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

D-F-1

23 December 1944.

FINAL MISSION REPORT 432

Flight Commander: **Capt Steinback.**
Lead Pilot : **Captain Merrill.**

320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M).

TARGET: Breisach RR Bridge (M/R) (W) V-885359, GGGS 4416, sheet X-2), Germany.

At 1230 hours 36 B-26's took off; 1 B-26 returned early; oil leak. No B-26's lost prior to the target. 35 B-26's were over the target and 33 B-26's dropped 135 x 1,000 lb demolition bombs (.1 & non-delay tail fuses) on the target at 1412 hours from 12,800' to 11,800' on an axis of 141 degrees true. 1 x 1,000 lb demolition bomb was salvaged having hung up over the target. 8 x 1,000 lb demolitions were returned to base due to inability of bombardier to identify target. 35 B-26's returned to base at 1524 hours. No B-26's lost and No B-26's are missing. 17 B-26's slightly damaged by flak. 2 B-26's seriously damaged by flak.

RESULTS: Bombs cut the west approach of the target. The bridge itself is believed to have been missed.

ENEMY FIGHTER OPPOSITION: None.

FLAK: I, H, FA, A, - CP type flak encountered from the target. Encountered 90 seconds before bombs away and for 2 minutes on right breakaway.

S, H, A, A, - 6 bursts of flak encountered from Muhlberg, (W) W-0566, on left breakaway.

ROUTE: From rendezvous with escort at base; to Spinal, (W) V-5454; to Ville, (W) V-6878; to IP, Sealestat, (W) V-7962; to target on an axis of 141 degrees true; breakaway left to Sealestat, (W) V-7962; reciprocal course to base. (All but lead squadron broke right to (W) V-7223, to base

WEATHER: See report number 2, this date.

AIR OBSERVATIONS: a. Air Activity: 1. No escort rendezvoused.

2. P-47's were seen in the target area, and 8/10 followed formation for a few minutes on return from target.

b. Situations: None.

NAVAL OBSERVATIONS: None.

GROUND OBSERVATIONS: a. General: Large explosion 1 1/2 miles north of target at W V-8738, on west bank of river at 1412 hours.

b. Communications: None.

SPECIAL COMMENTS: Two decoy formations of 9 A/C each preceded this main force of the target. See report number 2 & 3, this date.

NORMAN L. FARBEROW,
Captain, Air Corps,
Act'g. Gr. S-2 Officer.

MISSION # 446 MAIN FORCE FLIGHT COMMANDER CAPT. STSINBACH 23 DECEMBER 1944
Runway lineup

23	<u>LEVERING</u> <i>D-2</i>	"A" <u>MERRILL</u> <i>D-2</i>	<u>O'MAHONEY</u>
04	<u>11 CHILLUEE</u>	23 TRAYNOR	04 FERINDIND
11		"B"	
09	<u>HEEREN</u> <i>D-2</i>	<u>BEDNARZ</u>	<u>KLUG</u> <i>D-2</i>
17	<u>10 STREANY</u>	09 MURRAY	17 MARTINSON
10		"C"	
19	<u>ASHER</u>	<u>MEGRGOR</u> <i>D-1</i>	<u>LIZO</u>
07	<u>05 STONE</u>	19 INGLE	07 BAONS
06		"E"	
85	<u>WALKER</u> <i>D-3</i>	<i>PR</i> <u>PRADGE</u>	<u>TRIM</u> <i>D-2</i>
83	<u>88 PODANERSKY</u>	85 PRADGE	83 CARNS
88		"E"	
99	<i>95</i> <u>HAHER</u> <i>D-4</i>	<u>KREYZER</u> <i>D-6</i>	<u>WIDDELL</u>
82	82 HEB	99 ADAMS	<i>fe</i> <u>82 SCHLIDT</u>
78	78 SHEPHERD	"F"	
81	<u>H. VES</u> <i>D-2</i>	<u>SULLIVAN</u> <i>D-3</i>	<u>WILSON</u> <i>D-3</i>
96	<u>76 SCHEFF</u>	81 RYAN	98 EVELAND
76		SPANES	
05		85 BIBBLE	<u>JOHNSON</u> <i>NTO</i>
93			92 RILGORE

AIR GROUND HIT AUTHENTICATION
 441st Index No. A-384-RHW
 442nd " " A-388-HWJ
 443rd " " A-392-UYS
 444th " " A-396-YRP

OPFLORS OF THE DAY FOR 23 DECEMBER 1944
 TIME FLARE COLORS
 0100-0700 RY
 0700-1300 RG
 1300-1900 GRP
 1900-0100 YR

RADIO CALL SIGNS
 320th Bomb Group ::::: TACOPER
 CONTROL CENTER CALL SIGN: 17th & 320th "B. GEORGE "C"
 W/T CALL SIGN FOR WING 1 NET
 320th Group TARGET NR 1 G91
 " " " " 6 M86
 " " " " 7 M89
 FIGHTER VOICE CALL SIGNS: PUDDING

47-107534
41-37596
47-43292

21 (55)
31 (55)
47 (55)

