

HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer
APO # 374

D-F-3

19 December, 1944.

Final Mission Report No. 431.

Flight Commander: Captain Merrill.
Lead Pilot : Captain Mueller.

320th Bombardment Group (M).

TARGET: NEUSTADT M/Y, (M/R) (W) R-302835, GSOS 4416, Sheet U-2, Germany.

At 1311 hours, 26 B-26's took off, 1 B-26 returned early: Propeller governor out. No B-26's were lost prior to the target. 27 B-26's were over the target and dropped 212 x 500-lb demolition bombs (1/10 & .01 second delay fuses) on the primary target at 1446 hours from 11,000' to 10,000' on an axis of 49 Deg. True. No bombs were salvaged. 4 x 500-lb demolition bombs were returned to base having hung up over the target. 27 B-26's returned to base at 1626 hours. No B-26's were lost, none missing, and none were slightly or seriously damaged.

RESULTS: Bombs were dropped on "ETA", due to cloud cover and poor visibility. Heavy haze and ground fog prevented visual run on any target, as the ground was visible through holes in the clouds, only from directly overhead. Bombs were released 4 minutes 12 seconds past LP, on an axis of 49 Deg. True. Air Speed 185 MPH. Photos show that bombs landed 1/2 miles North-East of Neustadt, at (W) R-314845, cutting tracks and two roads. 2 large explosions were seen.

ENEMY FIGHTER OPPOSITION: None.

FLAK: None Encountered. a. I. H Barrage type flak seen fired from Kaiserslautern, (W) R-0294.
b. S. H. type flak seen fired from Landau, (W) R-2767.

ROUTE: Base to Nancy, (V) U-1185; to Monzenheim, (W) Q-9316; to Haguenau (W) R-0424; to LP, Annweiler, (W) R-1768; to target on an axis of 49 Deg. True; breakaway left to Saverne (W) Q-7316; to base.

WEATHER: A. ENROUTE: Dijon to Nancy, 5/10ths thin stratus and altostratus at varying heights between 6,000' and 12,000'.

B. VICINITY OF TARGET: Over Vosges Mountains, broken deck of thick strato-cumulus on mountain tops, breaking directly over the target. Visibility, two miles in heavy haze and ground fog in all areas.

C. TARGET AREA: Same.

D. RETURN: As Enroute.

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

AIR OBSERVATIONS:

a. Air Activity: (1) At Arracourt (W) Q-1115, unidentified A/C was seen to hit ground and explode; 5 chutes were seen in the air, at 15:16 hours.

(2) No escort rendezvoused.

(3) P-47's were seen straffing in the target area.

(4) One twin-boomed unidentified A/C, was seen over Igwiller, (W) Q-7130, at 14:33 hours.

(5) A/C burning on ground; 1 chute descending in vicinity at (W) Q-7671, at 14:43 hours

b. Situation: None.

NAVAL OBSERVATIONS: None.

GROUND OBSERVATIONS:

a. General: Smoke screens in observation over 3 small unidentified towns East of Wissembourg, (W) R-1648, at 14:44 hours.

b. Communications: None.

SPECIAL COMMENTS: None.

NORMAN L. FARBEROW,
Captain, Air Corps,
Act'g. Gp. Intelligence Officer.

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SUBJECT: Photos.

TO : Commanding General, 42nd Wing (US), APO # 374.
Attention: A-2 Section.

1. The following is the location of the cameras in the formation as over the target (Neustadt W/Y, GGS 4416, Sheet U-2, Germany), of this Group, this date.

		T		
		07		
		(T)K-8	T	
	T			T
			22	
T	T		(T)K-17	T
		T		
		91		
		(T)K-8	T	
	T			T
			93	77
T	T		(T)K-20	(T)K-20
		T		
		10		
		(T)K-20	T	
	T			T
			14	
T	T		(T)K-17	T

