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HEADQUARTERS  
2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION  
APO 550

TACTICAL MISSION REPORT

FIELD ORDER NO.

702

TARGET

ABORTIVE

DATE

31 MAY 1944

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2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION

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DECLASSIFIED  
DOD DIR 52009, 27 Sep 58

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COPY NO. 3

TH:

S E C R E THEADQUARTERS 2d BOMBARDMENT DIVISION:  
AAF 147: : : : : : : : : :  
: S E C R E T :  
: By Auth of CG :  
: 2d Bomb Div :  
APO 558: Initials *JTB* :  
: Date *27 June 1944* :  
: : : : : : : : :

27 June 1944

SUBJECT : Tactical Report of Mission, 31 May 1944.

TO : Commanding General, Eighth Air Force, AAF 101, APO 634.

## 1. Data.

a. Date of Mission - 31 May 1944.

b. Primary Targets:

Metz A/F Storage Building - 20th "A" Combat Wing  
 Woippy Aero Engine Factory - 20th "A" Combat Wing  
 Longwy M/Y - 20th "B" Combat Wing  
 Bertrix M/Y - 96th Combat Wing  
 Lannes M/Y - 2nd Combat Wing  
 Brussels M/Y - 14th Combat Wing

c. Secondary Targets:

Le Culot A/F - 20th "A" Combat Wing  
 St. Trond A/F - 20th "B" Combat Wing  
 Brussels Airframe Factory - 96th Combat Wing  
 Chievres A/F - 2nd Combat Wing  
 Crinberglen A/F - 14th Combat Wing

d. Last Resort Target - Any airrome in occupied territory not adjacent to a built-up area.

e. Units Participating - 20th "A" CBW (448th, 93rd BG).  
 20th "B" CBW (446th, 489th BG).  
 96th CBW (466th, 458th, 467th BG).  
 2nd CBW (445th, 453rd, 389th BG).  
 14th CBW (392nd, 492nd, 44th BG).

## 2. Narrative.

a. 384 aircraft from four Combat Wings were dispatched to visually attack the marshalling yards at Longwy, Bertrix, Lannes, Brussels, the Air Park at Metz and the Woippy Aero Engine Factory. Eight Groups of P-47s provided fighter support.

b. Assemblies were accomplished without incident and the Division departed the English coast as briefed. Upon entry of the enemy coast, the Division Air Commander was forced to abandon the operation due to frontal clouds extending from 6000 to 27000 feet.

c. No bombs were dropped and units returned to base with their bombs.

d. Meager inaccurate flak was encountered at the enemy coast. No enemy fighters were seen and the fighter support was very good. Losses and claims were nil.

For the Commanding General:

*Charles B. Westover*  
 CHARLES B. WESTOVER  
 Colonel GSC  
 Chief of Staff

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Tactical Report of Mission, 31 May 1944.

3. Anti-Aircraft Fire.

- a. Meager and inaccurate "unseen" fire was encountered from the vicinity of Dunkirk and Ostend.

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FORM V-11

31 May 1944

UNIT		2BD	389	389PFF	445	453	44	44PFF	392	492
A I R C R A F T	NO. A/C TAKING OFF	385	26	1	27	27	25	1	26	27
	NO. A/C DISPATCHED	385	26	1	27	27	25	1	26	27
	NO. A/C ATTACKING	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	NO. A/C NOT ATTACKING	385	26	1	27	27	25	1	26	27
	NO. A/C SCRAMBLES	377	26	1	27	27	25	1	26	27
B O M B S	NO. A/C									
	NO. & TYPES									
	TONNAGE									
	TARGET									
	NO. OF A/C									
O T H E R	NO. & TYPE									
	TONNAGE									
	TOTAL TONNAGE ALL TARGETS									
B A T T L E	A/C LOST TO FLAK									
	A/C LOST TO E/A									
	A/C LOST TO FLAK - E/A									
	A/C LOST TO ACCIDENT									
	A/C LOST UNKNOWN									
	CASUALTIES-KILLED, WOUNDED									
	SERIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, MIA									
L I S T	CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED,									
	PROB., DAM., NO CLAIM									
	A/C BATTLE DAMAGE									
CAT. A-AC-2-7										

6. STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

Prepared by:  
STATISTICAL CONTROL  
2d Bombardment Division

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FORM N-11		French A/F and M/Y							31 May	1944
UNIT		93	446	448	489	458	466	467		
A I R C R A F T	NO. A/C TAKING OFF	36	36	36	39	26	26	26		
	NO. A/C DISPATCHED	36	36	36	39	26	26	26		
	NO. A/C ATTACKING	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	NO. A/C NOT ATTACKING	36	36	36	39	26	26	26		
	NO. A/C SORTIES	36	34	35	37	26	26	26		
B O M B S	PRIMARY TARGET									
	NO. A/C									
	NO. & TYPES									
	TONNAGE									
	OTHER TARGETS									
	NO. OF A/C									
B A T T L E	NO. & TYPES									
	TONNAGE									
	TOTAL TONNAGE ALL TARGETS									
	A/C LOST TO FLAK									
	A/C LOST TO E/A									
	A/C LOST TO FLAK - E/A									
R E S U L T S	A/C LOST TO ACCIDENT									
	A/C LOST UNKNOWN									
	CASUALTIES-KILLED, WOUNDED									
	SERIOUSLY, SLIGHTLY, NA.									
	CLAIMS - E/A DESTROYED,									
	PROB., DAM., NO CLAIM									
A/C BATTLE DAMAGE										
CAT. A-AC-B-E										

6. STATISTICAL STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS  
TACTICAL REPORT OF DIVISION

Prepared by:  
STATISTICAL CONTROL  
2d Bombardment Division

31 May 1944

S-2

D

1345

CG  
2 BD  
Attn: A-2

X

X

458th BG Narrative of Mission 31 May 1944

1. Nil
2. All ships of this Group recalled due to weather. Point of turnback 5102 - 0257; all bombs were brought back.
3. Nil. No Enemy Air Opposition report will follow.
4. Moderate Flak encountered at Dunkirk in crossing enemy coast going in. Time 1035 hours, altitude 18,000 feet, type CF.
5. Formation was up to 22,500 feet altitude and still had not reached top cover of clouds layer; this necessitated a turnback.
6. Nil.
7. Nil.

