

HEADQUARTERS
STATION 123 APO 558
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER

26 APRIL 1944

SUBJECT: S-2 REPORT, MISSION OF 25 APRIL 44. (MANNHEIM)

TO : _COMMANDING OFFICER, AAF 123, APO 558.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT OPPOSITION

1. APPROXIMATELY TWENTY (20) ENEMY FIGHTERS VARIOUSLY DESCRIBED AS ME 109'S AND FW 190'S ATTACKED THE LEAD FLIGHT OF THE LEAD SQUADRON AT 0855 HOURS JUST EAST OF VITRY, FRANCE. THE ATTACK WAS MADE FROM TWELVE TO ONE O'CLOCK HIGH OUT OF THE SUN AFTER THE E/A HAD SIMULATED THE ACTIONS OF FRIENDLY FIGHTERS ESCORTING THE FORMATION FROM SUFFICIENT DISTANCE TO BE UNRECOGNIZABLE.

2. THE TACTICS EMPLOYED WERE IN THE NATURE OF A SCISSORS ATTACK WITH HALF OF THE FIGHTERS SWOOPING DOWN THROUGH OUR FORMATION WHILE THE REMAINDER PASSED BELOW. ONE OF OUR A/C WAS SHOT DOWN AND TWO SUFFERED MAJOR BATTLE DAMAGE.

3. NO CLAIMS ARE MADE.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE

4. MEAGER TO MODERATE FLAK WHICH AT TIMES ACHIEVED FAIR ACCURACY WAS ENCOUNTERED ALONG THE ROUTE. SEVERAL CREWS REPORTED OBSERVING FIRE DIRECTED AT CHAFF.

OBSERVATIONS

5. ALMOST SOLID UNDERCAST PREVENTED OBSERVATIONS, BUT ONE CREW REPORTED CONSIDERABLE ACTIVITY IN REPAIR SLIPS OF DOCKS IN CANALS AT KARSRUHE AT 0937 FROM 21000 FEET.

CHARLES M. DERRY,
CAPT. AC,
GROUP S-2

25 April 1944

Barton-ISSSEL-Sawyer

K-21 : 362 A

C

Kingsley

K21 : 305 N ABORT

Woodward-WRIGHT-Marehand

K-21 : 366 B NTD

Gambo

K-20 : 335 R

Wells

K-21 : 441 I

Goldsmith

ABORT : 738 O

Brauer6

K-20 : 682 I

D

McNamara

: 288 L

Gentry

K-20 : 342 S

Melton

K-21 : 719 Q

Steward

K20 : 008 R

Hannagan

: 359 J

Gaines

ABORT : 735 S

Davis

ABORT 300 M

Weber-HEUSLER-Nosarzewski

K21 : 365 B

C

Neffrow

K-21 : 303 H

Claggett-FREEMAN

K-21 : 812 D

Clark

K-20 : 431 B

Zimmerman

K-21 : 457 Q ABORT

Andros

: 733 F

Davidson

K20 : 341 A

D

Mancker

: 706 F NTD

Oragna

K-20 : 455 O

Schaaf

K21 : 302 P

Rebeson

: 705 H

Gulick

ABORT : 340 M

Taylor

K 20 : 718 M

Ghar

: 721 L

Mission #41

FORMATION OVER COAST

25 April 1944

1ST SECTION

BARTON-Isbell
J362

Wells
441

BRADEN
682

COMBS
330

McNAMARA
288

GENTRY
342

HANNAMAN
359

MELTON
719

STEWART
008

CRAGG
485

2ND SECTION

WEBER-HANSLER
J365

Clagett-Fremont
J812

CLARK
J431

SCHAAF
302

ANDREW
733

DAVISON
J341

NEDROW
303

TAYLOR
718

ROBSON
705

SHAW
721

B-24J'S ARE SO MARKED : ALL OTHERS ARE B-24H.

COOTEN-ISELL
J362WELLS
441BRAUER
682MCNAMARA
288BENTLEY
342MILTON
719HANNAMAN
359STEWART
008CRAGUN
455DAVIDSON
J341CLARKE-FRANKMAN
J312NEDECK
303CLARK
J421ANDREW
733SCHAFF
302ROBERTSON
705WEGGE-HANSLER
J365TAYLOR
718SHAW
721

B-24J'S ARE SO MARKED: ALL OTHERS ARE B-24H

458th Pilots and Aircraft as listed on Formation Plans

DATE	TARGET	PILOT	458th Msn #	Pilot Msn#	Cmd Pilot	LD	Serial	RCL	Sqdn	A/C Msn #	A/C Name	MIA	Notes
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	ANDREW	27	6			41-28733	P	J4	19	RHAPSODY IN JUNK		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	BARTON	27	6	ISBELL	L1	42-100362	A	Z5	8	SWEET LORRAINE/BOOMERANG		SAWYER LEAD NAVIGATOR
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	BRAUER	27	15			41-28682	I	Z5	21	UNKNOWN 003		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	CLAGGETT	27	9	FREEMAN	D2	42-109812	D	7V	12	UNKNOWN 016		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	CLARK	27	11			42-100431	B	J4	13	BOMB-AH-DEAR		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	COMBS	27	11			42-52335	R	Z5	21	ADMIRABLE LITTLE CHARACTER	FTR	SHOT DOWN BY FIGHTERS
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	CRAGUN	27	13			42-52455	O	7V	18	PLUTOCRAT		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	DAVIDSON	27	9			42-100341	A	J4	12	SATAN'S MATE		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	DAVIS	27	ABT			41-29300	M	J4	--	LORELEI		ABORT
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	GAINES	27	ABT			41-28735	S	J4	--	UNKNOWN 005		ABORT
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	GENTRY	27	2			41-29342	S	J3	10	ROUGH RIDERS		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	GOLDSMITH	27	ABT			41-28738	O	Z5	--	MEAT AROUND THE CORNER		ABORT
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	GULICK	27	ABT			41-29340	N	7V	--	YANKEE BUZZ BOMB		ABORT
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	HANNAMAN	27	5			41-29359	J	J3	18	TAIL WIND		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	KINGSLEY	27	ABT			41-29305	N	Z5	--	I'LL BE BACK/HYPOCHONDRIAC		ABORT
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	MANKER	27	NTO			41-28706	F	J4	--	DREAM BOAT/SPARE PARTS		NO TAK EOFF
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	McNAMARA	27	2			41-29288	L	J3	7	BIG-TIME OPERATOR		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	MELTON	27	16			41-28719	Q	J3	16	PADDLEFOOT		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	NEDROW	27	9			41-29303	H	Z5	19	LIBERTY LIB		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	ROBESON	27	18			41-28705	H	J4	20	YE OLDE HELLGATE		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	SCHAAF	27	17			41-29302	P	7V	14	NOKKISH		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	SHAW, C	27	12			41-28721	L	J4	17	DOWNWIND LEG		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	STEWART	27	13			42-95008	R	J3	1	UNKNOWN 035		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	TAYLOR	27	17			41-28718	M	7V	23	BO		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	WEBER	27	12	HENSLER	L2	42-100365	B	7V	16	WOLFGANG (maybe)		NOSARZEWSKI LEAD NAV
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	WELLS	27	14			42-52441	I	J3	20	LAST CARD LOUIE		
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	WOODWARD	27	NTO	WRIGHT	D1	42-100366	B	Z5	--	MIZPAH		NO TAKE OFF - MARCHAND LEAD NAV
25-Apr-1944	MANNHEIM A/F	ZIMMERMAN	27	ABT			42-52457	Q	7V	--	FINAL APPROACH		ABORT