,000', with wintry showers. Well broken cumulus in N.E., with large breaks. Central Germany: much very low cloud, with medium cloud above to 20,000', and rain or sleet. Berlin: good chance of well broken cloud.

France:- Much strato-cumulus. Base 1,000' over W. coast, with showers. Abbeville: not less than 5/10ths. before midnight; improvement later.

SCORTIES

6.	(a)	No. of aircraft despatched.....	20
	(b)	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	16
	(c)	" " " attack on alternative area.....	4
	(d)	" " " missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

7. Berlin:- Small amounts of low cloud, nil in places. Excellent visibility.

W. Germany:- 10/10ths. strato-cumulus; average tops 6-8,000'. Good visibility.

ENEMY DEFENCES

8. No fighters were seen. Intense and accurate flak was met from Solingen, .../Cologne, Dusseldorf and

Cologne, Dusseldorf and Osnabruck at heights up to 32,000'. The flak at Berlin was described as moderate.

CASUALTIES

9. All aircraft returned safely. 3 sustained minor flak damage.

APPENDIX

10. 3 Mosquitoes were despatched on noct. recon flights. 2 completed their tasks, the third returning early with engine trouble. No incidents were reported.

11. 5 U.S. Fortresses dispersed leaflets uneventfully over Northern and Central France.

FLM/JT.
BC/S. 26342/6/O/S4,
10th. March, 1944.

Commander, Bomber Command
20/11th. 2. 21. 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	W/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		AIRCRAFT SORTIES		HIGH-DR	DAMAGE		INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS Tons of Bombs H. L.
				PRINC. AREA	ALL AREA	OVER S.T.	NOT OVER S.T.		FLAK	FLAME	MISC. D'LIGHT	OTHER GUNNERS	
BERLIN	B	Mosq. IV	10	8	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	P. 7.1 ... 1.8
SOLTHROP	B	Mosq. IX	7	5	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	P. 4.5 ... 1.8
COLOGNE	C	Mosq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 1.8
		Mosq. IV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
COMBINED TOTAL			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
KATWIL	B	Mosq. IV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. .9
BOMBING TOTAL			20	16	4	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	
H.M. 12000	B	Mosq.	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			23	18	4	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	
* (L. 111111)	BULDC	Fortress	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

* NOT INCLUDED IN TOTAL.

L.L. PLAYS AT:- HOUSES; IN FLIES; ORDERING; TONNES; CALCULATIONS.

BC/S. 26342/6/O/S4,
10th. March, 1944.

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

13/14th. JANUARY, 1944.

Essen: Duisburg: Aachen: Coblenz:

SUMMARY

1. Essen 12 Mk.I OBOE Mosquitoes were despatched against Krupp's works at Essen. 10 attacked the primary area: 7 by means of their precision devices, and 3 on D.R. because of OBOE failure. One aircraft bombed 10-15 miles N.W. of Essen; and one was lost.
2. Duisburg 9 Mk.II OBOE Mosquitoes (5 FOUNTAIN-PEN and 4 PENWIPER) attacked the Duisburg/Rheinhausen branch of Krupp's: two FOUNTAIN-PEN and one PENWIPER on OBOE, and the rest on D.R. All returned safely.
3. Aachen 2 Mk.I OBOE Mosquitoes bombed Aachen by means of their precision devices, and returned undamaged.
4. Coblenz 2 Mosquitoes attacked Coblenz on G.H., and returned undamaged.

WEATHER FORECAST

5. Midnight frontal positions:- (1) cold from 59 E. 01 E. - N. Yorkshire - S.W. England (2) warm from 63 E. 07 E. - 55 E. 09 1/2 E. - 50 E. 09 E. (3) occlusion from 63 N. 10 E. - 55 E. 12 E. - 50 E. 12 E., and southwards.

Bases:- The cold front will cross 8 Group area from the W. at about 0100. 10/10ths. layer cloud in frontal zone, tops 6,000', with medium cloud based at 9-10,000' and extending to 20,000'. Ahead of the front: 5-8/10ths. low cloud at 1,000', with thick medium cloud above. Behind the front, low cloud will break within an hour, but medium cloud will persist for 3-4 hours. Poor visibility ahead of the front; moderate behind.

Germany:- 10/10ths. except in E., where there will be broken medium cloud. Much thick medium cloud in frontal zones, with low cloud based below 1,000'. Ruhr: 10/10ths. strato-cumulus most of the night, with thin and broken layers of medium cloud to well over 20,000'.

France:- Covered with low cloud, base mainly 600' or below.

SCORES

6.	(a)	No. of aircraft despatched.....	25
	(b)	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	23
	(c)	" " " " " alternative area.....	1
	(d)	" " aircraft missing.....	1

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

7. Ruhr:- 10/10ths. alto-stratus to 20,000', with 10/10ths. cirrus between 28,000' and 32,000'. No moon. Good visibility.

Coblenz:- 10/10ths. to 15,000'. Good visibility.

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

14/15th. JANUARY, 1944.

BRUNSWICK: Berlin: Magdeburg: Dristillerie: Ailly: Bonnetot: Minelaying:
Leaflets' etc.

STORY

Brunswick was visited for the first time in strength, by 498 Lancasters, at a very scattered attack was delivered through thick clouds, and little damage was caused. 38 aircraft (7.6%) were lost.

Groundmarking attacks were carried out against military targets in northern France. Mosquitoes made diversionary raids against Berlin and Magdeburg. Other aircraft laid mines off the Frisians and in the Bay of Biscay, dispersed leaflets over France and completed intruder patrols. None was lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

Midnight frontal positions:- (1) cold from 55° E. 24° E. - 50° N. 15E/. - 1° E. 05° E. - 46° N. 05° W.

Bases:- Fine all night. Few visibility worries before midnight, but any 5 Group will need a partial diversion. Widespread fog S. of 52½° N. after midnight.

Germany:- Broken strato-cumulus over N.W. coastal strip, base 1,500-2,000', tops generally below 8,000'. Extended to E. of cold front, good clearances and good visibility. Cloud in several layers in frontal zone, base low 1,000'. 10/10ths. low cloud S. of front, with broken medium cloud and poor visibility. Brunswick: uncertain amounts of strato-cumulus - probably small amounts, but risk of 10/10ths. Thin upper cloud, less than 5/10ths. Long routes.

France:- Clear skies in N.W., with poor visibility after midnight.

Winds at 20,000':- 55 m.p.h. to Hannover. 290°/70-80 m.p.h. over Denmark and Baltic.

BRUNSWICK

ROUTE OF ATTACK

Route: Haisborough - 53 05'N. 04 00'E - 52 50'N. 09 30'E - BRUNSWICK - 52 00'N. 10 30'E - 52 30'N. 08 20'E - 53 05'N. 04 00'E - Haisborough.

Route-marking On the way out, yellow T.I. LB were to be dropped at 52°N. 08 40'E. (15 miles S.W. of Bremen); and on the way home, at 52 22'N. 08 59'E (7 miles N.N.E. of Minden); in both instances by blind marker illuminators and blind backers-up.

Method of attack Blind marker illuminators were to mark the aiming-point with green T.I., dropping W. LIGHT flares if there was thick cloud. Visual markers, guided by the greens, were to mark the exact aiming-point with reds, using white flares if necessary to assist themselves in identifying ground detail. If unable to identify visually, they were to hold their reds.

...../blind backers-up,

Blind backers-up, spread throughout the attack, were to keep the aiming-point marked with greens and, if necessary, WINGJUI flares. Visual backers-up were to maintain the marking by aiming greens at the centre of all visible reds with a 2-second overshoot; but if late, they were to aim at the centre of greens with a 2-second overshoot. If the T.I. were hidden by cloud, backers-up were to hold their T.I. and bomb WINGJUI flares on a heading of 145°. Supporters were to bomb blindly if possible, otherwise at the centre of reds or at WINGJUI flares. Main Force aircraft were to bomb reds or the centre of greens; or, in cloud conditions, WINGJUI flares on the above-mentioned heading.

Timing	Zero hour: 1915	Duration of attack:- 1909-1927
Blind marker illuminators.	23 Lincs. at zero - 6	
Visual markers.	(2 Hols.) to arrive at zero - 4 and bomb (6 Lincs.) as soon as possible.	
Blind backers-up.	4 Lincs. from zero to zero + 11 (one p 8 S.Lincs) min)	
Visual backers-up.	13 Lincs. from zero - 4 to zero + 12.	
Supporters.	32 Lincs. at zero - 6	
Main Force.	129 Lincs. from zero to zero + 4 129 Lincs. from zero + 4 to zero + 8 130 Lincs. from zero + 8 to zero + 12 20 A.T.C. aircraft throughout the attack	

8. Marker Loads

Blind marker illuminators.	4x3 headed flares + 1x4 flares (R/G stars) 2 green T.I. (4LB) + 1 yellow T.I. (1LB)
Visual markers.	4x3 headed flares + 8 red T.I. (4LB)
Blind backers-up.	1x4 flares (R/G stars) + 4 green T.I. (2LB) 1 yellow T.I. (1B)
Visual backers-up.	4 green T.I. (2LB)

9. Diversions 6 Mosquitoes were to make a feint attack on Berlin at zero hour, and 10 on Magdeburg at zero - 15, all dropping red and green T.I. H.E.

10. WINDOW WINDOW was to be dropped at the rate of 1 bundle per minute within 20 miles of the target; 2 bundles per minute within 20 miles of the target in both directions; and one bundle per 2 minutes for the rest of the route home.

SORTIES

11.	(a) No. of aircraft despatched.....	498
	(b) " " " reporting attack on primary area.....	43
	(c) " " " " " alternative area.....	7
	(d) " " abortive sorties (took effect of manip. error.....18) (sickness of crew..... 1)	19
	(e) " " aircraft missing.....	38

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

12. Bases:- Fit for take-off. At 2000 hours, visibility was 2-4,000 yds in all areas except 5 Group (over 6 miles) and locally in 4 Group (1,500-2,000 yards). These conditions held until midnight, when extensive patches of fog mist developed in all areas except 6 Group, becoming widespread by 05-0600.

...../Route:

Route:- 6-8/10ths. cirrus at 25,000'. No cloud beneath until 08-09°E. It rapidly increased towards the target. Moderate visibility.

Brunswick:- 8-10/10ths. layer cloud, tops 6-7,000'. Moderate visibility. No moon. Surface wind: 195/15 m.p.h.

Winds at 20,000':- 300°/45 m.p.h to 02 E., thence 310°/55 m.p.h., finally veering to 330°/60 m.p.h. at target. Home ward:- 320°/55-60 m.p.h. to E., thence 330°/30-35 m.p.h.

PHOTOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

No useful photographs were returned, because the target was covered with clouds.

NATURE OF ATTACK

8-10/10ths. cloud obscured the target and ground markers. The blind marker illuminators achieved a fine concentration of sky marker flares, but these were cut out before the main force arrived in strength, and subsequent marking was sparse. In the absence of night photographic evidence, it is impossible to reconstruct the attack in detail.

POSSIBILITIES

Photographs taken on 6th February 1944, showed 3 or 4 minor prints of craters in Brunswick. Several groups of craters were visible S. of the town, including one concentration on the Brunswick/Breiten airfield.

ALL RESULTS

	No.	Drops atched	RELEASED		Miss- ing	Bombed Blindly	No. which dropped	
			H2S C.F.	H2S u/s			R/P Flares	T.I's
Blind Markers	II	23	10	7	6	9	8*	6
Secondary Blind Markers	II	4	2	2	-	2	2	1
SP Flares	III	8	4	4	-	4	5	4
SP Flares	II	148	80	47	9	15	-	-

* 5 of these aircraft released illuminating, as well as release-xint flares.

Owing to cloud conditions the T.I's and illuminating flares were ineffective. The attack centred on the sky-marking flares. An excellent concentration of flares was laid by the blind marker illuminators, but unfortunately these were cut out before the main force began to attack. The secondary blind markers were only used to maintain sparse and singular marking throughout the duration of the attack.

ALTERNATIVE TARGETS

7 aircraft bombed alternative targets, in the areas of: Texel (3), Hornburg, Paderborn, Peine and Althausen.

DEFENCES

Ground defences Little flak was encountered from the target in the early stages of the raid, but later a moderate barrage was fired to 18-24,000', and a large amount of light flak at 14-16,000'. Few searchlights exposed, and did not penetrate the cloud. One searchlight was shot down at the starboard end, and one other aircraft towards the close. Strong opposition was encountered, where 2 bombers were shot down on the way out and one on the return.

...../and from

and from Bremen, Hannover, Gelle, Lingen and Osnabruck, where one bomber was destroyed. Searchlights were intensely active at Hannover.

19. Fighters The running concentrations first plotted our aircraft 40 miles E. of Yarmouth, but little air opposition was met W. of 09°E. Strong fighter forces were waiting for the bombers in the area between Bremen and Hannover, and for the rest of the route combats and sightings were very numerous. At least 8 bombers were lost in combat on the outward journey; 2 Pathfinders between Meppen and Quakenbrack, a third near Bremen (all to controlled fighters); 3 more near the Bremen route markers, and 2 other aircraft on the run in to Brunel. 6 were shot down by fighters over the target, including 2 more Pathfinders, and further 6 before the route markers were reached on the way back. 3 more probably fell to controlled fighters in the Texel area; a total of at least 23 lost in combat. 5 Lancasters destroyed enemy aircraft: 2 Ju.88's, a FW.190, a He.110 and an unidentified twin-engine fighter.

CASUALTIES

20.	No. of aircraft missing.....	38(7.6)
	" " " damaged (flak..... 4)	
	(fighter..... 16)	26
	(British incendiaries..... 6)	

As stated above, at least 23 aircraft were lost to fighters, and 6 to flak. The cause of the other 9 losses is doubtful. 11 of the missing aircraft were Pathfinders. 3 returning aircraft were damaged beyond repair by fighters.

BERLIN

21. 6 Mosquitoes were despatched on a feint attack against Berlin. 5 at the capital between zero and zero + 7, dropping red and green T.I. and H.E. through 10/10ths. cloud. The sixth lost time on route in evading searchlights and bombed Magdeburg. All returned safely.

MAGDEBURG

22. 10 Mosquitoes, out of a force of 11, carried out a diversionary raid on Magdeburg, dropping red and green T.I. and H.E. between zero - 1 and zero + 8. The eleventh returned early with engine trouble. No casualties were sustained.

BRISTILLERIE

PLAN OF ATTACK

23. The aiming point was to be marked with red T.I. by 3 CBOE (Mk.I) Mosquito aircraft, 2 operating on Channel 1 and 1 on Channel 3, were to run in at zero (2000), zero + 5 and zero + 10, but were to release only if their runs were satisfactory. 29 Stirlings of 3 Group were to make carefully timed runs from last turning-point, so as to arrive exactly at zero hours; they were then to attack the centre of all visible reds, making a single run over the target. A height setting was to be fed into the bombsight, to ensure that the M.P.I. of stick should fall on the aiming-point. If no T.I. were visible on arrival, aircraft were to orbit and wait for the markers to go down. They were not to attempt visual identification.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

The first Mosquito, on Channel 1, released at zero + 1, but reported conditions might have affected the quality of its run. The second Mosquito, on Channel 3, released at zero + 5, and the third on Channel 1 at zero + 11. All runs were satisfactory. 26 main force aircraft bombed before zero + 10, and

.....NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

6. 6 groups of lights believed to be F.I. were plotted by night photographs. The first stick of rods fell 520 yards N. of the aiming-point, and the second stick 250-300 yards S. 2 lights which presumably represent the third stick lay 10 yards N. and 1900 yards S. 22 main force aircraft have been plotted N. and W. of the target area, and 15 sticks of bomb bursts in the same region.

WEATHER etc.

7. The weather was clear but dark over Bristollic. The moon did not rise until about zero + 30. Some opposition was met in the ground, where many searchlights exposed, and 2 aircraft were hit by flak. No fighters were seen, and no losses were sustained.

PLAN OF ATTACKPLAN OF ATTACK

8. Exactly the same plan of attack was laid down as for Bristollic, except that zero hour was 1920.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

9. The first Mosquito, on Channel 1, made 2 runs and released on the second at zero + 6. The second, scheduled to attack at zero + 5, found its precision device out of order and did not bomb; the third released satisfactorily at zero + 18, on Channel 1, but by that time 95% of the main force had attacked.

NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

10. 3 groups of lights adjudged to represent the first stick of rods, have been plotted on the W. and N.W. edges of the target area, at a mean distance of 300 yards from the aiming-point. These markers fell to the right of track and 150-300 yards downwind. 17 of the 24 plotted photographs were grouped round the markers, all within 1/2 mile of the target area; 16 sticks of bombs have been plotted with 1,500 yards.

WEATHER etc.

11. The target was clear of cloud, but covered with a slight ground haze. It was very dark. No opposition was encountered, and no casualties were sustained.

PLAN OFPLAN OF ATTACK

12. 4 Mk. I Mosquitoes (2 on Channel 1 and 2 on Channel 3) were to mark the aiming-point with rod F.I. at zero, zero + 5, +10, +15. Main force aircraft were to arrive by zero hour (2040 hours) and bomb the rods.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

13. The first Mosquito attacked at zero + 2 on Channel 1; the second received jumbled signals and did not release; the third bombed 4 minutes late at zero + 14, by which time all 12 main force aircraft had attacked; and the fourth received dots and dashes without crossing the beam and abandoned its task.

NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

14. F.I. have been plotted 300 and 440 yards N.W. of the aiming-point. No aircraft took photographs with bombing; but all made a second run and took photographs of which 8 were plotted, one 550 yards and the rest 880-2,000 yards from the aiming-point.

...../WEATHER etc.

WAVE Acts

34. Clear but dark. No defences. No casualties.

MINELAYERS

35. 23 Stirlings, Wellingtons and Halifaxes laid 66 mines off Brest and the
 Kristians. Other aircraft returned early. None was lost, but one was wrecked
 in a landing accident. The force included 15 Y-type aircraft, 8 of which dropped
 their mines on H2S.

LEAFLETS

36. 32 Wellingtons, out of a force of 36, dispersed leaflets over Northern
 Central France. All returned unharmed.