MAIN FORCE
 MISSION # 446 FLIGHT COMMANDER CAPT. STEINBACH 23 DECEMBER 1944
 Runway lineup

		"A"	
		<u>MERRILL</u>	
23	<u>LEVERING</u>	23 <u>TRAYNOR</u>	<u>O'MAHONEY</u>
04	<u>11 CHELLOEEI</u>	-----	<u>04 FERINDIND</u>
11		"B"	
		<u>BEDNARZ</u>	
09	<u>HEEREN</u>	09 <u>MURRAY</u>	<u>KLUG</u>
17	<u>10 STREANY</u>	-----	<u>17 MARTINSON</u>
10		"C"	
		<u>MCGREGOR</u>	
19	<u>ASHER</u>	19 <u>INGLE</u>	<u>LIZO</u>
07	<u>06 STONE</u>	-----	<u>07 ELONS</u>
06		"D"	
		<u>RIDGE</u>	
85	<u>WALKER</u>	85 <u>PRAKE</u>	<u>TRIM</u>
83	<u>88 PODANJERSKY</u>	-----	<u>83 CAIRNS</u>
88		"E"	
		<u>KREYZER</u>	
99	<u>H.HER</u>	99 <u>ADAMS</u>	<u>WADDELL</u>
82	<u>78 SHEEHAN</u>	-----	<u>82 SCHMIDT</u>
78		"F"	
		<u>SULLIVAN</u>	
81	<u>HAVES</u>	81 <u>RYAN</u>	<u>WILSON</u>
98	<u>76 SCHEPPE</u>	-----	<u>98 EVELAND</u>
76		"G"	
		<u>DINGLE</u>	
05		05 <u>BIBBLE</u>	<u>JOHNSTON</u>
93		-----	<u>93 KILGORE</u>

FLIERS OF THE DAY FOR 23 DECEMBER 1944

TIME FLARE COLORS

0100-0700	RY
0700-1300	RG
1300-1900	GHR
1900-0100	YR

RADIO CALL SIGNS

320th Bomb Group ::::: TROOPER

CONTROL CENTER CALL SIGN: 17th & 320th "B. COLLEGE "C"

W/T CALL SIGN FOR WING 1 NET

320th Group TARGET NR 1 G91

" " " " 6 186

" " " " 7 189

FIGHTER VOICE CALL SIGNS: PUDDING

AIR GROUND BIT

AUTHENTICATION

441st Index No.	A-384-RHW
442nd " "	A-388-HLW
443rd " "	A-392-UYS
444th " "	A-396-YRP

2

MISSION # 445 MAIN FORCE FLIGHT COMMANDER

23 DECEMBER 1944

RUNWAY LINE UP.

70
62
68
65
52
59
71
56
67
31
37
47
44
43
46
33
45
42
57
29
77

*HK1900
1/10 3 min*

WICOND 42	HARRARD 4D	70 PICKETT	CLARK 4D
CLARK 68			52 MIAZGA
PHILLIPS 4D	ACCOMB 4D	63 TREVIS	HALBERT 4D
59 CZECHOWITZ			52 ORR
ZOLLNER 4D	71 CHACK	MOSHY 4D	HECKLER
67 SUGGS			56 (AFO)
ZELLERBACH 4D	BARRACLOUGH 4B	31 KONTZ	BYKER 7B
47 FARWELL 4B			37 STOUGH
MAYFIELD 4D	MERSCHAN 4D	44 HERBST	ROJNOVSKY 4D
46 LINVILLE			43 YOWELL
GUSTAFSON 4D	GILES 4D	35 WELLS	KAY NTA
42 HELFOND			45 YOUSSE
MILLS	MORSE 4D	37 LUSSENDEN	COLE 4D
77 MILLER			29 S. VOCA

COLORS OF THE DAY FOR 23 DECEMBER 1944

time	FLARE COLORS
0100-0700	RY
0700-1300	RG
1300-1900	GRR
1900-0100	YGR

AIR GROUND RIT

AUTHENTICATION

441st	Index No.	A-384-PHY
442nd	"	A-388-HJ3
443rd	"	A-392-UYS
444th	"	A-396-389

220th BOMB GROUP
CENTRAL COMMAND CALL S. 3100h & 3200h "SUGGESTION"
1/4 CALL 1000 1000 1000
SOUTH GROUND FORCE 1st 321
" " " " 86
" " " " 7 189

FIGHTER VOICE CALL : FUDDING

MISSION # 444 (DECOY) : FLIGHT COMMANDER: Lt. Borden 23 Dec. 1944
 Runway Line UP "A"

21		<u>GAHAN</u>	
02	<u>dickey</u>	21 <u>Garvey</u>	<u>schrantz</u>
08	<u>stadnicki</u>		02 <u>Liever</u>
		"B"	
58		<u>WEST</u>	
51	<u>DAILEY</u>	58 <u>Greene</u>	<u>BRAINARD</u>
63	<u>GOYMAN</u>		51 <u>HOLLAND</u>
		"C"	
64		<u>SHEERWOOD</u>	
55	<u>JONES</u>	64 <u>DAVIS</u>	<u>WATSON</u>
50	<u>WILE</u>		55 <u>PAISMORE</u>
		"D"	
28		<u>SILCH</u>	
40	<u>STUTLER</u>	28 <u>YOUNG</u>	<u>ABERNATHY</u>
26	<u>ROUSH</u>		40 <u>VILA</u>
		"E"	
90		<u>KEMANSKY</u>	
89	<u>ELLIS</u>	90 <u>BECKY</u>	<u>DAY</u>
94	<u>HARTMAN</u>		89 <u>JARMAN</u>
		"F"	
80		<u>LAMPMAN</u>	
87	<u>SHERMAN</u>	80 <u>WILLIAMS</u>	<u>SUTHERLAND</u>
75	<u>TABACCO</u>		87 <u>RHUDES</u>
		"G"	
16		<u>NETZEL</u>	
14	<u>INCHAM</u>	16 <u>SACCO</u>	<u>KAUFFMAN</u>
91	<u>LYTLE</u>		14 <u>GALLAGHER</u>

