

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

8 February 1945.

Final Mission Report No. 460.

Flight Commander: Captain Carraher.
Lead Pilot : Captain Barraclough.

LOFFINGEN RAILROAD BRIDGE (M/R: (W) W-492216, GSGS 4416, sheet X-3), Germany.
(Last Resort Target: Lehr Barracks and supply area (M/R: (W) W-114710, GSGS 4416, sheet W-2), Germany).

320th Bombardment Group (M).

At 13:10 hours, 29 B-26's took off to bomb Loffingen RR Bridge (M/R: (W) W-492216, GSGS 4416, sheet X-3), Germany. (Last resort target: Lehr Barracks and supply area (M/R: (W) W-114710, GSGS 4416, sheet W-2), Germany). 2 B-26's returned early: spares. Total number of sorties: 27. 27 B-26's were over the Primary target and 18 B-26's dropped 144 x 500-lb. Demolition bombs (.1 & .01 second delay fuses) on the Primary Target at 14:40 hours from 12,400' to 11,400' on an axis of 114°T. 9 B-26's were over the last resort target and 9 B-26's dropped 69 x 500-lb. Demolition bombs (.1 & .01 second delay fuses) at 15:12 hours from 12,000' to 11,000' on an axis of 326°T, not having been in position to bomb on the run on the Primary target. The alternate was not bombed because lead pilot left the area, hoping to be able to stay close to the formation and escort and bombed the last resort target instead. No bombs were salvaged. 3 x 500-lb. Demolition bombs were returned to base having hung up over the target. They would not salvo when this was attempted. No B-26's lost or missing. No B-26's damaged. 27 B-26's returned to base at 15:48 hours.

AIR OBSERVATIONS:

a. Activity:

- (1) 2 B-26's of the French Group were seen shot down, and to crash in flames, by flak over Freiburg (W) W-0933 at 14:45 hours.
- (2) 1 U/I A/C at Erstein at 14:00 hours heading west at 14,000'.
- (3) 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: I, H, A, A, -CP type flak was seen fired at a French formation from Freiburg (W) W-0933.

LOSSES TO FLAK: None. DAMAGED BY FLAK: None.

GROUND OBSERVATIONS:

a. General:

- (1) supply dump on North side of Neustadt (W) W-3673.
- (2) At Freischheim (W) W-1076 5 trunched buildings.

b. Communications:

- (1) 15/20 small boats North of target at 14:40 hours.

GROUND OBSERVATIONS: (Cont'd).

b. communications: (Cont'd).

- (2) 110 RR cars at Zell M/Y (W) W-2472 at 14:32 hours.
- (3) 120 RR cars at Haslach M/Y (W) W-2763 at 14:31 hours.
- (4) Locomotive at Lahr (W) W-1072 moving North at 15:00 hours.
- (5) 2 locomotives, steam up, at Bleibach (W) W-2048 at 14:35 hours.
- (6) Offenber M/Y (W) W-1686 had 65 RR cars in yards at 14:30 hours.

CASUALTIES: None.

No. OF A/C TAKING PHOTOS: 8.

ROUTE: Base to rendezvous at Lunzville (W) Q-0800; to Erstein (W) V-9480; to Lahr (W) W-1072; to Bleibach (W) W-2048; to IF, Steig (W) W-2723; briefed Axis of 98°T; 8° drift correction to the left; evasive action; loss of altitude; to target on an Axis of 114° T; breakaway right to Sondorf (W) W-4513; to Bleibach (W) W-2048; reciprocal course to base. The 9 A/C bombing the last resort target left the formation at the breakaway; to Steig (W) W-2727; to Löffingen (W) W-4720; to Neustadt (W) W-3623; to Bleibach (W) W-2048; to Lahr (W) W-1072; long left turn to Erstein (W) V-9480; to Lahr (W) W-1072; to Bleibach (W) W-2558; bomb run on Lahr (W) W-1072; breakaway left to Erstein (W) V-9480; to base.

WEATHER:

- a. Route: 7/10ths to 8/10ths, bases estimated at 3,000' to 4,000', tops 6,000', some to 8,000' to Rhine. Clearing East of Rhine.
- b. Target Area: 2/10ths low clouds, tops 6,000', bases estimated
- c. Target Vicinity: 3,000' to 4,000'. Vis. 10 miles. Winds aloft 265°, 40 m.p.h..
- d. Return: same as enroute.