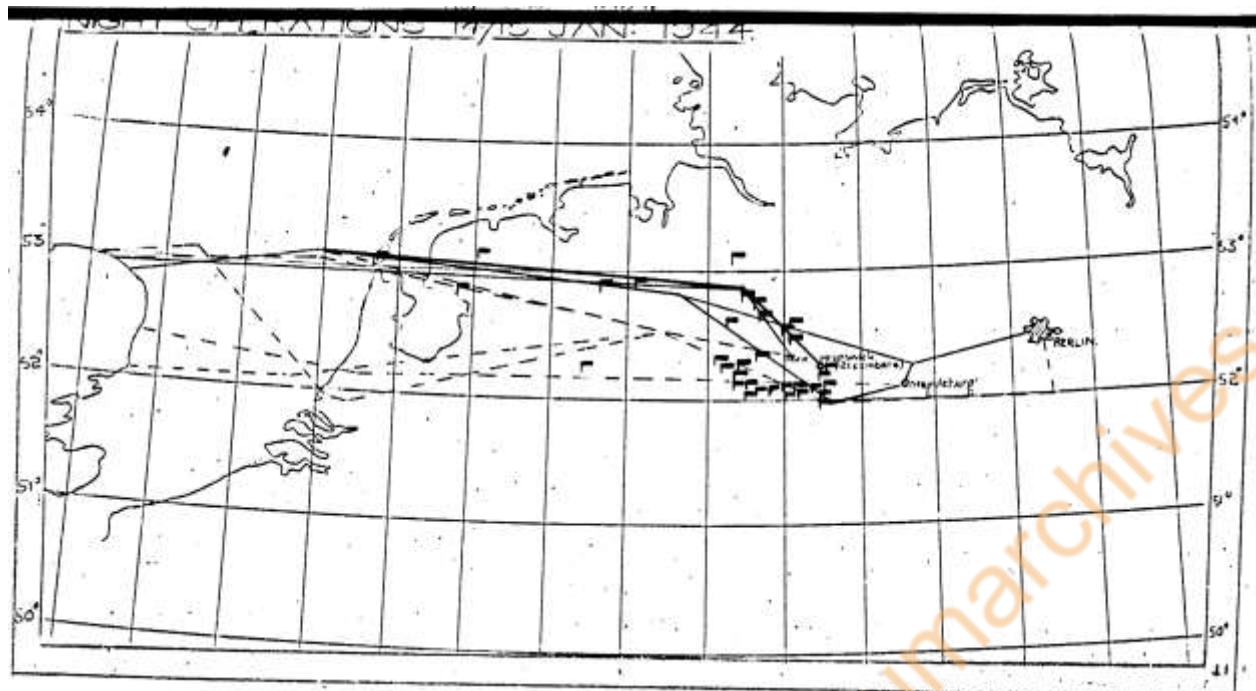
SEARCHERS

37. 2 Mosquitoes of 100 Group completed offensive patrols over enemy and
 enemy-occupied territory without sighting any hostile aircraft.

U. S. B. C.

38. 4 U. S. Fortresses dispersed leaflets over N. France. One Fortress
 bombed Waddell; another returning early from the same target. No incidents were
 reported.

MEJ/JT
 EC/S. 2632/1/C/S4,
 29th. March, 1944.



BOMB PLOT NOT AVAILABLE

www.bombercommandmuseumarchives.ca

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

20/21st. JANUARY, 1944.

BERLIN: Kiel: Hannover: Dusseldorf: Minelaying: Leaflets: etc.

SUMMARY

1. 769 Lancasters and Halifaxes were sent to Berlin - the twelfth major raid on the capital within 10 weeks. A concentrated skymarking attack was delivered through 10/10ths. thin cloud. 35 aircraft (4.5%) were lost.

2. Mosquitoes carried out joint attacks against Kiel and Hannover, and precision raids on targets at Dusseldorf. Other bombers laid mines and dispersed leaflets, while fighters made offensive patrols. None was lost, although one Mosquito crashed over England.

WEATHER FORECAST

3. Midnight frontal positions: (1) cold from 55° N. 12° E. - 50° N. 07° E. - La Pallice.

Bases :- Fog will be widespread during the afternoon, but should clear all operational areas by 1600. No take-off difficulties except locally in 6 and 100 Groups. Cold front will reach Limer. by midnight, making conditions doubtful for landing in 1, 4, 5 and 6 Groups. 3 and 8 Groups and East Anglia will hold 2-3 miles until 0200, with cloud base at 1,500'. Diversions S.E. of a line Lamber-Plymouth.

Germany:- Heavy cloud to 15,000' or above in frontal zone, with layers above, rain or drizzle and poor visibility. Good clearances N.W. of front, with local fog developing before midnight. E. of the front, 10/10ths. strato-cumulus, base 1,000', poor visibility. Route to Berlin: 10/10ths. low cloud almost all the way from the continental coast; front will be crossed about half-way, with medium cloud in layers up to 15-20,000'. Berlin: 10/10ths. strato-cumulus, base 1,000', tops 2,000' with thin and well-broken ceiling cloud, which will increase and thicken later.

France:- Broken convection cloud in N.W., tops below 12,000'. Conditions in frontal zone similar to those in corresponding areas of Germany. Much strato-cumulus S. of front. Strato-cumulus in N.E., probably more than 5/10ths.

BERLIN

PLAN OF ATTACK

Route 54 25'N. 04 00'E - 54 25'N. 08 00'E - 53 37'N. 10 55'E - 53 28'N. 12 40'E - BERLIN - 52 20'N. 13 30'E - 51 38'N. 12 20'E - 52 07'N. 07 50'E. - 53 38'N. 05 32'E - 53 40'N. 04 00'E - O.O.O.

4. Route-marking On the way out, flares (G/Y stars) were to be dropped at 54 25'N. 08 00'E (16 miles N.W.E. of Heligoland) by primary blind markers of 7 Squadron and blind backers-up of 7 and 35 Squadrons (Halifax III); and at 53 22'N. 12 43'E (9 miles S. of Wren) by primary blind markers and blind backers-up of 33, 97 and 405 Squadrons. On the way home, flares (G/Y stars) were to be dropped at 51 38'N. 12 20'E. (13 miles S. of Icazig) by the same aircraft that had dropped the first route-markers.

6. Method of Attack. Primary blind markers were to mark the aiming point with red T.I.; also releasing one bundle each of release-point flares (red/green) stars.

Blind backers-up and special blind backers-up were to keep the aiming-point marked throughout the raid with green T.I. and release-point flares. Visual backers-up were to aim greens at the centre of all rods (later at the centre greens) with 4-second overshoot. If the T.I. were obscured by cloud, they were to hold their greens and bomb the flares on a heading of 165°. Support were to bomb blindly if possible, otherwise visually or on a good D.R.; but late, they were to bomb the centre of T.I. or release-point flares, as detailed above. Main force aircraft were to bomb the centre of all visible greens, release-point flares as detailed above.

7. Timing Zero hour: 1935. Duration of attack: 1933-1955

Primary blind markers.	10 Lancs. at zero - 2
Blind backers-up.	11 Lancs.) 3 Lancs. (3) at intervals from zero to zero + 4 4 Hals. (II) 4 Hals. (III)
Visual backers-up.	4 Hals.) at intervals from zero to zero + 4 15 Lancs.)
Supporters.	35 Lancs. at zero - 2 5 Hals. at zero.
Main Force.	126 Lancs. from zero to zero + 4 133 Hals. from zero + 4 to zero + 8 131 Hals. from zero + 7 to zero + 11 135 Lancs. from zero + 11 to zero + 15 125 Lancs. from zero + 14 to zero + 18 20 ...T.I. aircraft throughout the attack.

8. Warrior loads

Primary blind markers.	18 Lancs: 1x4 flares (R/G stars) + 2 flares (stars) + 4 red T.I. (2LB)
	10 Hals. (III): 1x4 flares (R/G stars) + 2 flares (G/Y stars) + 2 green T.I. (1LB)
	4 Hals. (II): 1x4 flares (R/G stars) + 4 green T.I. (2LB)
	8 Lancs: 4x4 flares (R/G stars) + 2 flares (stars) + 4 green T.I. (2LB)
	11 Lancs: 1x4 flares (R/G stars) + 1 flare (stars) + 4 green T.I. (2LB)
Visual backers-up:	4 Hals.) : 4 green T.I. (2LB) 16 Lancs.)

9. WEDOW WEDOW was to be dropped at the rate of 1 bundle per minute a point 40 miles from the target; 2 bundles per minute within 40 miles of target in both directions; and one bundle per minute for the rest of the way home, until the supply was exhausted. 11 Mosquitoes were to drop maximum WEDOW within 15 miles of Berlin.

10. Diversions 3 Mosquitoes were to drop spoof route-markers at 52 33' 10 00'E., and then bomb Hannover. 4 more were to drop red T.I. and H.E. on Kiel at zero - 58. 3 of the Mosquitoes attacking Berlin were to drop fight flares S.E. of the capital.

SORTIES

11.	(a) No. of aircraft despatched.....	769
	(b) " " " reporting attack on primary area.....	642(8)
	(c) " " " " " alternative area.....	17
	(d) " " abortive sorties (tech. defect or navig. error... 66) (icing..... 4) (crew failure..... 5)	75
	(e) " " aircraft missing.....	35

...../WELCHER EXPERIENCED.

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

Bases:- Pit all night, apart from light showers in Yorkshire between 00 and 2300, and mist and fog over eastern East Anglia.

Route:- 10/10ths. strato-cumulus, tops varying between 15,000' and 20,000', over the whole route. Cirrus dispersed and tops of medium cloud lowered towards Berlin. Static at 080E. Light rain at 19,000'. On return, wind broke to small amounts beyond Dutch coast.

Berlin:- 10/10ths. thin medium cloud, tops 12,000'. No cloud above. Visibility. No moon.

PHOTOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

All photographs showed 10/10ths. cloud.

CHARACTER OF ATTACK

The timing of the blind markers was excellent, and a good concentration of marker flares was maintained throughout the attack. The crews of H2S aircraft thought that the attack fell on the eastern part of the city.

RECONNAISSANCE

Day cover was not obtained until the middle of February, by which time 4 major attacks had been delivered against Berlin. Full details of the damage revealed will be published by Night Raid Report No. 530.

RELATIVE TARGETS

17 aircraft attacked alternative targets in the areas of: Wismar, Wustrow, Brunstutzel, Elmshorn, Hamburg (3), Mollatholm (3), Kiel (2), Potsdam, Ritz, Ratsburg, Schwerin and Westerkow.

ALLIED CASUALTY

H2S

	No.	Dis- patched	Losses		Miss- ing	Bombed Blindly	No. which dropped	
			H2S C.R.	H2S u/s			R/P Flares	T.I.'s
Blind Markers	II	13	13	3	1	13	14	13
Blind Markers	II	14	10	3	-	9	8	8
Blind Markers	II	9	5	3	1	4	4	3
Blind Markers	II	222	114	49	8	24	-	-

DEFENCES

Ground defences Little flak was met by the first arrivals; later, the opposition became moderately intense, bursting at all heights up to 25,000', with a concentration up to 18,000'. Slight to moderate light flak was fired at release-point, and self-destroying at 10-15,000'. Searchlights could not penetrate the clouds, and were fired up to 20,000'. The first flak loss was caused by a convoy of 4 bombers, and 2 more bombers were shot down before the target was reached, one at Hamburg and one at Neu Rupper. Intense flak was met from the defences of the Danzig area. At least 5 aircraft fell to the target guns, including 3 or 4 bombers. On the homeward route, fierce opposition was encountered from towns in the Leipzig area, where 2 bombers were destroyed; and from Hannover, Munster,

..../Groningen, Leeuwarden,

MINELAYING

27. 29 Stirlings and Wellingtons laid 141 mines off the French Atlantic ports, the Dutch coast and the Frisians, without incident.

LEAFLETS

28. 19 Whitloys and Wellingtons dispersed leaflets over Northern and Central France. A twentieth aircraft abandoned its task.

SEARCHES

29. 4 Mosquitoes of 100 Group completed offensive patrols over enemy and enemy-occupied territory. Several enemy aircraft were contacted, but no interceptions were achieved. One other Mosquito abandoned its task for technical reasons.

D.E.P.C.

30. 5 Fortresses scattered leaflets over Northern and Central France.

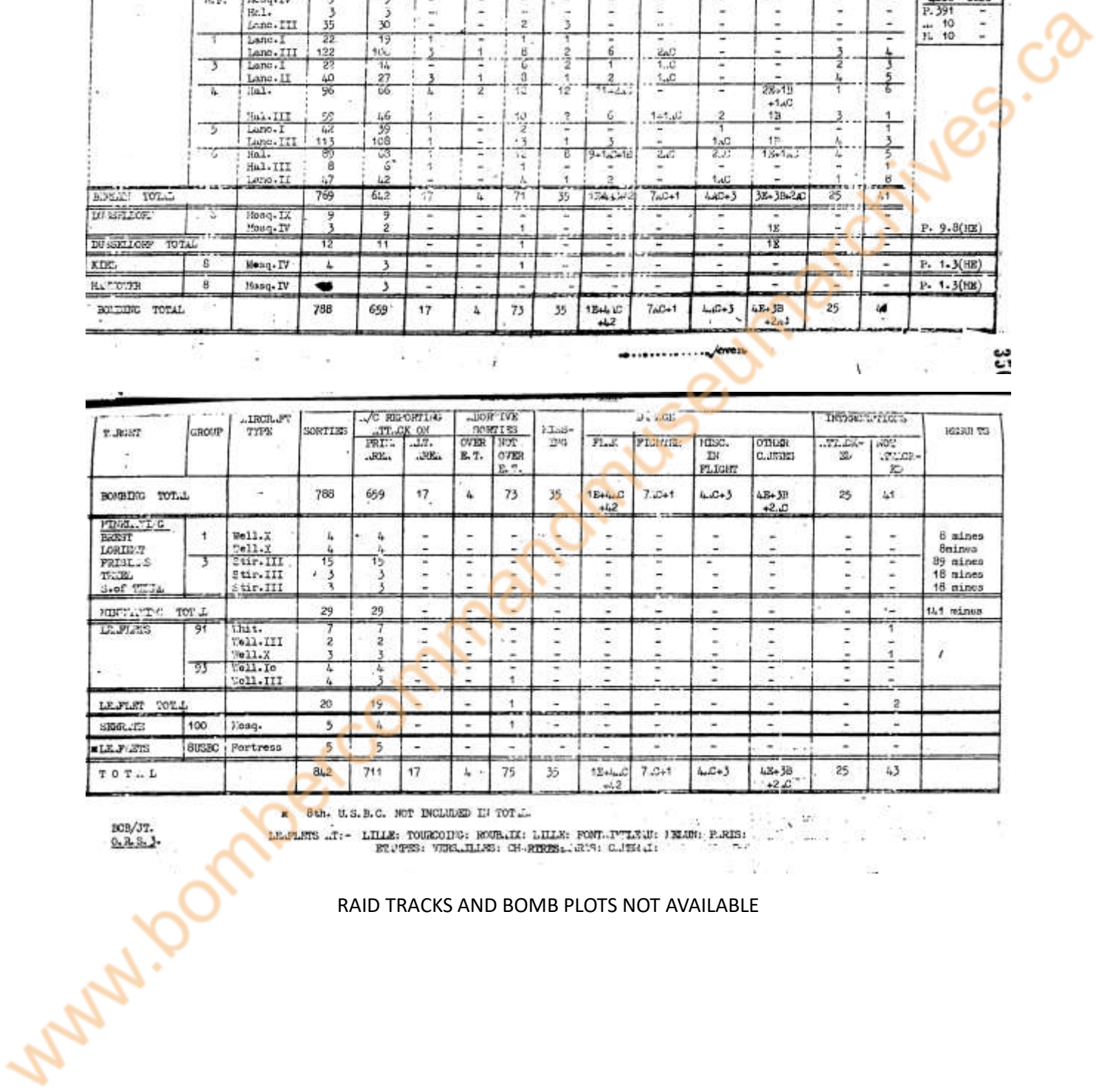
WV/ST.
 O/S. 25342/1/ORS4,
 7th. April, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING		A/C REPORTING		MISS-ING	MIS-AGE				DITCHED/LOST		REMARKS
				PRIL. ORL.	LT. ORL.	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	MISC. IN FLIGHT	OTHER C. JUNK	PLACED	NOT PLACED	
BERLIN	BPP	Hel.	7	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	P. 109.4 115.3
		Hel. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.. 22.5 30.6
		Lanc. III	53	49	1	-	1	2	2+1A2	-	-	-	2	3	.. 54.6 51.1
	H.P.	Hseq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Heavy bomb
		Hseq. IV	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4000 5000
		Hel.	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 391
	1	Lanc. III	35	30	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	.. 10
		Lanc. I	22	19	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	.. 10
		Lanc. III	122	106	3	1	8	2	6	2A2	-	-	3	4	
	3	Lanc. I	23	14	-	-	6	2	1	1.C	-	-	2	3	
		Lanc. II	40	27	3	1	8	1	2	1.C	-	-	4	5	
	4	Hel.	96	66	4	2	12	12	11-2A1	-	-	2B+1B	1	6	
		Hel. III	58	46	1	-	10	2	6	1+1A2	2	1B	3	1	
	5	Lanc. I	62	39	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
		Lanc. III	113	108	1	-	3	1	3	-	1A2	1B	4	3	
6	Hel.	80	68	1	-	12	8	9+1A2+1B	2A2	2A2	1B+1A2	4	5		
	Hel. III	8	6	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
		Lanc. II	47	42	-	-	1	2	-	1A2	-	1	8		
BOMBING TOTAL			789	642	17	4	71	35	12A+1A2	7A2+1	4A2+3	3B+3B+2A2	25	41	
DUSK/LOST															P. 9.8(HB)
DUSK/LOST TOTAL			12	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1B	-	-	
KICK															P. 1.3(HB)
KICK TOTAL			4	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
HALF HOUR															P. 1.3(HB)
HALF HOUR TOTAL			8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BOMBING TOTAL			788	659	17	4	73	35	12A+1A2	7A2+1	4A2+3	3B+3B	25	41	

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING		A/C REPORTING		MISS-ING	MIS-AGE				DITCHED/LOST		REMARKS
				PRIL. ORL.	LT. ORL.	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	MISC. IN FLIGHT	OTHER C. JUNK	PLACED	NOT PLACED	
BOMBING TOTAL			788	659	17	4	73	35	12A+1A2	7A2+1	4A2+3	3B+3B	25	41	
MORNING															
MORNING	1	Well. X	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8 mines
		Well. Y	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8 mines
	3	Star. III	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	89 mines
		Star. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18 mines
MORNING TOTAL			29	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	141 mines	
AFTERNOON	91	Well. III	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
		Well. X	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	93	Well. X	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
		Well. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
AFTERNOON TOTAL			20	19	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
EVENING															
EVENING TOTAL			5	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
NIGHT															
NIGHT TOTAL			5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			842	711	17	4	75	35	12A+1A2	7A2+1	4A2+3	3B+3B	25	43	

* 8th. U.S.B.C. NOT INCLUDED IN TOTAL.
 BOMBING: LILLE: TOURCOING: ROUBAIX: LILLE: FORT-LEZ-LILLE: REAN: PARIS:
 BRUXELLES: VERVILLES: CHATELAIN: G. J. H. I.