AIR GROUND RIT
 Authentication
 441st Index No. A-384-FHW
 442nd " " A-388-HWJ
 443rd " " A-392-UYS
 444th " " A-396-YRP

COLORS OF THE DAY FOR 23 DECEMBER 1944
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 0700-1300 RG
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RADIO CALL SIGNS :
 320th BOLE GROUP :::: TROOPER
 CONTROLL CENTER CALL SIGN : 17th and 320th " BAGGAGE "C"
 W/T CALL SIGN FOR WING 1 NET
 320th GROUP TARGET NR 1 G91
 " " " " 6 A86
 " " " " 7 L89
 FIGHTER VOICE CALL SIGNS : PUDDING

CREWS PARTICIPATING IN MISSION #444 (DECOY) - 23 DECEMBER 1944

GAHAN, PILOT, Capt.	441st	21
PRATT, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1221
GARVEY, BOMB., 1st Lt.		landed 1515
SIPOREN, NAV., 1st Lt.		
MULLIS, ENG., S/Sgt.		
SNOW, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
DUNN, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
BORDEN, FC, 1st Lt.		
SCHRANTZ, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	02
GRALA, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1221
LIEVER, BOMB., 1st Lt.		landed 1516
ELMAN, NAV., 2nd Lt.		
CONNELL, ENG., S/Sgt.		
ZEPEDA, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
TOTHAMMER, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
DICKEY, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	441st	08
KUENTZ, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1222
STADNICKI, BOMB., 2nd Lt.		landed 1517
DICKENS, ENG., Cpl.		
TIPTON, RADIO, Pfc.		
LOFTON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
CONANT, GUNNER, Cpl.		
		<i>down over target</i>
WEST, PILOT, Capt.	443rd	58
BLASKO, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1222
GREENE, BOMB., 1st Lt.		landed 1517
SHEUMAKER, RADIO, Cpl.		
RUBY, GUNNER, Cpl.		
DEVLIN, ENG., S/Sgt.		
BRAINERD, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	51
HOOVER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1223
HOLLAND, BOMB., 2nd Lt.		landed 1514
GAIN, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
LAFRENNIE, GUNNER, Sgt.		
BUJEL, ENG., S/Sgt.		
DAILEY, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	63
ROBERTS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1223
GORMAN, BOMB., S/Sgt.		landed 1518
HEAVENER, RADIO, Pvt.		
HAFER, GUNNER, Sgt.		
WENDT, ENG., S/Sgt.		
SHERWOOD, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	64
MILLER, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1224
DAVIS, BOMB., 1st Lt.		landed 1519
MOTSENBOCKER, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
WONG, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
HARMON, ENG., Sgt.		

WATSON, PILOT, 1st Lt. DETHMAN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. PRIGMORE, BOMB., 2nd Lt. HARRISON, RADIO, S/Sgt. LENKIEWICZ, GUNNER, Cpl. CUMMINS, ENG., S/Sgt.	443rd	55 took off 12 24 landed 15 20
JONES, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd (no take-off)	50
ABERNATHY, PILOT, 1st Lt. KRIMM, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. VILA, BOMB., 1st Lt. BRAIN, NAV., 2nd Lt. SURABIAN, ENG., S/Sgt. BLUM, RADIO, S/Sgt. ORTEGA, GUNNER, Sgt.	442nd	40 took off 12 25 landed 14 55
STUTLER, PILOT, 1st Lt. FRANKEL, CO PILOT, F/O MILITSCHER, BOMB., S/Sgt. ISON, ENG., Cpl. HOUSE, RADIO, Cpl. CRAIG, GUNNER, S/Sgt. CHRISTENSON, FOTO, Sgt. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	442nd	26 took off 12 25 landed 14 56
KAMANSKI, PILOT, 1st Lt. FORD, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. BEEBY, BOMB., 2nd Lt. CARR, ENG., Cpl. WALEHLI, RADIO, Sgt. PERRY, GUNNER, Sgt.	444th	90 took off 12 26 landed 14 59
DAY, PILOT, 1st Lt. HARKNESS, CO PILOT, F/O JARMON, BOMB., 2nd Lt. HAMMONTREE, ENG., CPL. CLOEY, RADIO, Cpl. MULLANEY, GUNNER, Cpl.	444th	89 took off 12 26 landed 14 58
ELLIS, PILOT, 1st Lt. MATTHEWS, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. HARTMAN, BOMB., 2nd Lt. BUCHERT, ENG., Cpl. DINYER, RADIO, Cpl. RIDDLE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	444th	94 took off 12 27 landed 14 58
LAMPMAN, PILOT, 1st Lt. STARR, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. WILLIAMS, BOMB., 2nd Lt. HARDY, ENG., TKACH, RADIO, LUCAS, GUNNER,	444th	80 took off 12 27 landed 14 59