RESULTS: Primary target: The target was covered with a good pattern of bombs, but bridge was still standing after bombing, though probably damaged.

Last resort target: Most of bombs landed North in the town, with a few in North edge of area. One explosion was seen.

SPECIAL COMMENTS: None.

NORMAN L. FARBERG,
Captain, Air Corps,
Acting Group Intelligence Officer.

MISSION # 465: FLIGHT COMMANDER: CAPTAIN CARRAHER: 8 Feb 1945.

RUNWAY LINE UP.

27		"A"	
43		BARRACLOUGH	
32		PEARSON	STEINBACH
37		32 Farwell	45 ROBERTS
33	29	"B"	
44	1255	SPRAGUE	
45	1309	MCLAUGHLIN	ROSS
25		44 Militscher	33 Fisher
46		"C"	
88		GUSTAFSON	CONNELLY
80		46 Linville	25 Youss
76		"D"	
81		POLLING	
98		DAVIS	LAMPAN
75		76 Kalgore	80 GOLDMAN
93	NO T.O. VAPOR LOCK	"E"	
94		ELLIS	
82		HAFKEMEYER	TRAVELL
83		75 Schemp	98 Clark
85		"F"	
97		WILSON	
89		81 Podmajersky	96 MATTHEWS
91		82 Rindan	91 Barrett
95		"G"	
28		TRIMM	
47		FORD	SALMONSON
35		97 Tabacco	85 HELLER
77		"H"	
31-ER		DAY	HAVEL
71-ER		WALKER	91 Sheehan
		95 Kerry	
		"I"	
		GONKE	
		LACHASSE	MANFIELD
		35 Beckman	47 Roush
		SPANES	
		WELLS D.E.	GILES
		71 Fowell	31 Miller H. W.

RADIO CALL SIGNS:

320th Bomb Group:

1 Formation: "SNACKBAR"

2 Formation: "WISEGUY"

W/T CALL SIGNS:

1 Formation: A 86

2 Formation: G 91

FIGHTER VOICE CALL SIGNS:

1 Formation "STRAWBERRY"

2 Formation "SOURKRAUT"

FIGHTER BOMBER CALLS ON

CHANNEL "B"

COLORS OF THE DAY FOR 8 FEBRUARY 1945.

TIME	FLARE COLORS	CHALLENGE	REPLY
0100-0700	Y Y R	Y	M
0700-1300	Y Y	S	B
1300-1900	R R R	W	X
1900-0100	R Y	F	O

AIR GROUND R/T AUTHENTICATION.

441st	index number	A 431	PSW
442nd	index number	A 434	M2M
443rd	index number	A 437	GTY
444th	index number	A 440	TFW

CHECK POINTS:

LUNSVILLE ***VICTOR::: ROSEMAN*** MAN::: ERSTEIN***GEORGE

LAHR*** PETER::: BIERBACH (W 2048) JUG::: STEIG(W2724) ITEM.

NEUSTADT***(W 3624) XRAY::: ST. BILSEN(W 3007) SUGAR::

BOMENDORF (W 4514) UNCLE ZEIL(W 2473) OSOE:: WOLFGANG(W 3667) WILLIAM:

H-SLUGH (W-2665) YORK FORBACH::(R-4509) ZEBRA

BOMBER CALL MESSAGE OR BOXCAR ON CHANNEL "B" FOR FIX.

ORDER OF OFFICER VOICE CALL SIGNS: BAGGAGE AND BOXCAR ON CHANNEL "C"

CREWS FLYING IN MISSION NUMBER 465 - 8 FEBRUARY 1945.