RAID TRACKS AND BOMB PLOTS NOT AVAILABLE



BOMBER COMBINED REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

21/22nd. JULY, 1944.

MAGDEBURG: Berlin: Pas de Calais: Bristillorie: Oberhausen: Rheinhausen: Minslawing etc.

SUMMARY

1. Magdeburg was attacked in strength for the first time. Visibility was good in the target area, with thin patchy cloud, and the Pathfinders opened accurately; but the backers-up and main force were led astray by decoy markers, and the raid became scattered. Considerable damage was, however, caused in the south-western suburbs, involving a number of priority factories. Enemy fighters were responsible for most of the 55 losses.
2. Mosquitoes and Lancasters carried out a diversionary raid on Berlin. Small forces of Stirlings, Lancasters and Mosquitoes attacked military targets in the Pas de Calais and on the Cherbourg peninsula; and Mosquitoes bombed targets in the Ruhr. Wellingtons laid mines off St. Nazaire, and dispersed leaflets over N. France. Mosquitoes carried out intruder patrols. One Lancaster was lost on Berlin.

WEATHER FORECAST

3. Midnight frontal positions: - (1) cold front 50 N. 17 E. - 48 N. 10 E. - 47 N. 05 W. - In Pallice.

Bases: - Fine until midnight. By 0100, light rain will have reached 3 Group, affecting 4 and 6 Groups by 0200. Cloud base should remain above 1,000', even when rain becomes continuous.

Germany: - Broken convection cloud over North Sea, tops below 15,000'. Layer cloud over N. Germany N. of 50 N., mostly below 12,000', with extensive cirriforms. Medium and high cloud in a belt 2-300 miles wide in frontal zone, with a narrow belt of rain and very low cloud. Low cloud, rain and poor visibility S. of the front. Magdeburg: small amounts of strato-cumulus and cumulus, tops 6-8,000' (cloud masses will have moved away southwards). Wind at 20,000' on route: Wly 40-50 m.p.h.

France: - Variable amounts of strato-cumulus N. of front. Very low cloud with occasional drizzle S. of the front. Very well broken cloud in F.E., probably less than 5/10ths.; base 2,000'.

MAGDEBURG

PLAN OF ATTACK

4. Route 54 30'N. 05 00'E - 54 30'N. 06 40'E. - 53 20'N. 09 31'E - 52 47'N. 12 00'E. - MAGDEBURG - 51 55'N. 11 13'E. - 53 20'N. 09 31'E. - 54 30'N. 06 40'E. - 54 30'N. 05 00'E.

5. Routemarking On the outward route, marker flares (G/N stars) were to be dropped at 54 05'N. 07 40'E. (8 miles S.E. of Heligoland) by primary blind markers of 97 Squadron and blind backers-up of 35 and 83 Squadrons. Red spot fires were to be dropped at 53 16'N. 09 51'E. (21 miles S.S.E. of Hamburg) by primary blind markers and blind backers-up of 7 Squadron. On the way home, red spot fires were to be dropped at 52 21'N. 10 41'E (3 miles N.E. of Brunswick)

...../by primary blind markers

by primary blind markers of 156 Squadron and blind backers-up of 83 Squadron.

6. Method of attack If there was less than 7/10ths. cloud, and conditions appeared favourable for a HEMMEZ raid, the primary blind markers were to aim the aiming-point blindly with green T.I., and also drop a stick of white hooded flares: the first bundle 20 seconds before the T.I. and the rest at 10 second intervals thereafter. If conditions appeared to be against visual identification they were to hold their white flares and arc release-point flares (P/G stars) with their T.I. Visual markers, using the greens as a guide only, were to aim the exact aiming-point with reds after definite visual identification, using additional white hooded flares if necessary to illuminate the target area. Blind backers-up were to drop greens blindly, if a HEMMEZ attack was developed, or, if their equipment was unserviceable, to revert to the role of visual backers-up. If the cloud was thick, they were to drop both green T.I. and arc release-point flares blindly. Visual backers-up were to aim greens at reds with a 2-second overshoot early in the attack; later arrivals were to aim at the centre of all previous greens, with the same overshoot. If the T.I. was invisible, they were to hold their greens and lead the release point flares on a heading of 214°. Supporters were to bomb blindly if possible, otherwise visually or on good D.R. - unless any markers were down, in which case they were to bomb release-point flares or the centre of T.I. Main force aircraft were to bomb reds early in the raid, later the centre of greens; in cloudy conditions they were to aim at release-point flares as detailed above.

7. Timing Zero hour: 2300 Duration of attack: 2254-2318

Primary blind-markers.	25 Lancs. at zero - 5	
Visual markers.	2 Halb.) at zero - 3	
	6 Lancs.)	
	8 S.Lancs.) from zero - 1 to zero + 18	
	12 Halb.)	
Visual backers-up.	3 Halb.) from zero - 1 to zero + 18	
	22 Lancs.)	
Supporters.	4 Halb.) at zero - 5	
	28 Lancs.)	
Main Force.	116 Lancs. from zero to zero + 4	
	97 Halb. from zero + 4 to zero + 8	
	96 Halb. from + 7 to zero + 11	
	85 Lancs. from zero + 11 to zero + 15	
	117 Lancs. from zero + 14 to zero + 18	
	16 A.T.O. aircraft throughout the attack.	

8. Marker loads

Primary blind markers.	16 a/c: 4x3 hooded flares + 2 green T.I. (1LB) 1 red spot.
Visual markers.	9 a/c: 4x3 hooded flares + 2 green T.I. (1LB) flare (P/G stars)
Blind backers-up.	8 a/c: 4x3 hooded flares + 8 red T.I. (4LB)
	20 a/c: 1x3 flares (P/G stars) + 1 flare (G/G stars) + 4 green T.I. (2LB)

* 8 of these aircraft (special Lancs.) were also to carry 1 red spot.

Visual backers-up. 25 a/c: 4 green T.I. (2LB)

9. Eversiens 13 Mosquitoes and 20 Lancs. were to carry out a feint attack on Berlin at zero - 7, dropping red and green T.I. and H.E., aiming at fires if any were still burning from the previous night's attack. 1 Mosquito was to drop green T.I. and H.E. on Magdeburg at zero - 7; the T.I. were to be bombed a minute later by 3 Mosquitoes, after they had dropped ~~maximum~~ WEDG.

10. WINDOW WINDOW was to be dropped at the rate of 2 bundles per minute within 40 miles of the target, in both directions; and one bundle per minute for the rest of both outward and homeward routes.

...../SORTIES.

STATISTICS

(a)	No. of aircraft despatched.....	648
(b)	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	530(81.9%)
(c)	" " " " " alternative area.....	21(3.2%)
(d)	" " abortive sorties (tech. defect or navig. error....38) (sickness of crew..... 2) (collided with British a/c..... 2)	42(6.4%)
(e)	" " aircraft missing.....	55(8.5%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

Over Basen:- 10/10ths. medium cloud and increasing; strato-cumulus; but in East Anglia, only broken strato-cumulus. Slight intermittent rain in Lincolnshire and Yorkshire after 2200, with much cloud at 1,500'. Moderate to good visibility. Strong S.W'ly surface winds.

Route:- 10/10ths. high cloud over North Sea, breaking at 05° E.; thence, variable amounts of low cloud (5-10/10ths) at 8-10,000'. Static and light icing at 20,000' over sea. Moderate to good visibility.

Magdeburg:- Very variable patches of thin cloud, 2-9/10ths., tops 10,000'. No moon. Good visibility.

Winds at 20,000':- 270-280°/50-55 m.p.h. over North Sea, veering to 30°/55-60 m.p.h. over Bight and backing to 395°/55 m.p.h. over target.

AIR PHOTOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

(a)	No. of photographs examined.....	454
"	" " aircraft plotted in target area (ground detail.....2) (fire-tracks.....1)	3
"	" " " " off " " (ground detail.....24) (fire-tracks.....230)	254
"	" " " " estimated to have bombed in target area (maximum.... (minimum.... (prob. figure.	6 3 5
"	" " " " " " within 3 miles (maximum.... (minimum.... (prob. figure.	69 32 59
(b)	" " " reporting attack.....	530

RELATIVE OF ATTACK

The attack opened prematurely, and 27 main force aircraft bombed before zero hour. The first 2 primary blind markers attacked at zero - 6; one has been plotted 2½ miles S. of the aiming-point. 4 were followed at zero - 5; 2 were plotted, 2 miles E. and 1½ miles E.S.E. of the aiming-point respectively. At this period, there were reports of red T.I. cascading, backed up by greens. As visual markers, being unable to identify the aiming-point, held their reds. The crew of one such aircraft explained that the dazzle of the early incendiaries prevented them from recognizing ground detail. The backing-up began at zero - 2, and continued throughout the attack. Only 2 backers-up were plotted, a visual aircraft 4½ miles S.E. at zero + 2, and a blind aircraft 1½ miles E. at zero + 8. The 28 unplotted photographs suggest that the raid was scattered; 19 showed open country free from fire-tracks, and none of the others revealed more than a few ticks of incendiaries. The fire-track photographs show, however, that a moderate concentration was achieved by zero + 5, probably in an area running N-S from Friedrichstadt (E. of the target) to Schönebeck (6 miles S. of the target), and mainly confined to ground E. of the Elbe. There is no doubt that the enemy made extensive use of decoy red and green T.I.

D.V. PERFORMANCE

15. Nearly all the damage caused by this attack occurred in the districts of Buckau, Fernerslohen and Salbke, which lie 1 1/2 - 3/4 miles S.E. of the centre of Magdeburg and contain many important heavy and general engineering works. (Engineering is the main industry of Magdeburg). P. Krupp Grusonwerke A.G. (priority 1+) and Maschinenfabrik Buckau R. Wolf A.G. (priority 1) both sustained major damage to important buildings; and the state railway repair workshops at Buckau and Salbke were hit, the former seriously. E. of Magdeburg, at Rethen a large camp of 60 huts was half devastated by fire. A few incidents of residential damage occurred in the main city area.

ALTERNATIVE TARGETS

16. 21 aircraft attacked alternative targets, in the areas of: Aschersleben, Basbeck, Bernburg, Blankenburg (2), Brandenburg, Bremer, Dassel, Brunswick, Cuxhaven, Dessau, Egeln, Erfurt, Hamburg, Harzgerode, Holstedt, Leipzig, Oschers-Wesermünde, and Wilhelmshaven (2).

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT

17. H2S

	Ik.	Des- patched	TRACKED			Bombed Blindly	No. which Dropped	
			H2S C.I.	H2S u/s	H2S- ing		R/P Flares	T.I.
Blind marker								
Illuminators	II	21	14	2	2	14	4	11
Secondary	II	13	7	3	2	7	4	6
Blind markers	III	7	5	1	1	5	5	6
Other	II	199	124	20	10	15	-	-
Sorties	III	2	-	-	1	-	-	-

Owing to cloud, conditions were not favourable for illumination and visual identification of the target, and only 3 of the blind marker illuminators dropped illuminating flares, the attack developing around the green T.I's. The night photographic evidence indicates that these mostly fell to the E. and the S. of the target. A No. III P.R.I. photograph has been plotted 2 1/2 miles E. of the

Berlin (spoof attack): 4 Y-aircraft took part in the spoof attack on Berlin, 3 of which bombed blindly on H2S. The fourth aircraft reached the target with unserviceable equipment.

ENEMY DEFENCES

18. Ground Defences The target guns provided moderate opposition, in the form of a loose barrage up to 20,000'. Searchlights were seen in the E. of the town, but were hampered by the cloud. Ballons were flying at 8,000'. Intense flak was encountered en route over the Elbe estuary, Bremerhaven, Cuxhaven, Wilhelmshaven, Heligoland and the Dutch islands. 13 aircraft were shot down by flak: 6 on the way out, including one by a flak-ship in the North Sea; 3 over Magdeburg; and 4 on the return route, including 2 over Bremen.

19. Fighters The running commentator ordered fighters to a beacon between Hamburg and Cuxhaven more than an hour before our bombers were due to cross the enemy coast; and to Hamburg 90 minutes before zero hour. At zero + 15, all fighters were ordered from Hamburg to Leipzig, but many had already made contact with the main bomber stream, and were therefore heading in the Leipzig direction. Magdeburg was not announced as the main target until zero + 22, but the fighters' route to Leipzig lay within 20 miles of the route-marks, which they must have passed just as they were being dropped by the returning bombers. 13 attacks occurred on the outward journey, resulting in 5 losses. 14 attacks, 10 other combats and 5-6 losses were reported over Magdeburg; and 7 attacks, 7 other combats and 2 losses on the return journey. There was little activity by

...../controlled fighters.

controlled fighters. The feint attack on Berlin may have caused some distraction. 3 enemy aircraft were shot down over the target: a He.110 by a Halifax, and 2 Ju.86's by Lancasters.

LOSSES

No. of aircraft missing.....	55 (8.5)
" " " damaged (flak.....)	30
" " " " (fighter.....)	20
" " " " (British incendiaries.....)	3
" " " " (collided with British a/c.....)	2
" " " " (other causes.....)	7
	62

Only half the losses can definitely be accounted for: 15 to flak and 14 to fighters. Most of the others were probably due to fighters. 2 Halifaxes and one Lancaster were wrecked in landing accidents, and another Halifax ditched.

BERLIN

12 Mosquitoes and 22 Lancasters were dispatched on a diversionary raid against Berlin. 11 of the Mosquitoes and 20 Lancasters reported attack, dropping red and green T.I. and H.E. through 3-10/10ths strato-cumulus. No fires were seen from the previous night's raid. Little flak was encountered, but one Lancaster was shot down by a fighter over the capital.

DOMART-EN-PONTILICU

PLAN OF ATTACK

5 OBOE Mosquitoes and 12 Lancasters of 517 Squadron were detailed to attack a military construction at Domart-en-Pontilicu. The Mosquitoes were to drop green T.I. on the aiming-point every 10 minutes, starting at zero hour (900). The leader of the Lancasters, (or his deputy) was to mark the aiming-point visually from a height of not more than 8,000' with a stick of 4 red spot fires, assisted by flares dropped by other Lancasters, between zero and zero + 10. The leader was then to estimate the accuracy of all T.I. and issue instructions to his force on VHF. If no instructions had been received by zero + 15, aircraft were to aim at the second T.I. dropped by Mosquitoes or, failing this, the third T.I.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

One Mosquito returned with OBOE failure, but the others dropped green T.I. at zero + 4 and zero + 18½. The leader of the task force released usually a salvo of red spot fires, which he reported to have fallen in the wood towards the N.W. corner of the target. The main force were instructed to attack if seen as the target was identified; all bombed between zero + 25 and zero + 40. Visibility was good, with no clouds. All the aircraft returned undamaged.

RECONNAISSANCE

Considerable damage was caused to the target, involving 2 skis, a small rectangular building, the launching point, a cable or pipe trench and an excavation on the N. side of the site. The target area was pitted with craters.

BRISILLIERES: JULY: FOIS DES HAUT RUES:

PLAN OF ATTACK

Each aiming-point was to be marked by 3 H.E. Mosquitoes on Channel 1, each dropping 2 red spot fires. These aircraft were to run in at zero, zero + 10 and zero + 20. Main force aircraft were to make carefully timed runs from the aiming-point so as to arrive exactly at zero hour, and were to aim at the centre of all visible red spot fires. If no markers were visible on arrival, aircraft

...../were to orbit and run in

were to orbit and run in again. Bombs were to be dropped in single sticks, and a false height setting was to be fed into the bombsight, so that the centre the stick should fall on the aiming-point.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

26. Bristillerie One Mosquito returned early; the others attacked at zero + 2½ and zero + 18. All the Stirlings bombed before zero + 11, on the first salvo of red spots. Visibility was good, although there was 5-8/10ths cloud; but intense and accurate flak was not from the target defences, co-operating with 15-20 searchlights. All aircraft returned safely, although one Stirling was badly damaged in a collision with another aircraft soon after taking off. 13 aircraft were plotted by night photographs, 10 of them in a group 300-1,500 yards to the E. and S.E. of the aiming-point. There is no evidence of where the markers fell.

27. Villy-le-haut-clocher Variable strato-cumulus (0-3/10ths) was met over the target, with tops at 5-6,000'. The first Mosquito attacked one minute early at zero - 4; the second released successfully at zero + 6; but reported interference and received its release signal 1 second late; and the third bombed at zero + 19½. 28 Stirlings attacked, at least 24 aiming at the first salvo of markers. There is no evidence of where the red spot fires fell, but 19 Stirlings were plotted by night photographs, 15 of them in a group 500-1,600 yards N.E. of the aiming-point. No opposition was encountered, and all aircraft returned safely, although one was damaged by a British bomb and another in a collision with a Stirling flying to Bristillerie.

28. Bois des Huit Rues The Mosquitoes attacked at zero - ½, zero + 12 and zero + 26. 30 Stirlings reported attack, 27 aiming at the first salvo of markers. One red spot fire has been plotted, 500 yards E. of the aiming-point (on the edge of the target area). 8 sticks of bombs were plotted: one running across the middle of the target from the S.W., 3 overlapping the N. and E. edges of the target areas, 2 nearly a mile to the E. and S.E. and one nearly a mile to the N. There was no cloud, and no opposition was met. All aircraft returned safely.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

29. Day cover was not obtained until several more small-scale attacks had been delivered.

Bristillerie No fresh damage had been caused to important elements. 40 craters were visible in the target area, and a great many more were scattered over open fields within a mile of the target.

30. Villy-le-haut-clocher Ski 2 received one direct hit and 2 near misses. Ski 3 had been stripped of its roof, and was surrounded by craters. The pipe/cable trench sustained a direct hit, and the launching point a near miss. Service roads leading to the target from the S. were damaged. Many craters were visible in open ground to the E. and N.E. of the objective.

31. Bois des Huit Rues A square building was shown to have sustained a near miss; and Ski 3 to have had a direct hit. The target area was pitted with craters.

OPERATIONS

32. 8 Mk. III OBOE Mosquitoes (5 PEWIPER and 3 FOUNTAIN-PEN) were despatched against Gutehoffnungshütte A.G. at Oberhausen. 2 PEWIPER and 2 FOUNTAIN-PEN aircraft made successfully controlled runs; one of each type experienced partial OBOE failure and bombed the primary area on D.R.; and the remaining 2 PEWIPER aircraft attacked Dusseldorf and Wesel respectively. There was no cloud over target. All aircraft returned undamaged.

...../RHEINLAUSEN.

MODELING

5 B-1 Mosquitoes were detailed against Fried Krupp A.G. at Rheinhausen. One made a successfully controlled run; 3 bombed on B-7 because of OBOZ failure; 1 the fifth abandoned its task over base for technical reasons. All returned safely.

MINING

8 Wellingtons laid 16 mines off St. Nazaire without incident.

LEAFLETS

14 Wellingtons from Training Groups dispersed leaflets over Northern and Central France; 2 others returned early. No casualties were sustained.

