

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

30th. APRIL/1st. MAY, 1944

ACHERES: MAINTENON: SOULLEN: Saarbrücken: Duren: Dinclaving; etc.

CLARY

Forces of 100-150 aircraft attacked the marshalling yards at Acheres and main, and the ammunition dump at Maintenon, in cloudless conditions. The first and last attacks were extremely accurate and successful; the yards at Acheres suffered enormous damage, and the ammunition dump was virtually destroyed. At Souain, the bombing was centred on the edge of the target, but even so considerable destruction was caused. Only one aircraft was lost from all the night's operations, which included Mosquito raids on Saarbrücken, Duren and the German airfields, and a large mining programme.

WEATHER FORECAST

Bases:- Fit all night, with little cloud. Moderate visibility.

Germany:- 10/10ths. very low stratus in N.W. 10/10ths. medium cloud strato-cumulus in S. Extensive clearances in E.

France:- Cloudless in N. Patchy strato-cumulus in S. Risk of fog patches off Brest and Cherbourg.

Frisians:- 6-9/10ths. strato-cumulus, and perhaps stratus also, all over 6-8,000'.

ACHERES: MAINTENON: SOULLEN:

DETAILS OF ATTACK

Acheres Controlled BOE groundmarking. 4 BOE Mosquitos were to mark A/P with red and green spot fires and red and yellow T.I. Illuminators were to be used at the T.I., dropping them blindly if no markers were visible. They were to orbit and make a second run for bombing. The Master Bomber was to drop markers if necessary, or instruct his deputy to do so. In any case, the Master Bomber was to make a run at zero and drop white T.I. Main force crews were to be instructed by the Master Bomber. Zero hour: 2350. Mosquitos at z-6, z-2 and -1. Illuminators at z - 5 and -2. Main Force in 3 waves between z + 2 and + 10.

Maintenon An assembly point was to be marked with cascading yellow T.I. from z - 12 to z + 12. The A/P was to be marked with 2 red impact T.I., backed up with red spot fires; then by cascading red T.I. and more red spot fires. The Master Bomber was to instruct the main force how to bomb. Zero hour: 2350.

Souain Method and timing as for Acheres, except that zero hour was to be 2350.

	<u>Acheres</u>	<u>Maintenon</u>	<u>Souain</u>
No. of aircraft despatched.....	128.....	116	142
" " " reporting attack on prim. area....	122.....	115	135
" " abortive sorties.....	6.....	1	7
" " aircraft missing.....	0.....	0	1
			(0.7%)

...../WEATHER EXPERIENCED.

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

7. Bases:- Pit.

Acheres, Maintenen, Somain:- No cloud. Haze at Somain. Half moon. Excellent visibility. No cloud en route except patches of medium and cirrus cloud.

NARRATIVES OF ATTACK

8. Acheres The Mosquitos, though late, were accurate, and both the Master Bomber and his deputy dropped whites near the L/P. The Master Bomber was clearly heard, and the bombing was concentrated round the whites.

9. Maintenen The markers were accurately placed, and the Master Bomber ordered the first wave to bomb at once. An extraordinarily spectacular attack resulted. Explosions were so numerous as to be uncountable, and were heard for 120 miles.

10. Somain The Mosquitos were late and inaccurate; the first wave went down 7 minutes late and a mile from the L/P, at the western extremity of the yards. The Master Bomber could not identify and mark the correct L/P until 2 + 10, by which time many aircraft had bombed the inaccurate T.I.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

11. Acheres Heavy damage was caused throughout the yards. The engine shed lost 75% of its roof, and the transshipment shed was similarly affected. Engines were wrecked in their shed, and at least 2 more suffered from near misses. Very many tracks were blown up, especially in the crowded southern half of the yards, and rolling stock was everywhere derailed or demolished.

12. Somain The weight of the attack fell outside the yards, but serious damage was caused in the eastern sector, where the 16-bay roundhouse, a large unidentified 4-bay building, and a big industrial complex S. of the roundhouse together with various smaller buildings, were badly damaged. The passenger station was one third demolished, and a double-lane highway bridge collapsed to the tracks. Nearly all the tracks at the western entrance to the yards, sorting sidings were cut, and scattered hits occurred along the reception siding and an engine-reversing track triangle. Rolling stock suffered seriously.

13. Maintenen Enormous damage was caused. Nearly every building destroyed or damaged, and enormous craters marked the positions of internal explosions, the largest measuring 80' across. 1,100 yards S. of the main depot, a loose stick of bombs caused explosions in another dump in the Parc Duc de Houilles. The main line railway passing through the dump was cut in 22 places by direct hits, while 21 more were scored on the adjacent siding. The town of Maintenen was almost unscathed.

ENEMY DEFENCES

14. Fighter opposition was slight. Only 3 of the 388 aircraft engaged attacked - all on Somain. Flak was meagre.

CASUALTIES

15. One Halifax was lost on Somain. It was shot down by flak over D. 9,000'. A Lancaster damaged its undercarriage while taking-off and, since it could not jettison their bombs, the crew baled out. The aircraft crashed and was destroyed. A Halifax crashed on return from Acheres.

SLIGHTLY DAMAGED

16. 28 Mosquitos, including 4 Y-aircraft, were sent against Saarbruck. The Y-aircraft failed, and 27 aircraft bombed on G3/D. From this and other operations on this night, all returned safely.

...../DJR:

DUREN

5 Mk.I OBOE Mosquitos were despatched against the Durener Metallwerke. 2 made successfully controlled runs. 2 bombed the primary area on 1st, and the fifth attacked Aachen.

MINELAYING

46 Halifaxes, out of a force of 48, laid 107 mines off the Frisians and in the French Channel and Biscay ports (including Rouen).

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

9 Mosquitos of 100 Group were detailed on SEPRATE patrols. 23 others, from 2 and 100 Groups and A.D.G.B., intruded over enemy-occupied territory. No combats occurred.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

50 Stirlings, Halifaxes, Lysanders, Hudsons and Portresses were despatched on special sorties. 37 were successful.

M/T.
S. 26342/4/CPS4,
September, 1944.

GROUP	NO.	MINE TYPE	SORTIES	✓/C REPORTED		ABORTIVE		PLUS	D. CASE		INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS			
				PRBL RE.	ALT. RE.	OVER E.T.	NON OVER E.T.		INC.	FLAK	FLAMER	BRIT. INC. RINGS	NOT DUE TO E/A.	✓/C ED	NOT ✓/C ED	HL
✓/C REPORTS	8	Hal. III	107	106	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1E	-	3	527.9	1.6
		Lans. III	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. IV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XVI	3	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. IX	4	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
✓/C REPORTS TOTAL		128	122	-	-	5	1	-	-	-	1E	-	3			
H. D. REPORTS	1	Lans. I	41	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	629.0	1.0
		Lans. III	75	74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1E	-	1	-	-
H. D. REPORTS TOTAL		116	115	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1E	-	1			
SOLDIERS	6	Hal. III	108	106	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	-	3	6	592.5	2.1
		Hal.	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lans. III	20	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. IX	5	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XVI	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SOLDIERS TOTAL		142	135	-	-	6	1	1	2	1	-	3	6			
S. J. REPORTS	8	Mosq. IV	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40.6	.2
		Mosq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20,800lbs.	
		Mosq. XVI	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq. XI	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
S. J. REPORTS TOTAL		28	27	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
DORM.	8	Mosq. IX	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.6	
		Mosq. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,000lbs.	
DORM. TOTAL		5	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
DC BLDG TOTAL			419	403	1	12	3	1	3	1	-	2E	3			

March 30/1st. May, 1944. (Contd)

GROUP	GROUP	MINE TYPE	SORTIES	✓/C REPORTED		ABORTIVE		PLUS	D. CASE		INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS		
				PRBL RE.	ALT. RE.	OVER E.T.	NON OVER E.T.		INC.	FLAK	FLAMER	BRIT. INC. RINGS	NOT DUE TO E/A.	✓/C ED	NOT ✓/C ED
MINELAYING	4	L. P. MINE	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	107 mines
		PRISLMS	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		CIRKON R.	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		ST. H. MINE	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		ST. H. MINE	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		RELUCC	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		ROUSH (LS H.M.)	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		GERLONDS	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		LORIST	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		PRISLMS	10	8	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MINELAYING TOTAL		48	46	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-			
BOHEM SUPPORT	100	Mosq.	9	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
INTRODUCED	100	Mosq.	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			481	461	1	13	6	1	5	1	-	2E	3	10	
(SPEC. OPS.)	3	Various	46	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
(SPEC. OPS.)	100	Various	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
SPEC. OPS. TOTAL			50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
(INTRODUCED)	2	Mosq.	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
(INTRODUCED)	100	Mosq.	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
INTRODUCED TOTAL			18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

O. B. S. 2-

NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

1/2nd. MAY, 1944.

LYONS: CHARBLY: MALINES: TOURS: TOULOUSE: ST. GHISLAIN: Ludwigshafen, etc.SUMMARY

7 separate targets in France were raided in force: the marshalling yards at Malines and St. Ghislain (near Mons), the permanent way depot at Charbly, a motor-vehicle factory at Lyons, and aircraft repair works near Tours, and an explosives works and aircraft assembly plant at Toulouse. All sustained crippling damage. There was no cloud over any of the targets, except during the later stages of the attack on Malines, and our bombers were helped by the light of half moon. The attack on Charbly was one of the most concentrated ever carried out by the Command. At the same time, Mosquitoes raided the chemical works at Ludwigshafen and the marshalling yards at Achères, while intruders bombed airfields and other aircraft laid mines and laid special sorties over the Continent. From all these operations, 9 bombers and 2 fighters were lost; but many fighters were destroyed, with 2 more probably destroyed and 3 damaged.

WEATHER FORECAST

Bases:- Fit all night, with well broken thin cloud.
 Germany:- Patchy medium and strato-cumulus cloud. Large amounts in N.E. Good clearances in N.W. Much strato-cumulus over North Sea.
 France:- Fine, except for broken strato-cumulus in N.W. Paris: probably clear. Brussels: risk of low stratus after midnight.

LYONSPLAN OF ATTACK

The Berliet motor-vehicle works at Lyons was the target for 75 aircraft of B Group. 6 special aircraft were to mark an assembly point at 4535N. 0507E. with yellow T.I. at h-10; then they were to proceed to the target and mark the spot with red T.I. These were to be assessed by the Master Bomber, who was to release red spot fires. The target was to be kept marked until h + 12 with more red spot fires or, if these were hard to see, with cascading red T.I. Main force crews were to aim at the centre of the reds, or as ordered by the Master Bomber. Zero hour: 0100. Bombing height: 6-10,000'.

SORTIES

No. of aircraft despatched.....	75
" " " reporting attack on primary target.....	73
" " abortive sorties.....	2
" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

Bases:- Fit until towards dawn, when low stratus affected B Group.
 Lyons:- No cloud, apart from a little cirrus. Half moon. Good visibility.

...../NARRATIVE OF ATTACK.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

6. The town of Lyons was not blacked out when the first markers arrived. The first T.I. was estimated to have fallen 50 yards from the A/P, in the center of all the target buildings. Two-thirds of the target was covered with fires, and the main force bombing was very accurate. In the later stages everything in the target area was obscured by smoke except by cascading T.I.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

7. The whole of the Peugeot works suffered grave damage. In the southern half, the saw mills and despatch shed for lorries were virtually destroyed. The shed for lorries held in stock was severely damaged. In the central part, the shop for assembly of lorry chassis, the cast iron foundry, the workshop for stamping machines, hardening and welding, the main chassis assembly shop, administrative office and laboratory received moderate to heavy damage. In the northern half, the transmission units workshop and the gear cutting shop. The Lyons-Bourgein railway S. of the factory and the sidings leading to it were cut in several places.

ENEMY DEFENCES

8. Only one aircraft, a Ju.88, was seen, and that was damaged. Flak negligible, and no aircraft was hit.

CASUALTIES

9. All aircraft returned undamaged.

CHANNELSPLAN OF ATTACK

10. Method of attack 0508 groundmarking, directed by a Master Bomber. Mosquito + 1 reserve on each of Channels 1, 3, 11 and 12 were to drop green fires, red spot fires, green T.I. and red T.I. respectively. Illuminators to attack before and after H, aiming both flares and bombs at the T.I. If none were visible, they were to release their flares blindly, orbit and make second run for bombing. But those attacking after H were only to drop flares ordered to do so by the Master Bomber. The last-planes was to direct the Master Bomber himself dropping white T.I. after H if necessary. Main force aircraft (3 Groups including Pathfinders in practice, were to bomb as instructed by the Master Bomber. G-H aircraft were to use their special equipment.

11. Timing Zero hour: 0020
Duration of attack: 0014-0028.

Markers 4 Mosq. @ H - 6 to H - 3 (one per minute)

Illuminators. 5 @ H - 5
2 @ H + 2

Master Bomber and Deputy @ H - 5 (H if necessary).

Practice Pathfinders. 5 @ H + 2

Main Force. 50 @ H to H + 4
51 + H + 4 to H + 8

...../SCRTIES.

STATISTICS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	120
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	113*
" " abortive sorties.....	7
" " aircraft missing.....	5(4.2%)

* This figure now includes the number of missing aircraft.

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

Chambly:- No cloud. Half noon.

RELATIVE OF ATTACK

The T.I. dropped by the CBOE aircraft were misplaced, and the Master Bomber instructed crews to ignore them and bomb on his own markers. An excellent concentration was achieved among the target buildings.

PREVIOUS RECONNAISSANCE

This target, reputed to be one of the most modern and important munition way depots in Europe, was very badly damaged indeed. The points and pressing shop and the sleeper impregnation plant, with all their satellite buildings, were totally destroyed. The stores yards were saturated with water, and hardly a building escaped without grave damage.

ENEMY DEFENCES

Considering the short time our bombers spent over France, they saw an abundant number of fighters, mostly over the target and near Corneilles on the way home. 2 Ju.88's were downed, and hits were scored on 2 other aircraft. Observations suggest that 2 of these fighters may have been destroyed. Little flak was encountered, and few searchlights exposed.

RESULTS

5 aircraft (4.2%) were lost. 4 were seen to go down in combat on the way home. One returning bomber was damaged beyond repair by fighter attack. 2 were hit by flak, neither seriously.

MALINES 1/1PLAN OF ATTACK

As for Chambly, except that the main force (4 Group Halifaxes) were to attack in 3 waves between H and H + 10. Zero hour: 2340.

STATISTICS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	132
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	120
" " abortive sorties.....	12
" " aircraft missing.....	2(1.5%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

Malines:- No cloud at first, but towards the close of the raid patches of low stratus, up to 8/10ths, drifted across. Very hazy. Half noon.

RELATIVE OF ATTACK

The markers were accurate and well concentrated, but the haze almost obscured them and bombing soon became scattered. Difficulty was experienced in understanding the Master Bomber's instructions.

...../D.V. RECONNAISSANCE.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

22. Despite the scatter of the attack, the target was well hit. The locomotive repair shops were 70% destroyed, the carriage and wagon shops almost as badly, and the northern half of the yards was splattered with crates. The centre of the yards also sustained a number of hits. Outside the target area, the S.N. Rageno works and the Junkers aero-engine factory were quite heavily damaged.

ENEMY DEFENCES

23. Fighters were present over the target for the last 15 minutes of the attack, and harassed the bomber stream from E. of Brussels to the coast. These fighters were destroyed, one probably destroyed and one damaged. Six flak was fired over the target.

CASUALTIES

24. 2 aircraft (1.5%) were lost, one to a fighter W. of Brussels, and in S.E. of Brussels after being hit by both flak and fighter. Only one return aircraft was damaged, and that slightly.

TOURS

25. 50 Lancasters of 5 Group attacked the Usine Biotard aircraft repair at St. Pierre des Corps, near Tours. The target was accurately marked and in perfect weather, almost without opposition. Reconnaissance showed that the 3 main buildings which comprise the works were completely destroyed, the third was severely damaged. All aircraft returned undamaged.

TOULOUSE

26. 131 Lancasters and 8 Mosquitos were sent by 5 Group to deliver similar attacks on the S.N.C.M.S.E. aircraft assembly plant and Societe Nationale de works, both at Toulouse. Both attacks were extremely successful, although a deal of flak was met over the town. The entire aircraft assembly plant, except for the boiler plant, was severely damaged, the 3 main buildings being destroyed. The explosives works and the adjacent nitrogen fixation plant suffered equally badly, on a rather larger scale. From both these operations, all aircraft returned safely.

ST. GHISLAIN / X

PLAN OF ATTACK

27. As for Chambly, except that the main force of Lancasters and Halifax from 6 Group were to attack in one wave between H and H + 10. Zero hour:

SORTIES

28.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	137
	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	123
	" " " " " alternative area.....	1
	" " abortive sorties.....	13
	" " aircraft missing.....	2(1)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

29. St. Ghislain:- No cloud. Half moon.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

30. The Master Bomber arrived late, and his deputy took command in the early stages. The markers fell in 2 groups, one to the north and one to the south of the A/P, and crews were instructed to allow for this. The bombing was reported as well concentrated.

RECONNAISSANCE

The 2 main targets in the yards, the locomotive sheds and the carriage and repair shops, were both almost totally destroyed. Very great damage was caused to tracks and rolling stock, especially in the storage sidings E. of carriage repair shops, where 150-180 wagons were demolished or derailed. 40 more wagons suffered the same fate a little further N.E. Many lines cut. Some of the bombing fell outside the yards to the N. and S., where numerous residential dwellings were affected.

DEFENCES

No fighters were seen until Valenciennes was reached, but from that point to the target and back to Zeebrugge there were frequent encounters, including dogfights, in one of which a Ju. 88 was probably destroyed. Flak was negligible, but at Ghent en route.

LOSSES

2 aircraft (1.5.) were lost, both to fighters between Brussels and the target. Another was badly injured in a landing accident.

MISSIONS

2 Mk. II Mosquitos were sent against the marshalling yards at Acheres, Paris. One attacked the primary; the other abandoned its task for technical reasons. Both returned safely.

INDUSTRIAL

28 Mosquitos attacked the chemical works of I.G. Farbenindustrie at Dilsen in clear weather. 4 of the 5 Y-aircraft dropped markers on H2S, and the rest crews bombed on these. A good concentration was achieved. Flak was light, and all aircraft returned safely.

MINE LAYING

35 Halifaxes and Stirlings laid 150 mines off the Frisians and the French coast and Atlantic ports, without incident.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

10 Mosquitos of 100 Group carried out SEARCH patrols, while 6 others checked enemy airfields. 2 Mosquitos of 100 Group and 2 of 2 Group also made border patrols. No enemy aircraft were contacted, but good bombing results were achieved. 2 Mosquitos, one of 100 Group and one of 2 Group, were lost without trace.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

49 Stirlings, Hudsons, Halifaxes, Wellingtons and Mosquitos were detailed for special operations. 32 were successful. None was lost.

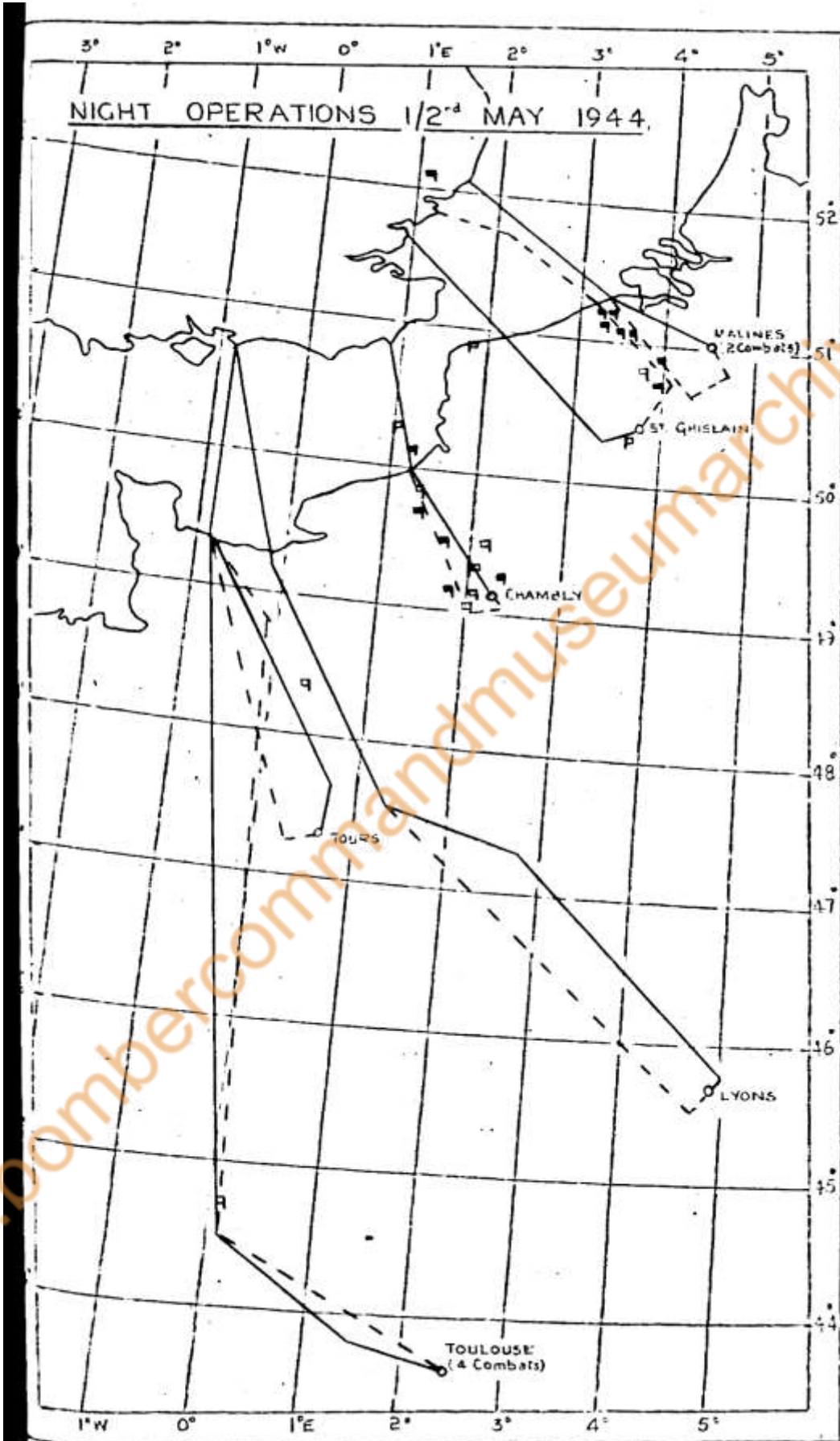
TARGET	GROUP	ALPHA/T TYPE	COORDIN.	ATTACK GR.		SCOUTING		MIS- DIC	FLAK	MORTARS	BATT. INC. BOYS	REF DUR TO E/A	MORTARS NOT RECOR- DED	TOTAL		
				PROB. ARE.	ALT. ARE.	OVER E. T.	NOT OVER E. T.							H.E.	INC.	
LYONS	1	Lane I	38	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39.8	2.7	
		Lane III	37	36	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LYONS TOTAL			75	73	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CHELSEY	3	Star III	16	16	-	-	-	2	-	1E	-	-	1	3	528.3	2.2
		Lane I	36	35	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1		
		Lane II	23	23	-	-	-	1	1	L.C	1	-	1	4		
	8	Lane III	23	23	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	-
		Lane III	14	14	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq IX	6	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mosq XVI	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CHELSEY TOTAL			120	113	-	6	1	5	1+L.C	1+L.C+1E	-	2	7	7	-	-
MILDONS	4	Hal III	110	103	-	6	1	2	1	-	-	-	5	4	534.3	1.3
		Lane III	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	8	Mosq IX	5	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mosq XVI	3	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MILDONS TOTAL			132	120	-	9	4	2	1	-	-	-	5	4	-	-
TOURS	5	Lane I	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	186.6	36.9
		Lane III	36	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12x1000 lbs.	-
		Mosq IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOURS TOTAL			50	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOULOUSE	5	Lane I	38	36	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	487.0	28.1
		Lane III	93	93	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	L.C	-	5	52x1000 lbs.	-
		Mosq IV	8	7	-	1	-	-	-	1+L.C	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOULOUSE TOTAL			139	136	-	3	-	-	2+L.C	1	-	1+L.C	1	9	-	-
ST. GIBELIN	6	Lane II	17	15	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	554.2	2.0
		Lane X	9	9	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hal III	75	67	1	2	5	1	-	-	1B	2	4	-		
	8	Hal	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	1+L.C	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lane III	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
		Mosq IV	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Mosq IX	1	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Mosq XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ST. GIBELIN TOTAL			137	123	1	4	9	2	-	1+L.C	-	1B	3	5	-	-

/cont'd

TARGET	GROUP	ALPHA/T TYPE	COORDIN.	PROB. ARE.	ALT. ARE.	OVER E. T.	NOT OVER E. T.	MIS- DIC	FLAK	MORTARS	BATT. INC. BOYS	REF DUR TO E/A	MORTARS NOT RECOR- DED	H.E.	INC.		
ACHENS	8	Mosq XVI	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.8	1x1000 lbs.		
LUDWIGSHAFEN	8	Mosq IV	14	14	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	37.1	.6		
		Mosq IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18x1000 lbs.	-		
		Mosq XVI	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Mosq IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LUDWIGSHAFEN TOTAL			28	26	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ROULED TOTAL			683	644	1	20	18	9	4+L.C	2+L.C	-	3+L.C	16	23	-		
MIDLANDS	3	Star	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		LA PALMICE	Hal	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			Mosq IV	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	ST. MALO	Hal	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		CHERBOURG	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	LE H.V.E	Hal	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		BREST	Hal III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
			KARST	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	ST. NAZAIRES	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	MIDLANDS TOTAL			35	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
PARIS	100	Mosq	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BRUNNEN	100	Mosq	5	5	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			744	694	1	20	19	10	4+L.C	2+L.C	-	3+L.C	16	23	-		
SPECIAL	100	Various	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
COR. SIGNS	3	Various	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
SPECIAL TOTAL			49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
INTELLIGENCE	2	Mosq	18	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
INTELLIGENCE	100	Mosq	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
INTELLIGENCE TOTAL			24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

(* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL)

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BOMB PLOTS NOT AVAILABLE

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS2/3rd. Night, 1944.Leverkusen: Acheres: Mindelaying: etc:PRIMARY

Leverkusen 29 Mosquitos, including 11 OBOE aircraft (6 Mk.I and 5 Mk.II) were despatched against the chemical factory at Leverkusen. The target was clear of cloud, and the bombing was well concentrated on the markers. No fires were visible for 60 miles on return. 7 aircraft attacked Cologne. In this and all other operations on this night, all aircraft returned safely.

Acheres 7 OBOE Mosquitos (5 Mk.I and 2 Mk.II) were sent against the shell yards at Acheres. 3 made successfully controlled runs. The others brought their bombs back.

Mindelaying 9 Stirlings laid 49 mines off the Frisians, Texel and the Dutch coast without incident.

Fighter operations 4 Mosquitos of A.D.G.P. carried out intruder operations, destroying 4 FW. 190's and damaging 2 aircraft on the ground.

Special operations 1 Halifax and a Wellington of 192 Squadron made special sorties over the Continent.

OTHER REPORTS

Bases:- This country will be affected by two frontal systems, both bringing layers of cloud to great heights. Most bases will remain fit until 10/10ths.

Continent:- 10/10ths. medium cloud and strato-cumulus in France N. of 50° N. and in Germany N. of 49° N. Strato-cumulus will persist in S. Germany, but S. France will be clear of cloud.

RESULTS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	45
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	33
" " " " " alternative area.....	7
" " abortive sorties.....	5
" " aircraft missing.....	0

OTHER EXPERIENCED

No cloud at Leverkusen or Acheres. 8/10ths. at 3,000' in all mining areas.

ANY DEFENCES

Slight to moderate heavy flak was met at Leverkusen, with many searchlight opposition was met at Acheres or by the mindelayers.

RESULTS

No aircraft was lost. 3 Mosquitos were slightly damaged by flak over Leverkusen.

WJT.
S. 26342/6/ORS4.
24th August, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	MISC. JT TYPE	MORTARS	C. REPORTING				BOMBING		RESULTS				RESULTS					
				PLACES		OVEN	NOT	MISC-	PLAC	MISC.	BUT.	HOT	MISC.	MISC.	MISC.	MISC.	MISC.		
				NO.	NO.													R. Y.	OVEN
LEVERMORE	8	Morg. IX Morg. IV Morg. XVI	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25-2	2	
			11	10	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
			15	9	6	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			29	21	7	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEVERMORE	8	Morg. IX Morg. IV Morg. XVI	3	-	-	3	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4-5	
			2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			7	3	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			36	24	7	5	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEVERMORE	3	Stiv. III	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49 mins	
			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			65	55	7	5	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
400	1000	Morg.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
400	1000	Morg.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

0.3.8.3.

NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL

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BOMBER COMBINED REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

3/4th. M.Y., 1944.

MILLY LE CAMP: ENVEDIDIER: Chateaudun: Ludwigshafen: Minelving: etc:

REMARKS

The military camp at Milly Le Camp was attacked by Lancasters with outstanding success, in bright moonlight. Extremely heavy and widespread damage caused, but 42 aircraft (11.3%) were lost. The high losses were associated with the delay in issuing instructions by the Master Bomber due to communication difficulties which resulted in aircraft concentrating over the datum point in all weather conditions for fighters.

Lancasters of 8 Group made a successful attack on the airfield at Envedidier. Mosquitos blew up an ammunition dump at Chateaudun, and other aircraft bombed Ludwigshafen and airfields in France and Belgium, laid mines, stored leaflets, and carried out fighter patrols and special operations. In these subsidiary operations, we lost 7 more aircraft.

WEATHER FORECAST

Basel:- Little cloud. Good visibility.

France:- Well broken convection cloud in N., dispersing by midnight.

MILLY-LE-CAMP

W/CP ATTACK

3 OOB Mosquitos were to mark the S.E. aiming-point with short-burning green. The W/P was then to be illuminated by flares and marked with red spot fires mainly between H and H + 5. These would be backed up with more red spot fires, if they were not sufficiently accurate, with ascending green T.I. on the W/P. Group aircraft were to attack in 2 waves between H + 5 and H + 11, as directed by the controller. The same procedure was to be carried out on the W/P by 1 Group, the Mosquitos working between H - 11 and H + 20, and the aircraft bombing from H + 20. H = 0001.

RESULTS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	362
" " " reporting attack on target area.....	354(97.8%)
" " abortive sorties.....	8(2.2%)
" " aircraft missing.....	42(11.3%)

OPERATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Basel:- Fit.

Target:- Cloudless over France. Good visibility. Bright moonlight. Alt at 6-7,000': 300-310°/30-35 m.p.h.

...../REP. TYPE OF ATTACK.

REPORTIVE OF ATTACK

7. Marking on the S.E. A/P was abortive; one set of T.I. failed to explode and the other Mosquito was intercepted by a fighter. The Master Bomber hesitated and, after a few aircraft had bombed, diverted the attack to the N. A/P. This was identified visually and accurately marked. The bombing was concentrated, and the target was soon enveloped in smoke.

DAY RECONSTRUCTION

8. The whole of the military camp and training area were severely damaged. The weight of the attack fell on the large and compact group of M.T. and barrack buildings. None of the 47 M.T. buildings escaped, and 31 were destroyed. Barrack buildings were affected. The workshops E. of this area, a second group of M.T. buildings to the E., the range and the ammunition dump were also heavily hit.

ENEMY DEFENCES

9. Ground Defences 8 heavy guns were in action at the target, firing accurately at 8-9,000'. Light flak consisted of 20 guns, and was self-destructive at 10-12,000'. Only 3 searchlights operated in the moonlight. Accurate flak was met en route from airfields and Chartres.

10. Fighters The first interceptions occurred on the S.E. leg beyond Compiègne, and at first the enemy lost more fighters than did the bombers, lost 3, probably 4 fighters before they turned E. near Epemay. Then the unfortunate delay before the main force received their instructions resulted in a concentration of aircraft over the datum point in bright moonlight, presenting fighters with great opportunities of wholesale interceptions. The attack lasted 19 minutes longer than had been planned, and it was during this period that most of the losses occurred. Fighters were active over the whole of the westerly route home, until the coast was reached.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

11. Our bombers destroyed 4, probably 5 aircraft: one He. 109, 2 He. 119 and a FW. 190 for certain, with a Ju. 88 and an unidentified twin-engine fighter as probabilities.

CASUALTIES

12. 42 aircraft (11.3%) were lost - a very high percentage, especially for French targets. The main reason has been given above - the concentration at datum point because of the delay in instructing the main force. At least 25 aircraft fell in combat, rather more than half of these over the target, and the rest on the homeward run. 9 were lost to flak, mostly over the target, although the defences of Reuilly, Fontainebleau and Chartres claimed victims. The other 8 losses cannot definitely be placed. 2 returning aircraft were wrecked by fighter attack.

MY FOLDERPLAN OF ATTACK

13. OCEC groundmarking, directed by a Master Bomber. Mosquitoes were to drop red and green T.I. and a green spot illuminator at H-1. 2 minutes later, illuminators were to drop flares, followed 2 minutes later by more illuminators if instructed by the Master Bomber, who might himself drop T.I. Main force crews were to aim as instructed by the Master Bomber. H = 0020.

SORTIES

14.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	92
	" " aborting attack on primary area.....	38(5)
	" " abortive sorties.....	4
	" " aircraft missing.....	4

...../AFMUR EC

WEATHER

No cloud. Good visibility. Three quarters moon.

TYPE OF ATTACK

All 4 OBOZ Mosquitos marked in good time. The 6 illuminators had also been used before H - 1. The Master Bomber was in position 5.3. but these were inaccurate than the OBOZ group, which the main force were ordered to bomb. Few bombs appeared to fall outside the target area.

KNOWLEDGE

This target was attacked on 1st night by aircraft of U.S.A.A.F., but most of bombs fell in open ground S. of the airfield. Bomber Command's attack was directed on the northern half of the target, and some damage occurred on the airfield ground. 5 aircraft shelters were destroyed, together with other buildings and huts. At least 46 direct hits were scored on various runways. Bombs were obtained on a stores dump.

DEFENSE

Flak was reported as negligible, although it claimed 2 victims. Little opposition was met. A few attacks were made in the target area.

LOSSES

4 aircraft (4.3.5) were lost: 2 to flak at Montdidier and Poix, and 2 to flak at Montdidier and S. of Dacq. No returning aircraft was seriously damaged.

OPERATIONS

14 Mosquitos (8 Mk.I and 6 Mk.II) were sent to attack the ammunition dump at Dacq. 4 Mk.I and 5 Mk.II bombed in clear weather. After the first bombs a large orange fire lit up the district and, following a violent and sudden explosion, flames rose to a great height. Smaller explosions continued for minutes. Reconnaissance showed that all 90 buildings in the western wing were destroyed. A group of stores buildings in the central area was wrecked. 12 Mk.I and 3 small buildings in the N.E. wing were affected by direct hits. Direct hits were scored on the light railway leading to the dump. All aircraft returned undamaged.

OPERATIONS

27 Mosquitos carried out a harassing attack on Fuwigshafen. A patch of flak obscured the target at first, but this cleared and the Master Bomber led the A/T. The H23 markers were well placed, and the bombing was well directed round them. Intense heavy flak was fired, but no fighters were seen. Aircraft returned safely.

MINE LAYING

12 Halifaxes were sent to lay mines off the Frisians and the French Channel coast ports. All but one reached their targets, laying a total of 62 mines. Aircraft returned safely, although one was attacked by a fighter.

REPORTS

4 Wellingtons and Whitleys dispersed leaflets over Northern France.

OTHER OPERATIONS

13 Mosquitos of 100 Group were sent on SEARCH and intruder patrols, together with 2 B-24's. They made no claims. 11 out of 15 aircraft despatched by 2 attacked airfields in France and Belgium. One Mosquito of 8 Group completed

..... their reconnaissance

a weather reconnaissance flight. One Mosquito of 100 Group was lost without trace.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

25. 26 Halifaxes, Hudsons, Lysanders and Mosquitos were sent on special sorties over the Continent. 18 were successful. One Lysander and one Halifax were lost.

MEM/ST.
EC/S.26342/5/ORS4,
29th. July, 1944.

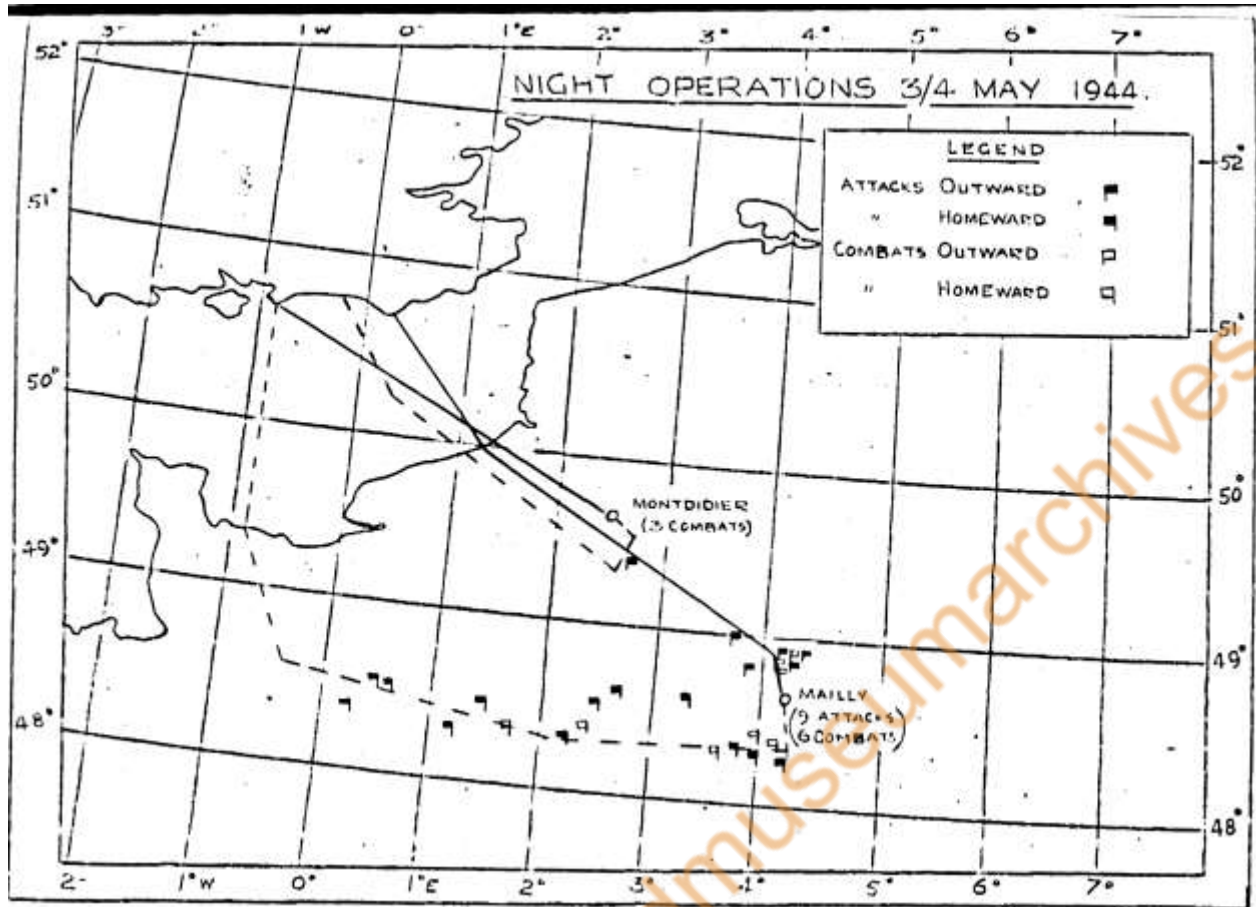
TARGET	GROUP	SIBERPT TYPE	SOURCES	W/O REPORTING		POSITIVE		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				DISCREPANCY		RESULTS	
				PRI-ARY	ALT.	OVER	NOT		PLG	FIGHTER	DRIT. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO	PLG-ED	NOT		
MILLY LE GPT	1	Lanc. I	69	68	-	-	1	1	12	2	1-1,000	-	2	5	5	1075.3
		Lanc. III	104	99	-	-	1	4	15	3	1+1,000	-	-	8	5	10.8
		Lanc. I	50	50	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	3	2	
		Lanc. III	123	122	-	-	-	1	14	5+2,0	1+2,0	-	1	10	6	36x4,000
		Monq. IV	13	12	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MILLY LE G.M. TOTL	1	Monq. XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Monq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			352	354	-	-	1	7	42	11+2,0	3-2,0	3	20	18		
NEWCASTLE	5	Lanc. III	61	61	-	-	-	-	1	2	1,0	-	-	4	2	398.9 2.9
		Monq. II	6	4	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	71x4,000
		Monq. XVI	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
NEWCASTLE TOTL			69	65	-	-	4	-	1	2	1,0	-	4	2		
CHL. T. MOON	3	Monq. IV	2	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.3
		Monq. XVI	9	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5x4,000
		Monq. IX	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CHL. T. MOON TOTL			11	9	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LEWISVILLE	3	Monq. IV	4	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1,0	-	-	36.6 1.8
		Monq. IV	10	10	-	-	-	-	1,0	-	-	-	-	-	-	19x4,000
		Monq. IX	7	7	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Monq. XVI	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEWISVILLE TOTL			27	27	-	-	-	-	3+1,0	-	-	1,0	-	-		
BOBING TOTL			495	478	-	-	10	7	1,6	16+3,0	3+7,0	-	3+1,0	-	-	

...../MIN. LINE etc.

1/4th. Feb. 1944. (Contd.)

TARGET	GROUP	SIBERPT TYPE	SOURCES	W/O REPORTING		POSITIVE		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				DISCREPANCY		RESULTS
				PRI-ARY	ALT.	OVER	NOT		PLG	FIGHTER	DRIT. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO	PLG-ED	NOT	
MORL. YONG	4	Hal.	10	9	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18 mins
MORL. IX		Hal.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 mins
ST. J. LO	6	Hal.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 mins
CHERBOURG		Hal.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 mins
LE HAVRE	2	Hal.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 mins
USLINT		Hal.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 mins
BRIST	4	Hal. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	8 mins	
LORIENT		Hal. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8 mins
ST. N. S. J. DE	4	Hal. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8 mins
MORL. YONG TOTAL			32	31	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	62 mins	
LEWISVILLE	91	Whit.	10	10	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	
		Well. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Well. X	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Well. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEWISVILLE TOTAL	91	Well. X	13	12	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	
					34	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
FIGHTER CONTROL	100	Monq.	6	5	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
INTERCOM	100	Monq.	7	5	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MT. ARDEN	8	Monq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			575	553	1	10	11	47	18+3,0	3+7,0	-	3+1,0	31	23	
SPECIAL OPS.															
SPECIAL OPS. TOTAL			23					1							
SPECIAL OPS. TOTAL			26					2							
SPECIAL OPS. TOTAL			14												
SPECIAL OPS. TOTAL			4												
SPECIAL OPS. TOTAL			46												

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BOMB PLOT NOT AVAILABLE

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BOMBER COMBINED REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

4/5th. A.M., 1944.

Ludwigshafen: Leverkusen: Hindelaying:

ROLLY

Ludwigshafen 28 Mosquitos attacked Ludwigshafen. 1 of the 5 Y-aircraft dropped markers, but they soon disappeared into cloud and only one aircraft bombed on them. 2 attacked their glow, and the rest bombed on GEE/DR. All returned safely.

Leverkusen 4 OBOE Mk. II Mosquitos were despatched against Leverkusen. One made controlled runs, one bombed Cologne and the fourth was abortive. One crashed on return.

Hindelaying 16 Halifaxes, out of a force of 20, laid 43 mines off the French Channel and Biscay ports. All returned undamaged.

Met. Recce One Mosquito of 8 Group completed a met. recce. flight without incident.

BOMBER FORECAST

Bases:- Bit all night, with little cloud.

Continent:- Cloud to great heights in frontal zones in North Germany and North and West France. The Biscay coast should clear by 0100. Patchy cloud over Central Germany and S.W. France.

STATISTICS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	53
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	47
" " " " " alternative area.....	1
" " abortive sorties.....	5
" " aircraft missing.....	0

OTHER EXPERIENCED

10/10ths. at both German targets, tops 23,000' at Ludwigshafen and 15,000' at Leverkusen.

ENEMY DEFENCES

Moderate flak was met at Ludwigshafen. One aircraft was slightly damaged. Another was hit en route to Leverkusen.

RESULTS

No aircraft was lost, but one Mosquito crashed on return from Leverkusen.

W/JT.
S. 26342/6/ORS4,
4th. August, 1944.

				STAGE AREA	AREA	OVER E. T.	DATE OVER E. T.	AW:	PLAC:	FIGHTER	SMALL I. B. 'B	NO. OF K/A	ATTACHED	DATE ATTACHED	H. E.	I. B.
LANDINGS	8	Moq. IV Moq. IX Moq. XVI Moq. XX	14 4 8 2	14 4 8 2	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	1	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	37.9	.9
LANDINGS TOTAL			28	28	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-		
REPAIRS	8	Moq. XVI	4	2	1	-	1	-	1	-	1E	-	-	-	3.6	
REPAIRS TOTAL			32	30	1	-	1	-	2	-	1E	-	-	-		
REPAIRS	6	Hal. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
REPAIRS			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
REPAIRS			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
REPAIRS			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
REPAIRS	4	Hal. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
REPAIRS			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
REPAIRS			4	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
REPAIRS			4	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
REPAIRS TOTAL			10	16	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-		
REPAIRS			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
REPAIRS			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
REPAIRS			53	57	1	-	4	-	2	-	1E	-	-	-		

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

5/6th. M.Y., 1944.

Minelaying: Leaflets: Special operations:

SUMMARY

1. Minelaying 27 Stirlings and Halifaxes, out of a force of 28, laid 73 mines off the French Channel and Biscay ports. From these and all other operations on this night, all aircraft returned undamaged.
2. Leaflets 6 Wellingtons scattered leaflets over France without incident.
3. Special operations 30 Halifaxes, Stirlings and Hudsons were detailed in special operations. 25 were successful.

WEATHER FORECAST

1. Bases:- Much low cloud, with residual thunder cloud and persistent showers.

Germany:- Much frontal cloud in E. Good clearances in W.

France:- Broken convection cloud in N.W. and W., from 2-12,000'. Broken residual thunder cloud inland. Well broken cloud off Biscay coast.

SORTIES

1. \ No. of aircraft despatched.....	34
" " " reaching primary area.....	33
" " abortive sorties.....	1
" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

1. As forecast.

ENEMY DEFENCES

1. None.

ASSETS

1. None.

LJ/JT.
 S/S. 26342/6/ORS4,
 5th. August, 1944.

OPERATOR	TYPE	SERIES	ATTACH ON		SERIES		INS	FLAK	FIGHTER	MISC.	OTHER	ATTACK-	NOT	RESULTS
			FUEL	ALL.	OVER	NOV								
			USED	USED	E. T.	NOV				FLIGHT	GAINED	ED	ATACK-	
ENCLAVINE														
MOULIX	6	H.L.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	73 Mines
ST. JULIO			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CHERBOURG			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LE HAVRE			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
USHANT	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LORIENT	4	H.L.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ST. MALOIRE			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ERST			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LA PALMICE	3	GDL. III	4	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GERONDE			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BYONNE			6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ENCLAVINE TOTAL			28	27	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LE PISTE	91	WILL	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			34	33	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SPECIAL OPS	5	VARIOUS	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	

O.T.S. 1.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL

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BOEHLER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

6/7th. MAY, 1944.

SUBJECT: NANTES-GASSICOURT; SABLE-BUR-SABHE; Ludwigshafen; etc.Y

43 Halifaxes and Lancasters, with 3 Mosquitos, visited the marshalling at Nantes-Gassicourt. They delivered an accurate and damaging attack in moonlight. 52 Lancasters of 1 Group bombed an ammunition dump near the sea, while 5 Group bombed another dump at Sable-sur-Sarthe. Both targets blown up. From these 3 targets, 4 aircraft did not return.

Mosquitos were sent to Chateaudun, Ludwigshafen and Leverkusen, as well as raiders which attacked airfields in France and the Low Countries. Mines laid off the French Atlantic ports. Other aircraft scattered leaflets, special sorties and carried out fighter patrols. One Mosquito was lost.

W. FORECAST

Bases:- Fit. Little cloud. Good visibility.

Germany:- Much convection and layer cloud, with thunderstorms.

France:- Little cloud inland. Much strato-cumulus on coasts.

AMBIGUOUSW. ATTACK

Ground-marking The assembly point was to be marked with green spot at H - 15 for several minutes. The W. A/P was to be marked first with 2 spot fires which, if accurate, were to be backed up with impact and burning yellow T.I. Main force crews were to aim at the centre of the red fires or impact T.I., unless otherwise ordered by the Master Bomber. The burning T.I. were for use if the spot fires were difficult to see. The same care was to be followed for the W. A/P., except that red T.I. were to be used instead of yellows. The leader was to mark the second A/P as soon as he was satisfied with his marking on the first. 3rd hour: 0300.

RESULTS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	52
" " " reporting attack on target.....	51
" " abortive sorties.....	1
" " aircraft missing.....	1 (1-93)

W. EXPERIENCED

Bases:- Fit. Variable cloud.

Subjunct:- No cloud. Excellent visibility. Full moon.

W. NATURE OF ATTACK

Both A/P's were marked before the first bombs fell, and both were accurately marked. The Master Bomber reported seeing individual sections of the dump blown up. Sheets of flame came from the exploding ammunition, and dense smoke to 5,000'.

...../DAY 1944 UNCLASSIFIED

D.V. RECONNAISSANCE

8. The entire target, consisting of 2 ammunition dumps, was almost completely destroyed. 94% of the buildings in the western section and 59% of those in eastern section were destroyed or damaged.

ENEMY DEFENCES

9. Combats occurred in the Alencon area on the way back, probably with fighters that had already been harassing the Mustang force. Flak was slight and inaccurate.

C.S.M. LOST

10. One Lancaster was lost, to a fighter near Alencon on the way back. Aircraft were damaged in combat, but not seriously.

MUSTANGS - GLESSICOURTPLAN OF ATTACK

11. Method of attack OBOE ground attack, directed by a Master Bomber. 4 Mosquitos were to drop red and green spot fires and red and green T.I. Illuminators were to aim white flares and bombs at the T.I. If no T.I. was visible, they were to hold their flares and drop them blindly on a second run. Later illuminators were only to drop flares if so ordered by the Master Bomber. The deputy master bomber was to drop white T.I. at H hour. Main force and supporters were to aim as directed by the Master Bomber, who might himself drop T.I. if necessary to re-centre the attack.

12. Timing H = 0215
Duration of attack: 0207-0223

4 Mosq.	@ H - 8 to H - 5
8 illuminators	@ H - 6
2 "	@ H - 2
2 "	@ H
50 supporters	@ H to H + 6
40 main force	@ H to H + 4
40 " "	@ H + 4 to H + 3

SCORTIES

13. No. of aircraft despatched..... 12
" " " reporting attack on target..... 12
" " abortive sorties..... 12
" " aircraft missing..... 12

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

14. No cloud. Full moon. Excellent visibility.

REMARKS ON ATTACK

15. The first OBOE Mosquito failed, and was replaced by its reserve later. The second also failed, so that illuminating flares went down before first T.I., which were yellow drops by the deputy Master Bomber. These were followed by greens, and then almost at once by the Master Bomber's own yellows. The latter were slightly off the 1/3, the deputy's rather to the N., and slightly to the S. Crews were ordered to bomb between the greens and the yellows. But almost at once a load of reds was dropped right on the 1/3, and aircraft were instructed to attack these instead. More reds went down off target, causing some confusion, but the deputy redeemed the situation with accurate whites at H + 1. By this time the target was so well ablaze that soon became obscured, and crews were told to aim at the centre of the first. Master Bomber was well received throughout.

...../D.V. RECONNAISSANCE

RECONNAISSANCE

Damage and destruction were most severe in the stores depot, locomotive and repair shop. The C.I.M.T. rolling stock workshops were also hit, and trucks and rolling stock were widely affected. Some damage was caused to the passenger station.

AIR DEFENCES

Fighters met the stream soon after the bombers left the target, and made attacks, apart from 3 which resulted in bomber losses. Only 2 heavy guns were in action at the target.

CASUALTIES

3 aircraft (2.05) were lost, all 4 fighters between the turning-point west of Paris and Beaumont-le-Roger. No remaining aircraft was badly damaged.

3. 111-SUP-S. RTES

DESCRIPTION OF ATTACK

This target, another aviation camp, was allotted to 5 Group. The datum point was to be marked at 4757N. 0004W. with green T.E. Mosquitoes were to mark the A/P with red spot fires, and the main force were to bomb as directed by the leader Boker or his deputy. H = 0245.

RESULTS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	68
" " " reporting attack on target.....	67
" " abortive sorties.....	1
" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

No cloud. Full moon. Excellent visibility.

RELATIVE OF ATTACK

Markers were dropped in dives from 3,500' to 500' and fell near the A/P, where they were at once backed up with a tight cluster. Bombing began at once and was concentrated. 3 great explosions occurred during the attack, and a fourth an hour after it had ended.

RECONNAISSANCE

This dump is laid out in a rough square, with the storage units sited in a staggered layout on either side of the road. The ammunition filling installation lies along the northern boundary. A concentration of damage occurred within the target area, while the surrounding country escaped almost unscathed. In the ammunition filling installation, all the large and many of the small buildings were damaged or destroyed. In the central sector of the dump, enormous craters marked the position of seven storage units, while several others were damaged or burnt out. Further south, 3 of the 9 large storage blocks were still on fire on the following morning, while of the remaining 6 blocks one unit remained undamaged. Roads and light railways throughout the target were damaged by direct hits and near misses.

AIR DEFENCES

A few fighters were seen, but they made no attacks. The target was defended by some light guns, which hose-piped mildly to 5,000'.

...../C.SULLIVAN.

G.SQUADS

25. All aircraft returned safely from this target.

CHATELAIN

26. 2 Mk.II Mosquitos were sent against the ammunition dump at Chateau but both returned with OBOE failure.

LUDWIGSHAVEN

27. 28 Mosquitos, including 5 Y-aircraft, attacked the electrical works Farbenindustrie at Ludwigshaven. The Y's were scattered, and a number of aircraft bombed on ETA through thick clouds. All returned safely.

LEVERKUSEN

28. 2 Mk.I and 3 Mk.II Mosquitos left for Leverkusen. 2 bombed the and 2 attacked Cologne. One aircraft was lost without trace.

BRUNELVING

29. 14 Stirlings and Halifaxes were despatched to lay mines off the Atlantic ports. 13 completed their task, laying 36 mines. All returned.

LEFLETS

30. 6 Wellingtons dispersed leaflets over Laval, Rennes and St. Helier incident.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

31. 34 Mosquitos from 2 Group, 100 Group and A.D.G.B. were detailed on intruder patrols. 18 of them attacked airfields at Florennes, Cambrai, Montdidier, Etampes, Evreux, Chartres, Rheims, Bourges and Croil. One of A.D.G.B. destroyed a Me.110 at St. Dizier. A Mosquito of 3 Group completed weather reconnaissance flight. None was lost.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

32. 42 Mosquitos, Halifaxes, Stirlings, Hudsons and Liberators were sent on special operations. 34 were successful. All returned safely.

HEM/JT.
BC/S. 26342/5/ORS4,
6th August, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRMAN'S TYPE	SCHEDULE	ATTACK ON				MISSED	DAMAGE				RESULTS				
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		PLAK	FIGHTER	HEAVY INC. BOMBS	1000 LBS. TO E/F	1000 LBS. TO ED	ATTACHED	RE.	INC.	
AMBROSE	1	Lane I	24	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	450.7	1.0
		Lane III	28	27	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
AMBROSE TOTAL			52	51	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BARTON-CASSICOULT	8	Hal III	77	76	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	627.4	2.4
		Lane III	64	64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moag IX	2	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moag XVI	6	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BARTON-CASSICOULT TOTAL			149	146	-	-	5	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SABLE-CUR-SARTIE	5	Lane I	33	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	327.2	3.0
		Lane III	31	30	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 x 4000 lbs.	-
		Moag IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moag XV	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SABLE-CUR-SARTIE TOTAL			69	67	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHATELAIN	8	Moag XVI	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lane III	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LADANGEN	8	Moag IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39.7	.5
		Moag IX	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19 x 4000 lbs.	-
		Moag XVI	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moag XX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LADANGEN TOTAL			20	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LADANGEN	8	Moag XVI	2	2	2	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.6	2 x 4000 lbs.
		Moag XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LADANGEN TOTAL			4	4	2	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MIXED TOTAL			304	292	2	8	3	5	4	1	1	1	3	10	15	-	-
MIXED			304	292	2	8	3	5	4	1	1	1	3	10	15	-	-
ST. MARIE	3	Stair	4	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Stair	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LA PALICE	6	Hal III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hal III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST. MALO	2	Hal III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hal III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MORLAIX	2	Hal III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hal III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MORLAIX TOTAL			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MORLAIX TOTAL			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

/contd

630

TARGET	GROUP	TYPE	SCHEDULE	ATTACK ON				MISSED	DAMAGE				RESULTS				
				PRIM. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.		PLAK	FIGHTER	HEAVY INC. BOMBS	1000 LBS. TO E/F	1000 LBS. TO ED	ATTACHED	RE.	INC.	
LEPAGES	93	Well III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Well X	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LEPAGES TOTAL			6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FIGHTER			5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PATROL	100	Moag	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moag	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PATROL TOTAL			6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			330	316	2	8	3	5	4	1	1	1	3	10	16	-	-
LEPAGES :- LAVAL, ST. MALO, RENNES.																	
SPECIAL OPERATIONS	100	Various	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Various	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SPECIAL OPERATIONS TOTAL			42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
INTELLIGENCE	2	Moag	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moag	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
INTELLIGENCE TOTAL			29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

O.S.S. 3

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

7/8th. VIII. 1944.