SUTHERLAND, PILOT, 2nd Lt. BELL, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. RHODES, BOMB., 2nd Lt. VINSON, ENG., Cpl. BROWN, RADIO, Cpl. WILKERSON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	444th	87 took off 1228 landed 1500
SHERMAN, PILOT, 2nd Lt. GAREY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. TABACCO, BOMB., 2nd Lt. CLARK, ENG., S/Sgt. FERGUSON, RADIO, S/Sgt. PIGGOTT, GUNNER, Pvt.	444th	75 took off 1208 landed 1501
WETZEL, PILOT, 1st Lt. COCKRIEL, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. SACCO, BOMB., Sgt. HART, ENG., S/Sgt. RAHL, RADIO, S/Sgt. ATEN, GUNNER, Cpl.	441st	16 took off 1246 landed 1456
KAUFFMAN, PILOT, 1st Lt. BOBLITT, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. GALLAGHER, BOMB., S/Sgt. PURCELL, ENG., S/Sgt. HILER, RADIO, Cpl. LUDY, GUNNER, Cpl.	441st (early return)	14 took off 1248 landed 1421
INGHAM, PILOT, 1st Lt. DAVIES, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. LYTLE, BOMB., 2nd Lt. SOLDATI, ENG., S/Sgt. BERRY, RADIO, Cpl. FINNEY, GUNNER, Pvt.	442nd	91 took off 1247 landed 1521

CREWS PARTICIPATING IN MISSION #445 - 23 DECEMBER 1944

HAYWARD, PILOT, Major OPPERMAN, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. POCKETT, BOMB., Capt. TARANTO, NAV., 1st Lt., ALLEN, RADIO, S/Sgt. DOUCETTE, GUNNER, Sgt. LUTHER, ENG., S/Sgt.	443rd		70 took off 1229 landed 1458
CLARK, PILOT, 1st Lt. COOK, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. MIAZGA, BOMB., 1st Lt. MURRAY, NAV., 1st Lt. DEVERNA, RADIO, S/Sgt. CHARLETON, GUNNER, Sgt. PROPST, ENG., S/Sgt.	443rd		62 took off 1229 landed 1459
NICOUD, PILOT, 1st Lt. SWIFT, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. CLARK, BOMB., 2nd Lt. ORT, RADIO, Sgt. KEES, GUNNER, S/Sgt. HANSHAW, ENG., Sgt. GORZYCKI, GUNNER, Pfc.	443rd		68 took off 1230 landed 1459
WOODHURST, PILOT, 1st Lt. KOTAS, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. PURVIS, BOMB., 2nd Lt. CITTI, RADIO, Cpl. HASKINS, GUNNER, Sgt. MARGOLIS, ENG., S/Sgt.	443rd		69 took off 1246 landed 1461
HALBERT, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	443rd	(no take off)	52
PHILLIPS, PILOT, 1st Lt. LIVSEY, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. CZECHOWITZ, BOMB., Pvt. GRAHAM, RADIO, Sgt. SZCZECH, GUNNER, S/Sgt. WATHEN, ENG., Sgt. CARROLL, AP, Sgt.	443rd		59 took off 1232 landed 1520
MOSBY, PILOT, 1st Lt. SHADLE, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. CHACKO, BOMB., Pfc. MCQUEEN, RADIO, S/Sgt. BEALE, GUNNER, Sgt. SIMMONS, ENG., S/Sgt.	443rd		71 took off 1232 landed 1461
HECKLER, PILOT, 1st Lt.	443rd	(no take off)	56

ZOELLER, PILOT, 1st Lt. MCHUGH, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. SUGGS, BOMB., S/Sgt. KENDRICKS, RADIO, Sgt. PERKINS, GUNNER, Sgt. SONNONSTINE, ENG., Sgt. MAPLES, AP, Cpl.	443rd	67 took off 1233 landed 1458
BARRACLOUGH, PILOT, Capt. VANDERBURG, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. MONTEZ, BOMB., 1st Lt., MENAUGH, NAV., 1st Lt. CARTER, ENG., Cpl. HARRIS, RADIO, Cpl. DEMSKI, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	442nd	31 took off 1235 landed 1502
BAKER, PILOT, Capt. DOOLITTLE, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. STOUGH, BOMB., 1st Lt. HOOD, NAV., 2nd Lt. MCCULLY, ENG., S/Sgt. GLENDENEN, RADIO, S/Sgt. SEILER, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	442nd	37 took off 1233 landed 1521
ZELLERBACH, PILOT, 1st Lt. KITHEART, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. FARWELL, BOMB., S/Sgt. MCCURLEY, ENG., Sgt. SHORT, RADIO, Cpl. SPENCER, GUNNER, Cpl. DEVAUGHEN, FOTO, Sgt.	442nd	47 took off 1234 landed 1521
METSCHAN, PILOT, 1st Lt. BRENNAN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. HERBST, BOMB., 2nd Lt. POAHAK, ENG., S/Sgt. WELLS, RADIO, Pvt. DUBEAU, GUNNER, T/Sgt.	442nd	44 took off 1245 landed 1505
ROJNOVSKY, PILOT, 1st Lt. MCNAMARA, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. YOWELL, BOMB., 2nd Lt. MARGOLIS, ENG., S/Sgt. RATTS, RADIO, S/Sgt. NORTHCOTT, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	442nd	43 took off 1244 landed 1522
MAYFIELD, PILOT, 1st Lt. VILLELLI, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. LINVILLE, BOMB., S/Sgt. SHEEHY, ENG., Sgt. ABERNATHY, RADIO, S/Sgt. LEONE, GUNNER, Cpl. CIMIELLO, FOTO, S/Sgt.	442nd	46 took off 1244 landed 1459