SEARCH

5 Mosquitoes of 100 Group carried out offensive patrols over enemy and enemy occupied territory, without sighting any hostile aircraft.

U.S.F.C.

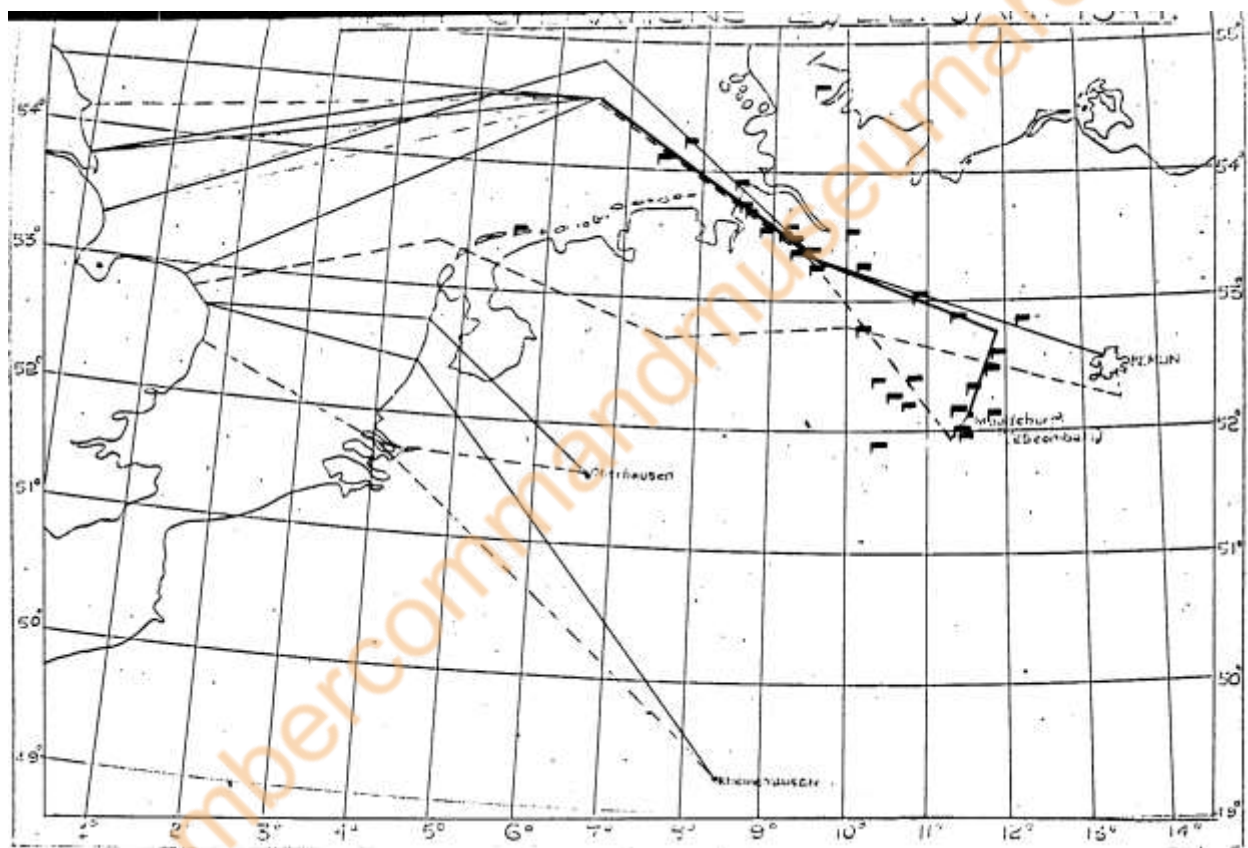
4 U.S. Fortresses dispersed leaflets over Northern and Central France; 1 returned early. No casualties were sustained.

1/JP
S. 26342/1/OPS4,
April, 1944.

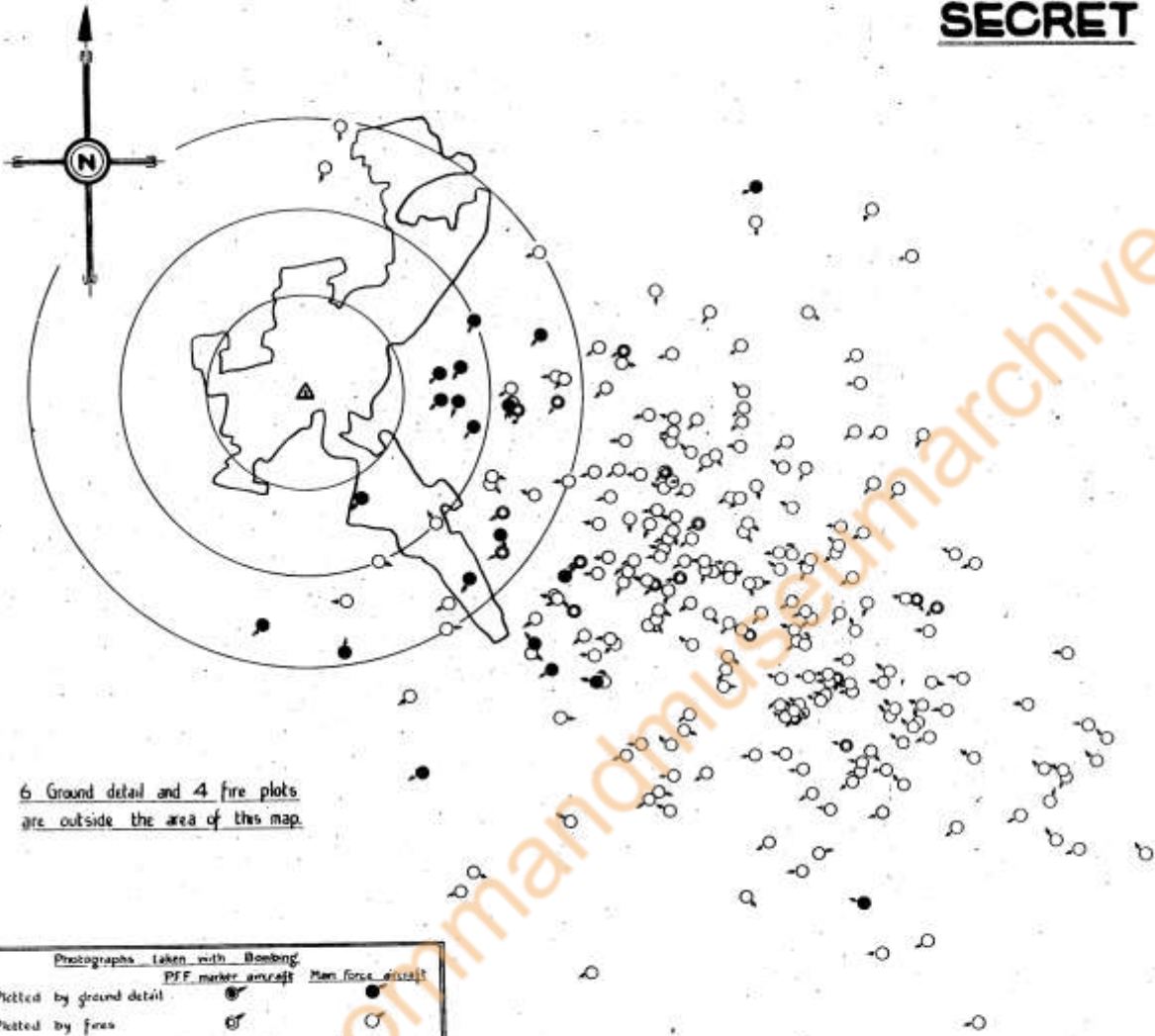
TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTED DOWN		ABORTIVE SORTIES		MIS- ID.	RESULTS				DIRECTIONS		RESULTS	
				PRM. AREA	LT. AREA	OVER S.T.	POT OVER S.T.		KILL	PIRATED	FISC. IN LIGHT	OTHER CAUSES	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED		
WELLS P. I. (S. 100)	91	Well. Io	4	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Well. X	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	92	Well. X	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	93	Well. X	7	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WELLS TOTAL			16	14	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SEALIFE	100	Heng. II	5	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
WELLS P. I.	WELLS	Portrean	5	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			435	700	25	1	53	54	3.0+2	15+11	13+6.0	41+25	40	39	-	-

* POT INCLUDED IN TOTAL

BCI/STD.
D. R. S. 2.



SECRET



6 Ground detail and 4 fire plots
 are outside the area of this map.

Photographs taken with bombing		
	PIF marker aircraft	Man force aircraft
Plotted by ground detail	●	●
Plotted by fire	○	○
Plotted	By ground detail	By fire
Within target area	2	1
Outside target area	24	230
Unplotted	25	172
No. of prints (with bombing) examined	464	

Scale: - 1 inch = 1 mile

OR9/BC 354B
 14-3-44 Trac/27
 R.F. 4/3/42 Col. 62

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BOMBER COMBINED REPORT OF NIGHT OPERATIONS

23/24th. JANUARY, 1944.

Dusseldorf: Coblenz: Huls: Duren: Aachen: Minelaying: etc:DETAILS

1. Dusseldorf 3 OBOE Mosquitoes (2 Mk.II PERWIPER and one Mk.I), supported by 16 non-OBOE Mosquitoes, were despatched on a harassing attack against Dusseldorf. The PERWIPER and one Mk.I aircraft made successfully controlled runs, and dropped red T.I. on the built-up area. 14 non-OBOE aircraft bombed the T.I., and one other non-OBOE aircraft and the second PERWIPER attacked on D.R. from GEE fixes. The remaining aircraft was unable to release its bombs over the target, and brought them back.

2. 2 Mk.I Mosquitoes attacked Rheinmetall Bersig A.F. at Derendorf, on OBOE. Another Mk.I aircraft made a successfully controlled run on the Rath branch of the same firm, while a PERWIPER aircraft detailed for the latter target bombed Erfeld on the failure of its precision device. 2 FOURMILE-PEN Mosquitoes were sent against Mannesmann Rohrenwerke in the N. of Dusseldorf; one bombed the primary, and the other attacked the city area because of OBOE failure.

3. Coblenz One G-H Mosquito was sent to Coblenz; but its device failed, and it attacked the city on D.R. from a GEE fix.

4. Huls 2 Mk.I Mosquitoes were despatched against the synthetic rubber plant at Huls; but both experienced OBOE failure. One attacked the town of Huls, and the other jettisoned over Enscheld.

5. Duren 5 Mk.I Mosquitoes were detailed against Durrer Metallwerke. One made a successfully controlled run; the others experienced OBOE failure, and attacked the city area.

6. Aachen 4 Mk.I Mosquitoes were sent to Aachen. One made a successfully controlled run; 2 attacked the city on D.R., and the fourth jettisoned.

All the Mosquitoes returned safely.

7. Minelaying 8 Stirlings and Wellingtons laid 23 mines off Cherbourg, Brest and Le Havre; a ninth returned early.

8. Met. Recce.: U.S.F.C. One Mosquito carried out an uneventful met. recce. flight; and 5 U.S. Fortresses dispersed leaflets over N. France.

WEATHER FORECAST

Midnight frontal positions:- (1) cold from 55 N. 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ E. - Breslau - Munich - Bordeaux (2) cold from 55 N. 17 E. - Leipzig - 48 N. 05 E. - 45 N. 04 E.

Base:- All fit at least until 0400, with good visibility and little cloud. A polar trough, passing over bases from the W., will cross the Greenwich Meridian at 22-2300, giving much cumulo-nimbus and anvil cirrus, with heavy showers; but conditions will rapidly improve.

Germany:- Heavy convection cloud to over 20,000' over North Sea, N. of 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ N. Cloud in several layers with heavy cloud to great heights, in frontal zones. Well broken cloud N. of the fronts, with clear areas and good visibility. Much cloud S. of the front at various levels, with showers.

...../Dutch and French coasts:-

Dutch and French coast:- 3/10ths. convection cloud between 50° 52'N., base 2,000', tops 10,000'. S. of 50°N., showers will become frequent and heavy, with 6-9/10ths. cirrus. Similar conditions will prevail N. of 52°N. until midnight, but then the wind will veer and bring heavy convection cloud towering to 20,000'. Freezing level 1,500' N. of 52°N., rising southwards to 2,500' at Brest.

SORTIES

		<u>Scab-</u> <u>ing</u>	
10.	(a) No. of aircraft despatched.....	37	
	(b) " " " reporting attack on primary area..	32	
	(c) " " " " " " " alternative area. 2	2	
	(d) " " abortive sorties (tech. defect).....	3	
	(e) " " aircraft missing.....	0	

WEATHER REPERCUSSION

11. Bases:- A belt of rain and showers affected East Anglia and the Midlands during the early part of the night, but moved rapidly eastwards, leaving well broken cloud and good visibility.

Ruhr:- 10/10ths. cloud, tops 24-26,000', was encountered as far as 05½ D., but this broke to small amounts over Düsseldorf. 10/10ths., tops 26,000', over Luren, Huls, and Aachen. 3/10ths. over Coblenz. Good visibility.

N.W. France:- Little cloud at Brest. Well broken cloud at 1,500' Cherbourg. Much cloud at 1,000' over Havre.

ENEMY DEFENCES

12. 2 single-engined fighters were seen over the Ruhr, following condensation trails. One of these attacked and damaged a Mosquito at 25,000' over Düsseldorf where searchlights exposed in great numbers, although the flak was reported slight to moderate. Little opposition was met from the other targets, or mining areas.

CASUALTIES

13. No losses were sustained. One Mosquito was damaged by flak, one by fighter and a third in a landing accident.

PEM/JT.
EC/S. 26342/6/0824,
7th. April, 1944.

25/26th. APRIL 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	MESSAGE TYPE	SIGNALS	A/C REPORTING		INCIDENTS		PLS-LOG	EVIDENCE				INTERCEPTIONS		TOTAL (Area of Search)
				PRIL AREA	JT. AREA	C/MI E.T.	HOW OVT? E.T.		BLACK	FRAMES	TRAC. IN FLIGHT	OTHER CAUSES	PLCS-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED	
DORSET	8	Msg. IV	15	15	-	1	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	1	1	1. 16.3
		Msg. IX	10	9	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1.0	-	-	1. Area 1.8
DORSET TOTAL			25	22	1	1	1	-	1	1.0	-	1.0	1	1	.9
COLENS	8	Msg. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1. .9
HULL	8	Msg. IV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. -
		Msg. IX	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1. Area .9
HULL TOTAL			2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.9
DURAN	8	Msg. IX	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. .9
		Msg. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1. Area 3.6
DURAN TOTAL			4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	.9
BOYDING TOTAL			37	32	2	2	1	-	1	1.0	-	1.0	1	1	
MINEL. YAC.															
BOYDING	1	Msg. Y	6	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10 mines
CHENOWETH	3	Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12 mines
LEHMAN	3	Stir. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 mines
MINEL. YAC. TOTAL			9	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20 mines
NET RECOR	8	Msg.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LE-PLATS	SUBCO	Fortress	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			47	41	2	2	2	-	1	1.0	-	1.0	1	1	

BOYDING
O.R.G. 3.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRID AREA.
LE-PLATS AT:- LILLY; GAGGAI; PATRICK; JONES; TOWN;

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BOHEMER COMBAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

25/26th. JANUARY, 1944.

Pas de Calais: Bristillerie: Aachen: Leaflets: etc.

SUMMARY

Small forces of Stirlings and Lancasters, led by Mosquitoes, attacked military constructions in the Pas de Calais and on the Cherbourg peninsula. Other Mosquitoes bombed Aachen and carried out recce. flights, while Wellingtons from Training Groups dispersed leaflets over Northern France. One Wellington did not return.

WEATHER FORECAST

Frontal movements:- No major fronts are expected during the night over the British Isles, or over Germany W. of 20° E., but both countries may be traversed by minor troughs in the polar air.

Bases:- Mainly fine with good visibility; but a narrow belt of rain will advance southwards during the early evening, leaving medium cloud over Southern Groups at 1800 hours. This cloud may present icing difficulties. Conditions will rapidly improve, and remain good.

Germany:- Heavy convection cloud over North Sea, broken W. of 50° E., with tops below 15,000', but towering above 20,000' further east, with squally showers of hail or rain. Heavy convection cloud will penetrate some distance inland, but in the areas of the Ruhr, Middle Rhine, Leipzig, Hildesburg and Stuttgart, there should only be patches of residual cloud, with good clearances. Frankfurt: even chance of less than 5/10ths. 7/10ths en route, increasing locally to 10/10ths. W. of the target.

France:- Heavy convection cloud and squally showers in N.W. Good clearances in eastern and central areas. Well broken cloud in S.W.

Wind at 20,000': W/70-60 m.p.h. over British Isles and W. Germany. 50-70 m.p.h. over E. North Sea. 50-50 m.p.h. over S. Germany.

AILLY-LE-VAI-CLOCHER: BOIS DES HUIT RUES:
BRISTILLERIE: PREVAL:

PLAN OF ATTACK

Each aiming-point was to be marked by 3 0.00 Mosquitoes with green T.I., at 10-minute intervals starting at zero hour. Markers were only to be dropped after satisfactory runs. At the 3 first-aimed targets, the main force aircraft (Stirlings) were to wait in the neighbourhood until T.I. were visible, and then bomb the centre of them. At Preval, the main force was to consist of Lancasters of 617 Squadron; the leader, or his deputy, was to mark the aiming-point visually (aided by flares dropped by the main force) with a stick of ruby spot fires between zero and zero + 10, from a minimum height of 3,000'. After assessing the accuracy of all T.I. dropped, he was to instruct the main force on W.M.P. If no instructions had been received by 3 + 15, the main force were to aim at the second salvo of T.I. or, less preferably, the third. Zero hours: 1950 at Ailly, 2040 at Bois des Huit Rues, 2250 at Bristillerie and 2340 at Preval.

SORTIES

		<u>Ailly</u>	<u>8 Ruas</u>	<u>Bristilleric</u>
1.	(a) No. of aircraft despatched.....	23	22	20
	(b) " " " reporting attack on prim. area.....	22	12	20
	(c) " " abortive sorties.....	1	8	0
	(d) " " aircraft missing.....	0	0	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCE

5. Bases:- Convection cloud and rain cleared from East Anglia soon after dusk, and conditions remained fine for the rest of the night.

Targets:- Variable strato-cumulus, tops 5-7,000'; average 5/10ths. Cloudless areas. No moon. Good visibility.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

6. Ailly-le-haut-clocher The first Mosquito had complete OBOE failure, the second did not attack until zero + 13 $\frac{1}{2}$. The third bombed at zero + 26. Stirlings attacked on the markers between zero + 16 and zero + 35.

