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

D-G-2

13 March 1945.

Final Mission Report No. 503.

Flight Commander: Captain Steimbach.  
Lead Pilot : Lt. Daily. ABERNATHY

320th Bombardment Group (M).

GUN POSITIONS NEAR KIRKEL AMMUNITION AND SUPPLY AREA (M/R: (W) Q-624759, GSGS 4416, Sheet U-1), Germany.

At 14:23 hours, 3 B-26's took off to bomb gun positions near Kirkel Ammunition and Supply Area (M/R: (W) Q-624759, GSGS 4416, Sheet U-1), Germany. No B-26's returned early. Total Sorties: 3. 3 B-26's were over the Primary target and 3 B-26's dropped 390 x 20-lb. Fragmentation bombs at 15:56 hours from 11,500' on an Axis of 39°T, dropped 29 cartons of "Chaff" from the IP to target and return to IP. 30 x 20-lb. Fragmentation bombs were salvoed at 15:57 hours at the target, having hung up over the target. No bombs were returned to base. No B-26's lost or missing. No B-26's damaged. 3 B-26's returned to base at 16:47 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: S, H, A, A, - GP type flak encountered from the target area. 2 Hy 700 yards East of the target area.

S, L, I, I, -40mm. type flak encountered from Eastern outskirts of Saarbrücken, Q-5070.

Losses to Flak: None. Damaged by Flak: None.

GROUND OBSERVATIONS: See Final Mission Report No. 504, this date.

CASUALTIES: None.

No. of A/C TAKING PHOTOS: None.

ROUTE: Base to Luneville, rendezvous; to Sarrelbe (W) Q-4845; to IP, Sarreguemines (W) Q-5157; to target on an Axis of 39°T (briefed Axis - 29°T; no drift correction; evasive action - loss of 1,500' altitude); breakaway left to Sarreguemines; reciprocal course to base.

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WEATHER: Burouts, Vicinity of target, Target Area, and Return:

CAVU. Light haze (low stratocumulus overcast observed 10 miles North of the target and small low cumulus 1 mile East of the target).

RESULTS: Assigned area is believed to have been covered with a good pattern of bursts.

SPECIAL COMMENTS: 29 Cartons of "CHAFF" were dropped from the IP to target and return to IP.

WILLIAM (NMI) COOK,  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group Intelligence Officer.

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MISSION NO. 495 FLIGHT COMMANDER: Capt. STEINBLICH 13 MARCH 1945.

DECOY	DAILY	"A"	BERNATHY
BLANKO	64 DAVIS	McNEIL	40 VILLO
52 FORD	PERSONS	39 LOCURDO	METSCHUN
SPARE:	JONES	"B"	37 HAN
	69 TRAFTON	ROJNOWSKI	PEARSON
		48 MILLER	31 YONELL
		"C"	LEACH
		DRIDGE	36 VENTURINO

RUNWAY LINEUP

40	64	B2 RYAN	81 LILYSZEK	H. F. KILBYER
37	58	"D"	STELER	95 SCHEMPF
39	52	ROBINSON	23 DEVER	K. UFFELN
31	69	14 WILLIAMSON	LEVERING	01 ALLEN
36		"E"	19 VANCE	LAMPKE
48		BLACK	16 SACCO	20 BUSH
81		"F"	UHLIG	55 LUSSENDEN
95		63 KATZMAN	SPARES	53 GORDAN
82			L. MEES	McHUGH
23			93 EVELAND	54 THOMPSON
01				
14				
19				
20				
16				
55	93			
53	54			
63				

COLORS OF THE DAY FOR 13 MARCH 1945.

TIME	FLTR. COLORS	CHALLENGE	REPLY	AIR GROUND R/T AUTHENTICATION
0100-0700	YY	D	Q	441st Index No. 431 UGY
0700-1300	RRR	O	L	442nd Index No. 434 NGS
1300-1900	YYR	"	C	443rd Index No. 437 SZR
1900-0100	RR	H	B	444th Index No. 440 P.J.

COMMUNICATION CODE WORD: HITCH UP

BOMBER CALL SIGNS: FL. TOP CONTROL CENTER VOICE CALL SIGNS: 17th and 320th Groups  
 B. G. G. AND BOACR ON CHANNEL "C" W/T CALL SIGNS FOR WING 1 NET: 86 FIGHTER  
 VOICE CALL SIGNS: RAFTURE CHECK POINTS: (LUNEVILLE 2nd Lt.) (SARRABLE BAKER)  
 (SARRGUELLINS FOX) (NOHFELDEN VICTOR) (PALZAM ITEM) (KELL SUGR) (METZ WILLIAM)