GILES, PILOT, 1st Lt. TIBBITTS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. WELLS, BOMB., 2nd Lt. MORROW, ENG., S/Sgt. CODER, RADIO, Cpl. MARSHALL, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	442nd	33 took off / 2 45 landed 14 40
GUSTAFSON, PILOT, 1st Lt. CHILDS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. HELFAND, BOMB., 2nd Lt. SHEARER, ENG., S/Sgt. RICHARDSON, RADIO, Cpl. VICKERS, GUNNER, Cpl.	442nd	42 took off 12 46 landed 14 40
TOWNSEND, PILOT, 1st Lt. CLARK, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. LUSSENDEN, BOMB., 2nd Lt. YOUNG, RADIO, Cpl. ALLEN, GUNNER, Sgt. PINGLE, ENG., Cpl.	443rd	57 took off / 2 3 4 landed 14
GOEKE, PILOT, 1st Lt. WOOLF, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. SAVOCA, BOMB., 2nd Lt. WILLIAMS, ENG., Cpl. OLSEN, RADIO, S/Sgt. WEINBURG, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	442nd	29 took off 12 35 landed 15 10
WELLS, PILOT, 1st Lt.	442nd (no take off)	77

CREWS PARTICIPATING IN MISSION #446 - 23 DECEMBER 1944

MERRILL, PILOT, Capt.	441st	23
SCOTT, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1230
TRAYNOR, BOMB., 1st Lt.		landed 1530
O'CONNELL, NAV., 2nd Lt.		
METCALF, ENG., S/Sgt.		
DALTON, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
BOOTH, GUNNER, T/Sgt.		
STEINBACH, FC, Capt.		
O'MAHONY, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	04
ROBINSON, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1236
FERRANDINO, BOMB., 1st Lt.		landed 1515
NORDEN, NAV., 2nd Lt.		
PAGEL, ENG., T/Sgt.		
ROCKABRAND, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
VOSLER, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
LEVERING, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	441st	11
WIGGINS, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1237
CHELUCCI, BOMB., T/Sgt.		landed 1516
LEWIS, ENG., S/Sgt.		
CANZONETTA, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
GIBSON, GUNNER, Cpl.		
POTTS, FOTO, Cpl.		
WILLIAMS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
BEDNARZ, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	09
WALDEN, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1237
MURRAY, BOMB., 2nd Lt.		landed 1517
WYATT, ENG., S/Sgt.		
WEBER, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
PROFOS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
MESSENGER, OBS., Capt.		
KLUG, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	17
ZIERK, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1238
MARTINSEN, BOMB., Sgt.		landed 1517
WILLIAMS, ENG., T/Sgt.		
WITTEN, RADIO, Pvt.		
BILLINGTON, GUNNER, T/Sgt.		
HEEREN, PILOT, 1st Lt.	441st	10
EVANS, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1238
STREANY, BOMB., S/Sgt.		landed 1518
BALINSKI, ENG., Cpl.		
MELSON, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
GRICE, GUNNER, Cpl.		
REAVIS, FOTO, Cpl.		

MCGREGOR, PILOT, 1st Lt. PETERSON, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. INGLE, BOMB., 2nd Lt. TIETZ, ENG., Cpl. HEDGES, RADIO, Sgt. LANK, GUNNER, Cpl.	441st	19 took off 1239 landed 1521
LAZO, PILOT, 1st Lt. WHITEMAN, CO PILOT, F/O EMMONS, BOMB., 2nd Lt. BENTAS, ENG., S/Sgt. RASCHKE, RADIO, S/Sgt. BUSH, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	441st	07 took off 1239 landed 1521
ASHER, PILOT, 1st Lt. O'BRIEN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. STONE, BOMB., T/Sgt. FERNANDEZ, ENG., T/Sgt. FRASER, RADIO, T/Sgt. WILSON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	441st	06 took off 1240 landed 1522
RAMAGE, PILOT, Capt. HERRON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. DRAKE, BOMB., 1st Lt. DAY, NAV., 2nd Lt. LEONARD, ENG., S/Sgt. ENGLEHARDT, RADIO, S/Sgt. RABAL, GUNNER, T/Sgt.	441th	85 took off 1240 landed 1522
TRIMM, PILOT, 1st Lt. TRAVELL, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. CAIRNS, BOMB., 2nd Lt. WEBB, NAV., 1st Lt. DELEO, ENG., Sgt. SCHROLL, RADIO, Sgt. NESBITT, GUNNER, Cpl.	441th	83 took off 1241 landed 1523
WALKER, PILOT, 1st Lt. DAVIS, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. PODMAJERSKY, BOMB., 2nd Lt. DUFFEL, ENG., Sgt. FLEMMING, RADIO, S/Sgt. PIERCE, GUNNER, Cpl. KENNERSON, FOTO, Pvt.	441th	88 took off 1241 landed 1523
KREUZER, PILOT, 1st Lt. HARTLEY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. ADAMS, BOMB., 2nd Lt. JARRETT, ENG., Sgt. POZNIAK, RADIO, S/Sgt. JOHNSON, GUNNER, Sgt.	441th	99 took off 1242 landed 1524