7. Bois des Huit Ruas. 2 Mosquitoes returned with OBOE failure. The third released greens at zero + 23. 7 Stirlings abandoned their task after several orbits because no T.I. were visible; the rest attacked between zero and zero + 36.

8. Bristilleric All 3 OBOE Mosquitoes released after satisfactory runs, at zero - 4, zero + 8 and zero + 26. All the Stirlings bombed between zero and zero + 16, aiming at the first or second salvo of greens.

9. Preval 2 Mosquitoes marked the target at zero + 7 and zero + 15. The deputy leader dropped red spot fires at zero + 5 and zero + 6 $\frac{1}{2}$, 2 of them landing within 50 yards of the aiming-point and another within 100 yards. The Lancas attacked between zero + 13 and zero + 43.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

10. Ailly-le-haut-clocher Photographic cover obtained on 3rd. and 5th. February, dealing with all attacks on the target up to that date, showed numerous craters in the north of the target area, and outside to the north and north-west. Ski 2 received a direct hit and 2 near misses. Ski 3 was surrounded by craters and had had its roof stripped. A direct hit was scored on the pipe cable trench, 3 more on service roads south of the target, and 3 more on the approach road to the village from the west. The launching-point sustained a near miss.

11. Bois des Huit Ruas Cover obtained on 30th. January dealt with all craters since 14th. January. Numerous craters were visible in the target area including near misses on a square building and the open end of a half-ski, and direct hit on ski 3.

12. Bristilleric Between 21st. January and 3rd. February, 40 craters were caused in the target area, and many more in open fields within a mile of the aiming-point. No fresh damage had apparently been caused to important elements.

13. Preval Between 14th. January and 4th. February, 7 craters were caused in the N.W. of the target area, and 4 more blocked the approach roads.

ENEMY DEFENCE

14. No attacks by enemy aircraft were reported, although 4 fighters were seen in the Abbeville area, and 3 over the Cherbourg peninsula. Searchlights were active at Bristilleric, co-operating with heavy flak and a little light flak. Slight flak was reported from the other targets.

...../C. BRILLIANT.

3.

RESULTS

All aircraft returned undamaged.

MISSION

14 OBOE Mosquitoes (5 Mk.I, 5 Mk.II PENWIPER and 4 Mk.II FOUNTAIN-PEN) were despatched on a harassing raid againstachen. All attacked the target, (4 Mk.I, 3 PENWIPER and 3 FOUNTAIN-PEN) by means of their precision devices, and the rest on D.P., because of OBOE failure. Slight to moderate flak was encountered; no searchlights exposed. All aircraft returned undamaged.

RESULTS

18 Wellingtons from Training Groups were sent to scatter leaflets over Northern France. 17 completed their task; the eighteenth was lost without success.

RECON.

One Mosquito of 8 Group carried out a successful noct. reconnaissance flight.

U.S.P.C.

5 Portresses dispersed leaflets over Northern France without incident.

W/JT.

26342/2/OPS4,

2 April, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	ALLEGED TYPE	SORTIES	A/C RESOURCES		ATTACK ON		BOOMBAYERS		INC.	FLAK	FIGHTERS	RESC. IN FLIGHT	OTHER CAUSES	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	Tonn of Bombs D.E.
				PRIME AREA	ALB. AREA	UNDER E. T.	NOT OVER E. T.										
BRISTOL	8	Mon. IV.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 83.7
	P.F.F.	Mon. IX.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	3	Star. III.	17	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BRISTOL TOTAL			20	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LILLY-LA-HAUT-CLOCHER	8	Mon. IX.	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 91.5
	P.F.F.	Mon. IX.	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	3	Star. III.	20	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LILLY-LA-HAUT-CLOCHER TOTAL			21	22	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BOIS-DES-HUIT-RUES	8	Mon. IX.	1+1 ^x +1 ^o	1 ^x +1 ^o	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 58.9
	P.F.F.	Mon. IX.	19	17	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	3	Star. III.	19	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BOIS-DES-HUIT-RUES TOTAL			20+1 ^x +1 ^o	12+1 ^x +1 ^o	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PREVAL	8	Mon. IX.	1+2 ^x	2+1 ^x	-	1 ^x	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 47.3
	P.F.F.	Mon. IX.	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	3	Imm. I.	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
PREVAL TOTAL			13+2 ^x	13	-	1 ^x	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lachen	8	Mon. IV.	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 8.9 Area 3.6
		Mon. IX.	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	LACHEN TOTAL			14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BOOMBAYERS TOTAL			93	81	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leaflets		Well. III.	3	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	92	Well. V.	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Well. IC	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Well. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Well. X.	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEAFLET TOTAL			18	17	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Det. Recog.	8	Doc.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Leaflets	8	O.S. S.C.	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			109	99	-	9	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

Not included in Grand Total
 DCB/FFD
 O.R. 5.3.

^xAlso attacked Lilly-la-haut-clocher.
^oAlso attacked Preval.

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4 MAY 1944

4 MAY 1944

NIGHT BOMBING REPORT NO. 515

TIME

COPY NO. 16

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

27/28th. JUNE, 1944.

BERLIN: Heligoland: Lochen: Herbowville: Mandelving: etc:

SUMMARY

530 Lancasters and Mosquitoes were sent to Berlin, and delivered a squaring attack through thick cloud. 32 aircraft (6%) were lost.

Halifaxes made a diversionary raid on Heligoland; Mosquitoes attacked Lochen and Herbowville; Wellingtons and Stirlings laid 326 mines in enemy waters; other Wellingtons scattered leaflets over France; and Mosquitoes carried out intruder patrols. One Stirling was lost minelaying.

WEATHER FORECAST

Fronts:- A cold front will lie at 1900 from Stettin - Hannover - East Anglia - S. Ireland; and at midnight 600 miles further S. over Germany, and near the south coast of England.

Bases:- All fit at least until 0200, with well broken convection cloud and excellent visibility. After that time, seriously bad weather may come in from the Atlantic.

Germany:- Heavy convection cloud over E. North Sea, with tops to great heights. Broken convection and strato-cumulus and good visibility N. of the front. Narrow belt of precipitation in frontal zone, but heavy cloud should not extend above 12,000'. S. of the front, 10/10ths. strato-cumulus, with base 1,000' and tops not above 10,000'; moderate visibility. Route to Berlin: well broken cumulus to enemy coast and probably as far as 10° E.; tops nowhere above 10,000'. Then 10/10ths. to target, base 1,000', tops 8-10,000'. Berlin will see have very thin patchy medium cloud and extensive cirrus. 10/10ths. all the time.

Winds to Berlin (20,000'):- 270°/30 m.p.h. over E. North Sea, decreasing toward over Germany to 60 m.p.h. at about 50°E.

BERLIN

ROUTE OF ATTACK

Route 53 45'N. 04 30'E. - 51 55'N. 10 10'E. - 52 35'N. 11 50'E - BERLIN
 16'N. 13 50'E - 50 50'N. 12 10'E - 50 30'N. 07 20'E. - 50 20'N. 01 32'E -
 base.

At zero + 185, all aircraft were to alter course 30° to port and fly on this course for exactly 10 minutes; then they were to set course for position 52 50'N. 11 50'E.

Route-marking On the way to the target, red steady flares were to be dropped at 52 00'N. 09 50'E. (20 miles S. E. of Hannover), and at 52 35'N. 11 50'E. (15 miles N. W. of Magdeburg); and at 50 31'N. 07 35'E. (33 miles S. S. E. of Berlin) on the return journey.

Method of attack Primary blind markers were to mark the aiming-point with red steady flares and release-point flares (green/red stars). Blind backers-up, spread about the attack, were to keep the aiming-point marked with green T.I. and red steady flares. / release-point flares.

release-point flares. Visual backers-up were to aim greens at the centre of Is (later at the centre of greens) with no overshoot; but if cloud obscured I., they were to hold their greens and bomb the release-point flares on a heading of 102°M. Supporters were to bomb blindly, if possible, otherwise on usual identification after a D.P. run, without waiting for the blind markers; but if the latter had already attacked, they were to bomb the centre of reds, or release-point flares on a heading of 102°M. 30 Lancasters of 1 Group, preferably Y-aircraft, were also to act as supporters, aiming at any T.I. visible; if there was thick cloud, bombing blindly or attacking defences in the target area. Main Force aircraft were to aim at the centre of all visible greens, or release-point flares on a heading of 100°M.

<u>Timing</u>	<u>Zero hour:</u> 2030	<u>Duration of attack:</u> 2028 -2042
Primary blind markers.	13 Lancs. at zero - 2	
Blind backers-up.	23 Lancs. from zero to zero + 12 (2 per min., but one only at zero +5, +7 and +12).	
Visual backers-up.	22 Lancs. from zero to zero + 12 (2 per min., but one only at zero, zero +5, +7 and +12).	
Supporters.	26 Lancs. of 8 Group) at zero - 2 30 Lancs. of 1 Group)	
Main force.	126 Lancs. from zero to zero + 4 125 Lancs. from zero + 4 to zero + 8 125 Lancs. from zero + 8 to zero + 12 16 A.B.C. aircraft throughout the attack.	

Marker loads

Primary blind markers.	13 a/c: 1x4 flares (G/R stars) + 4 red T.I. (2LB)
Blind backers-up.	8 a/c: 2x4 flares (G/R stars) + 2 green T.I. (LB)
Visual backers-up.	15 a/c: 1x4 flares (G/R stars) + 4 green T.I. (2LB)
	22 a/c: 4 green T.I. (2LB)

* Special Units.

(N.B.: Primary blind markers of 7 Squadrons and blind backers-up of 7 and 97 Squadrons were to carry 2 red steady flares internally; and primary blind markers and blind backers-up of 83, 155 and 405 Squadrons one red steady flare internally.)

WINDOW WINDOW was to be dropped at the rate of one bundle per minute at a point 40 miles from the target; 2 bundles per minute within 40 miles of the target in both directions; and one bundle per minute for the rest of the route, until the supply was exhausted.

Diversions etc. 3 Mosquitoes were to drop WINDOW at the rate of 2 bundles per minute from the Dürmer See until their supplies were exhausted. 6 Mosquitoes were to drop spoof route markers (yellow T.I.) at 52 43'N. 09 12'E. (30 miles S.E. of Bremen), and, leading from them, a line of spoof fighter flares. 9 Mosquitoes were to attack Berlin at zero - 4, dropping WINDOW at 3 bundles per minute for the last 30 miles into the target and at 2 bundles per minute out of the target; and were later to drop spoof fighter flares and routemarkers at 53 00'N. 13 40'E. (30 miles N. of Berlin). 6 Mosquitoes were to bomb Berlin between zero + 50 and zero + 70, aiming at the centre of all visible fires. 12 Mosquitoes were to drop spoof routemarkers (green T.I.) and H.E. on Lachen between zero + 125 and zero + 59. 21 P.F.P. Halifaxes were to make a diversionary raid on Heligoland at zero - 75, dropping green T.I. and H.E. on H2S, and releasing 2 bundles of WINDOW per minute from 04°E. to the target.

ORILL

1.	(a) No. of aircraft despatched.....	530
	(b) " " " reporting attack on primary area.....	449(84.7%)
	(c) " " " " " alternative area.....	10(1.9%)
	(d) " " abortive sorties (tech. defect or manip. error.....	35) 39(7.3%)
		(sickness of crew..... 3)
		(chased by fighters..... 1)
	(e) " " aircraft missing.....	32(6.0%)

...../WEATHER EXPERIENCED.

EXPERIENCED

Bases:- Broken medium cloud for take-off. Strato-cumulus spread E. during operational period, because of the return of a weak warm front. Below 1,000' with light drizzle reached 91 and 92 Groups by 2200. Light precipitation lay at 0100 in a band covering Lüneburg and Norfolk, cloud generally at 1000-1500', with patches below. Cloud base rose again to 2,000' behind front, while rain ceased except in the extreme S. of 4 Group.

Route:- 3-6/10ths. convection cloud, tops 6-8,000', across North Sea, rising to 7-3/10ths., tops 10-12,000', over Holland. Towards Hannover, cloud layered and increased to 9-10/10ths. tops 6-10,000'. These conditions held all the way to the target and for the whole of the southerly return. Large amounts of cirrus at 30,000'.

Target:- 10/10ths. layer cloud, tops 8-10,000'. Good visibility.

1.

Winds at 20,000':- 290°/95-100 m.p.h. to 04° E., veering to 300°/95 m.p.h. N.E. to Berlin. 300°/90 m.p.h. on return (via Frankfurt).

PHOTOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

All but a few photographs showed 10/10ths. cloud. Too few were plotted to give any sure indication of the accuracy of the attack.

EFFECT OF ATTACK

The cloud was too thick for ground-marking, but a fair concentration of marker flares was maintained, except for one short period. The timing of pathfinders was good. There is no evidence of the accuracy of the bombing, crews' reports varied considerably, but there appears to have been a big up and down wind.

EXPOSURE

Full cover was not obtained until the middle of February, by which time the major attacks had been delivered against Berlin. Details of the damage revealed will be published in Night Raid Report No. 53.

ALTERNATIVE TARGETS

10 aircraft bombed alternative targets, in the areas of: Heligoland (2), Lüneburg (2), Boesterzweg, Texel, Groninger, Haselunde, Borkum and Sneek.

MARKINGH2S

	Des- Mk.	MARKED			Miss- ing	Binned Blindly	No. which dropped	
		patched	H2S C.S.	H2S u/s.			Flares	T.I's
Day	II	12	9	1	-	8	8	6
Markers	III	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Day	II	15	10	4	-	9	8	8
Markers	III	8	2	3	1	2	3	3
Day	II	146	105	28	6	30	-	-
Markers	III	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

The timing of the blind markers was good and a moderate concentration of marker flares was maintained until 2 + 12. 2 Y-photographs have been plotted, one which, taken at the moment of release, lies 3½ miles S.E.W. of the target, the other, taken 2½ mins. after release, about 5 miles S.W.

...../SEE INSTRUCTIONS

RESULTS OF MISSIONS

18. Ground defences Very little flak was met over the target. Heavy flak was fired in a loose barrage between 15,000' and 20,000', and light flak up to 10,000'. Searchlights could not penetrate the cloud, but illuminated its base for the benefit of night fighters. Some opposition was met en route from Leipzig, Magdeburg, Frankfurt, Bremen and Luecher, but the bombers were protected by cloud cover all the way. The most accurate fire came from the Dutch Prisons Heligoland and Stendal. 11 aircraft were shot down from the ground; 4 on the outward route at Ferschellin, Gradingen (both Pathfinder), N. of Meppen and N. of Brandenburg; 3 over the target; and 4 on the way home, at Frankfurt (2), S.E. of Leipzig and near Hagar.

19. Fighters Fighters met our aircraft much earlier than usual, being ordered out over the North Sea instead of waiting for the stream to approach the beacon around which they were orbiting. They first gathered at a point 80 miles W. of Amsterdam, and then, 2 hours before zero hour, were sent N. to a point 80 miles E. of Vlieland. At this stage, the controllers were distracted by the large number of bombers proceeding to Heligoland and the Kattegat, and tried to cover both forces, assembling the fighters near Gudhoben, and sending half of them towards Locumarden and the other half towards Spill. Berlin was identified as the main objective at about zero - 30, and shortly afterwards fighters were ordered to the combat.

20. Despite these efforts to intercept the bombers en route, little fighter opposition was met until Osnabruck was reached. When 9 combats and at least 10 losses occurred between here and Brunswick; and a further 7 interceptions and 2 losses between the route markers near Stendal and Berlin. 6 combats (all attacks) and 7 losses were observed over the target. Few fighters were seen during the early part of the return route, but there was some activity in the Frankfurt/Coblenz area, where the enemy was probably assisted by our route markers. One aircraft was lost N. of Torgau, 3 between Frankfurt and Coblenz, and one near Charleville; a total of at least 17 bombers lost in the West. 5 Group Lancaster destroyed a Bf. 190 between Berlin and Hildesburg on the way to the target.

CASUALTIES

21.	No. of aircraft missing.....	32 (6)
	" " " damaged (flak.....)	9
	" " " (fighter.....)	23
	" " " (non-combat.....)	10

As stated above, 11 aircraft are known to have been lost to flak, and 1 to fighter. 2 were probably destroyed in a collision near Osnabruck. The fate of the other 2 missing aircraft is unknown.

HELIGOLAND

22. 24 P.P.I. Halifaxes carried out a diversionary raid on Heligoland between zero - 77 and zero - 56, as laid down in paragraph 10. 12 bombed blindly on. There was a little patchy cloud over the target, and visibility was good. The main concentration of bombs fell in the dock area, which was identified by flarelight; a few searchlights exposed, and the island guns fired slight flak. 3 fighters were seen in the target area, and fighter flares were dropped S. of the target, but all the aircraft returned unharmed.

RESULTS

23. 12 OBOE Mosquitoes (4 Mk.I, 4 Mk.II PEWEEER and 4 Mk.III FOUNTAIN-PEE) were dispatched on another diversion to Luecher. 11 attacked the primary, between zero + 122 and zero + 109, 8 (3 Mk.I, 3 PEWEEER and 2 FOUNTAIN-PEE) because of their radio devices, and 3 (1 PEWEEER and 2 FOUNTAIN-PEE) because of OBOE failure. Green Y.F. were dropped as well as P.E. The other Mk.I jet-terminated in the sea because its artificial horizon was out of order. Little opposition was encountered, and no casualties were sustained.

ROUEN/LEANS

1. 5 Mosquitoes dropped spoof yellow route markers 30 miles S.E. of Bremen, and a lane of fighter flares leading from them. A sixth aircraft had to return early.

HERBOUVILLE

2. 9 OBOE 19s. I Mosquitoes were sent to attack the military construction at Herbouville (St. Valery). 7 made successfully controlled runs between 1910 and 2018, banking through 10/10th. low cloud. The other 2 sorties were abortive, one because of OBOE failure and the other because its bombs fell into the Channel on the outward journey. Reconnaissance showed a number of craters in the immediate vicinity of the aiming-point, but no damage to important elements, apart from a direct hit on a pipeline outside the target area. All the Mosquitoes returned undamaged.

HELVING

3. 80 Stirlings and Wellingtons were sent to lay mines off the Dutch coast, Texel and Horn's Reef, and in the Gutegat and Heligoland Light. The operation was planned as a diversion to the main attack on Berlin. 73 aircraft reached their targets, laying 326 mines in the correct areas, including 269 in the Light. 6 abandoned their task for technical reasons; and one was lost. There were reports of an aircraft falling in flames S.W. of Heligoland, but the cause is unknown. As described in paragraph 19, this diversion succeeded in puzzling the fighter controllers about the main objective of the bombers.

LE FLERS

4. 10 Wellingtons, manned by training crews, dispersed leaflets over Northern and Central France without incident.

