

File

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HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)  
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer  
APO 974.

D-F-3.

19 January 1945

Final Mission Report Number 454.

Flight Commander: Captain Cahan.  
Lead Pilot : Lt. Folling.

ACHERN M/Y, GERMANY (AREA "A"), M/R: (W) R249027. OGS 4416, Sheet W-2.

320th Bombardment Group (M).

At 1302 hours, 27 B-26's took off to bomb Achern M/Y. 1 B-26 returned early: engine cutting out and 1 left formation early (See below). Total Sorties: 25. No B-26's were over the target and no bombs were dropped for reasons stated in Report Number 1, this date. The formation turned back at 1431 hours from 12,000'. No bombs were salvaged and all bombs were returned to base. 1 B-26 lost: Left formation at (W) V-0285 at 1410 hours; last heard from by Sector Control announcing intention to bail out 5 miles north of Besancon (W) C-8559; A/C was later found crashed 8 miles SW of Besancon (W) C-7349; all six crew members were killed. No B-26's were damaged. 25 B-26's returned to base at 1528 hours.

AIR OBSERVATIONS: A. Activity: P-47's provided escort.  
B. Situation: None.

ENEMY AIR ENCOUNTERS: None. LOSSES TO E/A: None. DAMAGED BY E/A: none.

CLAIMED E/A: None.

FLAK: See Report Number 1, this date. LOSSES TO FLAK: None.  
DAMAGED BY FLAK: None.

GROUND OBSERVATIONS: None.

CASUALTIES: 6 killed. None wounded. None missing.

NUMBER OF A/C ATTEMPTING PHOTOGRAPHS: None.

ROUTE & WEATHER: For "Route" and "Weather", See Report Number 1, this date.

RESULTS: None.

SPECIAL COMMENTS: This is a mission and sorties.

CORRECTION: On decoy mission of 16 January 1945, 3 A/C dropped 24 x 500-lb demolition bombs (.1, .025 second delay fuses) instead of 12 x 1000-lb demos as reported.

SPECIAL COMMENTS: 1 B-26, A/C Battle Number 08, Serial Number 49-34605, Lost: Left formation at (W) V-0285 at 1410 hours; last heard from by Sector Control announcing intention to bail out 5 miles north of Besencon (W) C-7349; all six crew members were killed. The following is a list of crew members:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
A. L. McGurdy	2nd Lt	0-1683414	Pilot
K. L. Gudworth	1st Lt	0-819760	CO-Pilot
J. C. Hill	3/Sgt	18071305	Bombardier
N. (IND) Bentes	3/Sgt	36554340	Eng-Gunner
L. A. Rahl	3/Sgt	36570208	Rad-Gunner
H. P. Gothammer	3/Sgt	39838514	Tail Gunner

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