MISSION # 73 31 May 1944

FORMATION PLANSECTION I

D

OLNEY  
K-21 : 110P-7V

CURTIS  
K-20 : 316N-J3  
MF/DF

HEMICH  
: 16K-J4

MILTON  
: 008R-J3

BURTIS  
: 097T-J3

d

GLINN-CRAIG  
K-21 : 059E-J3

VOGEL  
: 820R-J3

STEWART  
: 516K-J3

FRUDOG  
: 179P-J3

HANCOCK  
: 258L-J3

GIBSON  
K-20 : 425D-J3

UMPHREY  
: 219W-7V

SECTION II

D

SCHAAP  
: 314L-7 V

GULICK  
K-20 : 340N-7V  
MF/DF

STOUT  
K-21 : 050T-7V

C

ROBERTSON  
: 108M-25

JONES  
: 095Q-25

WOODWARD-DAILY  
K-21 : 368B-25

DAVIS  
K-20 : 279T-25

HANSON  
: 812D-7V

LANKERS  
: 705W-25

STIMS  
K-21 : 005H-25

THOMPSON  
: 489T-7V

LARSON  
: 106L-25

TAYLOR  
K-20 : 179X-7V

ORDER OF TAKE OFF

<u>EAST</u>	<u>RUNWAY</u>	<u>WEST</u>
<u>DISP</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>DISP</u>
<u>SHIP</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>SHIP</u>
<u>REF</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>DISP</u>

REF 2 697

REF 3 179P

REF 1 110P

40 288S

29 213N

REF 2 108M

30 314L

34 489I

31 179X

34 340N

SPARES: NO.

118

92

276

165

470

DISP

32

7

5

17

1 2 487A 22

3 3 059E 26

4 4 163K 6

5 5 320J 11

6 6

7 7

8 8 516K 18

9 9 097T 13

10 10 425D 22

11 11

12 12

13 13 008R 20

14 14 316N 20

15 15 366B 10

16 16 812D 19

17 17

18 18 279T 1

19 19 005H 2

20 20

21 21 705H 5

22 22 095Q 8

23 23 106L 12

24 24

25 25

26 26 050T 19

27 27

## 458th Pilots and Aircraft as listed on Formation Plans

Date	Target	Pilot	458th Msn	Pilot Msn	Cmd Pilot	Ld	Serial	Last 3	RCL	Sqdn	A/C Msn	A/C Name	Comments
31-May-44	BERTRIX	BRUDOS	52	25			42-51179	179	P	J3	1	GIPSY QUEEN	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	BURTIS	52	27			42-51097	097	T	J3	13	UNKNOWN 022	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	CURTIS	52	15			42-95316	316	N	J3	9	PRINCESS PAT	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	DAVIS	52	26			42-50279	279	T	Z5	16	ENVY OF 'EM ALL	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	GIBSON, S	52	4			42-100425	425	D	J3	9	THE BIRD	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	GLENN	52	23			42-110059	059	E	J3	15	UNKNOWN 056	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	GULICK	52	24			41-29340	340	N	7V	23	YANKEE BUZZ BOMB	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	HANCOCK	52	3			41-29288	288	L	J3	22	BIG-TIME OPERATOR	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	HANSEN	52	7			42-109812	812	D	7V	22	UNKNOWN 016	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	HEMRICH	52	5			42-95163	163	K	Z5	11	DIXIE BELLE	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	JONES, E	52	4			42-51095	095	Q	Z5	5	SHOO SHOO BABY	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	LAMERS	52	1			41-28705	705	W	Z5	31	YE OLDE HELLGATE	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	LARSON	52	4			42-95106	106	L	Z5	4	MISS PAT	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	MELTON	52	27			42-95008	008	R	J3	9	UNKNOWN 035	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	OLNEY	52	21			42-51110	110	P	7V	6	TOP O' THE MARK	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	ROBESON	52	30			42-95108	108	M	Z5	6	ENVY OF 'EM ALL II	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	SCHAAF	52	29			42-50314	314	L	7V	15	ETO PLAYHOUSE	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	SIMES	52	16			42-95005	005	H	Z5	14	UNKNOWN 034	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	SLATON	52	17	HENSON	L	42-100407	407	A	J3	21	LITTLE LAMBSY DIVEY	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	STEWART	52	26			42-7516	516	K	J3	12	GATOR	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	STOUT	52	16			42-95050	050	J	7V	16	GAS HOUSE MOUSE	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	TAYLOR, O	52	32			42-95179	179	X	7V	6	HERE I GO AGAIN	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	THOMPSON	52	6			41-29489	489	T	7V	10	UNKNOWN 014	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	UMPHREY	52	30			42-95219	219	W	7V	9	PATCHIE	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	VOGEL	52	27			42-50320	320	W	J3	19	UNKNOWN 018	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT
31-May-44	BERTRIX	WOODWARD	52	21			42-100366	366	B	Z5	24	MIZPAH	RECALL - SORTIE CREDIT