WADDELL, PILOT, 1st Lt. ALDRIDGE, CO PILOT, 1st Lt. SCHMIDT, BOMB., 2nd Lt. SMITH, ENG., Sgt. RUPERT, RADIO, Sgt. RYAN, GUNNER, Cpl.	lllth	82 took off 1252 landed 1524
HAHER, PILOT, 1st Lt. GOGULAKI, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. SHEEHAN, BOMB., S/Sgt. TAKALA, ENG., Sgt. MCDONALD, RADIO, Sgt. RAMIREZ, GUNNER, S/Sgt. MAREY, FOTO, Cpl.	lllth	95 took off 1247 landed 1525
SULLIVAN, PILOT, 1st Lt. CHUNIS, CO PILOT, Capt. RYAN, BOMB., Sgt. THAIN, ENG., Sgt. RUMMEL, RADIO, S/Sgt. WELLS, GUNNER, Sgt.	lllth	81 took off 1253 landed 1525
WILSON, PILOT, 1st Lt. BILBREY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. EVELAND, BOMB., 2nd Lt. BENTON, ENG., Cpl. BURKETT, RADIO, Cpl. HENRY, GUNNER, Cpl.	lllth	98 took off 1257 landed 1526
HAVEL, PILOT, 2nd Lt. HAFKEMEYER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. SCHEMPF, BOMB., 2nd Lt. GAY, ENG., Sgt. SEIDELL, RADIO, Cpl. SEIWARD, GUNNER, Sgt.	lllth	76 took off 1247 landed 1526
DINOME, PILOT, F/O KAISER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. BIDDLE, BOMB., S/Sgt. GARNER, ENG., Cpl. GLASSNER, RADIO, Cpl. CONRAD, GUNNER, Cpl.	lllst	05 took off 1249 landed 1527
JOHNSTON, PILOT, 1st Lt. BOGSCA, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. KILGORE, BOMB., Pfc. HIGHTOWER, ENG., Sgt. STEGMEYER, RADIO, Sgt. BRADY, GUNNER, Cpl.	lllth	93 took off landed

N O. T. O.

W.D.

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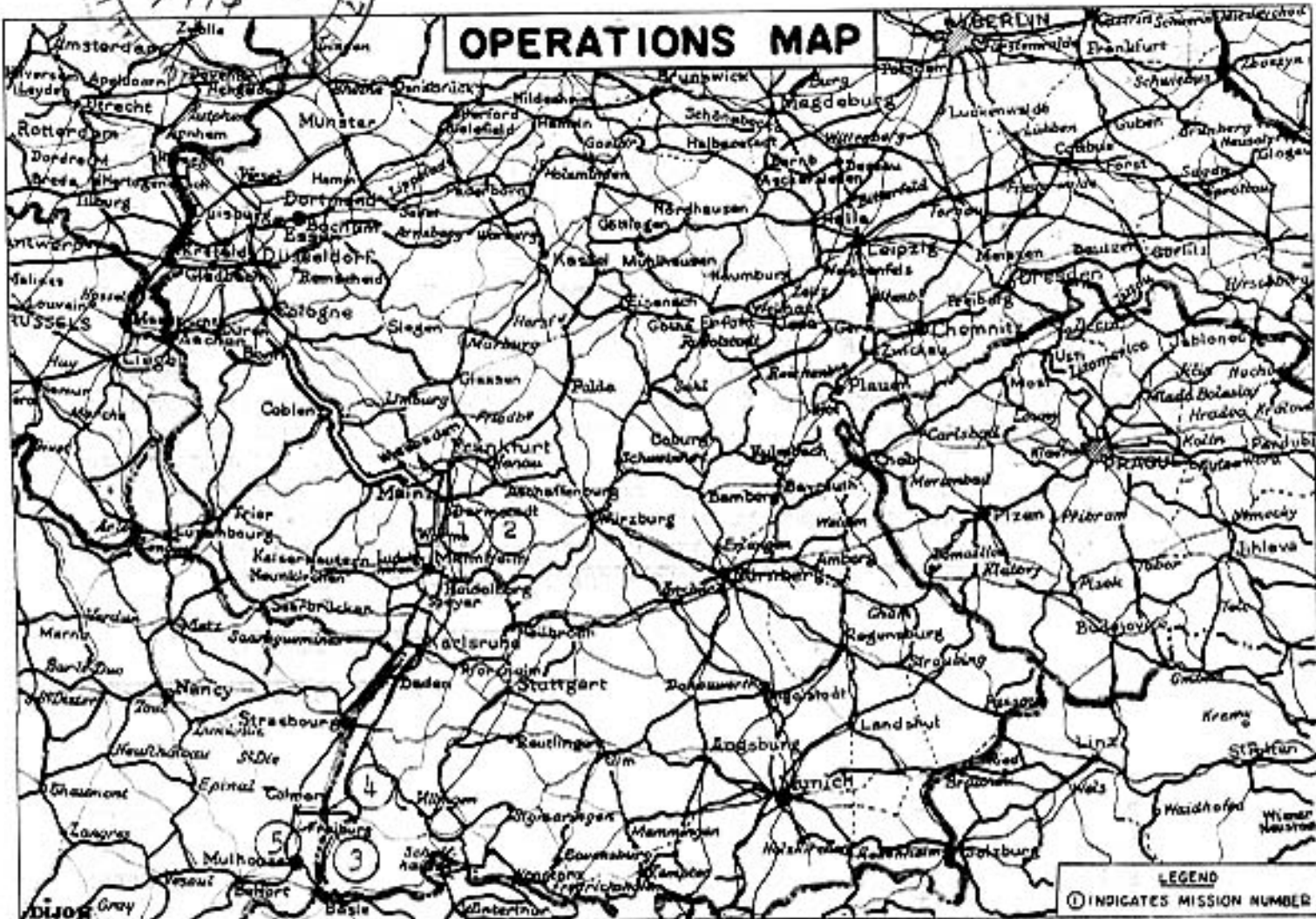
HEADQUARTERS 42ND BOMB WING (US)
A-2 Section AFO 374