SERRAIE

5. 12 Mosquitoes of 8 Group were sent on intruder patrols. 5 completed their task; the other 7 returned early, for technical reasons. A number of serrate contacts were made, but no interceptions.

U.S.P.O.

6. 5 Fortresses scattered leaflets over Northern and Central France without loss.

HM/JT.
BC/S. 26342/3/CRSL,
10th. April, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C. REPORTING ATTACK ON				ABORTIVE SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				RESULTS		
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E. T.	NOT OVER E. T.	FLAK	FIGHERS		MISC. IN FLIGHT	OTHER CAUSES	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED	Total of Bombs	H.E.	Inc.
BERLIN	8	Mos. IV	9	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 1003.5 A. 20.1 H. 64.5 64.7 25.6 51.8
	P.F.P.	Lanc. III	58	51	1	2	3	1	1	1 AC	1	-	-	3	10	-	
	8	Mos. IX	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	M.P.	Mos. IV	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lanc. III	26	25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	1	Lanc. I	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	SUP.	Lanc. III	25	22	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	1	Lanc. I	21	20	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	M.P.	Lanc. III	100	79	5	1	5	10	4	1 AC	1 AC	1 AC	1 AC	4	2	-	
		Lanc. I	15	3	1	-	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	
3	Lanc. II	40	32	-	1	5	2	1	1 AC	1 AC+1	1 AC+1 AC	-	1	1	-		
	Lanc. III	6	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	-		
	Lanc. I	45	39	1	-	-	4	12	1B	-	-	-	1	3	-		
5	Lanc. III	127	112	-	-	12	3	-	-	1 AC	1 AC	-	1	4	-		
6	Lanc. II	48	35	-	1	1	4	2	-	-	-	-	3	4	-		
BERLIN TOTAL			550	449	10	5	34	32	18+8	18+3AC	3AC+3	18+3AC	16	27	-		
ROUENMARKING	8	Lanc. IV	6	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
HELIGOLAND	5	Hal.	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60.0	
	P.F.P.	Hal. III	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	M.P.	Hal.	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
HELIGOLAND TOTAL			21	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
AACHEN	8	Mos. IX	10	9	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 5.4	
	Mos. IV		2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 2.0	
AACHEN TOTAL			12	11	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
HEERBOUWLE		Mos. IX	6	4	-	1	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 6.3	
		Mos. IV	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
HEERBOUWLE TOTAL			9	7	-	1	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			578	493	10	7	36	32	18+9	18+3AC	3AC+3	18+3AC	16	27	-		

.....

367

BERLIN, ROUTEMARKING, HELIGOLAND, AACHEN, SPECIAL TARGET, MINSLAYING, LEAFLETS, GERRATE
27/28th JANUARY, 1944.

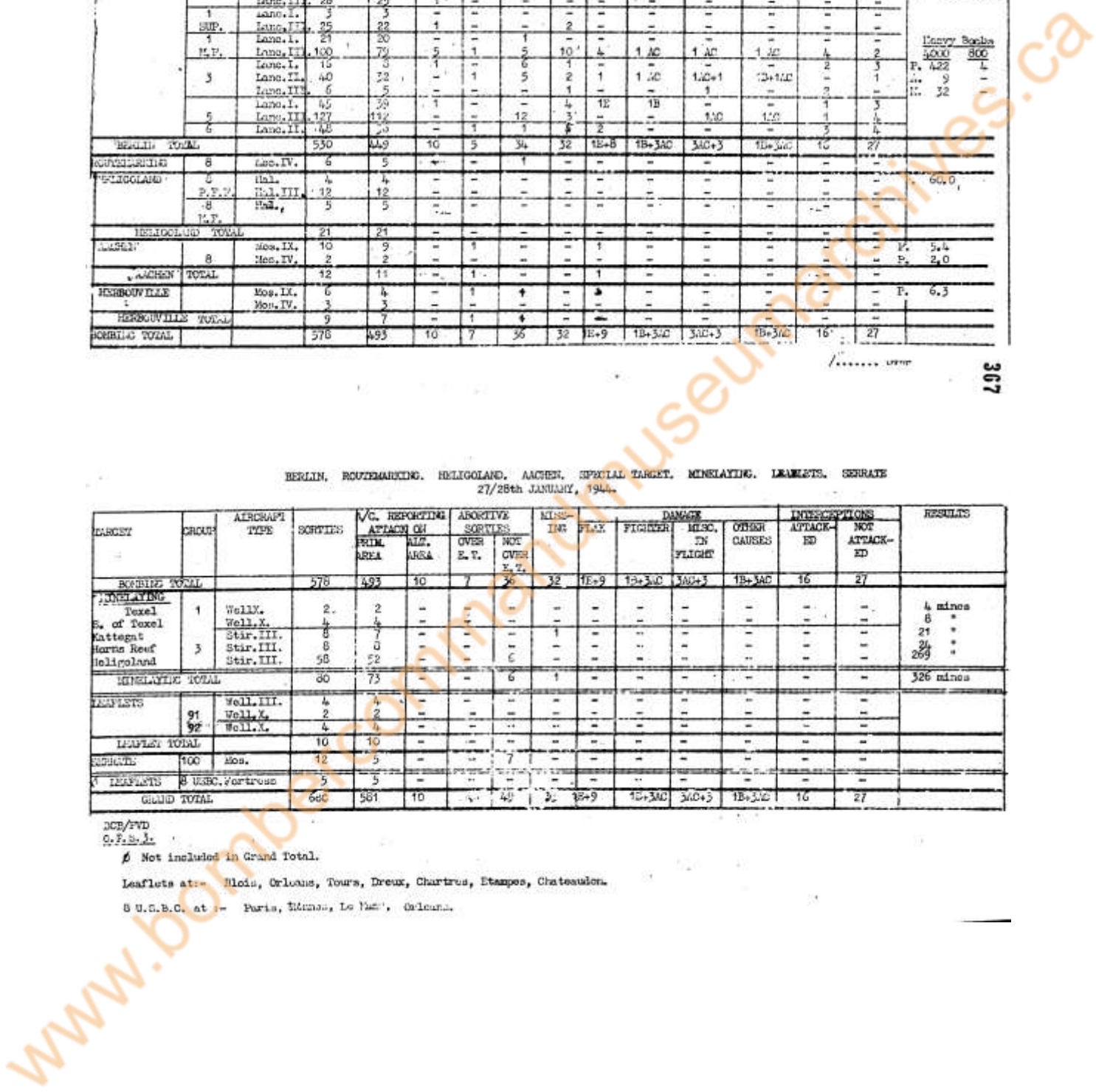
TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C. REPORTING ATTACK ON				ABORTIVE SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				RESULTS	
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E. T.	NOT OVER E. T.	FLAK	FIGHERS		MISC. IN FLIGHT	OTHER CAUSES	ATTACK-ED	NOT ATTACK-ED	Total of Bombs	H.E.
GRAND TOTAL			578	493	10	7	36	32	18+9	18+3AC	3AC+3	18+3AC	16	27	-	
MINSLAYING																
	1	Well. X	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 mines
		Well. X	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8 "
		Stir. III	8	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21 "
	3	Stir. III	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24 "
		Stir. III	58	52	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	269 "
MINSLAYING TOTAL			80	73	-	-	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	326 mines
LEAFLETS																
	91	Well. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Well. X	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	92	Well. X	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LEAFLET TOTAL			10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GERRATE	100	Mos.	12	5	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LEAFLETS	8 USEC. Fortress		5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			688	581	10	7	49	32	18+9	18+3AC	3AC+3	18+3AC	16	27	-	

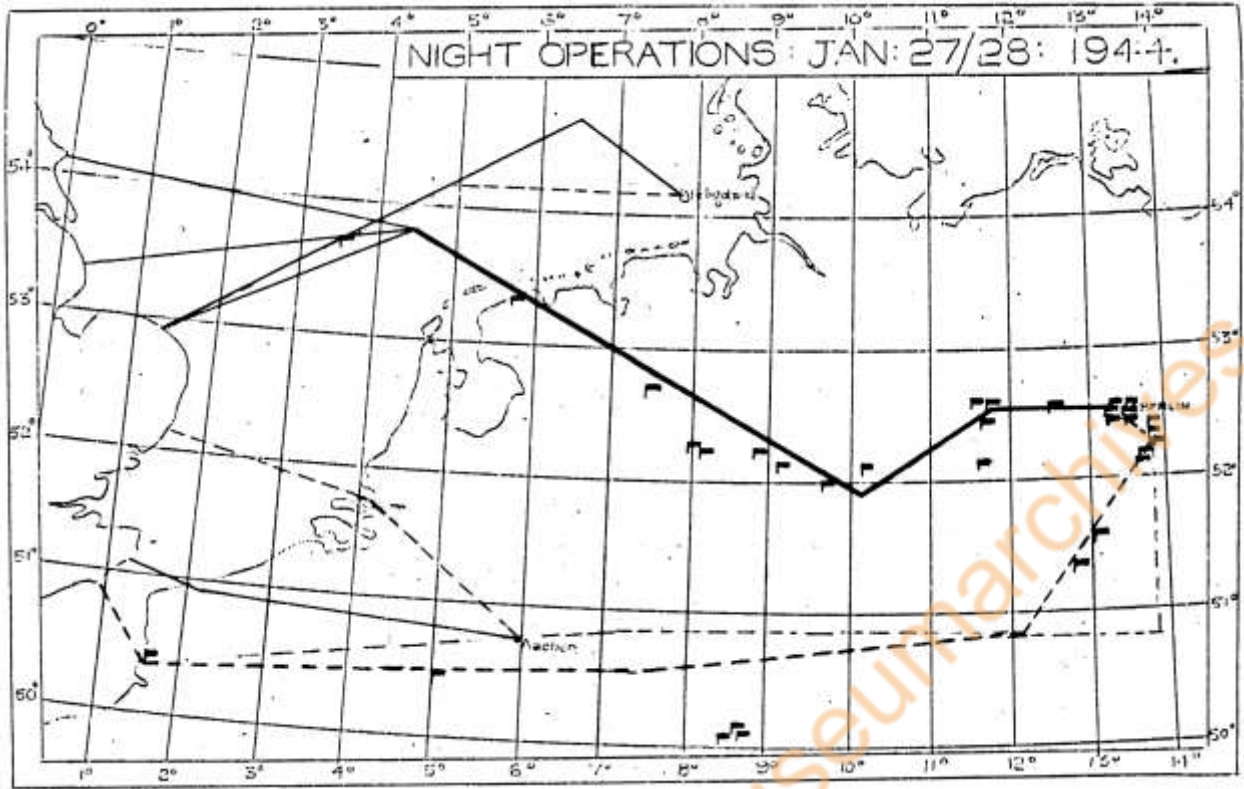
DCR/VD
C.F.S.L.

β Not included in Grand Total.

Leaflets at:- Blois, Orleans, Tours, Dreux, Chartres, Etampes, Chateaufort.

8 U.S.B.C. at:- Paris, Rennes, Le Mans, Orleans.





BOMB PLOT NOT AVAILABLE

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MAI 1944

TIME

NIGHT RAID REPORT NO. 516
COPY NO. 16

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

28/29th JANUARY, 1944

BERLIN : Hannover : Enemy Airfields : Himmelfahrt : Leaflets, etc.

BY

This attack was perhaps the most concentrated yet delivered against Berlin. City was covered with cloud, but there were breaks through which the T.I. could be clearly seen. A good concentration of sky-marker flares was also maintained; fire mosaic shows that about three-quarters of the aircraft obtained attack. All their bombs on the target. 43 out of the force of 685 aircraft were lost.

Earlier in the night, Mosquitoes carried out feint attacks on Berlin and Hannover, and precision raids against airfields in the Low Countries. A large force of Hurricanes and Halifaxes laid mines in Kiel Harbour, while other aircraft dispersed mines, and carried out intruder patrols and noct. reconnaissance flights. 2 Hurricanes and 3 Mosquitoes (including 2 of A.D.G.B.) were lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

At night frontal positions:- (1) warm front 55N 03E - Frankfurt - Munich.
Bases:- Pit all night, with much strato-cumulus at 1,500' or above, and visibility nowhere worse than 1 mile.
Germany:- Much strato-cumulus, tops nowhere above 10,000', base 1,000-2,500'. This in frontal zone. Berlin: Broken strato-cumulus and well broken medium cloud, low cloud increasing. Conditions at 0300: 10/10ths low cloud, thin broken cloud at 13,000', with clear lane beneath the top of strato-cumulus at 19,000'.
Winds over Berlin (20,000):- W. of front, 230°/60 m.p.h.; E. of front, 300-320°/m.p.h.
France:- As Germany. Patches below 1,000' in W.

BERLIN

ROUTE OF ATTACK

Route:- 5510'N 0700'E - 5510'N 1035'E - BERLIN - 5223'N 1345'E - 5235'N 1110'E - 5510'N 0700'E.

Route-Marking Red steady flares were to be dropped on the way out at 5510'N 0700'E (Road) and at 5313'N 1237'E (17 miles S.S.E. of Warem) and at 5400'N 1200'E (15 miles S.W. of Rostock) on the way home.

Method of Attack Primary blind markers were to mark the aiming-point with red and release point flares (red/green stars). Blind backers-up and special blind backers-up were to keep the aiming point marked throughout the attack with green T.I. release-point flares. Visual backers-up were to aim greens at the centre of reds (or at the centre of green) with no overshoot; but if no T.I. were visible, because of cloud, they were to hold their T.I. and bomb the release-point flares on a heading of 160°. Supporters were to bomb blindly if possible, otherwise aiming at the centre of all visible T.I., or at release-point flares on a heading of 160°. Main force aircraft were to aim at the centre of greens, or the centre of all release-point flares on a heading of 160°.

<u>Timing</u>	<u>Zero hour:</u>	<u>0315</u>	<u>Duration of Attack:</u>	<u>0313-0333</u>
Primary Blind markers	13 Lances.	}	at zero - 2	
	2 Hals.			
Blind backers-up	20 Lances.	}	from zero to zero+14 (2 per min.	
	3 Hals.		but one only at zero+2 and +9).	
Visual backers-up	24 Lances.		from zero to zero+14 (2 per min.	
			but one only at zero+2, +6, +9 & +12.	

/Supporters

Supporters	57 Lancs.) 5 Hals.)	at zero-2
Main Force	106 Lancs. 107 Hals. 65 Hals. 105 Lancs. 105 Lancs.	from zero to zero+3 from zero+3 to zero+6 from zero+6 to zero+9 from zero+9 to zero+12 from zero+12 to zero+15

8. Marker Loads

Primary Blind Markers	15 a/c: 1x4 flares (r/g stars) + 4 red T.I. (2 LB)
Special blind backers-up	3 a/c: 2x4 " " + 4 green T.I. (2 LB)
Blind backers-up	20 a/c: 1x4 " " + 4 green T.I. (2 LB)
Visual backers-up	26 a/c: 4 green T.I. (2 LB)

9. WINDOW WINDOW was to be dropped at the rate of 2 bundles per minute within 50 miles of the targets in both directions; and at one bundle per minute for the rest of both routes.

10. Diversions, etc. 6 Mosquitoes were to carry out an anti-morale attack against Berlin at zero-290, aiming at the centre of fires if any were burning from the previous night's raid, otherwise bombing on D.R. 6 more were to attack at zero-3, dropping WINDOW at the rate of 3 bundles per minute on the way in and 2 per minute on the way out, until their supplies were exhausted. 4 minutes after leaving the target, these aircraft were to begin dropping spoof fighter flares; and 40 miles S.W. of the target they were to drop spoof routemarker flares. An attack was to be delivered against Hannover at zero-60 by 6 Mosquitoes dropping T.I. and H.T. after they had released WINDOW at the rate of 2 bundles per minute from 5400'N 2400'E (off the N. Frisians).

Sorties

11.	(a) No. of aircraft despatched	633
	(b) No. of aircraft reporting attack on primary area	555 (3)
	(c) No. of aircraft reporting attack on alternative area	17 (2)
	(d) No. of abortive sorties { tech. defect or manip. error .. 49 icing 10 } ..	60 (1)
	(e) No. of aircraft missing	43 (6)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

12. Bases:- Moderate visibility all night. Little cloud until 0300, when 10ths low stratus spread from the S.W., affecting 3, 31 and 32 Groups by 0500, most bases S. of a line Wash - Bristol Channel by 07-0800.

Route:- Well broken strato-cumulus (tops 6,000'), increasing to 10/10ths at about 04³⁰E; thence, layers above 12,000', tops to 20-21,000'. Cloud broke thin over Danish Islands, but gradually increased again to 10/10ths (tops 10-12,000') over North German coast. Severe icing in cloud. Inland over Germany, thin layer cloud with large breaks. Similar for return.

Target:- 7-10/10ths total cloud, probably composed of a broken layer to 6,000' and another thin layer to 12-13,000'. Clear sky to S.E. of target. Good visibility through breaks. No moon.

NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

13. Few of the photographs showed ground detail, because of the cloud; and the sample was too small to give any picture of the course of the attack. A fire mosaic was, however, prepared and it was found that the orientation and spacing of strip patterns and water gaps (due to rivers and canals) on the mosaic matched the map plan within reasonable limits. The positions of aircraft at bombing were thus plotted from the fire mosaic.

/No. of aircraft plotted

19. Fighters 5 1/2 hours before the main force took off for Berlin, 67 Stirlings and Halifaxes were sent along the same route to lay mines in Kiel Harbour. At the same time, 3 Mosquitoes carried out a feint raid on the capital. Enemy fighters acted to these moves as to a large-scale bombing operation, although the route was too far to the N. to attract the whole of the defensive force. This phase of activity had ceased by 2156, over 5 hours before zero hour. The main bomber force was accurately plotted from 0110, when it was 200 miles west of the Danish coast. Comparatively few fighters, however, succeeded in penetrating the bomber stream en route, but those that did claimed at least 12 victims before the target was reached, 4 in the Sylt-Romo area, 2 near Aero Island, one at Rostock, 4 near the Hartz See and one at Neu Ruppen. Fighters were active over the target, where over 150 were sighted, and 27 combats took place, resulting in 6 further losses. Our aircraft were hotly pursued for the first 80 miles of the homeward route, 3 were shot down in combat within a few miles of the target; then, fighters were less active until our aircraft recrossed the Western coast of Denmark, where several twin-engined fighters were seen. 5 of our aircraft claimed to have destroyed 10 enemy fighters; one Me.109 by a Halifax of 4 Group, a F7.190 a Lancaster of 5 Group, Ju.88 by a Lancaster of 3 Group and a Me.109 and a Me.110 by Mosquitoes of 100

CASUALTIES

20. No. of aircraft missing 43 (6.3.0)
 (flak 15)
 No. of aircraft damaged { fighter 12 }
 (non-enemy action . 13)

As stated above, 7 bombers are known to have been lost to flak, and 21 to fighters. Most of the other losses were almost certainly due to fighters. 9 returning aircraft were wrecked beyond repair; one by flak, one by fighter and 5 in landing accidents or ditchings.