SALBRIS: RENNES: ST. VALERY: TOURS: LAVERGNE: Levernhausen: etc:SUMMARY

1. Forces of 50-100 aircraft attacked ammunition dumps at Salbris and Rennes, airfields at TOURS, Rennes and Nantes and a gun battery at St. Valery. All the raids were accurate and concentrated, in clear weather and full moonlight. Every target except the Rennes ammunition dump was severely damaged. Strong fighter opposition was met by the Salbris and TOURS forces, and 9 of the 391 aircraft engaged were lost.
2. Mosquitoes visited Chateaubriant and Levernhausen, as well as airfields in France and the Low Countries. Mines were laid off the Meurthe and the Gironde estuary; and other aircraft carried out fighter patrols and special operations. 2 more aircraft were lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

3. Bases:- Fit. Little cloud.
- Germany:- Much convection and layer cloud, broken W. of 10°E.
- France:- Excellent chance of clear skies in F. But there is a threat of drifting patches of strato-cumulus between 3-5,000', with haze up to that height. Layers of cloud in F.

DETAILSPLAN OF ATTACK

4. The L/P was to be marked by Mosquitoes with red spot fires. If necessary flares were to be dropped by specially detailed aircraft to aid identification. As a last resort, green T.F. might be released to distinguish the correct L/P. A Master Bomber was to direct bombing. Aircraft of 105 3 a crew were to attack 8 special L/P's. H = 0300.

SORTIES

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 5. No. of aircraft despatched..... | 62 |
| " " " reporting attack on primary area..... | 60 |
| " " abortive sorties..... | 2 |
| " " aircraft missing..... | 7(11.3) |

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. No cloud. Good visibility. Full moon.

RESULTS OF ATTACK

7. The marking and bombing were both concentrated, and large fires were started in the target area, with numerous explosions.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

8. The explosives works at Salbris consisted of 2 large factory units. Both were badly hit, and the larger was almost devastated. The storage depot/ to the east also

to the east also suffered severely.

WHENY SORTIES (all French targets)

9. The plan for evading the defenses on this night was for an early attack to be made on St. Valery, before weather deteriorated in the coastal region followed by a moonlight penetration to an area well E. of Paris, and to Brittany. In each phase, there were two widely separated targets. Thus in the first phase, Lancasters flew 120 miles S.W. from Calvigny to Salbris (S. Orleans), while others went S.E. from Devon to Rennes. 2½ hours later, approaches were made to Tours en Winter. An unusual return route was used Lancasters crossing the west coast of the Cherbourg peninsula and skirting Channel Islands. As was expected, the enemy reacted vigorously to the raid on Salbris, the nearest target to Paris and his bases, and intercepted bombers all the way from Orleans. No attacks at all were reported by the aircraft returning from Rennes, Nantes and St. Valery, but strong opposition encountered on the way to and from Tours. Searchlight flares were fired from Channel Islands. 2 Mk. 410's and a Mk. 217 were claimed as damaged. Flak was everywhere reported as negligible.

CASUALTIES

10. 7 aircraft (11.33) were lost on Salbris. 4 were seen to go down in combat (3 near the target and one near Orleans) and one was destroyed by Chateaudun. The other 2 losses cannot be accounted for. No returning aircraft was seriously damaged.

REPORTS

PLAN OF ATTACK

11. The airfield and the ammunition dump at Rennes were to be separately attacked by aircraft of 1 Group. At the airfield, the centre of the main hangars was to be marked at H hour with red spot fires. Some main force aircraft were to attack individual W/P's after visual identification; others were to bomb on the spot fires. In the dump, both W. and E. W/P's were marked with impact yellow T.F. and backed up with red spot fires. If the latter could not be seen, incendiary yellow T.F. were to be used. The main force were to aim at the centre of markers on each W/P, unless otherwise directed by the Master Bomber. H = 0015.

SORTIES

12. No. of aircraft dispatched.....	50
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	49
" " abortive sorties.....	1
" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

13. No cloud. Full moon. Slight ground haze.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

14. Airfield The first marker fell very close to the central W/P, fires were raised in the hangars, with one spectacular one in the fuel store section. At the E. W/P, 2 large explosions were thought to have resulted from hits on explosives dumps. Later arrivals found markers obscured by smoke and the fires could be seen from the French coast.

15. Ammunition dump The markers found difficulty in locating the target because of haze, and the attack began late. The first bombs fell slightly off the W. W/P, but the Master Bomber corrected this and later the markers were better placed. Clouds of smoke hampered bombing on the E. W/P, and a few fires and explosions were reported, the results were not spectacular.

..../D.V. RECONNAISSANCE

PROXIMITY

The village to the S. of the ammunition dump received the weight of this attack, and only roof damage was caused to the target installations. An identified industrial plant N. of the target was severely hit. The airfield, on the other hand, suffered very heavily. The main concentration fell on the dispersal area, severely damaging 11 aircraft shelters. 6 of the 18 hangars were destroyed, and 6 others damaged. 10 barrack buildings, 6 other buildings and 2 workshops were damaged or destroyed. 13 craters were caused on runways, and 2 aircraft were damaged on the ground.

ARMY DEFENCES

(see paragraph 9)

RESULTS

From both these attacks, all aircraft returned undamaged.

ST. VALERY

PLAN OF ATTACK

OBSE groundmarking. 4 Mosquitos were to drop green T.I. on the gun battery, and Halifaxes were to aim at the centre of the markers. 4 reserves were to accompany the Mosquitos. H = 2000.

RESULTS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	64
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	61
" " abortive sorties.....	3
" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

No cloud. Full moon. Good visibility.

RELATIVE OF ATTACK

Markers were fairly clear, and the bombing was concentrated round them, with slight undershooting.

PROXIMITY

A very tight group of craters, mostly just S.W. of the target, but no visible damage was caused to the batteries itself.

ARMY DEFENCES

(see paragraph 9).

RESULTS

All aircraft returned safely; one was slightly damaged by flak.

TOWERS

PLAN OF ATTACK

Mosquitos were to mark the N/W with red spot fires. If identification was possible, yellow T.I. were to be released as proximity markers. If the marking was not clearly visible, a green T.I. was to be used to mark the red spot fires to be attacked. Main force of Mosquitos to be directed by the Master Bomber, except for 12 aircraft which were to attack the N. and S. boundaries of the airfield. Mosquitos were to bomb flak positions within 1/2 mile of the target. H = 0300.

...../SORTIES.

SORTIES

- 25. No. of aircraft despatched..... 61
- " " " reporting attack on primary area..... 53
- " " abortive sorties..... 8
- " " aircraft missing..... 1

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

26. No cloud. Full moon. Good visibility.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

27. The marking and bombing were accurate, and fires were observed on 3 A/P's.

D.V. RECONNAISSANCE

28. Very heavy and widespread damage was caused to the airfield and its installations. 33 of the 41 buildings on the main station area were affected together with 8 hangars, 7 aircraft shelters, and various other erections. Craters were caused on the runway and on the perimeter track.

ENEMY DEFENCES

(see paragraph 9).

CASUALTIES

29. One Mosquito was lost without trace. 4 aircraft were hit by flares none seriously.

RESULTS

PLAN OF ATTACK

30. 4 OBOE Mosquitos (each with one reserve) were to drop green spot and red and green T.I. The first illuminators were to release flares remaining at the T.I. Later illuminators were only to drop flares if so ordered by the Master Bomber, who was himself to release further markers if necessary. Deputy was to drop white T.I. when instructed by the Master Bomber. Bombing crews were to bomb as directed. H = 0300.

SORTIES

- 31. No. of aircraft despatched..... 81
- " " " reporting attack on primary area..... 73
- " " abortive sorties..... 8
- " " aircraft missing..... 1

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

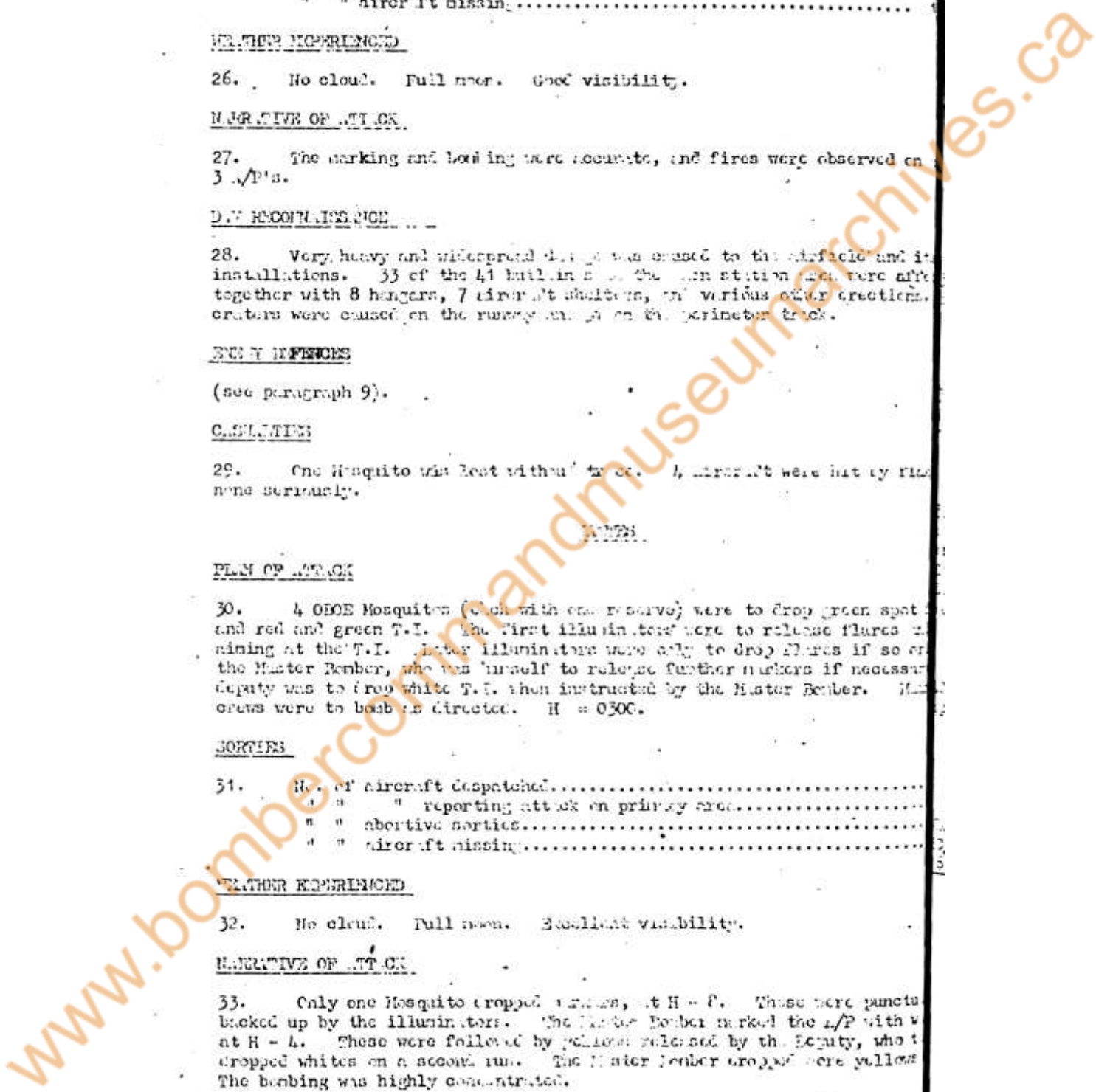
32. No cloud. Full moon. Excellent visibility.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

33. Only one Mosquito dropped markers, at H - 8. These were punctuated by the illuminators. The Master Bomber marked the A/P with W at H - 4. These were followed by flares released by the Deputy, who then dropped whites on a second run. The Master Bomber dropped three yellow. The bombing was highly concentrated.

D.V. RECONNAISSANCE

34. The weight of the attack fell on the S.W. of the airfield, where more than 250 craters occurred, including 30 foot holes on runways. 3 of 4 hangars were affected, and 2 hits were scored on the S.W. unit of barracks./3 barracks were affected.



10/3/51

5.

barracks were destroyed and 3 damaged, and 14 hits were scored on the railway line to Nantes.

WEST DEFENCES

(see paragraph 9).

SUMMARY

5. One aircraft was lost, to fuel in the target area. Another was slightly damaged by flak.

OPERATIONS

1. 4 Mk.II Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against the ammunition dump at Chateaudun, and returned unharmed.

OPERATIONS

2. 28 Mosquitos (6 Mk.II and 22 non-OPGB) were sent against the chemical factory at Leverkusen. Only one OPGB aircraft dropped bombs, and these were bombed by 23 other aircraft. 3 were lost on OBT/OP. All returned safely.

OPERATIONS

3. 42 Stirlings, Halifaxes and Lancasters were sent to lay mines off the coasts and the mouth of the Gironde. 30 completed their missions, laying 19 mines. All returned unharmed.

FLIGHT OPERATIONS

4. 12 Mosquitos of 100 Group executed counter-measure patrols. One attacked a train near Louvain-la-Neuve; the rest had nothing to report. 13 Mosquitos of 2 Group bombed airfields at Gileux, St. Dizier, Avord, Ivreux, Chateaudun, Enghien and Juvin-court. 8 Mosquitos of A.V.C. patrolled France and Belgium, sighting one Ju.88 and one He. 177. One Mosquito of 8 Group carried out a weather reconnaissance flight. All returned safely.

OPERATIONS

5. 44 Halifaxes, Stirlings, Lancasters and Mosquitos were detailed on special operations. 26 were successful. 2 Halifaxes were lost without trace.

CH/ST.

C/S. 26342/2/OPSL,
5th. August, 1944.

TABLE	GROUP	LINE TYPE	SORTING	% REPORTING				TOTAL	%	LARGE			RESULTS		
				PREL. JBL.	ALT. JBL.	GRAND T. T.	NET OVER			POUNDS	BRIT. INC. POUNDS	NOT DRS TO %	NET WT. LB.	NET WT. CK-ED	HE. Inc
S. LINES	5	Lanc. I	11	10	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	267.5	5.6
		Lanc. III	47	47	-	-	1	1	1.0	-	2	4	3	524.0001lb	
S. LINES TOTAL			62	60	-	1	1	7	1	1.0	-	2	5	3	
S. LINES (170 BHP)	1	Lanc. I	22	19	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	245.7	1.7
		Lanc. III	33	32	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	464.0001lb	
S. LINES TOTAL (170 BHP)			55	51	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
S. LINES (120 BHP)	1	Lanc. I	21	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	269.8	.9
		Lanc. III	29	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	494.0001lb	
S. LINES TOTAL (120 BHP)			50	49	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
S. LINES (100 BHP)	0	Hal. III	55	55	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	251.8	2.0
		Hoag. IV	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoag. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoag. XVI	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
S. LINES TOTAL (100 BHP)			64	61	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
GRAND TOTAL			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.1	0.0001lb
S. LINES (100 BHP)	5	Lanc. I	13	13	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	253.4	2.9
		Lanc. III	40	39	-	1	-	-	1+2.0	-	-	7	3	484.0001lb	
		Hoag. IV	8	7	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
S. LINES TOTAL (100 BHP)			61	59	-	1	1	1	1+2.0	-	-	8	4		
S. LINES	3	Lanc. I	23	22	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	444.3	2.6
		Lanc. II	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	744.0001lb	
		Lanc. III	18	17	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc. III	42	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoag. IX	5	1	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
S. LINES TOTAL			99	92	-	4	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	

(Contd.)

7/8th. 100. 100. (Contd.)

TABLE	GROUP	LINE TYPE	SORTING	% REPORTING				TOTAL	%	LARGE			RESULTS		
				PREL. JBL.	ALT. JBL.	GRAND T. T.	NET OVER			POUNDS	BRIT. INC. POUNDS	NOT DRS TO %	NET WT. LB.	NET WT. CK-ED	HE. Inc
L. LINES	0	Hoag. IV	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38.8	.2
		Hoag. XVI	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	194.0001lb	
		Hoag. IX	6	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
L. LINES TOTAL			28	27	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	
BOILER SUPPORT			423	403	-	11	9	9	5	14.0	-	2	14	10	-
M. LINES	3	Star.	8	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	lines
		Star.	6	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	lines
		Hal.	8	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	lines
		Lanc. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	lines
		Hal.	18	17	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	lines
M. LINES TOTAL			42	38	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	109	lines	
BOILER SUPPORT			100	12	12	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NET. LINES			0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			478	454	-	11	13	9	5+13	1+2.0	-	2	14	10	-
(SPEC. OPS.)			3	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(SPEC. OPS. TOTAL)			44	44	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(L. LINES)			2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(M. LINES)			6	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			21	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

* NOT REPORTED IN GRAND TOTAL

C.R.S. 2.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT OF NIGHT OPERATIONS

8/9th. N.Y., 1944.

HAINES ST. PIERRE: Brest: Berneval: Cap Gris Nez: Horsa-lines: etc:

SUMMARY

1. The marshalling yards at Haine St. Pierre were heavily hit by Lancasters and Halifaxes in an accurate attack achieved in clear weather and full moonlight. Half the yards were destroyed. 25 aircraft were down and 10 of the 125 aircraft engaged were lost.

2. Smaller forces of Lancasters attacked the airfield hangars and seaplane base at Brest and the gun battery at Cap Gris Nez, while Halifaxes visited the batteries at Berneval and Horsa-lines. Mosquitoes bombed Osnabruck, Oberhausen and airfields in France and Belgium, and other aircraft built lines off the Dutch and French coasts, scattered leaflet and carried out fighter patrols. No further losses were sustained.

WEATHER FORECAST

- 1. Bases:- Fit all night, with little cloud.
- Germany:- Good clearances in strato-cumulus in W. Residual convection cloud in S. Well broken strato-cumulus over North Sea.
- France:- Little cloud. Some haze.

HAINES ST. PIERRE

LINE OF ATTACK

1. Method of attack OMOE groundmarking, directed by a Master Bomber. 4 Mosquitos were to drop red and green P.T. and red and green spot fires. Early illuminators were to aim flares at the P.T. Later ones were only to mark if so ordered. If necessary, the Master Bomber or his deputy were to release further markers. Practice bombers and main force were to bomb as directed.

2. Timing H = 0325
Duration of attack: 0317 - 0334

Mosquito. 4 @ H - 8 to H - 5
Illuminators. 3 @ H - 6
4 @ H - 4

Master Bomber) 2 @ H - 5
Deputy)

Practice bombers. 23 @ H + 1
Main Force. 75 @ H to H - 6

RESULTS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	125
" " aircraft reporting attack on primary area.....	119
" " abortive sorties.....	6
" " aircraft missing.....	9(7.2)

...../ALLEN'S EXPERIENCE.

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

2.

7. Bases:- Fit.

France:- No cloud. Slight local haze. Full moon.

Wind at 10-15,000':- 320-330°/15-20 n.p.h.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

8. All 4 OBOE Mosquitos and 2 early illuminators dropped their flares punctually. The Deputy identified the /2 visually and dropped yellow T.I. accurately at H - 4. Main force crews went, however, ordered to bomb the of the green T.I. The bombing was concentrated, and the Master Bomber called that 90% of the bursts were in the target area.

D.V. RECONNAISSANCE

9. At least half the total area of the yards was devastated. The 1st locomotive sheds were severely damaged and numerous tracks were cut, including through lines from Brussels.

ENEMY DEFENCES

10. Fighters were active from shortly before H hour until aircraft were visible on the homeward journey. One or two Ju.88's seem to have followed aircraft out to sea. It is likely that the losses were caused by a small number of fighters, as one pilot was heard to claim his fourth victim at H + 10. Another, by contrast, reported that he was badly wounded when his plane split pieces at H + 5. One bomber destroyed a Ju.110, with a Mosquito shot or another while it was threatening 5 H bombers. Pilot was very slight, and one searchlight exposed at the target.

C. SUMMARY

11. 9 aircraft (7.2) were lost, probably all to fighters. 5 went to the target on the first part of the return journey, and the remaining 4 to the coast. One returning Halifax was badly damaged by fighter attack.

REMARKS

12. 36 Lancasters and 2 Mosquitos were sent against the airfield hangars Lanverre, near Brest; and 22 other Lancasters with 2 Mosquitos visited the station hangars at Poulmic nearby. All the aircraft were from 5 Group, attacked their primaries. In the former attack, the first red spot fired the hangars themselves, which soon became obscured by the smoke of fires. The latter, the markers, though accurate, were only seen by one crew, and attacked visually in excellent weather. No fighter attacks were reported, light flak was intense and accurate, and probably destroyed the only bomber failed to return. Reconnaissance showed severe damage to both targets; 5 hangars on the airfield were hit, 5 oil storage tanks were damaged and craters were caused on the landing ground. At the seaplane base, direct hits were scored on the main hangar and the apron, while 12 of the officers' huts were seriously damaged.

REMARKS

13. 32 Halifaxes and 7 Mosquitos visited the gun battery at Berneval. Mosquitos dropped 2 sets of T.I., 150-200 yards apart, and the bombing was concentrated round them. Most of the bombs fell 600-700 yards W. of the target, but one stick severely damaged the cool chest of one gun, and hit scored on a communication trench and the entrance to an underground store. Opposition was encountered, and no losses or casualties were sustained.

CAP GRIS HEZ

14. 30 Lancasters and 8 Mosquitos were despatched against the gun battery Cap Gris Hez. The Mosquitos were all late, and the main force bombed visually after identifying the lighthouse on main coast road. A number of bombs fell in the target area, but no damage was caused to vital elements. All aircraft returned undamaged.

PERSEUS

15. 31 Halifaxes and 8 Mosquitos went to the battery at Persolines. Marking and bombing were well concentrated, and the target was severely hit. Hits or near misses were scored on 3 guns, 2 wireless cables, a defence trench and an ammunition store. All aircraft returned safely.

OSNABRUCK

16. 23 Mosquitos (including 6 V-1 aircraft) were detailed on a harassing attack against Osnabruck. 3 V-1 aircraft were successful, and the attack was well concentrated. All the aircraft returned undamaged.

OSNABRUCK

17. 2 Mk.II Mosquitos made successfully controlled runs against the steel works at Oberhausen.

RESULTS

18. 38 Stirlings and Halifaxes made 95 runs off the Dutch coast and the French Channel and Atlantic ports. None was lost, but one Stirling was wrecked in a landing accident.

RESULTS

19. 25 Wellingtons and Lancasters, out of a force of 26 despatched from Training Groups, scattered leaflets over towns in Northern France.

FLIGHT OPERATIONS

20. 10 Mosquitos of 100 Group carried out intruder patrols, destroying one Me.110 just as it was about to attack 3 Halifaxes flying to Maine St. Pierre. 16 other Mosquitos from 2 Group and 100 G.O. made similar patrols, attacking airfields in Belgium and N. France, destroying a Me.100 and a Ju.290 and damaging 2 other aircraft on the ground. All returned safely.

TEH/JT.
EC/S. 26342/4/OIS4,
1st. August, 1944.

BOMBER COMMAND PILOTS' NIGHT OPERATIONS

9/10th. MAY, 1944.

Gennevilliers: French coastal batteries: Berlin: Chateaudun: Minelaying:
etc.

SUMMARY

1. Gennevilliers 56 Lancasters of 5 Group, together with 8 Mosquitos, visited the foundry and stamping plant at Gennevilliers. The bombing and probing were extremely accurate, and the target was heavily damaged. 5 Lancasters were lost.
2. Anney 39 Lancasters and 4 Mosquitos were despatched against the Schmidt-Roost ball-bearing factory at Anney, and completely shattered it. No building escaped damage. All aircraft returned safely.
3. Merville 56 Lancasters attacked the coastal battery at Merville with good effect, and returned without loss.
4. Galais 53 Lancasters and Halifaxes bombed the coastal battery at Galais without loss.
5. Mardick 53 Lancasters attacked the battery at Mardick, and rendered it unapproachable by vehicle transport, although no vital equipments were affected. One aircraft was lost.
6. St. Valery 52 Lancasters and Halifaxes were detailed against the battery at St. Valery, and achieved excellent results. All returned safely.
7. Morsalines 54 Halifaxes were despatched against the battery at Morsalines, and scored several direct hits. None was lost.
8. Berneval 54 Halifaxes visited the battery at Berneval, with good results and without loss.
9. Cap Gris Nez 63 Lancasters delivered a concentrated attack against this battery. All returned safely.
10. Berlin 30 Mosquitos (including 6 of our aircraft) were detailed on a harassing raid against Berlin. All but one reached the capital, where the markers were reported to be well grouped in the centre of the city. All returned safely.
11. Chateaudun 6 Mk.II OICR Mosquitos were despatched against the ammunition dump at Chateaudun. 5 made successfully controlled runs: the sixth was abortive. 3 casualties were sustained.
12. Minelaying 25 Stirlings and Halifaxes laid 71 mines off the Dutch coast and the French Channel and Wiscy ports without incident.
13. Leaflets 15 Wellingtons, out of a force of 17 despatched from Training groups, scattered leaflets over Northern France. One was lost.
14. Fighter operations 3 Mosquitos of 100 Group carried out SEARCHER patrols, and 4 from A.D.G.E. made intruder patrols over France and Belgium. 8 others from 100 Group, with 20 from 2 Group, bombed airfields in France and the Low Countries. No combats were reported by the controllers, who all returned safely. 1 Mosquito from 8 Group completed a night recon. flight.

...../15. Special operations.

15. Special Operations 53 Stirlings, Halifaxes, Mosquitos, Hudsons Lyanders were despatched on special operations. 38 were successful. 2 Stirlings and one Halifax did not return.

WEATHER FORECAST

16. Bases:- Fit all night, except locally towards dawn.

Continent:- Clear skies, A - 0 14⁰⁰. Slight haze in N. France.

PLAN OF ATTACK

17. Gennevilliers and Amcey 2 Mosquitos were to lead the A/P with spot fires. Flares might be used for illumination and, as a last resort, a green T.I. might be dropped to distinguish the correct A/P. A Master Bomber to direct the bombing. H = 0030 at Gennevilliers, 0200 at Amcey.

18. Marville An assembly point was to be marked with green spot fire at H - 5. The target itself was to be marked with impact yellow T.I., but up with red spot fires. The main force was to attack in 3 waves: the first consisting of the best crews, was to aim at the centre of the red spot fire; the second and third at the centre of new red spot fires or yellow T.I., which were to be dropped after the first wave had finished. A Master Bomber was to be in control. H = 2335.

19. Cap Gris Nez OBOE ground warning, with a Master Bomber in control. 4 Mosquitos were to drop green T.I., followed by illuminators with flares at H - 3. The main force were to bomb as directed by the Master Bomber. H = 0405.

20. Hardick; Harsalines; Berneval; Calais; St. Valery On each of 4 targets, 4 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop T.I. at the centre of which the main force were to aim. H = 2330 at Calais; 2350 at Berneval; 0010 at Hardick; 0010 at St. Valery; and 0340 at Harsalines.

SORTIES

G. - A. - 1A. - 3. - 11. - 1c. - 57 - B - 000.

21.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	64-43-	66-53	-53	-54	-52-61-69
	" " " reporting attack on					
	primary.....	61-38-	56-53	-53	-53	-50-54-61
	" " abortive sorties.....	3- 5-	0- 0	- 0	- 1	- 2- 7- 5
	" " aircraft missing.....	5- 0-	0- 0	- 1	- 0	- 0- 0- 0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

22. Bases:- Fit.

N. France and Belgium:- No cloud below cirrus levels. Moderate good visibility, with industrial haze in Paris area. Moon just past the full.

Amcey:- 9/10ths. alto-stratus, base 12,000', with patches of alto-cumulus containing icing. Good visibility below this level. Moonlight.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

23. Gennevilliers The Master Bomber instructed the main force to bomb 2 minutes after the first red spot fires had gone down. They were thought to be accurate and an excellent concentration developed.

24. Amcey The red spot fires were estimated to be 50 yards N. of the A/P, and crews were ordered to bomb accordingly. The first attacks were so accurate but the Master Bomber corrected this, and then a good concentration was achieved. No remarking was necessary.

..../25. Marville; Calais; Hardick; etc.

25. Merville; Calais; Harlick; Horsaimes; St. Valery: On all of these targets, the markers were accurate and the bombing concentrated round them.

26. Berneval The Mosquitos were late. Their first T.I. fell in the sea and the rest on the beach or the edge of the cliff. Consequently, the attack was disorganized, although a few sticks appeared to fall across the A/P.