D-4-2

23 December 1944



STENOGRAPH NUMBER 286



LEGEND
① INDICATES MISSION NUMBER

REPRODUCED BY NORTH ENGR. TOR CO., U. S. ARMY

MISSION GROUP TARGET

- 1 17th Neckargemund Rail and Road Bridge, WR-775887.
- 2 17th Neckarelz Rail Bridge, WR-988829
- 3 320th Breisach Rail Bridge, WV-885359
- 4 320th Gun positions East of Breisach Rail Bridge
- 5 320th Gun positions West of Breisach Rail Bridge

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS: Three missions were dispatched to attack the Neckargemund Rail and Road bridge, the Neckarelz Rail bridge, both East of Mannheim, and the Breisach Rail Bridge across the Rhine, with two formations flying anti-flak missions using chaff and frags against the heavy flak defenses at Breisach. Poor visibility caused by haze prevented one formation from bombing the Neckarelz bridge, and only six of the twenty-one aircraft attacking the Neckargemund bridge were able to identify the target through haze in time to bomb, scoring near misses. Bomb strike photos of Breisach show the southwest approach cut and the bridge probably damaged. 1 B-26 was lost to 10 to 12 aggressive MB-109's which were encountered in the area south of Rastatt. Claims have not yet been evaluated. Twenty-three aircraft were damaged and one was lost due to accurate heavy flak encountered from the Breisach targets. Two aircraft missing, last seen over friendly territory.

is missing, broke away from formation near S.VERNE, asking for nearest A/C for fuel; 2 P-47's were escorting this A/C. 1 A/C crashed at R-4070 as a result of encounter with ME-109's; 7 crew members missing, 1 chute observed. RESULTS: None. OPPOSITION: 10 to 12 ME-109's were encountered at R-2905 at 1425 hours, 1 B-26 lost and 4 damaged; claims not yet evaluated. S-M, H, FA flak from PFORZHEIM, WR-7133, damaged 3 A/C. ROUTE: Base to N.NCY; to S.HREBOURG, to lake at R-4409; to WIELDUSLT, R-8318; to IF at SPINGEN, R-8461; to target on axis of 40 degrees; left break to SPINGEN; to WIELDUSLT; to base. WEATHER: Same as mission report no. 1 on page 2.

3. 320th Bomb Group - BREISLACH RR BRIDGE, GERMANY, M/R WV-885359, sheet X-2, GSGS 4416. At 1230 hours, 36 B-26's took off. 1 A/C returned early, enrg. 35 A/C were over target and 33 dropped 131 x 1000 (.1 x no delay) bombs on target at 1412 hours from 12,800 to 11,800'. 1 bomb was salvaged, having hung up. 8 bombs were returned to base, target not identified due haze. 35 A/C returned to base at 1524 hours. RESULTS: Hit scored on SW end of bridge and SW approach was cut. OPPOSITION: No E/A; I, H, FA flak from target damaged 19 A/C. ROUTE: Base to EPLAJ, to VILLE, V-6878; to IF, SELESTAT, V-7962; to target on axis of 141 degrees; break right to WV-7229; to base. WEATHER: Enroute - Scattered cumulus at 5,000'. Target and vicinity - Open, with heavy haze seriously limiting visibility. Return, same as enroute.

4. 320th Bomb Group - Gun Positions at WV-892369, 896360, 900361, and 911362, sheet X-2. At 1221 hours, 10 B-26's took off. 1 A/C returned early, enrg. 1 A/C was hit by flak at 1410 hours during bomb run and crashed at WV-8938, 7 crew members missing, 1 chute seen. 8 A/C over target dropped 900 x 20 lb frag bombs on target at 1411 hours from 10,000'. 60 bombs were salvaged, having hung up over target. 8 A/C returned to base at 1515 hours. RESULTS: Bombs fell in general target area. OPPOSITION: No E/A; I, H, A flak from target caused loss of 1 B-26, (see above), and damaged 3. ROUTE: Same as mission report no. 3 above, except that this formation broke left from target to SELESTAT, to base. WEATHER: Same as mission report no. 3 above.

5. 320th Bomb Group - Gun positions at WV-875364, 869357, 872352, and 877340. At 1219 hours, 9 B-26's took off. 9 A/C were over target and dropped 1056 x 20 lb frag bombs on target at 1411 hours from 10,000'. 24 bombs were returned to base, having hung up. 9 A/C returned to base at 1512 hours. RESULTS: Bombs in general target area. OPPOSITION: No E/A; I, H, A flak from target area damaged 1 A/C. ROUTE: Same as mission report no. 3 above, except that axis of attack was 149 degrees. WEATHER: Same as mission report no. 3 above.