91, 10, 93, 77, and 14 were not

2. The pictures taken in Ship Nos.

NORMAN L. FARBERO,
Captain, Air Corps,
Act'g Group Intelligence

MISSION #444 FLIGHT COMMANDER: CAPT MERRILL 19 December 1944

RUNWAY LINE UP

			"A"		
23	07 <u>GRALA</u>	23 <u>MUELLER</u>		04 <u>O'LAHONEY</u>	
04	Vicha	PERKAVA		FERRINDINO	
07	-----	-----	"B"	-----	-----
09	22 <u>WETZEL</u>	09 <u>MC GREGOR</u>		06 <u>COCKRIEL</u>	
08	Stone	Ingle		Sacco	
22	-----	-----	"C"	-----	-----
05	11 <u>BOYLES</u>	05 <u>SHERWOOD</u>		16 <u>DINOLE</u>	
16	Elmons	Rojas		Biddle	
11	-----	-----	"D"	-----	-----
85	91 <u>SUTHERLAND</u>	85 <u>RAMAGE</u>		83 <u>TRIM</u>	
83	Bennett	GLAUBITZ		CAIRN	
91	-----	-----	"E"	-----	-----
89	93 <u>WALDROF</u>	89 <u>KREUZER</u>		77 <u>CHANNELL</u>	
77	Killgore	Jarman		Podmajersky	
93	-----	-----	"F"	-----	-----
81	87 <u>SHERMAN</u>	81 <u>SALMONSON</u>		75 <u>WILSON</u>	
75	Tobacco	Hepner		Rhodes	
87	-----	-----	"G"	-----	-----
21	10 <u>DICKEY</u>	21 <u>BORDEN</u>		02 <u>SCOTT</u>	
02	Chelucci	VOLLMER		POSEY	
10	-----	-----	"H"	-----	-----
19	14 <u>TORONGO</u>	19 <u>STELER</u>		06 <u>ZIRK</u>	
06	Williamson	Dever		Martinson	
14	-----	-----	"I"	-----	-----
90	99 <u>JOHNSON</u>	90 <u>KALANSKI</u>		94 <u>DAY</u>	
94	Rinden	Beesy		Weinberg	
99	SPARE: 80 <u>LAMPMAN</u>	-----		98 <u>JOHNSTON</u>	
80	Adams	-----		Ryan	
98	-----	-----		-----	-----

COLORS OF THE DAY:
 0100-0700 GRR
 0700-1300 RY
 1300-1900 GRP
 1900-0100 RR

RADIO:

320th: TROOPER 2
 Control center voice call sign: BAGGAGE on channel "C"
 W/T call sign for wing 1 net: 486
 Escort: ENAMEL on channel "C"

CREWS PARTICIPATING ON MISSION NUMBER 443, 19 DECEMBER 1944

MUELLER, PILOT, Capt.	441st	23
WIGGINS, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1311
PENKAVA, BOMB., 1st Lt.		landed 1626
SIPOREN, NAV., 1st Lt.		
DICKENS, ENG., Cpl.		
GERONIMOS, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
THOMPSON, GUNNER, Cpl.		
BERGE, FC, Major.		
O'MAHONY, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	04
LAZO, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1312
FERRANDINO, BOMB., 1st Lt.		landed 1627
O'CONNELL, NAV., 2nd Lt.		
PAGE, ENG., T/Sgt.		
ROCKABRAND, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
VOSLER, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
GRALA, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	441st	07
CUDWORTH, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1312+
VICHA, BOMB., T/Sgt.		landed 1627+
GIBSON, ENG., Cpl.		
COOK, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
BUSH, BUNNER, S/Sgt.		
CONANT, GUNNER, Cpl.		
BLUE, FOTO, S/Sgt.		
MCGREGOR, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	09
PETERSON, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1313
INGLE, BOMB., 2nd Lt.		landed 1628
TIETZ, ENG., Cpl.		
HEDGES, RADIO, Sgt.		
LANK, GUNNER, Cpl.		
COCKRIEL, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	441st	08
MCCURDY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1313+
SACCO, BOMB., Sgt.		landed 1628+
HART, ENG., S/Sgt.		
KIRKLAND, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
ATEN, GUNNER, Cpl.		
WITZEL, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	22
O'BRIEN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1314
STONE, BOMB., T/Sgt.		landed 1629
BENTAS, ENG., S/Sgt.		
WITTEN, RADIO, Pvt.		
RASCHKE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
REAVIS, FOTO, Cpl.		
SHERWOOD, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	05
PRATT, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1314+
ROJAS, BOMB., F/O		landed 1629+
TAMOSIUNAS, ENG., Sgt.		
MELLAS, RADIO, Cpl.		
CONRAD, GUNNER, Cpl.		