BARRACLOUGH, PILOT, Capt.	442nd	27
VANDERBERG, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 1255
MONTEZ, BOMB., Capt.		landed 1548
MENNAUGH, NAV., Capt.		
CARRAHER, FC, Capt.		
FUTNAM, ENG., S/Sgt.		
BLUM, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
MIKELSON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
STEINBACH, PILOT, Capt.	442nd	43
TIBBETTS, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 1256
ROBERTS, BOMB., Lt.		landed 1548+
BRAIN, NAV., Lt.		
WALDEN, ENG., T/Sgt.		
RATTS, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
NYE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
MESSEROLE, FOTO, S/Sgt.		
PEARSON PILOT, Lt.	442nd	32
VILLELLI, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 1256+
FARWELL, BOMB., S/Sgt.		landed 1549
WALKER, ENG., S/Sgt.		
PASTORAK, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
SPENCER, GUNNER, Cpl.		
SHORT, EG, Cpl.		
SPRADLING, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	37
JORDON, CO PILOT, Major		took off 1257
ANDERSON, BOMB., Lt.		landed 1550
RICHARDSON, NAV., Lt.		
STEVENSON, ENG., Sgt.		
GODER, RADIO, Cpl.		
DEMSKI, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
ROSS, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	33
WOJKOWSKI, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 1257+
FISHER, BOMB., S/Sgt.		landed 1551
SEMIC, ENG., S/Sgt.		
CHURCH, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
CRENSHAW, GUNNER, Sgt.		
MCLAUGHLIN, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	44
LEVIN, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 1258
YOWELL, BOMB., Lt.		landed 1551+
SUGERMAN, ENG., Sgt.		
NEWTON, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
ORTEGA, GUNNER, Sgt.		
HAYES, FOTO, Sgt.		
INGHAM, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	45
BRENAN, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 1258+
LYTLE, BOMB., Lt.		landed 1558
CARTER, ENG., Cpl.		
HARRIS, RADIO, Cpl.		
HURBAGE, GUNNER, Sgt.		

CONNELLY, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	25
OLSON, CO PILOT, Lt.		took off 1259
YOUSSE, BOMB., S/Sgt.		landed 1505+
WILLIAMS, ENG., Cpl.		
VINE, RADIO, Cpl.		
DURHAM, GUNNER, Cpl.		
CINIELLO, FOTO, S/Sgt.		
GUSTAFSON, PILOT, Lt.	442nd	46
LEACH, CO PILOT, Capt.		took off 1259+
LINVILLE, BOMB., Sgt.		landed 1506
SHEEHY, ENG., S/Sgt.		
WELLS, RADIO, Pvt.		
LEONE, GUNNER, Sgt.		
PETRO, FOTO, Sgt.		
POLING, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	88
BARRETT, CO PILOT, Col.		took off 1300
CLAUBITZ, BOMB., 1st Lt.		landed 1505
WESTEROOK, NAV., 1st Lt.		
KUCZMA, ENG., T/Sgt.		
RUSSELL, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
RYAN, GUNNER, Sgt.		
LAMPMAN, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	80
HARTLEY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1300+
GOLDMAN, BOMB., 2nd Lt.		landed 1559
HARTMAN, NAV., 2nd Lt.		
HARDY, ENG., S/Sgt.		
HARRINGTON, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
HOLLAND, GUNNER, Cpl.		
DAVIS, PILOT, 2nd Lt.	444th	76
CARY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1301
KILGORE, BOMB., Cpl.		landed 1600
EUCHERT, ENG., Sgt.		
MULLANEY, RADIO, Sgt.		
NESBITT, GUNNER, Sgt.		
ZALEWSKI, FOTO, Sgt.		
ELLIS, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	81
WELBORN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1303
PODMAJERSKY, BOMB., 2nd Lt.		landed 1601
DUFFEL, ENG., S/Sgt.		
FLEMMING, RADIO, T/Sgt.		
PERRY, GUNNER, Sgt.		
TRAVELL, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	98
SHERMAN, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1302+
CLARKE, BOMB., T/Sgt.		landed 1602
THAIN, ENG., S/Sgt.		
WITT, RADIO, Sgt.		
WELLS, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		