27. Cap Gris Nez The attack opened to the N.W. of the A/P, where some bombs fell in the sea. The Master Bomber instructed crews to overshoot the first reds and yellows and bomb slightly to port. Visual identification was hampered by haze, but later crews reported a good concentration in the correct area.

DAY 1000 GLENNACON

28. Gonnevilliers The whole of the territory on a sleeping plant was very severely affected. The factories of aircraft engineering works, the Goodrich tyre and rubber works, Usine Pillet and an unidentified factory were also badly hit.

29. Amnecy This, the third most important ball-bearing plant in France, was completely shattered by this attack, no building escaping damage. Other industrial and railway premises were affected in various degrees.

30. Merville At least 70 bombs fell within the perimeter wire. Each gun sustained a number of near misses (within 50 yards), and the roads to the rear and one concrete received direct hits. Many mines were detonated in the locality.

31. Calais Reconnaissance of this target was also useless by haze. The battery was very badly hit during the subsequent fortnight.

32. Harlick A great concentration of craters was caused to the rear of the battery, and all the roads were so ploughed up as to render it unapproachable by wheeled transport; but none of the guns was affected.

33. Horsaimes Direct hits were scored on 2 guns, 2 underground caches and a defence trench, and near misses on another gun and an ammunition store. (Crews had reported a large orange-coloured explosion which suggested exploding ammunition).

34. St. Valery Very many bombs fell immediately in front of the position. One gun was wiped out by a direct hit, and another was damaged by a near miss.

35. Berneval 40 craters were caused in the target area, although the height of the attack fell 500 yards to the west. One gun and emplacement disappeared as the result of 10 direct hits, and 2 others were damaged by near misses. A nearby battery sustained hits on 6 less than 5 emplacements.

36. Cap Gris Nez Haze made the assessment of photographs impossible until another attack had been delivered on this position.

NEWLY DESTROYED

37. The Lancasters on Gonnevilliers set numerous fighters, especially on the return between Paris and Le Havre. None of the other forces reported any attacks, although several hostiles were sighted. The routing of the Amnecy Lancasters deceived the enemy into expecting another attack on Brest or Rennes, since they swung sharply from the Channel Islands towards Paris; but then they turned towards Bordeaux, and finally cut eastwards across S. France. The complete absence of interceptions is remarkable for so deep a penetration. Flak was everywhere slight, except at Berlin, where many searchlights exposed. One Ju.88 was destroyed by a Lancaster on Gonnevilliers, and another was damaged by a Halifax on special operations.

CASUALTIES

38. 5 Lancasters were lost on Gennevilliers. 2 fell to flak, one over target and the other over S.V. Paris. The other losses were not observed, were probably mostly due to fighters. 1 Lancaster went down over Harlick, the cause is indefinite. 2 Stirlings and one Halifax on special operations a leaflet Wellington, were also lost; total of 9 aircraft. No returning aircraft was seriously damaged.

HEM/JT
 BC/3, 26342/5/ORS4,
 24th. August, 1944.

THEATER	GROUP	TYPE	LOSSES	BY WEAPONS		BY OTHER CAUSES		TOTAL	REASON	REMARKS	REPAIRS	REMARKS	REPAIRS	REMARKS	REPAIRS	REMARKS		
				BY GUN	BY FLAK	BY OTHER	BY OTHER											
GENEVILLIERS	5	Lanc. I	9	7	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	112.1	.5	
		Lanc. III	30	29	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lanc. IV	4	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6x4000lbs.	
GENEVILLIERS TOTAL			43	38	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GENEVILLIERS	5	Lanc. I	15	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	317.4	1.0
		Lanc. III	41	41	-	-	-	5	2	1.2	-	-	-	4	5	-	5x4000lbs.	
		Lanc. IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GENEVILLIERS TOTAL			64	64	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GENEVILLIERS	5	Lanc. I	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	307.6	.7
		Lanc. III	41	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GENEVILLIERS TOTAL			56	56	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GENEVILLIERS	6	Lanc. II	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	216.5	.7
		Hal. III	34	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal.	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GENEVILLIERS TOTAL			53	53	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GENEVILLIERS	7	Lanc. I	23	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	306.2	.7
		Lanc. III	30	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GENEVILLIERS TOTAL			53	53	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GENEVILLIERS	8	Lanc. IX	6	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. XVI	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GENEVILLIERS TOTAL			8	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GENEVILLIERS	4	Hal. III	54	53	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.2	-	2	-	216.6	.7
		Lanc. X	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	213.7	.7
ST. VALERY	6	Lanc. X	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. III	44	42	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	
ST. VALERY TOTAL			52	50	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

...../Contd:

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

10/11th. MAY, 1944.

LENS: LILLE: GHENT: DIEPPE: COURMAYEUR: Luxembourg: etc:SUMMARY

1. The marshalling yards at Lens, Liège, Ghent and Courtrai, and the coastal battery at Dieppe, were attacked by forces of 60-125 aircraft in clear weather. All the raids were concentrated, but those on Lens and Courtrai were centred outside the targets. The yards at Ghent and Lille suffered severely. A marking delay at Lille contributed towards the loss of 12 of the 82 Lancasters engaged. All other aircraft returned safely, despite strong opposition at Ghent.
2. Mosquitos were despatched against Ch. Com. air, Luxembourg and enemy airfields, while others patrolled enemy-occupied territory. Mines were laid off the French ports and in Heligoland Bight, and other aircraft scattered leaflets and made special sorties. One mine-layer and 3 fighters were lost. 2 enemy aircraft were destroyed.

WEATHER FORECAST

3. Basis:- Fit until 0400, when visibility will become poor locally in southern Groups. High and medium cloud will increase in N.
- Germany:- Much medium cloud in N., becoming broken inland and patchy in Ruhr and Berlin areas. Fine weather in Central and S. Germany.
- France:- Fine. Patchy and well broken medium cloud in N.

LENS: LILLE: GHENT: DIEPPE: COURMAYEUR:PLAN OF ATTACK

4. Lens OCEC ground-marking, directed by a Master Bomber. The A/P, in the S.E. of the yards, was to be marked by 2 OCEC Mosquitos with red spot fires and green T.I. respectively. Illuminators were to aim flares at T.I. or blindly if none were visible. They were then to orbit and bomb with the practice bombers. The Master Bomber and his deputy were to drop more markers if necessary. The deputy was, in any case, to mark the A/P at H - 3, as directed by the Master Bomber. Practice bombers and main force crews were to bomb as instructed. H = 2325. Mosquitos at H - 3 and H - 7. Illuminators at H - 6. Practice bombers at H + 1. and main force in 2 waves of 3 minutes, starting from H. Bombing height: 10-13,000'.
5. Lille Lancasters were to illuminate this target with flares, by the light of which 4 Mosquitos were to drop red spot fires on the A/P before H hour. Green T.I. were to be released to distinguish the correct markers, and to cancel inaccurate ones. The Master Bomber, or his deputy, was to direct the attack. H = 2330. Distributors were to be set to obtain a marker spacing of 15 yards.
6. Ghent As for Lens, except that 1, not 2, OCEC Mosquitos were to operate, dropping red and green T.I. and 4 OCEC Mosquitos with red spot fires. H = 2345. Mosquitos from H - 3 to H - 5. Illuminators in one wave from H to H + 6. Bombing height: 9-11,000'.

...../7. Dieppe.

7. Dieppe The target here was the coastal battery. 4 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red and green T.T. The main force were to aim at the reds if preference. H = 0005. Mosquitos from H - 3 to H - 2 (2 per minute): force in one wave from H to H - 5. No Master Bomber was to operate.
8. Courtrai Method and timing as for Lens, except that the Mosquitos to drop green spot fires and red T.T.

SORTIES

Lens-Lille-Ghent-Dieppe

9.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	125..89...	126....68...
	" " " reporting attack on prim. area..	121..85...	118....61...
	" " abortive sorties.....	4.. 4...	8.... 4....
	" " aircraft missing.....	0..12...	0.... 0....
		(13.5%)	

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

10. Bases: - Pit, except for mist towards dawn.

All targets: - No clouds. Some haze. $\frac{1}{2}$ moon, rising about midnight.

NARRATIVES OF ATTACK

11. Lens Only one OBOE aircraft dropped markers, and these (red spot) were estimated by the Master Bomber to have fallen slightly S. of the A/P. The deputy released whites, but not until H hour. The Master Bomber backed up yellows, and the deputy with more yellows. Main force crews were instructed firstly to aim at the whites, later at the yellows, but the Master Bomber was heavily jammed and his orders were not clearly heard.

12. Lille The first markers went down at H - 4, but were soon extinguished or obscured. The Master Bomber ordered bombing to cease and fresh markers to be dropped. These went down at H + 24; they were assessed as accurate, a good concentration of bombs developed round them.

13. Ghent 2 OBOE aircraft dropped markers, both punctually. Flares followed, and then the Master Bomber dropped very accurate yellows, which were ordered to bomb. The Master Bomber and the deputy kept a continuous supply of markers burning on the A/P by each leading the run. Bombing was finely concentrated, the Master Bomber being closely received.

14. Dieppe The markers were well placed, and the bombing was concentrated round them.

15. Courtrai Only one OBOE Mosquito attacked, but its reds were extremely accurate. The Deputy dropped whites on the N. end of the yard, and the Master Bomber yellows at the S. end of the yard. Crews were told to bomb the reds mid-way between the whites and yellows. Then the deputy dropped very accurate yellows on the A/P, and orders were given to attack these.

D.V. RECONNAISSANCE

16. Lens The weight of the attack fell just S. of the yards, damaging tracks not strictly within the target area. 2 direct hits were, however, on the carriage and wagon repair shops, causing great damage and derailing of nearby wagons. 5 lines on the reception sidings were cut, and a factory S. of the target was badly hit.

17. Lille A great concentration of bombs fell on and around the railway and sidings 200 yards S.W. of the steel and engineering works of the Pives company. 2 locomotive sheds and a repair shop were destroyed, together with numerous smaller buildings, and many hits were scored on lines and rolling stock. The Pives Lille factory and several other industries were damaged. Residential property suffered badly E. of the target.

...../18. Ghent.

17. Ghent These yards, second in importance among all those handling traffic between France and Germany, were severely hit, especially the locomotive sheds and repair shops, and reception and storage sidings. The wagon and repair and construction shops were moderately damaged, and craters were caused along the whole length of the lines from the sorting siding to the wagon repair shops.

18. Dieppe No special reconnaissance was undertaken for this attack.

19. Courtrai Most of the shells fell S.E. of the yards, but considerable destruction was caused in the reception sidings. The locomotive sheds in the reception sidings, a block of buildings and 2 recent factories were seriously affected, and a railway bridge suffered from blast.

ENEMY DEFENCES

20. During the hour of darkness available before moonrise, these 5 attacks were carried out on a broad front. The enemy controllers held their long range fighters in the Beauvais area, and concentrated their medium range aircraft near the coast. Only at Ghent and Lille, on the centre of this front, was any attack reported, but at the latter target opposition was very severe: the raid lasted 16½ minutes, because of a working delay, and gave the fighters great scope. Surprisingly, none of the returning flak at Lille reported any combats, although 12 of this force were lost, whereas the Ghent force reported 7 combats but sustained no losses. Flak was everywhere slight or moderate. A Halifax destroyed a Ju.88 over the North Sea, and a 100 Group Mosquito shot down a He.110 near Albert.

CASUALTIES

21. 12 Lancasters were lost on Lille, of a force of only 82 despatched. The main reason, as stated in the last paragraph, was the extended duration of the attack. 6 were seen to go down in combat - 4 over the target and 2 over the forward leg; one fell to flak at Ypres, another to coastal guns and 2 as the result of a collision. There is no evidence of how the other 2 were destroyed. No losses were sustained by the other forces, despite the strong opposition met over Ghent. One Halifax returning from the last-named target was irreparably damaged by flak.

OPERATIONS

22. 2 Mk. II OBOE Mosquitoes were despatched against the ammunition depot at Chateaudun, but both returned empty.

MINOR OPERATIONS

23. 26 Lancasters, Stirlings and Halifaxes were detailed to lay mines off the French Channel and Biscay ports, and in Heligoland light. 24 completed their missions, laying 80 mines. One Halifax did not return; it was probably shot down by flak over Lorient. 15 other aircraft was damaged.

LEAFLETS

24. 24 Wellingtons and Whitneys, out of a force of 26 despatched from Oriskany Groups, scattered leaflets over Northern France. All returned safely.

ENEMY OPERATIONS

25. 9 Mosquitoes of 100 Group went on SERRATE patrols, while 10 others, with 3 Mosquitoes from 2 Group and 4 from A.M.C.P. carried out intruder patrols and attacked enemy airfields at Orell, Broux, Chartres, Cornelles, Bourges, St. Land and Einhoven. One aircraft of 100 Group destroyed a He.110 near Albert. The others reported no combats, but 6 Mosquitoes (2 from each Group and 2 from OGB) were lost without trace.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

26. 33 Halifaxes, Hudsons, Stirlings, Lysanders, Wellingtons and Fortresses were detailed on special operations. 26 were successful. All returned safely.

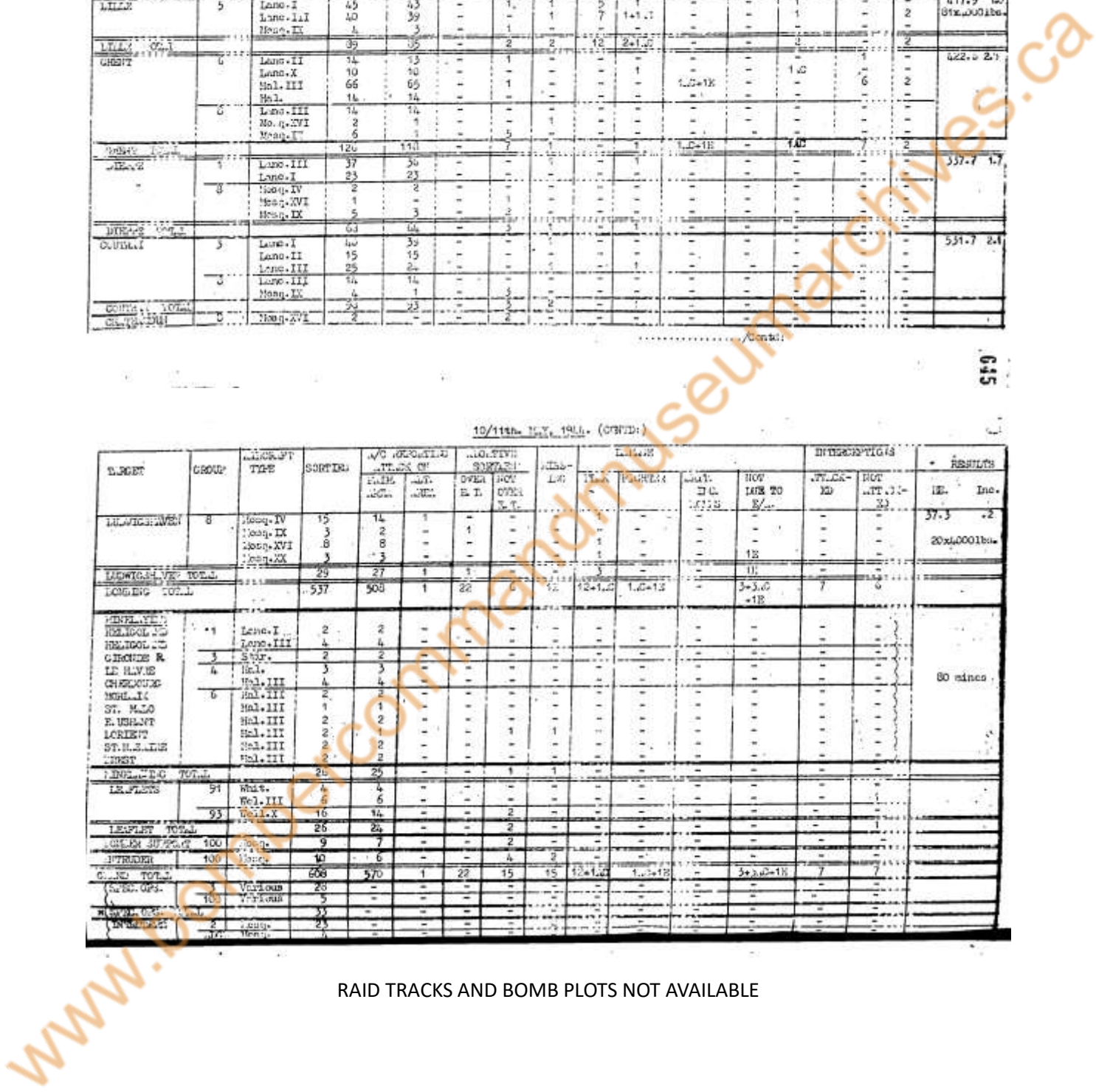
SH/ST.
C/S. 26342/ZORS4,
26th August, 1944.

L. SORT	GROUP	TYPE	SORTING	TOTALS		OVERALL		TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL		
				NO.	WT.	NO.	WT.												
LEAF	4	Hal. III	95	94	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	552.4 27	
		Hal. I	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Moq. III	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Moq. XVI	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			125	121	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
LIFE	5	Lane. I	45	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lane. III	40	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Moq. IX	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			86	87	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
LIFE	6	Lane. II	34	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lane. X	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. III	66	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Moq. IX	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			124	125	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
LIFE	7	Lane. III	37	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lane. I	23	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Moq. IV	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Moq. XVI	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			63	61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
LIFE	8	Lane. I	40	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lane. II	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lane. III	25	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Moq. IX	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			84	79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
LIFE	9	Moq. XVI	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Moq. IX	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL			4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

10/11th. MAY 1941. (CONTD.)

L. SORT	GROUP	TYPE	SORTING	TOTALS		OVERALL		TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
				NO.	WT.	NO.	WT.											
LIFE	8	Moq. IV	15	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. IX	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. XVI	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			29	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			537	500	-	-	22	15	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
LIFE	9	Lane. I	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lane. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. XVI	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. IX	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			25	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LIFE	9	Moq. IX	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			25	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			100	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			100	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			608	570	-	-	22	15	15	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
TOTAL			28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL			1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

RAID TRACKS AND BOMB PLOTS NOT AVAILABLE



BOMBER COMBINED REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

11/12th. M.Y., 1944.

BOURG LEOPOLD: HASSELT: LOUVAIN: COLLINE BEAUMENT: TROUVILLE: etc.SUMMARY

- 201 Lancasters and Mosquitos were sent on the main operation of this night against the military camp at Bourg Leopold, in Belgium. Smaller forces visited the marshalling yards at Hasselt, Louvain and Boulogne, and the coastal batteries at Trouville and Colline Beaumont. Most of the targets were buried in thick haze; the attacks on Hasselt and Bourg Leopold were mostly abortive, and only at Louvain was any widespread damage caused. From all these raids, involving 692 aircraft, 16 bombers were lost.
- 55 Mosquitos were despatched against airfields in France, Belgium and Holland. Others carried out intruder and SERRICE patrols, and Halifaxes and Stirlings laid mines off W. and N.W. France. One intruder was lost. 5 Ju.88's were shot down, 2 by bombers and 3 by fighters.

WEATHER FORECAST

- Bases, France, Low Countries and North and Central Germany: Fine, cloudless weather. Local haze.

HASSELT: LOUVAIN: COLLINE BEAUMENT: TROUVILLE: BOULOGNE: BOURG LEOPOLD:PLANS OF ATTACK

- Hasselt Controlled OBOE groundmarking. 4 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red and green spot fires and red and green T.I. Illuminators were to drop flares on T.I. if possible, otherwise blindly. In either case, they were to orbit and bomb on a second run. Later illuminators were only to drop flares if so ordered by the Master Bomber. The deputy was to drop markers as directed by the Master at H - 3, and both of these 2 aircraft were to drop more markers if necessary. Crews were to bomb as directed by the Master Bomber. H = 2350. Mosquitos from H - 8 to H - 5 (one per minute.) 6 illuminators at H - 6 and 3 at H - 4. Main force at H to H + 6.
- Louvain Method and timing as for Hasselt, except that only 3 OBOE Mosquitos were to operate, dropping red spot fires and red and green T.I. H = 0010.
- Colline Beaumont OBOE groundmarking. 4 OBOE Mosquitos were to mark the A/P with red T.I., at the centre of which the main force were to aim. H = 0100. 2 Mosquitos at H - 3 and 2 at H - 2. Main force from H to H + 6.
- Trouville As for Colline Beaumont. H = 0045.
- Boulogne As for Hasselt. H = 0030.
- Bourg Leopold Yellow T.I. were to be dropped on the centre of the target at H - 8. Both A/P's were to be illuminated by flares, if necessary, and then marked visually: the N.E. A/P with red spot fires and/or red T.I., the S.W. with green spot fires and/or green T.I. Crews were to bomb as directed by the Master Bomber. H = 0010.

...../SORTED.

<u>BORTLES</u>		<u>Despatched.</u>	<u>Attacked</u>	<u>alt.</u>	<u>abortive.</u>	<u>Missing.</u>
10.	Hasselt.....	128	^{F/...} 59	11	78	5(3.9%)
	Louvain.....	110	101	0	9	4(3.6%)
	Colline Beaumont.....	59	45	0	14	0
	Trouville.....	59	48	0	11	0
	Boulogne.....	135	132	0	13	2(1.5%)
	Bourg Leopold.....	201	96	8	97	5(2.5%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

11. Bases:- Fit.

All targets: Patches of medium and high cloud. Haze, thick in places. $\frac{3}{4}$ moon, rising after 0100. Wind at 10-15,000': 080/25 m.p.h.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

12. Hasselt Owing to thick haze, the target could not be visually identified and the Master Bomber instructed aircraft to bring their bombs back. A few aircraft attacked before receiving these orders.

13. Louvain Haze was less thick here, and a number of crews saw the canal and railway. The markers were fairly accurate and the Master Bomber's corrections were closely followed. Later, the bombing became scattered.

14. Colline Beaumont Winds were not as forecast, so that all crews were late, and some arrived after the last markers had burnt out. 2 T.I. were close together, and the third a mile to the S. It was impossible to identify visually which was closest to the target, and all the T.I. received equal attention.

15. Trouville Despite haze, the marking and bombing were well concentrated and one great explosion occurred.

16. Boulogne Conditions were much clearer at this target, and a satisfactory concentration was achieved.

17. Bourg Leopold Due to very unexpected winds, aircraft were late and fires were unjudicial and scattered. Haze was extremely thick; and only 2 marker aircraft obtained glimpses of the target. 1 marker was dropped but was extinguished almost at once. Eventually a red spot fire was released in the estimated vicinity of the target, and about half the force bombed this. Most the remainder brought their bombs back; a few attacked Hasselt.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

18. Hasselt No craters or damage were caused in the target area. 1 bomb fell just S. of the junction.

19. Louvain The weight of the attack fell on the storage sidings which were heavily damaged. The passenger station sustained extensive roof damage, and ateliers de la Dyle engineering works were severely hit. A nearby locomotive repair works also suffered.

20. Colline Beaumont; Trouville. No reconnaissance was undertaken for these attacks.

21. Boulogne The weight of the attack fell W. of the yards, causing severe damage to residential property and small industrial premises. The target itself was moderately affected. 14 hits caused severe damage to track and freight wagons on the east side of the sorting sidings, and 5 more were seen on through tracks. The flyover at the south end of the yard was destroyed, a rail bridge damaged. Roof damage was caused to locomotive depot, the goods depot and the passenger station.

...../22. Bourg Leopold.

22. Bourg Leopold No visible damage was caused to the target or its environment .

ENEMY DEFENCES

23. The bombers visiting the 3 Belgian targets (Hasselt, Louvain and Bourg Leopold) made landfall near the Scheldt estuary, and then turned south-eastwards towards their separate targets, in order to make the enemy suspect a penetration into W. Germany and hold his long range fighters in reserve until the attacks had been completed. A large-scale intruder programme was arranged to assist in the deception. The German controllers evidently supposed that our forces were engaged on one large raid and, for the first time for over a week, ordered up night fighters from N.W. Germany in readiness for a penetration. At the same time, however, medium range fighters were active in the Brussels area and further south; and the fact that the attacks on Hasselt and Bourg Leopold were largely abortive, and aircraft were over the target for longer than usual, presented them with good opportunities for interception. No fighters were met on the French targets. Flak was everywhere slight except at Boulogne, where accurate predicted fire was met towards the end of the raid.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

24. 5 Ju.88's were destroyed, 2 by 5 Group Lancasters E. of Tholen and N. of Ostend, 2 by 100 Group Mosquitos in the Brussels area, and one by an A.D.C.B. Mosquito near St. Andre.

CASUALTIES

25. 16 bombers were lost: 5 on Hasselt, 4 on Louvain, 2 on Boulogne, and 5 on Bourg Leopold. Taking the first and last raids together, it appears that one aircraft was lost to flak and one to fighter over Bourg, one to fighter on the outward route and 4 to fighters on the way home, including one half way across the North Sea. 2 aircraft went down in combat near Louvain and a third, belonging to the same force, to flak near Knocke. Both the Boulogne losses were probably caused by target flak. Thus, 8 (probably 12) of the night's bomber losses were caused by fighters, and 4 by flak.

MINELAYING

26. 12 Stirlings and Halifaxes were detailed to lay mines off Cherbourg, Le Havre and the Biscay ports. 10 completed their task, laying 33 mines. All returned undamaged.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

27. 6 Mosquitos of 100 Group completed SERPENT patrols, destroying 2 Ju.88 in the Brussels area. A third was shot down by an A.D.C.B. Mosquito near St. Andre. 55 Mosquitos of 2 Group were despatched against airfields in France, Belgium and Holland. 29 were abortive because of the prevalent haze; 25 attacked targets. One Mosquito of 2 Group was lost without trace. A Mosquito of 8 Group carried out a net. recce. flight.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

28. 11 Stirlings, Halifaxes, Portresses, Wellingtons and Mosquitos were sent on special operations. 9 were successful. All returned safely.

KLM/JT.
BC/S. 26342/4/ORS4,
29th. August, 1944.

LIGHT	GROUP	LAMP TYPE	DOWNS	NO. BURNING		SERVING		MISS-ING	EFFECTS				REPAIRS		REMARKS		
				PLUG	SOCKET	OVER	NOT OVER		PLUG	REPAIR	NOT REPAIRED	REPAIRS	REPAIRS				
HUBBARD	1	Lamp-I	41	17	6	17	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	230.9	3	
		Lamp-III	64	17	5	41	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	7x10001ba		
		Moq-IX	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq-XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Lamp-III			17	4	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
HUBBARD TOTAL			128	39	11	70	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-			
LOUVER	3	Lamp-I	33	31	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	550.5	2	
		Lamp-II	10	8	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Lamp-III	25	23	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq-IX	37	36	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq-XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LOUVER TOTAL			110	101	-	5	4	3	3	-	-	-	-	-			
ONLINE	4	Hal-III	53	43	-	-	9	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	197.3	3	
		Moq-IX	5	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq-XVI	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ONLINE TOTAL			59	45	-	-	13	1	-	-	-	-	-	-			
THORNTON	4	Hal-III	53	45	-	-	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	107.7	7	
		Moq-XVI	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq-IX	3	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
THORNTON TOTAL			59	48	-	-	10	1	-	-	-	-	-	-			
DORANGE	5	Lamp-X	11	10	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	471.1	1.8	
		Lamp-II	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hal-III	66	60	-	-	2	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	DORANGE TOTAL	5	Hal-III	14	13	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			Lamp-III	21	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			Moq-IV	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Moq-IX	4	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Moq-XVI	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
DORANGE TOTAL			135	122	-	-	7	4	2	-	-	-	-	-			

...../Contd:

018

11/24/41 J.T. 1944. (Contd.)

LIGHT	GROUP	LAMP TYPE	DOWNS	NO. BURNING		SERVING		MISS-ING	EFFECTS				REPAIRS		REMARKS		
				PLUG	SOCKET	OVER	NOT OVER		PLUG	REPAIR	NOT REPAIRED	REPAIRS	REPAIRS				
WORLD-BENCOLE	5	Lamp-I	77	44	-	32	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	500.3	4	
		Lamp-III	113	50	8	54	1	3	-	1.0+1.0	-	1.0	-	-	-	90x10001ba	
		Moq-IV	8	1	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq-XVI	3	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
WORLD-BENCOLE TOTAL			201	95	-	95	3	5	1.0+1.0	-	1.0	-	-	-			
DORANGE TOTAL			592	451	19	201	10	6	1.0+1.0	-	2+1.0	-	1.0	-			
WORLD-BENCOLE	5	Stair	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	10001ba	
		Stair	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Stair	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal-III	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal-III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WORLD-BENCOLE TOTAL			12	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
WORLD-BENCOLE	100	Moq-IX	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq-XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
WORLD-BENCOLE TOTAL			11	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
WORLD-BENCOLE	100	Various	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Various	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
WORLD-BENCOLE TOTAL			11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
WORLD-BENCOLE	100	Moq-IX	55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Moq-XVI	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
WORLD-BENCOLE TOTAL			63	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			

0. J. S. 2.

NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

RAID TRACKS AND BOMB PLOTS NOT AVAILABLE

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

12/13th. MAY, 1944.