HANNOVER

21. 4 Mosquitoes carried out a feint attack against Hannover between zero and zero-50, dropping red T.I. and large quantities of WINDOW as well as H.T. returned unharmed.

AIRFIELDS

22. Deelen 6 OBOE Mosquitoes (4 Mk.I and 2 Mk.II FOUNTAIN PEN) were despatched against Deelen airfield. 3 Mk.I. aircraft made successfully controlled runs; Mk.II attacked on L.R.; and the other 2 abandoned their task for technical reasons.

23. Loeuwarden 6 Mk.I Mosquitoes were detailed to attack Loeuwarden airfield. All made successfully controlled runs.

24. Gilze Rijen 2 Mk.I, 2 Mk.II FOUNTAIN PEN and one Mk.II PENWIPER Mosquito were sent against the airfield at Gilze Rijen. All made successfully controlled runs.

25. Venlo 2 Mk.I, and 4 Mk.II PENWIPER Mosquitoes were despatched against Venlo airfields. All made successfully controlled runs. All the Mosquitoes on these operations returned unharmed.

MINELAYING

26. 63 Stirlings and 4 Halifaxes of P.M.F. were sent to lay mines in Kiel Harbour. The Halifaxes dropped green flares and T.I. at 5452'N 1024'E using 43 Stirlings made timed runs from these route-markers, and laid 129 mines in primary area. One of the Halifaxes also laid a mine here. Difficult weather encountered en route, with 1 1/10ths thick cloud and severe icing, and 10 Stirlings laid mines in alternate areas en route (27 off Horn's Reef and 3 in the Bight). 3 aircraft abandoned their task altogether; and 2 were lost. One was shot down off Sylt, probably by fighters; the fate of the other is unknown. One returning aircraft was damaged beyond repair by fighter attack.

LEAFLETS

16 Wellingtons from Training Groups were detailed to scatter leaflets over Northern and Central France. 14 completed their task. None was lost; but returning from Amiens, was wrecked in a landing accident.

SEPARATE : MET. RECON.

6 Mosquitoes of 100 Group and 22 of A.T.C.B. were despatched on intruder ops. 2 of the former claimed victories, destroying a Me.109 and a Me.110 respectively. One Mosquito of 100 Group and 2 of A.T.C.B. did not return. A Mosquito of 3 Group carried out a met. reconnaissance flight without incident.

U.S.B.G.

One Fortress attacked Emmerich; and 5 others scattered leaflets over Northern France. All returned undamaged.

14
16342/3/ORS4
1344

TARGET	GROUP	TYPE	SORTIES	ATTACK ON		SORTIES		DNG	FLAK	FIGHTER	MISC. IN FLIGHT	OTHER CAUSES	INTERDICTIONS		RESULTS
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.						ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	
BERLIN	P.P.F.	Hal.	4	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Tons of Bombs H.E. Inc. P. 1014.2 805.8 A. 22.3 30.0 M. 71.4 62.6
		Hal. III.	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Lang. III.	45	46	-	-	4	5	1	1.0	-	-	-	-		
	B	Hal. IX.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. IV.	8	6	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	M.P.	Hal.	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
		Lang. III.	24	18	2	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	
	1	Lang. I.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lang. II V.	26	24	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	7	Lang. I.	25	22	-	-	3	-	1	2.0	-	-	3	1	
		Lang. III.	73	57	1	-	2	3	-	-	-	-	1	4	
	3	Lang. I.	11	8	1	-	1	1	-	1.0	-	1.0	2	1	
		Lang. II.	23	10	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	2.0	1	4	
	4	Lang. III.	5	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Hal.		76	46	3	-	18	9	4	2.0+1	1	1E	5	5		
5	Hal. III.	58	37	4+1*	-	11	5	3	2	-	3E	7	7		
	Lang. I.	39	30	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	6		
6	Lang. III.	116	102	3+1*	-	4	3	7	2	-	1	1	3		
	Hal.	68	59	2	-	1	9	9	1.0	-	3E	1	13		
6	Hal. III.	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	1E	-	1E	1	4		
	Lang. II.	24	31	1	-	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-		
BERLIN TOTAL			583	455	13+2*	4	64	43	13+14	13+7.0	2	7E+3.0+1	28	57	Heavy Bombs 4000 8000 P. 364 - A. 8 - M. 16 -
HANNOVER	B	Hal. IV.	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
DEKLET	B	Hal. IX.	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 2.7 Tons Pearson 2 H.E.
		Hal. IV.	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DEKLET TOTAL			6	4	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEINWÄRDEN	B	Hal. IX.	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 5.4 tons H.E.
GILZE RIZEN	B	Hal. IX.	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 4.5 "
VERLO	B	Hal. IX.	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 5.4 "
		Hal. IV.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
"VERLO" TOTAL			6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BOMBING TOTAL			710	579	13+2*	6	64	44	13+14	13+7.0	2	7E+3.0+1	28	57	

BERLIN HANNOVER DEKLET LEINWÄRDEN GILZE RIJEN VERLO MINELAYING LEAFLETS SEBRATE MET. PROCS 20/29 JAN. 1944 (Cont.)

TARGET	GROUP	ALDGFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C. REPORTING		A/C. SORTIES		DNG	DAMAGE				ATTACKED		RESULTS
				ATTACK ON AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		FLAK	FIGHTER	MISC. IN FLIGHT	OTHER CAUSES	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	
BOMBING TOTAL			710	500	13+2*	6	64	43	13+14	13+7.0	2	7E+3.0+1	28	57	
MINELAYING KIEL HARBOR	B	Hal. III.	4*	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 mine Kiel Harbour
		Stir. III.	63	43	10	3	5	2	1+1.0	1E	-	-	2	2	129 " Holigoland 27 " Horn Reef
MINELAYING TOTAL			67	47	10	3	5	2	1+1.0	1E	-	-	2	2	160 mines
LEAFLETS	94	Woll. IC	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Woll. IO	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Woll. IO	5	5	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1E	-	
LEAFLET TOTAL			16	14	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1E	-		
MET. PROCS	B	Hal.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SEBRATE	100	Hal.	6	3	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
K(ET) SEBRICH (LEAFLETS)	J USED	Ports.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Ports.	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			800	645	25+2*	11	71	46	13+15	23+7	2	8E+13.0	30	59	

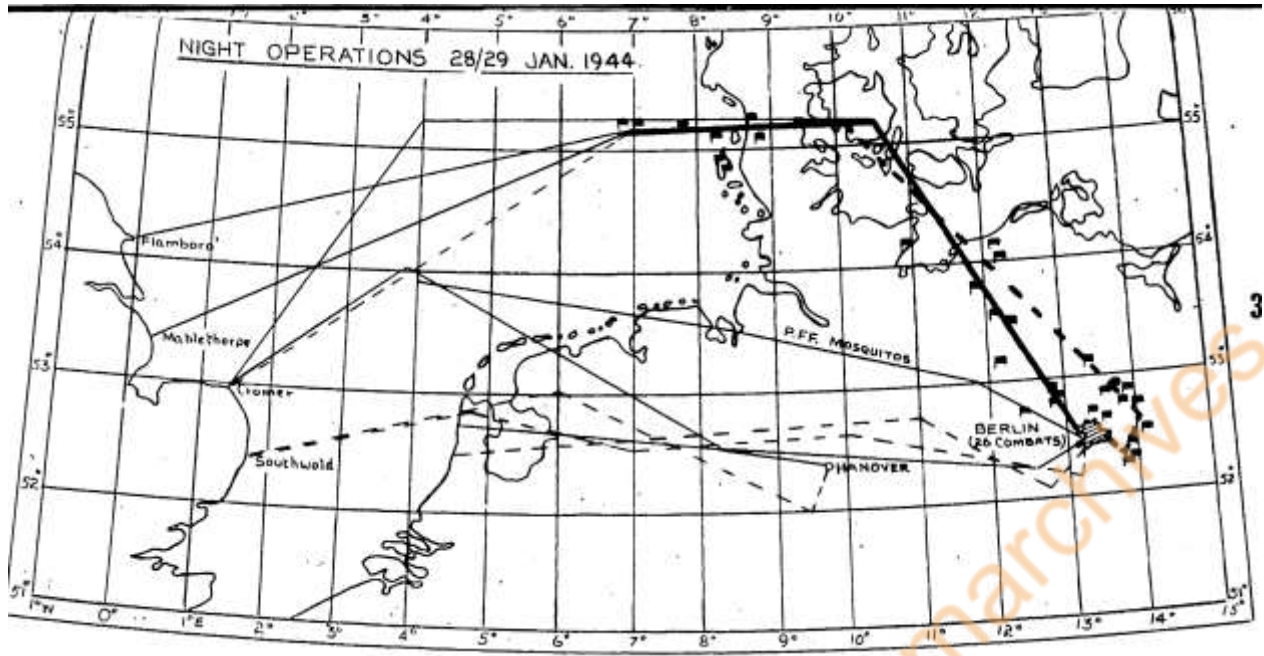
DRS/PVD.

DRS3. - X Not included in Grand Total

* Those a/o acted as Markers for 3 Group Minelaying.

Leaflets at:- Dorn, Cappel, Rensen, Jülich, Bonn.

Orleans, Abberville, Campagna, Arves, Cappel, Antenn, St. Quentin, Luce.



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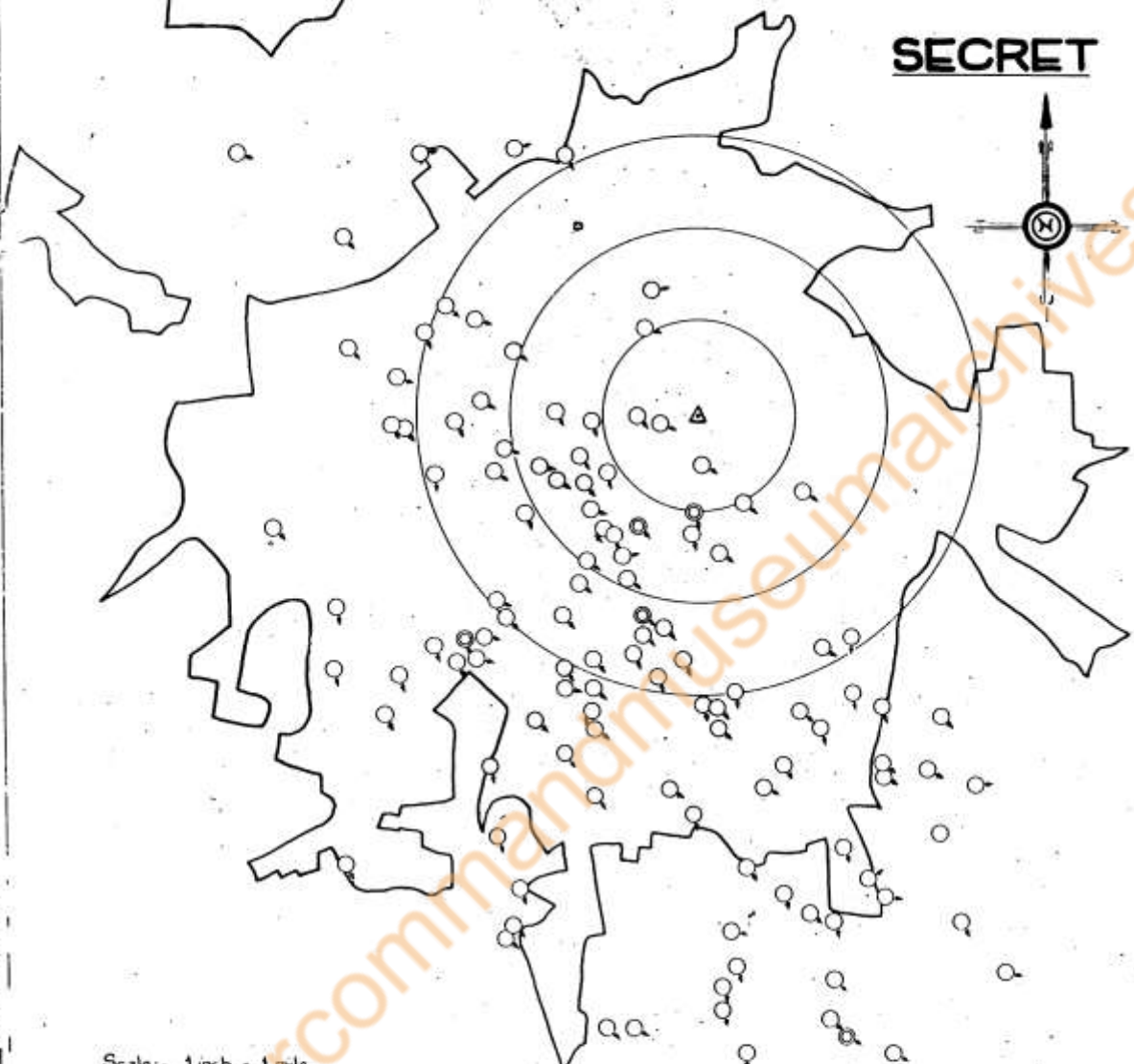
FINAL PLOT OF NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHS

TAKEN 28/29 JANUARY 1944.

TARGET : BERLIN

374

SECRET



Scale:- 1 inch = 1 mile

Photographs Taken with Bombing		
	PFF marker aircraft	Man force aircraft
Plotted by fire	○	○
Plotted	By fire	
target area	87	
Outside target area	35	

CRJ/c 3708
15 1 44 fJ
REF: RR 11-
516 4D 24

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS.

29/30th. JULY, 1944.

Duisburg: Herbeuville: Leaflets: etc;

SUMMARY

1. Duisburg 6 C-47 Mosquitoes (2 Mk.I, 2 Mk.II P-109 and 2 Mk.II P-109A), together with 6 non-C-47 Mosquitoes, were dispatched against Vereinigte Stahlwerke A.G. at Duisburg. All the C-47 aircraft, except for one Mk.I, made successfully controlled runs, and dropped red T.I., which were bombed by the other Mosquitoes. All returned safely.
2. Herbeuville 10 Mk.I Mosquitoes were sent to attack the military construction at Herbeuville, near St. Valery. All made successfully controlled runs, and returned undamaged.
3. Leaflets, etc. 6 Whitleys and 5 U.S. Percherons dispersed leaflets over Northern France; and a Mosquito carried out a net. recon. flight; all without loss.

WEATHER FORECAST

4. Bases:- Strato-cumulus with a few tracks, base 1,000' in S., 1,500' in N. Moderate visibility - good beneath cloud.

Continent:- Much strato-cumulus over N. France and Germany, base 1,000-1,500', locally 600-1,000' in coastal areas, tops 5,000'. Any medium cloud above will be very thin and well broken, except near the warm front at 16°E., where it will be variable. Well broken strato-cumulus over Central France.

SORTIES

		<u>Load-</u> <u>ing</u>	<u>Leaf-</u> <u>lets</u>
5. (a)	No. of aircraft dispatched.....	22	6
(b)	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	22	6
(c)	" " " missing.....	0	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. Bases:- Fit all night, with well broken cloud and moderate visibility.
- Duisburg:- 10/10ths. strato-cumulus, tops 8,000'. Good visibility.
- Herbeuville:- 10/10ths. strato-cumulus, tops 2-3,000'. Good visibility.

ENEMY DEFENCES

7. No fighters were seen. Moderate and inaccurate heavy flak was met from Duisburg, where no searchlights exposed. The target at Herbeuville was undefended.

RESULTS

8. All aircraft returned safely. One Mosquito on Duisburg, and one Whitley were slightly damaged by flak.

WEM/JT.
EC/S. 26342/6/0:54,
9th. April, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	ALTIMETER TYPE	SORTIES	ATTACK ON		REMARKS		ENG	FUEL	FIGHTING	DEAD IN FLIGHT	OTHER CLAIMS	DAMAGED	NOT ATTACKED	
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.								
DUISBURG	8	Mos. II.	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 8.4 tons P. area 7 H.E.
		Mos. IV.	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DUISBURG TOTAL			12	12	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
HERSOUVILLE	8	Mos. III.	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 8.9 tons H.E.
		Mos. IV.	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
HERSOUVILLE TOTAL			10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BOBBIK TOTAL			22	22	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
LEAFLETS	91	Whitley	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
REP. RECCE	8	Mos.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEAFLETS	8 USDC.	Fortress	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			29	29	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	

* Not included in Grand Total

RCL/PVD

C.P.S. Leaflets at:- Lille, Tours, Lorient, Nantes, Rennes

:- Alencon, Le Mans, La Fleche

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

30/31st. JANUARY, 1944.

BERLIN: Brunswick: Elberfeld: Winklowing: Langflats: Serrate:

GENERAL

1. 540 Lancasters, Halifaxes and Mosquitoes were dispatched to Berlin, on the fourteenth major raid against the German capital in eleven weeks. A concentrated skymarking attack was delivered through 10/10ths. cloud. The German wireless admitted that "extensive areas" of Berlin were hit, and that heavy damage was caused to cultural monuments, etc. 33 bombers (6.1%) were lost.

2. Mosquitoes carried out a diversionary raid on Brunswick, and a precision attack on a ball-bearing works at Elberfeld. Stirlings were sent to lay mines in the Gironde estuary, and Wellingtons to scatter leaflets over France; while Mosquitoes made intruder patrols, shooting down 2 German fighters. No further losses were sustained.

WEATHER FORECAST

3. Basis:- Variable strato-cumulus, base 1,500'. Moderate visibility, with fog forming in flat gradients after 0100.

Germany:- A weak front will lie at midnight from Hamburg to just N. of Berlin. Much strato-cumulus (except S. of 49°N.) tops 5-8,000'. Berlin: low cloud layered up to 8-10,000', with medium cloud layered to 15,000', and well broken cloud above. No cloud above 10,000' en route, except thin and well broken layers; and cirrus at 20,000'. Very low cloud and poor visibility along N.W. German coast and Bight.

BERLIN

PLAN OF ATTACK

Route 54 33'N. 07 00'E. - 54 33'N. 11 00'E. - BERLIN - 52 00'N. 13 25'E - 52 00'N. 09 20'E. - 52 40'N. 08 00'E. - 52 50'N. 07 00'E.

(Pathfinders were to go from base to 54 33'N. 05 00'E., and then follow the same route).

Skymarking Primary blind markers and blind backers-up were to drop red steady flares at 54 36'N. 08 50'E. (3 miles off Danish coast) and at 53 13'N. 12 13'E. (61 miles N.W. of Berlin) on the way out; and at 52 06'N. 12 12'E. (24 miles S.E. of Magdeburg) on the way home.