HAFKEMEYER, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	75
GOGULSKI, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1301+
SCHEMPF, BOMB., 2nd Lt.		landed 1602+
HILEMAN, ENG., Sgt.		
PIERCE, RADIO, Sgt.		
LESTER, GUNNER, Sgt.		
MOREY, FOTO, Sgt.		
WILSON, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th (no take off)	93
MATTHEWS, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	94
BELL, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1302
RYAN, BOMB., S/Sgt.		landed 1602+
BAILEY, ENG., Cpl.		
BROWN, RADIO, Sgt.		
STEWART, GUNNER, Sgt.		
WATKINS, OBS., Capt.		
CHANNEL, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	82
BILBREY, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1303+
RINDEN, BOMB., S/Sgt.		landed 1604
KLOTZ, ENG., Sgt.		
CLEARY, RADIO, Sgt.		
STEGEMEYER, GUNNER, Sgt.		
TRIMM, PILOT, Capt.	444th	83
MICKELSON, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1304
CAIRNS, BOMB., 1st Lt.		landed 1652
NELSON, NAV., 1st Lt.		
DOWLEN, ENG., S/Sgt.		
SHROLL, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
MCDONALD, GUNNER, Sgt.		
SALMONSON, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	85
LEIBENDORFER, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt.		took off 1304+
HELLER, BOMB., Capt.		landed 1652+
ADAMS, NAV., 1st Lt.		
RANKIN, ENG., S/Sgt.		
TRACH, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
RAMIREZ, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		
FORD, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	97
HARKNESS, CO PILOT, F/O		took off 1305
TABACCO, BOMB., 2nd Lt.		landed 1653
GRECO, ENG., S/Sgt.		
FRIEL, RADIO, S/Sgt.		
PIGGOTT, GUNNER, Sgt.		
KRAUS, FOTO, Pvt.		
DAY, PILOT, 1st Lt.	444th	89
SUTHERLAND, CO PILOT, 1st Lt.		took off 1305+
HEPNER, BOMB., 1st Lt.		landed 1654
HAMMONTREE, ENG., Sgt.		
MCDANIEL, RADIO, Sgt.		
WIGGLE, GUNNER, S/Sgt.		

HAVEL, PILOT, 1st Lt. BOSCA, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. SHEEHAN, BOMB., S/Sgt. GAY, ENG., S/Sgt. CLOEY, RADIO, Cpl. JOHNSON, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	444th		91 took off 1305+ landed 1654+
WALKER, PILOT, 1st Lt. CATALANO, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. KELLY , BOMB., Sgt. Kenney DELEO, ENG., S/Sgt. CARRINGTON, RADIO, Sgt. BLAKER, GUNNER, Cpl./ LINDQUIST, FOTO, S/Sgt.	444th		95 took off 1306 landed 1655+
GOEKE, PILOT, Lt. DAVIES, CO PILOT, Lt. HERBST, BOMB., Lt. BOLLINGER, ENG., T/Sgt. CARROLL, RADIO, T/Sgt. PURDY, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	442nd		28 took off 1306+ landed 1656
MAYFIELD, PILOT, Lt. PERRINE, CO PILOT, Lt. ROUSH, BOMB., Sgt. ISON, ENG., Cpl. HOUSE, RADIO, Cpl. ZEINER, GUNNER, Sgt.	442nd		47 took off 1307 landed 1657
LACHASSE, PILOT, Lt. WOOLF, CO PILOT, Lt. BECKMAN, BOMB., F/O MORROW, ENG., S/Sgt. BERRY, RADIO, Cpl. DAWSON, GUNNER, Cpl.	442nd		35 took off 1307+ landed 1657+
ALDRIDGE, PILOT, 2nd Lt. STARR, CO PILOT, 2nd Lt. GLEASON, BOMB., Pvt. GREER, ENG., T/Sgt. DINYER, RADIO, Sgt. BRADY, GUNNER, Sgt.	444th	(Spare)	77 took off 1308+ landed 1603
GILES, PILOT, Lt. DOOLITTLE, CO PILOT, Lt. WELLS, BOMB., Lt. CHASE, ENG., S/Sgt. DANIEL, RADIO, Cpl. WEINBERG, GUNNER, S/Sgt.	442nd	(Spare) (Early Return)	31 took off 1309 landed 1450
WELLS, PILOT, Lt. KRIMM, CO PILOT, Lt. MILLER, BOMB., S/Sgt. SHEARER, ENG., S/Sgt. RICHARDSON, RADIO, Cpl. VICKERS, GUNNER, Cpl.	442nd	(Spare) (Early Return)	71 took off 1308 landed 1454