HASSELT: LOUVAIN: Chateaudun: Brunsbuttel: Minelaying: etc:

SUPPLY

1. The marshalling yards at Hasselt and Louvain, in Belgium, which had been visited in conditions of thick haze on the previous night, were attacked again. They were still covered with haze, but this time the markers were clearly visible, and both targets were heavily damaged. 12 of the 231 aircraft engaged were lost.

2. Mosquitos bombed the ammunition dump at Chateaudun and the lock gates at Brunsbuttel. Others went minelaying for the first time, to the Kiel canal. Here mines were laid off the Prisiens, Helligoland and the French ports, including Rouen; and Mosquitos carried out intruder patrols, destroying 3 enemy fighters. One minelayer and one intruder were lost.

WEATHER FORECAST

3. Bases:- Vit. Little cloud.
Germany and Low Countries:- Fine, but hazy.
France:- Little cloud E. of 0°. Thick layers of thunder cloud in N.W. base 12,000'.

HASSELT: LOUVAIN:

PLANS OF ATTACK

4. Both targets 2 CBOE Mosquitos were to drop red and green T.I. at H - 3 and H - 2. The main force were to aim at the centre of the markers, bombing between H and H + 5. H = 0030.

SORTIES

	<u>Hasselt</u>	<u>Louvain</u>
5. No. of aircraft despatched.....	114	120
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	105	103
" " " " " alternative area.....	1	1
" " abortive sorties.....	5	16
" " aircraft missing.....	7	5
	(6.3)	(4.2)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. Bases:- Fine. Moderate visibility.
Hasselt: Louvain:- No cloud. Moderate haze at Hasselt, thick at Louvain. No moon.

NARRATIVES OF ATTACK

7. Hasselt The T.I. were concentrated but slightly short. The bombing was highly concentrated round them.
8. Louvain The T.I. were placed among the tracks and, despite thick haze, .../the bombing was

the bombing was centred on them. At 0030 there was an explosion of such violence that the markers were completely obliterated, and 15 crews who arrived shortly afterwards had to bring their bombs back.

DAY RECONSTRUCTIONS.

9. Hasselt. Most of the bombs fell just S. of the target in open fields, concentration landed on the reception and forwarding sidings, severing almost the tracks in this area. The locomotive shed, already damaged in an earlier raid, received a direct hit, the tracks leading to this shed and the carriage and wagon shops were disrupted. The junction N. of these shops received 2 hits on the embankment; the siding N.W. of the locomotive shed was damaged in 2 places; a group of sheds S.E. of the carriage and wagon shops was destroyed. Roads in the area were completely obliterated.

10. Louvain. The attack fell squarely on the target, causing great damage to tracks and rolling stock. The turntable was half destroyed. The Ateliers Dyle engineering works were also affected.

ENEMY DEFENCES.

11. Medium and short range fighters were airborne before our aircraft reached the coast, although the long range fighters were again held in readiness to meet a possible attack on Germany. Interceptions were fairly frequent over both the outward and the return routes. The Louvain force had to traverse a narrow gap between Antwerp and Brussels, and met a good deal of light flak at the low height at which they were flying. Ground opposition was slight over targets. A Halifax from Louvain damaged a twin-engined fighter; and another fighter was damaged over Hasselt, and may have been destroyed. Intruders destroyed one Ju.88, one Bf.109 and one Me.110.

C.S. ACTIVITIES.

12. At least 4 of the 7 missing aircraft on Hasselt were shot down by flak, 2 outward, one over the target and one inward. 2 fell to flak at the Scheldt estuary and Herenthals. The seventh probably went down over the target, but the cause is unknown. Of the 5 aircraft lost on Louvain, 2 were shot down by flak over Antwerp and Malines, and 3 were destroyed in combat - one at Louvain and 2 at Brussels. One Halifax swung on take-off and was wrecked.

CHATEAUDUN

13. 8 Mk. II OBOE Mosquitos were despatched against the ammunition dump at Chateaudun. 2 made successfully controlled runs; the rest abandoned their runs. None was lost, but one crashed in England, and the crew were killed.

BRUNSBUTTEL

14. 12 Mosquitos attacked the lock gates at Brunsbüttel. The target was obscured by a thick layer of cloud, and was easily identified by flarelight. Green T.I. were dropped by Y-aircraft, and a good concentration was achieved in the vicinity of the target. No fighters were met, and flak was moderate. All aircraft returned safely.

HELVING

15. 65 Halifaxes, Stirlings, Lancasters and Mosquitos were detailed to mine off Morlaix, St. Malo, Cherbourg, Rouen, and the Frisians, and in the canal and Heligoland Bight. The Mosquitos on Kiel were the first aircraft of this type to be employed in night minelaying. 61 aircraft reached their target laying a total of 180 mines. One Mosquito was lost without trace.

LE FLITS

16. 8 Wellingtons from Training Groups dispersed leaflets over Northern France without incident.

..../FIGHTER OPERATIONS

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

7. 12 Mosquitos of 100 Group were seen on SERPENT patrols. 11 completed their sorties, without making any interceptions. 12 Mosquitos from 2 Group were dispatched against enemy airfields, but only 2 dropped bombs because of the prevalent haze. 9 more from 100 Group and 7 from A.D.C.B. were detailed on intruder patrols; the 100 Group aircraft destroyed a Ju 88 and a Me.110, and those from A.D.C.B. a Do. 217. One intruder from 100 Group was lost without trace. 2 Mosquitos from 8 Group completed weather reconnaissance flights.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

8. 10 Halifaxes, Wellingtons, Mosquitos and Fortresses carried out special operations without loss.

W/JT.

C/S. 26342/2/CRSA,
1st August, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTING	A/C REPORTED				MISSING	DAMAGE				INTERCOMING		RESULTS	
				BLACK ON		SIGHTED			FLY	FIGHTER	BOMB	NOT DUE TO	ATTACKED	RE-PLACED	HR.	INC.
				PRIN. AREA	SEC. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.									
H. BRIDGE	4	Hal. III	100	90	1	1	0	-	2+2.0	-	2+1.0	14	0	435.9	1.6	
	8	Lang. III Hoag. XVI Hoag. IX	7 2 2	7 2 2	-	-	-	1	1.0	-	-	1	-	-	-	
H. BRIDGE	TOTL		111	105	1	1	7	1.0	2+2.0	-	3+1.0	15	0			
LOW. IN	5	Lang. I Hal. III	12 96	11 85	-	1	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	356.0	.7	
	8	Lang. III Hoag. XVI Hoag. IX	8 1 3	7 - 2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
LOW. IN	TOTL		120	103	1	1	4	5	-	-	-	2	-			
CLYX. ISL.	8	Hoag. XVI	8	2	-	2	4	-	-	-	-	12	-	3.6	20,000lbs.	
BRINSBUTTE	8	Hoag. IV	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hoag. IX Hoag. XVI	1 9	1 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100,000lbs.
BRINSBUTTE	TOTL		12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BRINSBUTTE	TOTL		251	222	2	15	12	12	1.0	2+2.0	-	3+1.0	17	0		

12/14th. NOV. 1944. (CONT'D)

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTING	A/C REPORTED				MISSING	DAMAGE				INTERCOMING		RESULTS	
				BLACK ON		SIGHTED			FLY	FIGHTER	BOMB	NOT DUE TO	ATTACKED	RE-PLACED	HR.	INC.
				PRIN. AREA	SEC. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.									
KING. ST. MALO	5	Hal. II	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. II	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
FRISLON	5	Hal. II	7	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. III	8	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CHERBOURG	5	Stur. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Stur. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
HELDING. HELDING. IRE.	8	Lang. I	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lang. III	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
KING. ST. MALO	8	Hoag. IV	15	13	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hoag. IX Hoag. XVI Hoag. IX	3 3 1	3 3 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
KING. ST. MALO	TOTL		65	61	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LE. ST. MALO	91	Well. I	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
ROMAN. SUPPORT	100	Hoag.	12	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
INTRO. ST.	100	Hoag.	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
INT. ST.	8	Hoag.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			367	312	-	17	16	16	1.0	2+2.0	-	4+1.0	17	0		
*(SPE. OPS.)	100	Various	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
*(INTRO. ST.)	2	Hoag.	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hoag.	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
*(INTRO. ST.)	TOTL		19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

G.E.S. 3.

EXPLAINS: - MISSING: TOTAL: 16. FINALS: 16.018

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

14/15th. MAY, 1944.

Cologne: Courtrai: Chateaudun: Leverkusen: Minelaying: etc:

PRIMARY

Cologne 29 non-OBOE Mosquitos (including 6 Y-aircraft) were despatched to Cologne. 5 Y-aircraft dropped markers in a tight group, and bombing was well concentrated round them. 2 aircraft were abortive. From this unit all other operations on this night, all aircraft returned to base.

Courtrai 2 Mk.I and 3 Mk.II Mosquitos were sent against the Courtrai/Longhem airfield. 1 Mk.I and 2 Mk.II Mosquitos attacked the primary on OBOE. Others returned early, because of the failure of their precision devices.

Chateaudun 4 Mk.II Mosquitos made one attack against ammunition depot at Chateaudun.

Leverkusen 3 Mk.II Mosquitos were set filed against the chemical works at Leverkusen. 2 attacked the primary, one on OBOE and one on S.T. The third aircraft jettisoned.

Minelaying 12 Halifaxes and Stirlings were sent to lay mines off French coast and Biscay ports, including Reuen. 11 completed their task, laying mines.

Leaflets 10 Wellingtons scattered leaflets over towns in N.W. France. crashed on landing.

Fighter patrols One Mosquito of 100 Group carried out a special mission, and 2 others of 8 Group completed nat. recon. flights.

OVER FORECAST

Bases:- Fit all night.

Continent:- Belt of thundery rain along N.W. coast about 150 miles wide, solid cloud to great heights in places. Good chance of well broken stratus in N.W. France, and in Belgium. 10/10ths. to great heights over Ruhr.

STATISTICS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	65
" " " reporting attack on primary target.....	59
" " abortive sorties.....	6
" " aircraft missing.....	0

OVER EXPERIENCED

Bases:- Fit. Little cloud.

Cologne and Leverkusen:- 10/10ths. to 22,000'.

Courtrai:- 7-8/10ths. to 6,000'.

Chateaudun:- 5/10ths. to 6,000'.

ENEMY DEFENCES

11. No fighters were seen. Moderate and fairly accurate flak was encountered at Cologne and Leverkusen. The French targets were undefended.

CASUALTIES

12. No aircraft was lost. One leaflet Wellington crashed on return, was wrecked; and a Mosquito was hit by flak over Cologne.

WJ/JT.
FC/S. 26342/6/ORS4,
25th. August, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	TYPE	SHORTLY	NO. OF BOMBERS				MISS- ING	PLAC	FOUNDER	DRIFT INC. WIND	NOT WIND	TOTAL NO	NO. OF BOMBERS DOWN	RESULTS	
				HEAVY	MED.	LIGHT	TOTAL								HEAVY	INC.
COLOGNE	G	Hoq. IV	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38.8	-
		Hoq. IX	5	4	-	1	-	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	19x0001b	-
		Hoq. XVI	10	9	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq. XI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COLOGNE			29	27	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
COUVERC	G	Hoq. IV	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.7	-
		Hoq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hoq. XVI	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COUVERC			5	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
CL. TS. SEAN	G	Hoq. XVI	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.1	-	
LEVAKUSAN	L	Hoq. XVI	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.0	2x0001b	
LEVAKUSAN			41	36	-	4	1	1.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEVAKUSAN			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEVAKUSAN			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEVAKUSAN			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEVAKUSAN			2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEVAKUSAN			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEVAKUSAN			12	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEVAKUSAN	93	Wall. X	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	
LEVAKUSAN		Wall. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEVAKUSAN			10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	
LEVAKUSAN		Hoq.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LEVAKUSAN			65	59	-	4	2	1.2	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	
LEVAKUSAN			1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

* NOT INCLUDED IN GROUP TOTAL

C.S.S. 3

L. PLATS: - COUVERC: ST. JLO: LEVAKUSAN: SEAN:

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

15/16th. MAY, 1944.

Leverkusen: Caen: Ludwigshafen: Minelaying: etc:

SUMMARY

1. Leverkusen 3 Mk.II Mosquitos were sent against the chemical works at Leverkusen. 2 made successfully controlled runs, although one released 50 seconds late; the third bombed on a I.F. run from an OBOE fix, in the Leverkusen area. All returned undamaged.
2. Caen/Carpignat 8 Mk.I and 2 Mk.II Mosquitos were detailed against the Caen/Carpignat airfield. Both Mk.I and 3 Mk.I aircraft made successfully controlled runs; the rest abandoned their task because of OBOE failure. No casualties were sustained.
3. Ludwigshafen 30 non-OBOE Mosquitos (including 6 H2S aircraft) attacked Ludwigshafen. The markers were well concentrated, and the bombing was placed accurately among the Pines and a large explosion were reported. All aircraft returned safely.
4. Minelaying 42 Lancasters, Halifaxes and Stirlings were despatched to lay mines in Kiel harbour, the Kattegat, Heligoland Bight and the Bay of Biscay. 30 completed their tasks, laying 126 mines. 3 Lancasters did not return from Kiel.
5. Leaflets 23 Wellingtons, out of a force of 24 despatched by training groups, scattered leaflets over Northern France. One was lost.
6. Fighter operations 2 SERRATE Mosquitos were sent on patrol. One returned early. The other destroyed 2 Ju.88 and one Me.110 in the Heligoland area. A Mosquito of 8 Group carried out a net. recon. flight.
7. Special operations 6 Halifaxes and one Wellington left on special sorties. The Wellington and 3 Halifaxes were successful. All returned safely.

WEATHER FORECAST

1. Bases:- Pit all night, with patchy cloud. Showers and low cloud in East Anglia.
- Germany:- Much strato-cumulus, with a few rocks.
- France:- Small amounts of strato-cumulus, except in coastal areas, and in S.E. Paris, Orleans: 5/10ths. or less after 0200, larger amounts before that time.
- Denmark, Heligoland, Kiel:- 8-10/10ths. to 12-15,000'.

NOTES

No. of aircraft despatched.....	113
" " 2 reporting attack on primary area.....	95
" " " " " alternative area.....	1
" " abortive sorties.....	17
" " aircraft missing.....	4 (3-5)
" " mines laid.....	126

...../WEATHER EXPERIENCED

SECRET

NIGHT BOMB REPORT NO. 607--

JOINT NO. 16

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

16/17th. Sept, 1944.

BERLIN

SUMMARY

29 Mosquitos were despatched to Berlin. 3 Y-aircraft dropped markers which soon disappeared into cloud, but nearly half the force bombed their glow. Together, 28 attacked. No aircraft was lost, but one crashed on return. Another Mosquito completed a net. recon. flight without incident.

WEATHER FORECAST

Bases:- Much rain and solid cloud.

Germany:- Broken cloud in W. Good clear areas in E.

France:- Solid cloud in N., dispersing to nil S. of 49°N.

RESULTS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	30
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	29
" " abortive sorties.....	1
" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

Berlin:- 10/10ths. to 27,000'.

ARMY DEFENCES

No fighters were seen. Flak was moderate but accurate.

CONCLUSIONS

One Mosquito crashed on return from Berlin. The cause is unknown. 2 others were slightly damaged by flak.

DU/JT.
C/S. 26342/6/OFS4,
17th. September, 1944.

ELEMENT	GROUP	INCRPT TYPE	SORTIE	A/C REPORTING				ASSETIVE		LOSS	DAMAGE				INTERDICES		RESULTS		
				UNDECRPT		OVER		INC	PLANT		PLANT	MIL. INC. BYTES	HOT DUN TO X/	HOT ID	HOT CHECK	IE	Inc		
				AREA	AREA	L.T.	OVER X.T.												
BERLIN	B	Msg. IV	14	13	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33.0	.8	
		Msg. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Msg. XVI	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1E	-	-	-	-	-	10x10001b
		Msg. XI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL G. BOMBING TOTAL			29	28	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	1E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
DEL. BYCE	B	Msg.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			30	29	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	1E	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

O.D.S.3.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT OF NIGHT OPERATIONS

18/19th. Sept, 1944.

Chateaudun: Orly: Mondreville:

SUMMARY

15 OBOS Mosquitos were despatched on calibration tests: 5 Mk.II against the Mondreville steel works (near Caen); 8 Mk.II against Orly airfield, near Paris; and 2 Mk.II against the ammunition depot at Chateaudun. 5 made successfully controlled runs, 4 at Mondreville and 2 at Orly. The rest were abortive. 2 other Mosquitos carried out net. recce. flights; and 7 aircraft of 192 Squadron completed special patrols. All returned undamaged.

WEATHER FORECAST

Bases:- Fog will become widespread after 0200 hours.
Continent:- Fine, hazy. Moderate visibility. Thundery developments in France.

RESULTS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	17
" " " reporting attack on primary target.....	8
" " abortive sorties.....	9
" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

9/10ths. low cloud at Orly. Clear sky at Mondreville.

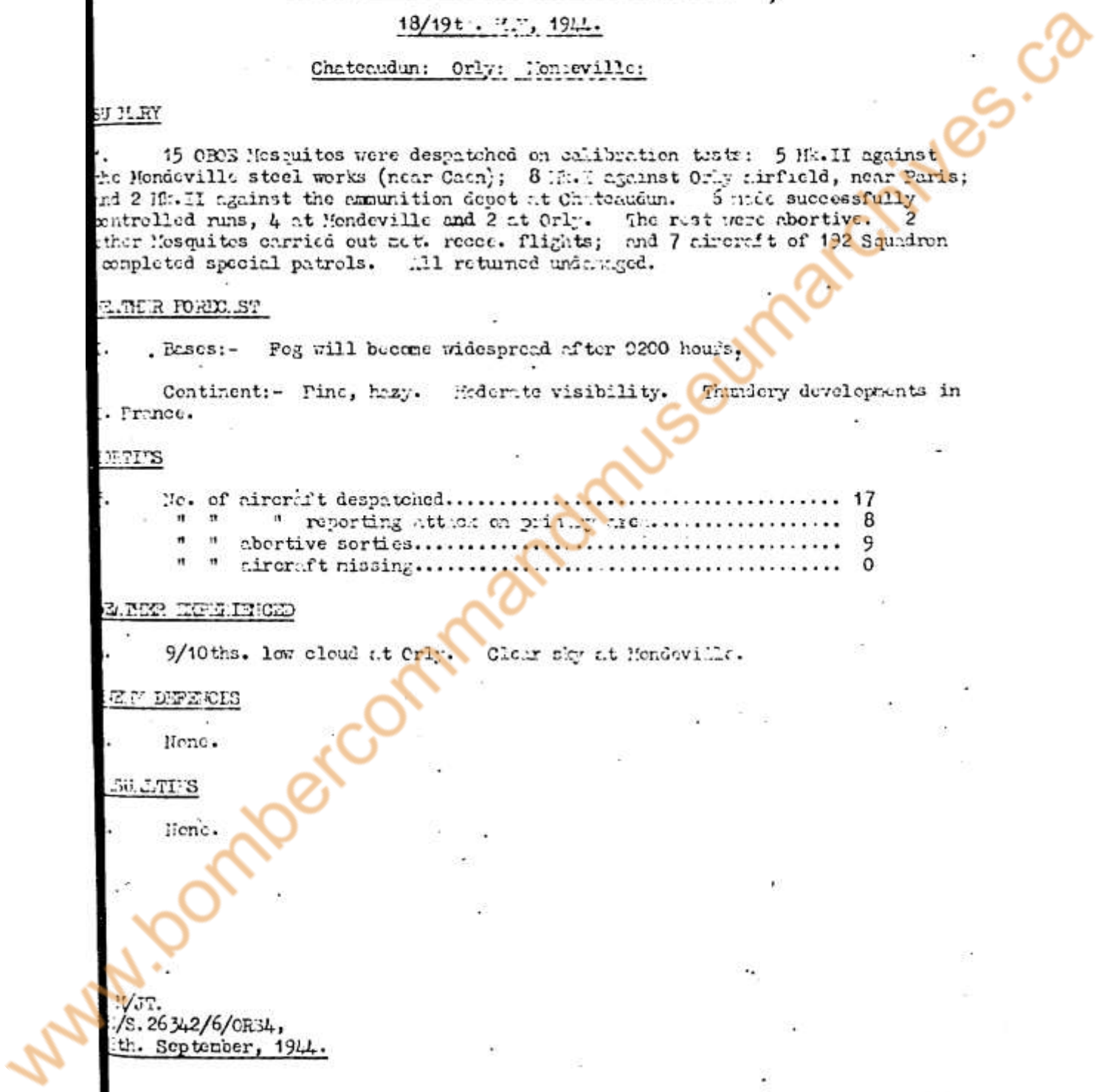
ARMY DEFENCES

None.

SUGGESTIONS

None.

W/JT.
S. 26342/6/OR34,
18th. September, 1944.



SERIES	GROUP	DESCRIPTION TYPE	SCHEDULE	POSITIVE RESULTS		NEGATIVE RESULTS		MISS-ING	REASON				TOTAL	REMARKS
				FOUND	NOT FOUND	OVER	POT OVER		PLANT	FIGHTER	BACK INC. FOUND	NOT DUE TO R/L		
CH. T. 1000	8	Msg. XVI	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ONLY	8	Msg. IX Msg. XVI	4	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.6
ONLY			8	2	-	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MONROVIA	8	Msg. XVI	5	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(10000)
BOMBING			15	6	-	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M.T. REGR	0	Msg.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			17	8	-	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(SPEC. OPS.)	100	Various	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

D.R.S.3.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

19/20th. Nov. 1944.

ORLEANS: LE MANS: TOURS: BOULOGNE: ALENÇON: CLIPON: NERVILLE: etc.M.A.R.V.

Forces of 100-150 aircraft were sent against the marshalling yards at Orleans, Le Mans, Tours, Boulogne and ALENÇON. Those at Orleans and Le Mans were severely hit. At Tours and Boulogne, the bombing was centred just outside the yards, and subsidiary targets received the brunt of the attacks. ALENÇON was covered with 10/10ths. cloud, and crews were ordered to bring back their bombs. Bomber forces attacked the Radar Jamming Station at Mont Couple, coastal batteries at Le Clipon and Nerville, Cologne and enemy airfields. Mines were dropped off French ports, and other aircraft scattered leaflets and carried out intruder patrols. Altogether, more than 900 sorties were made; 7 aircraft were lost, and not more than 2 of the returning aircraft were attacked by fighters. Enemy aircraft was destroyed.

OTHER FORCE ST

Bases:- Fit until 2300 hours. High and low stratus from 0300, but formations will be available in Training Groups until 0500.

Germany:- Much layer cloud in N. Residual convection cloud in Central areas. Thunderstorms in E.

France:- Much cloud in S. Good clearances in residual convection cloud in N. Little cloud along the coast from Cherbourg to Nantes. Less haze than of 18/11. Very good visibility.

ORLEANS: LE MANS: TOURS: BOULOGNE: ALENÇON:MODE OF ATTACK

Orleans: Le Mans: Boulogne: Controlled CIGW ground-marking. 4 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red and green T.I. Illuminators were to make a blind-bombing run, but were to aim their flares at the T.I., if visible (the first flare "sights on" and the rest at 10-second intervals). Otherwise, they were to aim at H2S. They were then to orbit and bomb. The Master Bomber or his deputy was to direct the attack, dropping further markers if necessary. The main force was to bomb as instructed by the Master Bomber. Mosquitos: 2 at H - 8 and 2 at H - 7. Illuminators: 6 at H - 6 and 5 at H - 1. Main force: H to H + 5. H = 0045 at Orleans: 0025 at Le Mans: 0105 at Boulogne.

Tours: The target was to be illuminated with flares, by the light of which red spot fires were to be dropped on the marking points and, if necessary, lit up. The first A/P was to be 320 yards 145°T. from the marking point, and crews were to aim the first bomb of each stick at the red spot fires. The second was to be 190 yards 272°T. from the marking point, and here crews were to aim at centre bomb of each stick at the markers. A controller, or one of his 2 deputies, was to direct the bombing. Yellow T.I. were to be used to cancel any red markers, and greens to distinguish correct ones. H = 0045.

ALENÇON: 3 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop yellow T.I. proximity markers. Flares were then to be released, by the light of which a 5 Group Lancaster was to drop red spot fires on the marking point. If necessary, these were to be backed with more red spot fires. Main force crews were to aim the centre bomb of each stick at the marking point, using the wind issued. Yellows and greens were to be used as indicators of accuracy as at Tours. The controller was to direct the bombing.

bombing. H = 0120. Mosquitoes at H - 3.

SORTIES

Orl. Le Mans. Tours. Boul. Amiens.

6.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	122....	116....	117....	143....	121
"	" " " reporting attack on target.....	112....	110....	107....	134....	40
"	" " abortive sorties.....	10....	6....	10....	9....	81
"	" " aircraft missing.....	1....	3....	0....	0....	1
		(0.8%)	(2.5%)			(0.9%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

7. Bases:- Rain and very low cloud affected Yorkshire before midnight, mist and fog developed in Lincs., becoming widespread by dawn. Southern bases were not involved until 0100-0200 hours.

French targets:- Strato-cumulus, varying from patches to 7/10ths., base 5,000', tops 8-9,000'. Winds at 10-12,000': 230-240°/10-15 m.p.h. No moon.

NARRATIVES OF ATTACK

8. Orleans Yellow and whites went down simultaneously at H - 5. The yellows were 450 yards 10° and the whites 200 yards 20° from the M/B. The target was brilliantly illuminated by flares, there was no cloud and little rain. An early tendency to undershoot was rectified by the Master Bomber. One huge orange explosion caused so much smoke that the markers became invisible, and were ordered to bomb this conflagration.

9. Le Mans Since there was 8-10/10ths. cloud at 8-10,000', the Master Bomber ordered crews to bomb from below the base. The markers were accurate, their mean centre being rather more than 200 yards 15° from the M/B., and they were backed up by the Deputy with whites. Visibility was good, and some crews managed to identify the target visually. Later in the raid, banking became slightly scattered. The Master Bomber and his Deputy were both lost over the target, possibly in a collision.

10. Tours The markers were punctual and the bombing was well concentrated round them.

11. Boulogne The first reds went down at H - 7, but their position has not been photographically recorded. 2 minutes later, whites were dropped by the Master Bomber, 100 yards 130° and 350 yards 165° from the M/B. Crews were ordered to bomb these. Despite jamming of the Master Bomber's instructions, a fine concentration was achieved, culminating in a terrific explosion, the spot of which obliterated the yards.

12. Amiens This target was covered with 10/10ths. cloud, and although markers were dropped, the Master Bomber was unable to judge their accuracy. Aircraft were ordered to bring their bombs back but owing to a delay in giving the cancellation order and to weak reception 40 aircraft attacked.

LE MANS, ISS-LEZ-TOURNAI

13. Orleans The attack fell squarely on the marshalling sidings, spread to the east and west. The railway sheds were almost completely destroyed, and the lines in the sidings were cut, and very many wagons were demolished or derailed.

14. Le Mans A high proportion of the bombs fell on the target, especially in the central and northern areas, causing great damage in the reception/forwarding sidings, the carriage and wagon repair shops, the transhipment sheds, the locomotive sheds and repair shops and the stores depot. Rolling stock suffered grievously. Several factories outside the target area were hit. Junkers repair plant had all its buildings except one completely wrecked; the Renault armament and traction works was badly hit; and the Gnome and Rhone aero-engine works sustained damage to the main building.

15. Tours - The main concentration of bombs fell just W. of the target area, damaging the passenger station and all its yards and facilities, and also the goods depot, locomotive depot and locomotive workshops. The last-named received numerous hits and suffered heavily. The tracks to Saumur and Poitiers were cut and the embankments broken away; the bridge over the canal partly collapsed; and 2 water towers were damaged.

16. Boulogne 3 unidentified factories adjoining the yards received the brunt of the attack. Medium sized buildings S. of the locomotive depot were hit for the second time, and number of hits were scored on tracks and sidings.

17. Amiens No reconnaissance was undertaken for this target.

ENEMY DEFENCES

18. Over 900 bombers and intruders were despatched on this night, but only 1 of these reported attacks by enemy aircraft. The variety of the targets mainly distracted the enemy controllers, who offered hardly any opposition even in such strongly defended areas as Paris and Amiens. Flak was everywhere slight except at Le Mans, where the light guns were intensely active.

RESULTS

19. One aircraft was lost on Orleans, 3 on Le Mans and one on Amiens. The first-named fell in combat S. of Paris. 2 of the Le Mans losses were caused by collision, and the third by light flak S. of the target. These included the Master Bomber and his deputy. The aircraft on Amiens was destroyed by a fighter near Paris. 2 other aircraft were wrecked on return - one after the crew had bailed out, the other through hitting a house. A third was irreparably damaged by flak.