Method of attack Primary blind markers were to mark the aiming-point with red T.I. and release-point flares (R/G stars). Blind backers-up and special blind backers-up were to keep the aiming-point marked throughout the attack with green T.I. and release point flares. Visual backers-up were to aim greens at the centre of reds (later at the centre of greens) with no overshoot; but if no T.I. could be seen for cloud, they were to hold their greens and bomb blindly, otherwise aiming at release-point flares on a heading of 150°. Supporters were, if possible, to bomb on H2S after visual identification, or on a good D.R.; but if their equipment was unserviceable, and markers had been dropped, they might aim at the centre of all T.I., or at release-point flares on the above heading.

..... 30 Lancasters of 1 Group

30 Lancasters of 1 Group were to join the supporters, aiming at any T.I. visible otherwise bombing blindly or on a good E.T. Main force aircraft were to be at the centre of all visible greens, or at the centre of all release-point flares on a heading of 155°E.

7.	<u>Timing</u>	<u>Zero hour:</u> 2015	<u>Duration of attack:</u> 2013-2021
	Primary blind markers.	12 Lancs. } 3 Halls. }	at zero - 2
	Blind backers-up.	24 Lancs. } 30 Halls. }	from zero to zero + 12 (3 a/c per min. but 2 at zero +1, +3, +8, +12). (*including 7 special Lancs.)
	Visual backers-up.	15 Lancs.	from zero to zero + 12 (1 a/c per min. but 2 at zero and zero + 1).
	Supporters.	30 PFF Lancs.) 30 1 G. Lancs)	at zero - 2
	Main Force.	113 a/c from zero to zero + 4 119 a/c from zero + 4 to zero + 8 117 a/c from zero + 8 to zero + 12 15 a/c throughout the attack.	

6. Marker loads

Primary blind markers.	1x4 flares (R/G stars) + 4 red T.I. (2LB)
Blind backers-up.	1x4 flares (R/G stars) + 4 green T.I. (2LB)
Special blind backers-up.	2x4 flares (R/G stars) + 4 green T.I. (2LB)
Visual backers-up.	4 green T.I. (2LB)

7. WILLOW WILLOW was to be dropped at the rate of one bundle per minute the way out; 2 per minute within 50 miles of the target in both directions; one per minute for the rest of the way home.

8. Diversions etc. 5 Mosquitoes were to drop green T.I. and H.T. at Bra at zero - 20. 9 Mosquitoes were to drop WILLOW and H.T. over Berlin at zero and afterwards lay a line of spoof fighter flares and spoof route markers at 52 20'N. 14 10'E. (43 miles S.E. of Berlin). 5 Mosquitoes were to bomb fire Berlin between zero + 50 and zero + 80.

SORTIES

9.	(a) No. of aircraft despatched.....	510
	(b) " " " reporting attack on primary area.....	456
	(c) " " " " " alternative area.....	6
	(d) " " abortive sorties (tech. defect or manp. error).....	37
		(icing..... 3)
		(sickness of crew..... 2)
		(flk..... 1)
	(e) " " aircraft missing.....	33

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

10. Bases:- Variable amounts of strato-cumulus at 2-3,000' for take-off, moderate to good visibility. Patches of very low stratus (base below 1,000' spread from the S.W. and affected most of the S. Midlands by midnight. By most areas S.E. of a line Hunter-Bristol were covered. Visibility remained moderate except locally in the Midlands and S. Yorkshire, where mist and fog became widespread towards dawn.

Route:- Little or no low cloud before 04-05°E., thence 9-10/10ths. cumulus, tops 4-8,000', rising gradually to 12-14,000'. Similar for return; cleared to 0/10ths. from Dutch coast. Small patches of cirrus over North and Continent, increasing to a small belt of 1/10ths. at 05°E., base 25-28,000'/tops 32,000'

17,500'.

Target.- 7-10/10ths. strata-cumulus, tops 10-12,000'. Quarter moon, setting about 4 hours after zero. Good visibility.

WIGHT PHOTOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

1. All photographs showed thick cloud.

PERIODIC OF ATTACK

2. The blind-markers tended to arrive late, in common with most aircraft on this night, but they kept a moderate number of release-point flares burning through at the attack. One Mk.III aircraft took a Y-photo, at the moment of release, which has been plotted $\frac{1}{2}$ mile N.W. of the aiming-point; this crew reported a good concentration of flares in the area in which they bombed. Late squitos reported a large area of conflagration, with smoke rising above the cloud.

WIGHT RECONNAISSANCE

3. Day cover was not obtained until the middle of February. Details of the target then revealed, including the results of 9 major raids, will be published in Night Raid Report No. 530.

ALTERNATIVE TARGETS

4. 8 aircraft bombed alternative targets, in the areas of: Bruck, Heligoland, Lur, Schleswig, Terschelling (2), Texel and Borkum.

WIGHT EQUIPMENT

H23

	Mk.	Des-patched	ATTACKED		Miss-ing	Bombed Blindly	No. which Dropped	
			H23 C.K.	H23 u/s			R/P Flares	T.I.'s
Primary	II	13	10	2	-	10	7	7
Blind Markers	III	2	1	-	-	1	1	1
Secondary	II	27	18	2	3	18	14	14
Blind Markers	III	7	4	2	1	4	1	3
Other								
Statistics	II	151	106	24	9	27	-	-

WIGHT DEFENCES

5. Ground defences In the early stages of the raid, the heavy guns fired a barrage of moderate intensity to 25,000', but the strength of this decreased as fighter flares appeared, and the ceiling lowered to 15-18,000'. Much light flares were fired to 16,000', mostly concentrated round the target flares. Searchlights illuminated the base of the cloud, which they were unable to penetrate. The most serious opposition en route was met from the coastal defences, and over Schleswig-Holstein, but everywhere crews remarked on the accuracy rather than the intensity of the fire. One aircraft was shot down over the target, one near Ruppen and 3 in the area of Den Helder.

6. Fighters The fighter controllers again attempted to intercept our aircraft before they made landfall, but failed; and little opposition was met until our aircraft reached the head N. of Schwerin. From this point there occurred a series of combats, mostly in the neighbourhood of the route-markers S.W. of the Murtz See. 6 aircraft were lost in combat before reaching the target; one near Ruppen, one near the Schwerin beacon and 4 near the Murtz See route-markers. Combats took place over the target, but only 5 losses were observed. Strong fighter opposition continued for the first 100 miles of the return route, resulting in the loss 30 miles S. of Berlin and another near Heffen; and Benite-controlled

fighters destroyed 5 bombers in the coastal region, and 50 miles out to sea. Lancasters destroyed 4 fighters: a Ju. 30 and an Me.110 on the last leg of outward route, and a Me.110 and a Me.210 en route. Intruding Mosquitoes shot down 2 Me.210's in the Stade and Berlin areas.

CASUALTIES

18.	No. of aircraft missing.....	33
	" " " damaged (Flak..... 4)	
	(fighter..... 13)	22
	(non-enemy action..... 5)	

5 aircraft were seen shot down by flak, and 11 by fighters. 2 collisions were observed, one N.E. of the Zurich Sea and one over Berlin. collisions were reported by any returning crew, so that at least 4 aircraft have been lost in this way. Most of the other losses were almost certainly to fighters. One Halifax was wrecked in a landing accident; and 2 Lancasters irreparably damaged by fighters.

FRUNSWICK

19. 4 Mosquitoes carried out a diversionary attack on Brunswick between zero - 22 and zero - 17. One aircraft dropped green C.I. on H28, which was bombed by the other aircraft as they cascaded. One Mosquito returned early with engine trouble. No opposition was encountered, and no casualties were sustained.

ELBERFELD

20. 22 OPOE Mosquitoes (12 Mk.I, 5 Mk.II BEWIPER and 5 Mk.I POUZAIN-RE) were despatched on a precision raid against the flagger ball-bearing works at Elberfeld. 10 aircraft (2 Mk.I, 4 BEWIPER and 4 POUZAIN-RE) made successful controlled runs, although one BEWIPER released incorrectly. 6 (4 Mk.I, one BEWIPER and one POUZAIN-RE) bombed the city area on D.T., because of CECB failure; 1 Mk. I aircraft attacked Cologne; and 2 Mk.I aircraft returned early for technical reasons. Slight flak was encountered; no casualties were sustained.

HELSING

21. 12 Stirlings were sent to lay mines in the Gironde estuary. The target was covered with 10/10th. cloud down to 300'; 10 aircraft were unable to get on; one abandoned its task because of engine trouble, and only one laid its mines. All returned safely.

LEAVENS

22. 22 Wellingtons from Training Groups dispersed leaflets over Northern France without loss.

SERRATE

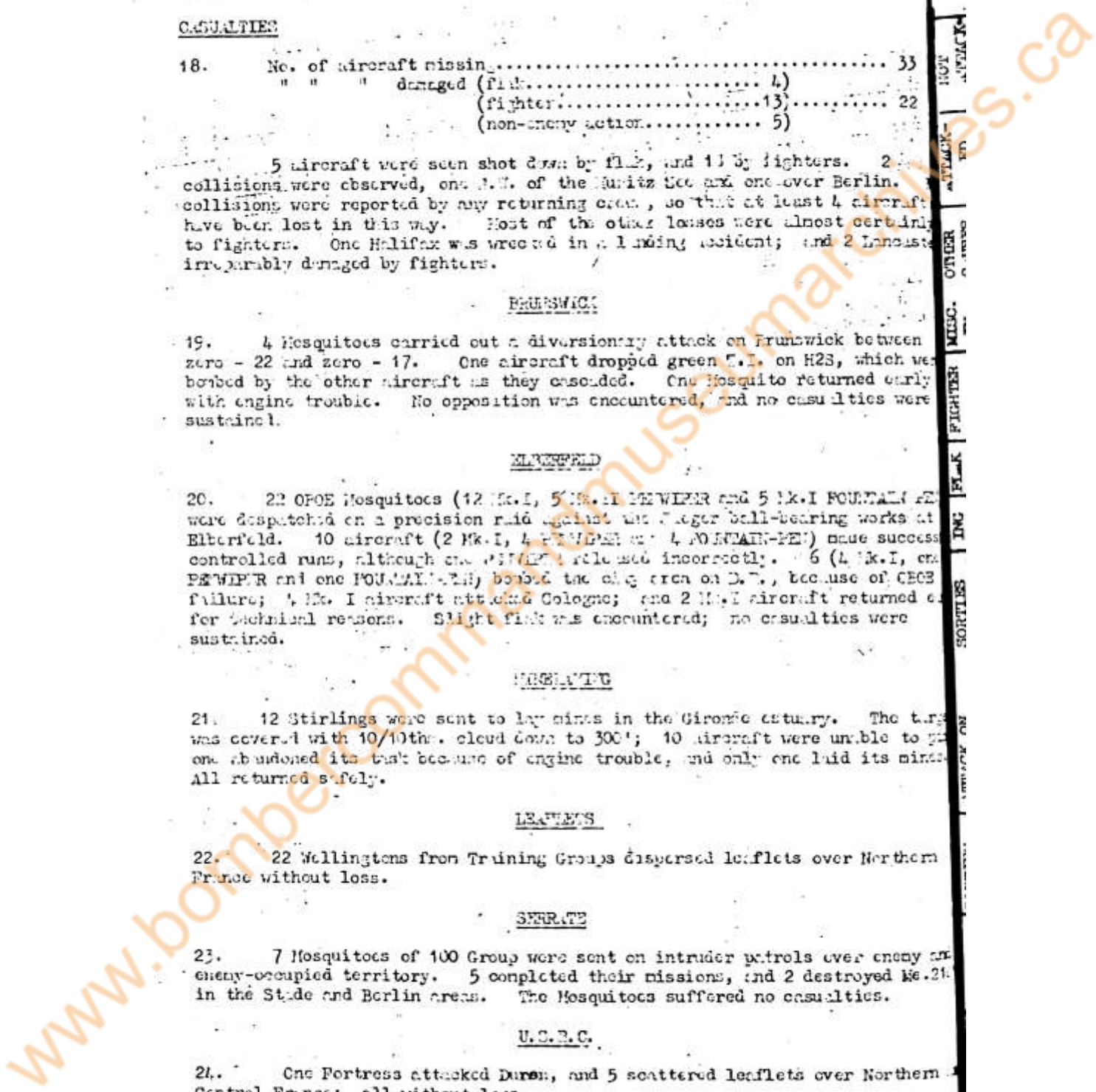
23. 7 Mosquitoes of 100 Group were sent on intruder patrols over enemy and enemy-occupied territory. 5 completed their missions, and 2 destroyed Me.210 in the Stade and Berlin areas. The Mosquitoes suffered no casualties.

U.S.R.C.

24. One Fortress attacked Duren, and 5 scattered leaflets over Northern Central France; all without loss.

ML/JT.
BC/S. 26342/2/ORS4,
11th April, 1944.

HOT ATTACKS
ATTACKS
OTHER
MISC.
FIGHTER
FLAK
ING
SORTIES



	TYPE	SORTIES	ATTACK ON SORTIES				DNC	FLAK	FIGHTER	MISC. IN FLIGHT	OTHER CAUSES	ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED	
			PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E. T.	NOT OVER E. T.								
BERLIN	0	Mos. IV.	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Tons of Bombs H.E. Inc. P-989.6 837.3 M. 78.8 94.6 Heavy Bombs GCOO 4000 P. 7 353 A. 1 14
	P.F.F.	Hal. III.	13	11	2	-	-	-	1AC	-	-	1	1	
		Lans. III.	50	39	-	1	5	5	2	1B+1C	-	4	4	
	8	Mos. IX.	5	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	H.F.	Lans. III.	30	27	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	1	Lans. I.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Sup.	Lans. III.	29	25	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	
	1	Lans. I.	25	10	1	-	2	1	-	2E	-	2	2	
	H.F.	Lans. III.	74	65	1	-	6	2	-	2AC	-	3	6	
	3	Lans. I.	9	7	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	6	2	
		Lans. II.	27	21	-	-	3	3	-	1C	-	1	2	
		Lans. III.	8	5	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	
4	Hal. III.	38	45	-	2	12	-	-	1	1AC	1B	9	8	
	Lans. I.	42	37	-	1	1	3	-	1C	-	1	2		
5	Lans. III.	114	101	1	1	3	8	1	3+1AC	3	6	13		
	Hal. III.	10	9	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3		
6	Lans. II.	37	35	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	5		
BERLIN TOTAL		540	456	8	5	38	33	4	2E+1B+7C+3	1AC+3	1B	33	53	
BRUNSWICK	8	Mos. IV.	5	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 3.1 Tons H.E.
ELBERFELD		Mos. IX.	17	13	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	P. 8.0
	8	Mos. IV.	5	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Medium 6.3 Tons A. 3.6 H.E.
ELBERFELD TOTAL		22	16	5	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	
BOEING TOTAL		567	476	13	5	40	33	6	2E+1B+7C+3	1AC+3	1B	33	53	
MINELAYING Circles	3	Str. III.	12	1	-	10	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3 mines
LEAPLETS	91	Well. X.	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	92	Well. X.	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Well. IC.	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	93	Well. III.	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Well. X.	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LEAPLET TOTAL		22	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

/over

BERLIN BRUNSWICK ELBERFELD MINELAYING LEAPLETS SEGGATE

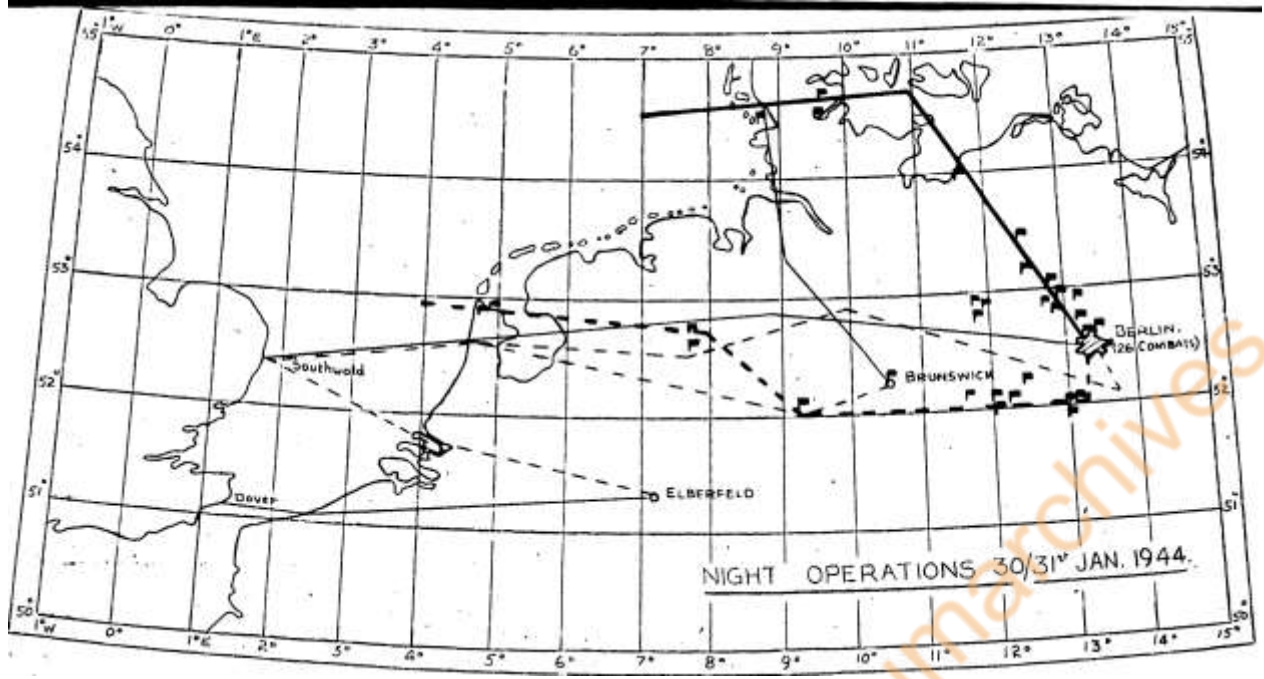
30/31 JANUARY 1944. (Cont.)

TARGET	GROUP	BOMBER TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON SORTIES				MISC. IN FLIGHT	OTHER CAUSES	INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS	
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E. T.	NOT OVER E. T.			ATTACKED	NOT ATTACKED		
SEGGATE	100	Mos.	7	5	-	-	2	-	-	-	-		
DUSSELDORF	8 USMC	Fortress	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LEAPLETS	8 USMC	Fortress	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL		608	504	13	15	13	33	6	2E+1B+7C+3	1AC+3	1B	33	53

x Not included in Grand Total.

Leaplets at - Brest, Chartres, Le Mans, Caen.
Orleans, Nantes, Chateaudun, Montargis, Douai, Arras.
Dunkerque, St. Quentin, Argentan, Lons-en-Ve, Chartres, Lille.BCR/PVD.
O.R.S. 3

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