SECTION III - INTELLIGENCE:

A. AIR:

1. Activity: The 17th Bomb Group on mission to NECKREIZ RR Bridge, Germany, WR-988829, encountered 10-12 aggressive ME-109's in area S. of R.STATT at WR-2905 at approximately 1425 hours. E/A attacked from level at 5 to 7 o'clock, singly and in pairs, and some attacks were made out of sun from 11 o'clock. The ME-109's were dull green color with black crosses under the wings. One crew member reported an unidentified A/C with red, white, and blue circles, similar to markings of French Air Force, and white spinner, flying with E/A; this A/C was not observed to fire on B-26's. 1 B-26 was hit in both engines and tail sections by fire from E/A and crashed at WR-4070; 7 crew members missing, 1 chute observed. Claims have not yet been evaluated. No E/A activity was experienced on missions to NECKREIZ and BREISLACH areas. Escort for these missions was flown by P-47's of 64th Fighter Wing. The escort engaged fifty plus ME-109's at 1430 hours at WR-3120. These E/A were flying in two groups of 25 A/C each, and in the encounter 4 ME-109's were destroyed. (Note: 4 B-26's were damaged by E/A)

E/A activity day 22 December, reported by XII T.O.:

At 1510 hours, 12 ME-109's were engaged by 12 P-47's in area of WILBUR, WR-4537; 6 ME-109's destroyed for loss of 1 P-47.

At 1600 hours, 25 ME-109's made one pass at 10 P-47's in area WR of R.4427, R-2937; 1 A/C attacked from out of sun, no claims.

At 1633 hours, in area NE of R.4427, P-47's were attacked

at 1000 hours, 12 M E-109's observed in area NW of RASTATT,
at R-2436, at 9,000', 0 attacks made.
... 1130 hours, 6 ME-109's observed in area W. of RASTATT,
R-2037, at 4,500', no attacks made.

2. Situation: See Appendix I, attached hereto.

B. GROUND:

1. General: (320th BG) - Crews report large explosion at NW-8738,
on W. bank of river at 1412 hours.

2. Communications: (17th BG) - Crews report several trains, steam
up, in NECKLARGEMUND M/Y at 1413 hours. 40 car train, headed S. out of NECKLARGEMUND
at 1413 hours. 100 plus cars in M/Y at rail junction at R-8040; also 3
engines with steam up at this point at 1427 hours.

3. Flak: (17 BG) - No flak was experienced on mission to NECKLARGEMUND
Rail & Road Bridge, WR-775887. On mission to NECKLREILZ RR Bridge, WR-988829,
no flak experienced from target, but S-M, H, A, CP type flak from FFORZHEIM,
WR-7133, damaged 3 A/C. (320th BG) - On mission to BREISACH RR Bridge, WV-885359,
I, H, A, CP type flak was encountered from target area 90 seconds before bombs
away, and continued through 2 minutes of breakaway; 19 A/C damaged. On mission
to gun positions East of BREISACH RR Bridge, I, H, A, CP type flak from target
area caused loss of 1 B-26, and damaged 3. 6 bursts of H, A flak was encountered
from MHLBERG, WV-0566. On mission to gun positions West of BREISACH RR Bridge,
I, H, A flak from target area damaged 1 B-26.

4. Ground Situation: Activity was confined to consolidation of
positions and in some areas our units have withdrawn slightly to take advantage
of terrain in order to form a better defense. Patrols were active on both sides
with intermittent artillery barrages falling in our area. The enemy continues to
send small patrols across the Rhine to locate our CP's and artillery positions.
These patrols are not in strength and usually consist of one or two soldiers
dressed in civilian clothes or in American uniforms. No change in forward posi-
tions on First French Army front.

SECTION IV - FIRST MILSE STRIKE ASSESSMENT REPORT:

BREISACH RR BRIDGE, WV-885359 (320 BG 23/12/44 1412 hrs. 195/1000 bombs dropped.)

Photo Coverage - Excellent Time in process and delivery 7 hrs.
Photo Quality - Good, due weather Avg time per edited negative 23 min.
.. hit was scored on the SW end of the bridge probably damaging but not destroying
the structure. A photo with the smoke partially cleared shows the serviceable
spans of the bridge still standing. The SW approach to the bridge was cratered
and blocked temporarily. Prior to the raid the bridge was serviceable for road
and rail traffic. Several bombs fell 500 yards S of the target and at least 20
bombs fell 1 plus mi. S. of the target.
.. small oil fire was started during the raid at WV-880369, the NW corner of
BREISACH. The reason for this fire is unknown, however, it may be the A/C that
was shot down by flak over target.

(Bomb Fall Plot Issued.)

There was no photo coverage of A/C which dropped 1956 x 20 frag bombs on the
flak positions around Breisach RR Bridge.

NECKLARGEMUND RR BRIDGE, WR-775887 (17 BG 23/12/44 1414 hrs. 22/1000 bombs dropped)

Photo Coverage - Excellent Time in process and delivery 4½ hrs.
Photo Quality - Excellent Avg time per edited negative 27 min.
The bridge was not hit. Near misses were scored to the SE side of the bridge.
The RR bridge remains serviceable. 7 large barges are visible in the Neckar
River 500 yards W. of the target.

Recent photo #1 shows 9 barrage balloons at varying altitudes above a large dam
2 miles SW of FOPB... at WR-4307.

(Barr. Fall Plot Issued.)