LE CLIPON

20. 39 Lancasters and 5 OBOE airplanes were sent to attack the Radar Jamming Station at Mont Couple. There was no cloud in the target area, but haze was thick. Because of OBOE failure, no markers were dropped, and those aircraft that attacked did so, under orders, on a timed run from a point on the coast. The bombing was concentrated at first but scattered later. 2 bright blue-green flashes were observed. One aircraft was lost, to heavy flak near Boulogne.

LE CLIPON

21. 58 Halifaxes and 6 OBOE Mosquitos were despatched against the coastal battery at Le Clipon. Haze was thick in the target area. The markers were concentrated and the bombing was well placed around them. The defenses were ineffective and although one fighter attack was reported, all aircraft returned undamaged. Reconnaissance showed that the attack had fallen 300-1,000 yards N.E. of the target, without damaging it.

MERVILLE/FRANCOVILLE

22. 57 Halifaxes and Lancasters, with 6 OBOE Mosquitos, were detailed to attack the coastal battery at Merville/Francoville. A fair concentration was achieved round the markers, despite thick haze. As a result of this attack and that delivered on 10/11th. May, 70 craters were caused in the target area, including 2 hits on a casemate, 5 on the perimeter wire and 14 on roads and approach tracks. All aircraft returned undamaged.

COLOGNE

23. 29 Mosquitos, including 5 Y-aircraft, attacked Cologne. Markers were nicely concentrated, and the bombing was grouped round them. Moderate but accurate flak was encountered, though no fighters were seen. All aircraft returned safely.

...../ DRAKING.

MINE LAYING

24. 27 Stirlings and Halifaxes, out of a force of 28, laid 79 mines off the French Channel and Biscay ports, including Rouen. All returned undamaged.

LEAFLETS

25. 11 Wellingtons, out of a force of 12 despatched from Training Group scattered leaflets over Belgium. The twelfth was destroyed by heavy flak at Bethune. One aircraft crashed in flames on return.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

26. 23 Mosquitos of 100 Group carried out S.I.R.I.E. patrols, without making any interceptions. 52 others from 100 and 2 Groups and A.D.C.B. patrolled and attacked enemy airfields in France, Holland, Belgium and Germany. An A.D.C.B. Mosquito destroyed an unidentified enemy aircraft in combat. No other fighters were lost. A Mosquito of 8 Group completed a net. recce. flight.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

27. 10 Halifaxes, Mosquitos, Wellingtons and Portresses made special operations without loss.

ILL/JT.
BC/S. 26342/2/ORSI,
2nd. September, 1944.

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TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON				ABORTIVE SORTIES		MIS-ING	DELUGE				DITCHINGS		RESULTS	
				PRBL AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.	FL. IN	FIGHTER		BOMB. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO E.T.	A/C DOWNED	NOT A/C DOWNED	HE.	INC.		
																	HE.	INC.
COLOMBE	1	Lanc. I	49	46	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	615.6	2.1	
		Lanc. III	56	53	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2x,000lbs.	-	
		Lanc. III	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Monq. XVI	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
COLOMBE TOTAL		122	112	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MONT COLLEGE	3	Lanc. I	55	54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	552.7	2.6	
		Lanc. II	22	19	-	-	-	-	-	1-11	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	
		Lanc. III	23	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lanc. III	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MONT COLLEGE TOTAL		112	110	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOULOUSE	5	Lanc. I	64	57	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	477.0	2.4	
		Lanc. III	49	46	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Monq. IV	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Monq. IX	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOULOUSE TOTAL		117	107	-	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOULOGNE	8	Lanc. III	32	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	559.9	2.4	
		Monq. IX	4	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Monq. IV	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. III	106	101	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BOULOGNE TOTAL		143	134	-	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
COLOMBE	8	Monq. IV	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	43.3	1.7	
		Monq. IX	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Monq. XX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Monq. XVI	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
COLOMBE TOTAL		29	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MONT COLLEGE	8	Lanc. III	39	31	-	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	125.4	-	
		Monq. XVI	4	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Monq. IX	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MONT COLLEGE TOTAL		44	31	-	12	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

19/20th. May. 1944. (Contd.)

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON				ABORTIVE SORTIES		MIS-ING	DELUGE				DITCHINGS		RESULTS	
				PRBL AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.	FL. IN	FIGHTER		BOMB. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO E.T.	A/C DOWNED	NOT A/C DOWNED	HE.	INC.		
																	HE.	INC.
L'ARRETOUR	8	Hal. III	58	58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	207.4	1.0	
		Monq. XVI	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Monq. IX	3	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
L'ARRETOUR TOTAL		64	61	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MONT COLLEGE	6	Lanc. II	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	217.2	1.0	
		Hal. III	42	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Monq. XVI	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Monq. IX	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MONT COLLEGE TOTAL		63	59	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOULOGNE	5	Lanc. I	37	8	-	29	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	151.3	1.9	
		Lanc. III	75	29	-	45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Monq. IV	6	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Monq. XVI	3	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BOULOGNE TOTAL		121	40	-	80	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOULOGNE TOTAL		819	685	-	117	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
MONT COLLEGE	3	Stur. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Stur. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. III	6	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MONT COLLEGE TOTAL		28	27	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
L'ARRETOUR	8	Hal. X	12	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOULOGNE	100	Monq.	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOULOGNE TOTAL		108	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON				ABORTIVE SORTIES		MIS-ING	DELUGE				DITCHINGS		RESULTS	
				PRBL AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER E.T.	NOT OVER E.T.	FL. IN	FIGHTER		BOMB. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO E.T.	A/C DOWNED	NOT A/C DOWNED	HE.	INC.		
																	HE.	INC.
ST. PIERRE	8	Monq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			891	753	-	138	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
W/ SPEC. OPS.	100	Monq.	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
W/ REGULAR OPS.	2	Monq.	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
W/ DIVISION TOTAL			44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

O.E.S. 3.

DELUGES - TOWNINGS: BOULOGNE: 1111:

RAID TRACK AND BOMB PLOTS NOT AVAILABLE

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

20/21st. N.Y., 1944.

Dusseldorf: Reisholz: Minelaying:RESULTS

Dusseldorf 30 Mosquitos attacked Dusseldorf. 3 of the 5 Y-aircraft dropped markers, but they soon disappeared into cloud and only 8 aircraft bombed the town. The others attacked bomb flashes or on D.F. From this and all other operations on this night, all aircraft returned unscathed.

Reisholz 5 OBOE Mk.I and 9 Mk.II Mosquitos were despatched against a chemical works at Reisholz, near Dusseldorf. One Mk.I and 7 Mk.II aircraft made successfully controlled runs; another Mk.II bombed the town on D.F., and the rest attacked alternative targets on D.F., 4 in the Dusseldorf area and 1 at Cologne.

Minelaying 13 Stirlings and Halifaxes, out of a force of 16, laid 12 mines off Helborg, Cherbourg and Le Havre.

Leaflets 7 Wellingtons scattered leaflets without incident over Reville, Liens and Compiègne.

Fighter operations 5 SHERMAN Mosquitos completed uneventful patrols, and 4 intruders were sent to attack enemy airfields, but returned early because of bad weather.

WEATHER FORECAST

Bases:- Bad risk of 10/10ths. low stratus affecting southern Groups towards midnight. Fit elsewhere.

Continent:- Thunderstorms in N. and S. Germany and S. France. Clouds would break into residual layers in Central France and Germany, and N. France.

STATISTICS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	76
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	64
" " " " " alternative area.....	5
" " abortive sorties.....	7
" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

10/10ths. at Dusseldorf and Reisholz, tops 15-23,000'.

ENEMY DEFENCES

No fighters were encountered. Flak was moderate and inaccurate.

RESULTS

None.

M/JT.
/S. 26342/3/0234,
13th. September, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		AGGRESSIVE SORTIES		MISSED	REASON				EXCEPTIONS		RESULTS			
				PRIM. AREA	ALY. AREA	OVLR E. T.	NOV OVR X. T.		ILLIC	VIOLATED	BRIT. INC. DUTY	NOT DUE TO E/L	EXC. ID	NOT ATTACKED	KG	L.B.		
DRESDEN	8	Moq. IV	15	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52.2	7	
		Moq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27x4000		
		Moq. XVI	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Moq. XX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
DRESDEN TOTL			30	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
REIMS	8	Moq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16.1	-	
		Moq. XVI	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9x4000		
REIMS TOTL			14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
DRESDEN TOTL			44	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
MILITARY	3	Stur. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32 miles		
		Stur. III	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Hal. III	12	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
MILITARY TOTL			16	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
ROTTENBURG	100	Moq.	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Moq.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
LEIPZIG	93	Well. I	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		Well. III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
LEIPZIG TOTL			7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
GRAND TOTAL			76	64	5	3	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				

O.R.3.3.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

536047

21/22nd. MAY, 1944.

DUISBURG: Courtrai: Hannover: Lincolnyng: etc:

SUMMARY

A German target received a major raid for the first time in 3½ weeks. 532 aircraft were sent to Duisburg, which itself had not been heavily attacked for over a year; and, although the target was covered with 10/10ths. cloud towering to great heights, they delivered a damaging attack. Fighters made few interceptions on the way out, but the bombers struggled on the return route, and many combats occurred where cloud broke over Holland: 29 aircraft (5.5%) were lost. Mosquitos carried out a feint attack on Hannover, and bombed airfields in Belgium, France, Holland and Germany. Over 500 mines were laid in eastern waters, and fighters patrolled enemy-occupied territory. 3 minelayers did not return.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Fit until midnight. Later a belt of rain and low cloud will move southwards over the country. Cloud will remain above 4,000' except locally in southern Groups.

Continent:- Much thundery activity in the southern and central parts of France and Germany. Cloud development will be more limited further north, and tops should not extend above 12,000' in coastal areas. Rain: uncertain conditions. Even chance of no cloud above 15,000', but thundery cloud may drift over, or thick cloud to 20,000'. (Late Paris suggested that cloud should not generally extend above 10-12,000'). Categories: broken cloud, base 2,000', tops 12,000'. Good visibility. Thicker cloud to 15,000' over Kiel harbour.

DUISBURG

PLAN OF ATTACK

3. Method of attack GECB ground- and sky- marking. 11 Mosquitos (each with one reserve) were to drop red F.I. and skymarker flares (red with yellow stars). Supporters were to aim at F.I. if visible, otherwise at the centre of all skymarkers on a heading of 192°T. If w/t blue markers, they might attack on H2S. Main force crews were to aim at reds or at the centre of skymarkers on heading of 200°T.

Timing

H: 0110

Duration of attack: 0106-0122

- 11 Mosquitos from H - 4 to H + 12
- 64 Supporters from H to H + 8
- 149 Main force from H to H + 4
- 148 " " " H + 4 to H + 8
- 144 " " " H + 8 to H + 12
- 21 GECB aircraft spread throughout the attack.

5. Diversions 25 Mosquitos (including 5 Y-aircraft) were to raid Hannover at H, dropping white flares and skymarkers (red with green stars) with their bombs. 4 Mosquitos were to drop large quantities of WILLOW near Duisburg and bomb at H - 3. 3 others were to attack Duisburg between H + 45 and H + 65.

...../SO REEB.

of success until cloud began to break on the homeward route. The main force of bombers was instructed to turn N.W. from Roermond towards Noordwijk, but many, experiencing navigational difficulties, came out on a broad front as far south as Antwerp and Flushing. Very many interceptions occurred in the area east of Rotterdam. Intruders came across the North Sea, and destroyed one bomber over England. No victories were claimed by our crews.

CASUALTIES

13. 29 aircraft (5.5%) were lost. 21 probably fell to fighters, 7 to flak and 1 to an unknown cause. Only 2 losses appear to have occurred on the outway route, both to fighters, at Twente Enschede off Texel. 5 went down over Duisburg - one to an unknown cause while waiting for the raid to begin, and 2 to flak and 2 to fighters at the height of the attack. On the way home, fighters scored victories at Rotterdam, Utrecht and the Scheldt off track, 3 between the Ruhr and Roermond and 6 on the long N.W. leg across Holland. 2 more bombers fell in combat over the North Sea and one - probably 3 - were shot down by intruders. Flak losses occurred at Duisburg (2), Herenthals (2), Antwerp, Walcheren and Amsterdam. No crash landings were made, but 2 returning aircraft were irreparably damaged by fighter attack.

COURTRAI

14. 8 Mk.I OBOE Mosquitos were despatched against Courtrai/Savelghem airfield. 7 made successfully controlled runs, the eighth returned early. No losses or casualties were sustained.

HANNOVER

15. 25 Mosquitos, including 5 Y-aircraft, were detailed to carry out a point attack on Hannover. The markers soon disappeared into thick cloud; 6 crews bombed on then, the rest on GEE/DR. Twenty 4,000 lb. bombs were dropped. All aircraft returned undamaged.

MINELAYING

16. 107 Lancasters and Halifaxes were despatched on a mining operation to the Kattegat, Kiel harbour and bay, Heligoland and the Frisians. 99 reached their targets, laying 504 mines. The operation was designed to distract the enemy's northern-based fighters. 3 Lancasters went down in combat on return from Kiel - one N. of Funen, one over Jutland and one off Langeland. Another Lancaster destroyed at Ju. 33.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

17. 28 Mosquitos of 100 Group were detailed on SILENT patrols, while 32 others, from 2 and 100 Groups and A.D.S.T., patrolled and attacked enemy airfields in Belgium, Holland and Germany. No combats were reported, but all our fighters returned safely. A Mosquito from 8 Group carried out a weather reconnaissance flight.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

18. 9 aircraft made special sorties without loss.

MEM/JR.
RC/S. 26342/5/OKG4,
3rd. September, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	DESCR. TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		AGGRESSIVE SORTIES		LOSS INC.	BOMBS				EFFECTS		RESULTS	
				PRIM. AREA	SEC. AREA	OVER E.T.	OVER OVER E.T.		PLAC.	FIRING	BRIT. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO E/L	ATL. CR. NO.	NOT ATL. CR. ED	HE.	INC.
DUTSCHA	1	Lanc. I	94	91	1	-	2	5	1	-	-	-	2	2	860.9	1359.0
		Lanc. III	113	104	4	2	3	7	4	-	1+1.0	-	3	3		
	3	Lanc. I	59	53	3	1	2	2	3	2.0	-	-	3	3	11x8000lb.	439x1000lb.
		Lanc. II	23	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2		
	5	Lanc. III	27	25	-	-	-	1	1	1.0	-	-	2	2	-	-
		Lanc. I	68	60	3	2	3	3	3	-	-	-	2	2		
	3	Lanc. III	63	59	2	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
		Lanc. I	63	60	2	1	-	3	1+1.0	1.0	2+1.0	-	6	1		
		Hoaq. IV	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hoaq. VII	10	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Hoaq. IX	10	3	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
DUTSCHA TOTAL			532	487	15	16	14	29	14+2.0	2+1.0	1+2.0	2+1.0	26	30		
500 GALLON/ MINIGUN	3	Hoaq. IV	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.3	-
		Hoaq. IX	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hoaq. XV	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
DUTSCHA TOTAL			8	7	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
HANOVER	3	Hoaq. IV	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37.5	-
		Hoaq. IX	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hoaq. XVI	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Hoaq. XX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
HANOVER TOTAL			25	24	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
BOMBING TOTAL			565	518	15	18	14	29	14+2.0	2+1.0	1+2.0	2+1.0	26	30		

...../.....YDN.

608

21/22nd. MAY, 1944. (Contd.)

TARGET	GROUP	DESCR. TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		AGGRESSIVE SORTIES		LOSS INC.	BOMBS				EFFECTS		RESULTS	
				PRIM. AREA	SEC. AREA	OVER E.T.	OVER OVER E.T.		PLAC.	FIRING	BRIT. INC. BOMBS	NOT DUE TO E/L	ATL. CR. NO.	NOT ATL. CR. ED		
KIEB HARBOR	5	Hol. III	14	12	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	501 mines	
KIEB HARBOR		Lanc. I	24	23	-	-	-	1	1.0	-	-	1	1			
KIEB HARBOR	5	Lanc. III	34	30	-	2	-	2	2.0	-	-	2	3	-	-	
KIEB BAY		Lanc. I	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
KIEB BAY	6	Lanc. III	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
HULLINGLAND		Hol. II	13	12	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
HULLINGLAND	6	Hol. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
FRISLAND		Hol. III	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
HULLINGLAND TOTAL			107	99	-	4	-	3	3.0	-	-	3	5			
FRISLAND TOTAL	100	Hoaq.	28	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
FRISLANDS	100	Hoaq.	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
FRISLANDS	8	Hoaq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
FRISLANDS TOTAL			708	649	15	22	19	38	17+2.0	2+1.0	1+2.0	2+1.0	29	33		
FRISLANDS TOTAL	100	Various	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
FRISLANDS	2	Hoaq.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
FRISLANDS	100	Hoaq.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
FRISLANDS TOTAL			25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			

O.R.S. 1

NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL

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SOUTHER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS:

22/23rd. MAY, 1944.

DORMIED: BRUNSWICK, ORLEANS, LE MANS, Ludwigshafen, etc;SUMMARY

Over 1,000 aircraft were despatched. 375 went to Dortmund, which had not been heavily attacked for a year, and delivered a concentrated and destructive raid in clear weather. 235 visited Brunswick, but found the target covered with a patch of thick cloud, and their scattered bombing fell outside the city. Bomber forces effectively attacked the marshalling yards at Orleans and Le Mans. Mosquitoes bombed Ludwigshafen and airfields in France, Germany and the Low Countries. Mines were laid off Alborg, the Frisian and the French ports; and many fighters were on patrol. The whole night's work cost us 35 aircraft. 5, probably 7, German fighters were destroyed.

WEATHER FORECAST

Bases:- Generally fit all night, but south-eastern Groups run a serious risk of 10/10ths. very low stratus, and will need diversions on return. Elsewhere, variable cloud above 2,000'.

Germany:- Convection cloud to great heights in E. and S. In N.W. strato-cumulus will become well broken inland, and over the Middle Rhine there will only be patches of residual convection cloud. Danish mining areas: thin broken medium cloud above 14,000'.

France:- Much strato-cumulus in F. and F.E. Little cloud inland.

DORMIEDPLAN OF ATTACK

Method of Attack:- Combined OBOE and H2S ground - and sky - marking. OBOE Mosquitoes were to open with red T.I. and skymarker flares (red with yellow stars). Blind recenterers were to follow with yellow T.I. and green flares with yellow stars. They were not to bomb if their H2S was u/s. Visual recenterers were to aim green T.I. At reds, the centre of greens or the centre of yellows. If no T.I. were visible, they were to bomb flares but were to hold their T.I. Main force and supporters were to aim at, in order of preference, reds, the centre of greens, the centre of flares R/Y or the centre of flares G/Y. If the attack developed into a skymarker, supporters were to bomb the flares on a heading of 174⁰T., and main force on a heading of 130⁰T. 4 Mosquitoes were to drop large quantities of WINDOW and then bomb at H - 4; and 25 Mosquitoes were to carry out a feint raid on Mannheim between H + 3 and H + 10.

Timing

H - = 0045

Duration of attack: 0042-0054.

8 Mosquitoes	from H - 4 to H + 8
12 blind recenterers	from H - 1 to H + 3
10 visual recenterers	from H - 1 to H + 7
50 supporters	at H - 1
139 main force	from H - 1 to H + 4
144 main force	from H + 5 to H + 9
23 NBC aircraft	spread throughout the attack.

...../5. SORTIES.

SORTIES

5. No. of aircraft despatched..... 375
 " " " reporting attack on primary area..... 329
 " " " " " alternative area..... 1
 " " abortive sorties..... 45
 " " aircraft missing..... 18(4.3)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

6. Bases:- Cloudy; base mainly above 1,500', except locally in East and Moderate visibility. Mist and fog patches.

Route and target:- 10/10ths. to 10-12,000', over North Sea, with occasional breaks to 5-6/10ths. Cloud broke over the German border, and little or none was found over the target. Slight haze. No moon. Wind at 12,000': 330°/35 m.p.h. (45-50 m.p.h. at 21,000').

RELATIVE OF TARGET

7. The marking was punctual and finely concentrated. The S.S. were easily identified, and bombing appeared to be very accurate. Great fires developed.

RELATIVE OF DAMAGE

8. Most of the damage resulting from this raid occurred in the S.E. of the town, which suffered least from the heavy attacks of the previous year. Widespread and severe destruction was caused throughout the town. Vereinigte Stahlwerke, Heesch A.G., the subsidiary branch of Vereinigte Stahlwerke at Herl (all priority 1), Beer Sehn & Co. Distillery, Dortmund-Süd marshalling yards, the main goods station, the main passenger station, and several lesser industries were affected in varying degrees. A small hatted camp on the N.W. outskirts of town was almost obliterated, and warehouses and dockside buildings were severely hit in the harbour area. Residential and business property suffered grave damage.

DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

9. As a result of this attack, it is estimated that 70,000 industrial man-months were lost to the workers of Dortmund; an average of 19 days for each of 93,000 industrial men and women. 33,500 of the population of 514,000 people lost their homes, and a further 91,500 were affected by housing damage.

ENEMY DEFENCES

10. The two waves took separate routes out, the first crossing the coast at Axel and the second at Harlow. Only one combat occurred before they reached the target, where many fighters were seen. On the way home, no combats occurred before the forces split again S. of Munchen Gladbach. Thereafter, the first wave, again following a more northerly route, experienced 7 combats, while only one was reported by the second wave. 5 attacks were made by intruders, 4 over this country. The enemy controllers were plainly distracted by the three simultaneous approaches made by the 2 Dortmund forces and that going to Brunswick and concentrated their western fighters against the Brunswick aircraft. Consequently, the Dortmund aircraft met no opposition on their way across the Low Countries. Flak was moderate, although numerous searchlights exposed.

NEW AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

11. Returning bombers destroyed a Me.110 and probably a Ju.88.

CASUALTIES

12. 18 aircraft (4.3) were lost; 12 from the first wave and 6 from the second. The first wave lost one aircraft to an unknown cause near Zwolle, one to flak near Eindhoven, on the way home, and 2 to fighters near Roermond and/Gilze Rijen.

Gilze Rijen. The second wave lost one to a fighter near Antwerp. When the routes combined, one was lost at Munster, 2 at Dortmund and one at Cologne - to flak - while fighters destroyed 2 at Dortmund and one W. of Munster. Of 5 losses may definitely be attributed to flak and 6 to fighters. Most of the rest were probably caused by fighters in the area between Düsseldorf and Gladbach. One Lancaster crashed on landing. The intruders appear to have had with no success over England, although they may have scored one victory off east coast.

BRUNSWICK

PLAN OF ATTACK

13. The marking force (10 Mosquitos and 31 Lanes), together with 40 Lancasters and 55 Bostons, were to fly over the target at H - 9. The 10 Lanes were then to turn to port and re-join the main force, skirting the target defences. Meanwhile, the light of flares dropped by the marker Lanes, Mosquitos were to drop red spot fires on the marking point, backed up if necessary by more red spot fires. The marking point lay 1,200 yards 333°T. from the A/T. Green T.I. were to be used to advertise correctly placed markers, and yellows for incorrect ones. If the cloud was thick, blind markers were to release green T.I. and sky-markers (green with red stars) every 1½ minutes from H - 1. Main force crews were to aim the first bomb of each stick at markers: red spot fires checked with green T.I., green T.I. or sky-markers, in that order of preference. A 2-star Vauxy and a red was to signify "cease bombing", and a green 2-star cartridge "carry on bombing". A Controller and 2 Deputies were to direct the bombing. H - 10 Bombing height: 17-22,000'. Distributors were to be set to give a stick length of 600 yards. All main force crews were to bomb on a heading between 127° and 167°T.

SORTIES

14.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	275
"	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	150
"	" " " " " alternative area.....	125
"	" " abortive sorties.....	2
"	" " aircraft missing.....	1

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

15. Route and target: - 10/10ths. over North Sea, tops 10-12,000', with occasional breaks to 5-6/10ths. Cloud broke over Holland and N. Germany to 4-6/10ths., but increased near target to 6-9/10ths., tops 7,000'; base 2,500' with patches below 1,000' in rain. Clear 20 miles S. of target, and also of target itself later in the attack. No moon. Wind at 23,000': 340°/55 mph.

DESCRIPTIVE OF ATTACK

16. The thick cloud rendered ground markers impracticable, so the blind markers released sky-markers, which fell rather to the east of the target. Bombing was scattered, although some concentration was achieved in the later stages.

BY RESULTS/ISSUES

17. No fresh damage was visible in the city.

BY DEFENCES

18. The Brunswick force met fighters as soon as they turned east from the defences, and were engaged continuously from Ireland to N. of Vechta. The force resumed over the target, where 5 combats occurred; 3 more were reported between Hinden and Quackenbruck on the way home, and several more over the target guns fired a moderate barrage; over 10, of returning aircraft were shot down at night between 07° and 08° E., where there was an extensive belt of searchlights.

...../E BY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

19. Bombers returning from Brunswick destroyed a No. 110, an unidentified single-engine aircraft, and probably a Ju. 88; and damaged a No. 109.

C. SUMMARY

20. 13 aircraft (5.5%) were lost: 6 to Flak (3 at Brunswick and 3 to the defences between Diden and Osnabruck); 5 to fighters, all between England and the German border (3 outward and 2 homeward); and 2 to unknown causes. One Lancaster crashed near its base after colliding with another aircraft.

ORLEANS/LE MANS.PLANS OF ATTACK

21. An identical method and timing were to be used for both targets. 4 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red and green S.I. Illuminators were to drop flares (1st. flare with "sight on", remainder at 10-second intervals), running up on H2S. If no S.I. were visible, they were to bomb blindly. In either case they were to orbit after releasing their flares and bomb on a second run. A Master Bomber, or his deputy, was to direct the marking, dropping further markers himself if necessary, and to instruct the main force. H = 0215 at Orleans; 0230 at Le Mans. 2 Mosquitos at H - 0, 2 at H - 7; 7 illuminators at H - 6, 3 at H - 4; main force in 2 waves between H and H + 5. Bombing height: 9-10,000' at Orleans; 7-9,000' at Le Mans.

SORTIES

	Orleans	Le Mans
22. No. of aircraft despatched.....	123	13
" " reporting attack on primary area.....	112	11
" " abortive sorties.....	16	1
" " aircraft missing.....	1	
	(C.9.)	(1.)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

23. Orleans, Le Mans: Little cloud. Moderate visibility. Some haze at Orleans. Wind at 10,000': 325°/30 kts. No moon.

U. R. TIME OF ATTACKS

24. Orleans Only one of the OBOE Mosquitos made a controlled run, and its greens fell 1,900 yards N. of the \sqrt{R} . The Deputy master bomber followed with whites, 200 yards 320° from the \sqrt{R} . The Master Bomber's first order was to bomb the greens with a 2-second overshoot, which was later increased to a 3-second and then to a 5-second overshoot. Since the greens had burnt out before the first order was given, it seems certain that the Master Bomber mistook the Deputy whites for greens. Fortunately, the greens had been so wide and early that most crews understood the Master Bomber's intention, and bombed on the whites. At 0216, the Master Bomber dropped rather inaccurate yellows, 970 and 420 yards N. of the \sqrt{R} ; and the Deputy's second set of whites, at 0218, fell 550 yards 342° away; so at 0218½, the Master Bomber told crews to aim at the centre of the fires which had been raised around the early and accurate markers. A good concentration was achieved.

25. Le Mans All the OBOE markers, and their reserves, failed, and no markers went down until 0233½, when the Master Bomber dropped yellows 400 yards 144° from the \sqrt{R} . He stated that he ordered crews to hold these with a slight undershoot to starboard, but all crews reported that the message was simply to bomb the yellows. The Deputy lost contact with the Master Bomber after 0225, dropped his first whites 470 and 315 yards S. at 0233; and his second salvo X yards 290° at 0241½. Illumination was excellent, and the bombing was concentrated.

...../D. M. BUCKLEMAN.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

26. Orleans The attack fell heavily on the passenger station, the electric locomotive depot, roundhouse and locomotive repair facilities, and goods depot. Many small buildings were affected.

27. Le Mans Most of the bombs fell on the target, especially the central and northern areas, causing great destruction in the reception/forwarding siding, the carriage and wagon repair shops, transshipment sheds, locomotive sheds and repair shops, and the stores depot. A series of large explosions occurred among what must have been a concentration of wagons in the reception/forwarding siding, and many of these were completely destroyed. The adjacent Junkers repair plant was almost totally destroyed, only one building remaining standing. The Renault armament and traction works were also severely hit.

WEEK END OPERATIONS

28. 2 combats with fighters occurred over Orleans, and one S. of Chateaudun, in which a German machine was downed. 5 combats were reported over Le Mans, and one on the way home. Light flak was intense at Le Mans. Heavy flak was slight at both targets.