DINOME, PILOT, F/O WHITEMAN, CO PILOT, F/O BIDDLE, BOMB., S/Sgt. SMELAND, ENG., Pvt. GARNER, RADIO, Cpl. GLASSNER, GUNNER, Cpl.	441st	16 took off 1315 landed 1630
BOWLES, PILOT, 1st Lt. KAISER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. EMMONS, BOMB., 2nd Lt. WASH, ENG., Cpl. TIPTON, RADIO, Pfc. GRICE, GUNNER, Cpl.	441st	11 took off 1315+ landed 1630+
RAMAGE, PILOT, Capt. MICKELSON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. GLAUBITZ, BOMB., 1st Lt. DELOSIER, NAV., 1st Lt. LEONARD ENG., S/Sgt. ENGELHARDT, RADIO, S/Sgt. WIGGILL, GUNNER, Sgt.	444th	85 took off 1316 landed 1631
TRIMM, PILOT, 1st Lt. HAVEI, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. CAIRNS, BOMB., 2nd Lt. WEBB, NAV., 1st Lt. DOWLEN, ENG., Sgt. HARRINGTON, RADIO, S/Sgt. VILLINES, GUNNER, Sgt.	444th	83 took off 1317 landed 1631+
SUTHERLAND, PILOT, 2nd Lt. MATHEWS, COPILOT, 1st Lt. BENNET, BOMB., S/Sgt. VINSON, ENG., Cpl. WALCHLI, RADIO, Sgt. CARRINGTON, GUNNER, Cpl. LINQUIST, FOTO, Sgt.	444th	91 took off 1317+ landed 1632
KREUZER, PILOT, 1st Lt. LIEBENDORFER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. JARMAN, BOMB., 2nd Lt. JARRETT, ENG., Sgt. BROWN, RADIO, Cpl. ROSS, GUNNER, Sgt.	444th	89 took off 1318 landed 1632+
CHANNELL, PILOT, 2nd Lt. HALKIMEYER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. PODMAJERSKY, BOMB., 2nd Lt. CARR, ENG., Cpl. DINYER, RADIO, Cpl. STEWERT, GUNNER, Sgt.	444th	77 took off 1318+ landed 1633
WALSHOF, PILOT, 1st Lt. ALDRIDGE, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. KILGORE, BOMB., Pfc. GREVAR, ENG., S/Sgt. SBIDELL, RADIO, Cpl. MULLANEY, GUNNER, Cpl. KENNERSON, FOTO, Pvt.	444th <i>(early return)</i>	93 took off 1319 landed 1345

SALMONSON, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	81
HERRON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1319+
HEPNER, BOMB., 1st Lt.		landed 1634+
RANKIN, ENG., Sgt.		
ZOELLE, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
WILKERSON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
WILSON, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	75
BILBREY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1320
RHODES, BOMB., 2nd Lt.		landed 1636
KLOTZ, ENG., Cpl.		
BURKETT, RADIO, Cpl.		
HENRY, GUNNER, Cpl.		
SHERMAN, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	444th	87
WADELL, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1320+
TOBACCO, BOMB., 2nd Lt.		landed 1636+
SMITH, ENG., Sgt.		
RYAN, RADIO, Cpl.		
HUPERT, GUNNER, Sgt.		
BORDEN, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	21
WALDEN, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1321+
VOLMER, BOMB., 2nd Lt.		landed 1636
PERFETTO, NAV., 1st Lt.		
COPLER, ENG., T/Sgt.		
SNOW, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
FULK, GUNNER, T/Sgt.		
SCOTT, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	02
ASHER, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1322
POSEY, BOMB., 1st Lt.		landed 1637
ELMAN, NAV., 2nd Lt.		
FERNANDEZ, ENG., T/Sgt.		
FRASER, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
WILSON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
DICKEY, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	441st	10
LEVERING, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1322+
CHELUCCI, BOMB., T/Sgt.		landed 1647
BOOTH, ENG., T/Sgt.		
TOTHAMMER, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
TANKERSLEY, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
CIRMO, FOTO, Sgt.		
STEIER, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	19
BARRETT, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1323
DEVER, BOMB., 2nd Lt.		landed 1638
STRAND, ENG., Sgt.		
HILER, RADIO, Cpl.		
LOFTON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
ZIERK, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	06
ZELLNER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1323
MARTINSEN, BOMB., Sgt.		landed 1638+
DUARTE, ENG., S/Sgt.		
WEBER, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
LUDY, GUNNER, Cpl.		

TORONGO, PILOT, 1st Lt.	lll1st	lll
FORSYTHE, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1324
WILLIAMSON, BOMB., Cpl.		landed 1639
LUGHANSKY, ENG., Cpl.		
CANZONETTA, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
WILLIAMS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
POTTS, FOTO, Cpl.		
KAMANSK, PILOT, 1st Lt.	lll1th	90
HARTLEY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1324+
BEEBY, BOMB., 2nd Lt.		landed 1639+
DELEO, ENG., Sgt.		
FERGERSON, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
WELLS, GUNNER, Sgt.		
DAY, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	lll1th	94
HARKNESS, CO PILOT, F/O		took off 1325
EVELAND, BOMB., 2nd Lt.		landed 1640
HIGHTOWER, ENG., Sgt.		
DAGOSTINO, RADIO, Cpl.		
MLAKAR, GUNNER, Cpl.		
JOHNSTON, PILOT, 1st Lt.	lll1th	99
ELLIS, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1325+
RINDEN, BOMB., S/Sgt.		landed 1641
HAMMONTREE, ENG., Cpl.		
PIERCE, RADIO, Cpl.		
STEGEMEYER, GUNNER, Sgt.		
LAMPMAN, PILOT, 1st Lt.	lll1th	80
BOSCA, COPILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1326
ADAMS, BOMB., 2nd Lt.	(spare)	landed 1633+
HARDY, ENG.,		
TKACH, RADIO		
LUCAS, GUNNER		
JOHNSON, PILOT,	Ship Number 98 - No take off.	