CASUALTIES

29. The aircraft lost on Orleans was shot down by a fighter S. of Chateaudun. One of the two lost on Le Mans was destroyed by target flak and the other by a fighter at the next turning point. A Halifax crashed on return from Le Mans.

LUFTANGRIFFEN

30. 26 Mosquitos were despatched against Luwischhafen. 5 Y-aircraft on markers, and 21 other aircraft bombed around them. All returned unharmed.

COMBAT

31. 5 OBOE 1's and 4 OBOE 2's were detailed against Courtrai/Nevelghem area. 4 of each type made successfully controlled runs. All returned unharmed.

MINELAYING

32. 54 Lancasters, Stirlings and Halifaxes were despatched to lay mines at the Frisians, Helborg and the French Channel and Biscay ports. 50 were successful, laying 199 mines. All returned unharmed.

RELIANTS

33. 23 Wellingtons and Whitleys, out of a force of 25 despatched from Training Groups, scattered leaflets over Northern France. One was lost without trace on return.

FINISH OPERATIONS

34. 21 Mosquitos from 100 Group left on SEARCH patrol. They destroyed 100 Hc. 110's. 19 others from 2 Group bombed airfields, and 6 from 100 Group from A.D.S.P. made intruder patrols, downing one He.177. None of our aircraft was lost. One Mosquito of 3 Group carried out a net. recon. flight.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

35. 9 aircraft made special sorties without loss.

WEM/JT.
HC/S. 26342/4/0351,
10th. September, 1944.

BOMBER COMBINED REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

23/24th. Sept. 1944.

Dortmund: Berlin: Lisen: Minelaying:

SUMMARY

1. Dortmund 24 Mosquitos were despatched against Dortmund. 3 OBOE Mk.II aircraft made controlled runs and dropped markers, but they soon disappeared into cloud and only 2 aircraft bombed the town. All the rest bombed on their glow or on D.H. From this and all the rest of the night's operations, all aircraft returned safely, except one Stirling which crashed.
2. Berlin 16 Mosquitos attacked Berlin. The bombing was concentrated, and an accurate attack was delivered in clear weather.
3. Lisen 6 OBOE Mk.I Mosquitos made controlled runs against the railway junction at Lisen, near Isigny.
4. Minelaying 26 aircraft, out of a force of 30, laid 93 mines off Albers, the Prisons, Heligoland, St. Vio, Cherbourg and Le Havre. One was wrecked in a taxiing accident.
5. Le Fleets 8 Wellingtons scattered leaflets over Paris, Etampes and Versailles.
6. Fighter operations 2 Stirling Mosquitos completed uneventful patrols, and another carried out a net. recon. flight.
7. Special operations 2 Wellingtons and 4 Halifaxes made special sorties.

WEATHER FORECAST

8. Basics:- Mainly fit all night, except in a few localities.
Germany:- Variable strato-cumulus in W. Little cloud elsewhere.
France:- Much strato-cumulus in N., dispersing southwards.

SORTIES

9. No. of aircraft despatched.....	37
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	33
" " abortive sorties.....	4
" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

10. 5-10/10ths. at Dortmund, temp. 7-20,000'. Nil to 2/10ths. thin layer over Berlin, and at Lisen.

REMARKS

11. No fighters were encountered. Fog was intense at Dortmund, moderate at Berlin.

C.S. COMMENTS

12. No aircraft was lost, but one Stirling crashed while taking-off, and was burnt out. 2 Mosquitos were slightly damaged by fog over Berlin.

RCN/JT.
 RC/S. 26342/3/0/24,
 13th. September, 1944.

DORTMUND: BERLIN: LISON: HINDELING: et al - 23/24th. MAY, 1944

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON				ABORTIVE SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS	
				PRBL. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER R.T.	NOT OVER R.T.	FLAK	FIREWORK		BRIT. INC. POINTS	NOT DUE TO R/W	STUCK-ED	NOT STUCK-ED	HS.	I.B.		
DORTMUND	8	Mosq. IV	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37.5	.1	
		Mosq. IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. XVI	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19x1000	-	
DORTMUND TOTAL			24	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BERLIN	8	Mosq. IV	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	22.5	.7	
		Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Mosq. XVI	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11x1000	-	
		Mosq. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BERLIN TOTAL			16	16	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
LISON	8	Mosq. IX	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.8	-	
		Mosq. XVI	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5x1000	-	
LISON TOTAL			6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BORNING TOTAL			16	16	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
HINDELING	1	Lanc. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Stir. III	7	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Stir. III	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1E	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. III	14	12	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. II	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Hal. II	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
HINDELING TOTAL			30	26	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
BOMBER SUPPORT			100	Mosq.	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
MFT. PROCL			8	Mosq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
L.A. PLATS	95	Well. I	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Well. III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
L.A. PLATS TOTAL			8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
GRAND TOTAL			87	83	-	-	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

...../over.

677

23/24th. MAY, 1944 (CONTD.)

TARGET	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON				ABORTIVE SORTIES		MISS-ING	DAMAGE				INTERCEPTIONS		RESULTS	
				PRBL. AREA	ALT. AREA	OVER R.T.	NOT OVER R.T.	FLAK	FIREWORK		BRIT. INC. POINTS	NOT DUE TO R/W	STUCK-ED	NOT STUCK-ED	HS.	I.B.		
SPAC. OPS	100	Well.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	3	Hal.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SPAC. OPS TOTAL			6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL.

O.R.S.A. REPORTS: VEHICLES: PLATS: PL. POS:

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COPY NO. 16

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

24/25th. Nov. 1944.

LOCATIONS: COLLIERIES: ESSENTIALS: TROUWILLE: LA GEMME: DOULOZY: ANTWERP: etc.SUMMARY

1. The Rote-Erde and Western Marshalling yards at which were separately attacked by forces of over 200 aircraft. Both were severely affected, although the weight of the first raid fell on the approaches to the yards rather than the target proper. Smaller forces visited the coastal batteries at Colline Edouard, Trouville, Le Clipon and Doulogne, a water plant at Antwerp, and the Phillips radio works at Bincheven. The Belgian aircraft met stiff fighter opposition, and 25 did not return. The smaller forces sustained no casualties. Mines were laid off the Prisons and the Biscay ports, and fighters patrolled and attacked enemy airfields. 2 fighters and one aircraft on special operations were lost. 3 enemy fighters were destroyed and 2 more damaged.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Fit all night. Little cloud. Poor visibility in Yorkshire.
 Germany:- Broken stratocumulus. Cloud will tower to great heights in E.
 Belgium:- probably little cloud, but there may be a thin belt at 6,000'.
 France and Low Countries:- Little cloud.

LOCATIONSPLAN OF ATTACK

3. Two yards in the town were to be attacked separately, each by the same method. 4 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red T.E. (2 at H - 3 and 2 at H - 2). 3 visual centers were to aim greens at the centre of the yards at H, with a 1-second overshoot. Supporters and main force crews, attacking in a single wave from H to H + 5, were to aim at the centre of roads or of greens. H = 0055 on E. yards; 0225 on W.

SORTIES

	E	W
4. No. of aircraft despatched.....	214	213
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	204	205
" " " " alternative area.....	1	0
" " abortive sorties.....	9	13
" " aircraft missing.....	19	6
	(8.9)	(2.3)

WEATHER EXPERIENCE

5. Bases:- Fit.
 Belgium:- No cloud. Hazy. No fog. No cloud on route, except patches of 10/10ths., tops 6,000'. Contrails at 16,000' over Dutch coast. Wind: 325°/30 m.p.h.

RECAPITULATION OF ATTACK

6. E. (Rote-Erde) yards The Mosquitos were punctual, and their reds were backed up with a good concentration of greens. Most crews, however, bombed on the reds, which apparently fell on the N.E. corner of the target. The attack was concentrated around the markers, apart from some late undershooting.

..../7. W. yards.

7. W. yards The markers were punctual and concentrated, with the green slightly to the N.E. of the reds. There, also, most bombs landed on the reds, which were photographed slightly S.E. of the L/P; well within the target area.

DAY MARCHING FORCE

8. The weight of the first attack fell just outside the yards proper, but covered all through lines and derailed and demolished much rolling stock. Only 3 craters occurred in the target itself. The western yards suffered severe and direct damage. Both large transshipment sheds were hit, one being destroyed. Platforms of the west station was burnt out, and another was damaged. All three lines and tracks in the sorting sidings were disrupted, and several minor buildings were hit. Rolling stock suffered heavily. In the industrial area to the N.E. 7 small factories, a large storage unit and numerous residential dwellings were damaged or destroyed.

NIGHT DEFENCES

9. The first force, visiting the Rothe-Erde yards, crossed the coast simultaneously with 2 smaller forces going to Antwerp and Eindhoven; but the enemy controllers ignored these shallow penetrations, engaged theachen aircraft with medium range fighters near the Scheldt estuary and N. of St. Trond, and brought their long range aircraft south to meet the stream as it left the target. 44 interceptions were reported by the 155 returning aircraft of this wave, most on the way out between Antwerp and Liege. Opposition slackened in the target but increased again between the target and Eindhoven on the way home. The second wave, 90 minutes later, penetrated 150 miles before sighting any hostiles, but fighters reached the target in strength at about 11 hours, and remained in the stream for the first 40 miles of the return route. None of the small forces attacking coastal targets met any fighters at all. Flak was moderate but accurate at Antwerp, and intense on route at Gilze-Rijen. Our crews claimed no victories but fighters destroyed 3 and damaged 2 enemy aircraft.

CASUALTIES

10. The first force, on the Rothe-Erde yards, lost 19 (1.9%) aircraft. 5 were down in combat over the Low Countries while outward bound: one to fighter, one flak and a third to an unknown cause over the target; and 3 to fighters and 3 flak on the way home, including one loss to a ship off the Dutch islands. It is surprisingly, no losses appear to have occurred in the area N. of the target, where combats were frequent. In the second attack, 3 aircraft were shot down by fighters on the way out: one by target flak; and one by flak at Eindhoven. There were probably destroyed over the target. No returning aircraft was badly damaged.

COLLINE BEAUMONT: TROUVILLE: LE CLIXON: BOULOGNE: EINDHOVEN: ANTWERP:

PLANS OF ATTACK

11. Colline Beaumont: Trouville; Le Clixon; Boulogne: On each of these targets, 4 OBOE Mosquitoes were to drop green T.I. (2 at H - 3 and 2 at H - 2). Crews were to aim at the centre of the markers. H = 0020 at Colline Beaumont; 0135 at Trouville; 0115 at Boulogne; 2400 at Le Clixon.

12. Eindhoven: Antwerp: The target was to be illuminated by flares, in the light of which 5 Mosquitoes of 5 Group were to drop 2 red spot fires on the mark point, Yellow T.I. were to be used to cancel wide markers, and greens to distinguish the correct ones. More illumination skyflaker flares (green with red stars) might be used to help the visual Mosquitoes. Main force crews were aim at red spot fires, if possible those marked with green T.I. A Master Bomb was to operate. The Antwerp attack was to be started by 3 OBOE Mosquitoes with yellow T.I. proximity markers. H = 0040 at Antwerp; - 0047 at Eindhoven. On the latter target, bombs were to be fused with a 6-hour delay.

...../SORTIES.

SORTIES

		Des-	Attacked	Alternative	Missing
		patches	P/L		
13.	Colline Beaumont.....	55	53	2	0
	Trouville.....	59	57	2	0
	Le Clipon.....	53	51	4	0
	Boulogne.....	53	54	4	0
	Binhoven.....	53	1	62	0
	Antwerp.....	51	46	5	0

WEATHER CONDITIONS

12. N. France: Antwerp:- No cloud. Good visibility. No moon. Slight local haze.

Binhoven:- Large patch of 10/10ths strato-cumulus over target, base 4,000', tops 8,000'. Hazy. Poor visibility beneath clouds.

Light winds.

NARRATIVES OF ACTION

15. Except at Binhoven, where aircraft were ordered to bring their bombs back because of poor weather, every target was accurately marked and bombed. At Trouville, haze was considerable, and the markers fell in a large triangle, which caused some scatter. At Antwerp, the first red spot fires were off the P, but the Master Bomber transmitted a correction, and the first bombs hit the works, which soon became obscured by smoke and fire.

DAY RESPONSE LOSS/RECOVER

16. None of the coastal batteries was photographically covered except Trouville, where one emplacement was damaged, and every gun sustained several near misses. An accommodation shelter was demolished by a direct hit. At Antwerp, the General Motors Assembly Plant had its main 9-story building 75% demolished, while the servicing tracks were largely obliterated. Many dockside buildings 80% of the plant were badly damaged. The Ford Motor Assembly Plant was not affected.

ENEMY DEFENCES

17. No fighter opposition was met. Flak was slight.

CASUALTIES

18. From these minor operations, all aircraft returned undamaged.

RESULTS

19. 15 Mosquitos were despatched against Berlin. 10, including 4 T-aircraft, attacked the city through thin clouds. All returned safely.

REMARKS

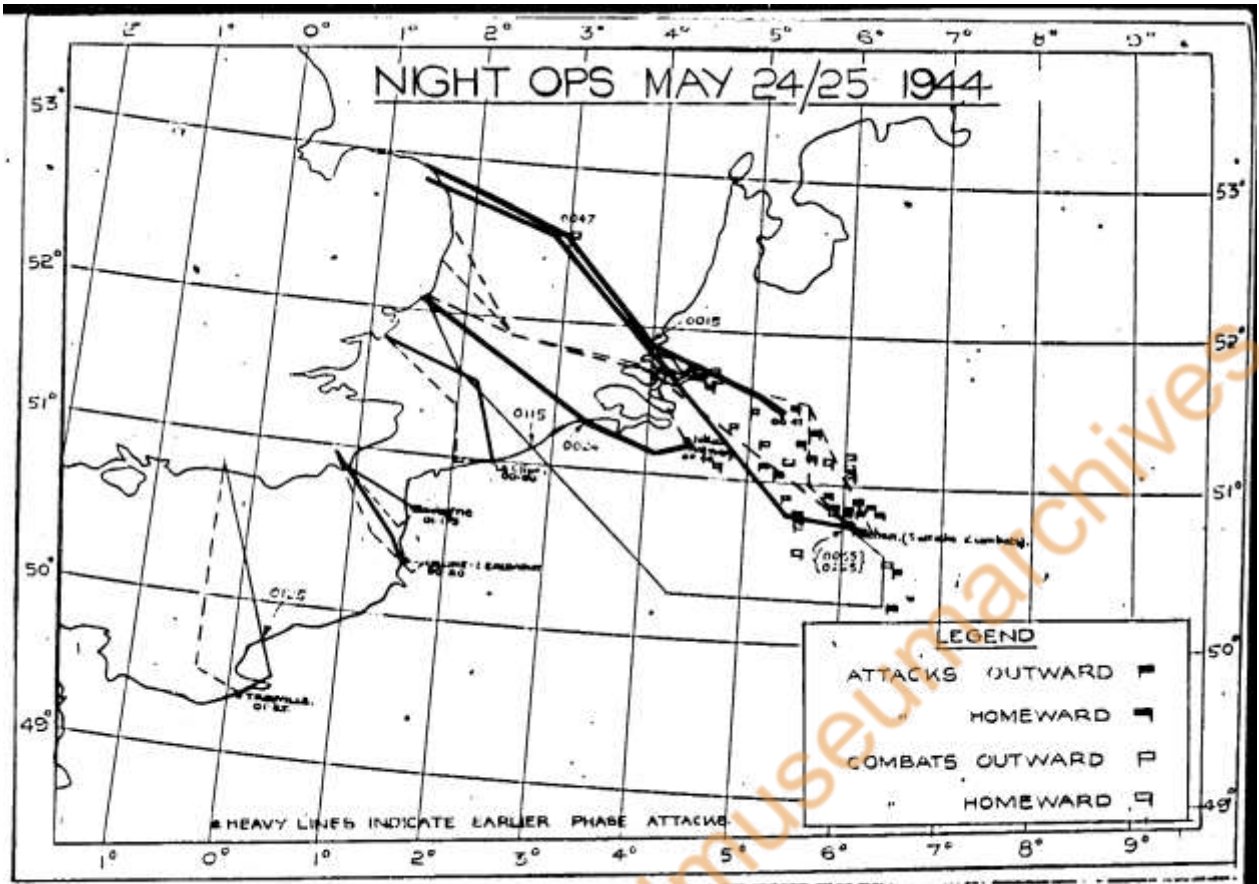
20. 23 Stirlings and Halifaxes, out of a force of 25, laid 83 mines off the Frisians and the French Biscay ports. All aircraft returned undamaged.

RESULTS

21. 21 Whitleys and Wellingtons, out of a force of 23 despatched from Training Groups, scattered leaflets over Northern France. All returned safely.

REMARKS OPERATIONS

22. 31 Mosquitos of 100 Group were sent on SEKT 73 patrol. They destroyed 2 Me.110 and an unidentified aircraft, and damaged a Me.109, without loss to themselves. 58 other Mosquitos from 2 and 100 Groups on ... carried out intruder patrols. 23 of these attacked enemy airfields. Another enemy fighter/was damaged at Venlo.



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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

26/27th. M.V., 1944.

Ludwigshafen: Aachen: Lison: Minelaying:

SUMMARY

1. Ludwigshafen 30 Mosquitos were despatched against Ludwigshafen. All 5 Y-aircraft were successful, and both the bombing and bombing were concentrated. 2 Mosquitos were lost.
2. Aachen 11 OBOE Mk.II Mosquitos were despatched against the Roth-erde marshalling yards at Aachen. 10 made successfully controlled runs, and the eleventh attacked on a timed run from a precision fix. The bombing was reported as accurate. From this and all other operations except that on Ludwigshafen, all aircraft returned safely.
3. Lison 8 OBOE Mk.I Mosquitos were detailed to attack the railway junction at Lison. 6 bombed on OBOE. The other 2 were abortive.
4. Minelaying 42 Stirlings, Halifaxes and Lancasters were sent to lay mines off French ports, the Dutch and Belgian coasts and the Frisians, and in the Kattegat. All were successful, and returned unfringed.
5. Fighter operations 7 SEPRATE Mosquitos went on patrol, in close support against ... fighters. 6 completed their patrols, without engaging any hostiles. Another Mosquito carried out a net. recon. flight.

WEATHER FORECAST

6. Bases:- Much low cloud; but base should remain above 1,500' in N. until 0400, and East Anglia will hold.
 Continent:- Much strato-cumulus in N. France and E. Germany, dispersing southwards. Little cloud in S. France. Cloud to great heights in Denmark.

SORTIES

7. No. of aircraft despatched.....	139
" " " reporting attack on primary target.....	136
" " abortive sorties.....	3
" " aircraft missing.....	2(1.4)
" " mines laid.....	138

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

8. No cloud at Ludwigshafen, Aachen or Lison.

ENEMY DEFENCES

9. No fighters were encountered, although they were active in readiness for a large scale penetration. Flak was moderate but accurate at Ludwigshafen and Aachen, and searchlights were very active.

CASUALTIES

10. 2 Mosquitos were lost on Ludwigshafen. One was shot down by flak at Aachen on the outward route, and the other probably went down an hour later near Julich; but the cause is uncertain. 2 other Mosquitos were slightly damaged by flak.

MEM/JT.
 EC/S. 26342/6/OKSL,
 20th. September, 1944.

T. UNIT	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SORTIES	A/C REPORTING ATTACK ON		HOSTIVE SORTIES		MIS-ENG	DAMAGE				DIVERGENCE		RESULTS		
				PRE-ENG.	POST-ENG.	OVER S. T.	OVER E. V.		PLAC.	INCIDENT	REPT. INC. FROM	NOT REC'D TO R. V.	RECORDED	UNRECORDED	HE.	INC.	
LUDWIGSHAVEN	C	Moq. IV	14	14	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45.1	1.1
		Moq. IX	4	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Moq. XVI	10	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	230000
		Moq. XX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LUDWIGSHAVEN TOTAL			30	30	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LIECH	B	Moq. XVI	11	11	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	19.6	-
LIECH	B	Moq. IX	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.9	-
		Moq. XVI	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42000
LIECH TOTAL			8	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BO BONG TOTAL			49	47	-	1	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FINEL YONG																	
ST. MARG	A	Hal. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		USHJPT	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		REEST	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		ST. MARG	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		DUNKIRK	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		LONDRE	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
K. TING	5	Stir. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FRISL. U	5	Lanc.	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lanc.	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHERBOURG	6	Hal. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hal. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FINEL YONG TOTAL			42	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BO BONG SUPPORT	100	Moq.	7	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NET. REPT.	8	Moq.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			139	136	-	1	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

O. R. S. J.

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

27/28th. JAN., 1941.

BOURG LEOPOLD: ANCHER: NANTES: REVELLE: USAITES: LE CLIPON: etc.

SUMMARY

1. Bomber Command despatched over 1,100 aircraft. The main targets were the military camp at Bourg Leopold, and the Rotterdam marshalling yards at Ancher. Both received concentrated attacks. Smaller forces visited the airfield at Rennes, the railway junction at Nantes, and 5 coastal batteries. Mosquitos bombed Berlin, Dusseldorf and many airfields in Germany, France and the Low Countries. Fighters and nightlayers were also active. The whole night's work cost us 25 bombers and 3 fighters. 10 enemy aircraft were destroyed.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Little cloud. Moderate visibility.
 Continent:- Fine everywhere. Good visibility W. of 01°E. Little cloud.

BOURG LEOPOLD

PLAN OF ATTACK

3. Controlled groundmarking. 3 OOB Mosquitos and 4 reserves were to drop red and green G.I. Early illuminators were to run in on H2S, but were to drop their flares on T.I. if none were visible, directly or visually. In any case they were to orbit and bomb on a second run. Later illuminators were only to drop flares if so directed. Packers-up were to aim whites at T.I. with a 1-second overshoot, as instructed by the Master Bombr. The last-named was to direct the main force, releasing further markers himself if necessary. H = 0230. Mosquitos from H - 3 to H - 2 (reserves from H + 2 to H + 3). Illuminators at H - 6 and H - 4. Packers up at H + 2 and H + 5. Main force in 2 waves between H and H + 10.

SORTIES

4. No. of aircraft despatched.....	331
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	323
" " abortive sorties.....	8
" " aircraft missing.....	10 (3.0.3)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

5. Bases:- Fog affected most of E. England after midnight.
 Bourg Leopold:- Clear all the way, except for sea fog off the Dutch coast. Slight haze at target. Wind at 10-15, 200°/20 m.p.h. New moon, setting at 0230.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACK

6.11 - 5 OOB Mosquitos dropped G.I. between H - 11 and H + 1. The third and most accurate salvo fell 320 yards N.E. of the target. The early visual markers were wide to the south, but at H + 2, a salvo of whites went down 250 yards S.S.W.

..../The Master Bomber

The Master Bomber assessed the markers, and crews, bombing on his instructions, saw their early bombs fall among the camp buildings. The \sqrt{A} soon became obscured by smoke, and later bombing drifted slightly to the N.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

7. Enormous damage was caused throughout the area of the barracks. All the 6 large central buildings were seriously hit, and 150 personnel huts were destroyed. Many N/T shelters, workshops, trenches and wagons were obliterated.

ENEMY DEFENCES

8. 67 interceptions were reported by returning aircraft - over 20% of the total number of aircraft despatched. The first 100 aircraft met little opposition on the way out, but from 0200, just as the moon was rising, fighter activity was intense over the last 60 miles into the target. Combats were especially frequent from H to H + 10, at the peak of the raid; and our bombers were fiercely engaged between St. Tread and Brussels, and later at Ghent. Flak opposition was slight, and no searchlights operated at the target.

ENEMY AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

9. Our bombers destroyed 8 enemy fighters: a S/D aircraft on the way out, a Ju. 32, a Me. 109 and a FW. 190 over the target, 2 unidentified fighters and a FW. 190 on the southern route home, and a Ju. 33 on the northern. SEVENTEEN Mosquitoes, flying in support, shot down a Me. 109 and a Ju. 110.

CASUALTIES

10. Despite the intense fighter opposition, our loss of 40 aircraft represented only 3.0% of the total force. All were probably shot down by fighters: 4 on the way out (including 2 near Brussels), 2 over the target, and 4 on the way home. 2 returning bombers were damaged beyond repair, one by flak and one in combat.

PLAN OF ATTACK

11. OCE groundmarking. 4 Mosquitoes and 4 reserves were to drop red T.I. Backers-up were to aim greens at the centre of reds, or of earlier greens, with a 1-second overshoot in either instance. They were to run in on H2S, and, if no T.I. were visible by H + 2, were to bomb blindly, checking by means of G.P.I. Main force crews were to aim at the centre of reds, or of greens. H = 0225. Mosquitoes from H - 5 to H - 2 (reserves from H + 7 to H + 8). Backers up at H + 1. Main force in one wave from H to H + 5. 6 Mosquitoes were to bomb Dusseldorf between H - 2 and H, dropping red and green T.I. and flares with their bombs.

SORTIES

12. No. of aircraft despatched.....	170
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	166
" " abortive sorties.....	4
" " aircraft missing.....	12 (7.0%)

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

13. No cloud. New moon. Wind at 10-15, 3000': 200°/20 m.p.h.

REMARKS ON ATTACK

14. The P.F.F. were punctual and most accurate. A fine concentration was achieved by the main force in excellent weather conditions.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

15. The Rothe Erde yards were severely damaged. Railway buildings were/destroyed almost wholesale

destroyed almost wholesale; the passenger section was burnt out; the apartment was out in several places; at least 25 direct hits were scored on trucks; the goods depot was pitted with craters, and lines and rolling stock were everywhere affected. The research building of the Englebert rubber tyre factory was destroyed, and a cloth factory, an engineering works, and 6 large storage buildings by the goods depot were destroyed or damaged.

ENEMY DEFENCES

16. This force reported only 7 fighter attacks, but lost over twice as large a proportion of aircraft as the Bourg Leopold force; the most of their casualties were, in fact, caused by fighters. Most of the combats occurred near Gilze Rijen and Venlo on the way out, over the target, and between Courtrai and Dunkirk, after the moon had set, on the way home. -Plank was slight. No enemy aircraft were claimed as destroyed.

C.S. NOTES

17. Fighter losses are known to have occurred at Gilze Rijen, and Venlo on the way out; over Grochen; near Brussels (3), S. of Ghent (2) and near Dunkirk (2) on the return route. Another aircraft fell to flak at Brussels. One returning Lancaster was irreparably damaged by fighter attack.

MERVILLE: NANTES: NORSALIN: LE CLIPON: BOULOGNE: ST. VALERY: RENNES:

FLY'S OFF ATTACK

18. Merville/Franceville coastal battery A preliminary warning point was to be marked with impact green F.I. The \sqrt{P} was to be marked with impact yellow, backed up with red spot fires. Aircraft were to make their bombing run from the warning point, and aim at the centre of the red spot fires, unless otherwise ordered by the Master Bomber. H = 0150. Bombing height: 2-10,000'.

19. Nantes Junction and Road depot 5 Group visual marking technique. The target was to be illuminated by flares, and Mosquitoes were to drop red spot fires on the marking point. Green F.I. were to be used to advertise correct markers, and yellow for wide ones. Further flares (back with green stars) might be dropped for illumination; but the main force were not to bomb on these. A Controller was to instruct the force. H = 0135. Main force in 3 waves between H and H + 12. Distributors were to be set for a crater spacing of 16 yards.

20. Norsalina coastal battery 5 Group visual marking, assisted by OBOE groundmarking. 4 OBOE Mosquitoes were to drop short-burning yellow F.I. Then, by flarelight, Mosquitoes were to mark the \sqrt{P} with 2 red spot fires. A Controller was to direct the main force. H = 0055. Main force from H to H + 12.

21. Le Clipon and Boulogne coastal battery 4 OBOE Mosquitoes were to mark each target with green F.I.; at the centre of which the main force were to aim. H = 0035 at Le Clipon; 0115 at Boulogne.

22. St. Valery-en-Caux coastal battery 5 Group visual marking technique, as for Nantes. H = 0135.

23. Rennes/St. Jacques airfield Controlled OBOE groundmarking, exactly as for Bourg Leopold. H = 0140.

SORTIES

	Desp.	Att./%	Loss	Missing
24. Merville.....	57	55	2	1(1.8%)
Nantes.....	104	53	51	0
Norsalina.....	57	64	3	0
Le Clipon.....	53	52	1	0
Boulogne.....	43	42	1	0
St. Valery-en-Caux.....	50	48	2	1(2.0%)
Rennes.....	53	31	2	1(1.2%)

...../FLYING EXPERIENCE

4.

WATHER EXPERIENCED

25. All French targets:- No cloud. No crane visibility. Thick haze
Haze lines, in a layer at 5-6,000'.

NAUTIVE OF ATTACKS

26. All the attacks on coastal batteries were reported as well concentrated
around the markers in the target area, except that at La Jolien, where the
markers fell in a line a mile long, and the bombing was scattered. The early
bombing at Nantes was so accurate that the 1/3 was quite invisible after a few
minutes, and later arrivals were ordered to bring their bombs back. At Rennes
the early greens fell on a hangar, and were excellently backed up. An
ammunition dump appeared to blow up during the raid.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

27. No reconnaissance reports were issued for the coastal batteries. The
attack at Nantes fell squarely on the target, no less than 30 hits being scored
on the flyovers and junctions, and 26 more on the railway sidings S.W. of the
target on Ile Gloriette. The residential area N. of the target was rather
heavily damaged. The raid on Rennes was centred in fields S.W. of the target,
but numerous bombs fell on the airfields, and craters occurred in every part
of it. The barracks and runways were seriously damaged.

WEEY DEVICES

28. No POF fighters were present over the coastal targets, but 4 attacks were
made over Nantes, where several Me. 110's were sighted. Flak was moderate to
intense at this target.

CLUSTERS

29. A Lancaster was lost on Morville. It apparently exploded over the
target. A Mosquito did not return to base from St. V. Leary; it ditched after
being hit by light flak, and was seen on the water, off the French coast. A
loss on Rennes was caused by light flak at the target. POF returning aircraft
were damaged, but one was wrecked by fighter attack.

BERLIN

30. 23 Mosquitos, including 4 Y-aircraft, were sent to Berlin. 2 Y-aircraft
dropped markers, and 19 other aircraft bombed there in clear weather. All
returned safely; but one was badly damaged in a combat.

DUSSELDORF

31. 6 Mosquitos, including 2 Y-aircraft, were despatched to Dusseldorf.
The Y-aircraft both dropped T.I., which were backed by 3 other aircraft from
clear sky. All returned undamaged.

HELGOLAND

32. 60 Lancasters, Stirlings and Halifaxes were detailed to lay mines off
Heligoland, IJmuiden, and many of the Channel and Biscay ports. All but one
completed their missions, laying 266 mines. No losses or casualties were
sustained.

LE FLERS

33. 7 Wellingtons scattered leaflets over N. France without incident.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

34. 28 SUPERB Mosquitos and 23 intruders from 100 Group and A.D.G.R. were sent on patrol. The SUPERB aircraft destroyed a No. 10 and a No. 109. 2 aircraft of 100 Group did not return. All Mosquitos were detailed from 2 Group to attack enemy airfields, and 28 did so. One was lost. All Mosquito from 8 Group completed a successful flight.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

35. 13 Halifaxes, Wellingtons and Mosquitos left on special sorties. 11 were successful. All returned safely.

MEMO.
BC/S. 26342/2/0234,
11th. September, 1944.

FORM 100-1 (REVISED) 27/4/44
M.D.C. 100-1 (REVISED) 27/4/44

TYPE	GROUP	AIRCRAFT TYPE	SERVICES	W/O REPORTED			W/O MISSING			RESULTS					WEIGHTS	
				DOWN	DOWN	DOWN	DOWN	DOWN	DOWN	DOWN	DOWN	DOWN	DOWN	DOWN	DOWN	DOWN
SUPERB	1	Lanc-I	49	49	-	-	-	3	4+1E	-	-	-	3	3	900.9	6.7
		Lanc-III	61	61	-	-	-	6	-	1E	-	-	2	1	5x1000lbs.	
	3	Lanc-I	28	28	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-		
		Lanc-II	10	10	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	6	Lanc-III	11	11	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	-		
		Lanc-III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
			Mosq-VI	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
			Mosq-IX	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
	TOTAL			170	169	-	4	-	12	5+1E	2+1E	-	7	3		
	MOUSE-TRAP	1	Lanc-I	7	7	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1207.7
Lanc-III			3	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-		
3		Mosq-III	150	145	-	2	3	3	2	1+2E	-	1	9	13	5x1000lbs.	
6		Lanc-II	18	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Lanc-X	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
6		Mosq-III	117	117	-	-	-	6	2+1E	1+1E	-	4+2E	13	21		
		Lanc-III	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
			Mosq-IX	4	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
			Mosq-IX	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL			331	323	-	5	3	10	4+1E	2+3E	-	5+2E	23			
WELLINGTON	1	Lanc-I	20	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	209.1	1.1
		Lanc-III	37	35	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL			57	55	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-			
MOSQUITO	5	Lanc-I	50	23	-	27	-	-	1	-	-	1E	1	-	254.9	.2
		Lanc-III	50	27	-	23	-	-	-	1E+1E	-	-	3	-		
		Mosq-IV	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL			104	53	-	51	-	1	1E+1E	-	-	4	2			

...../over.

27/23d. MAY, 1944. (CONT'D)

UNIT	GROUP	REMARKS TYPE	SCOUTS	A/C REPORTING STATUS OF		A/C REPORTING STATUS OF		ISSUED	RESULTS		RESULTS		
				PRE-TEST	POST-TEST	OVER S.T.	NOT OVER S.T.		PLA.	POSTER	PLA. INC.	POST. INC.	HE.
M. 1001	5	Req. IV	9	8	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	27.2	1.1
		Req. II	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Req. XVI	11	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Req. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			23	22	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. 1002	5	Lane. I	22	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	315.7	1.1
		Lane. III	38	37	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lane. IV	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lane. II	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			64	62	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. 1003	4	Req. I	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	171.4	1.1
		Req. III	63	62	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Req. II	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Req. XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			73	71	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. 1004	3	Lane. I	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	225.4	1.1
		Lane. II	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lane. III	16	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lane. IV	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			41	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. 1005	5	Lane. I	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	203.5	1.1
		Lane. III	35	33	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lane. IV	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lane. II	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			51	48	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. 1006	5	Lane. III	70	70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	297.3	1.1
		Req. IX	4	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Req. XVI	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Req. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			76	74	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

UNIT	GROUP	REMARKS TYPE	SCOUTS	A/C REPORTING STATUS OF		A/C REPORTING STATUS OF		ISSUED	RESULTS		RESULTS		
				PRE-TEST	POST-TEST	OVER S.T.	NOT OVER S.T.		PLA.	POSTER	PLA. INC.	POST. INC.	HE.
M. 1007	5	Req. IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	1.1
		Req. IV	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Req. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			7	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. 1008	3	Lane. I	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lane. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Star. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Star. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Star. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Star. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lane. I	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Star. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Star. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Star. III	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Star. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Lane. I	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			35	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. 1009	100	Req. I	23	25	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Req. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			27	29	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. 1010	95	Req. I	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Req. III	10	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			17	14	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. 1011	100	Req. I	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Req. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			1097	1013	-	72	12	27	114.0	4-3.0	5-3.0	36	36

27/28th. MAY, 1944. (CONT'D)

UNIT	GROUP	REMARKS TYPE	SCOUTS	A/C REPORTING STATUS OF		A/C REPORTING STATUS OF		ISSUED	RESULTS		RESULTS	
				PRE-TEST	POST-TEST	OVER S.T.	NOT OVER S.T.		PLA.	POSTER	PLA. INC.	POST. INC.
M. 1012	5	Various	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Various	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
M. 1013	2	Req. I	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Req. III	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL			16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL

O.R. 1.3.

REMARKS:- CHECKED BY: [Signature] DATE: 30. 5. 1944

BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

28/29th. M.Y., 1944.

BASES: ST. MARTIN-DE-VARREVILLE: EU: HARDICK: Ludwigshafen: etc:

SUMMARY

1. The marshalling yards at Angers, in Brittany, were accurately attacked by 118 aircraft in clear weather. Smaller forces visited the coastal batteries at St. Martin-de-Varreville, Eu and Hardick, and Mosquitos bombed Laval and Ludwigshafen. Minelayers and intruders were also active. Only one bomber was lost; but 2 leaflet aircraft were brought down by home defences during an attack on this country.

WEATHER FORECAST

2. Bases:- Fog will penetrate slowly from the east coast after dusk, becoming widespread by 0200-0300. Most airfields will keep fit until then.

Continent:- Fine. Moderate visibility. Thunder activity in S. France

ANGERS: ST. MARTIN-DE-VARREVILLE: EU: HARDICK:

PLANS OF ATTACK

3. Angers Controlled OBOE ground marking. 5 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red and green T.I. between H - 8 and H - 7. Illuminators, running up on H2S, were to aim flares at T.I. at H - 6 and H - 4. (The latter ones might not be instructed to mark if there was already adequate illumination). They were to orbit and make a second run for bombing, at H or after. The Master Bomber or his deputy were to direct the backers-up, (carrying white T.I) and the main force and might drop markers themselves if necessary. Backers-up from H - 2 to H + 3. Main force from H to H + 5, in 2 waves. H = 2355.

4. St. Martin-de-Varreville 5 Group visual marking technique, assisted by OBOE groundmarking. 4 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop proximity markers (yellow T.I) The target was to be illuminated with flares, by the light of which a Mosquito was to drop a red spot fire on the marking point. If accurate, this was to be backed up with 2 more spot fires and a green T.I. Yellows were to be used to advertise wide markers, and greens to denote correct ones. A controller was to direct the bombing. H = 0015. OBOE Mosquitos from H - 3 to H - 2. Main force to arrive at H + 8. Distributors were to be set to give a crater spacing of 15 yards.

5. Eu The method was to be left to the discretion of 12 Base Commander, but was to be similar to that used against the Marville/Trocenville battery on the previous night. The southern tip of a lake 3 miles S.S.W. of Cayeux was to be used as a preliminary warning point. H = 0030.

6. Hardick OBOE groundmarking. 4 Mosquitos were to drop greens, at which the main force were to aim, after running up on GEE. H = 0030.

SORTIES

		<u>St. M.</u>	<u>Eu.</u>	<u>Mer.</u>	
7.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	125.....	77.....	56.....	58
"	" " reporting attack on pri. area... 110.....	72.....	56.....	49	
"	" " abortive sorties.....	0.....	5.....	0.....	9
"	" " aircraft missing.....	1.....	0.....	0.....	0
		(0.3%)			

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

8. Bases:- Cloudless all night. Mist became widespread by 0500.

All targets:- Fine. Moderate visibility. Hazy inland. Quarter moon.

NARRATIVE OF ATTACKS

9. Angers After the OPON T.I. and flares had gone down, the Master Bomber marked the target accurately, and crews achieved a good concentration.

10. St. Martin-de-Varreville The striking here was extremely accurate, 4 red spot fires and one T.I. falling around the marking point. Bombing was good.

11. Eu The markers were punctual and crews were told to sight on the red spot fires. Bombing was scattered at first, but the Controller redeemed the situation and a good concentration ensued. The smoke cleared in time to allow the second wave to bomb the red spot fires, which were still burning.

12. Merdick Only 2 OBOE Mosquitos dropped markers, and one was not seen until H + 10, by which time several crews had attacked on fixes. Bombing became concentrated after an early scatter.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE

13. Angers This target was most seriously damaged. All the tracks in the yards were cut, as well as all those leading from the main station. The engine roundhouse, turntable, main station, transshipment sheds, and numerous minor buildings suffered from direct hits and blast. Several adjacent industries were damaged, and much rolling stock was destroyed.

14. St. Martin-de-Varreville; Eu; Merdick: No reconnaissance reports were issued to cover these attacks.

ENEMY DEFENCES

15. In order to return soon after twilight, the force visiting Angers came in from the Bay of Biscay after flying over Bends End, and proceeded due north after bombing. The enemy was completely deceived, and made no controlled interceptions. None of our aircraft operating on this night was engaged in combat although a few approaches were made by enemy fighters. Flak was encountered from the usual defences en route and over targets.

CASUALTIES

16. Only one aircraft was lost from the night's operations; a Lancaster on Angers flew too far to port and was cornered and shot down by heavy flak at Nantes. No other aircraft sustained serious damage, except on leaflet operations.

LUDWIGSHAFFEN

17. 31 Mosquitos were despatched against Ludwigshafen. H2S-aircraft dropped markers in a good group, and bombing was well concentrated. One large fire was started which was visible for 100 miles. From this and all operations except those concerned with leaflets and the attack on Angers, all aircraft returned safely.

...../L.V.J.

3.
L.V.E.

17. 6 OBOE Mk.II Mosquitos were detailed to bomb the railway junction at Leval. The operation was incidentally intended to serve as a calibration test. 4 made successfully controlled runs. The other 2 were abortive.

MINELAYING

18. 16 Stirlings and Halifaxes laid 64 mines off French, Dutch and Belgian ports.

LEAFLETS

20. 14 Wellingtons were sent from Training Groups to drop leaflets over N.W. France. 13 completed their task. None was lost through enemy action, but 2 were engaged by British guns, which were active against enemy invaders, and were brought down in Dorset.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

20. 6 intruders of 100 Group were despatched against enemy airfields. One made its attack; the rest were recalled. 11 Mosquitos of A.D.C.B. completed uneventful patrols.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

21. 27 aircraft left on special sorties. 20 were successful.

MEM/JT.
BC/S. 26342/2/CR#4,
21st. September, 1944.

TARGET	GROUP	INCRPT TYPE	COPIES	J/C REPORTING TRACK CH				NOV OVER	NOV OVER	NOV OVER	RESULTS				RESULTS		
				PREL. REL.	SEC. REL.	OVER E.T.	NOV OVER				INC. INC.	PERCENT	INT. INC. MONTH	NOV DUE TO %/...	BLACK- ID	NOT ...	ISS.
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI	50	47	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	107.7	.7
ALBERTA TOTAL			50	47	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	16	15	-	1	-	-	1-1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.0	.9
ALBERTA TOTAL			16	15	-	1	-	-	1-1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	12.0	.9
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23x1000	
ALBERTA TOTAL			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23x1000	
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	9	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			9	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	31	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			31	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	5	Lanc. IV, V, VI, VII, VIII	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	104.7	1.7
ALBERTA TOTAL			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	104.7	1.7
ALBERTA	5	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	28	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			28	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	37	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			37	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	126	118	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			126	118	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	1	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	20	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.0	2.1
ALBERTA TOTAL			20	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100.0	2.1
ALBERTA	1	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	36	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			36	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	56	56	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			56	56	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.4	
ALBERTA TOTAL			4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5.4	
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2x1000	
ALBERTA TOTAL			2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2x1000	
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			6	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	8	Lanc. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X	34	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA TOTAL			34	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

21/03/44 (cont'd)

TARGET	GROUP	INCRPT TYPE	COPIES	J/C REPORTING TRACK CH				NOV OVER	NOV OVER	NOV OVER	RESULTS				RESULTS		
				PREL. REL.	SEC. REL.	OVER E.T.	NOV OVER				INC. INC.	PERCENT	INT. INC. MONTH	NOV DUE TO %/...	BLACK- ID	NOT ...	ISS.
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	16	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	390	350	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
ALBERTA	3	Stir. III	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL

ALBERTA - DISTRICTS - GROUNDS - ST. ALB. - MONT. - L.V. - ST. ALB. - MONT. - VICT.

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www.bombardier.com/aircraft/aircraft.html

BOMBER COMBINED REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS29/30th. SEP, 1944.Hannover: Mardick: Xanten: Minelaying:SUMMARY

1. Hannover 31 Mosquitos (including 6 Y-aircraft) were despatched against Hannover. 29 attacked the city in clear weather. The bombing was well grouped round the markers. From this and all other operations on this night, all aircraft returned safely.
2. Mardick 4 OBOE Mosquitos (2 Mk.I and 2 Mk.II) attacked the coastal battery at Hardyck.
3. Xanten 11 OBOE Mosquitos (7 Mk.I and 4 Mk.II) were detailed against an ammunition depot at Xanten, near Wesel. 6 made successfully controlled runs, the rest bombing the town area on D.R.
4. Minelaying 5 Halifaxes laid 16 mines off Trest, Dunkirk and IJmuiden. 1 sixth was abortive.
5. Met. Recce. 1 Mosquito carried out a met. recce. flight.

WEATHER FORECAST

6. Bases:- Widespread thunderstorms, followed by fog.
- Continent:- Little or no cloud in Germany. Thundery conditions in France.

SORTIES

7.	No. of aircraft despatched.....	53
"	" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	45
"	" " " " " alternative area.....	5
"	" " abortive sorties.....	3
"	" " aircraft missing.....	0
"	" " mines laid.....	16

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

8. No cloud at Hannover, Hardyck or Xanten.

ENEMY DEFENCES

9. No fighters were encountered. Slight flak was met at Hannover, where numerous searchlights exposed ineffectively.

CASUALTIES

10. No aircraft was lost. One Mosquito was slightly damaged by flak at Hannover.

M.M./J.T.
 DC/S. 26342/6/ORS4,
 20th. September, 1944.

L.ROVER	GROUP	L.ROVER TYPE	SORTING	✓C RECOVERED		✓SORTING		OVER	NO. OVER	D. TIME				INTERCEPTIONS		REMARKS	
				PRIN. JRM.	LT. JRM.	OVER N.Y.	NO. OVER N.Y.			TIME	PROGRAM	INIT. INC. INTR.	NOT DUE TO R/L	✓FLCK-ED	NOT ATT. CO-ED	HE.	INC.
H.ROVER	B	Group IV	14	14	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	39.3	1.1
		Group IX	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Group XVI	11	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18x1000	
		Group IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
H.ROVER TOTAL			31	29	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-			
H.ROVER	B	Group IX	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3.6	-
		Group XVI	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
H.ROVER TOTAL			4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
XJETEN	B	Group IX	7	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.9	-
		Group XVI	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
XJETEN TOTAL			11	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
H.ROVER TOTAL			46	29	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-			
IMP. IMP. G. BRES. IMP. IMP. G. IMP. IMP. G.	B	Wal. III	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Wal. III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		Wal. III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16 miles	
IMP. IMP. G. TOTAL			6	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-			
TOTAL RANGE			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
GRAND TOTAL			53	45	5	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-			

G. R. S. 3:

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

30/31st. May, 1944.

BOULOGNE: Leverkusen: MinelayingSUMMARY

1. Boulogne 50 Lancasters and 4 QBOE Mosquitoes were despatched against the coastal battery at Boulogne. 2 of the Mosquitoes dropped markers, and the Lancasters delivered a concentrated attack, damaging installations without hitting any of the guns. From this and all other operations on this night, all aircraft returned safely.
2. Leverkusen 30 Mosquitoes, including 4 QBOE Mosquitoes and 2 H2S, went to the chemical works at Leverkusen. 3 QBOE and one H2S aircraft dropped markers, and a concentrated attack developed around them. One aircraft bombed Munchen Gladbach and another Dusseldorf.
3. Minelaying 12 Stirlings laid 40 mines off the Scheldt estuary, Dunkirk, Morlaix and Usant.
4. Met. Recon. 1 Mosquito completed a met. recon. flight without incident.
5. Special operations 14 Stirlings were detailed on special operations. 9 were successful.

WEATHER FORECAST

6. East:- Much fog and low stratus. 3 and 8 Groups should hold until 0100.
- Continent:- Local thunderstorms. Large clear areas.

SORTIES

7. No. of aircraft despatched.....	97
" " " reporting attack on primary area.....	92
" " " " " alternative area.....	2
" " abortive sorties.....	3
" " aircraft missing.....	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED

8. No cloud at Boulogne or Leverkusen. Moderate visibility.

DAY RECONNAISSANCE (Boulogne)

9. Reconnaissance photographs taken on 11th. June showed some damage to supply installations and shelters in the target area, but none to the guns, although all had sustained several near misses.

ENEMY DEFENCES

10. No fighters were encountered. Flak was slight at Boulogne, but moderate at Leverkusen, where searchlights were active.

CASUALTIES

11. No aircraft was lost. 2 Mosquitoes were slightly damaged by flak over Leverkusen.

RDM/JT.

BC/S. 26342/6/ORS4,

12th. September, 1944.

TEST	GROUP	ALTERNATE TYPE	BOARDS	A/C RECEPTION		A/C RECEPTION		TEST- ING	PLUG	EQUIPMENT			DEFLECTIONS		RESULTS		
				ATTACK ON		DEFENSE				STARTER	BATT. BATT.	NOT D/T TO BY	WIND- AGE	NOT ST-OK- 2%	REMARKS		
				FRONT	REAR	OFF	ON								HT.	IN.	
BOULDER	5	Lanc-I	19	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	109.3	
		Lanc-II	15	14	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Lanc-III	16	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	0	Msgq-XVI	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Msgq-IX	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
BOULDER TOTAL			54	51	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
LEWIS	0	Msgq-XVI	15	13	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	42.0	
		Msgq-IX	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Msgq-IV	12	12	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	22x1000lb.	
LEWIS TOTAL			30	28	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL			84	79	2	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
HIGH-YIELD BOMB	3	Star-III	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40 mins	
		Star-III	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Star-III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Star-III	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
HIGH-YIELD TOTAL			12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
NET TOTAL			1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
GRAND TOTAL			97	92	2	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
* S.E. OBS.			11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

O.E.S. 3.

* NOT INCLUDED IN GRAND TOTAL

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BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

31st. MAY/1st. JUNE, 1944.

TRAPPEZ: TERGNIER: MONT COUPLE: SAURUR: MAISY: AN FEVRE: Minelaying:

SUMMARY

219 bombers attacked the marshalling yards at Trappes in 2 waves. Smaller forces visited the yards at Tergnier, the Radar-jamming station at Mont Couple; the railway junction at Saurur and the W/T station at An Fevre. Others were sent to the coastal battery at Maisy, but found it covered with cloud and brought their bombs back. All the attacks were successful. Although the operations were carried out in moonlight without cloud cover, fighter opposition was slight and only 6 of the 732 aircraft engaged were lost. Other aircraft were out mining and on fighter patrol, 3 more bombers and one fighter were lost. 4 enemy aircraft were destroyed in combat.

WEATHER FORECAST

Bases:- Probably fit all night. Thunderstorms may develop before morning, but visibility should generally remain moderate.
Continent:- Little cloud in N.E. France, Low Countries, and N.W. Germany. Thunderstorms will persist in Central France and Germany.

TRAPPEZ: TERGNIER: MONT COUPLE: SAURUR: MAISY: AN FEVRE:

PLANS OF ATTACK

Trappes The eastern and western yards were to be attacked separately, with an interval of 85 minutes, but the same method and timing were to apply to both raids. 2 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red T.I., and 2 others greens. Early illuminators were to release their flares blindly if no T.I. were visible, otherwise aiming at the centre of all T.I. (first flare "sights on", the rest at 2-second intervals thereafter). In any case, they were to run up on Y. Later illuminators were only to drop flares if so ordered by the Master Bomber, who was to drop more markers himself if necessary, and was to instruct the backers-up (carrying white T.I.) and the main force. H = 0035 in E.,; 0200 in W. Mosquitos from H - 8 to H - 7. Illuminators from H - 6 to H - 4. Backers-up at H + 2. Main force from H to H - 5.

Tergnier Method and timing as for Trappes. H = 0220.

Mont Couple Assisted OBOE ground marking. 4 OBOE Mosquitos were to drop red and green T.I. Illuminators were to aim flares at T.I., after running up on Y. A backer-up was to aim yellows at the centre of all visible T.I. with a 2-second overshoot, unless otherwise directed by the Master Bomber. If the main force received no orders from the Master Bomber, they were to aim at the centre of all T.I. H = 2355. Mosquitos from H - 3 to H - 2. Illuminators at H - 2. Backers-up at H + 1. Main Force and supports from H to H + 5.

Saurur 5 Group visual marking technique. The target was to be illuminated by flares, in the light of which a Mosquito was to drop 2 red spot fires on the marking point. If these were accurate, they were to be backed up with 2 more red spot fires. Yellows were to be used to advertise wide markers and greens for correct ones. The main force were to bomb as directed by the controller, aiming the centre of bombsticks at the markers. H = 0225.

Maisy 5 Group visual marking technique, aided by OBOE ground marking. OBOE Mosquitos were to drop proximity markers (yellows). Otherwise, the same method was to be

method was to be followed as for Saumur. H = 0055.

Maisy: 4 OBE Mosquitos were to drop red T.I., and the main force was to aim at the centre of these. No Controller was to operate. H = 0015.

<u>SORTIES</u>		Despatched	Attack	Abortive	Missing
9.	Trappes.....	219	202	17	4 (1.7%)
	Tergnier.....	115	101	14	2 (1.7%)
	Mont Couple.....	115	106	9	0
	Saumur.....	86	49	37	0
	Maisy.....	63	6	62	0
	du Fevre.....	129	122	7	0

WEATHER EXPERIENCED.

10. Bases: Thunderstorms affected almost all N. and E. England, and moved north during the night.

Targets: No cloud and good visibility everywhere except at Maisy, where there was 10/10ths. stratus based at 800', with tops at 1,200-2,000'. Frequent thunderstorms en route, with tops to 20,000' over N. England and Midland. Cloud gradually dispersed S. of 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ °W. Half noon. Southerly winds, of less than 20 m.p.h.

RELATIVE OF ATTACKS

11. Trappes The markers on the E. yards were punctual, and the T.I. fell very near the A/P. An excellent concentration of bombing was achieved around this. A later T.I. fell 600 yards to the S.E. and distracted some of the effort until the Master Bomber corrected crews. The second attack followed a similar course.

12. Tergnier The T.I. were well grouped round the A/P, 3 landing within 2 yards to the S.E., and a fourth 123 yards to the N.W. The bombing was directed onto the nearest marker, 92 yards 165° from A/P.

13. Mont Couple T.I. were plotted in the following positions with regard to the A/P: 360 yds. 308°; 475 yds. 302°; 650 yds. 256°; 125 yds. 225°; 875 yds. 305°. The bombing was concentrated, and one spectacular orange explosion resulted.

14. Saumur A T.I. was plotted 295 yards N.E. of the A/P., with a red fire among the candles, on the railway line. Most of the bombing was concentrated here. When smoke obscured markers, the Master Bomber ordered crews to abandon the attack.

15. Maisy 4 Mosquitos marked the target on OBE, but their T.I. were quite invisible through the cloud, and the rest of the force brought their bombs back.

16. du Fevre T.I. were plotted 150 yards S. and 100 yards N.W. of the A/P. A large fire developed 200 yards N.W. of the A/P.

D.V. RECOGNITION

17. Trappes These yards were attacked again on 2/3rd. June, and the damage resulting from the 2 raids will be recounted in Night Raid Report No. 1.

18. Tergnier The target was squarely hit. The marshalling sidings were heaviest; about 90 hits were scored on tracks, and 200 yards of the road bridge which crosses the sidings collapsed. The locomotive depot and transshipment and carriage and wagon repair shops sustained direct hits. Rolling stock was everywhere derailed.

19. Mont Couple The Radar-jamming station was rendered completely unserviceable by this attack. The whole area was saturated with craters and of the 6 installations in the fort, 2 lost 4 masts and 2 more 2 masts each.

...../Large L-shaped s

large L-shaped sunken building at the N. end of the fort sustained 2 direct hits and a near miss. Several minor buildings were demolished, including the group outside the target to the S.W. The defences of the fort were smashed.

20. Saumur Reconnaissance was not undertaken until 2nd. June, by which time the junction had received another heavy attack (see Night Raid Report No. 521).

21. du Pevre Only 4 of the 6 station masts remained intact after this attack, and 2 of these were probably affected by near misses. One of the station buildings received a direct hit on its blast wall, and the other was encircled by near misses. The station must have been rendered completely unserviceable.

NEW DEFENCES

22. Fighter opposition was slight. Even the deep penetration to Saumur was carried out without loss. The first force on Trappes reported one attack and the second two. Altogether, 23 interceptions were reported. Flak was everywhere slight.

NEW AIRCRAFT DESTROYED

23. Lancasters returning from Tergnier destroyed a Ju. 88 and a Me. 109. A Lancaster on Trappes appears to have shot down a twin-engine fighter, but to have been lost itself as a result of the combat.

CASUALTIES

24. 4 aircraft were lost from the second force on Trappes, and 2 on Tergnier. One was probably lost to flak and 2 to fighters, which may have accounted for 2 more. 2 aircraft overshot on return from Haisy, and both were destroyed by the explosion of their bombs.

BOMBING

25. 23 Lancasters, Stirlings and Halifaxes, out of a force of 23, laid 106 mines off Alborg, the Prisians, and ports along the Dutch, Belgian and French coasts, including the inland port of Rouen. One Stirling was lost without trace.

REFUSES

26. 9 Wellingtons, out of a force of 12 despatched from Training Groups, scattered leaflets over N.W. France. None was lost, but one caught fire on return, and the crew baled out over England.

FIGHTER OPERATIONS

27. 16 Mosquitos were sent on S.M.A.R.T. patrols, in close support against A.I. fighters. 4 R.B.C. Fortresses accompanied them. These aircraft reported no combats. 9 other Mosquitos went out against enemy airfields, and one of these destroyed a Me. 110 near Perrier. Another engaged an enemy aircraft inconclusively N. of Le Havre. One intruder was lost without trace.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

28. 19 aircraft were despatched on special operations. 11 were successful. 2 Halifaxes and one Hudson did not return.

LM/JT.
C/S. 26342/2/OR34,
5th. September, 1944.

